

## Positive Money General Election 2019 hustings top tips

### Quick reminder of what a hustings is

Held in most constituencies around the country, hustings offer the chance to question your local candidates, influence their thinking and encourage them to make important commitments.

### Where to find your local hustings

Hustings events often take place in community spaces such as churches, schools, universities and community centres. They'll normally be advertised locally and you will sometimes need to register to attend as spaces will be limited. To find your nearest hustings, look:

- Online: search for “hustings” + the name of your constituency (try searching on Google, Eventbrite or Facebook)
- In local newspapers
- In GP surgeries, schools or libraries

### The question to ask

At this election, there's a really important issue at stake: cash machines and bank branches are closing at a rapid rate, denying people the ability to choose how they access their money. It's happening because banks and card companies stand to make greater profits if cash disappears, and because until now, the government has stood by and let it happen.

Are our future MPs going to stand by and allow big banks and card companies a massive power grab or are they going to protect the public's right to choose how we access our money? By putting MP candidates on the spot up and down the country, together we can change that.

At your local hustings, we suggest you ask this question:

*“Thousands of free-to-use cash machines have disappeared in recent months, including **[\*\*]** in **[your constituency]**, after banks lobbied to slash funding for the network. As an MP, would you support legislation to guarantee people's ability to access and pay with cash for as long as they need it?”*

**\*\*Find out how many free-to-use cash machines have closed in your constituency in the last year by clicking here: <http://bit.ly/atmclosuresconstituencies>\*\***



## **What to expect at the hustings**

Each event is organised and structured slightly differently; the event organisers may ask attendees to submit questions beforehand which will be shared with all the candidates before the event. If you want to ask a question you will therefore need to check the format of the event in good time in order to make sure that your question is at least seen by the candidate.

When you ask your question, keep it short! There will be lots of people asking questions in a limited amount of time so it's best to plan what you want to say in a succinct way. And don't worry if you get asked a follow-up question and you don't know the answer, take some notes and say that you'll get back to them later by email, phone or a meeting.

## **Background on Positive Money and the General Election 2019**

Right now our economy is unfair, undemocratic and unsustainable. Big banks have far too much power and people don't have enough. Positive Money and our network of supporters are working to change this, by making the case for key reforms to our money and banking system.

This election, we're focussing on protecting access to cash, because this is crucial to keeping power in the hands of ordinary people rather than big banks and card companies. There is a very real threat that if the government fails to act over cash machine and bank branch closures, our ability to use cash will be a thing of the past within the next few years. Together we're going to make sure our future MPs know this is a political issue that they cannot ignore. Election hustings events are a great opportunity to do that.

\*\*\* Please let us know if you plan to go to a local hustings and ask a question about protecting our access to cash by emailing Zack at

[info@positivemoney.org.uk](mailto:info@positivemoney.org.uk) \*\*\*