

## Declaration of Results

Date of election: 01 October 2026

Contest Name

Ward 3 - Wick and East Caithness

I will now declare the result of the election in the Ward 3 - Wick and East Caithness. There is 1 Councillor to be elected.

The electorate was 10,169 and the number of ballot papers received was 3,051 giving a percentage turnout of 30.0%. There were 29 rejected ballot papers. The quota of votes for a candidate to be elected was 1,512.

The number of first preference votes for each of the candidates was:

| Candidate Name   | Affiliation                        | Number of First Preference Votes |
|------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dave BUCHANAN    | Independent                        | 714                              |
| Julie CALDER     | Scottish Liberal Democrats         | 1,522                            |
| Charlotte GIBSON | Scottish Conservative and Unionist | 79                               |
| John GLEN        | Scottish National Party (SNP)      | 424                              |
| Iain RICHMOND    | Reform UK                          | 283                              |
| Total            |                                    | 3,022                            |

After application of the Election Rules, I declare that the following is elected as Councillor for the Ward 3 - Wick and East Caithness:

| Candidate Name | Affiliation                | Stage at which Candidate was Elected |
|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Julie CALDER   | Scottish Liberal Democrats | 1                                    |

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Of the total ballot papers, the following were rejected and not counted on account of:

| 2011 Order Rule 44(1) | Adjudication Rejection Reason                                                                                                                       | Number    |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| (a)                   | Which does not bear a unique identifying mark in a form that is capable of being read by electronic means                                           | 0         |
| (b)                   | On which a number standing alone is not placed so as to indicate a first preference for some candidate                                              | 6         |
| (c)                   | On which the figure "1" standing alone indicating a first preference is set opposite the name of more than one candidate                            | 18        |
| (d)                   | On which anything is written or marked by which the voter can be identified except the printed number and other unique identifying mark on the back | 0         |
| (e)                   | Which is unmarked or void for uncertainty                                                                                                           | 5         |
| <b>Total</b>          |                                                                                                                                                     | <b>29</b> |