

## Candidate 1 evidence

2)	Turnout in the 2017 Scottish local elections easily surpassed all other recent votes in Scotland with figures showing very significant increases in all areas. Source A shows that the turnout in the 2017 local elections was 46.9%, the lowest out of the last 5 elections with the lowest figure being seen in the 2016 Scottish parliament election being 9.7% higher at 55.6%. However when we compare it to the last local council election in 2012 we see an increase of 7.2% from 39.7% turnout. Source B backs this up by showing that all areas apart from the Shetland islands (-5.6%) experiencing an increase in turnout with the highest being Aberdeen city which saw a	

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	<p>10.1% increase. This shows that although the figure for Scotland in general was quite low it was a big increase in turnout as in terms of a local election however the evidence does not support the viewpoint as the 2017 turnout didn't surpass any recent votes.</p>
	<p>Other measures of participation indicated considerable and consistent improvements." Source C demonstrates how between 2012 and 2017 there was a general increase among party candidates. Conservatives (+18), SNP (+14), Green (+132), independents (+84) all saw increases in candidates while only Labour (-44) and 'other' (-78) saw a decrease while Lib Dems remained the same. The overall candidates rose by 76 from 2,496 in 2012</p>

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	<p>to 2,572 in 2017. Almost all parties saw an increase in their percentage of male candidates with Labour (+4.7%), Lib Dems (+5.3%), SNP (+14.5%), Green (+3.6%) and independents (+5.1%) only others (-1.1%) saw a slight drop as well as Conservatives (-4.7%). There was an overall increase of 7.7% from 22.8% in 2012 to 30.5% in 2017. This shows that women's representation has increased both in general and across most parties as well as seeing an increase in the number of people standing for election in general, increasing representation. Therefore the evidence supports the statement as most parties experienced some increase in representation as well as candidates as a whole.</p>
	The Conservatives were the



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	<p>to Conservatives 276. This shows that although the Conservatives did make significant improvements and were overall the most improved party since 2012 the evidence disagrees with the statement as they certainly weren't clear winners or the most popular party as that was the SNP.</p>
	<p>Labour was clearly the biggest loser of the night. Source D shows that Labour experienced the worst % change in votes from 2012 with -11.2% and got 20.2% in 2017 which still left them as the 3rd biggest party as Lib Dem's (6.9%), Greens (6%) as well as independents (10.4%) and others (1%) getting less % of votes. Labour only was one area which was <del>most</del> <del>betwixt</del> <del>where</del></p>

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<p><del>from 29% to 29%</del> Labour did not win in a single area with their highest % coming in Glasgow with 30% which still fell short of the SNP's 41%. Source E tells me that Labour won the 3rd most amount of seats with 262 but saw a drastic change of -132 from 2012. This shows that although 2017 was overall a poor result for Labour there was still parties with less votes despite losing a large majority of their vote therefore the evidence shown doesn't support the statement as Labour were not the biggest losers.</p>	
<p>In the 2019 English local elections there was similar outcomes for the two main</p>	

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parties. Source F shows that both the conservatives and Labour both got 31% of the vote in 2019, both experienced a negative change in vote share from 2015 losing 5% and 10% respectively. However these votes translated into the conservatives winning 3559 seats, 849 more than Labour's 2020 seats. The conservatives also won 143 council areas compared to Labour's 91. This shows that despite winning the same % of the vote the conservatives saw a large majority over Labour much like they did in Scotland two years prior so in that sense the information supports the statement concerning conservative dominance.

In conclusion, the level of participation





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	<p>and <del>was</del> on increase in seats the SNP still had more and was therefore more popular. In Evaluation the viewpoint is false as the SNP had the most seats and votes making them the most popular party right across the country.</p>
	<p>The viewpoint states "Labour was clearly the biggest loser on the right."</p>
	<p>Source E shows that Labour <del>lost</del> lost 10.8% of their seats, the second largest loss in seats that right was the independents <del>party</del> with 7.7%.</p>
	<p>Source D shows that for the national share of first preference votes in the right of the 2017 local election Labour lost 11.2% of votes compared to the amount they got in 2012, this was the biggest decrease.</p>

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	Overall even though Labour still held the third most first preference votes and still have third most total seats, they still had the biggest decrease in seats and votes than any other party. In Evidence the viewpoint is true as Labour had by far the biggest decline in votes and seats than any other party.
	The viewpoint states "In the 2019 English local elections there were similar outcomes for the two main parties." Source F shows that the Conservatives had a loss of -1981 of seats in the 2019 election and Labour lost -273 seats. Source F also shows the number of councils won by the Conservatives decreased in 2019 by 49.



