

**NRNA UK Elections 2021**

**Scotland Elections Results**

ELECTION COUNT COMPLETED

Election start date: Noon 2nd August 2021

Election end date: Noon 3rd August 2021

Voting Method: Approval Voting

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## Preamble

These elections used a type of voting system called 'approval voting', as requested by the NRNA UK Election Committee. Each voter could select (or 'approve') any number of candidates.

All candidate names are presented as they were provided by the NRNA Election Committee.

The winners of the elections are the candidates who were 'approved' by the largest number of votes.

## Disclaimer

Please find our conclusions from the Scotland NRNA elections held from noon Monday 2nd August 2021 until noon Tuesday 3rd August 2021.

### 1. Elections for the Scottish Regional President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer

**Modified opinion - Disclaimer:** Kanto Elect has not been provided with enough information to determine whether or not these ballots were fair. An example of this is that Kanto Elect was not provided the process information of the election or proof that voters were eligible to vote.

Kanto Elect is not able to validate the email addresses provided and has not been able to confirm that each email address represents a separate person. Kanto Elect has checked that only the email addresses supplied by the Election Committee have voted on the online system. It has been verified that no voter email address other than those provided to Kanto Elect has been used for voting.

The email addresses that have been registered with the software were provided by the Election Committee, and verified true and accurate on Friday 30th July, 2021 at 2:39 PM by Mahendra Raj Kandel, the election chair, who confirmed that the data had been checked, verified as accurate and provided in good faith by the Election Committee. Neither Kanto Elect nor Choice Voting has any method of validating the accuracy of the membership data, as requested confirmations have not been provided, therefore Kanto Elect and Choice Voting relied solely on the data provided by the NRNA UK Election Committee.

Kanto Elect asked the Executive Committee and the Election Committee for clarification. They provided unanimous confirmation that they want Kanto Elect to publish the results. This letter is attached.

Prior to the announcement of the results, Kanto Elect required the NRNA UK Election Committee and Executive Committee to confirm in writing the acceptance of the outcome of the election - and that no further discussions may be entered into.

The publication and announcement of results indicates that the Election Committee is in full approval, and has addressed any candidate concerns to its satisfaction prior to any announcement. The NRNA UK Election Committee certifies that all current obligations under the contract have been satisfied in full, and that all current or future obligations with Choice Voting and Kanto Elect will cease with immediate effect.

### 2. Election for Scottish Committee Members

**Modified opinion – Adverse:** the ballot DOES NOT give a fair view of the voters and has NOT been conducted to the standards stated in the documentation provided. We have not been provided proof that all voters are eligible voters.

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Due to Kanto Elect being unable to receive confirmation from the NRNA of the authenticity of the eligible voters in the online election and evidence from members of likely suspicious behaviour in the election we are unable to support and validate the results of the ballot. Kanto Elect has not been provided proof by the NRNA of the eligible voters and has been given insufficient information to confirm that the election process was valid. **It is our opinion that the ballot DOES NOT give a fair view of the voters and has NOT been conducted to the standards required.**

The NRNA executive committee and election committee have accepted the adverse opinion. Prior to both committees accepting the adverse opinion and in light of the disputed eligible voter numbers, Kanto Elect provided the committees with the options available to them as potential next steps, including Kanto Elects preferred option is to rerun the election either in paper or digitally after doing a detailed membership review.

#### **FAQ:**

##### **Why was the election start date delayed?**

Kanto Elect was written to on Friday 30th July afternoon by the executive and election committees to request a delay in the start process to allow them more time to contact voters about the online process as NRNA had not yet emailed all members about the online process.

##### **What was the role of Choice Voting?**

Choice Voting is an online balloting company that was selected by the Election Committee of NRNA and performed an online ballot with the data set provided. The data set they were provided was signed off by the Election Committee and all voters on that data set were provided a vote if they had a valid email. Only email addresses on the data set voted.

##### **What was the role of Kanto Elect?**

Kanto Elect provided a helpdesk on election day for those people with ballot queries and was also asked to review the processes of the election and make sure that the ballot was run properly. Kanto Elect can confirm that the online process worked properly however there are people that had suspicious emails that voted in the election. These email addresses are suspicious due to their formatting, the IP address overlaps and the time and sequence of their logins.

##### **Why did the election results take so long to publish?**

It is usual to take up to 48 hours after the end of the election to look at patterns and trends of voter behaviour, including what time they login and the IP addresses they use.

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**Are the Votes included?**

Yes, all the results are published including the votes that we think could be invalid at the request of the executive committee and election committee as seen in Appendix 1.

**What is the problem?**

The election data set was provided to Choice Voting by the NRNA Election Committee. All membership data was provided to the NRNA Election Committee by the NRNA UK Executive Committee. The NRNA UK Executive Committee obtained this data from the NRNA ICC (headquartered in Kathmandu), which stores this data. The Election Committee received this data on an Excel file from Kathmandu for the purposes of the election. This data was unchanged when it was provided to Choice Voting. After reviewing the voter patterns, Kanto Elect has been able to show there are problems with this provided data set, which the Election Committee and Executive Committee have accepted.

