

Comments

Please tell us why you voted in the 2014 local elections?...	Please tell us why you didn't vote in the 2014 local election	What would encourage you to vote in future local election...
I believe in exercising my right to vote.	I would like a postal vote	I would like to have a postal vote. I did not vote in 2014 because I have Macula Deeneration and could not see very well. I am getting better sight now.
I vote for the people who I like will help me as well as the city	No Point. No one is interested in people's opinion. They do what they want.	It would encourage me to vote if I thought the city did more to help the older generation in the area
I wanted to	I really didn't know who to vote for	Change in Government
Always do	No door to door contact	No Government needed
Civic duty	As per the address on this letter. I live abroad and are not entitled to vote in local elections, only national	Someone who listens to people and does things for the people. More action less talking.
Habit	First our brown bins went so we can't recycle food/ garden waste. Now they have taken our blue bins so plastic is now going to landfill. It doesn't biodegrade so that causes more environmental problems. People in Normanton are generally poor & can't afford to trek to recycling centres which are mile away with heavy loads. Our streets are filthy. I can't remember the last time I saw street cleaners around here. In winter pavements aren't gritted so they are a hazard when icy. So why bother voting for any party when none of them do anything	More councillor engagement with community

	useful!! You should also make dog owners lean up poo. It isn't just messy, it is dangerous to children. There is no point. All parties promise things to get elected but don't follow through after election. We now have no recycling facilities after wasting money giving us better blue bins we now have none.	
Voting is my democratic right and I always exercise it.	I was in Swindon staying with my son & family	I will always vote.
I value my right to vote. Many men and women fought and died to allow me this right and it is one I believe is essential to do to respect that.	Because its a waste of time you never do what we want.	Always vote
I always think a vote is important and not to waste it.	Never voted	will always vote whenever possible
Every vote makes a difference. If you don't vote you haven't tried to change a situation or make a situation better.	Because I would like to vote Green and at the last time I went to vote there was no green candidate.	impartial analysis of what each party is offering
I've always used my vote since my 'teens'	Late working	If I thought my vote made a difference
Because it is our responsibility to elect our government and not be dictated to	No party worth voting for. No relevant policies. Unhappy with location of polling station.	I will always vote if possible
It's a hard won right obtained by my grand parents	No trust on belief in the central or local government in this country from being the country in the world. we are now a second rate nation governed from Brussels by a German Chancellor.	The policies and whether I feel strongly enough about certain issues. Allestree

It is my right to vote and hopefully change local politics if needed	Holiday	Don't always know about them.
I vote at every election (local and General) as it is my democratic right to do so. This right was hard won I therefore carryout this right at all elections without fail.	I would like to have a postal vote	More information from the candidate standing for election
To get the Councillors I preferred	I am one of Jehova's witnesses and as Christians we remain strictly neutral in political matters	Parties that actually do what they promise. An improvement of services for Normanton area. All our facilities are being taken away. It is the people in poorest areas get the worse deal so why vote as nobody actually does anything.
I felt very strongly about being charged again for the brown bin collection. It is a total rip off. It will be a very long time before I vote again for Labour in the local elections due to this.	Don't believe in vote. Fruitless, put up too much council tax	A diversity of choice
It is an opportunity for me as an individual to elect the party that I feel would serve the city of the Derby best.	Normally don't vote. Lives are busy and not always aware it is taking place.	Nothing really, I do usually vote
Felt it was important to use my vote. Don't always know about the local election	feels like I should but rather wouldn't. Nobody takes any notice.	sod all
I wish my vote to be counted	Because they don't do what they say they will do. I don't believe them.	Nothing
I want to have my say in the democratic process	don't feel there was enough information	Don't need encouragement
So I can let my opinion be known	didn't know when election was	More openness at council meetings and less decisions being taken by a small core committee which is always open to abuse.

It is important to exercise one's vote	It doesn't matter, doesn't make a difference	Encouraging us to use a facility which many people around the world would be hugely grateful to have
We are given a free vote. Important to use it.	Councillors	already happy to vote
Democracy can only be seen to function if everybody participates	Politicians don't like	Local green candidate. I have no interest in giving any other party a vote.
Because we should not take our democratic privileges lightly	Don't think it will do any good	Arrangements are fine at present
To elect councillors who will make our Derby great	Too young	A relevant party getting in!
Dissatisfied with amount of immigration and which seems to be worsening attitudes to crime etc.	What's the point, nothing ever changes, just more cuts	Any council that accepts my views and takes note of the electorate
So that whichever party I support regarding their stance, views and dictact will have a voice to be heard and hopefully a better council that has a forward looking outlook and takes note of its constituents.	On holiday	Nothing
To try and get shut of this council	Voting station not clearly indicated	Getting councillors to listen to peoples needs instead of wasting council tax money
Important to vote in order to express political view of party for our neighbourhood	Gave other things priority - washing, cooking etc. further, very reluctant to leave home again, work ft	Brown bin collection for free
I want to ensure that I exercise my right to vote & present far right parties getting into council	Little faith in current council	Electronic voting less party political propaganda & more focus on local issues that can be tackled locally

