

Electoral Commission Public Opinion Research

English local government and Combined Authority Mayoral (CAM) elections – May 2017

Methodology

- This data is based upon the results from 802 telephone interviews conducted between the 5 May and 5 June, across the areas in England holding elections on 4 May. Interviews were conducted with a nationally representative sample of adults aged 18 and over. Data is weighted to match the profile of the population.
- Where relevant, local government election results are compared with the results from the equivalent survey which fielded after the 2013 English local elections. In 2013 fieldwork took place between 3 and 19 May and comprised 800 interviews with adults aged 18 and over.
- No comparative data is available on Combined Authority Mayoral elections which were held for the first time in 2017.
- In 2017 fieldwork was conducted by ICM, in 2013 fieldwork was conducted by BMG.

Headline findings

- In England overall, 81% said that they are satisfied with the procedures for voting in elections and referendums in Great Britain, in line with the level of satisfaction at the previous equivalent local elections in 2013. As always, satisfaction was higher among those that voted (90% vs 69%). Levels of satisfaction were consistent across local government and CAM election areas.
- Similarly 80% were confident that the elections held in England on May 4 were well run. Again, voters were more confident than non-voters (93% compared with 61% confident).
- Just over half (53%) of those living in areas holding local government elections claimed to know a great deal or fair amount about them, at 47%, awareness of the elections in the areas holding CAM elections was slightly lower.

- This is in line with the fact that less than half (49%) of those living in CAM areas said that they found it easy to access information on the role of the Combined Authority Mayor.
- Voters nevertheless reported very high levels of satisfaction with the procedure for actually casting their ballots: 99% of postal voters and 94% of polling station voters said they were satisfied with the process of voting.

Full questionnaire and responses

- Where results do not sum to 100, this is due to multiple responses, computer rounding or the exclusion of don't knows/not stated.
- Results are based on all respondents unless otherwise stated. Base sizes are in brackets.
- An asterisk (*) represents a value of less than one half of one percent, but not zero.

REGISTRATION, TURNOUT AND VOTING

Q1. **As far as you know, is your name on the electoral register, that is the official list of people who can vote, either where you are living now or somewhere else?**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Yes – where living now	97	94	95
Yes – somewhere else / another address	1	3	2
No	1	1	2
Don't know	1	1	*

Q2. **How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the procedure for getting your name on the electoral register?**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very satisfied	65	62	65
Fairly satisfied	23	25	23
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	7	7	6
Fairly dissatisfied	1	1	1
Very dissatisfied	*	2	2
Don't know	4	3	4

Q2a **As you may know, on Thursday 4th May there was an elections/were elections in your area. Can you tell me the name of the council or authority you were electing representatives to?**

CAME areas: As you may know, on Thursday 4th May there was a combined authority mayoral election in your area. Can you tell me the name of the combined authority?

	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Respondent <u>correctly</u> names council/authority [includes coded responses]	52	42
Respondent <u>incorrectly</u> names council/authority [includes coded responses]	28	23
Respondent does not know/cannot remember	20	34

Q3. **As you may know, on Thursday 4 May there was/were....
INSERT AS APPROPRIATE: Local/CAME/City Mayor /Local government elections.**

We often find that a lot of people were not able to vote because they were sick, did not have the time, or were just not interested. How about you – did you manage to vote?

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Yes	51	66	62
No	49	34	38
Don't know	-	*	*

Q4. **People have different reasons for voting in elections and referendums. Why did you vote in the elections on Thursday 4th May? MULTICODE OK**

