

West Yorkshire Mayoral Election

6 May 2021



West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

Overview and welcome

On 6 May 2021, residents of West Yorkshire will be able to vote for the first ever Mayor for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority

The Mayor will work alongside the West Yorkshire councils (Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield) to make the most of what the region has to offer and maximise its potential as a place to live, work and do business.

The election of the Mayor will also change the way police and crime matters are overseen in West Yorkshire. The Mayor will take on the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner and will be able to appoint a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime.

This booklet has been sent to every registered elector as required by law and contains details of the candidates you can vote for. You will also find information on how to fill in your ballot paper and how the result is calculated.

Alternative formats and additional information can be found on our website: www.wyelects.co.uk.

Tom Riordan,

Combined Area
Returning Officer

Ben Still,

Managing Director,
West Yorkshire Combined Authority

The candidates

There are seven candidates standing for Mayor for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

All candidates you are able to vote for on 6 May 2021 are listed in alphabetical order on the right. This is the order in which they will appear on the ballot paper.

An Election Address has been provided by each candidate for inclusion in this booklet. The views expressed are theirs alone.

Lots were drawn to decide the order in which the Election Addresses appear in this booklet.

ALI, Waj
Reform UK



BRABIN, Tracy Lynn
Labour and Co-operative Party



BUXTON, Bob
Yorkshire Party



COOPER, Andrew Varah
Green Party



GOLTON, Stewart
Liberal Democrats



HIRST, Thérèse
English Democrats -
"Putting England First!"



ROBINSON, Matt
The Conservative Party
Candidate



How you can vote

1. At your polling station

Before 6 May 2021 you should have received a **poll card** which includes the address of your polling station. You can only vote at the polling station stated on your poll card. You do not need to take the poll card with you in order to vote, but it may save time if you do. You can also find out where your polling station is located by visiting www.wheredovote.co.uk.

2. Voting by post

If you have asked for a postal vote, your postal ballot pack will be sent to you **around Wednesday 21 April 2021**. If you applied near to the postal vote application deadline, your pack will arrive around Wednesday 28 April 2021.

You must return your postal vote so that it reaches the Local Returning Officer by 10pm on Thursday 6 May 2021. If you miss the post, you can hand it in to the (Local) Returning Officer at your local authority, or at a polling station within the ward you live before 10pm on Thursday 6 May 2021.

3. Apply to vote by post or proxy

Anyone who is registered to vote can apply to vote by post, or appoint someone they trust to vote on their behalf as a proxy.

New applications for a postal vote must have been received by the Electoral Registration Officer for the local authority area in which you live by **5pm on Tuesday 20 April 2021**. If by the time you receive this booklet the postal vote deadline has passed, there is still time to appoint someone you trust to vote on your behalf as a proxy.

The deadline to make an application for a **proxy vote is 5pm on Tuesday 27 April 2021**.

In certain circumstances, emergency proxy voting may be available after the ordinary proxy deadline of Tuesday 27 April 2021. The deadline to make an **emergency proxy application is 5pm on Thursday 6 May 2021**.

You can find more information, request application forms, or find out where to download them, by using the Electoral Registration Officer contact details for your local authority at the end of this booklet. Application forms must be returned to your Electoral Registration Office in the local authority area in which you live.

What to expect at the polling station

On **Thursday 6 May 2021**, polling stations will be open between **7am and 10pm** for you to cast your vote. When you arrive in the polling station you will be asked for your name and address. Staff will check you are on the electoral register and give you the ballot papers for the elections taking place in your area at which you are entitled to vote.

Returning Officers are putting in place additional safety measures to ensure that polling stations are safe places to vote, in line with current government guidance. Voting is a permitted, lawful reason to leave your house during Covid-19 restrictions.

These measures include:



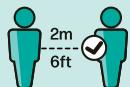
1. Asking you to wear a face covering, unless you are medically exempt



2. Providing hand sanitiser



3. Limiting the number of electors in the polling station at any one time



4. Maintaining social distancing, which means you may have to queue to enter your polling station

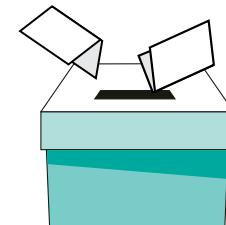


5. Encouraging voters to bring their own pen or pencil with which to mark their ballot papers

Please note, you need to observe these measures even if you have been vaccinated, as health experts are still working to understand how the virus can be spread by people without symptoms.

