

## **LI policy – Motions passed (traceable)**

**2018**

**NB. No GC structure in place for much of 2018. Only 20% of members in branches**

**Apr**

### **1. Democracy in E Europe**

We, members of Labour International in Hungary and Poland, ask the LICC to highlight to the NEC a request that the Labour Party:

- Raise the fact that the Tory government is silent about Hungary and Poland's departure from democratic and liberal norms, the ongoing threats to the independence of the judiciary and civil society in both countries, and the ongoing electoral manipulation in Hungary, as highlighted by electoral observers in Hungary in 2014.
- To highlight that this silence is damaging to Britain's credibility when raising human rights violations in other countries.
- To commit a Labour government to restoring the BBC Hungarian Service and BBC Polish Service, and to have a strategy to achieve country-wide broadcasting of these.
- To fully support Labour International members in preparing a full and wide-ranging position paper on the situation in Poland and Hungary which places these developments in a European context, and to launch this paper with an associated event in Parliament.

**Jul**

### **2. LI finances**

That Paul Harrington, Lorraine Hardy, Jenny Semahimbo and Rowan Shaw be authorised signatories on all bank accounts; instructions and changes will be given in line with the mandate; we are aware that Unity Trust Bank may not make enquiries before acting on instructions given by an authorised signatory; we will notify Unity Trust Bank of any changes to the organisation in writing." It was further agreed "that Dalvir Singh be removed as key contact and Treasurer AFTER Unity have actioned the change of key contact and Treasurer to Paul Harrington."

Forwarded from AMM:

### **3. Data protection breach**

This CLP notes with alarm the unauthorised disclosure by members unknown of motions proposed for discussion at the AMM scheduled for the 15th of July 2018 to the Twitter account @LIProgressives.

This CLP instructs the Executive to carry out an investigation into who was responsible for this disclosure for a possible breach of Data Protection requirements, breach of official Party guidelines

for social media, and actions deliberately attempting to bring the CLP into disrepute.

The CLP also instructs the Executive to instigate any disciplinary processes it sees fit against any member(s) found to be responsible for this action."

#### **4. Social media code of conduct**

"This CLP also recommends that all members are reminded of UK Labour's guidelines on the use of social media and particularly the use of abusive language, harassment and trolling towards other members including Labour MPs whose views we don't agree with. It is perfectly possible to express robust criticism towards those we disagree with without resorting to personal abuse."

#### *Motion submitted to Womens Conference*

#### **5. Period poverty**

Conference notes that:

Period poverty mainly affects women and girls living on low incomes, at or below the poverty line, and those who are homeless. Shrinking wages, benefits cuts and rising living costs have all contributed. The inability to afford adequate sanitary items has led to:

- Women and girls resorting to alternatives such as rags, socks, toilet paper, or severely limiting the daily use of tampons and pads;
- Women missing work- and career-development opportunities;
- Girls missing school resulting in around 145 days a year of lost education;
- Occasions where women and girls have just had to bleed through their clothes.

Therefore, the Labour Party resolves to:

- To support existing efforts to combat this issue. In particular that at the very minimum the 5% VAT on sanitary products is abolished. If this is not allowed under current EU rules, the abolition to be replaced with an equivalent subsidy;
- Ensure that free menstrual products are provided for students who need them, including girls entitled to free school meals, and to be available at both school and non-school premises such as pharmacies (to allow for school holidays);
- Make free menstrual products (including maternity pads) available for the women in the immediate household of students entitled to free school meals;
- Ensure that grants are made available through local authorities and funded by the government, for independent social organisations to enable them to offer free or subsidised products (including maternity pads) to women and girls, including those who are homeless."

Dec (discussion about setting up GC's.)

## **6. Government provisions for British citizens in the event of a no deal**

This Labour Party Branch notes the growing concerns of British citizens living in the EU. These concerns include the limited advice given and provisions made by the British government for British citizens returning to the UK or remaining in their EU country in the event of a no deal Brexit. The government has shared advice for many sectors in the event of a no deal Brexit, but the situation of British citizens in the EU has not been addressed fully. With close to 1,000,000 British citizens living in the EU this is a concern for both the citizens and the country.

There are concerns that a no deal will effect British citizens rights to work, reside and access financial, social and health services in their current EU countries. There has been no provisions or guidance given to those that wish to remain living in the EU.

This government has not released any plans on how it will support the citizens returning to the UK. There is limited evidence for how UK health care services, housing, financial services will cope with the possible influx of returning British citizens. There is also the question of how these citizens will return and if the British government has any plans for people that cannot afford to return to the UK.

This Labour Party Branch believes that as HM opposition we should be holding the government to account on these matters and making progress in these areas in the possible event of a no deal. This Labour Party Branch resolves that the LICC should discuss these matters at the next possible CLP all members meeting and support this motion.

