

FROM JOAN VARLEY FRIDAY 4th MAY ^{Local Govt.}

(F)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION RESULTS 4TH MAY 1979 as at 17.30.

Results have been delayed owing to the complications of the count following the parliamentary count.

Elections have taken place in all districts, metropolitan and non-metropolitan throughout England and Wales outside London.

Results are complicated due to variations in the number of councillors coming up for election - one third in some districts, the whole council in others.

In addition there has been extensive re-warding in many districts making genuine comparisons impossible.

The most important elections are the metropolitan districts where we were defending seats won in 1975, a particularly bad year for Labour who did not get their vote out and where in consequence we did particularly well four years ago. We expected to lose control on the inevitably high poll yesterday of city and town districts such as Birmingham, Coventry, Leeds, Tameside etc.

In the event, we have done marginally better than we expected in that we have lost overall control but remained the largest single party in Birmingham, Leeds and Kirklees. This is important because these seats are key ones affecting our control of the A.M.A., still in doubt.

In the non-metropolitan districts the pattern is similar. We were defending seats won in 1976, an exceptionally bad year for Labour. Again we expected to lose control of a number of district councils consequent upon the exceptionally high poll yesterday. So far the results show this to be the case but again Labour has not done quite as well as we anticipated.

Results as at 17.30 hours reported to us were as follows:-

Change of control

(a) Metropolitan districts

Birmingham	Con. to no overall control but largest single party
Leeds	do.
Kirklees	do.
Wolverhampton	No overall control to Labour
Tameside	Con. to Lab.
Coventry	Con. to Lab.

(b) Non-metropolitan districts

Adur	Lib. to Con. on new boundaries.
Aylesbury Vale	No overall control to Conservatives GAIN
Test Valley	No overall control to Conservatives GAIN
Thurrock	No overall control to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Ashford	Con. to no overall control
Hastings	Con. to no overall control on changed boundaries.
Newark	Con. to no overall control on changed boundaries.
Thurrock	Lab. to no overall control on changed boundaries.
Slough	Con. to no overall control.
Mendip	Con. to Independent on changed boundaries.

Grimsby	Con. to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Derby	Con. to Lab. on changed boundaries.
N.E. Derbys.	No overall control to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Bassetlaw	No overall control to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Newcastle/Lyme	No overall control to Lab. on changed boundaries.
N. Warwicks.	No overall control to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Copeland	No overall control to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Barrow	Con. to Lab. on changed boundaries.
Darlington	Con. to Lab. on changed boundaries.

(c) Individual Seats - 120 results out of a total of 369 councils

Labour	285 gains	43 losses
Conservative	70 gains	303 losses
Liberal	90 gains	29 losses
Independent	36 gains	73 losses
Others	18 gains	51 losses

JV
4.5.79.