The voting system

You can have **two votes** on the West Yorkshire Combined Authority Mayoral ballot paper: one for your **first-choice** candidate and one, if you wish, for your **second-choice** candidate.



This is called the supplementary voting system, and means that:

- If one candidate gets more than 50% of the first-choice votes, they will become the Mayor for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
- If no candidate gets this majority, the two candidates with the most first-choice votes remain in the election and all other candidates are eliminated.
- The second-choice votes for the eliminated candidates are then counted, and any votes for the two remaining candidates are added to their first-choice totals.
- The candidate who then has the highest overall total of votes cast is declared Mayor for the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

The result of the election will be declared on **Sunday 9 May 2021**. You will be able to find out the result at: www.wyelects.co.uk.

Completing your ballot paper

Please take time to read the instructions below which provide more information on how to complete your ballot paper.

- You can vote for your first and second-choice candidates
- Vote for your first-choice candidate by putting a X in the box in Column A next to their name
- If you would like to vote for a second-choice candidate, put a X in the box in Column B next to their name
- For your second-choice to be valid, it must be different to your first choice
- If you only mark a second-choice, your vote can not be counted

The image shows a template for a ballot paper. At the top, it says 'Election of the Mayor for West Yorkshire Combined Authority'. Below that, it instructs voters to 'Vote once in column A for your first-choice, and Vote once in column B for your second-choice'. The main part of the template consists of two columns of boxes. Column A is labeled 'Column A first choice' and Column B is labeled 'Column B second choice'. Each column has ten boxes, corresponding to ten names listed vertically on the left side of the template. The boxes are arranged in two rows of five.

The role of the Mayor

The Mayor will represent the **2.5 million residents in the region**. The Mayor will work with council leaders, business representatives and partners and will be the directly elected Chair of the existing West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

The election of the Mayor has been made possible through a devolution deal, which was agreed by West Yorkshire's five council leaders and the Government in March 2020 and became law in January 2021. The devolution deal will bring at least an additional **£1.8 billion public investment** into local control over the next 30 years. It is the biggest deal of its kind.

Devolution and a Mayor mean that decisions about investment in **transport, skills, housing and regeneration**, which

are currently taken in Parliament will be made in West Yorkshire.

The Mayor will also take on the functions of the Police and Crime Commissioner and will be able to appoint a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. This includes listening to the needs of communities, setting the objectives for the police force, and holding the Chief Constable to account.

The Mayor's first term will run until 2024. After that they will serve four-year terms.

The role of the Combined Authority



The West Yorkshire Combined Authority brings together the **five district council areas** of Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield to work on areas that affect everyone in West Yorkshire, including **transport, housing, and the economy**.

The elected Mayor will be a member of the Combined Authority and will chair its meetings. The other members will continue to be:

Five councillors, each one appointed by a constituent council of the West Yorkshire region.

One member from the Local Enterprise Partnership (The LEP) Board.

One member from the City of York Council as a non-constituent council.

Three additional elected representatives from opposition groups jointly appointed by the constituent councils.

The Mayor will also be a member of the LEP which works with businesses and enterprises across the wider Leeds City Region.

Additional information about the Combined Authority and the role of the Mayor can be found at www.wyelects.co.uk

Bob Buxton Yorkshire Party

My Plan for West Yorkshire



For 7 years, I've campaigned to stop West Yorkshire councils building on our greenbelt, floodplains and sports fields. New developments should utilise ex-industrial sites and receive subsidies for solar panels. West Yorkshire deserves greener starter homes, social housing and retirement homes, developed alongside new infrastructure - GPs, Dentists, transport and schools.



People need to retrain in key areas. As a teacher, I've worked with industrial leaders to develop adult education courses in engineering, health science and green energy. As Mayor, I'll fund the development of new courses and the start-up costs of new training centres. People of all ages and backgrounds deserve the opportunity to retrain for their chosen career.



Fairer Deal: Stronger Yorkshire



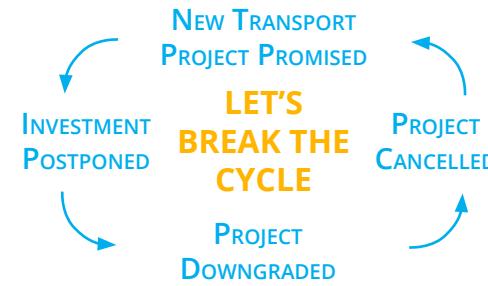
Let's make our streets safer with more frontline police, better street lighting and a clampdown on uninsured drivers, speeding and drink-driving. We'll also work with communities, educators and rank and file police to prevent crime. No more red light zones in Yorkshire. In Holbeck, crime is rife, women feel unsafe and children are propositioned on their way to school. It must end.



