



LOCAL ELECTIONS: 6 MAY 2021

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 6/21

11 JANUARY 2021

The purpose of this Report is to provide relevant information for Ventnor about the Island's Local Elections being held on 6 May 2021.

No. DETAILS

1) BACKGROUND

- a) There is a variety of arrangements for elections in different types of local authorities ranging from one in which all Members retire every four years through one where half resign every two years to a system where a third of Members retire each year for three years with no elections in the fourth year of the cycle.
- b) All systems involve Members being elected for four year terms with elections held every four years.
- c) The Island is in a group of six Unitary Authorities, including Cornwall, County Durham, Northumberland, Shropshire and Wiltshire, where all Members resign in the same year
- d) The last elections for this group took place in 2017 with 2021 the next.
- e) The Island's Town and Parish Councils follow the same structure.

2) ELECTION TIMETABLE

- a) The elections for the Isle of Wight Council and the Island's 33 Town and Parish Councils take place on the same date and with the same arrangements
- b) A draft timetable for those elections is attached to this Report.

3) VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS

- a) The Isle of Wight (Electoral Changes) Order 2020 abolished the previous five Wards of Ventnor East, Ventnor West, Bonchurch, Lowtherville and St Lawrence and replaced them with four new Wards.
- b) Along with the new Wards comes changes to the number of Councillors to be elected to represent each of those Wards as in the following table:

Ward	Councillors
Bonchurch & Ventnor East	2
Lowtherville	2
St Lawrence	1
Ventnor West	6

- c) County Hall officers are still working on the numbers of residents eligible to vote in each of the four Wards with results expected later this month.