I feel it is important to use your vote if you don't vote you can't complain about the service you get because you didn't do anything to prevent / help things happen.	It is important to be able to vote, otherwise I would not be able to voice my views	I vote to prevent extreme parties getting into Parliament because those people will vote!
To ensure the favourite political party won the right to run Derby City Council	Do not trust politicians. Nothing but broken promises. The vast majority is a lie.	To always my party continue to run Derby City Council/ Country as they are better
I feel strongly that all people should vote, even if to say 'none of the above'	No voting card	to have a postal vote
I always do, want to be happy	Not really interested	I do it anyway
Mattes are important. want to voice to be heard. Council not making wise decisions. Without voting it is dictatorship.	Disabled	Nothing. I have already voted for God's Kingdom. Isaiah 9vs 6&7
Important to to convey message for any party.	Travelling extensively and away from	Keep council tax
Think it's important if you don't vote you don't have a voice.	I don't listen much to politics as usually whatever we want it never happens	I can
Don't like current policies & would like to see change	Couldn't make my mind up on which to vote for	change the government
pregnant more interest in what is going on. had lots of information through the door.	Did not have time, normally would vote	Bring change - engage in political process
Because it is my civic duty	My husband is in nursing home as he needs nursing care. so obviously cannot vote	Nothing
trying to make change but doesn't always happen	Don't know what the candidate's capability is	If people keep promises & did what you ask them to do. Darley

Can't really complain unless you vote	To be honest I lost my voting card and didn't have time but I feel like by voting your opinion doesn't count. All parties say things but don't carry them out.	Need to do they say they are going to do. more people to come round on doorstep.
It is important	I do not feel I know or understand enough to vote	young people need more guidance
First time	I did not feel I held a strong opinion on the election	simplified information about candidates - less complicated info.
Important	I didn't know what o would have voting for	No
Always vote because it is important	Confusion, unsure of the best option for myself & my family. Not wanting to make a wrong choices	not really
Firs time	Was undertaking polling duties and didn't get round to requesting postal vote	Not interested
Because it's an important democratic right that people have died for	The pavements in Breydon Close in Shelton Lock have not been replaced in 48 years. They are an obsolete disgrace. Elderly people walk up the close on the road as the pavements are TOO DANGEROUS with raised slabs etc. Proud of Derby is just a joke to me. In spite of my requests to get something done, it all falls on deaf ears irrespective of the various councillors political persuasions. So I believe that my vote is a waste of time as nothing is done for where I live. You never do anything for us, so I just reciprocate and do nothing for any of the councillors. It makes my blood boils to see the money spent of the stupid railings in	If it changes DE27

	Harvey Road, and now the money being wasted in Alvaston shopping centre. I cannot believe how long this work has taken, and at what cost. We in Shelton Lock nothing. When the council do something for people in our close, I might consider voting. Until then, no chance.	
I believe in democracy	Was sent away on business at very short notice a couple of days before the election and didn't have time to try to get a proxy or postal vote to allow my voice to be heard.	Policies more info
Because it is a right given to us so we can live in a democracy. If we don't vote we can't have our say.	People lie to get votes.....it doesn't matter what the local councillors promise, if the local authority doesn't have the funds, nothing is going to change.	more information
Not your business. You do not need to know	Had no time to attend voting pool.	It is apathy that kills democracy
I have always voted since my first opportunity after my 18th birthday. including 6 years in Germany (armed forces) where I voted through proxy. To me voting is a democratic must and I will always do so - regardless		To know more about candidates and policies. To have surgeries where we can raise issues & talk to our council members
I vote because I want government of my choice		This is my business, not Derby Homes or the City Council
		General election- to rid us of inept tory administration. Local election - To keep pressure on our local council.
I made conscious effort to this year.		making things relevant to us

