Netherton North Ward By-Election – Thursday 10 December 2026

Election Briefing Note and Overview

Version 1.0

Netherton North Ward

A by-election will be held to fill a vacancy on the Netherton North Ward of Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, following the death of Councillor Helen Duerden (Labour), on Thursday 10 December 2026.

Netherton North Ward, formerly known as St Oswald Ward, forms part of the Bootle Parliamentary Constituency. Following a review of Sefton Council's electoral boundaries, the ward was renamed Netherton North, with the change taking effect at the local elections held on 7 May 2026.

Webpage

Information on the election can also be found at https://www.sefton.gov.uk/your-council/councillors-meetings-decisions/elections-in-sefton/by-elections/

Key Dates

The Notice of Election was published on **5 November 2026**, and the by-election will take place on **10 December 2026**. Polling stations will be open from **7.00am to 10.00pm**.

Nomination papers are available from the Returning Officer and may be submitted between **10.00am and 4.00pm on working days** from **5 November 2026** until the close of nominations at **4.00pm on 13 November 2026**. Nomination papers received after this deadline cannot be accepted.

A **Statement of Persons Nominated** will be published by **4.00pm on 16 November 2026**.

The full election timetable is provided at **Appendix 1**

Candidates

1.	Katie Maria Burgess	The Conservative Party Candidate
2.	Finvola Mary Dunphy	Labour Party
3.	Amber-Page Marilyn Moss	
4.	Conor Anthony O`Neill	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition
5.	Ian Smith	Independent
6.	David Watson	Reform UK

Candidate Spending Limit

	Electors	Fixed	Per Elector	Total
Netherton North	8973	£960.00	£0.08	**£1,669.84**

Registration and Absent Voting

- The deadline to register to vote is **Tuesday 24 November 2026**.
  Register online at Register to vote.

- The deadline to apply for, amend, or cancel a postal vote is **5.00pm on Wednesday 25 November 2026**.
  Apply online at Apply for a postal vote.

- The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is **5.00pm on Wednesday 2 December 2026**.
  Apply online at Apply for a proxy vote.

Voting in person and Voter ID

All electors voting in person must present an accepted form of photo ID before being issued with a ballot paper. Electors who do not have an accepted form of ID can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate until **5.00pm on Wednesday 2 December 2026**.

Apply online: www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate

Election Statistics

Statistics	Notice of Election	Election Day
Electors	8973	
Postal Voters	882	
Proxy Voters	2	

Polling Stations

There will be 4 polling places with 7 polling stations, which will be located at:

1 St. Mark's Church, Gorsey Lane, Netherton, L30 2QN
2 Feelgood Factory, Glovers Lane, L30 5QW
3 Netherton Activity Centre, Glovers Lane, L30 3TL
4 Netherton Activity Centre, Glovers Lane, L30 3TL
5 Feelgood Factory, Glovers Lane, L30 5QW
6 St. Oswald's Church and Community Centre, Ronald Ross Avenue, Netherton, L30 5RH
7 St. Oswald's Church and Community Centre, Ronald Ross Avenue, Netherton, L30 5RH

Issue of Postal Votes

All postal votes will be issued on Friday 27 November 2026 and be delivered by Wednesday 2 December 2026

Receipt of Postal Votes

Postal votes received by the Returning Officer will be recorded, opened and verified on the at Bootle Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle, L20 7AE.

- Thursday 10 December 2026 12.00 Noon to 12.00 Midnight

Count Arrangements

The verification and counting of votes will take place in the Ballroom at Bootle Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle. L20 7AE at 10.00pm following the close of poll on Thursday 10 December 2026.

Attendance at the Count

The Local Elections (Principal Areas) Rules 2006 provide that the following people are entitled to attend the count:

(a) The Returning Officer and his staff
(b) The candidate and one other person chosen by them
(c) The candidate's election agent (If appointed)
(d) Any appointed counting agents
(e) Any accredited election observers, and
(f) Representatives of the Electoral Commission

Count Centre Conduct

The Returning Officer's decision on who may attend the count is final.

All attendees must:

- Present their admission letter or ticket before entering the Count Centre.
- Always carry photographic identification.

- Produce photographic identification if requested.
- Note that photographic work identification cards are acceptable for this purpose.

The following are not permitted within the Count Centre:

- Election campaign material. (Party rosettes are acceptable)
- Photographic equipment (only with permission from the Returning Officer)
- Recording devices (only with permission from the Returning Officer)
- Large bags

Mobile phones:

- May only be used with the permission of the Returning Officer.
- Must only be used in designated areas away from the count tables.