	Local 2013 % (421)	Local 2017 % (324)	CAME 2017 % (235)
<i>Base: All voters</i>			
Civic responsibility reasons			
It is important to vote/It is my civic duty/everyone should vote/It is my right to vote	49	50	46
I always vote	27	22	21
I wanted to be part of the democratic process/democracy	-	8	6
To show my support/support the community	-	5	9
People fought to win the right to vote for me/others	4	7	8
'CAME', 'CAME + LOCAL': Important to support the new Mayor / new layer of democracy	-	1	6
To express a view			
I wanted to have a say	-	24	22
To support my party/candidates of preference/to help my party/candidate win	-	11	11
If people don't vote then you have no right to complain/have an opinion	13	8	6
Concerned about local issues	5	3	3
To help create a change			
To get a change	7	5	5
Not happy with the local government/local council	2	2	*
Other reasons			
To vote for position supported by my party	-	4	4
I am not happy with the result of the EU referendum	-	3	4
I am not happy with the national government / decision to call an election	-	*	-
I am not happy with the (national) opposition	-	*	-
Other	2	13	12
None of these / no reason	2	*	*
Don't know	*	*	1

Q4. **Some people have told us they intentionally spoiled their ballot paper/s on May 4th by deliberately leaving the ballot paper/s blank or by not voting in the instructed way. They did this to register a protest. Did you intentionally spoil your own ballot paper or not in the elections?**

	2017 Local % (324)	2017 CAME % (235)
<i>Base: All voters</i>		
Yes	*	*
No	100	99
Don't know	-	1
Refused	-	-

Q9.

People have many reasons for not voting in elections. Why did you not vote in the [INSERT ELECTIONS] on Thursday 4th May?* MULTICODE OK

	Local 2013 % (381)	Local 2017 % (162)	CAME 2017 % (116)
<i>Base: All non-voters</i>			
Circumstances			
Lack of time/too busy/I was busy at work	22	25	23
I forgot	11	7	5
I was away on 4 th May / voting day	12	6	5
I really intended to vote but circumstances on the day prevented me	6	3	8
Medical/health reasons	6	7	2
I couldn't get to the polling station/it was inconvenient	2	6	4
Disinterest/no point			
I'm just not interested in politics	4	5	11
Had no interest/view on the subject	-	1	8
Waste of time/could see no point	-	4	3
There was no point in voting because it was obvious who would win/my vote wouldn't have made a difference to the outcome	3	2	4
I couldn't be bothered	7	2	*
No information/indecision/complicated			
I didn't get any information	6	9	3
I didn't know enough about the different options/candidates	1	5	5
I didn't know what the candidates stood for	2	2	2
I couldn't decide which way to vote	2	-	2
I don't know anything about local politics	-	1	1
I didn't understand/too confusing	-	1	-
I don't know anything about politics	-	-	-
Administration			
I wasn't registered	1	1	7
I didn't receive a postal vote/it arrived too late	1	3	-
I didn't receive a polling card	1	-	-
Elections not important			
There was no point in voting because the Combined Authority Mayor can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	-	-	9
There was no point in voting because the county council can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	-	3	1
There was no point in voting because the local council can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	2	-	-
Parties/candidates			
I didn't like the candidates/parties/they didn't represent my views	5	4	2
You just can't trust politicians to keep their promises	3	2	1
There was no point in voting because all the parties are the same	2	1	*
Politicians do not care/only in politics for own benefit	-	2	-
Awareness/lack of awareness			
I didn't know who the candidates in my area were /and where to find information	3	1	2
I didn't know there was an election	4	1	*
I didn't know what these elections were about / were for	1	1	1
I don't know what the Combined Authority Mayor is for	-	-	1

Miscellaneous			
I don't vote in local elections	-	-	2
I never vote	-	1	-
Other	1	19	9
None of these/no reason	1	1	1
Don't know	-	-	-

Q10. **Did you vote on the 4th of May....**

	Local 2013 %	Local 2017 %	CAME 2017 %
<i>Base: All voters</i>	(421)	(324)	(235)
In person at polling station	75	79	75
By post	25	19	24
By proxy (IF NECESSARY SAY: getting someone to vote on your behalf)	-	1	-
Other	*	*	-
Don't know	-	*	1

Q11. **Was this the first time you voted in any election or referendum?**

	Local 2017 %	CAME 2017 %
<i>Base: All voters</i>	(324)	(235)
Yes, it was my first time	3	1
Yes, it was my first time as I wasn't eligible before [for reasons such as age or nationality]	1	2
No, I voted before	96	97
Don't know/cannot remember	-	-

