



Swansea University  
Prifysgol Abertawe

## **SURVEY FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES ELECTION CANDIDATES 2016**

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If you would prefer, you can complete this survey online at:

**<http://wales2016.questionpro.com>** (English)

**<http://cymru2016.questionpro.com>** (Welsh)

In order to complete the questionnaire, please tick the box opposite your answer like this [X] or [✓]. Unless otherwise specified, please pick one answer per question. In some instances, you are also invited to write in your answer. Please use a blue or black ballpoint pen or a heavy pencil.

The questionnaire is composed of 37 questions and responding should not take more than 15 minutes. We would be grateful if you could find the time to respond to the survey.

### **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Please note that your answers will be treated confidentially and entered to the database anonymously. Data will not be released to anyone in a manner that allows the identification of the respondents.

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please return it in the enclosed pre-paid envelope.

Dr Siim Trumm  
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## CANDIDACY

**Q1.** For which party did you stand in the 2016 election to the National Assembly for Wales?

Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales

UKIP Wales

Wales Green Party

Welsh Conservative Party

Welsh Labour

Welsh Liberal Democrats

Independent

Other. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Q2.** Did you stand as a constituency candidate and/or a regional list candidate?

Constituency candidate only

Regional list candidate only

Constituency and regional list candidate

**Q3.** Which constituency and/or regional list did you stand in?

\_\_\_\_\_

## CAMPAIGNING

**Q4.** How many months before the 2016 election...

... were you nominated by your party? \_\_\_\_\_ months

... did you begin organising your campaign? \_\_\_\_\_ months

... did you start campaigning full-time? \_\_\_\_\_ months

**Q5.** How much time did you devote to campaigning per week during the last month of the campaign?

\_\_\_\_\_ hours

**Q6.** In any electoral campaign, some candidates put the emphasis on their own personal qualities while others emphasize the party they are representing. Where would you place your aims on a scale from 0 'to attract as much attention to me as a candidate' to 10 'to attract as much attention as possible to my party'?

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

To attract attention to  
me as a candidate

To attract attention  
to my party

**Q7.** In your campaign, did you use the following? If yes, how important were they for your campaign?

	No, not used at all	Yes, but not at all important	Yes, but not very important	Yes, fairly important	Yes, very important
Personal campaign posters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal flyers, leaflets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal ads in press	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Office hours	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local gatherings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social networking sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Q8.** During the final month of the campaign, how many hours per week did you personally spend on the following campaign activities?

	No time at all	0-5 hours	6-10 hours	11-20 hours	More than 20 hours
Canvassing (door-to-door)	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Leafleting	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Street campaigning	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Calling up voters on the phone	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Media activities	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Debating with competing candidates in public	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Writing campaign 'blogs'	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Taking part in 'online chats'	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Tweeting	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Campaigning on social networking sites like Facebook	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q9.** Did you raise any issues during the campaign that were specific to your constituency/region and that were not raised by the party at national level?

[ ] No

[ ] Yes

If yes, which ones? \_\_\_\_\_

**Q10.** Looking back to the beginning of the campaign, how did you rate your chances of winning a seat in the National Assembly for Wales?

Very unlikely to win a seat	Fairly unlikely to win a seat	Even chance of winning a seat	Fairly likely to win a seat	Very likely to win a seat
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q11.** If you thought you were unlikely to win, why did you run anyway? (tick all that apply)

[ ] I thought running would be an interesting experience

[ ] My candidacy forced the other parties to expend resources in my constituency

[ ] It was important to give the voters a choice

[ ] I hoped to enhance my standing in the party

[ ] I thought running would be beneficial to my career outside of politics

**Q12.** (If you were a constituency and regional list candidate) What proportion of your campaign time was spent campaigning for your constituency vote and how much for regional list vote?

Campaign for constituency vote \_\_\_\_\_ %

Campaign for regional list vote \_\_\_\_\_ %

**Q13.** Did you win a seat in the National Assembly for Wales?

No	Yes, as a constituency AM	Yes, as a regional list AM
[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**DEMOCRACY AND REPRESENTATION**

**Q14.** How satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Wales, UK, and EU?

	Very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Not very satisfied	Not at all satisfied
Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
United Kingdom	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
European Union	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q15.** Using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 indicates the most negative and 10 the most positive attitude, what is your overall opinion of the following electoral procedures?

	Negative										Positive
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Postal voting	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Proxy voting	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Electronic counting of ballots	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Voting on the internet	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Voting by mobile	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q16.** How much do you agree or disagree that...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
... Wales should hold a referendum on whether to remain part of UK or become an independent country	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... UK should introduce proportional representation for general elections	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... National Assembly for Wales should continue to be elected using the Additional Member System	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... voting age for Welsh Assembly elections should be reduced to 16	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q17a.** There are different opinions about whom an AM should primarily represent. In your view, how important is it for constituency AMs to represent following groups of people in the Assembly?

	Not at all important	Not very important	Rather important	Very important
Voters who supported AM in constituency	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
All citizens in the constituency	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Party supporters in Wales as a whole	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Members of a specific social group	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
All residents of Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q17b.** And how important is for regional list AMs to represent following groups of people in the Assembly?

	Not at all important	Not very important	Rather important	Very important
Voters who supported AM in the region	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
All citizens in the region	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Party supporters in Wales as a whole	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Members of a specific social group	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
All residents of Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q18a.** Here are questions about some difficult choices that AMs might be confronted with. In your view, how should an AM vote if the voters in his/her constituency/region have one opinion and his/her party takes a different position?