I read what they promise and hope it will come about		If I understood what I was actually voting for
I believe that if I am given the freedom to vote, I have a responsibility to use that vote		I prefer to use postal vote as I don't always have time.
The wrong party out		If some kind of transport run in the remote places so people could shop
I feel women should vote		More comparative information about candidates views and policies
To bring better councillor to improve our ward condition		Right party in
So we get right people in power locally		Easier access to voting station postal votes
I vote on every election		improvements
		Candidates more honest & relevant straight answers honest opinion not sound bites
Had the time important to use your right to vote		Local councillors visiting door to door, to listen to my views./ Better literature available to understand what local councillors do
I'm not really sure because we end up in a mess however we vote		not a lot. very disillusioned with politics and politicians!! Full of undelivered promises
Hoping to make a difference		To see improvements
To express an opinion		I intend to without further encouragement
Important for sorting out local issues		
Because we agreed with your policies & improvements for the future but so not agree with all wasted money over bins, paying for brown.		Yes if voting station clearly indicated

It is a civic duty and also an opportunity for me to choose my local representative		Not to pay for brown bins. We pay enough council tax
Because you felt it was your duty		I will always vote
We always vote, pity our party doesn't get in		Don't know
To make sure my vote was counted		Less reference to politics
I strongly believe in democracy		I will be voting
Someone to help us when required		I will always vote in all elections
I think it is important to choose our representative		If a politician was found to have broken a promise they should be sacked
It is important to have your say in local matters		Always vote
I think it is important to have a say in how things are managed in the locality		I always vote
Because I always do		Not working funny shifts
I voted because I want my vote to count. I can't moan about who is in charge if I haven't voted		A voting card - some where easy to get to
I feel if I do not vote, I have no right to complain as I did not try and change things		More written info on what the candidates stand for
It is important to vote for a local councillor who could make difference		To make sure I have a choice
Because it is the right thing to do		Knowing more about candidates
To see if any vote would make a difference. If you don't vote you cannot moan		Voting for UKIP make a change for immigration
I believe it is my duty to vote whatever the results are		Getting a local council that listens to the opinion of its people

Both my wife and I vote in all elections		I am thinking of voting for one of the underdogs who have a lot of support up to now
I voted in 2014 to try and bring a new party, namely UKIP on to the scene and whose policies might bring the decisions back to the native population and address the financial problem of local authority and even central government		Clearer policies and what each party is prepared to do
Because I live in a democracy and I like to take part in who runs the local council where I live		I would vote for any party that will encourage keeping industry and manufacture local and even try to bring more industry and make sure all premises are in use. Factories and not houses are what we need to help us more self sufficient
Voting is power. The people in Mickleover take time to vote as a result local politicians do not reduce their public services and instead try and save money in areas where people don't vote and therefore can't vote them out of their comfortable job.		
To have my opinion taken into account on local issues		To exercise my right and improve the country together
Because we want to get councillors we know and trust re-elected		More regular information about area and councillors not just during campaign times.
I think it is important to vote in all government elections		The problem is that voters vote in the local elections based on the party as a whole as if it was a national election. They do not vote based on the action of the actual local politicians behaviour. lack of information and time

We are fortunate to live in a country where we are able to vote. I think politics effects us all & it is important that I exercise my right to vote		I always vote
Was ill		I think voting should be a legal requirement
To be involved in community affairs and pin point issues so they can be resoled by local reps		For general elections, party manifesto information delivered to my home so I can make an informed decision. For local elections, information on councillors activities in my constituency
I thinks its everyone's duty		As long as I have postal vote. Although I do not consider myself to be disabled, I have difficulty in walking to the voting station
I exercise my right to vote. If you don't vote you can't complain & praise		I will always vote. Things to make voting easier- Late night voting for people who work
For better oppourtunities & help for local residents in Derby & services needed		No reason
I vote to voice my opinion		Councillors manifesto and their commitments
I want influence the council's direction on services		I always have done. I think it is every one's duty
It is my duty and my right		Abolishing council tax & introducing fair wage - i.e. living wage for everyone
In the past people have died to give us a vote, everyone should vote		I always vote
As an active citizen we should play our active part in moulding the future for community generations. If we don't vote how can we blame others.		Less crooked self seeking politicians
My vote is important		Attracting candidates with real world

		experiences
I want to contribute to peaceful change of power		It is our right we must use it.
I want to exercise my right as a UK citizen		Unsure- children are not taught enough at school. I feel this is where I missed out
Feel it is democratic right - can moan if you don't choose		My own decision. If I feel passionate enough about the election I will vote
It's my democratic right. What a stupid question.		Always vote
To try to ensure that one interest group does not dominate local interests and to comment, when required, with credibility. I have a general interest and 'A' level "Government and Politics".		Clarity around options & how each party would support my family
Everyone should use their right to vote. You can't complain about councils, government etc. if you don't vote		Local Authorities should retain more of the taxes raised within their boundaries, and local authorities should have power to alter those taxes
I always turn out to vote, even if I dislike all the candidates. In that case, I prefer to cast a spoilt ballot rather than to not turn out.		I always vote in general elections. I do not need extra encouragement!
I always vote in elections. Democracy is very important. It is the only way we can have a direct influence over how we are governed.		I am already engaged in the process
I believe it is important to use our right to vote in order indicate our opinions on each party's local policies		I'd feel better about it if I didn't feel I had to register a protest vote against the bunch of prats who put up at present

