

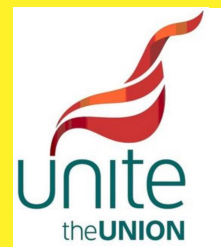
# YELLOW PAGES

Annual Conference 2021 **SATURDAY 25.09.21**

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## Setting an agenda for Labour

### Priorities Ballot: how to vote

Many good motions have been submitted to this year's Conference. The unions have already agreed the 10 subjects they will prioritise (see box, right) so these issues will be discussed by Conference.

CLPD recommends that CLPs vote to prioritise the 10 subjects in the box to the right. These 10, if debated alongside the unions' 10 subjects, would send a clear message that Conference wants the Party to turn outwards, oppose the Tories and propose genuine solutions to the huge problems voters are struggling with.

Conference should set a positive agenda that tries to reverse the Party's past year of setbacks (our decline in opinion polls, loss of seats at May's local elections and lost votes in the three recent parliamentary by-elections). All these have happened since the leadership turned its focus inwards.

Getting these subjects on the agenda will help signal that Conference wants the Party to change course.

This year's Conference should not prioritise discussing the electoral system. It would be far better to focus debate on an appealing platform that aims to solve the problems being inflicted on the population by the Tory government.

#### CLP Priorities

**CLPs are recommended to vote for these subjects.**

Housing  
Coronavirus  
The NHS  
Women's Health  
Immigration and Asylum Policy  
Black Lives Matter  
Right to Food  
Israel and Palestine  
Drug Reform  
The Working Week

#### Trade union priorities

**The trade unions will be backing these topics, which means they will be debated.**

**CLPs should NOT vote for these subjects.**

Post covid industrial strategy  
Public services  
Green new deal  
High st and business and recovery  
Mental health in the workplace  
Mineworkers pension scheme  
Public ownership  
Social care  
End fire and rehire and workers rights  
Community wealth building

Daily briefing for Conference  
delegates published by:



### Vote for the Rule Change – Reinstate Jeremy!

Today delegates will have the opportunity to support the "PLP Report to Conference" rule change from several CLPs that will not only introduce some accountability to the Parliamentary Labour Party (PLP) but would give Conference the much-needed opportunity to restore the Labour Whip to Jeremy Corbyn MP.

There has been scurrilous scare-mongering regarding this rule change, and we can expect to see more lies on Conference floor today. This rule change **WILL NOT** allow Conference to interfere with **PARTY** disciplinary matters or allegations of sexual harassment. This claim is simply not true.

The rule change asks the Chief Whip to report to Conference on PLP disciplinary matters and allows Conference delegates the right to review this political disciplinary action if they wish to do so.

When Annual Conference last met, Jeremy Corbyn MP was our Leader. He drew hundreds of thousands of people, especially young people, into our Party and in 2017 he achieved our best election advance in a generation. An MP who is a member of the Labour Party should by rights be a Labour MP.

Delegates must vote to reverse the unjust and outrageously prolonged removal of the Whip so we can start to rebuild a Party that can win a General Election.

#### National Constitutional Committee (NCC) CLP Section

Vote for:

Rheian Davies  
Anna Dyer  
Annabelle Harle  
Emine Ibrahim

## Stop the power grab!

Today Conference will be presented with a mixed bag of NEC rule changes. At best they represent welcome progress in our Equalities Structures (building on the Democracy Review) and tidy up rules on MEPs and the Welsh Parliament. At their worst, they transfer power from members/Conference to the NEC and/or the General Secretary. They also entrench factionalism: for example, one rule change under "Party Meetings" imposes an "approved list" of organisations to which CLPs can affiliate – probably aiming at outlawing groups such as Jewish Voice for Labour and Jeremy's Peace and Justice Project.

It is outrageous to ask delegates to vote on so many rule changes without them, much less their CLPs, having a chance to discuss them.

- Support packages on: National Equalities Structures, National Student Structures, Updates to Language.
- Reject packages on: Membership Rules, Party Democracy, Party Meetings, Local Government.