The Mayor's budget is a pitiful £16 per person each year. Powers are limited with nothing on healthcare or children's education. I've started a Parliamentary Petition for Yorkshire to have a referendum on greater devolved powers. I'll do everything I can with what's available but we need a fairer deal for a stronger Yorkshire. Find out more: YorkshireParty.org.uk

Better Transport for West Yorkshire

If elected, I will fight to deliver a West Yorkshire mass transit system to make sure no community is left behind. Labour councils have failed to deliver and the Tory Government continue to make empty promises.



The mayor will have no powers to increase NHS pay but I will work to reduce transport and parking costs for health and social care workers.

Experience Matters



Dr Bob Buxton for West Yorkshire Mayor

I live in Rawdon with my wife and kids and teach Engineering apprentices in Bradford, having previously worked in Leeds, Wakefield and Shipley. I have a PhD in Engineering, experience in traffic flow modelling and devised a foundation degree in Green Energy. I will use my experience to deliver retraining and job opportunities, greener homes and better transport.

Dan Woodlock for Deputy Mayor for Police & Crime

If elected, I will appoint Dan Woodlock as my Deputy Mayor for Police and Crime. Dan lives in Dewsbury and has worked in Leeds and Halifax. He qualified in criminology and during that time worked with the British Transport Police. It is time West Yorkshire had the powers to tackle crime and determine our own future.



#GREENFUTURE

ANDREW COOPER

THE GREEN PARTY CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR OF WEST YORKSHIRE

DOING POLITICS BETTER

A Green Mayor will do things differently.

I believe voters deserve to know who will take on the important role of Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime before election day.

I will ask **Hawarun Hussain**, a former Bradford Councillor and NHS worker to be my nominee for this role, so that when you vote for me, you know exactly who you're getting in my team.



Andrew Cooper and Hawarun Hussain in the Tong Valley between Bradford and Leeds.

Please get in touch if you want to find out more or want a poster.



GREENPARTY.ORG.UK



ANDREW.COOPER@GREENPARTY.ORG.UK



FACEBOOK.COM/GREENMAYORFORWESTYORKS



[@CLRANDREWCOOPER](https://TWITTER.COM/CLRANDREWCOOPER)

DECENT HOMES FOR EVERYONE

There are homes across West Yorkshire standing empty when they could be warm, green places to live. Refurbishing old homes and creating new homes – in the right place – would provide quality jobs for a #GreenFuture.

OUR ENVIRONMENT FIRST

A Green Mayor can be counted on to put our environment first. I will protect our precious green spaces by pushing for the redevelopment of brownfield sites first. Our environment will be at the heart of every decision made in our region.

SAFER STREETS

West Yorkshire is one of the most congested parts of the country. A Green Mayor will invest in an accessible and affordable public transport. And I will ensure new infrastructure for safe walking and cycling is provided.

1000S OF GREEN JOBS

Green jobs will be vital in the post-pandemic society. Investment in green transport and housing will provide a massive increase in job opportunities. I will provide new apprenticeships to develop training and skills.

COMMUNITY-LED POLICING

People across West Yorkshire must have more say in local policing priorities. A Green Mayor will give our police the resources to tackle speeding and dangerous driving and I will make sure our police better represents all our communities.

UNLEASH OUR CREATIVE POTENTIAL

Our high streets are changing. A Green Mayor will make our town centres more appealing places to spend time – not just places to go shopping. I want to see sporting facilities improved and we will support our vital creative industries.



Green Party





Stewart Golton

A Strong Voice for you

We can't afford to end up with a Mayor that makes excuses for the poor performance of their mates in charge of Parliament or local Town Halls. We need a strong champion that will push for real devolution for West Yorkshire, and give power back to communities.

Committed - a Born & bred Yorkshire man, Stewart has served the community as a local councillor for 23 years.

Experienced - a current Opposition Member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Stewart brings experience from a background in tourism, energy supply and aviation.

Fair - Stewart wants every community to benefit from better transport links, new green jobs and affordable housing, not just a few favoured areas.

Transparency - You get to elect the Mayor, but the Mayor can choose whoever they like to be their Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime. Javed Bashir is my choice, and I'm letting you know up front.