Q12. **Which of these statements best describes your attitude towards voting at UK Parliamentary General Elections (for Westminster)?**

	Local 2017 %	CAME 2017 %
I always vote	79	81
I sometimes vote	9	8
I never vote	4	3
I've not been eligible to vote in the past	5	5
I voted for the first time in 2015	3	3
Don't know	*	*

Q13. **VOTERS: You already told me that you voted, but would you have been more likely to vote on 4th May, less likely, or would it have made no difference one way or the other if...**

NON-VOTERS: Would you have been more likely to vote on 4th May, less likely, or would it have made no difference one way or the other if...

		More likely %	Less likely %	No difference %	Don't know %	Voted anyway %
If you could have voted on the weekend	Local '17	23	4	72	-	1

	instead	CAME '17	30	2	67	1	-
If you could have voted online instead		Local '17	36	12	49	1	2
		CAME '17	36	13	50	1	1
If you had been able to register to vote on election day		Local '17	20	3	74	*	2
		CAME '17	21	5	69	3	1
If people had to show proof of identity at polling stations		Local '17	11	4	83	1	1
		CAME '17	15	8	75	1	*
If you could have voted in a polling station in the days before the election including the Saturday and the Sunday before the election		Local '17	30	4	65	1	1
		CAME '17	36	1	61	1	*
If it was easier for you to get a postal vote		Local '17	24	3	70	2	1
		CAME '17	24	9	65	1	1

Q14. Please could you tell me whether you think each of the following statements are true or false?

			True %	False %	Don't know %
A	You have to take ID with you to vote at a polling station (FALSE)	Local '17	18	79	3
		CAME '17	20	77	3
B	You are automatically registered to vote if you pay council tax (FALSE)	Local '17	19	73	8
		CAME '17	24	72	5
C	You are automatically registered to vote if you are of legal voting age (FALSE)	Local '17	24	74	2
		CAME '17	27	71	2
D	You can register to vote until the day before an election (FALSE)	Local '17	18	72	10
		CAME '17	24	67	9
E	You are at risk of getting a fine if you don't register to vote (TRUE)	Local '17	12	83	4
		CAME '17	12	83	5
F	One household member is able to register other members of the household (TRUE)	Local '17	49	42	10
		CAME '17	45	47	7
G	You can register to vote online (TRUE)	Local '17	69	17	14
		CAME '17	74	15	11

Q15. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Agree strongly %	Tend to agree %	Neither agree nor disagree %	Tend to disagree %	Strongly disagree %	Don't know %
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You should be able to register to vote until the day before the election	Local '17	32	24	9	18	15	2
	CAME '17	35	24	9	13	17	2
You should be able to register to vote in a polling station on the day of the election	Local '17	20	17	7	22	33	1
	CAME '17	26	18	5	21	30	*
Local government should be able to use other information they hold about me (for example my Council Tax record) to automatically update my details on an electoral register	Local '17	14	32	7	19	27	2
	CAME '17	18	31	6	15	27	3
It should be my responsibility, not the government's, to keep my electoral registration details up to date	Local '17	48	34	6	8	4	1
	CAME '17	50	28	9	7	5	1
You should automatically be added to the electoral register when you receive your National Insurance number	Local '17	32	29	8	18	12	2
	CAME '17	37	26	7	12	14	3

AWARENESS AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Q16. **How much if anything did you feel you knew about the election(s) on Thursday 4 May? Would you say you knew...**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
A great deal	9	10	10
A fair amount	38	42	37
Not very much	39	35	34
Nothing at all	14	13	19
Don't know	1	*	*

Q17. **Would you say it was very easy, fairly easy, neither easy nor difficult, fairly difficult or very difficult to access information on...?**

		Very easy %	Fairly easy %	Neither/ Nor %	Fairly difficult %	Very difficult %	DK %
How to cast your vote at the [INSERT ELECTION*]	2017 Local	47	33	10	3	2	4

