

Party Election Broadcasts

The BBC's criteria for allocation of PEBs at the following elections on 5 May 2016

1. In Scotland - Scottish Parliament
2. In Wales - National Assembly for Wales
3. In Northern Ireland - Northern Ireland Assembly
4. In England (outside London) – Local government
5. In London – Greater London Authority

Threshold Criteria for PEBs

To qualify for one PEB in the relevant nation (or area in the case of London elections), a political party must be registered with the Electoral Commission and satisfy the following criteria:

In Scotland, a registered political party must stand:

- a minimum of 4 candidates in each of the 8 regional lists; **or**
- constituency candidates in a minimum of one sixth of the total seats being contested in the election (i.e. **22** constituency candidates)

In Wales, a registered political party must stand:

- a minimum of 4 candidates in each of the 5 regional lists; **or**
- constituency candidates in a minimum of one sixth of the total seats being contested in the election (i.e. **10** constituency candidates)

In Northern Ireland, a registered political party must stand:

- At least 12 candidates across a minimum of six constituencies.

In England (Local government elections)

A registered political party must stand candidates in a minimum of one sixth of the seats being contested in the English local government elections (excluding the GLA). Qualification entitles a party to a PEB in England, outside the GLA area or its nearest broadcast approximation.

In London (Mayoral/Assembly election)

A registered political party must stand:

- (i) a candidate for Mayor

AND

- (ii) a full slate of candidates in all constituencies OR a full slate of candidates for all list seats.

Exceptionally, a PEB may also be offered to:

- (i) a Mayoral candidate who can demonstrate evidence of significant past and/or current electoral support in London; but is not representing a party standing sufficient candidates for the Assembly

or

- (ii) a registered political party without a Mayoral candidate but which is:
 - (a) standing a full slate of candidates in all constituencies OR a full slate of candidates in all list seats; AND
 - (b) can demonstrate evidence of significant past and/or current electoral support in London.

Criteria for Additional PEBs

Anyone meeting the criteria for one PEB in the relevant nation (or area in the case of the London election) may qualify for one or two additional PEBs if they can demonstrate substantial levels of past and/or current electoral support in that nation (or area).

BBC Services which will broadcast PEBs

In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland on:

BBC One and BBC Two, on BBC Radio Scotland, BBC Radio Nan Gaidheal (broadcast in Gaelic), BBC Radio Wales and BBC Radio Cymru (broadcast in the Welsh language); BBC Radio Ulster

In England on:

BBC One (not on BBC Two, which does not split its transmission between the regions, including the London area) and on BBC London (Radio)

PEBs for London and English local elections

Where parties meet criteria for both the London election and English local government elections (and broadcasts were allocated for simultaneous transmission), they could deliver:

- either a single PEB for England including London; or
- alternate PEBs – one for London and one for the rest of England.

Notes

A party may be deemed to be standing a full list or have met the relevant minimum, if it is clear that the intention was to stand the requisite number of candidates, but at a late stage failed to do so, for example, because a candidate had to withdraw.

All PEBs will be available online via iPlayer from first transmission at least until polling day.

No PEBs will be allocated for the Police and Crime Commissioner elections, because they do not align with relevant transmission areas.

Electoral Commission

As is required by section 11(3) of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, the draft proposed criteria for the allocation of PEBs are sent to the Electoral Commission for comment.