

**Samuel Barratt**

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Adam Higgitt  
Head of Government & Parliamentary Business  
Ofcom  
Riverside House  
2a Southwark Bridge Road  
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SE1 9HA

Dear Mr Higgitt,

I am writing to respond to the Ofcom document on draft Guidelines for elections to the UK Parliament and for English local government in 2015

Our view is that the proposed guidelines are broadly correct, though the Welsh Liberal Democrats are also making a submission to this consultation in relation to the treatment of UKIP in Wales.

The Liberal Democrats are a major party, with 57 MPs elected in 2010, 23% of the popular vote in 2010 and a party of Government. We will be standing in every constituency in Great Britain at the 2015 election. In 2005 the party received 22% of the popular vote and 63 MPs were elected for the party in that Parliament.

As well as holding the position of Deputy Prime Minister the party has another 5 Cabinet Ministers, and 24 Ministers. The party has played a significant and full part in Government since the last General Election and it is entirely right, as per these draft guidelines, that we are classed as a major party alongside Labour and the Conservatives.

We believe that the treatment of larger parties, in terms of Party Election Broadcast allocation, should be identical, i.e. identical allocation for the Conservative Party, the Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats.

Yours Faithfully,

Samuel Barratt