<p>I have always voted as woman in the past fought hard to gain the vote. However, I would prefer to have some form of proportional representation which would give smaller parties a chance to have representation.</p>		<p>I would vote any way but I think that a clearer explanation of the role of local govt may encourage a keener attitude among potential voters with a 'casual' view. How about local civil servants visiting secondary schools?</p>
<p>Because if you don't vote you can't complain about what the council does for you. It's part of living in a democracy!</p>		<p>I always vote but I think it should be compulsory</p>
<p>Our local councillors have always done their best for this ward, and I am happy to support them.</p>		<p>Replace our pavements in Breydon Close Shelton Lock.</p>
<p>How else will my and other people's views be represented. We must be more pro-active and present our views to elected councillors.</p>		<p>Fair voting system that actually recognises more than two parties exist. FPTP is mathematically broken for elections involving more than two candidates. Stronger local democracy and more local control of finance. What is the point of simply voting to choose who implements the cuts? Extend democracy to the economic as well as political sphere. Political power is (however inadequately) accountable to the public through elections. Economic power is not.</p>
<p>In order to ensure that the sitting member would be re-elected.</p>		<p>I don't need more encouragement - but the chance to vote for a Green Party candidate in my ward would make me even more excited about voting.</p>

I believe that you should vote at every election		I have voted in every election I have been entitled to do so, the only thing which might prevent me from doing so would be if I was unable to get to a polling station due to work commitments outside Derby or being on holiday
Because it is an election ?!		I always vote, always have done and always will. It's my democratic right and I will exercise that right as long as I live.
I vote because I consider it a responsibility as a citizen to take part in the democratic process, even though I sometimes feel no particular party does as much as I'd like to see done to improve the lives of Derby's citizens I also have a feeling of loyalty to hard working councillors who have shown that they care, are honest and generous hearted		It is my duty to vote, and as a woman, I am grateful to the women who campaigned to get me the vote in the past, so I want to use that vote to thank them.
Because it's the correct thing to do.		No encouragement needed. I DO VOTE ON EVERY OCCASION
Opportunity to express a preference for who should represent me and my area in the city council. Democratic responsibility.		A desire to ensure that a party is elected that presented proposals that are of benefit to the citizens of Derby as a whole - those of all ages, ethnic origins and financial status - and with a vision for the city's future.
Democratic right and privilege		Nothing. I always vote
I feel that if I do not vote then I have no right to criticise decisions made by councillors. This		Politicians used to wander round explaining their policies and asking people to vote for

<p>is of course an idealised view as often councillors inability to work together for the good of the city makes me question why I bother!</p>		<p>them. I remember them going round in loud speaker vans asking people to vote. They don't seem interested in actually talking to people any more , simply relying on leaflets etc. It isn't as effective , as we can all see through the low turnout.</p>
<p>Because it's my right and to voice opinion about how the council is being run</p>		<p>I'd feel more encouraged if I could see more people taking part in debate and voting, I would go so far as to say voting should be compulsory, as i believe more people would think about what they believe in, and who they trust, if they felt compelled to vote. I accept that lots of votes would be random or spoilt, but once people start having to take notice of these decisions they will be more likely to want to know what they are doing</p>
<p>It is democracy in action , to use my right, you cant complain if you don't participate.</p>		<p>I don't need encouraging - I always vote.</p>
<p>Because women died so that I may have the vote. - it's important to use it.</p>		<p>having councillors being seen on our streets talking to people and addressing issues in the community.</p>
<p>I always exercise my right to vote. As I have done since 1949.</p>		<p>I always vote.</p>
<p>It is important to achieve the policies you support by voting for the candidate who is right for the job</p>		<p>More candidates and more parties. Choice is extremely limited and the system favours retired men. More women should be encouraged to stand and there should be more choice. Local elections should not be about politics but about local people representing their area.</p>

