Candidate Question Time Rules
What to expect and what to do.

Date – Friday 8th March 2019
Time – 5pm
Location – Elehouse Pool Room

Presiding Officer: A Nominee of the Deputy Returning Officer
Steer Team: Student Voice Representative who will mediate the Q&A Session

What is candidate question time?
(also known as Hustings: a meeting at which candidates in an election address potential voters)

Candidate Question time is a compulsory question and answer session between candidates and students after manifestos are released. Attending Candidate Question time is an ideal way to support your campaign, listen to students and put forward your arguments about why you should be voted in.

Each candidate has one minute onstage to put across to the audience the key points in their manifestos and really explain why they want to be elected and show what the role means to them.

The floor is then opened up for questions to the candidates. Questions are guided by the Steer Team who collect the questions via paper entries and social media posts using the #HertsSUVotes

During the Q&A session candidates will be able to challenge each other about their views or ideas giving them a chance to question each other, as well as being questioned by the students.

Rules:
1. Candidates have one minute to talk about their manifesto and put their key points across
2. Candidates must not interrupt each other during the speeches.

3. **Only** during the Q&A session can candidates challenge each other using the "Challenge Card" (shown below)

   3.1 It should be a short, quick rebuttal asked either a question or statement no more than a few sentences in length
   3.2 Candidates may only use this once during the Q&A session
   3.3 The candidate who receives the "Challenge" then has 30 seconds to respond before continuing their speech
   3.4 You are allowed to challenge a challenge if you deem it important

4. All speeches are unmoderated, however all candidates must follow the Elections Code of Conduct.

5. The Students Union will not tolerate any threats or violence or allow any breeches of the Students’ Union’s constitution or equal opportunities and diversity policy to take place.

6. The Candidate Question time, like any Students’ Union event, is a safe space. Anyone who breaks the Code may be excluded without further comment by the Presiding Officer. This includes a candidate’s campaign team or associated groups.

7. Any person attending the event (which includes posting or writing on associated social media groups and the SU website) that is found to have broken the safe space policy, will be asked to leave the event and may face disciplinary action.

8. All rulings of the presiding officer and/or the Steer Team must be followed by all attendees at Candidate Question Time

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**Format of Audience Questions**

1. Questions can be oral from the floor, or in writing (including social media with #HertsSUVotes)
2. Questions that make unsubstantiated allegations will be ruled out-of-order by the presiding officer
3. Questions may target all the candidates for one post
4. Questions may target one candidate but in this instance may only be based on what candidates have already said in opening speeches.
5. Questions must be Open where possible to allow for candidates to effectively elaborate.

Recording of Candidate Question Time

Ordinary Members (students at UH) are allowed to record and capture the proceedings at Candidate Question time, which includes photography and filming. Anything added on social media by either candidates or members must include the #HertsSUVotes.