

# 2011 Elections Research Questionnaire



## UK Topline Results

- Results are based on interviews with 3,961 members of the UK general public broken down as follows:

	Un-weighted base	Weighted base
UK	3,961	3,961
GB	3,460	3,854
England	1,458	3,315
Scotland	1,001	345
Wales	1,001	194
Northern Ireland	501	107
Council & referendum holding areas	3,461	3,156
Referendum only areas	500	805
Voter	2,294	2,142
Non-voter	1,667	1,819

- Interviews were carried out by telephone between 7<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011
- A representative sample was interviewed, with quotas set by voter/non-voter type, election area type, country, age, gender and local authority in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- The data has been weighted by age, gender, social class, work status, local authority (England = Government Office Region) and election area type within England only.
- Where results do not sum to 100%, this may be due to multiple responses, computer rounding or the exclusion of don't knows/not stated.
- Results are based on all respondents unless otherwise stated.
- At top line level (N = 3,961) the data is correct to within +/-1.6% at the 95% confidence interval.
- An asterisk (\*) represents a value of less than one half or one percent, but not zero.
- Study undertaken by ICM on behalf of the Electoral Commission.

## REGISTRATION, TURNOUT AND VOTING

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q1** As far as you know, is your name on the electoral register, that is, the official list of people who can vote, either where you are living now or somewhere else?

	Base: all (3961)
Yes – where living now	92%
Yes – somewhere else/another address	3%
No	4%
Don't know	2%

**Q2** How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the procedure for getting your name on the list of those people who are registered to vote? Are you.....READ OUT

	Base: all (3961)
Very satisfied	53%
Fairly satisfied	32%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	8%
Fairly dissatisfied	1%
Very dissatisfied	1%
Don't know	4%

**Q3** As you may know, on Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> there were/was ....INSERT AS APPROPRIATE: English local council elections / National Assembly for Wales elections / Northern Ireland Assembly elections / Northern Ireland local elections / Scottish Parliament elections..... (and)... a UK wide referendum on the voting system used to elect MPs to the House of Commons. Many people have told us they didn't manage to vote on 5<sup>th</sup> May. How about you – did you manage to vote in the.....READ OUT AS APPROPRIATE

	Base: all (3961)
ENGLISH ELECTION AREAS ONLY: English local council elections	50%
WALES ONLY: National Assembly for Wales elections	52%
NI ONLY: Northern Ireland Assembly elections	57%
NI ONLY: Northern Ireland local elections	57%
SCOTLAND ONLY: Scottish Parliament elections	57%
ASK ALL: UK referendum on the voting system	53%
Voted in anything occurring	54%
Voted in 'election'	41%
Voted in referendum	53%
Voted in 'election' but not referendum	1%
Voted in referendum but not 'election'	2%
Voted in one but not the other	4%
Voted in all eligible	50%
Non - voter	50%

⇒ **IF NON-VOTER (NO) IN ALL ELIGIBLE ELECTIONS/REFEREDUM AT Q3, ASK:**  
**Q4 People had many reasons for not voting in the....referendum/Q3 election(s in NI)....**  
**Why did you not vote in the ....referendum/Q3 election(s in NI).... on 5<sup>th</sup> May? DO NOT**  
**PROMPT**

	Base: non-voters (1819)
<b>Circumstances</b>	<b>53%</b>
I really intended to vote but circumstances on the day prevented me	6%
I was away on 5 <sup>th</sup> May/voting day	10%
I forgot	7%
Lack of time/too busy/I was busy at work	26%
I couldn't get to the polling station/it was inconvenient	4%
Medical/health reasons	6%
Personal reasons	*%
Bad weather	*%
<b>Administration</b>	<b>9%</b>
I wasn't registered	5%
Admin reason	
I didn't receive a polling card	2%
I didn't receive a postal vote/it arrived too late	1%
I didn't know where my polling station was	1%
Lost polling card	*%
Admin reason	*%
<b>Elections/referendum not important</b>	<b>9%</b>
The elections (unspecified) weren't important	1%
Local council elections aren't important	1%
The referendum is not important/won't change anything	4%
There was no point in voting because the local council can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	4%
There was no point in voting because the Welsh Assembly/NI Assembly/Scottish Parliament can't do very much/can't change anything/has no power	1%
<b>Disinterested/no point</b>	<b>19%</b>
I couldn't be bothered	9%
I'm just not interested in politics	8%
There was no point in voting because it was obvious who would win/my vote wouldn't have made a difference to the outcome	4%
Waste of time / could not see the point	1%
<b>Referendum choices</b>	<b>4%</b>
I didn't agree with either of the options on offer	2%
I didn't like the campaigners/campaigns weren't inspiring	1%
<b>Parties/candidates</b>	<b>7%</b>
There was no point in voting because all the parties are the same	3%
I didn't like the candidates/parties/they didn't represent my views	2%
You just can't trust politicians to keep their promises	2%
Unhappy with government/MPs expenses	1%
<b>No information/indecision/complicated</b>	<b>10%</b>
I didn't get any information	5%
I didn't know enough about the different options	3%
I couldn't decide which way to vote	2%
I didn't know there was a referendum	*%
I didn't understand it/too confusing	1%
Didn't know enough about candidates/who anyone is	*%
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>6%</b>
I don't vote	3%

