

## WEA election guidance

Election time can be a great opportunity to talk to local politicians about the issues that matter to you, this might include adult education. Here is our guidance to ensure we are following Charity Commission guidelines.

If you are active in your local political party, you may want to use this opportunity to tell candidates about the work we do and the impact it can have in improving lives on a local, regional and national level.

If you feel that candidates in your region are not paying enough attention to adult education – or if they are saying positive or negative things about it – it is fine to write to them or engage with them as long as you make it clear that you are writing in a personal capacity and not on behalf of the WEA.

This is because as a registered charity the WEA needs to remain neutral through election periods, breaking any neutrality rules could see ramifications including fines or losing funding.

You can read [the Charity Commission guidance here](#), and we have outlined some of the key points below:

- The WEA must not be seen to favour any candidates over another, including indicating to its supporters which candidate to vote for
- The WEA must stay within our charitable purposes, which means that we should only engage with candidates about adult education and learning and not any other issues
- The WEA must ensure any engagement with candidates is not recognised as an endorsement or any association with the WEA

If you have any further questions or receive any notable responses from any of the candidates, please email [internalcomms@wea.org.uk](mailto:internalcomms@wea.org.uk).