
Ballots for election of the Chair of the BEIS and Standards Committees

Introduction

- 1 This note describes the practical arrangements for the elections for the Chairs of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Committee and the Committee on Standards.
 - 2 **The arrangements for both the nominations and the ballots are different from normal and reflect the motion that was agreed by the House on 22 April.**
- party as the candidate, only the first 15 valid names will be published.
 - A declaration of any relevant interests. Candidates may wish to consult the Registrar of Members' Financial Interests. Candidates are advised to familiarise themselves with Chapters 2 and 3 of the Guide to the Rules relating to the Conduct of Members.
 - A phone number that may be used to contact the candidate to confirm that the nomination has been received. A confirmation will also be sent by email.

Nominations

- 3 Nominations open on Monday 27 April at 10 am and close on Monday 4 May at 12 noon.
 - 4 In accordance with the Order of the House of 16 January 2020, only a member of the Labour Party may be a candidate for the Chair of either the BEIS Committee or the Committee on Standards.
 - 5 **Nominations must be submitted by email from the candidate's parliamentary email.** The email must be sent to pbohoc@parliament.uk and copied to doddj@parliament.uk. The email must include:
 - A statement that declares "I am willing to stand as Chair of the [BEIS/Standards] Committee".
 - The names of 15 Members elected to the House as members of the Labour Party who are supporting the candidate. **Each candidate is responsible for verifying that these Members are indeed willing to support them.** In the event that more than 15 names are collected from the same
 - 6 No Member may nominate more than one candidate for the same Committee – if any Member does so, that Member's name will be invalidated for all nominations.
 - 7 Candidates have the option of providing a 500-word supporting statement, which will be published on the Committee's website and in a booklet once nominations have closed. This can be attached to the nomination email or sent separately, provided it is received by noon on 4 May.
- The nomination email may also include the names of up to five Members elected to the House as members of any party other than the Labour Party or of no party, but this is not an essential requirement. Again, each candidate is responsible for verifying that these Members are indeed willing to support them. In the event that more than five names are collected, only the first five valid names will be published.

- 8 Valid nominations will be published on the relevant Committee's website, along with the candidate's supporting names, any declared interests and any supporting statement. Nominations will also be published in the next day's House's business papers, when the House is sitting.
- 9 As soon as possible after the close of nominations, if there is more than one candidate, the final list of candidates and their sponsors will be made available on the relevant Committee's website. A booklet will also be published online containing a photograph of each candidate, any declared interests and any supporting statement.
- 10 If there is only one candidate for either post, an announcement will be made that he or she has been elected unopposed.

Ballot

- 11 If needed, an online ballot will take place on 6 May between 10am and 2pm.
- 12 The ballot will be run by a third-party supplier, Civica Election Services (formerly known as Electoral Reform Services), which specialises in running such ballots.
- 13 On the morning of the ballot, each Member will receive an email to their main parliamentary email account with a secure link to the online ballot. Members will have until 2pm to cast their vote. They will receive a confirmatory email when their vote has been cast.
- 14 Proxy voting will not be possible.
- 15 If any Member has a technical query on the day, they should contact Civica Election Services on 020 8829 8452 or 020 8829 8447.

Count and results

- 16 The ballot will be counted under the Alternative Vote system. Any candidate who receives more than half the first preferences shall be elected. If no candidate is so elected, the candidate or candidates with the lowest number of first preference votes is eliminated and their votes distributed among the remaining candidates according to the preferences on them. If no candidate then has more than half the votes, the process of elimination and distribution is repeated, until one candidate has more than half the votes.
- 17 After the ballot has closed, Civica Election Services will convey the result to the Public Bill Office, who will give it to the Speaker to announce.
- 18 The Members elected will take up their positions with immediate effect. Chairs are elected to serve until the end of the Parliament.

Contacts

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