

FPP and STV Electoral Systems

FPP

Under the FPP (first-past-the-post) electoral system, voters are able to cast up to as many votes as there are vacancies to be filled. If there are three vacancies, voters can tick three candidates. The candidates with the most votes are declared elected.

STV

STV stands for Single Transferable Vote. It is a form of preferential voting. Voters rank some or all candidates in the order that they prefer them. Candidates have to attain a quota before they can be declared elected.

Counting

- Determine the quota
- Allocate all first preferences to candidates
- Declare elected any candidate(s) who have attained the quota
- Transfer any surplus votes to second preference (i.e. A percentage of each vote is transferred to the second preference, while the elected candidate retains a fraction of every vote they received.)
- Exclude candidate with the fewest votes and redistribute these votes across remaining candidates according to second preferences
- Continue until all vacancies are filled

Representation

STV produces results broadly proportional with the views of the community. While it cannot guarantee increased diversity of representation, it is regarded as providing effective representation to a range of interests.