

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. If you need more information, please go to the Fórsa website and check out the manifesto.

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 School Secretaries:

- Will you (and your party) commit to ending the two-tier pay system for school secretaries?

What to ask on Special Needs Assistants:

- Will you maintain the link between each SNA and their specific student?

What to ask on publicly funded higher education:

- Will you support progressively increasing higher education funding to OECD average levels over the lifetime of the next government?

Public service champions charter:

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

- 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?

- Will you (and your party) commit to ending the two-tier pay system for school secretaries?

- Will you maintain the link between each SNA and their specific student?

- Will you support progressively increasing higher education funding to OECD average levels over the lifetime of the next government?

- Has your party signed up to the Public Service Champions Charter?
www.forsa.ie/championscharter