

Speech for Denzlingen Twinning Trip

Introduction: Good morning ladies and gentlemen. My name is Keith Sampson and I am Deputy Mayor of North Hykeham Town Council.

I'm a former engineer having worked in the power generating industry for more than 30 years. I am also Group Scout Leader for the Scout group in North Hykeham, having been involved in the movement for more than 40 years.

We now have a short presentation detailing the results of this year's European Elections in the UK and information on the political make-up of the country.

The results show the UKIP gaining 11 seats and Labour seven, mainly from the Conservatives and Liberal Democrats.

So to summarise, you can see where that has left UKIP in its UK standing.

Following this is a summary of the EU 2014 results and the regional breakdown, followed by the East Midlands, which includes North Hykeham.

Why did UKIP do so well at the elections?

UKIP did well because it is a protest party with a single agenda. Electors do not see the EU parliament as an important chamber and is remote from them. The immigration debate and perceived EU costs led to a UKIP success but not where the main parties are more in touch with their electorates.

It also did well because of apathy with regards to the main parties not dealing with immigration well enough.

People are generally concerned at the ever increasing influence the EU has on the UK. The other main parties have not done sufficient to stand up to these threats.

To summarise, where next?

- Could be a major change in British voting
- UKIP anti EU policies influencing Conservative Party policies
Britain could be entering a future of more coalition government
- Immigration now a national issue
- British withdrawal from EU is now possible.