**What should the next steps be?**

An independent group should be selected to review the membership of NRNA and this should be done such that the data is collated in a usable GDPR compliant way. Then a new election could be created and managed with a new election management committee.

An adverse result is given for all votes in the Scotland election when the winning margin is less than the possible 21 suspect voters.

## Candidates Elected

Scotland Elections	
Position	Elected Candidate
President <b>Modified opinion - Disclaimer</b>	Kashiram Bhandari
Vice-President <b>Modified opinion - Disclaimer</b>	Ujjwal Karki
Secretary <b>Modified opinion - Disclaimer</b>	Manish Khatri
Assistant Secretary <b>Modified opinion - Disclaimer</b>	Yasoda Sumi Ojha Bhandari
Treasurer <b>Modified opinion - Disclaimer</b>	Sarmila Bhandari
Deputy Treasurer <b>Modified opinion - Disclaimer</b>	Prajapati Sharma
Committee Members (x4) <b>Modified opinion – Adverse</b>	Bali Bhadra Ammay
	Kamala Shrestha
	Krishna Prasad Devkota
	Tikaram Kharal

# Scotland Election Results

## President

Modified opinion - Disclaimer

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Diwakar pandey	250	DEFEATED
Kashiram Bhandari	515	ELECTED

Electing 1 candidate

## Vice-President

Modified opinion - Disclaimer

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Bhoj Raj Kharel	302	DEFEATED
Ujjwal Karki	430	ELECTED

Electing 1 candidate

## Secretary

Modified opinion - Disclaimer

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Manish Khatri	396	ELECTED
RAM PRASAD KANDEL	352	DEFEATED

Electing 1 candidate

## Assistant Secretary

Modified opinion - Disclaimer

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Prakash Aryal	298	DEFEATED
Yasoda Sumi Ojha Bhandari	439	ELECTED

Electing 1 candidate

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## Treasurer

### Modified opinion - Disclaimer

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Dolly Bhatta	246	DEFEATED
Sarmila Bhandari	487	ELECTED

Electing 1 candidate

## Deputy Treasurer

### Modified opinion - Disclaimer

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Prajapati Sharma	429	ELECTED
Sushila Gaire	302	DEFEATED

Electing 1 candidate

## Committee Members (x4)

### Modified opinion – Adverse

CANDIDATE	NUMBER OF VOTES	STATUS
Bali Bhadra Ammay	291	ELECTED
Kalyan Aryal	289	DEFEATED
Kamala Shrestha	326	ELECTED
Krishna Prasad Devkota	291	ELECTED
Madhav Regmi	160	DEFEATED
Moti	200	DEFEATED
PADAM LAL KHAREL	177	DEFEATED
Shankar Pande	244	DEFEATED
Tikaram Kharal	389	ELECTED

Electing 4 candidates

# Appendix 1



For Nepali By Nepali

नेपालीका लागि नेपाली

**Non-Resident Nepali Association (NRNA UK)**

**(National Coordination Council - UK)**

**गैरआवासीय नेपाली संघ, यूके**



Date : 04 August 2021

To Kento Elect and Choice Voting,

Subject: Confirmation of Electrolal roll

The election committee and executive committee of NRNA UK confirm unanimous consensus to proceed with the publication of the election results with all the electoral votes counted.

We confirm that we have obtained, written and signed confirmation from all presidential and vice-presidential candidates, agreeing to the outcome of the election and the processes and procedures that have taken place.

Mrs Poonam Gurung  
President, NRNA UK

Mahendra Knadel  
Election Chair

49 Victoria Road , Aldershot, GU11 1SJ, UNITED KINGDOM | w: [www.nmauk.org](http://www.nmauk.org) | e: [info.nccuk@nrna.org](mailto:info.nccuk@nrna.org)

📞 President: +44 7727 135376 | General Secretary: +44 7737 081328



# Appendix 2

Kanto Elect  
15, Great College Street  
Westminster,  
London SW1P 3RX

T: 020 7776 9000  
E: team@kantolect.com

30/07/2021

Dear Mahendra Raj Kandel,

Kanto Elect can only review the information it is provided, Please can you confirm the quality of the information you are providing.

Regarding the NRNA elections in England, Scotland and the UK to be held on the 31 July 2021, you confirm that:

- 1) The election data set to be found on <https://nmaukelection.com/public/docs/Final%20List.pdf> is the approved and correct list of voters.
  - a) The three sets of CSV files provided in Choice Voting format then match this.
- 2) You have checked that all voters have their membership payment up to date.
- 3) Email addresses and home addresses provided are correct for all voters.
- 4) You have reviewed the list of candidates found at <https://nmaukelection.com/public/docs/NRNA%20Final%20Candidacy%20List.pdf> and they are all correctly registered.
- 5) All the candidates have valid nominations.
- 6) The online system screenshots have been checked and you are happy with these.
- 7) That you and the election committee have followed your constitution and rules of the election and all the requirements have been followed



30/07/2021

Signed: Mahendra Raj Kandel

Date