Photographs:

- Should be taken outside the Count Centre wherever possible.
- If photographs need to be taken inside the Count Centre, prior approval must be obtained from the Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer.

Appointment deadline:

- All appointments must be submitted and received by **Thursday 3 December 2026**
- No appointments will be accepted after this deadline.

Netherton North Ward – Previous Results

Last Local Election Result for Netherton North Ward – 7 May 2026

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes
ASHCROFT, David Peter Thomas	Reform UK	700
CAMPBELL, Georgina Dorothy	The Conservative Party Candidate	109
CRAWFORD, Benjamin James	Green Party Candidate	314
DUERDEN, Helen Lorna	**Labour Party**	**1073 Elected**
JOHNSON, Joseph Edward	**Labour Party**	**1169 Elected**
KENNY, Mary	Liberal Democrat	103
O`NEILL, Conor Anthony	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	84
PENMAN, Emily	Green Party Candidate	286
ROBERTSON, Anthony	Liberal Democrat	77
THOMAS, Carla Maria	**Labour Party**	**1021 Elected**
WALES, Ian David	Reform UK	679
WALSH, Joseph Irvine	Green Party Candidate	263
WATSON, David	Reform UK	690

Electorate	8875	Ballot Papers Issued	2437
Turnout	27.46%	Majority	469 (LAB)

The May 2026 local elections were whole council elections in which the Labour Party won all three seats to be elected to. The Labour Party majority was 469

St Oswald Ward By-Election – 20 June 2024

Councillor Helen Duerden's term of office was due to continue until May 2028. The successful candidate at the by-election will serve for the remainder of that term.

Councillor Duerden was first elected at a by-election on 20 June 2024 to represent St Oswald Ward, now known as Netherton North Ward.

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
BURGESS, Katie Maria	The Conservative Party Candidate	67
DOOLIN, Lyndsey Marie	The Green Party Candidate	55
DUERDEN, Helen	**Labour Party**	**828 Elected**
O`NEILL, Conor Anthony	Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	57
SMITH, Ian Edward	Workers Party	20
YOUNG, David Paul	Liberal Democrats	32

Electorate	8081	Ballot Papers Issued	1060
Turnout	13.12%	Majority	761 (LAB)

Contact Sefton Electoral Services

Returning Officer	Phil Porter		Phil.porter@sefton.gov.uk
Deputy Returning Officer	Chris Moister		Chris.moister@sefton.gov.uk
Election Manager	Neil Middlehurst	07929 742715	Neil.middlehurst@sefton.gov.uk
Deputy Election Manager	Emma Finnigan	07929 783349	Emma.finnigan@sefton.gov.uk
Communications	Ollie Cowan		Ollie.cowan@sefton.gov.uk
Electoral Services		0345 140 0845	electors@sefton.gov.uk
Bootle Town Hall, Oriel Road, Bootle, L20 7AE			

Appendix 1

Election Timetable

Netherton North Ward Local Government Election
Timetable of Proceedings for
Thursday 10 December 2026

Publication of Notice of Election	Thursday 5 November 2026
Receipt of Nominations	4:00 pm Friday 13 November 2026
Withdrawal of Candidate	4:00 pm Friday 13 November 2026
Appointment of Election Agents	4:00 pm Friday 13 November 2026
Publication of Notice of Election Agents	4:00 pm Friday 13 November 2026
Publication of Statements of Persons Nominated	4:00 pm Monday 16 November 2026
Last Date for Registration	Tuesday 24 November 2026
Receipt of Postal Vote Applications	5:00 pm Wednesday 25 November 2026
Last day for Voter Authority Certificates	5:00 pm Wednesday 2 December 2026
Publication of Notice of Poll	Wednesday 2 December 2026
Receipt of Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Wednesday 2 December 2026
Appointment of Poll and Count Agents	Thursday 3 December 2026
First Day to Issue Replacement Lost Postal Ballot Papers	Friday 4 December 2026
Last Day to Issue Replacement Spoilt or Lost Postal Ballot Papers	5:00 pm Thursday 10 December 2026
Receipt of Emergency Proxy Vote Applications	5:00 pm Thursday 10 December 2026
Day of Poll	7:00 am to 10:00 pm Thursday 10 December 2026
Return of Election Expenses	Thursday 14 January 2027

Appendix 2

Netherton North Ward Map