AM should vote according to his/her party's opinion

AM should vote according to the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency/region

**Q18b.** And how should an AM vote if his/her own opinion on an issue does not correspond with the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency/region?

AM should vote according to his/her own opinion

AM should vote according to the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency/region

**Q18c.** And how should an AM vote if his/her own opinion on an issue does not correspond with his/her party's position?

AM should vote according to his/her own opinion

AM should vote according to his/her party's opinion

**Q19.** Politicians often make decisions by balancing political participation, processes, and outcomes. In your opinion, what are the most important considerations in making political decisions? Please rank the following statements from 1 'most important' to 3 'least important'.

Political decision-making should involve the largest number of people and groups possible

Political decision-making should result in the best outcome for the most people

Political decision-making should follow clearly-defined rules and processes

### **POLITICAL ISSUES**

**Q20.** In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing Wales today?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Q21.** Some say European unification should be pushed further. Others say it has gone too far. Where would you place yourself on a scale from 0 'has already gone too far' to 10 'should be pushed further'?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Unification has  
gone too far

Unification should be  
pushed further

**Q22.** In the referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union on 23 June 2016, how will you vote?

Leave the EU

Remain in the EU

Will not vote

**Q23.** In terms of the long term future of Wales, which would you prefer?

Wales should become independent, separate from the UK and the EU

Wales should become independent, separate from the UK but part of the EU

Wales should remain part of the UK, with its own elected Assembly that has extensive powers

Wales should remain part of the UK, with its own elected Assembly that has limited powers

Wales should remain part of the UK, without an elected Assembly

**Q24.** How much influence do you think different institutions have over the way Wales is run? Please rank in order of importance, with 1 ‘most important’ and 4 ‘least important’.

	National Assembly for Wales	UK government in Westminster	Local councils in Wales	European Union
Has most influence	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Ought to have most influence	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q25.** The National Assembly for Wales has now been operating for seventeen years. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements on the effect it has had on Wales? It has...

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
... made it more likely that Wales will eventually leave the UK	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... given Wales a stronger voice in the UK	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... given Welsh people more pride in their country	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... given ordinary people more say in how Wales is governed	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... led to an improvement in living standards in Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... improved the standard of education in Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... improved the standard of health care in Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
... had a positive influence for Wales	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q26.** How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Government should redistribute income from the better-off to those who are less well-off	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Big business benefits owners at expense of workers	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Ordinary working people do not get their fair share of the nation’s wealth	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
There is one law for the rich and one for the poor	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Young people today don’t have enough respect for traditional British values	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
People who break law should receive stiffer sentences	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Schools should teach children to obey authority	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Stronger measures should be taken to protect the environment	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Wales should start extracting shale gas (‘fracking’)	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
National Assembly for Wales should have the power to vary income tax	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
National Assembly for Wales should have powers over the criminal justice system	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
More should be done to preserve Welsh as a living language	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Welsh people are different from English people	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
A Welsh-speaking Welsh person has very little in common with an English-speaking Welsh person	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

**Q27.** There are many different views on the Welsh language. Which of the following is closest to yours?

- The language is irrelevant to modern Wales
- Bilingualism is over-promoted and compulsory education in Welsh should be curtailed
- The current policy of promoting bilingualism is about right
- Bilingualism should be more actively encouraged by making it a requirement of public office
- Welsh should become the primary language of Wales

**Q28.** Recently, there has been a lot of debate about global warming and climate change. How true do you think this statement is: Unless radical action is taken in the next few years, climate change will do great damage to the Earth's environment?

- Completely true
- Partially true but exaggerated
- Completely untrue

**Q29.** Which of the following statements most clearly describes your own opinion about nuclear power in Britain today?

- We should increase the number of nuclear power stations
- We should continue using the existing nuclear power stations and replace them with new ones when they reach the end of their life
- We should continue using the existing nuclear power stations but not replace them with new ones when they reach the end of their life
- We should shut down all existing nuclear power stations now and not replace them with new ones

**Q30.** Thinking about environment, some believe that protecting environment should have priority even if it reduces economic growth. Others believe economic growth should have priority even if it hinders protecting environment. Where would you place yourself on a scale from 0 'economic growth should be priority' to 10 'protecting environment should be priority'?

0    1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8    9    10

Economic growth should be priority                   Protecting environment should be priority

**Q31.** In politics people sometimes talk of left and right. Using a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 means most left-wing and 10 means most right-wing, where would you place...

	Left										Right
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
... yourself	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... your local party	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... your party's voters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

**Q32.** Are you male or female?

- Female  
 Male

**Q33.** In which year were you born?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Q34.** Can you speak Welsh?

- Yes, fluently  
 Yes, but not fluently  
 No

**Q35.** Which of the following best describes the way you think of yourself?

- Welsh not British  
 More Welsh than British  
 Equally Welsh and British  
 More British than Welsh  
 British not Welsh  
Other. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Q36.** What is your highest educational qualification?

- Finished primary school  
 GCSE/O-level/Standard Grade  
 A-level  
 Professional/Vocational qualification  
 Undergraduate  
 Postgraduate  
 Doctorate

**Q37.** Which of the following best describes the work you do? (if you were an AM in last Assembly, please answer the question in terms of your previous job)

- Professional or highly technical work  
 Manager or senior administrator  
 Clerical work  
 Sales or services  
 Small business owner  
 Foreman or supervisor of other workers  
 Skilled manual work  
 Semi-skilled or unskilled manual work  
 Never had a job

**Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return it in the enclosed pre-paid envelope.**

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