**Template email to invite election candidates to hustings**

**Subject: Invitation to local hustings**

You can use the template email below to invite election candidates to your hustings. Remember to read [our online guidance](https://campaigning.friendsoftheearth.uk/general-resources/political-impartiality-guidance?_ga=2.70979097.88678672.1582022380-1218046356.1568895733) on who to invite to ensure you remain politically impartial.

During the election period candidates will be receiving invitations to many events, so remember to follow up via email or phone if you do not receive a reply.

Dear [name of candidate]

I’m writing to you from [name of group] to invite you to a local hustings in the run up to the [local/mayoral] election, focused on tackling the climate crisis.

We are facing a climate emergency. At 1 degree of warming we’re already seeing the alarming effects of climate breakdown: in the UK we’re facing devastating floods and unprecedented heatwaves, and overseas people from some of the world’s poorest countries are having to flee their homes due to extreme weather. Every small increase in global temperatures means more flooding and food shortages; more species and coral reefs on the brink of extinction.

We would like to hear how you, if elected, will use your powers to cut emissions in [location] and help protect the most vulnerable people in our area from the impacts of climate breakdown.

The climate emergency hasn’t gone away since COVID-19 emerged. In fact, it’s got worse. With extreme weather raging around the world, including flooding and heatwaves in the UK, taking action in all our communities is essential. We believe a brighter future is possible. We therefore believe the voters in [location] have the right to hear your plans to address the climate crisis and ensure a green and fair recovery from the pandemic.

This climate hustings is being organised by [name of groups / alliances involved in organising] and will be held on [date / time /  – n.b. you may want to keep this flexible until you know candidates’ availability]. The event will include [describe the format of the hustings – for example whether there will be questions from the audience, whether the candidates will have the opportunity to do a short speech, etc]

We have invited candidates from all the major parties and would like to ensure that all are represented. [If helpful, add in a sentence here stating who has already agreed to attend from the other parties]. As a group we are politically impartial and will ensure that everyone has an equal chance to contribute. We have also invited the local press.

You can contact us at [your group’s email] and on [mobile number] – we very much look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

[Your name and name of group]