

Labour International Executive Committee (LIEC)

Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) officer Job role

Who are we?

Labour International (LI) is the constituency party for UK Labour Party members living abroad.

Labour International (LI) has seen considerable changes in the last 5 years: a massive increase of membership from 700 to over 3,000 members and an increase of branches from 7 to 25 branches. The structure of LIEC has also changed from a small executive of 6 members to one of 14 members and also co-opted non-voting members. This has resulted in an explosion of member and branch activism. With the Hostile Environment raging at present, and the accompanying increase in racisms, never has the role of the BAME officer been so important.

The LIEC is the administrative body of LIEC. The officers act in a voluntary capacity and are elected by LI members every two years. The principle role of the LIEC is to ensure that LI runs smoothly and effectively.

We also have a delegate-based General Committee (GC) that is responsible for determining LI policy.

What will be your role?

This is a key volunteer role and offers an opportunity to be at centre stage of transforming LI into an active and connected CLP, campaigning to promote Labour Party policies and a Labour Party victory in General Elections.

As LI BAME Officer, you will be the key representative of BAME members within LI, working to ensure that BAME members are fully involved in the work of LI. You will take a leading role in making sure that the campaigning work of LI reaches out and engages with Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority voters. This work is especially important given the rise in xenophobia, racism and anti-Semitism in the UK and worldwide.

Your main aims are:

- Contributing to LI becoming an outward looking CLP by ensuring that LI members are up-to-date with LI and LP business, so that they can work together for a Labour Victory
- Making sure that the voices of BAME members are heard within LI
- Building a party for BAME members – this means working to make sure that BAME members in LI are supported, involved and engaged
- Campaigning with BAME members – playing a leading role in making sure that LI campaigns win BAME votes
- Informing LIEC of any instances of xenophobia, racism or anti-semitism within the Labour Party.
- Together with LI equality officers, taking steps to ensure that young, women,

- BAME, LGBT and disabled members are adequately represented and supported.
- With the LIEC, working to ensure that members of LI are not subjected to harassment or abuse within LI and the LP, including at branch and group meetings and online.
- Ensuring that LI members are aware of the [guidelines and code of conduct](#).

Some ideas of what your role could include:

Working with other LIEC officers, and talking to LI members, you can decide the priorities of how this role should be developed and what is needed for the smooth running of LI. The role is varied and can make a real difference to LI - not just to BAME members but in terms of how the whole of LI and the Labour Party operates. At the heart of all your activity should be the aims of building an inclusive party for BAME members and building campaigns with BAME communities in mind – playing a leading role in making sure that LI campaigns to win BAME votes.

- Acting as a general point of contact for BAME, including welcoming new BAME members to LI.
- Taking the lead in developing and supporting the LI BAME forum and FB group.
- Bringing BAME members together to empower each other and gain the knowledge and skills they need get involved, involving BAME members in LI and Labour Party activities, working to make meetings and activities relevant and accessible to BAME members.
- Working to recruit more BAME members into the Labour party and helping to make sure that they make the jump from member to activist.
- Reporting to LIEC, the AGM and members on your activities and campaigns.
- Actively encouraging BAME members to contribute to stand for election to LIEC.
- Reaching out to BAME members through local campaigns and working with BAME organisations to highlight issues, engage ethnic minority voters, and get a better deal for BAME people.
- Acting as a LI link to BAME Labour, the party's national affiliate representing BAME party members.
- Working to ensure that BAME members of LI are not subjected to harassment within LI and the LP as a whole, including at branch and group meetings and online. Set up a BAME forum in LI to support you in your work.
- Working with the LIEC education, training and information officer to encourage BAME members to become more involved in LI and in community activity.
- Enhancing the involvement of LI in Black History Month and working closely with the the LI Migrants Rights campaign to highlight BAME issues, including the effects of Brexit and the Hostile Environment.
- Encouraging BAME members in LI to attend the Labour Party national conference.
- Encouraging LI to keep an accurate self-defining record of the numbers of BAME members.

It could also include:

- Encouraging members to attend the LP national conference.
- Running events for BAME members, including training, policy development and social events and online meetings.
- Encouraging BAME members to support campaigns that affects BAME communities in their local area

- Ensuring that LI contributes to Black History Month and other similar campaigns
- Enhancing the involvement of LI in Black History Month and working closely with the LI Migrants Rights campaign to highlight BAME issues including the effects of Brexit, the Hostile Environment and immigration policies.
- Writing articles for the LI newsletter.

For more information about your role visit: <https://labour.org.uk/activist-hub/local-party-resources/local-party-guides/local-roleholder-descriptions/bame-officer/>

What skills/knowledge should you have?

- You will need regular personal access to the internet.
- Good communication skills.
- Able to use, or are willing to learn how to use LI communication tools such as email, word documents, Slack and social media.
- Knowledge of issues that affect BAME in the Labour Party and in communities.
- A working knowledge of the party organisation at branch, CLP and national level, and the LP and LI Rules and Standing Orders
- You will need to be organised and are able to prioritise work effectively.
- Ability to represent LI to the Labour Party centrally and secure support for LI initiatives.
- Able to work collaboratively as part of a team including information sharing.

What you can bring to the job

- A willingness to learn from others and also take the initiative
- An ability to change, adapt and work proactively.
- The ability to motivate and persuade
- The ability to delegate and develop and create a team.
- Have enthusiasm and commitment
- Friendly and approachable
- Organised
- Willing to work as part of a team
- Committed to work hard to ensure that BAME members have a real voice within LI.

Lines of Communication

You will be a voting member of the Labour International Executive Committee (LIEC) and will work closely with the LIEC and General Committee. You will also work alongside volunteer LI members, making sure you work together as a team.

How much time will all this take?

You will need to be available at weekends to attend LIEC, GC and some All Members Meeting meetings.

You are likely to be extra busy during local and general election times.

How to apply

Elections for all LIEC roles take place in odd-numbered years. By-elections may be held at other times if there are vacancies.

Labour international members are notified when nominations are open, and provided with instructions and a nominations form to fill in and submit.

To apply as a candidate you need to write a personal statement of up to 200 words stating the skills you can bring and pointing out how you would develop this role.

You also need to be nominated by two other LI members or one branch.

This post is open to job share.

Useful links:

Labour International website <https://www.labourinternational.net/>

GLU - legal_queries@labour.org.uk

Rulebook - <https://labour.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/rulebook-2020.pdf>

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