

Party Election Broadcasts: The BBC's criteria for allocation: May elections, 2023.

This document sets out the BBC's eligibility and allocation criteria for PEBs for the following elections, in line with Ofcom's Rules on Party Political and Referendum Broadcasts:

1. In England – Local government elections (4 May)
2. In Northern Ireland – Local government elections (18 May)

https://www.ofcom.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0035/99188/pprb-rules-december-2020.pdf

Threshold Criteria for PEBs

In line with Rule 15 of Ofcom rules, to qualify for one PEB in the relevant nation, a political party must be registered with the Electoral Commission and satisfy the following criteria:

English local government elections (First Past the Post)

A registered political party must stand candidates in a minimum of one sixth of the seats being contested in the English local government elections. Qualification entitles a party to a PEB in England. (Nb It is currently estimated that one-sixth will require a minimum of approximately **1350** candidates standing for election across England).

Northern Ireland local government elections (Single Transferable Vote)

A registered political party must stand at least one candidate in a minimum of one sixth of the DEAs being contested in the Northern Ireland local government elections (ie a minimum of **14** candidates across **14** different DEAs).

Criteria for Additional PEBs

A registered political party which meets the threshold criteria may qualify for additional PEBs if it can demonstrate substantial levels of past and/or current electoral support in that nation.

Electoral Commission

As is required by section 11(3) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, the criteria for the allocation of PEBs are sent to the Electoral Commission for comment.

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/41/section/11>

Representations regarding the provisional allocation should be made to the Chief Adviser, Politics, as soon as possible.

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Complaints from political parties regarding the final allocation of party election broadcasts are referred to Section 5 of the BBC Complaints Framework and Procedures. [https://www.bbc.co.uk/contact/sites/default/files/2020-](https://www.bbc.co.uk/contact/sites/default/files/2020-06/BBC_Complaints_Framework.pdf)

[06/BBC Complaints Framework.pdf](https://www.bbc.co.uk/contact/sites/default/files/2020-06/BBC_Complaints_Framework.pdf)