### Other Rule Change Recommendations

#### ●CLP proposals:

Vote for STV for Councillor and PLP sections of the NEC (Welwyn Hatfield CLP & others)

Vote for Members to have the right to freedom of opinion and expression (Dulwich and West Norwood CLP)

#### ●NEC proposals:

Vote against changes to the disciplinary processes as the proposed changes will NOT introduce an independent process. (When *Yellow Pages* went to print it was unclear when these rule changes are tabled for discussion.)

## Delegates excluded from Conference

We are aware of at least 20 CLPs – and it's likely there are many more – who have had delegates excluded from Conference at the last minute. Some delegates were already on their way when they heard.

The reasons given for the exclusions seem to be a mixture of trumped up charges and auto-exclusions as a result of the recent decision to proscribe some left organisations and then apply that decision retrospectively (and well beyond what the NEC agreed).

This shows a callous disregard for members' mental health and finances – with many already on their way, having taken time off work and having arranged to cover caring responsibilities. It will disenfranchise some CLPs entirely and brings into question the democratic credibility of Conference, particularly alongside some of the delegate selection stitch-ups.

It demonstrates that the leadership is hell-bent on marginalising party members, with disgraceful disrespect for the hours activists put in fighting for Labour values and Labour election victories. If your CLP is affected, please contact your NEC CLP reps.

## NEC bypassed on major rule changes

The NEC met on Friday evening for a surprisingly short meeting. We were expecting to discuss some of Keir Starmer's hastily assembled ideas for the party rulebook, including:

- how Labour will elect its next leader;
- the threshold for triggering a leadership challenge to a sitting Labour leader;
- changes to the way MPs are re-selected;
- and the reduction of the number of policy motions for delegates to discuss at Conference.

That's a strange set of priorities for a leader to dream up on the eve of his first conference! Instead the NEC only dis-

**By Gemma Bolton,  
NEC member; CLPD Co-Chair**

cussed some rule changes related to accessibility in the Party for disabled members.

While it has been reported in Labourlist that Starmer's meeting with trade union colleagues about his ideas was a "car-crash", the rule changes could still come to Conference today or tomorrow. If they do, delegates should oppose all four rule changes as they would represent an unprecedented attack on members' rights and democracy in our Party.

## Don't endorse Evans as General Secretary

Today delegates should have the opportunity to endorse, or not, David Evans as General Secretary (GS) of the Labour Party.

Sadly David's time as GS since Summer 2020 has been an unmitigated disaster. First came the crackdown on free speech, with CLPs prevented from discussing important issues, and with the subsequent suspension of key activists. This has been followed by some horrendous abuses of the Party's disciplinary processes, including the proscription of left organisations with the promise of more to follow and, most recently, the exclusion of multiple left delegates – in some cases with delegates already on their way to Conference. Delegates may wish also to consider:

- the non-publication of the Forde report, over a year after the deadline set by the NEC;
- the large vote by staff unions against organisational restructuring;
- the disbandment of the Community Organising Unit;

- and the loss of 100,000+ members.

Finally, we have the seemingly purposeful meltdown of Labour's electoral coalition and our appeal to young voters.

The NEC must be asked to think again. If the Election of the General Secretary does not appear as an item on the agenda in the CAC report it may be necessary for delegates to move reference back to the Conference Agenda part of the CAC report.

- Supported any reference back.

●Vote AGAINST the endorsement of David Evans.

- Be ready to call for a **CARD VOTE**.



●Lord Adonis was unimpressed with Sir Keir's essay. "When you haven't got anything new to say, it's best not to say it in 14,000 words."

●Senior US Official admits that the so-called "War on Terror" in Afghanistan was a total failure.

### CLPD Conference Rally "For a transformative Labour Government and democratic Party!"

Saturday 25th September, 6pm

Queen's Hotel Brighton,

1-3 King's Road, BN1 1NS

Entry: £3, £1 concessions

Speakers include:

Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP,

Richard Burgon MP,

Rachel Hopkins MP,

Mick Antoniw MS,

Steve Turner (Unite),

Seema Chandwani (CAC),

Yasmine Dar (NEC),

Jake Rubin (CLPD Asst Secretary)

Chair: Lizzy Ali

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