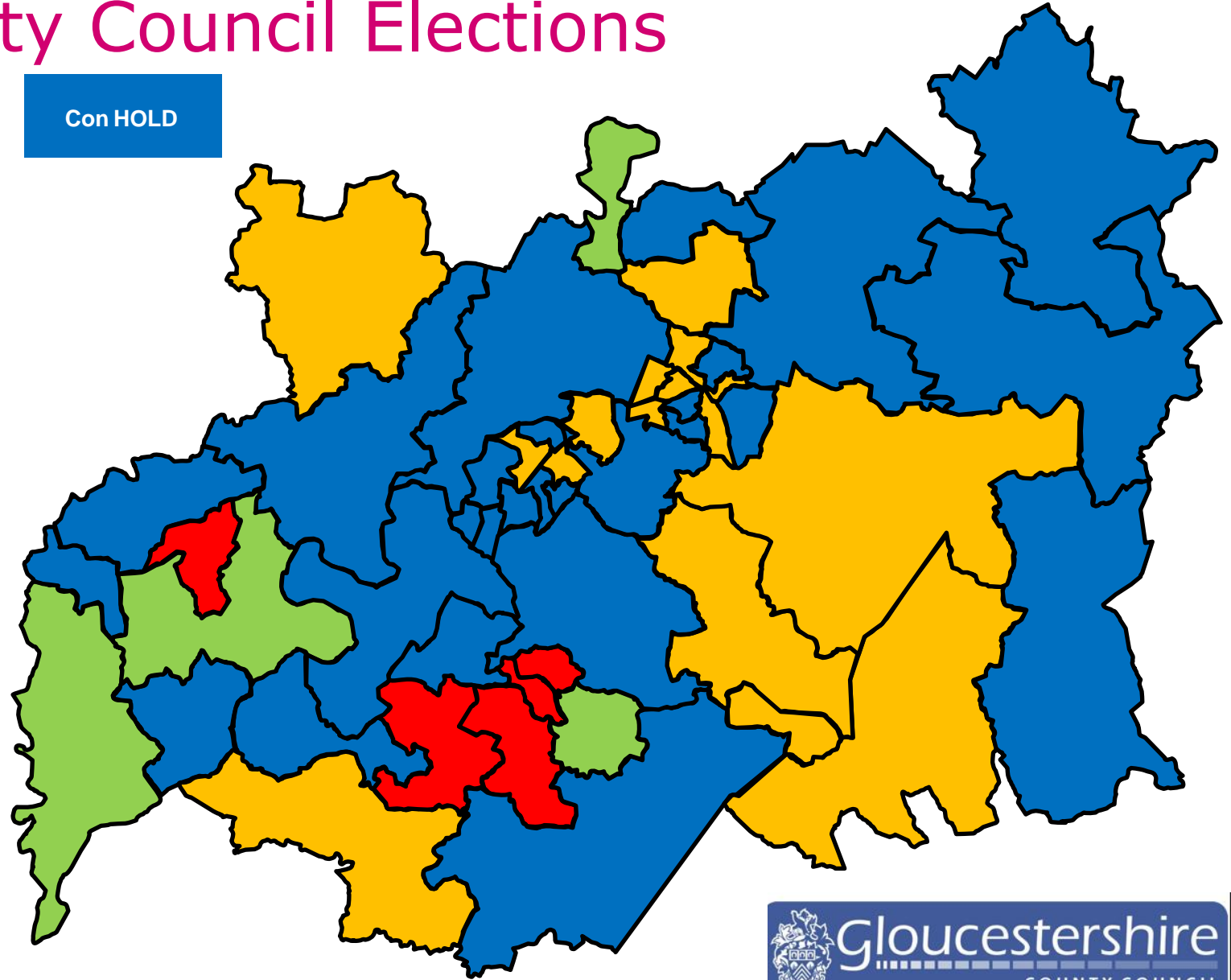
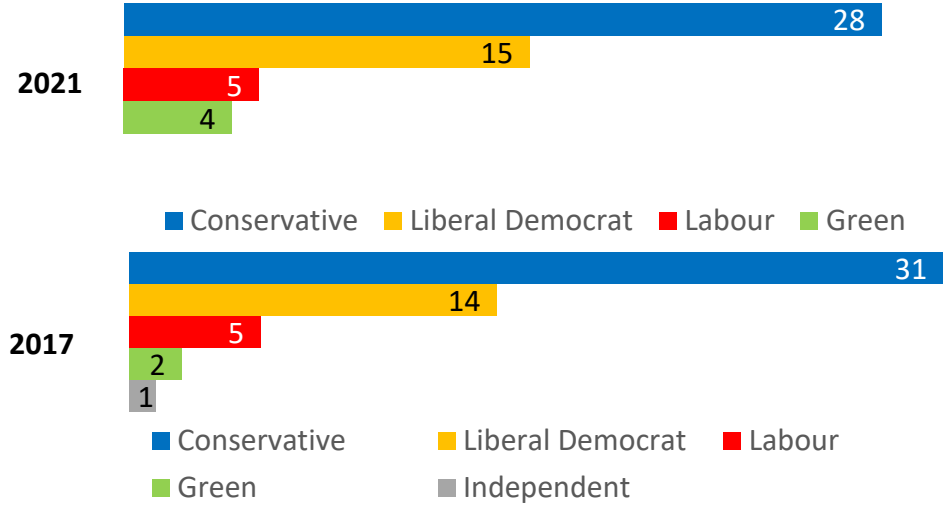


# Gloucestershire County Council Elections

Results May 2021 (Turnout – 37.5%)

Con HOLD



## History repeats in Gloucestershire: Tories hold firm

- **Singing the blues;** although not unexpected, the Tories performed well with successes in marginals in Gloucester and Stroud, and against the Lib Dems in Cheltenham. The night was only blighted by losses to the Liberal Democrats and Greens in Tewkesbury and the Forest of Dean divisions.
- **Cabinet Member losses;** two senior cabinet members lost their seats to the Greens in the Forest of Dean divisions, Deputy Leader Richard Boyles (Blakeney and Bream) and Patrick Molyneux, Cabinet Member for Economy (Sedbury).

# Gloucester changes hands, but everywhere else stays the same

## District Council results summary:

- Stroud District Council (NOC Hold) – CON 20, LAB 15, GREEN 13, LIB DEM 3
- Gloucester City Council (CON gain from NOC) - CON 26, LIB DEM 10, LAB 3
- Cheltenham Borough Council (LD Hold) - LIB DEM 14, CON 5, IND 1

After eleven years in national government, the Conservatives at all tiers of local government in Gloucestershire would typically have closed their eyes and waited for the inevitable electoral kicking. But these are not normal times with the Labour Party fighting Tory tanks on northern lawns and the Lib-Dems still flatlining in Westminster. The Conservatives in Gloucester could even afford to pinch seats from Labour, including three in one go in Matson and Robinswood, to re-take control of the council. Yes, there was some seat trading across the parties. For instance, the Greens gained a stronger foothold in Stroud with wins against Conservative and Labour candidates. They also unlocked seats from Tory County Councillors in the Forest of Dean.

But overall, change was minimal. Note for the future - the Conservatives and Labour in the Forest of Dean and Stroud might be wise to peer south to see the emergence of the Green Party in Bristol. They, too, started with a gentle ebb of votes and seats towards them. Five years later, the ebb has become a flood.



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