Engaging your local prospective parliamentary candidates

Register to vote

Ensure your voice, and the voice of nursing, is heard by voting on Thursday 8 June.

You can register to vote online.
[www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

The deadline to register to vote is Monday 22 May.

Read our manifesto

Familiarise yourself with the RCN manifesto so you know what our key issues are. You can view our manifesto here:
[www.rcn.org.uk/nursingcounts](http://www.rcn.org.uk/nursingcounts)

Contact your local candidates

Your local candidates will be confirmed by 4pm on Thursday 11 May. Their contact details will be available shortly after this.

Once you know who your local candidates are we encourage you to:

- Share the RCN manifesto and ask them to speak up on nursing issues
- Tell them how core nursing issues are affecting you and your colleagues
- Ask them whether they will support the RCN manifesto.

Being canvassed, what you need to know

Before the election, you can expect literature from your candidates through your door, phone calls from the political parties and canvassers on your doorstep.

This is your opportunity to raise the RCN manifesto and find out where your candidates stand on these important issues for nursing.
Attending local events

At local events, such as hustings, local candidates go head-to-head on the issues in your constituency. Why not go along, take a copy of the RCN manifesto and ask the candidates if they support it? It’s your opportunity to make sure the nursing voice is heard and raise the big issues that are facing our nursing community. You could:

- ask about their view on the core nursing issues in our manifesto
- share your views about your local health and care service experiences.

Look out for any events in your local newspaper or on candidates’ websites. You can also check political party websites to find out about local husting events.

Be social media savvy

On Twitter? Follow your local candidates and share the RCN manifesto with them.

- Will you support the #nursingcounts manifesto from @theRCN?
- I support @theRCN #nursingcounts manifesto, will you?
- I’m a nurse/HCA/AP, show you value me by supporting the @theRCN manifesto #nursingcounts

Get your family, friends and nursing colleagues on board

Make sure your friends, family and nursing colleagues know about the big nursing issues by:

- Sharing a copy of the RCN manifesto
- Downloading a Nursing Counts poster to put up in your workplace www.rcn.org.uk/nursingcounts
- Arranging to attend a local hustings or public meeting with your colleagues.

Remember, one of your local candidates will represent you in the next Parliament, make sure they know what the RCN is calling for. Finding out as much out about your candidates’ policies on health, social care and nursing will help you to make the most informed decision on 8 June.