



**University of
Nottingham**
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

SURVEY OF 2021 SENEDD ELECTION CANDIDATES

School of Politics and International Relations, University of Nottingham, Nottingham NG7 2RD
E-mail: siim.trumm@nottingham.ac.uk

In order to complete the questionnaire, please tick the box opposite your answer like this [X] or [✓]. Unless otherwise specified, please pick one answer per question. In some instances, you are also invited to write in your answer.

The questionnaire is composed of 40 questions and responding should not take more than 20 minutes. Please note that you can leave certain questions unanswered if you wish to.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Your answers are treated confidentially and entered to the database anonymously. Data will not be released to anyone in a manner that allows the identification of the respondents.

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please return it in the enclosed pre-paid envelope.

Best wishes,

Dr Siim Trumm
Associate Professor in Politics
School of Politics and International Relations
University of Nottingham

CANDIDACY

Q1. Which party did you stand for in the 2021 Senedd election?

- Abolish the Welsh Assembly Party
- Plaid Cymru – The Party of Wales
- Reform UK
- Wales Green Party
- Welsh Conservative Party
- Welsh Labour
- Welsh Liberal Democrats
- Other. Please specify _____

Q2. Did you stand as a constituency candidate and/or a regional list candidate?

- Constituency candidate only
- Regional list candidate only
- Constituency and regional list candidate

Q3. Which constituency and/or regional list did you stand in?

CAMPAIGNING

Q4. How many months before the 2021 election...

- ... were you nominated by your party? _____ months
- ... did you begin organising your campaign? _____ months
- ... did you start campaigning full-time? _____ months

Q5. How much time did you devote to campaigning per week during the last month of the campaign?

_____ hours

Q6. In any electoral campaign, some candidates put the emphasis on their own personal qualities while others emphasise the party they are representing. Where would you place your aims on a scale from 0 ‘to attract as much attention as possible to me as a candidate’ to 10 ‘to attract as much attention as possible to my party’?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Attention to candidate Attention to party

Q7. In your campaign, did you use the following? If yes, how important were they for your campaign?

	No	Yes, not at all important	Yes, not very important	Yes, fairly important	Yes, very important
Personal website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canvassing (door-to-door)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Calling up voters on the phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal flyers, leaflets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal campaign posters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal ads (TV, newspaper, radio)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Campaign blogs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social networking sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online media (Youtube, podcasts)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online chat with voters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q8. How strongly did you emphasise each of the following in your campaign?

	Not at all	Not strongly	Somewhat	Strongly	Very strongly
Your personal skills and characteristics	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Issues specific to your personal campaign	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Your party's policy platform	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Provision of public services	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Socio-economic wellbeing	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Openness and communication with voters	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q9. Did you raise any issues during the campaign that were specific to your constituency/region and that were not raised by the party at national level?

[] No

[] Yes

If yes, which ones? _____

Q10. Did you employ any professional consultants in your personal campaign?

[] No

[] Yes

Q11. How much money did you spend on your personal campaign?

£ _____

Q12. During election campaigns, some candidates feel safe, but others may be worried about personal risks involved. How did you feel during the 2021 Senedd Election campaign? Using a scale where 0 means 'very safe' and 10 'very unsafe', where would you place yourself?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Very safe [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] Very unsafe

Q13. Did you personally experience any form of inappropriate behaviour, harassment, or threats to your security in your position as a candidate during the 2021 Senedd Election campaign?

[] No

[] Yes

Q14. Looking back to the beginning of the campaign, how did you rate your chances of winning a seat?

Very unlikely to win a seat	Fairly unlikely to win a seat	Even chance of winning a seat	Fairly likely to win a seat	Very likely to win a seat
[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q15. Did you win a seat?

No	Yes, as a constituency MS	Yes, as a regional list MS
[]	[]	[]

DEMOCRACY AND REPRESENTATION

Q16. How satisfied are you with the way democracy works in Wales and the UK?

	Not at all satisfied	Not very satisfied	Fairly satisfied	Very satisfied
Wales	[]	[]	[]	[]
United Kingdom	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q17. Using a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 indicates the most negative and 10 the most positive attitude, what is your overall opinion of the following electoral procedures?

	Negative										Positive	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Postal voting	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Proxy voting	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Electronic counting of ballots	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Voting on the internet	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Voting by mobile	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q18. How much do you agree or disagree that...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly agree
... Wales should hold a referendum on whether to remain part of UK or become an independent country	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
... UK should introduce proportional representation for general elections	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
... Senedd should continue to be elected using the Additional Member System	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
... it was the right decision to allow 16- and 17-year-olds to vote at Senedd and local government elections	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
... 16- and 17-year-olds should also be allowed to vote in UK general elections	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q19. There are different opinions about whom an MS should primarily represent. In your view, how important is it for MSs to represent following groups of people in Senedd?

	Not at all important	Not very important	Rather important	Very important
Voters who supported MS	[]	[]	[]	[]
All residents in the constituency/region	[]	[]	[]	[]
Party supporters in Wales as a whole	[]	[]	[]	[]
Members of a specific social group	[]	[]	[]	[]
All residents of Wales	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q20a. Here are questions about some difficult choices that MSs might be confronted with. In your view, how should an MS vote if the voters in his/her constituency/region have one opinion and his/her party takes a different position?

- MS should vote according to his/her party's opinion
- MS should vote according to the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency/region

Q20b. And how should an MS vote if his/her own opinion on an issue does not correspond with the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency/region?

