# Reform UK secures landslide win with 37 seats in Doncaster council shake-up



Reform UK's recent electoral triumph in Doncaster has dramatically altered the local political landscape, with the party securing an impressive 37 out of 55 council seats in the latest elections. This outcome has significantly diminished Labour's council representation, now reduced to just 12 seats from the 40 they once held—a stark indicator of voter discontent with traditional politics. The election resulted in a notable 21% swing of support, underscoring a growing impatience among constituents as Ros Jones, Labour's leader, barely retained her position as Mayor by edging out Reform UK's Alexander Jones by a mere 698 votes.

In a surprising attempt at damage control, Ros Jones extended an olive branch to both Reform UK and the Conservatives, suggesting collaboration in a new Executive Group. However, her failure to invite them into her cabinet has ignited fierce criticism. Guy Aston, the leader of Reform UK, aptly dismissed her offer, calling the proposed group devoid of any real "portfolio" or "decision-making" power. He expressed a clear preference for genuine influence over council decisions rather than accepting a sidelined role in a cabinet where authority has clearly been compromised.

The election results prompted a dramatic reconfiguration of the council's cabinet, illustrating Labour's precarious position. In response to Reform UK's ascent, Jones has slashed the cabinet size from nine to only four members. This cabinet now consists of Glyn Jones for Environment, Housing, and Safer Communities; Sue Farmer for Children, Young People, and Families; David Nevett for Adults, Wellbeing, and Culture; and James Church for Neighbourhoods, Planning, and Public Health. Such a strategic downsizing reflects Labour's immediate struggle to maintain relevance in an increasingly competitive environment.

The reported voter turnout for this election was 32.27%, with 73,406 votes cast from an eligible electorate of 227,496. This level of engagement highlights a burgeoning interest in local governance, likely driven by Reform UK's assertive campaign and the stark choices laid before voters. As political analysts scrutinize the ongoing developments, the implications of this election reach far beyond party lines; they signal a remarkable shift in local governance preferences, compelling mainstream parties to reassess their strategies to effectively connect with an evolving constituency.

Doncaster now stands at a crossroads, with Reform UK poised to play a vital role in shaping the council's future. Meanwhile, Labour faces the daunting task of navigating its shrinking authority in the face of an invigorated opposition. The coming months will be pivotal as both parties adapt to their new political landscapes and work to address the pressing concerns of their constituents.

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 council seats, while Labour retained 12. Mayor Ros Jones, who narrowly held onto her position, proposed collaboration but did not invite Reform UK or the Conservatives into her cabinet. Reform 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. This significant gain marked a 21% swing in support, with Reform UK's candidate Alexander Jones narrowly losing the mayoral race to Labour's Ros Jones, who secured a fourth term with 23,805 votes to Jones's 23,107.
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 was re-elected as Mayor of Doncaster for a fourth term, 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 32.27%, with 73,406 votes cast out of an eligible electorate of 227,496.
5. <https://www.doncasterfreepress.co.uk/news/politics/doncaster-mayor-ros-jones-confirms-cabinet-of-just-four-councillors-after-reform-uk-gains-5119995> - Following Reform UK's significant gains in the 2025 Doncaster Council elections, Mayor Ros Jones reduced her cabinet from nine to four councillors. The new cabinet includes Glyn Jones (Environment, Housing, and Safer Communities), Sue Farmer (Children, Young People, and Families), David Nevett (Adults, Wellbeing, and Culture), and James Church (Neighbourhoods, Planning, and Public Health). This restructuring reflects the changing political landscape after Reform UK's surge.
6. <https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/the-council-democracy/mayoral-election-results-2021> - The 2021 Doncaster Mayoral Election results showed Ros Jones (Labour) re-elected with 31,232 votes (59.8%), defeating Conservative James Hart (21,019 votes, 40.2%). Other candidates included Independent Frank Calladine (5,166 votes), Yorkshire Party's Andy Budden (4,079 votes), and Reform UK's Surjit Duhre (1,012 votes). The election had a turnout of 28%, with 227,702 registered voters and 63,862 verified votes.
7. <https://www.doncasterfreepress.co.uk/news/politics/doncaster-mayor-ros-jones-confirms-cabinet-of-just-four-councillors-after-reform-uk-gains-5119995> - Following Reform UK's significant gains in the 2025 Doncaster Council elections, Mayor Ros Jones reduced her cabinet from nine to four councillors. The new cabinet includes Glyn Jones (Environment, Housing, and Safer Communities), Sue Farmer (Children, Young People, and Families), David Nevett (Adults, Wellbeing, and Culture), and James Church (Neighbourhoods, Planning, and Public Health). This restructuring reflects the changing political landscape after Reform UK's surge.