	2017 CAME	39	32	16	6	1	6
What the [INSERT ELECTION*] were for	2017 Local	21	41	14	12	4	7
	2017 CAME	23	35	20	12	4	7
The role of the Combined Authority Mayor	2017 CAME	17	32	23	16	4	8
Information on the candidates standing in the [INSERT ELECTION *]	2017 Local	17	37	14	20	5	6
	2017 CAME	21	33	15	16	9	6

Q18. **To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

		Agree strongly %	Tend to agree %	Neither/ Nor %	Tend to disagree %	Strongly Disagree %	DK %
There was a lot of media coverage on the [INSERT ELECTION *]	2017 Local	12	17	14	31	25	2
	2017 CAME	12	22	13	30	21	3
I had enough information on how to cast my vote in the [INSERT ELECTION *]	2013 Local	44	29	8	9	10	1
	2017 Local	41	30	9	9	10	1
	2017 CAME	36	31	14	10	7	2
I knew enough about what the [INSERT ELECTION *] was about / for	2017 Local	34	32	9	14	11	1
	2017 CAME	25	33	10	17	13	2
I had enough information to understand the role of the Combined Authority Mayors	Eng. CAME	24	29	8	19	18	2

I had enough information on candidates to be able to make an informed decision in the [INSERT ELECTION *]	2013 Local	28	21	7	19	24	1
	2017 Local	22	32	11	13	21	2
	2017 CAME	28	26	11	15	20	1
The [INSERT ELECTION *] was overshadowed by the focus on the parliamentary general election	2017 Local	28	28	14	17	12	2
	2017 CAME	24	27	12	22	13	2

n.b. 2013 wording for code 5: 'I had enough information on parties and candidates to be able to make an informed decision in the election.'

Q19. Where did you access information on candidates? [2013 wording: 'Where did you find information on parties and candidates?']

	2013 Local (394) %	2017 Local (278) %	2017 CAME (215) %
<i>Base: All who agree at Q18d or Q18e</i>			
Leaflet or flyer from a candidate/political party	63	64	54
Leaflet or flyer from another source	30	20	26
Social media	-	18	20
Candidate's website	10	13	16
People talking about it	5	14	13
Friends and family	2	13	14
SCOTLAND, WALES, 'LOCAL', 'CITY MAYOR', 'CITY MAYOR + LOCAL': My local council website	-	21	4
On another specific website	5	9	16
Posters or billboards	5	10	7
'CAME', 'CAME + LOCAL': The combined authority area website	-	1	19
'CAME', 'CAME + LOCAL': The booklet on candidates produced by the [INSERT RELEVANT COMBINED AUTHORITY] Combined Authority	-	1	17
The 'Your Vote Matters' website	-	2	6
I didn't find/see any information	2	1	3
Somewhere else	1	27	24
None of these	-	2	2
Don't know	1	2	2

Q20. Thinking about the last few months, which of the following can you recall happening?

	'17 Local %	'17 CAME %
I received a leaflet from a political party at my home	84	88
I saw an advert or message from a political party on television	46	54

I saw an advert or message from a political party on social media	36	44
I saw campaigners from political parties giving out leaflets near to where I live	29	30
A campaigner from a political party knocked on my door	22	20
None of these	7	4
Don't know	-	-

Q21. **How much would you say you know about local councils and the services they provide? Is that...?**

	'17 Local %	'17 CAME %
A great deal	8	8
A fair amount	56	51
Not very much	31	35
Nothing at all	5	5
Don't know	-	-

VOTING PROCESS AND PRIORITIES

Q22. **Generally speaking, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the procedures for voting in elections and referendums in Great Britain?**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very satisfied	36	35	32
Fairly satisfied	43	47	50
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	11	9	10
Fairly dissatisfied	6	6	5
Very dissatisfied	3	2	2
Don't know	1	1	1

Q23. **Why do you say you were dissatisfied with the procedure for voting in elections?**
MULTICODE OK.