Religious reasons	1%
Not eligible	1%
Other (specify)	1%
.....	
None of these/no reason	3%
Don't know	-

⇒ **IF VOTED, ASK:**

**Q5 Did you vote on 5<sup>th</sup> May.....MULTICODE OK**

	Base: all voters (2142)
In person at a polling station	75%
By post	25%
By proxy IF NECESSARY SAY: (getting someone else to vote on your behalf)	1%
Other	*%
Don't know/can't remember	*%

**Q6 People have many reasons for voting in elections and referendums. Why did you vote on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May? What else?**

	Base: all voters (2142)
<b>Civic responsibility reasons</b>	<b>61%</b>
It is important to vote/It is my civic duty/everyone should vote/It is my right to vote	46%
People fought to win the right to vote for me/others	7%
I always vote	18%
<b>To express a view</b>	<b>42%</b>
I wanted to have a say	28%
If people don't vote then you have no right to complain/have an opinion	12%
Concerned about local issues	3%
Because an important issue was at stake	4%
<b>To help create a change</b>	<b>14%</b>
To change the voting system	4%
To get a change	8%
Not happy with the government/to send a message to the government/local council	5%
<b>To help keep the status quo</b>	<b>5%</b>
To keep the voting system	4%
Like/pleased with the government	1%
<b>Tactical reasons</b>	<b>2%</b>
To defeat/stop the other side from winning	2%
<b>Other reasons</b>	<b>7%</b>
I was urged/persuaded to vote by a family member/friend	1%
Because I was sent a ballot paper in the post	1%
To vote for candidate/party I support	2%
I take an interest in politics	1%
Other	3%
None of these / no reason	1%
Don't know	1%

⇒ **IF YES AND NO IN MULTIPLE ELECTION AREAS AT Q3, ASK:**

**Q7** In your area, the .....Q3 election (IN NI ONLY SAY: Northern Ireland Assembly election)....and the referendum on the voting system were held on 5<sup>th</sup> May. You say you voted in one but not the other. Can you tell me why you voted in the ....Q3 election/referendum..... but not in the ....Q3 election/referendum? WRITE IN

**BASE: 143**

- There was no local election in our area 15%
- Personal reasons 8%
- Lack of info/didn't understand what we were voting for 8%
- Working at the time/could not get there 7%
- Not eligible to vote 6%
- Wasn't given the chance to vote in them 5%
- Only votes we had was for AV system 5%
- Other 37%
- DK 11%

⇒ **IF MORE THAN ONE YES AT Q3, ASK HALF THE ELIGIBLE VOTING SAMPLE:**

**Q8** Some people have told us that they would not have voted in the ....Q3 election (IN NI ONLY SAY: Northern Ireland Assembly election).... had the referendum not been held on the same day. How about you, do you think you would have voted in the .....Q3 election (IN NI ONLY SAY: Northern Ireland Assembly election).... 5<sup>th</sup> May if there had not also been a referendum?

SPLIT SAMPLE		Base: all who voted in both
Yes – would have voted		(795) 94%
No – would not have voted		5%
Don't know		1%

⇒ **IF MORE THAN ONE YES AT Q3, ASK THE OTHER HALF ELIGIBLE VOTING SAMPLE:**

**Q9** Some people have told us that they would not have voted in the referendum had the ...Q3 elections (IN NI ONLY SAY: Northern Ireland Assembly election).... not been held on the same day. How about you, do you think you would have voted in the referendum if there had not also been a ...Q3 election (IN NI ONLY SAY: Northern Ireland Assembly election).... in your area?