We call on the LICC to bring these concerns to the attention of the Shadow Brexit Secretary and the Shadow cabinet.

We ask them to question all relevant government departments on what provisions have been made for returning British citizens and citizens that wish to remain in the EU 27 in the event of a no deal Brexit.

Labour International MAD reports are right to Labour party leader, Jeremy Corbyn, and asking to raise these concerns with the Prime Minister during a session of Prime Minister's questions."

## **7. Brexit**

That this branch resolves to urge the Parliamentary Labour Party to vote against any proposals for an agreement on the terms of Brexit which do not fully respect the rights of British citizens in the EU 27 and EU citizens in the UK which they currently hold.

## **8. Fracking**

NW France branch of Labour International recognises the rights of citizens to free speech, to demonstrate and to protest the actions of local and national government in the UK. The branch is horrified by the recent imprisonment of people protesting the resumption of fracking in Lancashire and calls on Labour International to express support for them and any others that have been gaoled for protesting against Fracking.

## **9. LI Hon President**

NW France branch of Labour International recognises the advantage to be gained for Labour International by having a voice in Parliament, either through a Labour MP or Labour peer.

This has been achieved in the past by an Honorary President appointed by the LICC after discussion with the membership. The L.I.C.C. is instructed to seek rule changes to confirm and formalise the position of Honorary President of Labour International and establish an open method of selection and appointment for the position, including its renewal following each general election

## **2019**

## **10. GC delegates**

'The NW France branch of Labour International supports the appointment of delegates to LICC elected by established branches.'

## **11. Election of LICC officers**

'The NW France branch of Labour International request that the election of Officers of LICC take place in April 2019, and not be delayed until rule changes to LICC are approved by the NEC. If the NEC approves rule changes that require another election, then an extraordinary general meeting of LICC should be called to arrange fresh elections.' Amendment proposed by Dick Smith, seconded by Bb Adcock and passed unanimously.

## **12. Elderly members officer**

The NW France branch of Labour International demand that a post in LICC be created to represent members over 60, in the same way that there is a Women's Officer, Youth Officer, LGBT Officer etc.'

## **13. Arms exports**

### **LISEAC notes:**

1. Labour's 2019 manifesto commitment to "conduct a root and branch reform of our arms exports regime so ministers can never again turn a blind eye to British-made weapons being used to target innocent civilians."
2. The comment by Janes military publisher that "The defence market worldwide is worth a trillion dollars annually. The energy and environmental market is worth at least eight times this amount. The former is set to contract... the latter is set to expand exponentially, especially in the renewable arena."
3. Increasing problems such as food security caused by climate change will not be solved through military control which will only exacerbate conflict.

### **LISEAC believes:**

1. The concept of security should be reconsidered and resources allocated appropriately.
2. **Public funds which support the arms trade should instead support new jobs in renewable energy and low carbon technologies.**
3. There are enough potential jobs in Labour's Green Industrial Revolution to encompass a just transition for workers in both the arms and fossil fuel industries.

### **LISEAC urges the PLP to press the following:**

1. To support the creation of a Shadow Defence Diversification Agency (DDA)
2. To argue that the Committee on Arms Export Controls (CAEC) become a full Select Committee with members not also on other committees, with an elected and paid chair and proper staffing.
3. Work towards the closure of the Defence and Security Organisation.

**Jul**

#### **14. Digital Democracy and the Need For Voter Participation**

Pat Byrne explained this CEE (Central and Eastern Europe) motion is about trying to improve the electoral system to the current archaic system towards a digital system. Postal voting illustrates the inadequacies of the current system.

#### **15. Support For The Leadership of Jeremy Corbyn**

This CLP notes the dire attacks, by the Tory government, on living standards and the reversal of many social advances achieved in the past 70 years.

We can expect that even more extreme attacks will be launched by the more right wing Tory Prime Minister following Theresa May

Given the danger of these attacks, this CLP considers it vital to fully support the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn, because this leadership will ensure that Labour seriously fights the forthcoming Tory attacks.

We believe Labour's victory in the Peterborough by-election was a vindication of Jeremy Corbyn's approach that our focus must always be on improving people's lives.

We also note the 9.6 per cent increase in our general election vote."

**Sept**

#### **16. Emergency motion on Kashmir**

This CLP condemns the recent actions of the Indian Government to revoke article 370 of the Indian Constitution and thereby ending the special status of the Indian Occupied Kashmir.

This action by the Modi Government will not only raise tensions between two nuclear powers, India and Pakistan, but will also deny the protection afforded under this article to the citizens of Kashmir.

This CLP also notes with concerns the following:

- i) The addition of 180,000 extra troops to the region, which already has over 700,000 troops, and the reports of Human

Rights abuses and killings of Kashmiri civilians by the Indian troops.

- ii) The removal of access to communications with the outside world and the right to travel to and from the region. AND
- iii) The house arrest of all the political leaders and activists from the region.

