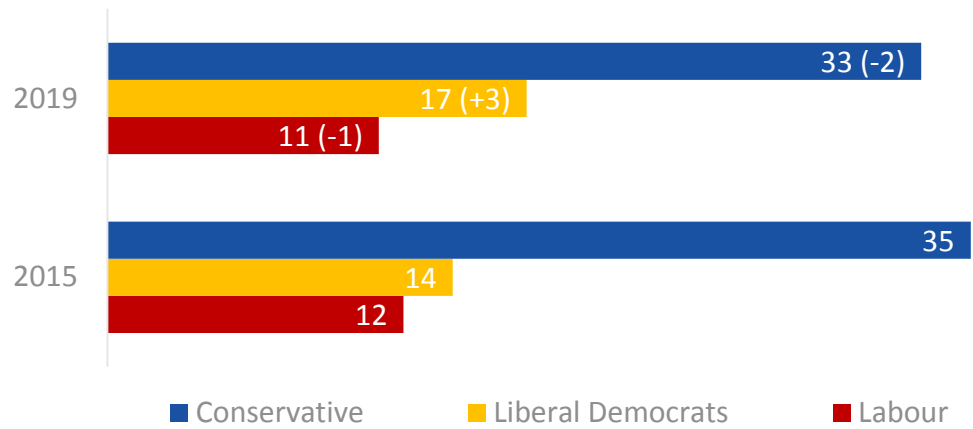


South Gloucestershire

Results May 2019*

Con HOLD



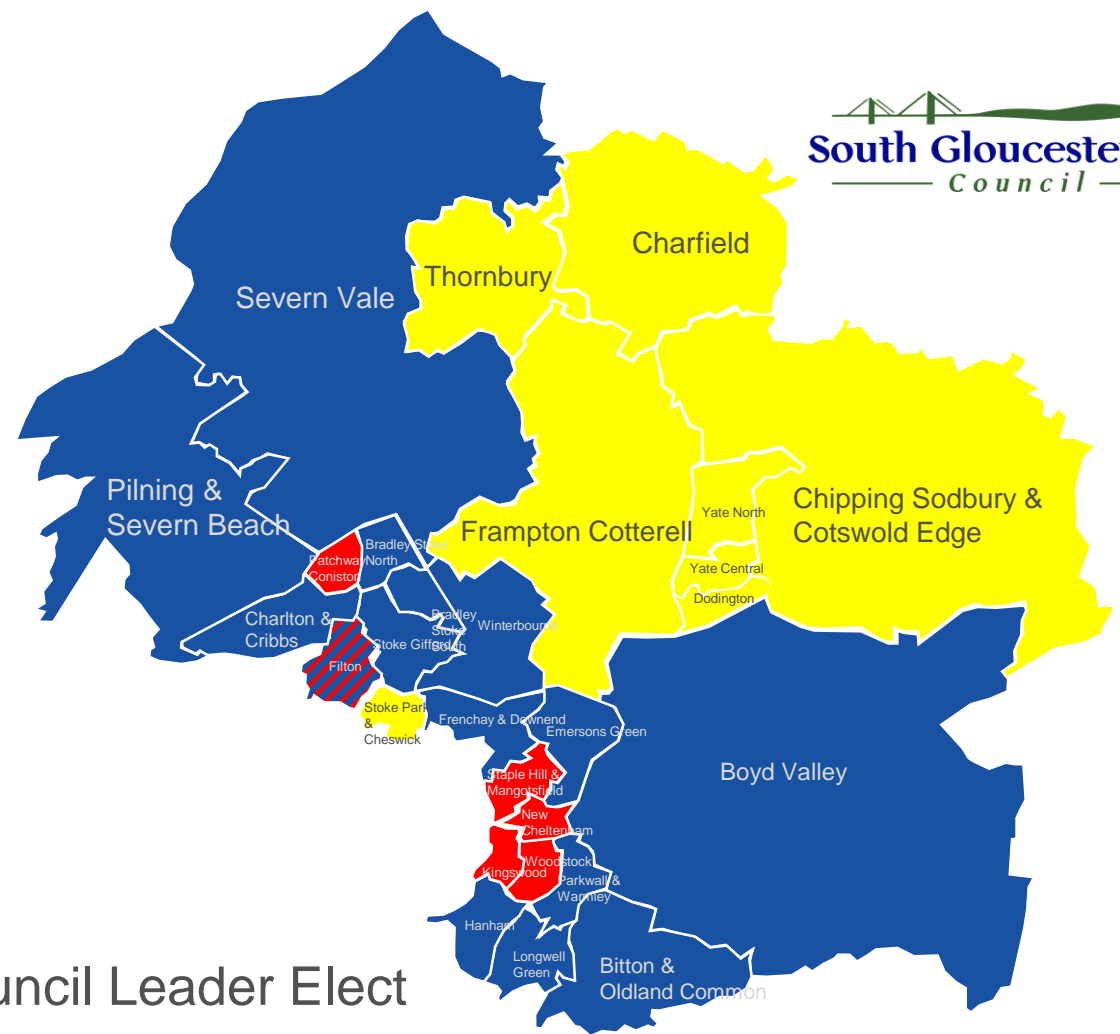
Local Conservative South Glos support holds solid

- **Tory support holds firm;** given the scale of Conservative losses elsewhere to the Lib-Dems both regionally and nationwide, the Tories will consider this a significant victory – a reduced notional majority of 5;
- **Narrow margins;** Filton Ward elected a Conservative by the narrowest of margins – a single vote – in a result which was epitomized by by close-run races, including Charlton & Cribbs (90 votes) and New Cheltenham (16 votes);
- **Suburban votes the key;** the map tells the story of the election campaign. The Tories held Wards that Labour might consider as key suburban battlegrounds looking ahead to a future General Election, such as Bradley Stoke. Despite the retirement of long-standing councillors Pat and Dave Hockey, the Lib-Dems withstood a strong Tory challenge in Frampton Cotterill.

Council Leader Elect



Councillor Toby Savage



* = 2015 figures notional based upon 2019 boundary changes. Note: At time of publication, no overall turnout figure from the Council was available.

Opposition parties hit the doldrums within a national electoral storm

By dawn's early light, the Lib-Dems and Labour could be forgiven for wondering how the stormy waves encountered across England caused mainly by Brexit had failed to capsize the Tory ship in South Gloucestershire. With a small notional majority of 9, the two opposition parties worked hard to turn the Council into No Overall Control, or with the Lib-Dem tsunami elsewhere – including neighbouring B&NES – outright control.

The reality was calm seas and a steady Conservative boat, albeit gently rocked by a reduced notional majority to 5. Make no mistake, despite an older demographic - heavily weighted in favour of the Tories in the Kingswood, and Filton and Bradley Stoke parliamentary constituencies - this was a strong result.

Of concern to Labour might be the lack of progress in these constituencies where they already have Parliamentary Candidates in place and are hopeful of a competitive challenge in the 2022 General Election. Beyond traditional strongholds, like Staple Hill and Woodstock, there appeared little traction and even their notional 2015 result went into reverse. The Lib-Dems will point to solid results in the Thornbury and Yate constituency under a strong Tory challenge.

This is now the fourth consecutive term of Tory council leadership and third term of outright control. The Conservative vessel cruises on with Captain (Councillor) Toby Savage at the helm.

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Get in touch with us on 0117 907 3400 for more insight and how we can assist you with your projects, and delivering your messages to local politicians.



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