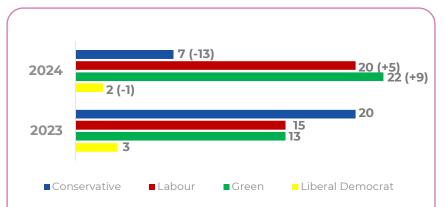
# **Stroud District Council**

# Local election results 2024



# **Gloucestershire results summary**

# **Cheltenham Borough Council**

#### Lib Dem hold

The Liberal Democrats enjoy a virtual monopoly here, with 36 seats. The Tories, having lost all six seats, have zero councillors. Surely this background leaves an insurmountable challenge for Conservative MP Alex Chalk later this year?

# **Gloucester City Council**

#### **Conservative to No Overall Control**

The Conservatives were more than halved in size to 11 councillors, with the Lib Dems being the main beneficiaries, increasing their numbers from 10 to 17. Labour and the Independents also picked up four seats each. It was a poor night for the Tories, which left long-standing MP Richard Graham looking vulnerable at the next General Election.



# Green Surge and Tory Ebb: Stroud's Rising Tide of Change

As the River Severn courses through Gloucestershire, its presence subtly reshaping the landscape over time, so has Stroud's political terrain experienced a significant transformation. The once dominant Conservative wave has receded dramatically, leaving them with only a few seats and marking a stark reversal from their position as the largest group on the council in 2021.

The Green Party, thriving like the species at the local attraction of Slimbridge Wetlands, has seen a steady rise in its numbers. This election cycle has gradually increased the number of Green councillors from previous years into a significant flood, overtaking territories traditionally held by the Conservatives. With gains stretching from urban centres in east Stroud to more rural wards like Painswick and Upton, the Green influence now permeates nearly every corner of the district.

Navigating internal conflicts that had previously diminished their council presence, Labour managed a commendable recovery. This resurgence is highlighted by the increased number of seats, the

return of former MP David Drew in Stroud Central, and significant wins in areas like Cam East and Stonehouse. These wards, often seen as bellwethers for national trends, suggest Labour is steadily moving forward with an eye toward reclaiming the Stroud parliamentary constituency.

For the Tories, the landscape has shifted under their feet like a fast, incoming high tide. The retirement of key figures like Stephen Davies and the close calls in areas such as Berkeley, where they narrowly secured the third seat by a mere five votes, underscore a retreat into their most steadfast areas.

As the Greens look to extend their roots beyond Stroud (and Forest of Dean), they face the challenge of maintaining their regional momentum. Will they be able to replicate their success in upcoming County Council elections and across other districts along the M5 corridor? Just as migratory birds at Slimbridge explore new habitats, the Greens are poised to test their appeal in new territories.

# **JBP Political Analysis Team**

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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