SPLIT SAMPLE		Base: all who voted in both
Yes – would have voted		(783) 89%
No – would not have voted		8%
Don't know		3%

## VOTING PROCESSES AND PRIORITIES

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q10a** Generally speaking, how much interest do you usually have in what's going on in politics? Are you...**READ OUT**

	Base: all (3961)
Very interested	28%
Somewhat interested	45%
Not very interested	18%
Not at all interested	9%
Don't know	*%

**Q10b** Which one of these statements comes closest to your views about elections? **READ OUT**

	Base: all (3961)
It's not really worth voting	9%
People should only vote if they care who wins	21%
It's everyone's duty to vote	69%
Don't know	2%

**Q11** Thinking generally about voting, which one of the following would you say is most important for you when you vote? **ROTATE. READ OUT. CODE ONE**

	Base: all (3961)
Voting being easy or convenient for me	23%
My vote being safe from fraud and abuse	22%
Voting being secret – that is, without anyone else knowing how I voted	31%
Having a choice of methods of voting (such as by post or in person at a polling station)	21%
Other	1%
Don't know	3%

**Q12a** How much, if anything, did you feel you knew about what the referendum on 5<sup>th</sup> May was about? Would you say you knew...**READ OUT**

	Base: all (3961)
A great deal	20%
A fair amount	46%
Not very much	25%
Nothing at all	8%
Don't know	*%

**Q12b To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? READ OUT. CODE ONE FOR EACH**

- 1- Agree strongly
- 2- Tend to agree
- 3- Neither
- 4- Tend to disagree
- 5- Disagree strongly

	Base: all or varies
There was a lot of media coverage on the ...Q3 election (NI: Northern Ireland Assembly)...	18% 32% 14% 22% 10% DK=4%
I had enough information to be able to make an informed decision on how to vote in the ...Q3 election...	34% 35% 7% 12% 11% DK= 1%
I didn't know enough on what the ...Q3 election.... was about	15% 20% 7% 24% 32% DK = 1%
There was a lot of media coverage on the referendum on the voting system	37% 32% 8% 12% 8% DK=3%
I had enough information to be able to make an informed decision on how to vote at the referendum	44% 29% 6% 11% 9% DK=1%
I didn't know enough on what the referendum was about	14% 15% 5% 23% 42% DK = 1%

⇒ **ASK ALL**  
**Q13 Generally speaking, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the procedure for voting in elections and referendums in Great Britain/Northern Ireland. Are you...?**

	Base: all (3961)
Very satisfied	34%
Fairly satisfied	46%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	11%
Fairly dissatisfied	4%
Very dissatisfied	4%
Don't know	1%

⇒ **IF FAIRLY/VERY DISSATISFIED AT Q13, ASK:**  
**Q14 Why do you say you were dissatisfied with the procedure for voting in elections and referendums? WRITE IN**

<b>BASE: 328</b>
People not given enough info/not enough media coverage 22%
Politicians don't canvas/make themselves known 8%
Voting process should be online/email 7%
Voting system should be more secure/ballot papers can be identified 4%
Disagree with FPTP 8%
AV system is better 2%
Didn't receive polling card 2%
People didn't understand the elections/too complicated 3%
Wanted PR 4%

Not interested at my age 2%  
 System is not fair 11%  
 Need more opinions/choice 2%  
 Voting should be compulsory 4%  
 Length of time it takes 1%  
 Confusing ballot paper questions/ambiguous 2%  
 Keep FPTP 1%  
 Voting should be spread over few days 4%  
 May end up voting for people I don't support 2%  
 Do not trust them 4%  
 Others 28%

⇒ **ASK ALL**

Q15a How confident, if at all, are you that the referendum was well run on 5<sup>th</sup> May? Are you...READ OUT

	Base: all (3961)
Very confident	28%
Fairly confident	44%
Not very confident	12%
Not at all confident	6%
Don't know	10%

Q15b Why do you say that you are...Q15a confident/not confident....that the referendum was well run? WRITE IN

