

## Variations to Selection Procedures for Parliamentary candidates

### Introduction

Although the Party has made significant progress in the selection of Parliamentary candidates, the continued political volatility and uncertainty regarding the date of the next General Election require us to increase the pace of selections to ensure that we are in a position to nominate candidates in all constituencies the Party will contest, whenever the election may be called in 2024.

The proposed variations to the selection procedure for Parliamentary candidates set out in this paper will, subject to the agreement of the NEC, be applied in respect of all selections in non-battleground and non-notionally Labour-held seats in England from November 2023 onwards, in anticipation of a General Election in spring 2024.

These variations supplement the procedures previously agreed by the NEC on in March 2022 and replace the procedures for non-battleground seats previously agreed by the NEC in May 2023.

The NEC is asked to **AGREE** the variations to the relevant procedural guidelines set out in this paper. The NEC may also be asked to agree further variations should political events and the statutory timetable necessitate such action.

### Varied Procedures for non-battleground Westminster Parliamentary selections in England

1. These varied procedures shall replace the procedures for non-priority Westminster Parliamentary selections in England which were previously agreed by the NEC in May 2023.
2. For seats previously opened for expressions of interest as part of the non-priority seats project, all members who had submitted an expression of interest shall be contacted and asked if they wish to progress their expression of interest to a formal application.
3. All non-battleground and non-notionally Labour-held seats shall be opened for applications by the Party as soon as is practicable following the agreement of these procedures.
4. Eligibility to participate in this process as a candidate or member is governed by paragraphs 3 and 4 of the full procedures agreed by the NEC in March 2022 (the **Full Procedures**). The freeze date for determining eligibility shall be the date on which vacancies are advertised.
5. A minimum of one Panel per region comprising two NEC members and one REC member which reflect the diversity of the Party and confirm to its obligations under

the Equality Act 2010 shall be responsible for shortlisting pursuant to these variations. At least one member of each Panel shall be a woman, and at least one shall be a representative of an affiliated organisation. Additional panels composed on the same basis may be convened for particular regions should the volume of applications or number of seats require it.

6. Following the deadline for applications, a Panel will carefully review the applications and information before it and agree a provisional shortlist. The provisional shortlist for each seat shall be agreed by correspondence.
7. Panels shall be provided with a due diligence report for each applicant on the provisional shortlist in accordance with the approach to due diligence previously agreed by the NEC.
8. Where required, Panels shall also be briefed by the Governance and Legal Unit on the overall state of applications and the current list of selected candidates, to ensure that that the Party's overall slate of candidates reflects the communities the Party seeks to represent.
9. Following consideration of any information supplied pursuant to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of this Varied Procedure, a Panel shall determine the final shortlist. The final shortlist may be determined at the discretion of the Panel based on a review of applications and the due diligence reports, and by way of interviews with applicants.
10. In all cases, a Panel may progress with a shortlist of one applicant where there is only one suitable applicant, or where the statutory timetable makes it impractical to progress to a final hustings meeting. In such cases, the applicant will be deemed selected, subject to NEC endorsement.
11. In all cases, the NEC retains the power to re-open applications for any seat where it is required to do so to ensure high quality candidates and/or to meet the NEC's objectives regarding diversity.
12. The final selection shall take place at a hustings meeting which should take place no more than fourteen days from the date of shortlisting, where practicable. Eligible members shall be given a minimum of 3 days notice of any such hustings meeting, and more notice wherever practicable.
13. Following shortlisting, the CLP Officers shall act as a Selection Committee for the purposes of administering the campaign period and arranging the hustings. The relevant Regional Director shall appoint an NEC Representative to oversee the conduct of the selection.
14. Where practicable, a deadline for the application and receipt of postal votes shall be published. Postal votes shall be administered in line with the relevant clauses of the

Full Procedures, with appropriate modifications where necessary to save time and resources.