<i>Base: All fairly or very dissatisfied with procedure for voting</i>		2013 Local (65) %	2017 Local (37) %	2017 CAME (26) %
Voting procedure				
	Length of time it takes	-	14	23
	Process is poorly represented/ misrepresented	-	4	1
	Outdated methods/paper based/dropping ballots into the box	-	4	6
	Dislike the counting process	-	7	-
	Voting process should be available online	10	6	2
	The system is open to abuse	-	4	3
	Voting system should be more secure	4	1	2
	Voting should be spread over a few days	7	5	7
	Many people didn't get to vote/register	4	-	6
	Issues with postal voting	-	3	-
	Everyone should vote/ compulsory voting	2	1	-
	Not enough polling stations to choose from	4	1	-
	Non UK citizens are not eligible to vote	-	1	-
	Voting should be done in pen/a more permanent mark / not pencil	-	-	-
	Voters should be required to show identification	-	-	-
	Issues with secrecy/ anonymity of voting	-	-	-
	Too many elections taking place on the same day	-	-	-
Lack of information				
	Not enough information/ media coverage	29	32	13
	People don't/didn't understand what the elections were about/too complicated	-	12	6
Voting system				
	The system is not fair	13	10	11
	Disagree with /don't like the voting system	14	11	11
	Lack of democracy within the system	-	6	5
	Confusion with multiple voting systems	-	1	-
Politicians/the political system				
	Don't trust politicians/ politicians don't fulfil their promises	5	9	16
	Dislike politicians' behaviour	-	3	-
	Need more options/ opinions/choice	11	2	-
	May end up voting for people/positions I don't support	-	-	-
Experience of voting				
	Didn't receive a polling card	-	-	12
	Poor accessibility of polling stations	-	-	5
	Because of the outcome/ dismay with election results	-	-	-
Other				
	Corruption/fraud/fixed results	-	4	-
	Should be simpler	4	-	-
	Waste of money	3	-	-
	Too many elections recently	-	-	-
	Other	8	30	27
	Don't know	2	-	5

Q24. **How confident, if at all, are you that the election(s) on May 4th was/were well run?**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very confident	35	34	32
Fairly confident	39	46	50
Not very confident	8	6	10
Not at all confident	3	3	3
Don't know	14	10	5

Q25. **Why do you say you are confident that the [elections] was/were well run? MULTICODE OK.**

	2013 Local (595) %	2017 Local (403) %	2017 CAME (288) %
<i>Base: All very/fairly confident at Q24</i>			
Well organised	41	26	29
Clear/concise ballot/easy to vote	-	22	20
Quick easy voting	5	15	14
There was a lot of information about the elections	-	11	14
Trust the staff	6	14	7
Professionally conducted	2	8	9
Voting system fair	3	10	6
No negative feedback	3	10	5
Tried and tested	7	9	7
Accessible polling station	3	6	5
Well publicised	3	5	3
Good staff attitude	2	5	3
Personal involvement	1	3	2
Results were in the media quickly	-	2	3
Everyone had the opportunity to vote	-	1	3
Received polling card ballot papers in good time	2	2	2
Feel it was the right result	-	1	2
Well canvassed	1	2	1
High turnout	-	1	*
Others	12	19	17
None	5	2	4
Don't know	5	7	10

Q26.

Why do you say that you are not confident that the election(s) was/were well run? DO NOT PROMPT. MULTICODE.

