

Local Government Elections
Thursday 7 May 2026
Sefton Council Whole Elections

Review of Sefton

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England recently undertook a review of the governance arrangements for Sefton Council.

The Commission recommended:

- the current electoral arrangements of 22, 3 member wards shall remain in place,
- changes to ward names and boundaries.
- to continue with the current election cycle to elect members by thirds shall continue.

The May 2026 elections will elect a new council with all 66 seats across the 22 electoral wards being contested.

Voting in May 2026

Voters will be able to vote for no more than 3 candidates on the ballot paper for each ward.

How votes are counted

The ballot papers in each ballot box and the number of postal votes will be verified. Once all the ballot papers for the ward have been verified, they are then counted in two stages.

The first stage is to separate “block votes”. Block votes are when an elector has used all 3 of their votes to vote for candidates from the same party. Each candidate is then allocated the same numbers of votes as there are block votes.

At the second stage, all remaining ballot papers are individually attached to counting sheets and the number of votes for each candidate recorded on each sheet recorded.

Once all ballot papers have been counted, the individual votes for each candidate from each counting sheet are totalled up and then added to the number of block votes they received to produce an overall result.

Terms of office and future cycle of elections

To continue the cycle of electing by thirds, one third of the newly elected council in 2026 will be subject to re-election in 2027, 2028 and 2030. This will maintain the cycle of a fallow year in 2029 for Metropolitan Council areas,

New Councillors will be elected in May 2026 as follows

Votes Received	Term of Office
Candidate who receives the most votes	4 years to May 2030
Candidate who receives the second most votes	2 years to May 2028
Candidate who receives the third most votes	1 year to May 2027

A four-year term of office will start again for candidates elected in May 2027 and May 2028

Elected in	Re-Election Year		
May 2027	May 2031	May 2035	May 2039
May 2028	May 2032	May 2036	May 2040
May 2030	May 2034	May 2038	May 2042
Fallow Years			
2029	2033	2037	2041

New electoral ward names

Current Ward Name	New Ward Name
Ainsdale	Ainsdale
Birkdale	Birkdale
Blundellsands	Blundellsands
Cambridge	Cambridge
Church	Waterloo
Derby	Bootle East
Dukes	Dukes
Ford	Ford
Harington	Formby West
Kew	Kew
Linacre	Bootle West
Litherland	Litherland
Manor	Thornton and Hightown
Meols	Meols
Molyneux	Aintree and Maghull South
Netherton & Orrell	Netherton South and Orrell
Norwood	Norwood
Park	Lydiat and Maghull West
Ravenmeols	Formby East
St Oswald	Netherton North
Sudell	Maghull East
Victoria	Great Crosby