Stewart **GOLTON**



Scan Me

Three things to remember

Community Values - Covid has showed us our local communities need more investment to help deliver a new more home-based, lower-carbon economy. Stewart will have a plan for every high street, and will deliver the training & skills needed for new green jobs in construction, energy, farming & forestry.



Fairer Transport - Local bus & rail services have become less reliable, more expensive and overcrowded while ever more attention and money gets piled into HS2 by other parties. Stewart wants a better deal for passengers, and Transpennine investment now!



Safer Streets - Let's keep as many young people as possible from our region from being sucked into criminality in the first place. Stewart will rebuild community policing, and tackle adult neighbourhood anti-social behaviour to nurture supportive homes within a safe community environment.



Prepared by Jake Knox (Election Agent), Escher House, 116 Cardigan Road, Leeds, LS6 3BJ. On behalf of Stewart Golton, 5 Farrer Lane, Oulton, LEEDS, LS26 8JP

Vote THÉRÈSE HIRST

ENGLISH DEMOCRATS
“PUTTING ENGLAND FIRST!”



What is this Election About:

This is an exciting chance as our region goes to the polls to elect its first ever mayor who will be given enormous powers to enable real and lasting change. An extra £1.8 billion of public investment over the next thirty years will help us to improve the lives of local people by supporting improvements in transport, adult education, policing, housing and regeneration - and the region's economic recovery.

Choosing the right candidate who has the right skills and vision to address the enormous social and economic challenges that we now face, particularly since the COVID-19 pandemic, is now more important than ever.

Thérèse Hirst

Please visit us online:
www.EnglishDemocrats.Party



Prepared by Thérèse Hirst, Quires Green, Willingale, Ongar, Essex, CM5 0QP
(acting as own Election Agent)

Every vote cast for Thérèse Hirst will be a vote for hope and a much fairer, more sustainable, brighter future by:

- **Raising adult educational standards** through targeting the £63m annual Adult Education budget, at specialist interventions for those in the most need.
- **Building Exciting Affordable Sustainable Person-centred Housing**, designed to have a direct positive impact on people's overall physical and mental wellbeing.
- **Visible, Impartial, and Apolitical Policing** reducing crime and protecting the community and maintaining the public trust by creating small, targeted community-based police-hubs and better targeting of police resources which meets the real needs of local communities. Defending our democracy and upholding our civil rights since Magna Carta.
- **Ensuring that our region benefits from a transport system that is a modern mass transit system through access to the new five-year integrated transport settlement.** The £317m from the Transforming Cities Fund to dramatically improve access to public transport, walking, cycling and picnic areas for families, will go some way to achieving these ambitions.
- **Ending further lockdowns** and fully – but safely - re-open and support small businesses which are the engine-room of our economy.
- **Lobbying for support of some 3 million businesses abandoned by this government, and scrapping of IR35** which is destroying 1000's of small businesses and highly skilled self-employed jobs across our region.



Matt will secure extra investment to support businesses and regenerate our high streets.



Matt will deliver a connected, clean, green transport system across West Yorkshire.



Matt is committed to tackling climate change and delivering the new Northern Forest.



Matt with Cllr Norma Harrington after a meeting to discuss new equipment for the Police.



Matt will work with people and communities to deliver improvements for all of West Yorkshire.

MATT ROBINSON:

A plan to work with the Government to get things done.

Get people into work by creating decent local jobs

- working with employers to create new apprenticeships. I'll bang the drum for local businesses, encouraging more to move here and secure extra investment to regenerate our towns and cities.

More police, with extra powers and equipment like tasers

- so we can get tough on crime. The Government has already recruited 390 more officers; I'll work to get even more on the beat protecting our most vulnerable and improving town and rural policing.

Public transport when and where you need it, and a plan to cut congestion

- it's time to join up our public transport, so you can get a seat on a bus or train that runs on time. And I'll cut congestion for drivers, holding councils to account and getting extra government funds for roads.

**No new taxes. No congestion charge.
No playing politics.**

**Vote Matt Robinson.
Vote Conservative.**

ON THURSDAY MAY 6TH VOTE 

WAJID ALI

FOR MAYOR OF WEST YORKSHIRE

No Lockdowns
No Vaccine Passports
Restore All Liberties

 @WajAli4Mayor



“ I believe in common sense, returning all freedoms back to the people and stopping wasteful spending. I will reopen West Yorkshire as soon as possible. I want to reboot the local economy and I will campaign for tax cuts for the lowest paid, a council tax freeze and lowered business rates to support and encourage small businesses.