## Candidate 3 evidence

1. Source A shows that the Scottish local council elections in 2017 got a 46.9% turnout in Scotland, furthermore it shows that elections like the 2014 Scottish independence referendum got a 84.6% turnout and elections like the 2015 UK general election got a 71.1% turnout within Scotland. Source B shows that in the 2017 local council elections there was a 10.1% increase in turnout within the area of Aberdeen City, there was a 7.9% increase in Edinburgh and there was an increase in the areas of Dumfries and Galloway, Glasgow, Na h-Eileanan Siar and West Lothian. There was a 5.6% decrease in turnout in Shetland Islands, Scotland overall had a 7.2% increase between 2012 and 2017 local council elections. Overall the total 2017 local council election turnout was lower than previous elections like the

general election and the independence referendum. The 2017 local council election saw increases in turnout for all selected council areas except the Shetland Islands.

The statement that the "Turnout in the 2017 Scottish Local Elections easily surpassed all other recent votes in Scotland with figures showing very significant increases in all areas" is inaccurate as the turnout in the 2017 Scottish local election was almost half of the turnout of the 2014 independence referendum, the only turnout they beat was the previous local council election. Furthermore there was not a significant increase in all areas as council areas like Na h-Eileanan an Iar saw a less than 3% increase and the Shetland Islands actually saw a decrease.

Source C shows that the overall number of candidates in Scottish local elections increased from 2496 to 2572 in 2012-2017. Source C also shows that the number of candidates increased for each party except for Labour and others which decreased. Source C also shows that there was around a 8% increase in female candidates in 2017 compared to 2012. It also shows that the percentage of female candidates for each party improved with the exception of the Conservatives and Others. Overall there was more candidates in the 2017 local election and a higher percentage of these candidates were women. Some significant numbers show that the number of female candidates in the SNP almost doubled from 23.8% to 41.3%.

The statement that "Other measures of participation indicated considerable and consistent improvements" is inaccurate. While the overall number of candidates increased we did not see it as a consistent increase as the Labour party actually stood less candidates and so did the other non big parties. As well as this the total number of women candidates increased highly but not necessarily considerably as independent parties only increased from around 13.3% to 18.4%. On top of this parties like the conservatives actually lowered their percentage of women candidates from 26% to 21.3% and the Other parties saw a smaller drop also.

The conservatives were the clear winners of the 2017 Scottish local elections as they made huge gains and ended as the most popular party right across the country.

Source D shows that the Conservatives won 25.3% of the vote share in 2017 which was a 12% increase. Source D also shows that the SNP did not face a change and ended with 32.3% of the vote share. Source D also shows that the Conservative party had a highest vote share in council areas like Dumfries and Galloway (37.2% compares to next place 20.7%) and Edinburgh (27.7% compares to next place 27%). Source E shows that the conservatives gained 161 seats compared to the 2012 election and their percentage of seats increased by 13.1%. Overall the conservatives gained a significantly higher vote share within the country as first preference votes and they did the best in select council areas but lacked in others. The conservatives also made large gains in the seats won.

The statement that "The conservatives were the clear winners of the 2017 Scottish local elections as they made huge gains and ended as the most popular party right across the country." is inaccurate. The conservative were not the clear winners as they failed to gain a

higher vote share than the SNP (25.3% compared to 32.3%) As a result they also ended the night with less seats than the SNP meaning despite their huge gains they were not the largest party in the country. Also the conservative did not gain a higher vote share in the majority of select councils.

Labour was clearly the biggest loser on the night

Source D shows that the Labour party went from a 32.3% vote share down to a 20.2% vote share. Labour party also did not perform the best in any select council area. Source E shows that the Labour party also lost a total of 132 seats in the election and this came with a 10.8% decrease in seats. Overall the Labour party lost a significant amount of their vote share in the country and they also failed to win a selected council area while performing badly overall and goin from 32.2% of the seats in the country down to 21.4%

The statement that "Labour was clearly the biggest loser on the night" is accurate. The labour party lost a much higher percentage of the vote share compared to any other party, in fact the only other statistic to lose vote share was the "Others" and independents who lost less than 3% in total. Furthermore the Labour party did not win a single council area in terms of first preference vote percentages. As well as this it can be clearly seen that the labour party lost 4x as many seats as the next worst party. They also ended the night going from the second largest party to the third largest party losing around a third of their seats.

In the 2019 English local elections there were similar outcomes for the two main parties

Source F shows us that the conservatives lost a total of 1981 seats in 2019 compared to 2015. Source E shows us that the conservatives gained 161 seats from 2012 to 2017. Source F shows us that Labour lost 272 seats. Source E shows us that Labour lost 132 seats. Source F also shows us that the Conservatives lost a total of 49 councils and Labour lost 9 total councils. Overall the Conservatives gained seats in the Scottish election but lost many seats and councils in the 2019 election. Labour lost seats in both the Scottish and English local election and lost 9 total councils.

The statement that "In the 2019 English local elections there were similar outcomes for the two main parties" is inaccurate. This is because while it can be seen that the Labour party lost many seats in both the Scottish and English local elections. The conservatives actually performed well in the Scottish local election propelling themselves into being the second biggest party by adding 161 seats to their total, whereas it cannot be said that there was a similar outcome in the English local election as they lost almost 2000 seats lowering their lead over the labour party who performed a little less worse. Furthermore the conservatives lost more council areas than Labour which does not reflect their dominant performance over Labour in the previous Scottish Election