



Local Government Act 1972

1972 CHAPTER 70

PART I

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS AND AUTHORITIES IN ENGLAND

Members of principal councils

6 Term of office and retirement of councillors.

- (1) Councillors for a principal area shall be elected by the local government electors for that area in accordance with this Act and Part I of the [^{F1}Representation of the People Act 1983].
- (2) For the purposes of the election of councillors—
 - (a) every [^{F2}non-metropolitan] county shall be divided into electoral divisions, each returning (subject to paragraph 3 of Schedule 3 to this Act [^{F3}and subject to [^{F4}section 56(8) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009][^{F5}and section 12(4) of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007]) one councillor;
 - [^{F6}(b) every metropolitan district shall be divided into wards, each returning such number of councillors as may be provided as mentioned in subsection (3) below;]
 - (c) every non-metropolitan district shall be divided into wards, each returning such number of councillors as may be provided [^{F7}as mentioned in subsection (3) below];

and there shall be a separate election for each electoral division or ward.

- [^{F8}(3) The number of councillors referred to in subsection (2)(b) or (c) above may be provided—
 - (a) under or by virtue of the provisions of section 7 below;
 - (b) by an order under Part 2 of the Local Government Act 1992 (c. 19) [^{F9}or Part 3 of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009];

Status: Point in time view as at 06/04/2011.

Changes to legislation: Local Government Act 1972, Section 6 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 29 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)

- (c) by an order under section 14 of the Local Government and Rating Act 1997 (c. 29);
- (d) by an order under Part 1 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.]

Textual Amendments

- F1** Words substituted by [Representation of the People Act 1983 \(c. 2, SIF 42\)](#), s. 206, **Sch. 8 para. 12**
- F2** Word inserted by [Local Government Act 1985 \(c. 51, SIF 81:1\)](#), ss. 1, 102, **Sch. 16 para. 2**
- F3** Words in s. 6(2)(a) inserted (28.9.2000) by 2000 c. 22, **ss. 89(4)**, 108(2)(a)
- F4** Words in s. 6(2)(a) substituted (1.4.2010) by [Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 \(c. 20\)](#), ss. 67(1), 148(3), **Sch. 4 para. 2(2)**; S.I. 2009/3318, **art. 4(ff)**
- F5** Words in s. 6(2)(a) inserted (1.11.2007) by [Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 \(c. 28\)](#), ss. 22, 245, **Sch. 1 para. 11(2)**; S.I. 2007/3136, **art. 2** (subject to art. 3)
- F6** S. 6(2)(b) substituted (30.12.2007) by [Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 \(c. 28\)](#), **ss. 58(2)**, 245
- F7** Words in s. 6(2)(c) substituted (19.5.1997) by 1997 c. 29, ss. 33(1), 34(2), **Sch. 3 para. 5(a)**
- F8** S. 6(3) substituted (30.12.2007) by [Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 \(c. 28\)](#), **ss. 58(3)**, 245
- F9** Words in s. 6(3)(b) inserted (1.4.2010) by [Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 \(c. 20\)](#), ss. 67(1), 148(3), **Sch. 4 para. 2(3)**; S.I. 2009/3318, **art. 4(ff)**

Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C1** S. 6(2)(a) excluded (1.11.2007) by [Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 \(c. 28\)](#), **ss. 12(4)**, 245; S.I. 2007/3136, **art. 2(a)** (subject to art. 3)
- C2** S. 6(2)(a) restricted (1.4.2010) by [Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 \(c. 20\)](#), **ss. 56(7)**, 148(3)(b); S.I. 2009/3318, **art. 4(e)**

Status:

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Changes to legislation:

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