

## **The Politics Project Hustings Candidate Selection Policy**

This document sets out the candidate selection policy for the hustings organised by The Politics Project for the 2024 UK General Election.

### **About The Politics Project**

The Politics Project specialises in providing young people with outstanding democratic education. We believe that everyone should be able to use their voice.

The Politics Project takes seriously its commitment to providing non-partisan democratic education. We will work together with teachers, politicians and other organisations to ensure that all activities The Politics Project delivers upholds that commitment.

### **The purpose of the hustings**

- To allow young people to ask candidates questions on issues that are important to them.
- To give candidates a better understanding of the issues that are important to young people.
- Give young people the opportunity to learn more about the candidates and political parties standing in their constituency or local area.
- To create a learning resource that explains the views and policies of the political parties and candidates standing in that constituency that can be shared with teachers and youth practitioners.

The hustings are part of The Politics Project's Digital Dialogue: Wales programme which allows pupils to engage with their local elected representatives, through video conferencing, by asking questions about their role, career and views on the local and national political or policy issues that are important to young people.

### **How candidates will be selected to be invited**

Hustings delivered by The Politics Project will be 'non-selective'<sup>1</sup>, they are not intended to promote any parties or candidates over any others.

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'non-selective' is used by The Electoral Commission. For more information see <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/are-you-holding-a-hustings/non-selective-hustings>

We want to maximise the number of young people able to ask questions so we will limit the number of candidates invited to each hustings - if we have too many candidates taking part this will greatly restrict the number of questions that we would be able to cover.

Candidates will be invited if they meet the following criteria:

- They are standing for office in that parliamentary constituency

And they meet one of the following:

- They represent a political party that is fielding candidates in all or a majority of constituencies in Wales
- They represent a political party that has polled over 10% in a national poll during this parliamentary term.
- They are from a smaller political party or are an independent candidate and they are polling above 5% within the constituency

If a candidate from a party is not available the party will be asked if they want to send another party representative in their place.

At the beginning of each hustings The Politics Project delivers, those attending will be informed of any candidates or parties who are standing in the constituency of that hustings who have not been invited or have been invited but have said they are unable to attend.