

Election	Complainant Name	Candidate Affected	Date of Complaint	Complaint Type	Details	Resolution Type	Resolution/Sanction Details	Date of Decision
Autumn Elections 24	Jacob Dyke	Matty Widdop	18.10.24	Violation of election and data laws	Matty W has repeatedly violated election and data laws by either hacking the guild website or allowing someone else to do so in order to access the breakdown of votes for each society and school. This access has provided him with a significant advantage in his campaign. With the ability to see how many people have voted, Matty can reach out to groups that have historically supported him, encouraging them to vote, particularly if turnout levels are low. This is an advantage he has that others do not. Additionally, he can use this data to persuade others to support his candidacy by highlighting the voting patterns of different societies and colleges and using his friends to get out the vote using this data. This access to confidential voting data gives Matty an electoral edge that no other candidate possesses. Furthermore, he has posted this data and links to vote from his campaign accounts twice: first on October 16, 2024, and again at 00:26 on October 18, 2024, both in a post and a story.	Decision	At the instruction of the NDRO, Guild teams investigated the allegation that "election and data laws" were broken. This included contacting the Guild's website provider (MSL): "Data Laws" - within the UK there are two main pieces of legislation that cover personal and private data; Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) Having reviewed the data being shared by the candidate, the source of the data (Guild website), and the route data from which the information the candidate shared was drawn, there is no evidence that either the Data Protection Act 2018 or the UK GDPR were broken or infringed in any way. The data was drawn from the Guild website, and was publicly accessible (not access controlled, or limited in another manner). It is noted that the data was not published on the website (at a specific URL), but could be using open source web tools accessed if the Guild website was queried in a certain manner. The data was anonymised, and did not include any personal data or data on the way an individual, group of people or society had voted (preference) "Election Laws" - the rules governing Guild Elections are covered in the Guild's Byelaws and the Elections Regulations (as well as referencing other Guild and University policies and codes of practice) There is no specific provision in the Byelaws of the Regulations that relate specifically to the allegations Within the Byelaws: BL1 - 1.2.44 & BL8 2.3 - it states that the Returning Officer is responsible for ensuring elections run in a fair way BL8 6.1 - states that the voting register shall be sealed Following review, it is my determination as the NDRO that: •There is no evidence to support that the candidate broke any Election Regulations or rule •There is no evidence to support that the candidate broke any laws relating to data protection in the UK •The candidate did access data and publish it that was not published by the Guild, but that this data was not inaccessible to other candidates (or other students) •The data that they did access and share did not include any information about voting preference of an individual, group of individuals or societies •That the candidate themselves published the data, and it was therefore also accessible to other candidates (and students) who had not accessed the data themselves As such the complaint is not upheld	24.10.24
Autumn Elections 24	N/A	Sania Dawood	18.10.24	Budget submission	Candidate did not provide budget information following subsequent dates set in their warning or campaigning ban letters.	Decision	Per Elections Reg 6.3; Candidates are required to have completed spending their budget (if any) and submitted receipts for all personal expenditure claims by the date set by the Guild and notified to candidates in the relevant election. The candidates have not provided any budget information by the date set, or subsequent dates set in their warning or campaigning ban letters. Initial budget information was sent to all candidates on the 11th October 2024 with a deadline of the 26th October 12pm for budget submissions. Candidates were then sent a warning email on the 17th October 2024 with a second deadline of 3pm on Thursday 17th October. Candidates were then issued a Campaigning Ban on the 18th October 2024 at 11am until they had submitted their budget information. As per Elections Reg 6.2; Candidates shall not spend more than the budget (if any) given to them by the Guild of Students in connection with their election campaign. I have no way to determine whether the candidate has not spent more than their budget as they have failed to provide their budget information Working on the basis that we have not received anymore communication from these candidates regarding budget information, I determine that all three candidates have failed to comply with Elections Regulation 6.3. On the basis that all were issued with warning letters and campaigning bans ahead of the close of voting, and no remedial action was taken by them to address this, I therefore determine that the candidates are hereby removed as candidates from this election for all positions they stood for. Based on my decision above, can the above candidates be removed from all ballots on which they stood, and those elections be re-run without their candidacies included	23.10.24
Autumn Elections 24	N/A	Hanqing Zhao	18.10.24	Budget submission	Candidate did not provide budget information following subsequent dates set in their warning or campaigning ban letters.	Decision	Per Elections Reg 6.3; Candidates are required to have completed spending their budget (if any) and submitted receipts for all personal expenditure claims by the date set by the Guild and notified to candidates in the relevant election. The candidates have not provided any budget information by the date set, or subsequent dates set in their warning or campaigning ban letters. Initial budget information was sent to all candidates on the 11th October 2024 with a deadline of the 26th October 12pm for budget submissions. Candidates were then sent a warning email on the 17th October 2024 with a second deadline of 3pm on Thursday 17th October. Candidates were then issued a Campaigning Ban on the 18th October 2024 at 11am until they had submitted their budget information. As per Elections Reg 6.2; Candidates shall not spend more than the budget (if any) given to them by the Guild of Students in connection with their election campaign. I have no way to determine whether the candidate have not spent more than their budget as they have failed to provide their budget information Working on the basis that we have not received anymore communication from these candidates regarding budget information, I determine that all three candidates have failed to comply with Elections Regulation 6.3. On the basis that all were issued with warning letters and campaigning bans ahead of the close of voting, and no remedial action was taken by them to address this, I therefore determine that the candidates are hereby removed as candidates from this election for all positions they stood for. Based on my decision above, can the above candidates be removed from all ballots on which they stood, and those elections be re-run without their candidacies included	23.10.24
Autumn Elections 24	N/A	Ritakshi Maheshwari	16.10.24	Budget Submission	Candidate did not submit their budget to the Guild by the required deadline	Decision	Per Elections Reg 6.3; Candidates are required to have completed spending their budget (if any) and submitted receipts for all personal expenditure claims by the date set by the Guild and notified to candidates in the relevant election. The candidate has not provided any budget information by the date set. Initial budget information was sent to all candidates on the 11th October 2024 with a deadline of the 12pm 16th October 2024 for budget submissions. As per Elections Reg 6.2; Candidates shall not spend more than the budget (if any) given to them by the Guild of Students in connection with their election campaign. The candidate was asked to submit their budget by 3pm on the 17th October 2024.	17.10.24

