

Guild Officer Elections 2021 - Glossary

Some of the language used during elections can be quite confusing - we've put together this useful glossary to help!

WRITTEN STATEMENT (OR MANIFESTO)

A written statement, or manifesto is a summary of the ideas and policies that you would like to work on as a candidate – it helps people to decide why they should vote for you.

POLICY (Plural: Policies)

An action that you would like the Guild or University to take.

Some examples of policies could be:

- “The University should declare a climate emergency”
- “The Guild should be more transparent”
- “The University should ensure that students feel safe in Selly Oak”
- “Student groups in the Guild should receive training on accessibility and inclusivity”

Remember, your policies should be realistic!

ALTERNATIVE VOTE

This system allows you to rank your preferences for each role. Voting is conducted over a number of rounds, depending on the number of candidates. In each round the candidate with the least votes is eliminated, with their second preferences redistributed to the other candidates. The winner is the person who has an overall majority over others applying for that role.

FULL-TIME OFFICER

Full-Time Officers work for the Guild full-time and are paid. They are usually also Trustees of the Guild, and have additional strategic responsibilities. Full-Time Officers take time out of their degree to complete the year, or will complete the year after they have graduated.

PART-TIME OFFICER

Part-Time Officer roles are voluntary and can be completed alongside your studies.

CAMPAIGN

A project, or set of projects, that you complete to achieve a goal.

For example, in this election, you will work on campaign (project) to be elected for an Officer or NUS Delegate position (goal)!

CAMPAIGN POSTER

This is a poster that summarises your ideas and policies. It should usually include – your name, the position you are applying for, a photo, and the Guild of Students logo.

WRITTEN STATEMENT

This is a written summary of your policies or ideas. This can be more detailed than your Campaign Poster, but has a word limit. There is no right or wrong way of writing a written statement, or no right or wrong information to include, but you might want to say who you are, why you want to apply for the role, and what you would do if you were successful.

RON – Re-Open Nominations

Voters can choose this option if they don't want to vote for any of the candidates applying for a role. If RON wins, then the Guild will do another election for this role.

SELF-DEFINED ROLES

Some roles have additional requirements – for example, if you are applying to be the Women's Officer – it is expected that you identify as a woman or someone who is non-binary. This can be updated using your elections profile. If you need support to do this, please email elections@guild.bham.ac.uk

ROLE SHARE

People standing for Part-Time Officer roles can apply as a pair if they want to. If you think you might want to do this let us know and we can help you. Role share candidates will get a single campaign budget, and will be responsible for each other's work during the campaign and if successful.

If you are interested in role share, please email elections@guild.bham.ac.uk

GUILD BYELAWS

This is the constitution of the Guild, and is a guide to how the Guild works. You can find more information in this document about the Officer roles (Byelaw 7) and the Elections Process (Byelaw 8)

ELECTION REGULATIONS

These are the rules for the election - each candidate should make themselves aware of what they are as soon as possible.