

Tower Hamlets mayor Lutfur Rahman guilty of corrupt and illegal practices over election

From the [Telegraph](#) at 5.30 BST

The May 2014 mayoral election will now be re-run and Rahman is barred from standing, the judge said.

Mr Mawrey said Rahman had “driven a coach and horses” through local authority law and had been an “evasive witness”.. (and) the conduct of Mr Rahman’s supporters on polling day had also caused “considerable disquiet”

“The evidence laid before this court, limited though it necessarily was to the issues raised in the petition, has disclosed an alarming state of affairs in Tower Hamlets.

“This is not the consequence of the racial and religious mix of the population, *(he has to say that of course – but while we have our faults electoral corruption is not an English trait)* nor is it linked to any ascertainable pattern of social or other deprivation. It is the result of the ruthless ambition of one man.”

He added: “The real losers in this case are the citizens of Tower Hamlets.”