<p>Basically I didn't want to waste my vote. However, I did think long and hard about whether I should vote. I feel strongly that no matter what political party is in control of the council they are not listening to the electorate. Party politics rules and take e.g. the present majority in control, Labour, they strongly favour the Wards where Labour councillors sit. There are several examples of this happening. Neighbourhood funding, improvements to shopping areas and several more. So, was my vote wasted after all?</p>		<p>I don't need encouragement.</p>
<p>To stop the Conservatives controlling the council</p>		<p>If politics were to be taken out of local government.</p>
<p>Tried to get Conservatives back in !</p>		<p>If I had some sense that the City council could do things independently of what the central government told them</p>
<p>Don't always know who the candidates are also would like a box for 'None of the above'</p>		<p>Having a candidate that I trusted and believed also a 'None of the above' box as I don't like not using my vote.</p>
<p>Voting is a major way to inform my council of my views. I pay a lot of "taxes" and I want it spent wisely.</p>		<p>I have voted at every election available to me. I am not a party member so my vote cannot be guaranteed. I am a free thinker.</p>
<p>Because it is the best way of being heard. Would not like to think the City Council could just do what they like.</p>		<p>Make it mandatory</p>

<p>I would be unable to complain if I had not cast a vote. The vote however is of no use if only the low number turn out is fact. It leaves a few people to influence city actions. Democracy cannot be real in this situation!!</p>		<p>I will always vote. And maybe one day we will get someone that will listen to the people, instead of having their own agenda, and looking after number one.</p>
<p>My right, duty and responsibility plus trying to positively influence the way our city is governed</p>		<p>I always endeavour to vote.</p>
<p>I always do.</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The continued availability of my postal vote 2. Continuing to have local elections three years out of four
<p>I voted because I think it is important to have someone to speak up for the resident and air their concerns, unfortunately the people were fooled again. As one of our great leaders once said. "You can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of time." Maybe next time.</p>		<p>Change the system to all out every four years instead of one third out each year. This would concentrate people's minds less often. We would get less minority administrations.</p>
<p>It's unreasonable to complain about Council services or standards of delivery if one doesn't vote.</p>		<p>If Councillors were more down to earth people who take the blows with the everyday public. We have to take cuts in salaries but the politicians won't come into line with us - they won't take the same cuts to their salary. Also one minute we are re-cycling and the next we are/are not in some areas. Either we are in all areas or we are not in all areas. There is such unfairness. Discard brown bins, get new blue bins and perhaps in the future use only black bins! These are a few of the reasons that I go</p>

		out TO vote but still don't think I can possibly make a difference.
Councils are responsible for providing a wide range of public services, the cost of which I contribute to through the wide range of taxes I pay. I think it is important that I use the opportunity I get, three years out of four, to signify which political party I want to see governing that expenditure.		More engagement of the electorate. Councillors need to work harder to achieve this and the council as a whole needs to make sure that it is actually working for the community and not just to keep itself in power.
In the hope that my party will get an overall majority of councillors on the council.		Any evidence however small that local government would make any improvement to my life. National and local government try to persuade the public that they can effect change. In reality they are swept along by global forces beyond their control. If they could accept that they are service providers for tax payers and offer excellent customer service it would be a big step forward. For example Universal Credit. Millions of pounds spent on an ideological project which will in the future be quietly dropped because it cannot be made to work in practise.
If you don't vote you shouldn't really be able to complain!		intend to vote at local elections. not allowed to vote at general elections: French national
Sometimes it is very difficult to know which party to vote for, for many reasons, but I do believe it should be on everyone's conscience to vote - if you don't vote don't grumble. If you do vote you have the right to grumble.		Would be easier if there was a way to vote without needing to be at home on a specific day of the year. Have decided it's best to go for a postal vote from now on in case the same problem happens in future.

It is important to make sure that councillors are representative of the electorate as a whole. If you don't vote you can't complain afterwards.		Some way of confirming that my postal vote has been received and counted
A residual feeling that it is my duty to do so		Really believing in a candidate. There is nothing more Derby City Council can do to get me to vote...the postal vote has already made it easier for people.
I want to have a say on decisions taken		Knowing what, if anything was on the cards for the area around the Liversage Trust Estate on Nottingham Road.
If you don't vote for local Councillors, how can you know, who they are, how they can help, what their views are, and how to contact them. I often contact my local Councillor if I need to know how to get something done in the area I live.		A transparent democratic system and the feeling that councillors and politicians listen to the opinions of the community/nation
I feel it is important to have my voice heard. If I don't vote then what right do I have in disagreeing with any decisions made by the council		Councillors and MPS actually telling the truth not party politics.
I always vote unless you vote you wont be able to put the Councillor of your choice in office.		To have a say in the running of local elections
It is important to vote because there are places in the world where people lost their lives for the right to vote.		I don't need any encouragement
Because I consider it my civic duty		Online voting system.

I value the opportunity to have a voice in who is elected and will vote at every election - general and council. People died in order to give women the vote and I owe it to them.		
Stupid question.		