

INTRODUCTION

This leaflet is intended to equip you to ask candidates in the general election questions concerning you and your union. The focus of this is on Fórsa's core national objectives, as well as some issues that may be more specific to the sector/division in which you work.

The union is not affiliated to any political party. But, on behalf of its members, the union is and will be putting these questions to all political parties participating the 2020 general election. Fórsa will publish the responses and circulate them to its branches and members in advance of polling day on 8th February.

How do I use it?

Keep it near the door for use when canvassers come to the door, or at your desk to help inform your colleagues. Realistically you won't get to ask all of these questions, so just focus on the ones that matter the most to you.

These leaflets are specific to your division, but if you feel you need more information please go to the Fórsa website and check out the manifesto, where we have included introductions and talking points for each of the below items.

What to ask on public service pay and working time:

- Will you (and your party) commit to negotiations to reach a pay deal to succeed the PSSA?
- Will you (and your party) commit to inflation-plus pay increases for the public sector?
- Will you (and your party) commit to addressing the issue of additional hours introduced as an emergency crisis measure as part of the 2013 pay deal?

What to ask on Sláintecare:

- Do you (and your party) support the implementation of Sláintecare in full?

What to ask on health and social care professionals:

- If in Government, will you (and your party) support the necessary recruitment of HSCPs to meet existing service demands and the needs of Sláintecare?

What to ask on 'Section 39' agencies:

- If in Government, will you (and your party) work with stakeholders to establish a structured, fair and sustainable funding model for 'section 39' agencies, to underpin services and ensure fair pay and working conditions for staff, as part of the next round of public service pay talks?

What to ask on investment in mental health:

- Will you (and your party) invest in mental health services, and consult with workers and service-users to develop appropriate services?

Public service champions charter:

- Ask candidates in your area if their parties have signed up to Fórsa's Public Service Champions Charter.

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- Will you (and your party) commit to inflation-plus pay increases for the public sector?
- Will you (and your party) commit to addressing the issue of additional hours introduced as an emergency crisis measure as part of the 2013 pay deal?
- Do you (and your party) support the implementation of Sláintecare in full?
- If in Government, will you (and your party) support the necessary recruitment of HSCPs to meet existing service demands and the needs of Sláintecare?
- If in Government, will you (and your party) work with stakeholders to establish a structured, fair and sustainable funding model for 'section 39' agencies, to underpin services and ensure fair pay and working conditions for staff, as part of the next round of public service pay talks?
- Will you (and your party) invest in mental health services, and consult with workers and service-users to develop appropriate services?
- Has your party signed up to the Public Service Champions Charter?
www.forsa.ie/championscharter