PARLIAMENT FOR THE
PEOPLE
PARLIAMENT FOR THE PLANET

2019 GENERAL ELECTION
Schools husting resource pack

find out more at hftf.org.uk
Why hold a hustings in a school?

In the previous climate demonstrations young people mobilised in mass to highlight the importance of climate change.

At Hope for the Future we are committed to engaging young people in the climate debate in as many ways as possible.

With a general election weeks away hosting a hustings in a school for students is a brilliant way to do this – particularly as it combats the frustration felt by many U18s who cannot vote.

Opening hustings up to the general public is also a brilliant opportunity for the school to engage with the wider public.

For more information on Hope for the Future youth work please contact Robbie@hftf.org.uk
Who are Hope for the Future?
Hope for the Future are a national charity based in Sheffield that support anyone and everyone who is concerned about climate change to raise their local MP’s awareness of the issue.

We believe that it is essential to continue this work during elections, to ensure that citizens can choose representatives who share their passion for action on climate change.

We believe one of the best ways you can make a difference during elections is to hold a climate-focussed hustings. This allows local people the chance to ask their candidates the questions that really matter to them.

If every constituency held one of these hustings, it would be one step towards a Parliament that works for the people and the planet.

What is a hustings?
A ‘hustings’ is a public meeting at which candidates in an election address potential voters.
PLANNING THE EVENT

7 top tips

1. Choose a title that names your constituency, this should make the local area pay attention.
2. Avoid a scheduling clash. Find out if any other hustings are being held in the constituency by getting in touch with the local political parties.
3. Consider having a sponsor or partner. They might provide some funding for refreshments, or they might help to promote your event.
4. Book a venue. Consider cost, location, capacity, refreshments, audio/visual equipment, and access requirements when making your decision.
5. Select a chairperson. They must not be identified with any particular political party. Their role is to ensure speakers respect time limits and focus on the questions asked.
6. Create an Eventbrite page. This will allow you to know how many people are coming, and provide you with names and email addresses should you need to get in touch with the audience.
7. Get some helpers. It’s useful to have a couple of people to offer any assistance required, such as passing around microphones.
Dear [Candidate],

I am writing to invite you as the local [Labour/Conservative/ Lib Dem/Green/etc] Party candidate for [Constituency] to a hustings at [venue]. The dates we are currently considering are the 5th, 12th or 19th of this month. We expect the event to run from 7-9pm. Could you please let me know your availability on these dates?

The focus of this hustings will be around tackling climate change and protecting the environment. I know that the [Labour/Conservative/Green/Lib Dem] Party have a lot to say about protecting the environment, so we would be particularly interested to hear how you think your party’s policies would benefit local people in our area.

I have also invited local candidates, John Smith and Jane Brown, so there should be some interesting discussion. The meeting will be chaired by [Name]. I have had a very positive response from my local church and the environment group I am part of so I am anticipating an excellent turnout.

I would be delighted if you were able to join us at this hustings. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,
PROMOTING YOUR EVENT

Use our free poster on the next page to advertise the event in your local area.

Use the header image included in the pack to make an Eventbrite page. Here’s what ours looked like:

![CLIMATE HUSTINGS](image_url)

A chance to ask the Sheffield Central candidates how they would work to combat climate change and protect the environment in Parliament.

**About this Event**

Climate change is ranked as the most important issue by more voters than ever before, and in Sheffield we have seen record numbers turn out for the Global Climate Strike this September.

This event is your opportunity to ask Sheffield Central’s future MP how they would work to tackle climate change and protect our environment if they were elected.

The Candidates attending are:

- Name Surname (Labour Party)
- Name Surname (Conservative Party)
- Name Surname (Liberal Democrats)
- Name Surname (Green Party)
- Name Surname (Brexit Party)

If you have any questions, please get in touch with organiser@email.com

**Date And Time**

Tue, 19 November 2019
10:00 – 21:00 GMT
Add to Calendar

**Location**

Showroom Workstation
15 Paternoster Row
Sheffield
S1 2BX
View Map
QUESTIONS FOR YOUR CANDIDATES

If your party forms the next government, what do you plan to do to tackle climate change and protect the environment?

To what extent do you see climate change as the greatest threat to the UK and the globe today, and what do you see as the most important policy priorities for addressing the issue?

What is your stance on the role that renewable energy has to play in securing the UK's energy supply and how would you support renewable energy locally and nationally if successful in your election campaign?

What do you think about the UK's 2050 net zero target? Is it too ambitious or not ambitious enough?

>> Don't forget to encourage people to email in questions in advance!
If you'd like support to organise a hustings in your constituency, please get in touch! You can email election@hftf.org.uk or connect with us on social media.

If you'd like more useful resources to help you understand this election, or how to get more informed and involved generally, please visit our website, where we have blogs, policy resources, information about schools workshops, and more!

Our work is heavily dependent on individual donations. To support us to help more people please consider donating at www.hftf.org.uk/donate.