	2013 Local (92) %	2017 Local (45) %	2017 CAME (38) %
<i>Base: All not very/not at all confident</i>			
Lack of information			
Lack of information/publicity/don't know much/anything about it	54	48	62
Lack of information about the candidates	-	30	14
Information confusing/some people didn't understand what the vote was for	12	14	9
Campaign issues/candidate			
Lack of canvassing/personal contact	-	13	4
TV/press coverage was biased/badly presented	1	-	4
Little choice in who to vote for	-	3	-
There was misinformation/stupid allegations as to what the vote was about	-	1	-
Polling station/ballot issues			
Didn't receive a polling card/postal ballot papers	-	6	-
The counting process was not well verified	-	5	-
Lack of time given to vote/decide	-	1	3
Low turnout	3	-	1
Badly run/organised	5	1	-
Long wait for results	-	-	-
I didn't know how to vote/what to do in the polling station/how to fill in my ballot paper	-	-	-
Two/More elections on one day/too much to organise/handle	-	-	-
Voting system and procedure			
People did not know the voting procedure	*	-	9
People's opinions are not valued/vote will make no difference	-	3	-
Outdated/unfair system	-	-	2
Combination of elections	-	-	-
Politicians/political system			
Mistrust/Don't stick to their promises/just in it for themselves	4	7	1
Fraud security			
Corruption/fraud/fixed results	-	4	-
General impression/word of mouth			
I had a bad impression	-	4	-
I did not witness what went on	-	-	-
From what I have read/heard	-	-	-
Other			
Because of the outcome/dismay with election results	-	7	-
Disinterested/don't care about politics	7	4	5
Dislike local government	-	2	3
Didn't vote for personal reasons	-	2	1
Dislike the new Combined Authority Mayor position	-	2	-
Issues registering to vote	-	-	-
Some did not have the opportunity to vote/had the opportunity taken away	-	-	-
Other	11	17	9
None	1	-	2
Don't know	2	4	5

VOTING AT A POLLING STATION

Q27. **Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the process of voting at a polling station/polling place? Would you say...**

<i>Base: All polling station voters</i>	2013 Local (311) %	2017 Local (247) %	2017 CAME (168) %
Very satisfied	77	70	71
Fairly satisfied	19	22	21
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	2	8	6
Fairly dissatisfied	1	*	-
Very dissatisfied	-	-	1
Don't know	1	-	-

Q28. **Once you arrived at your polling station/polling place, how easy or difficult was it for you to get inside to vote?**

<i>Base: All polling station voters</i>	2017 Local (247) %	2017 CAME (168) %
Very easy	92	88
Fairly easy	8	10
Neither easy nor difficult	-	1
Fairly difficult	-	1
Very difficult	-	*
Don't know	-	-

Q29. **Thinking back to when you went to vote at the polling station/polling place, how useful, if at all, was the help or support available from polling station staff on how to vote? Was it ...**

<i>Base: All polling station voters</i>	2013 Local (311) %	2017 Local (247) %	2017 CAME (168) %
Very useful	55	50	44
Fairly useful	18	13	20
Not very useful	2	*	2
Not at all useful	*	4	2
Didn't use them/need them	25	33	32
Don't know	1	-	-

Q30. **And again thinking back to when you went to vote at the polling station/polling place, how useful, if at all were any written instructions on how to vote, such as a poster on display in the polling booth or guidance on the ballot paper(s)? Were they...**

<i>Base: All polling station voters</i>	2013 Local (311) %	2017 Local (247) %	2017 CAME (168) %
Very useful	45	40	50
Fairly useful	28	19	14
Not very useful	3	1	3
Not at all useful	1	-	3
Didn't use them/need them	21	37	29
Don't know	2	2	1

VOTING BY POST

Q31. **How easy or difficult was it to understand what you had to do in order to complete and return your postal vote? Would you say...**

<i>Base: All postal voters</i>	2013 Local (109) %	2017 Local (73) %	2017 CAME (65) %
Very easy	82	75	78
Fairly easy	17	19	16
Neither easy nor difficult	-	2	2
Fairly difficult	1	1	2
Very difficult	-	2	1
Don't know	*	-	-

Q32. **Thinking back to when you voted by post, how useful, if at all were any written instructions on how to vote and return your vote, such as guidance on the ballot paper(s)? Were they...**

<i>Base: All postal voters</i>	2013 Local (109) %	2017 Local (73) %	2017 CAME (65) %
Very useful	76	79	77
Fairly useful	20	12	15
Not very useful	-	4	1
Not at all useful	-	2	3
Didn't use them/need them	4	2	4
Don't know	*	-	-

Q33. **Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the process of voting by post? Would you say...**