**ALL CONFIDENT BASE: 2868**

Well publicised 26%  
 Well organised 25%  
 Voting system fair 13%  
 Clear/concise ballot forms/easy to vote 7%  
 I trust staff to do their job 5%  
 From what heard no negative feedback 4%  
 Feel it was the right result 4%  
 Accessible polling stations 3%  
 Tried & tested process 3%  
 Personal involvement 2%  
 High turnout 2%  
 Results were in the media pretty quickly 2%  
 Good staff attitude 1%  
 Everyone had the opportunity to vote 1%  
 Well canvassed 1%  
 Other 11%  
 DK 11%

**ALL NOT CONFIDENT BASE: 685**

Info was scarce/confusing 28%  
 Lack of info/publicity/dk much about it 11%  
 Mistrust/don't stick to promises 7%  
 Badly run/organised 7%  
 Disinterested 5%  
 Press coverage was biased 4%  
 Low turnout 3%  
 Long wait to hear results 2%

Misinformation 1%  
 Majority didn't know voting procedure 1%  
 No negative feedback 1%  
 Too many elections on same day 1%  
 Lack of canvassing 1%  
 Other 26%  
 DK 10%

⇒ **ELECTION AREAS ONLY:**

Q16 How confident, if at all, are you that the ...Q3 election.....was well run on 5<sup>th</sup> May?  
Are you...READ OUT

	Base: all where election (3156)	Base: NI local elections (107)
Very confident	30%	24%
Fairly confident	47%	51%
Not very confident	7%	8%
Not at all confident	4%	4%
Don't know	12%	13%

⇒ **ELECTION AREAS ONLY:**

Q17 Why do you say that you are...Q16 confident/not confident...that the ...Q3 election.... was well run? WRITE IN

**CONFIDENT BASE: 2426**

Well organised 26%  
 Well publicised 19%  
 Voting system fair 12%  
 Tried & tested process 10%  
 Clear concise ballot forms 6%  
 No negative feedback heard 5%  
 Well canvassed 3%  
 Accessible polling stations 3%  
 Trust staff 3%  
 Personal involvement 2%  
 Feel it was right result 2%  
 Lack of information/publicity 2%  
 High turnout 1%  
 Other 9%  
 DK 12%

**NOT CONFIDENT BASE: 354**

Lack of info / publicity 29%  
 Mistrust/don't stick to promises 12%  
 Badly run 10%  
 Lack of canvassing 6%  
 Disinterested 5%  
 Info scarce 3%  
 Well publicised 2%  
 Long wait for results 2%  
 Low turnout 2%  
 No negative feedback 2%  
 Other 18%  
 DK 14%

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q18a** Which of the following do you think was responsible for administering and running the .....Q3 elections ..... on 5<sup>th</sup> May? ROTATE. READ OUT.  
MULTICODE

	Base: all where election (3156)
The UK government	49%
AS APPROPRIATE IN SCOTLAND/WALES/NI: The Scottish Government/The Welsh Assembly Government/The Northern Ireland Assembly Government	15%
The Voting Standards Board	42%
Your local council	69%
The Electoral Commission	58%
Other	4%
Don't know	11%

**Q18b** Which of the following do you think was responsible for administering and running the referendum on 5<sup>th</sup> May? ROTATE. READ OUT.  
MULTICODE

	Base: all (3961)
The UK government	66%
AS APPROPRIATE IN SCOTLAND/WALES/NI: The Scottish Government/The Welsh Assembly Government/The Northern Ireland Assembly Government	8%
The Voting Standards Board	46%
Your local council	46%
The Electoral Commission	59%
Other	4%
Don't know	10%

**POLLING STATIONS**

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q19** From what you have seen or heard or experienced, do you think that voting at the polling station / (SCOTLAND: polling place) on 5<sup>th</sup> May was...READ OUT

	Base: all (3961)
Very convenient	43%
Fairly convenient	28%
Neither convenient nor inconvenient	13%
Fairly inconvenient	6%
Very inconvenient	4%
Don't know	6%

⇒ **IF POLLING STATION VOTER AT Q5 (= 1), ASK:**

**Q20** Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the process of voting at a polling station/place? Would you say.....READ OUT

	Polling station voters (1602)
Very satisfied	76%
Fairly satisfied	21%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	1%
Fairly dissatisfied	1%
Very dissatisfied	1%
Don't know	*%

**Q21** Once you arrived at your polling station/place, how easy or difficult was it for you to get inside to vote?

	Polling station voters (1602)
Very easy	94%
Fairly easy	6%
Neither easy nor difficult	*%
Fairly difficult	*%
Very difficult	*%
Don't know	*%

⇒ **IF Q21 = DIFFICULT, ASK:**

**Q22** And why did you say it was difficult for you to get inside your polling station/place? WRITE IN

BASE: 6 answers.