I will say no to any future CAZ charge, instead investing in greener public transport and allowing greater access to bus lanes for greener vehicles. I will protect our Green Belt for all to enjoy.

I will make sure the police force will focus on preventing crime and catching criminals, not woke nonsense. I will oppose vaccine passports and I will commit to no more lockdowns, to freedom of speech and to preserving our incredible cultural and heritage. I hope you will vote for change by voting for me, your candidate, Wajid Ali. **”**

Wajid Ali

Reform UK Mayoral Candidate for West Yorkshire



Real policing to tackle real crime



Real ideas to tackle real homelessness



Real solutions to be a real mayor



1

Policing Pledge

A back to basics approach which tackles violent crime, reduces antisocial behaviour, protects our children and patrols our streets.



2

Environmental Pledge

Yes to clean air, no to congestion charge. Yes to new houses, no to building on the Green Belt.



3

Accountability Pledge

Introduce a waste and incompetence reporting hotline, highlight and correct mistakes in the public sector and hold our public servants to account.



4

Homelessness Pledge

End rough sleeping within 1 year—if elected as mayor I will take a 50% wage cut for 2 years to help fund this.



reformparty.uk 0800 414 8525

Prepared by Wajid Ali, address in Wakefield (acting as own election agent)



No Lockdowns
No Vaccine Passports
Restore All Liberties



**TRACY
BRABIN**
for West Yorkshire Mayor



We must be ambitious and we must seize this opportunity

I am proud to be your Labour candidate for mayor. I am driven by the values I learnt growing up in West Yorkshire.

With devolution comes an opportunity to do things differently, to make politics work for us and to get our fair share. I will be a strong Yorkshire voice fighting for a fair deal for you and your family. As the proud MP for the community where I was born and raised, I am the only candidate with experience of working with and challenging government.

I'll be a mayor that stands up for our communities and fights hard to make sure we get our fair share. I'll step in where the government has failed and tackle the deep inequalities exposed by the pandemic.

The Conservatives over promise and under deliver but we don't have to put up with this anymore, we can make a change. You can make that change.

I'm proud of West Yorkshire. I'm ambitious for West Yorkshire and I'm ready to lead West Yorkshire's recovery as your Labour mayor. Best wishes

Tracy Brabin

Labour's candidate for West Yorkshire Mayor

 Labour

As mayor I will

Create 1000 well paid, skilled jobs for young people



Recruit 750 more frontline police officers and staff to fight crime.



Bring buses back under public control, introduce simple fares, contactless ticketing and greener buses.



Build 5000 sustainable homes - including council houses and affordable homes.



Prioritise skills and training to ensure everyone in West Yorkshire has the skills they need to secure work. Support local businesses and champion our regional economy.



Put keeping women and girls safe at the heart of my policing plan.



Lead the battle to tackle the climate emergency and protect our environment.



 [facebook.com/Tracy4Mayor](https://www.facebook.com/Tracy4Mayor)  @TracyBrabin  [tracybrabinmp](https://www.instagram.com/tracybrabinmp/)

Prepared by Paul Nicholson (Election Agent),
20/22 Cheapside, Wakefield WF1 2TF
on behalf of Tracy Brabin, address in Kirklees

Standing up for **West Yorkshire**

 **TRACY
BRABIN**
for West Yorkshire Mayor

Electoral Registration Officer contact details



City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Electoral Services, City Hall, Bradford, BD1 1HY
electoralservices@bradford.gov.uk
01274 431360 www.bradford.gov.uk

Calderdale Council

Town Hall, Halifax, HX1 1UJ
electoral-services@calderdale.gov.uk
01422 393103 www.calderdale.gov.uk

Kirklees Council

Kirkgate Buildings, Byram Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1BY
electoral.registration@kirklees.gov.uk
01484 221650 www.kirklees.gov.uk

Leeds City Council

Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR
electors@leeds.gov.uk
0113 2224411 www.leeds.gov.uk/elections

Wakefield Council

County Hall, Wakefield, WF1 2QW
elections@wakefield.gov.uk
01924 305023 www.wakefield.gov.uk

This booklet is available online at www.wyelects.co.uk

Alternative formats and additional information can also be found on our website at www.wyelects.co.uk or by contacting us. Please email mayoral.election@westyorks-ca.gov.uk or telephone **0113 251 7272**

This booklet is published by Tom Riordan, Combined Area Returning Officer, Electoral Services, Civic Hall, Leeds LS1 1UR

Printed by Print Image Network, Acorn Business Park, Image House, 10 Heaton Lane, Stockport SK4 1AS