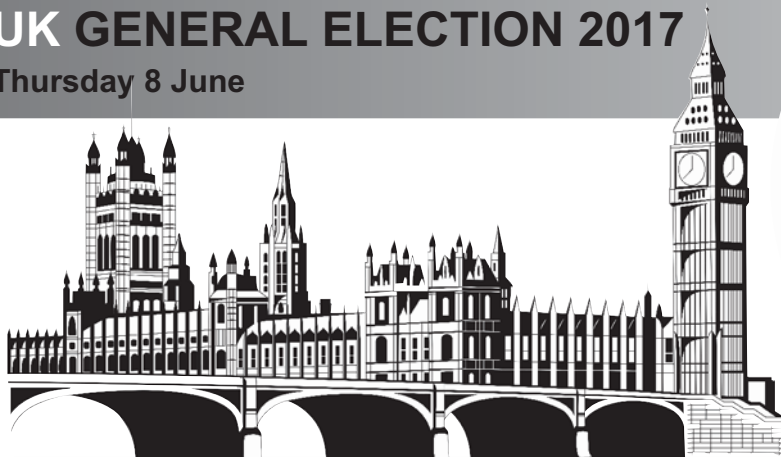


UK GENERAL ELECTION 2017

Thursday 8 June



**VOTE
FOR
MENTAL
HEALTH**

Why does this election matter?

Even though this year's election is dominated by discussions about Brexit, and even though health matters are devolved to the National Assembly, there are some key issues for people with a serious mental illness and their carers which are addressed by Parliament. These include:-

Benefits: delivering a fair system that affords people who cannot work a decent quality of life

Employment: giving people with a mental illness the support they need to retain or return to work

Criminal justice: ensuring that people with serious mental illness in the criminal justice system receive the support they need.

What should I be asking my local candidates?

Ask your local candidates about any local or national issues that are important to you. These are some suggested questions about the main issues:-

- How will you ensure that the benefits system is fair to people with a serious mental illness, providing them with a decent income and not placing undue pressure on them to return to work when they are too ill?
- How will you give people with serious mental illness opportunities to stay in or return to work and how will you tackle stigma in the workplace?
- Do you support the argument that no-one with a serious mental illness should be held in a prison cell?
- How will you support the Welsh Government to deliver better mental health services?
- Do you support the argument that Wales needs more power to create its own mental health laws and improve the rights of service users and carers?

How should I approach my candidate?

- Ring or Email your candidate's office – you could visit their office either on your own or in a group
- If you meet your candidate be specific with your questions and get them to guarantee what their party will do – record what they say, or why not get them to write it down?
- Follow up your visit with a letter to emphasise your points.

Remember to have your say and **use your vote!**

For more on mental health visit hafal.org



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hafal

*for recovery
from serious
mental illness*