DK = 6 answers

⇒ **IF POLLING STATION VOTER AT Q5 (= 1), ASK:**

**Q23** Thinking back to when you went to vote at the polling station/place, how useful, if at all, was the help or support available from polling station/place staff on how to vote? Was it...READ OUT

	Polling station voters (1602)
Very useful	51%
Fairly useful	17%
Not very useful	1%
Not at all useful	1%
Didn't use them/need them	30%
Don't know	2%

**Q24** And again thinking back to when you went to vote at the polling station/place, how useful, if at all, were any written instructions on how to vote, such as a poster on display in the polling booth or guidance on the ballot paper(s)? Were they....READ OUT

	Polling station voters (1602)
Very useful	44%
Fairly useful	25%
Not very useful	3%
Not at all useful	*%
Didn't use them/need them	27%
Don't know	1%

**Q25** Thinking back to the atmosphere when you voted in the polling station/place, please say whether you agree or disagree with the following?

1 Agree strongly

- 2 Tend to agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Tend to disagree
- 5 Disagree strongly

	Polling station voters (1602)
It was chaotic	1% 1% *% 7% 90% DK=*%
It was well ordered	85% 13% 1% *% 1% 2% DK=*%
It was intimidating	1% 1% 1% 9% 88% DK=*%
It was safe	90% 9% 1% *% *% DK=*%
It took too long to vote	1% 1% 1% 9% 87% DK= *%
It was well run by staff	83% 14% 1% 1% 1% DK=*%
MULTI-ELECTION AREAS ONLY: It was confusing which ballot paper to use	3% 6% 2% 15% 74% DK= 1%

**POSTAL VOTING**

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q26** From what you have seen, heard or experienced, do you think that voting by post for the 5<sup>th</sup> May referendum and election(s) was...**READ OUT**

	Base: all (3961)
Very convenient	34%
Fairly convenient	21%
Neither convenient nor inconvenient	19%
Fairly inconvenient	4%
Very inconvenient	3%
Don't know	19%

⇒ **ASK ALL POSTAL VOTERS (Q5 = 2)**

**Q27** Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with the process of voting by post? Would you say.....**READ OUT**

	All postal voters (533)
Very satisfied	84%
Fairly satisfied	14%
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	*%
Fairly dissatisfied	1%
Very dissatisfied	-
Don't know	1%

**Q28** How easy or difficult was it to understand what you had to do in order to complete and return your postal vote(s)? Would you say....**READ OUT**

	All postal voters (533)
Very easy	71%
Fairly easy	22%
Neither easy nor difficult	3%
Fairly difficult	4%
Very difficult	*%
Don't know	*%

**Q29** Thinking back to when you voted by post, how useful, if at all, were any written instructions on how to vote and return your vote, such as guidance on the ballot paper? Were they.....**READ OUT**

	All postal voters (533)
Very useful	72%
Fairly useful	23%
Not very useful	3%
Not at all useful	1%
Don't know	1%

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS**

**Q30** How confident, if at all, are you that your vote(s) was/were included in the count? Are you.....**READ OUT**

Very confident	73%
Fairly confident	24%
Not very confident	1%
Not at all confident	1%
Don't know	2%

**BALLOT PAPERS**

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS**

**Q31** Some people said it was difficult to fill in the ballot paper(s) when voting in the 5<sup>th</sup> May elections and referendum. How easy or difficult did you find it to fill in the ballot paper for the ....**ASK FOR EACH Q3 ELECTION/REFERENDUM VOTED IN (CATI: ALWAYS ASK FOR REFERENDUM FIRST AT THIS QUESTION).....Was it.....**

**IF NECESSARY:** By 'fill in' we mean place your vote on the form rather than decide which way to vote.

- 1= Very easy
- 2 = Fairly easy
- 3 = Neither easy nor difficult
- 4 = Fairly difficult
- 5 = Very difficult

	Base: all voters in each election
English local council elections	81% 14% 1% 2% 1%
National Assembly for Wales elections	76% 20% 1% 3% *%
Northern Ireland Assembly elections	64% 29% 3% 3% 1%
Northern Ireland local elections	64% 29% 3% 3% 1%
Scottish Parliament elections	75% 22% 1% 1% -
UK referendum on the voting system	81% 14% 1% 2% 1%

