# Reform UK rejects Doncaster council executive role despite landslide victory



Reform UK has made significant waves recently by emphatically declining an invitation to join Doncaster Council's new Executive Group, following their remarkable electoral triumph. The party captured a staggering 37 out of the 55 available seats in the recent elections, marking a seismic upheaval in local politics. This left Labour, which previously held a commanding majority, reeling with just 12 seats from a once-dominant 40.

Despite Mayor Ros Jones narrowly clinging to her role—winning by a mere 698 votes over Reform UK's Alexander Jones—she has shown a refusal to fully accommodate the rising party, extending only a meager olive branch while neglecting to invite them into her cabinet. This oversight has sparked sharp criticism from Reform UK's group leader, Guy Aston, who aptly deemed the proposal lacking in "portfolio and decision-making power." Aston made it clear that true influence on council decisions cannot be realized without the authority that comes with leadership roles, a sentiment that underscores the discontent festering among those who demand meaningful change.

The stunning electoral performance of Reform UK is not merely a blip; it signifies a growing dissatisfaction with established politicians and their policies. Garnering over 31% of the vote, the results reveal a palpable shift in public sentiment, reflecting broader national trends that jeopardize both Labour and Conservative strongholds. The staggering loss of seven out of nine Labour councillors from the Mayor's cabinet is not just a local embarrassment—it's evidence of a party losing its grip on the issues that matter to voters.

While Mayor Jones may still command some influence, her grip is undeniably tenuous, especially given her reliance on outdated Labour values that no longer resonate with the electorate. The narrowness of her victory starkly contrasts with her past successes, signaling that the political landscape in Doncaster is shifting under her feet. This emerging support for Reform UK foreshadows potential turmoil for established parties, particularly as they cling to policies that fail to address the urgent concerns of constituents.

What’s transpiring in Doncaster is emblematic of a larger phenomenon across the UK, where discontent with the entrenched two-party system is sparking a resurgence of populist movements. Labour and Conservative leadership are under mounting pressure as they struggle to engage with voters whose priorities feel increasingly ignored. The electoral results in Doncaster are not just an isolated incident; they are indicative of an evolving national political landscape that demands urgent attention and a reevaluation of the status quo.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5yk25e4j6vo> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c5yk25e4j6vo> - Reform UK has declined an offer to join Doncaster Council's Executive Group after securing 37 of the 55 seats in the recent election, while Labour retained 12 of the 40 seats it previously held. Mayor Ros Jones invited Reform UK and the Conservatives to collaborate but did not offer them positions in her cabinet. Reform group leader Guy Aston criticized the proposal as lacking decision-making power and stated the party would influence decisions through standard scrutiny processes instead.
3. <https://www.doncasterfreepress.co.uk/news/politics/doncaster-election-2025-reform-uk-boom-earns-majority-37-seats-on-council-results-5111963> - In the 2025 Doncaster Council elections, Reform UK achieved a majority by winning 37 seats, surpassing Labour's 12 and the Conservatives' 6. The previously successful Mexborough First party was eliminated, and seven of the nine Labour councillors who had served in Mayor Ros Jones' cabinet lost their seats to Reform UK candidates.
4. <https://www.doncasterfreepress.co.uk/news/politics/labours-ros-jones-wins-fourth-term-as-mayor-of-doncaster-by-narrow-margin-5109998> - Labour's Ros Jones secured a fourth term as Mayor of Doncaster, narrowly defeating Reform UK's Alexander Jones by 698 votes. Jones received 23,805 votes, while Alexander Jones garnered 23,107. Conservative candidate Nick Fletcher finished third with 18,982 votes. The election saw a turnout of just over 32%, with Reform UK achieving a 21% swing since the 2021 election.
5. <https://www.itv.com/news/calendar/2025-05-02/doncaster-city-region-mayor-announced> - Labour's Ros Jones was re-elected as Mayor of Doncaster, winning 23,805 votes and a majority of just 698 over Reform UK's Alexander Jones. Jones, who has been mayor since 2013, secured her fourth term in office. Conservative candidate Nick Fletcher finished third with 18,982 votes. The election had a turnout of just over 32%.
6. <https://www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/conservatives-reform-labour-cambridgeshire-doncaster-b1225736.html> - In the 2025 local elections, Reform UK came close second in Doncaster with 31.7% of the vote, trailing Labour's Ros Jones, who was re-elected as mayor. The election results indicate a significant shift in voter preferences, with Reform UK's growing influence in local politics.
7. <https://www.ft.com/content/197d3cf6-8719-49dd-b3b4-63fa41382d65> - Labour and the Conservative Party are facing challenges after Reform UK, led by Nigel Farage, made significant gains in local elections, capturing 677 council seats and narrowly winning the Runcorn and Helsby parliamentary by-election. This emergence reflects a broader populist shift in British politics, with Reform UK's policies disrupting the traditional two-party dominance.