

Want to stand for your local council?

In May next year there will be an opportunity to stand as a Labour candidate in the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council elections. We will have a Labour candidate in each of the 16 wards that are up for election - so now is your chance to put your name forward to be selected and, if successful, fight for a seat on the Council.



The Job Borough councillors are elected by communities in areas called wards to represent them and to run their local authority. Councillors are expected to be active in the life of their local community and act as the voice of their constituents, raising any local concerns with their council on a range of matters related to the work of the council. This work includes raising income through taxes and other money raising activities and providing services such as theatres, sports and leisure centres, parking, refuse disposal, parks, burials and cremations. Labour councillors are also expected to represent the Party and its policies, and to feed back to members about what is happening. Councillors are elected for four year terms.

Elections in 2019 These will take place in: Benenden & Cranbrook, Culverden, Frittenden & Sissinghurst, Goudhurst & Lamberhurst, Hawkhurst & Sandhurst, Paddock Wood (East), Paddock Wood (West), Pantiles & St Mark's, Park, Pembury, Rusthall, Sherwood, Southborough & High Brooms, Southborough North, Speldhurst & Bidborough, St John's, on **Thursday 2 May 2019**.

Political composition of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council At present party representation on the council is as follows: 40 Conservatives, 4 Liberal Democrats, 2 Labour (both for Southborough and High Brooms Ward), 1 Independent, and 1 Tunbridge Wells Alliance.

Becoming a Labour candidate This is the process if you want to be a Labour candidate:

1. Candidates must have 12 months membership of the LP and be eligible to be a councillor.
2. Candidates to complete the self-nomination form that accompanies this note and return it to the Campaign Co-ordinator, **Joel Turner email josef564@hotmail.com** by **Friday 11 January 2019**.
3. CLP Campaign Committee undertakes paper verification of nominations on **Tuesday 15 January 2019**.
4. Verified candidates invited to the relevant branch selection meetings end **January/February 2019**. Branch members make their selections subject to endorsement by Executive Committee .
5. Executive Committee endorses candidates **end February 2019** and makes decisions about the process for filling remaining candidate vacancies. An appeals process is available.
6. Once officially endorsed candidates can begin their campaigns and officially incur expenses authorised by the Campaign Committee.
7. Candidates will need to follow a legal nomination process nearer the election, follow election rules and provide an account of their election expenditure.

Further information:

Qualification for standing as a candidate: see Electoral Commission website.

Being a Labour councillor: see 'Be a Labour Councillor' - Local Government Association.