

The forgotten elections - the 2015 English Local Elections

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Ward level contestation 1999-2015

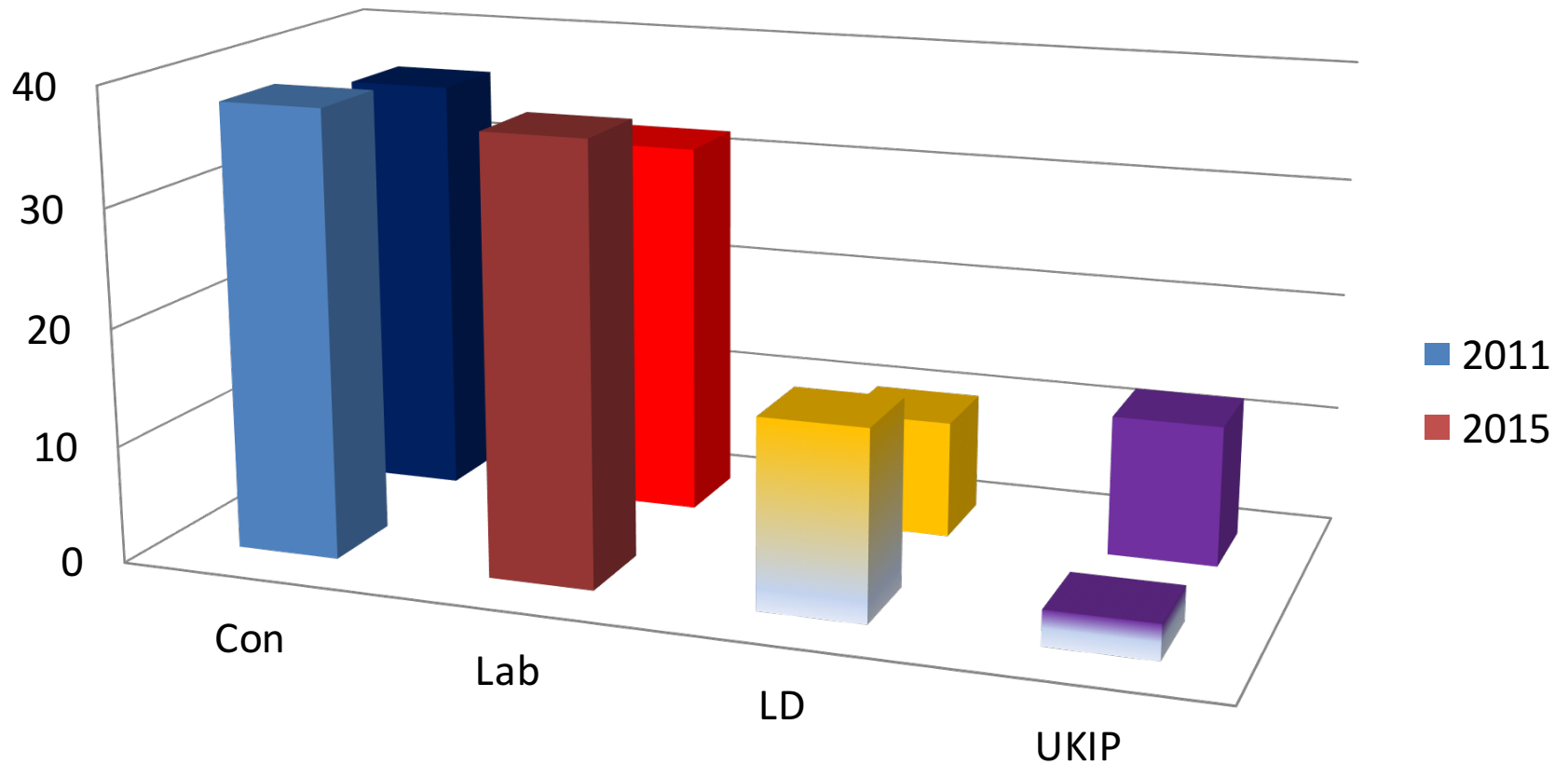
| | 2015 | | 2011 | | 1999 |
|-------|------|--|------|--|------|
| Con | 96.6 | | 96.0 | | 85.0 |
| Lab | 81.7 | | 78.7 | | 81.8 |
| LD | 53.7 | | 65.4 | | 70.8 |
| Green | 51.6 | | 23.1 | | 7.6 |
| UKIP | 57.8 | | 18.2 | | n/a |
| Ind | 20.5 | | 22.1 | | 24.0 |
| Other | 18.1 | | 16.8 | | 6.2 |

'Three-party' contests down from 53.4% to 46.5%

Share of votes and seats 2011-15

| | Vote share 2015 | Change on 2011 | | | Seat share 2015 | Change on 2011 |
|---------|--------------------|-------------------|--|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| Con | 35.8 | -2.0 | | | 59.3 | +5.3 |
| Lab | 28.4 | -3.2 | | | 24.5 | -1.5 |
| LD | 10.3 | -5.8 | | | 7.1 | -4.5 |
| Green | 6.5 | +2.9 | | | 0.9 | +0.1 |
| UKIP | 12.8 | +10.4 | | | 2.2 | +2.1 |
| Ind/Oth | 6.2 | -2.3 | | | 6.0 | -1.4 |