<i>Base: All postal voters</i>	2013 Local (109) %	2017 Local (73) %	2017 CAME (65) %
Very satisfied	87	89	88
Fairly satisfied	9	10	10
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	1	-	-
Fairly dissatisfied	1	-	-
Very dissatisfied	-	-	1
Don't know	2	1	-

COMPLETING THE BALLOT PAPER

Q34. **Some people said it was difficult to fill in the ballot paper when voting in the 4th May [INSERT ELECTIONS]. How easy or difficult did you find it to fill in the ballot Paper(s) for this election? Was it...**

<i>Base: All who voted</i>	2013 Local (421) %	2017 Local (324) %	2017 CAME (235) %
Very easy	88	86	78
Fairly easy	10	11	17
Neither easy nor difficult	*	1	1
Fairly difficult	1	*	2
Very difficult	-	-	2
Don't know	1	2	-

PARTY AND ELECTION FINANCE

Q36. I am going to read you some statements relating to the rules on the money that political parties, organisations and other individuals use when campaigning. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

		Agree strongly %	Tend to agree %	Neither agree nor disagree %	Tend to disagree %	Strongly disagree %	Don't know %
The spending and funding of political parties, candidates and other campaigning organisations at elections is open and transparent	'17 Local	10	20	19	23	22	6
	'17 CAME	11	18	20	25	21	4
If a political party or another campaigner is caught breaking the rules, the authorities will take appropriate actions	'17 Local	37	26	12	11	9	5
	'17 CAME	41	19	7	16	13	4
I can easily find out how much political parties, candidates and other organisations spent on campaigning and how they were funded	'17 Local	6	17	18	23	23	13
	'17 CAME	10	17	18	23	21	11

ELECTORAL FRAUD

Q37. How much electoral fraud, if any, do you think took place at the May 4th elections? Would you say that it happened...?

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
A lot	1	4	7
A little	21	20	26
Hardly anything at all	33	27	19
Nothing at all	15	13	18
Don't know	31	36	30

n.b. 2013 wording: 'How much, if at all, do you think that electoral fraud took place at the May 2nd elections? Would you say that it happened...'

Q38. Which one of the following best describes why you think electoral fraud or abuse took place on 4th May?

	2013 Local % (173)	2017 Local % (108)	2017 CAME % (103)
<i>Base: All who thought a lot/a little fraud took place</i>			
I have seen stories in the media about political parties	-	28	23

breaking the rules			
General impression that fraud is a problem	47	8	16
I saw stories in the media about electoral fraud	18	13	10
Because you don't have to provide identification to vote	48	11	10
Identity fraud is on the increase	48	7	12
Postal voting is not secure	43	7	10
I heard from someone else that electoral fraud took place	5	4	5
People are registering other voters at the same address	37	5	5
People are registering multiple times		2	1
I have first-hand experience of electoral fraud	1	1	1
Other	4	9	3
Don't know	7	5	5

Q39. A **In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that voting in general is...**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very safe	27	28	26
Fairly safe	50	55	50
Neither safe nor unsafe	10	9	13
Fairly unsafe	6	4	9
Very unsafe	1	1	1
Don't know	7	3	2

Q39. B **In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that voting at a polling station is...**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very safe	42	45	39
Fairly safe	45	44	49
Neither safe nor unsafe	4	5	6
Fairly unsafe	4	2	4
Very unsafe	1	*	1
Don't know	4	4	2

Q39. C **In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that voting by post is...**

	2013 Local %	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very safe	13	23	22
Fairly safe	33	39	36
Neither safe nor unsafe	14	9	12
Fairly unsafe	22	12	15
Very unsafe	6	5	8
Don't know	12	12	7

Q40. **As you may know, on the 8th of June there will be a UK parliamentary general election, how likely are you to vote at the general election? Is that...?**

	2017 Local %	2017 CAME %
Very likely	88	90
Fairly likely	5	6
Neither likely nor unlikely	1	*
Fairly unlikely	1	*
Very unlikely	3	3

Don't know	*	*
I am not eligible to vote in UK Parliamentary General ElectionSs	1	*