

YELLOW PAGES

Annual Conference 2013

MONDAY 23.09.13



A message to CLP delegates: We need your support to regain delegates' rights

FOR A DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE



**KATY CLARK MP
and
PETE WILLSMAN
for**



CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

The conference mood is lifted whenever CLP delegates and trade unionists combine to raise the voice of Labour with the tenacity and spirit we've been waiting to hear.

Delegates showed yesterday, by their response to TULO Chair Paul Kenny and other strong speeches, that we look to Labour to commit to progressive policies that will set us apart from Tories and Lib Dems.

But the time allotted to grassroots

delegates to have a say is still very limited. During nearly five hours of conference yesterday, delegates spoke for just over an hour but platform speakers took up over two hours. This must change - in favour of delegates.

We will work for an effective and engaged conference where CLP and union delegates join together to give direction to the party.

Katy and Peter

Conference needs a voice - not a whipping

The Conference Arrangements Committee is elected by conference delegates to represent them and to protect their rights under the rules. Katy and Pete have set out what they believe.

Their two opponents in this election are Labour whips, whose job is to make sure the leadership get its way. Who will you trust to stand up for your CLP when its motion is being ruled out of order? Its your choice.

Vote Clark and Willsman

Vote
Gary Heather
for NCC



Delegates can be mandated

Every union and many CLPs mandate their delegates how to vote. This is a long standing and entirely legitimate practice. In the past party officials have interfered in this democratic process and tried to pretend that mandating is out of order - their argument has no backing in our rule book. Any such interference should be reported to the NEC.

SAVE ROYAL MAIL

By Katy Clark

Labour MP for North Ayrshire & Arran
Chair of the CWU Group of MPs

We have to stop the Royal Mail sell off. Privatisation is a real threat to the universal service which provides a six days a week at the same price, regardless of location. And to the post office network.

Companies other than Royal Mail are now being allowed to deliver the mail. TNT are cherry picking and delivering in profitable areas by undercutting Royal Mail staff's wages, terms and conditions with lower service standards for customers. In London TNT use zero-hours contracts with workers on £7.10 per hour (£1.45 less than the living wage)who "hustle" for work every day as the company over hire staff meaning that each day workers are sent

home with no work. And of course as these companies move into the most profitable areas Royal Mail will no longer be able to use the profits they make in areas such as London to cross subsidise to support services in more loss making areas. A privatised Royal Mail will be under huge pressure to cut staff conditions, increase prices and reduce the services they provide to compete with such companies. And to cut services to customers.

Labour have vigorously opposed privatisation. Everything we do and say now will be under scrutiny as private investors take a view on whether to purchasing shares once they are finally floated on the stock exchange. I still believe it is possible to stop this privatisation. Let's do everything we can at this Conference to make sure that Royal Mail stays in public hands.

CLPD
**Campaign for
Labour Party
Democracy**

Paul Kenny: defend the link; be proud of the link!



These are extracts from Paul Kenny's speech to conference on Monday.

"It is a pleasure of speaking today as Chair of TULO, representing the fourteen affiliated trade unions with a collective voice of millions of working people and their families.

The trade union affiliates [...] think the real debate this week is about jobs, homes, living standards, employment rights NOT irrelevant navel gazing about internal party structures which frankly the British public do not give a fig about.

The desire to expand Party membership is a shared one but, let nobody be under any illusion that **as collective organisations the removal or sale of our collective voice is not on the agenda.**

We are proud of who we are and what we have achieved by way of social justice.

We are certainly not going to accept any advice on democracy and transparency from the people who brought us the cash for honours scandals or whose activities are funded by cash from wealthy outsiders who refuse to give to the Party but prefer to lay cuckoos in CLP nests.

We can expand ad infinitum, the number of people we bring into the tent. But, if what they say is ignored as has been the case in the past, in favour of dinner party babble, then ... why bother?

Be assured the collective voices of millions of working people and their families, and 100 years of shared history, will not be washed away or sold for an electoral gimmick.

The next few weeks will determine whether we make or break the collective link. Now let us get on with the real business of winning back millions of voters to ensure we bring the hope and social justice the British people deserve."

Say no to lobbying!

The Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Bill sounds innocent enough. Who isn't against greater transparency surrounding the activities of professional lobbyists and their influence on Government policy?

However, this Bill offers nothing of the sort. Even the lobbyists themselves say that the Bill is "likely to reduce, rather than enhance, the amount of transparency currently available to the public around lobbying in the UK."

The real objective of the Bill is to silence opposition to government policies and prevent ordinary people campaigning on issues that matter to them. This Bill affects non-party campaigners, such as charities, pressure groups and trade unions.

The definition of election campaigning has been broadened to include the sort of work that these

by Steve
Murphy
General
Secretary of
UCATT



groups carry out on a day-to-day basis, such as press work, holding demonstrations, publishing web sites and blogs. This combined with huge reductions in the amount that these groups can spend, means that for 12 months before a general election, many groups will effectively be gagged.

The Bill also attacks trade union autonomy and forces them to hand over their membership lists to a third party for auditing, potentially in breach of the right to privacy and freedom of association under the European Convention of Human Rights.

Please support the composite!

My first time at Conference by a CLP youth delegate

It did not start too well. Following our regional delegates get-together we were escorted upstairs to near the conference hall and then left to our own devices. Eventually we found our seats. Then things improved. Paul Kenny came across as the most passionate and committed to building our party by retaining the link. He got his deserved standing ovation. Clearly all the union delegates are enthusiastic for Labour. Later in the afternoon, it was disappointing to be told that we will not be discussing 4 contemporary motion subjects from the unions plus 4 from the CLPs. Instead we will have 4 from the unions and two subjects from CLPs. Surely it must be possible to devise a voting system where we get 4 from each, giving the grassroots more of a say.

Alec Turner

A free press?

Campaign Briefing is produced by volunteers. When you see us tomorrow (and Wednesday) with buckets in hand, please be generous. *Campaign Briefing* will have a cover price of £2 for the week.



'End all machine politics, including for leadership supported parliamentary candidates and for appointments to the Lords.'

Dave Anderson MP, in the debate on the Collins Interim Report.

CLPD: Conference Review & Assessment of the Week
Keith Ewing, Bryan Gould, Billy Hayes, Kate Osamor, Christine Shawcroft, Mark Seddon, Salma Yaqoob
6pm, Tuesday, 24 Sept.
Royal Albion Hotel, Brighton

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