

Annual Conference 2018 WEDNESDAY 26.09.18

A free press?

Yellow Pages is produced by volunteers who are out today with our collecting buckets. Please be generous. £3 Yellow Pages has a cover price of £3 for the week.

for the week

Now take the fight to the Tories!

This year's Conference has seen a phenomenal energy - both on conference floor and on the fringe – for democratising our Party; for international peace and justice; for ending austerity and the devastating impact it has on communities.

Our Shadow Cabinet has set out a range of policies, many based on longstanding views of members and trade unions, that demonstrate that Labour is a government in waiting. But to elect the most left wing Prime Minister in British history we will face continuous smears and distortions.

The job of grassroots members

is first to continue to defend against the relentless Jeremy attacks from the hostile media, our political opponents and - sadly from some who claim to be on our

Second, we must be prepared for a General Election at any time. This means working hard to maintain and grow membership, to make further progress in next year's local elections and to continually be involved in community organising, particularly through the Party's new initiatives in this area. A democratic socialist Labour government cannot come soon enough!

Democracy Review reviewed

This week's Conference has made decisions to improve the Party's functioning, particularly in areas that most suffer from a lack of democracy. But we still have some way to go before we have the democratic Party delegates at this Conference want and need.

- •CLPs' powers to hold their MPs to account have been strengthened. Trigger ballots in future will be counted separately for party branches and affiliates, plus the threshold has changed - an important step forward for party democ-
- •The abolition of the one year delay for CLP and affiliate rule

changes, removal of "contemporary" criteria for motions with an increase of those timetabled for discussion at annual conference, plus improvements to members' rights and local, regional and equalities structures are additional changes.

• The NEC has committed to reviewing the areas of local government and policy making, with the aim of reporting to next year's Conference.

As was evident from the votes cast, most CLPs are seeking further improvements to the rules covering the selection of Westminster candidates and they still want a democratic choice in Labour Leadership elections. On the latter issue the concern is that maintaining the MPs/MEPs 10% threshold allows a veto that can deny party members and registered affiliates the right to vote for a left candidate.

The Campaign for Labour Party Democracy (CLPD) will keep up the pressure on these vital issues.

NHS: support reference back!

Today delegates will be moving reference back on the National Policy Forum Report on Health and Social Care. The NHS is in crisis. Privatisation and under-funding are having a devastating impact. The Report needs to be much clearer in its opposition to the Five Year Forward Plan and the need to support the NHS Reinstatement Bill. Please fully support the delegates moving reference back.

Youth get a say in **Annual Conference**

CLPD Youth had a huge victory with its submission to the Democracy Review for an annual youth conference able to send policy motions and rule changes to national conference. This was approved by delegates on Sunday.

There was a fantastic turn out at the CLPDY social on Monday evening from lots of new members keen to transform Young Labour for our 110,000 young members.

•Join for £3; clpdyouth@gmail.com. @CLPD_Youth / CLPD Youth



Spending on welfare benefits for Britain's poorest families will have shrunk by nearly a quarter after a decade of austerity. By 2021, £37 billion less will be spent on working-age social security compared with 2010, despite rising prices and living costs, according to estimates.

House of Commons Library



At last! Conference has standing orders!

An historic step was taken in passing a rule change to have standing orders for Labour Party Conference.

The new rule, from Islington North and South Derbyshire, outlines the principles for standing orders that will enable enhanced democracy and inclusiveness at conference.

The NEC will now have to draw up standing orders that include procedures for regulating all aspects of debate at conference, from the formulation of the conference timetable through to how delegates vote on issues.

Ben Hayes, moving the rule change, said the intention is to make it crystal clear to all participants how Conference works, and how delegates should participate in debates so that the conference decision making process is made as democratic and inclusive as possible.

We now look forward to our NEC implementing this rule change so that democracy can be enhanced at next year's conference.

Cllr Gary Heather Islington North CLP

CLPD – the place to be!

CLPD's fringes were the place to be for any delegate who wanted to get to grips with the big issues on the Conference agenda. And for discussing how to take forward Jeremy Corbyn's progressive agenda for Britain.

The first fringe on Saturday evening was kicked off by some amazing live music and a very warm welcome to Liverpool from local MP Margaret Greenwood. Seema Chandwani from the

Conference Arrangements
Committee gave an illuminating
Briefing For Delegates. We were
joined by our Shadow Home
Secretary Diane Abbott MP as
well as trade union leaders Matt
Wrack and Dave Ward.

Last night CLPD's Review of Conference saw an all women platform, including members of Labour's NEC, NCC and NPF, alongside Labour Women Leading.

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.

Stand With Corbyn - Unite to End Tory Austerity

27th October
Student Central (ULU), London
Speakers include: Diane Abbott
MP // Jon Trickett MP // Richard
Burgon MP // Maya Goodfellow,
writer & commentator //
Organised by Labour Assembly
Against Austerity. Supported by
Unite, the FBU and ASLEF
Register at bit.ly/LAAA2018

Re-launch of Tribune

It was fitting that *Tribune* had its launch during Labour's conference. Jon Trickett MP reminded delegates of the magazine's history. It was founded in 1937 to help rebuild the party still suffering a huge loss of support after Ramsay McDonald's treachery. It also backed an anti-fascist alliance and supported the fight against Franco in the Spanish Civil War. Tribune, Jon said, could play a similar role today, as the world sees once again, a rise in right-wing politics.

Adrian Weir, on behalf of Unite, spoke of the union's support for the labour movement press. "Unite is delighted to be at the forefront of the new-style, compelling Tribune" that will be essential reading for the left as it takes part in the battle of ideas.

Maria Fyfe

Hundreds packed out the first rally of the Socialist Campaign Group of Labour MPs in several years. Energised and enthusiastic, chaired by Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP, it was great to see the strength and commitment of Jeremy Corbyn's committed supporters in Parliament including Diane Abbott, John McDonnell, Dan Carden, Maragaret Greenwood, Richard Burgon, Chris Williamson, Emma Dent Coad, Becky Long-Bailey and Karen Lee.

Yellow Pages is produced as a service to delegates by CLPD.

