

Policy Speech Session Format & Rules

The Policy Speech Session is an opportunity to put their policies to the voters. It is regulated by Electoral Regulation 14.

In respect of the 2026 Policy Speech Session:

- It will be recorded if possible and the recording made available on the election website and to voters
- We strongly recommend attendance in person, to avoid technical difficulties and to make it easier for the audience. We don't expect to be able to provide a videoconferencing option, but will attempt to accommodate anyone who absolutely must attend remotely, and they are asked to get in touch well in advance
- All candidates for contested positions are encouraged to attend
- Candidates who have been provisionally elected unopposed won't give a speech or answer questions
- The order of the evening will be:
 1. Welcome and introduction from the Returning Officer
 2. Policy speeches (executive and director candidates), positions in order of counting
 3. Q&A for all candidates, positions in order of counting
- We may deviate from the schedule to accommodate candidates who have unavoidable clashes (e.g. classes)
- The time limits will be:
 - Policy speech, executive positions: 3mins
 - Policy speech, director positions: 1min30sec
 - Answer to a question: 30sec
- Candidates will speak in order of positions and then in ballot paper order, except where we make changes to accommodate candidates who arrive late or need to leave early
- Candidates for two positions may (at their option) speak twice
- Questions from the audience will be after all policy speeches, and we will proceed position-by-position. Questions can be posed to specific candidates, but every candidate will have the option to answer every question for their position
- The Returning Officer will moderate question time and select who asks questions (from audience members with their hands up) but will aim to prioritise people who haven't asked a question

- To keep the evening to time, the Returning Officer might limit the number of questions that can be asked in total or to a specific position
- We expect the session to run for around 2½–3 hours

11 May 2026