'National equivalent vote' 2011 and 2015



| | Con | Lab | LD | UKIP |
|------|-----|-----|----|------|
| 2011 | 38 | 37 | 16 | 3 |
| 2015 | 36 | 32 | 10 | 12 |

The rise of two-party local government

| Party affiliation of councillors 1973-2015 | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| | Con | Lab | L | Nat | Other | |
| 1973 | 31.9 | 40.5 | 5.9 | 0.3 | 21.4 | |
| 1984 | 41.1 | 35.1 | 9.2 | 0.7 | 13.9 | |
| 1999 | 27.7 | 41.2 | 20.2 | 2.0 | 8.9 | |
| 2015 | 43.2 | 33.9 | 8.9 | 2.9 | 11.0 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Party control of councils 1973-2015 | | | | | | |
| | Con | Lab | L | Ind | Nat | 'NOC' |
| 1973 | 19.1 | 32.9 | 0.2 | 21.1 | 0.2 | 26.5 |
| 1984 | 36.4 | 30.0 | 1.0 | 14.1 | 0.2 | 18.4 |
| 1999 | 17.0 | 38.0 | 6.1 | 4.1 | 0.9 | 33.9 |
| 2015 | 47.4 | 28.1 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 0.5 | 20.7 |

Change in vote share 2011-15 and party competition

*Three-party contests in both 2011 and 2015. N = 1,694

| | Con | Lab | LD | UKIP |
|-----------------------|------|------|-------|------|
| Con first; Lab second | -4.8 | -3.5 | -3.2 | 10.6 |
| Con first; LD second | -3.4 | 0.6 | -7.4 | 7.0 |
| | | | | |
| Lab first; Con second | -2.3 | -9.4 | -3.5 | 14.1 |
| Lab first; LD second | 3.1 | -3.1 | -13.3 | 10.1 |
| | | | | |
| LD first; Con second | 1.4 | -1.0 | -10.5 | 7.4 |
| LD first; Lab second | 0.2 | -3.7 | -8.8 | 9.3 |

Vote and seat share change by region 2011-15

| | Con V | Con S | Lab V | Lab S | LD V | LD S | UKIP S | UKIP V |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|--------|
| North | -1.7 | 2.0 | -3.9 | 1.5 | -3.2 | 0.3 | 10.6 | 0.2 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Midlands | -1.5 | 6.5 | -4.2 | -3.2 | -5.3 | -3.3 | 11.6 | 1.0 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| South | -2.3 | 7.1 | -2.2 | -2.2 | -6.3 | -6.6 | 9.1 | 2.7 |

UKIP at local elections 2013-15

| | 2013 share | 2013 seats | 2014 share | 2014 seats | 2015 share | 2015 seats |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------------------|
| Met Boroughs | | | | | | |
| Doncaster | | - | 31.7 | 1/21 | 25.2 | 2/55 |
| Dudley | - | - | 32.4 | 7/24 | 23.1 | 0/24 |
| Rotherham | - | - | 44.3 | 10/21 | 35.1 | 3/21 |
| Unitary councils | | | | | | |
| NE Lincolnshire | - | - | 35.5 | 7/15 | 25.6 | 1/16 |
| Plymouth | - | - | 31.1 | 3/19 | 19.9 | 0/19 |
| Thurrock | - | - | 39.0 | 5/16 | 36.3 | 7/16 |
| Shire districts | | | | | | |
| Arun | 35.4 | 4/13 | - | - | 22.5 | 4/54 |
| Basildon | 32.2 | 3/9 | 39.0 | 10/14 | 28.4 | 2/14 (second in 12/14) |
| Boston | 41.0 | 5/7 | - | - | 33.9 | 13/30 |
| Breckland | 34.8 | 5/12 | - | - | 22.5 | 4/49 |
| Cannock Chase | 25.2 | 0/7 | 33.5 | 4/13 | 20.8 | 0/15 |
| Castle Point | 33.7 | 2/5 | 26.9 | 5/14 | 20.1 | 0/14 |
| Eastleigh | 33.1 | 3/7 | 25.8 | 0/15 | 18.2 | 0/15 (LD first in 13/15) |
| Great Yarmouth | 36.4 | 5/9 | 40.9 | 10/13 | 29.1 | 0/13 (second in 12/13) |
| Harlow | 28.3 | 0/3 | 34.0 | 4/11 | 20.7 | 0/11 |
| Huntingdonshire | 34.0 | 6/19 | 31.4 | 3/17 | 18.4 | 0/19 |
| Shepway | 32.3 | 4/6 | - | - | 19.6 | 7/30 |
| South Holland | 35.3 | 2/9 | - | - | 20.8 | 2/37 |
| Swale | 34.3 | 3/6 | - | - | 27.4 | 9/47 |
| Thanet | 38.2 | 7/8 | - | - | 32.7 | 33/56 |

The challenge of 2016

Focus will be on Scotland, Wales, London and PCC,

BUT 2012 locals make an interesting comparator

Con 33; Lab 39; LD 15; UKIP 5

Tories will brush off if necessary, but for *Corbyn*, Farron and Farage they are a key test.

Will English locals again presage some wider trends?