⇒ **FOR EACH 'DIFFICULT' AT Q31, ASK:**

**Q32** Why do you think it was difficult to fill in the .....UK Referendum.....ballot paper?  
WRITE IN

	<i>Base: all who found it difficult (54)</i>
Text too small	5%
Instructions were unclear	56%
Didn't know whether to use a 'X' or a '1'	-
The candidates were in a confusing order	1%
The parties were in a confusing order	*%
I could not easily find the party name of my choice	4%
I could not easily find the party candidate of my choice	-
The layout was confusing	18%
Other (specify)	35%
.....	
Don't know	-

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS IN SCOTLAND AND WALES**

**Q33a** In elections for the Scottish Parliament/Welsh Assembly you had two votes. One of these was for a party or independent candidate to represent your constituency, and the other vote you had was for a party or individual candidate to represent your region of Scotland/Wales.

How easy or difficult was it to find the candidate you wanted to vote for on the constituency ballot?

	All Scot/Wales voters (296)
Very easy	73%
Fairly easy	22%
Neither easy nor difficult	2%
Fairly difficult	2%
Very difficult	1%
Don't know	*%

**Q33b** How easy or difficult was it to find the name of the party you wanted to vote for on the regional list ballot?

	All Scot/Wales voters (296)
Very easy	76%
Fairly easy	20%
Neither easy nor difficult	1%
Fairly difficult	2%
Very difficult	1%
Don't know	*%

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS WHO VOTED IN MORE THAN ONE ELECTION AT Q3:**

**Q33c** You said you voted in the referendum on the voting system used to elect MPs to the House of Commons and the ....Q3 election..... How easy or difficult did you find it to fill in more than one ballot paper on the same day? Was it.....

**IF NECESSARY:** By 'fill in' we mean place your vote on the form rather than decide which way to vote.

- 1= Very easy
- 2 = Fairly easy
- 3 = Neither easy nor difficult
- 4 = Fairly difficult
- 5 = Very difficult

	All voters in both (1578)
Very easy	81%
Fairly easy	15%
Neither easy nor difficult	2%
Fairly difficult	1%
Very difficult	*%
Don't know	1%

⇒ **ASK ALL VOTERS**

**Q33d** Some people have told us they intentionally spoiled their ballot paper by deliberately leaving the ballot form blank or by not voting 'yes' or 'no' in the instructed way. They did this to register a protest. Did you intentionally spoil your own ballot paper or not?

	All voters (2142)
Yes – election(s) ballot paper	*%
Yes – referendum ballot paper	1%
Yes – both /all ballot papers	*%
No	98%
Don't know	1%

**AWARENESS AND PERCEPTIONS OF ELECTORAL FRAUD**

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q34** As you may know, there are many types of fraud such as benefit fraud and insurance fraud. From what you know or have heard, how much do you feel you understand about electoral fraud in the UK, that is fraud relating to elections and voting? Would you say....**READ OUT...**

	Base: all (3961)
A lot	10%
A little	36%
Hardly anything at all	30%
Nothing at all	24%
Don't know	1%

**Q35** In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that voting is....

	Base: all (3961)
Very safe	24%
Fairly safe	53%
Neither safe nor unsafe	11%
Fairly unsafe	5%
Very unsafe	2%
Don't know	4%

**Q36** In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that voting at a polling station/place is...READ OUT

	Base: all (3961)
Very safe	41%
Fairly safe	45%
Neither safe nor unsafe	3%
Fairly unsafe	1%
Very unsafe	4%
Don't know	

**Q37** In general, when it comes to being safe from fraud and abuse, would you say that voting by post is...READ OUT

	Base: all (3961)
Very safe	17%
Fairly safe	40%
Neither safe nor unsafe	12%
Fairly unsafe	15%
Very unsafe	6%
Don't know	11%

**Q38** How concerned, if at all, are you that electoral fraud or abuse took place at the referendum on 5<sup>th</sup> May? Would you say you are....READ OUT

	Base: all (3961)
Very concerned	7%
Fairly concerned	14%
Not very concerned	36%
Not at all concerned	39%
Don't know	4%

⇒ **ELECTION AREAS ONLY**

**Q39** How concerned, if at all, are you that electoral fraud or abuse took place at the ...Q3 (NI: Northern Ireland Assembly or Northern Ireland council) election.....on 5<sup>th</sup> May? Would you say you are....READ OUT

