



PRCP Hustings – briefing for candidates

Friday 7 March 2025 – RCP London, Regent’s Park

Independent chair - Jane Deith, broadcast journalist and communications professional

Jane Deith is an investigative journalist and presenter working for high profile current affairs programmes including BBC Radio 4’s File on 4 and Channel 4 News. You can find out more on Jane’s background [here](#).

Timetable

Time	Activity
14.00hrs	Candidates arrive <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please report to main reception• Candidates proceed to the Censors room (tea and coffee available)• Jane Deith, independent chair to record her introduction in the Osler room.
14.30hrs	Briefing for candidates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Candidates to be collected from the Censors room and escorted to the Osler room.• Introduction to the Hustings chair – (Jane Deith)• Drawing of lots to establish which candidates will be in the first or second recording of the hustings; and order of answering questions within each recording.• Prepared address from the candidates will be recorded in alphabetical (by surname) order. All candidates moved to Long room. We begin filming pre-prepared address for each candidate (2 minutes maximum per candidate).
14.50hrs	Comfort break and all candidates moved to Censors room <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arrival of small audience (invited officers, senior staff, event staff)• No external guests will be admitted• Tea and coffee available
15.00hrs	First hustings recording begins

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first four candidates, as established by the drawing of lots, will be collected in their group from the Censors room. • Candidates to be seated on set • Panel questions (4) – filmed continuously (1 minute per answer per candidate)
	<p>Comfort break and changing of candidates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first 4 candidates will return to the Censors room, and the second set of candidates will be collected from the Censors room • Tea and coffee available
15.40hrs	<p>Second hustings recording begins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates to be seated on set • Panel questions (4) – filmed continuously (1 minute per answer per candidate)
17.00hrs	<p>End of Hustings recording</p>

Notes

1. Attendance

- Due to the nature of the hustings, it may not be possible to admit candidates who arrive late.
- Candidates should contact Simon.Land@rcp.ac.uk (Tel: 0203 0751213) as soon as possible if they experience any issues.
- Candidates are invited to attend as individuals only. Candidates are not able to invite additional guests.

2. Pre-prepared two minute to camera address

- The content is for the candidate to decide but should conform to the letter and spirit of the codes and guidance around the election <https://www.rcp.ac.uk/membership/elections/>.
- Content might be a balance of some of the election material previously submitted but also a separate chance to speak directly to the membership while demonstrating media and speaking skills.
- Candidates will be individually filmed while other candidates remain in the Long room.
- Filming will be taking place in alphabetical order (by surname).
- Candidates will stand behind the lectern to deliver their address - direct to camera.
- Candidates may use notes, if desired.
- Each address will be timed with a timer that the chair, candidates and our teams can see. This will also have the function of the traffic light turning amber with 30 seconds left, red at the end of the time and then it will begin to flash.
- Candidates will be stopped, by the chair, when the 2-minute maximum time limit is reached. As such, candidates may wish to plan for a slightly shorter timed piece.

3. Panel questions

- There are 4 candidates in each recorded session (2 sessions). Each will be recorded uninterrupted.

- The candidates will sit on stools in a group of four and face the chair and small internal audience
- Four questions have been prepared, based on those submitted by the membership and agreed by a panel of censors and the registrar. Each candidate on the panel will have a timed one-minute period to answer each question.
- The four questions at the hustings will be different to the ones posed in the written Q&A special edition of *Commentary* but may touch on some of the same areas.
- Each candidate will be provided an equal opportunity to answer first, second, etc. There are 4 candidates in each recorded session, and 4 questions to be answered.
- The four questions will not be pre-circulated.
- Two of the four questions to be asked have been sourced from the RCP Resident Doctors Committee (RDC) and the RCP Patient and Carer Network (PCN). Nominated RDC and PCN representatives will ask these two questions (from the audience) when invited by the chair.
- The chair will interject to keep candidates on topic, if necessary.
- Candidate answers will be timed with a timer that the chair, candidates and our teams can see. This will also have the function of the traffic light turning amber with 30 seconds left, red at the end of the time and then it will begin to flash.
- Candidates will be stopped, by the chair, when the 1-minute maximum time limit is reached.
- Questions posed will also be viewable to candidates on a screen.
- Candidates may use pen and paper, if desired, but this will not be supplied.

4. Timekeeping

- The chair and the candidates will be prompted about timings with a 'timer'. They will be able to see this counting down and it will be indicated to them when they have 30 seconds left with an amber light, a red light will come on at the end and then it will begin to flash.

5. Additional points

- The hustings are designed to increase engagement of the fellowship with all candidates and encourage turnout when voting opens on 17 March and full election material is made available. They are your opportunity to demonstrate your media and speaking skills and to create a connection with the electorate.
- The hustings are not being live streamed. They will be recorded and then accessed via the RCP website, along with candidate answers to the written exercise.
- Individual candidate addresses will be made available as standalone recordings on the [Meet the candidates](#) area of the RCP website.
- The two recorded panel Q&As, with introduction from the chair, will be viewable as standalone recordings. Individual candidate answers will also be made available as standalone recordings available on the [Meet the candidates](#) area of the RCP website.
- Fellows and members will be contacted with details of how to access the hustings and written answers.
- The event is designed to be non-confrontational. Each candidate will have dedicated and uninterrupted time to present their pre-prepared piece and their answers to the four questions. Candidates to note:
 - Answer questions directly
 - No follow-up is permitted
 - No comment on other candidates' answers is permitted
 - No clapping, cheering or other interjections are permitted.