

YELLOW PAGES

SPECIAL EDITION

London Labour Party Conference

25-26th November 2017

Important rule changes should be discussed by conference

Support reference back!

Do you think that members should be able to shape the agenda of Regional Conference?

Do you think that our massively increased membership should have more than 8 representatives on the 35-member Regional Board?

Proposals to this effect were submitted to this conference by five Constituency Labour Parties (CLPs) but, at the time of writing, have been completely excluded

from the timetable.

Our Regional Rules are clear: "Any party unit or affiliate can propose any amendment to the Regional Conference or submit an amendment for consideration by the Regional Board at any time".

The five CLPs have been told that their submissions cannot be debated due to the ongoing Labour Party Democracy Review. But those running the Review have said that there have been no dis-

cussions about there being no rule changes to regional conferences. So why then have they been excluded?

If you think that proposals to improve our rules should at least be given a hearing, then vote for a "Reference Back" this morning during the CAC Report to give them a slot on our timetable.

This is surely not too much to ask.

KNOW THE RULES AND ORGANISE

Like many other CLPs around London and more widely, Ealing North has experienced challenges in ensuring a transparent, accountable and democratic process is fairly implemented in elections.

As a delegate-based CLP, Ealing North was ordered to re-run its AGM by London Region. The status quo was first successfully challenged in July 2017 when 50% of the CLP EC officers changed. However this democratic outcome was mysteriously overruled because of unspecified and uncorroborated 'complaints' to London Region made by an unnamed member(s).

A second meeting was called with Region in attendance to try and impose the status quo but this didn't work and a full re-run was subsequently held in

November 2017. The fact that there was NO investigation, NO discussion with the Chair, NO minutes and NO contact with members present at the AGM, led us to contact the CLPD and NEC officers to see if they could help and or advise us.

Through organisation, perseverance and sheer determination we have finally achieved an even better outcome for democracy. We have successfully elected significantly more new officers and coordinators with fresh eyes and energy to take on the real fight with the Tories.

Lessons learnt?

- Make sure you know the rules better than anyone else.
- Organise.
- Don't be afraid to challenge rulings when they are wrong.
- Speak to CLPD, NEC members and anyone else you think might be able to help you to democratise the Party.
- Don't give up or give in: democracy works.

REAL CHANGE FOR SCOTTISH LABOUR

Congratulations to Richard Leonard MSP, the new Leader of Scottish Labour. Grassroots members in Scotland have voted for a new direction for the Scottish party, recognising Richard's longstanding opposition to austerity and his support for economic policies which will benefit the majority of those in Scotland. After years of neglect and decline we can now expect Scottish Labour's fortunes to turn around.

A briefing for
delegates at 2017
London Conference.
Published by CLPD

CLPD
**Campaign for
Labour Party
Democracy**

CLPD AGM

11.30am, Sat. 3rd March, Friends House, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ

For general information, go to:
www.clpd.org.uk

THE KEY DEBATES THIS WEEKEND

The motions at Regional Conference are the product of compositing process to combine many submissions from CLPs and affiliates into a handful of proposals. Sadly it is not possible to amend these at the conference so we can only vote For or Against what is on the page.

Although some could be stronger in places, we recommend that delegates:

VOTE FOR Health. This exposes "the Tories' Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STPs) as vehicles for cutting vital services instead of prioritising patient care". It also "opposes closures (or 'reconfigurations') of London's services without proper local consultation and consent". Importantly, the motion calls on the Labour Party to launch a public campaign on this vital issue.

VOTE FOR Crime Motion 1 (West Ham and Orpington CLPs) which calls for funding to be allocated to youth projects which can prevent violent crime, in addition to demanding that cuts to policing are reversed.

VOTE FOR Housing: The Private Rented Sector. This motion offers solutions to the important, and often neglected,

issues that private tenants face. This includes rent controls, enforcement of longer-term tenancies, and council-run licensing and accreditation schemes for landlords.

VOTE FOR Housing: Building Council Homes in London. This motion contains lots of positive suggestions on a range of issues. In particular it supports "full binding ballot rights for estate residents in future regeneration projects in London and calls for current regeneration schemes to be stayed until Councils have held ballots of all those affected". Like the Health motion, this calls for the party to publicly campaign on the issues identified.

VOTE FOR Transport. This calls for more investment in public transport, more safety staff, more secure employment and cleaner air.

Ealing Central and Acton have submitted a motion to the crime debate encouraging the use of Public Spaces Protection Zones to prevent anti-abortion protesters harassing women outside abortion clinics. Measures to defend and extend women's right to choose should be sup-

ported but Public Spaces Protection Zones are controversial. Where they have been used elsewhere they have effectively outsourced policing to private security companies, and have been used to criminalise non-criminal behaviours like rough-sleeping.

If the CAC report is referred back and the two *rule changes* are put onto the agenda (see lead article) then we recommend that delegates **VOTE FOR** both.

ELECT YASMINE, RACHEL AND JON TO THE NEC

The Centre Left Grassroots Alliance, representing democratic socialist groups across the centre and left of the Labour Party, is promoting candidates who will stand up for the rights of party members and will support the democratically elected Labour leadership's progressive policies so that we win over the voters.

Ballot papers will be emailed to all Party members from Thursday 30th November 2017. Postal ballots will only be issued to Party members where the Party does not have an email address.

Vote for YASMINE DAR, RACHEL GARNHAM and JON LANSMAN to give Jeremy the team he needs on the National Executive Committee.

<https://www.yourlabournec.co.uk/>

FRINGES

We want there to be strong contributors at all of the fringes, promoting democratic socialist policies and perspectives on each issue under discussion.

However in particular it is vital that we have a good attendance at the Labour Party Democracy Review fringe on Saturday at 1pm. The decisions taken by this review will shape our party for years to come.

To join the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy please fill in the form below and return it with a cheque payable to CLPD to:

CLPD Treasurer, 157 North Street, Luton LU2 7QH
Pay via PayPal on www.clpd.org.uk

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Annual rates: £20 individuals, £5 unwaged and low waged (under £8k); £3 under 27; £25 couples (£6 unwaged and low waged); £25 national and regional organisations; £15 CLPs, trade unions and Co-op parties; £5 CLP branches.