MS should vote according to his/her own opinion

MS should vote according to the opinion of the voters in his/her constituency/region

Q20c. And how should an MS vote if his/her own opinion on an issue does not correspond with his/her party's position?

MS should vote according to his/her own opinion

MS should vote according to his/her party's opinion

Q21. Politicians often make decisions by balancing political participation, processes, and outcomes. In your opinion, what are the most important considerations in making political decisions? Please rank the following statements from 1 'most important' to 3 'least important'.

Political decision-making should involve the largest number of people and groups possible

Political decision-making should result in the best outcome for the most people

Political decision-making should follow clearly defined rules and processes

POLITICAL ISSUES

Q22. In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing Wales today?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Q23. In terms of the long-term future of Wales, which would you prefer?

Wales should become independent, separate from the UK and the EU

Wales should become independent, separate from the UK but part of the EU

Wales should remain part of the UK, with its own elected Parliament that has extensive powers

Wales should remain part of the UK, with its own elected Parliament that has limited powers

Wales should remain part of the UK, without an elected Parliament

Q24. Senedd has now been operating for twenty-two years. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements on the effect it has had on Wales? It has...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly agree
... made it more likely that Wales will leave the UK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... given Wales a stronger voice in the UK	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... given Welsh people more pride in their country	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... given people more say in how Wales is run	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... led to an improvement in living standards in Wales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... improved the standard of education in Wales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... improved the standard of health care in Wales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
... had a positive influence for Wales	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q25. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither	Agree	Strongly agree
Government should redistribute income from the better-off to those who are less well-off	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Big business benefits owners at expense of workers	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Ordinary working people do not get their fair share of the nation's wealth	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
There is one law for the rich and one for the poor	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Young people today do not have enough respect for traditional British values	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
People who break law should receive stiffer sentences	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Schools should teach children to obey authority	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Stronger measures should be taken to protect the environment	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Wales should start extracting shale gas ('fracking')	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Senedd should have more powers over taxation	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Senedd should have more powers over criminal justice system	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
More should be done to preserve Welsh as a living language	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]
Welsh people are different from English people	[]	[]	[]	[]	[]

Q26. There are many different views on the Welsh language. Which of the following is closest to yours?

- The language is irrelevant to modern Wales
- Bilingualism is over-promoted
- The current policy of promoting bilingualism is about right
- Bilingualism should be more actively encouraged by making it a requirement of public office
- Welsh should become the primary language of Wales

Q27. Recently, there has been a lot of debate about global warming and climate change. How true do you think this statement is: Unless radical action is taken in the next few years, climate change will do great damage to the Earth's environment?

- Completely true
- Partially true but exaggerated
- Completely untrue

Q28. Which of the following statements most clearly describes your own opinion about nuclear power in Britain today?

- We should increase the number of nuclear power stations
- We should continue using the existing nuclear power stations and replace them with new ones when they reach the end of their life
- We should continue using the existing nuclear power stations but not replace them with new ones when they reach the end of their life
- We should shut down all existing nuclear power stations now and not replace them with new ones

Q29. Thinking about environment, some believe that protecting environment should have priority even if it reduces economic growth. Others believe economic growth should have priority even if it hinders protecting environment. Where would you place yourself on a scale from 0 ‘economic growth should be priority’ to 10 ‘protecting environment should be priority’?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Economic growth should be priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protecting environment should be priority

Q30. Where would you place yourself on a 0 to 10 scale, where 0 means ‘government should cut taxes and spend much less on health and social services’, and 10 means ‘government should raise taxes a lot and spend much more on health and social services’?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Cut taxes and spend less	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Raise taxes and spend more

Q31. And now a question about the UK's future relationship with the EU. Where would you place yourself on a scale 0 to 10, where 0 means ‘protecting UK’s sovereignty’, and 10 means ‘prioritising ease of trade’?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Sovereignty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade

Q32. How did you vote in the 2016 EU referendum?

Leave the EU

Remain in the EU

Did not vote

Q33. In politics people sometimes talk of left and right. Using a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 means most left-wing and 10 means most right-wing, where would you place...

	Left	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Right
... yourself		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
... your party		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
... your party’s voters		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

POLITICAL EXPERIENCE

Q34. Regarding your political experience, which of these positions have you held? Please tick all that apply.

Local or regional party office

National party office

Local councillor

Elected mayor

Member of the Senedd

Minister in the Welsh Government

Member of Parliament (House of Commons)

Minister in the UK Government

Member of the European Parliament

PERSONAL BACKGROUND

Q35. Do you consider yourself to be...

Female

Male

Other. Please specify _____

Q36. In which year were you born?

Q37. Can you speak Welsh?

Yes, fluently

Yes, but not fluently

No

Q38. Which of the following best describes the way you think of yourself?

Welsh not British

More Welsh than British

Equally Welsh and British

More British than Welsh

British not Welsh

Other. Please specify _____

Q39. Do you ever think of yourself as belonging to a particular class?

No

Yes, working class

Yes, middle class

Yes, other. Please specify _____

Q40. What is your highest educational qualification?

Finished primary school

GCSE/O-level/Standard Grade

A-level

Professional/Vocational qualification

Undergraduate

Postgraduate

Doctorate

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return it in the enclosed pre-paid envelope.

Dr Siim Trumm
School of Politics and International Relations
University of Nottingham