



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## Local Authority Election Cycle Questionnaire

### Helpful hints for completing this questionnaire

- Please read each question and tick the right box to show your answer and, if asked to, write in your comments in the space provided.
- If you have any queries about the questionnaire, please contact Ellen Bird, Assistant Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination Officer on 01332 255599 or e-mail [ellen.bird@derby.gov.uk](mailto:ellen.bird@derby.gov.uk).
- Once you have completed the questionnaire, please email it to [ellen.bird@derby.gov.uk](mailto:ellen.bird@derby.gov.uk) by **Friday 17 August 2007** or by post to Director of Corporate Services, Derby City Council, FREEPOST, MID24259, Derby, DE1 2BR. You don't need a stamp to return it.

1. What is the size of your registered electorate?

2. How many permanent postal voters do you have?

3. Please tell us how you currently hold your local elections. Tick **one** box only.

Whole Council elections every four years?

Council elections by thirds with one year fallow?

4. Please tell us why you use the current electoral cycle you ticked in Q3.

5a. What do you think are the main **advantages** of the electoral cycle you currently use?

5b. What do you think are the main **disadvantages** of the electoral cycle you currently use?

6a. If you hold elections by thirds, what were your percentage turnout results for the last **four** elections?

6b. Or, if you hold whole Council elections once every four years, what were your percentage turnout results for your last **two** elections?

7. Please tell us about any local issues, for example, political issues/changes in policy that may have significantly influenced voter turnout during the periods stated in Q6a or Q6b.

8. Has the political will to change your electoral cycle ever been tested? If yes, what were the results?

9. What were the approximate costs of your last election, ignoring permanent staff costs, and how were the costs broken down – for example, polling station staff/count, staff/room, hire/transport etc?

10. When did you hold your election count at the May 2007 elections or most recent election? Tick **one** box only

Night of polling day?  1

Day after polling day?  2

Other – please write in  3

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11. Why did you hold the count at the time you ticked in Q10?

12. Did you change the time of the count for the 2007 election? If yes, please explain why.

13a Would your authority welcome a change to voting on a weekend as opposed to voting on a Thursday as proposed in the Government's Green Paper 'The Governance of Britain'? Tick **one** box only

Yes <sub>1</sub> No <sub>2</sub>

13b. Please explain your answer to question 13a.

14. Please tell us about any measures you have put in place to improve voter turnout.

15. Please fill in these details about you ...


Name:

Job title:

Council:

Phone number:

e-mail:

 **We will treat all the information you provide in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will use the survey results to inform our Election Cycle Topic Review. Where we've asked for your contact details we will only use this information to give you feedback about the survey results and if required, to discuss your comments with you in more detail.**

Thank you for your time and help.