

Yorkshire Party
Sent by email

Dear Sir/Madam

The most important restriction on our coverage is the rule that parties must contest one sixth of the seats in their 'nation' to get automatic coverage in a general election. In NI that's just 3 seats, 6 in Wales, 9 or 10 in Scotland and around 89 in England. Yorkshire only has around 54 seats, so we can never get coverage guaranteed.

The second most important criterion is the requirement to have a seat at Westminster or a 'national parliament'; Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish parties have the opportunity to win a seat in their devolved parliaments/assemblies but English parties do not. Mayors are a more substitute in this respect since mayoralties are much larger than individual seats, so smaller parties have lower (and fewer) chances. Coming third and fourth in mayoral elections has not been enough for us to get reasonable coverage; being a one-seat party in a devolved body would be.

OfCom may set such rules but the BBC may still allocate fair time (and political broadcasts) to parties who do not meet the criteria; I ask that you do so.

Regards

Bob Buxton

Yorkshire Party Co-Leader