**Title:**

Mrs

**Forename:**

Sioned

**Surname:**

Williams

**Representing:**

Organisation

**Organisation (if applicable):**

Plaid Cymru - The Party of Wales

**Email:**



**What additional details do you want to keep confidential?:**

No

**If you want part of your response kept confidential, which parts?:**

**Ofcom may publish a response summary:**

Yes

**I confirm that I have read the declaration:**

Yes

**Additional comments:**

**Question 1: Which of the approaches described above do you think is the appropriate framework within which Ofcom should assess the evidence of parties? past electoral support and current support in Great Britain-wide elections? If you do not agree with any of these approaches, please explain why and, if appropriate, suggest an alternative.:**

Plaid Cymru -The Party of Wales believes that the Nation-by-Nation approach as described in 1.12 is the appropriate framework within which Ofcom should assess the evidence of each

party's past electoral performance and current support in each nation, and should be used to consider their inclusion on the major parties list for specific elections.

We believe that this is the only approach that correctly measures and reflects the strength of support for a political party within the devolved nations of the United Kingdom.

The other potential approaches do not properly recognise the devolved nature of politics within the UK. The 'national profile' referred to in the discussion of the "Two stage approach" in 2.27 and 2.26 is a profile created by predominately English based and focused media and polling, and therefore is not a true reflection of "UK wide" public opinion and electoral support.

We would also note that the lack of polling data for Wales, as noted in A2.6, is a serious concern, and poses a risk to the fairness and parity of assessment of political support alongside the other nations of the UK.

**Question 2: Do you have any comments on Ofcom?s current preliminary views in paragraphs 2.36 to 2.42 above on the effect of the application of the various methodologies to decide the Ofcom list of major parties ahead of the 22 May 2014 elections?:**

For the reasons outlined in our response to Question 1 above, we would see Ofcom use the Nation-by-Nation approach to decide the list of major parties ahead of the May 2014 elections as outlined in 2.42 and the proposed amendment that pertains to this approach should be adopted.