	Base: all where election (3156)
Very concerned	8%
Fairly concerned	15%
Not very concerned	34%
Not at all concerned	39%
Don't know	4%

⇒ **IF VERY/FAIRLY CONCERNED AT EITHER Q38 OR Q39, ASK**

**Q40** Why do you say that you are concerned that electoral fraud or abuse took place on 5<sup>th</sup> May? **WRITE IN**

**BASE: 1011**

Many people/politicians who cannot be trusted 7%

People would lose all confidence in system 10%

Postal voting open to fraud 7%

Unfair/makes voting pointless 16%

Dislike fraud of any sort 4%

It has happened before 10%

I trust the way it's done 4%

It is possible to change/manipulate votes 3%

You cannot rule it out 9%

Need to ensure process is fair 6%

Concerned about false identity 2%

So much fraud/corruption going on 2%

I am not concerned 2%

Other 12%

## CAMPAIGN FINANCE

⇒ **ASK ALL**

**Q41a** I'm now going to talk about how the referendum campaign was financed, that is, how organisations such as political parties and others raised and spent money in campaigning for a yes or no vote. How much do you feel you know about how campaigning organisations for the referendum on 5<sup>th</sup> May were funded and spent their money?

A lot	3%
A little	23%
Hardly anything at all	32%
Nothing at all	40%
Don't know	1%

**Q41b** How confident, if at all, are you that if a campaigning organisation or one of its members is caught breaking the rules on campaign funding, the authorities will take appropriate action? Are you...**READ OUT**

Very confident	15%
Fairly confident	46%
Not very confident	24%
Not at all confident	13%
Don't know	3%

**Q41c** And how important, if at all, is it to you that appropriate action is taken if a campaigning organisation or one of its members is caught breaking the rules on campaign funding? Is it...

Very important	75%
Quite important	18%
Not very important	3%
Not important at all	2%
Don't know	1%

**Q42** I'm now going to read you some statements relating to the rules on the money that political parties, organisations and other individuals use when campaigning. These rules do not include MPs expenses. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? READ OUT. CODE ONE FOR EACH

1. Agree strongly
2. Tend to agree
3. Neither
4. Tend to disagree
5. Disagree strongly

The spending and funding of referendum campaigning organisations is open and transparent	17% 24% 27% 14% 10% DK = 7%
The spending and funding of political parties at elections is open and transparent	19% 25% 22% 16% 12% DK = 6%
It is important that information about who donates money to political parties is made available to the public	63% 21% 8% 5% 2% DK=2%
I'm not really interested in political party funding, as long as the information is made available for people to see	40% 29% 7% 11% 12% DK=1%
The current rules for overseeing the funding and spending of political parties are fair	19% 31% 21% 9% 6% 14%
I don't need to know information on political party financing as long as the rules are followed and those who break them are dealt with effectively	43% 30% 5% 11% 10% 2%
The current rules for how political parties are funded and spend money mean that those who break them are dealt with properly	47% 29% 9% 5% 4% 5%

⇒ **NORTHERN IRELAND ONLY**

**Q43** In Northern Ireland, poll cards were sent out to most voters a number of weeks in advance of polling day on 5 May this year. The poll card contained information about how to vote on 5 May, including deadlines on applying to vote by post and proxy. At previous elections poll cards were sent out a week in advance. Would you prefer to receive your poll card a number of weeks before polling day, a week before or do you not mind either way?

A number of weeks before	22%
A week before	16%
Don't mind	61%
Didn't receive polling card	*%
DK/can't remember	1%

⇒ **IF 'A NUMBER OF WEEKS' AT Q43, ASK:**

**Q44** Why do you prefer the poll card to be sent a number of weeks in advance? BASE: 23

It reassured me my name was on the register for the elections and referendum	16%
It enabled me to update my registration details with the Electoral Office	6%
It gave me sufficient/more time to apply for a postal/proxy vote	43%
It was a timely reminder of the electoral events that were taking place on 5 <sup>th</sup> May	43%
Other (specify)	23%
Don't know	-

⇒ **IF 'A WEEK BEFORE' AT Q43, ASK:**

**Q45 Why do you prefer the poll card to be sent a week in advance? BASE: 17**

It was a timely reminder of the electoral events that were taking place on 5 <sup>th</sup> May	43%
It gives me less time to lose it	59%
Other	21%
Don't know	4%