



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

## Research and Information Service Briefing Note

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# Local Elections 2014: Results by Party and Gender

## 1 Introduction

This Briefing Note has been prepared in the context of the Assembly and Executive Review Committee review on women in the Northern Ireland Assembly<sup>1</sup>. The Note should be read in conjunction with Research and Information Service Briefing Note *Candidates for the 2014 Elections in Northern Ireland by Gender*<sup>2</sup>.

## 2 2014 Election Results by Gender

Local elections took place for the 11 new local councils in Northern Ireland on 22 May 2014. Elections also took place in England on 22 May for 32 London Boroughs, 36 Metropolitan Boroughs, 74 Second-Tier District Authorities and 20 Unitary Authorities, and local elections in the Republic of Ireland on 21 May. The following table summarises results by party and gender in Northern Ireland.

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<sup>1</sup> Assembly and Executive Review Committee, Women in the Northern Ireland Assembly: Research and Information Service Briefing, 6 May 2014: <http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Official-Report/Committee-Minutes-of-Evidence/Session-2013-2014/May-2014/Women-in-the-Northern-Ireland-Assembly-Research-and-Information-Service-Briefing/>.

<sup>2</sup> Research and Information Service Briefing Note 48/14 *Candidates for the 2014 Elections in Northern Ireland by Gender*, 1 May 2014: [http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2014/assembly\\_exec\\_review/4814.pdf](http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2014/assembly_exec_review/4814.pdf).

Council		DUP	SF	UUP	SDLP	Alliance	Green	TUV	UKIP	NI21	PUP	Indep.	PBPA	Total
Antrim and Newtownabbey	M	11	2	11	2	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	32
	F	4	1	1	2	0	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	8
Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon	M	9	5	10	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	30
	F	4	3	2	2	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	11
Belfast	M	10	12	6	4	4	1	0	-	-	2	-	1	40
	F	3	7	1	3	4	0	1	-	-	1	-	0	20
Causeway Coast and Glens	M	10	5	8	1	1	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	29
	F	1	2	2	5	0	-	1	-	-	0	0	-	11
Derry and Strabane	M	6	11	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	30
	F	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	10
Fermanagh and Omagh	M	5	14	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	30
	F	0	3	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10
Lisburn and Castlereagh	M	15	-	7	3	4	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	31
	F	5	-	1	0	3	-	0	-	0	-	-	-	9
Mid and East Antrim	M	10	2	8	1	2	-	3	1	-	-	2	-	29
	F	6	1	1	0	1	-	2	0	-	-	0	-	11
Mid Ulster	M	5	14	7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	30
	F	3	4	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	10
Newry, Mourne and Down	M	4	9	3	10	2	-	-	1	-	-	3	-	32
	F	0	5	0	4	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	9

Council		DUP	SF	UUP	SDLP	Alliance	Green	TUV	UKIP	NI21	PUP	Indep.	PBPA	Total
North Down and Ards	M	15	-	7	1	5	2	1	-	-	-	2	-	33
	F	2	-	2	0	2	1	0	-	-	-	0	-	7
Total	M	100	74	76	40	22	3	9	3	1	3	14	1	346
	F	30	31	12	26	10	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	116
<b>Percent female</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>

The table indicates that, while there is considerable variation of success for female candidates according to party, the overall proportion of female representatives remains at around a quarter. In broad terms, the proportion of women elected approximates the proportion that stand for election (24% in 2014), which has generally been the case for previous local elections, and the overall proportion of women in local councils has shown a very shallow increase in the last decade (21% in 2005 to 23.5% at the last election in 2011)<sup>3</sup>.

Results from the Republic of Ireland suggest that 22% of those elected to councils are women<sup>4</sup>. Consolidated figures for the various elections in England are not available by gender at the time of writing. Scotland and Wales did not have local elections.

<sup>3</sup> See Research and Information Service Briefing Note 56/14 *Female Candidates in Local Elections in Northern Ireland*, 21 May 2014: [http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2014/assembly\\_exec\\_review/5614.pdf](http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2014/assembly_exec_review/5614.pdf); and Research and Information Service Briefing Note 47/14 *Women in Local Councils: Statistical Overview* 1 May 2014: [http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2014/assembly\\_exec\\_review/4714.pdf](http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Documents/RaISe/Publications/2014/assembly_exec_review/4714.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> Figures derived from council websites.