This CLP therefore calls on the Labour Party to adopt the following actions:

- a) The Labour party commits to supporting the retention of article 370 of the Indian constitution until the United Nations resolutions adopted in 1947/8 are implemented.
- b) Confirms that Kashmir is a disputed territory and the Labour Party commits to supporting the Kashmiri peoples right of self determination, including the use of instruments of international law.
- c) Calls on the Indian Government to restore all communications to the region immediately and lift all travel bans.
- d) Demands an end to direct rule and the withdrawal of all troops from the region.
- e) Demands an end to all human Rights abuses, killings of civilians and immediate access to international observers and human rights organisations free access to the region.
- f) Urges India to agree to international mediation bring about peace and prosperity to the region.

The GC ratified the action of officers in sending this motion to the National Executive Committee

## **17. Emergency Motion Proroguing**

- "As workers and trade union activists, we oppose Boris Johnson's attempted coup and sabotage of democracy.
- A no deal Brexit will wreck working-class living standards and trash migrants' rights. For an Etonian millionaire, elected by only a tiny handful of Tory activists,
- to force this through by asking our unelected head of state to suspend Parliament is an affront to democracy and a lurch towards authoritarian nationalism.
- Despite legal restrictions, we believe our unions, the Labour Party, and the whole working-class movement must urgently mobilise direct action, including protests, strikes, and occupations, in opposition to this development. We commit to arguing for this within our unions and call upon the

Labour Party NEC to support all local, trade union and community actions to this end.

- We call on the National Executive Committee to do its utmost to organize resistance."

## **18. Urgent Motion on Middle East (Iran)**

Emergency Motion on Middle East (Iran) from LI Australasia

"This branch notes the escalation of hostilities in the Middle East. In particular, it condemns the action of the Australian, United Kingdom and United States governments in sending warships to the Strait of Hormuz.

Branch calls on our Constituency Labour Party to join us in this condemnation and urges the Labour Party at Parliamentary level to press for diplomatic solutions, learning from past mistakes."

## **19. VOTES FOR THE MANY**

Conference notes that there remain residents of the UK and UK citizens abroad who do not have a say in how they are governed because they do not have the right to vote in the UK. They have no MP to represent them.

Conference commends Labour on its proud history of helping to make the UK a more inclusive society:

- a) In 1928 rising Labour influence helped the then Government to pass the Representation of the People Act' giving women the same voting rights as men.
- b) Today Labour prides itself as, "For the Many not the Few ".

Conference instructs that the next Labour Party Manifesto will not tolerate the restricting of rights nor arguments about the cost of extending rights but will continue to increase the franchise by giving the right to vote to:

1. Young people 16 years of age or above
2. Any non-UK citizen resident in the UK for 5 or more years
3. UK citizens who have lived abroad for more than 15 years
4. Most categories of prisoners



## **20. Labour Immigration Policy**

### **Labour's Immigration Policy: For Free Movement, Equality and Solidarity**

Confronted with attacks on migrants – from the racist Hostile Environment to the Conservatives' Immigration Bill that plans to end free movement and strip the rights of working-class migrants – we stand for solidarity, equality and freedom.

Scapegoating, ending free movement and attacking migrants' rights are attacks on all workers. They make migrant workers more precarious and vulnerable to hyper-exploitation, pressing down wages and conditions for everyone. They divide us, making it harder to unionise and push back.

Free movement, equality and rights for migrants, are socialist values and benefit us all.

Labour can offer real solutions to the problems racists feed on. Public funding for good jobs, homes, services and social security for everyone; scrapping anti-union laws to support workers organising and driving up wages and conditions. Migrant workers are already central to trade union campaigns beating low pay and exploitation.

The UK and EU should welcome migration across Europe and from beyond. We must oppose the Tories' immigration legislation and any curbing of existing free movement rights.

In government, Labour will:

- maintain and extend free movement of people as a workers' right, opposing immigration systems based on incomes, migrants' utility to big business, and number caps/targets;
- ensure unconditional right to family reunion;
- close all detention centres;
- extend equal rights to vote to all UK residents;
- end "no recourse to public funds" policies;
- scrap all Hostile Environment measures, use of landlords and public service providers as border guards, and restrictions on migrants' NHS access

**Oct**

## **21. Ongoing Crisis in the Amazon**

This Branch notes the following:

- The Amazon forest is a crucial global carbon sink that must be maintained in order to avert climate catastrophe. The forest also plays a critical role in the water cycle of the Americas. 60% of the Amazon is on Brazilian territory.
- The Amazon is comprised of the customary land of several hundred distinct indigenous groups pre-dating the nation state of Brazil. According to international law, these groups have the right to determine how their land is used and developed.
- Jair Bolsonaro, supported by the powerful agribusiness lobby in Brazil, came to power on an explicitly pro-deforestation platform, promising to open up indigenous lands to agribusiness, mining and other corporate interests. The rate of deforestation has increased markedly since his election and forest fires have increased by 84% compared to the same period last year. Furthermore, indigenous rights are being systematically dismantled in order to illegally take their lands for agribusiness and other forms of extractive development.
- Increased fires have also been recorded in the Bolivian Amazon. This is linked to the opening up of forest for cattle farming and threatens the existence of tribes living in voluntary isolation.
- The still-to-be-ratified EU-Mercasur trade agreement, that the UK is a party to, includes provisions for increasing the availability of South American beef, a commodity strongly linked with Amazonian deforestation.
- The UK is a signatory of the New York Declaration on Forests and has therefore agreed to help achieve the Declaration's goals: to halve the rate of loss of natural forests globally by 2020, ending it completely by 2030; help the private-sector eliminate deforestation from agricultural commodities by no later than 2020; and strengthen forest governance, transparency and the rule of law, while also empowering communities and recognising the rights of indigenous peoples, especially those pertaining to their lands and resources.

This Branch believes that:

- The ongoing destruction of the Amazon, by exacerbating climate change, threatens the continued existence of human life on

earth, violates the rights of indigenous peoples, and can be viewed as a crime against humanity.

- Indigenous peoples are at the forefront of global struggles to save our planet from climate catastrophe; we owe them our solidarity.
- The Labour Party's policies on trade, investment and international development must be coherent with the Party's commitments on climate change and upholding human rights standards.
- Labour Party members should boycott products and commodities dependent on natural forest destruction wherever possible.

This Branch resolves that the National Executive Committee should bring the following points to the National Policy Forum:

- The Labour Party should formally condemn the dangerous and immoral destruction of the Amazon forest and the associated erosion of indigenous peoples' human rights.
- The Party must embrace a Green New Deal Platform that puts ecological, climate and human rights protections at the heart of foreign policy and trade relations.
- The Party should introduce environmental and human rights standards into its trade relations policies, making trading agreements contingent on ecological and human rights commitments.
- The Party should publicly call for the UK government to block trade deals, such as the current EU-Mercosur trade agreement involving Brazil and Bolivia, unless such standards are incorporated and abided by.
- The Party should call for a freeze on public investment in or loans to activities that have a significant deforestation risk or undermine human rights.
- The Party should build links with indigenous groups, people's movements, trade unions and other actors who are resisting forest destruction.

## **22. Sex work**

### **This branch notes that:**

- The Global revenue from sex work is estimated to be around £145 billion a year and involves around 40-42 million people worldwide, 75% of whom are between 13 and 25 years old, and who are mostly but not exclusively women and girls.
- Sex trafficking is one type of human trafficking that also includes labour exploitation, domestic servitude, forced marriage, forced criminality and organ harvesting. In all instances traffickers financially benefit from the misery of victim.
- Most people working in sex work are migrants, as are most of the victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation.

### **This branch believes that:**

- There is a relationship between the liberalisation of sex work and increasing numbers of trafficking in human beings, and also between sex work, poverty and bad economic and employment situations. The calls for a regulatory approach to sex work ignores the effects of gender inequalities in society, ranging from the disadvantaged economic position of women, in particular the higher female poverty rates, the discrimination of women in the labour market and high level of domestic and sexual violence against women in society as a whole.
- The regularisation of sex work gives a green light to traffickers and a danger that sex trafficking will become big business, with the most vulnerable and disadvantaged as victims.
- The concept of choice for entering sex work is usually a choice between sex work or poverty, homelessness or destitution. A choice that is not free is not really a choice in that the absence of alternatives is not a choice. The argument of choice is not used to justify any other systematic inequality.
- It is important to address all the factors that drive people into sex work including building a fairer and more equal society with a guaranteed minimum income for all, the elimination of the pay gap between women and men, better resources and support for parents and "looked after" children, an end to student fees and zero-hour contracts, and the tackling of all the other factors that trap people in poverty.

### **We call on the Labour party to:**

Develop and adopt policies around sex work that draws lessons from the Nordic Model approach to sex work, including the following processes:

- The decriminalisation of those who have been prosecuted for soliciting, including a repeal of laws that target sex workers, and the clearing of criminal records of any previous convictions for sex work offences.
- Increased resources to police human trafficking and modern slavery, including for the National Referral Mechanism in order to build an accurate intelligence picture that will lead to the criminal prosecution of traffickers, better protection for the victims of sex trafficking and increased access to Legal Aid and to the right to appeal for victims.
- Strengthening the right to remain in the UK for those trafficked for sex from outside the UK by placing more emphasis on the alleged crime against victims, rather than their immigration status. This will include having access to other means to remain such as residence permits, rather than via the asylum system, thus distinguishing victims of sex trafficking (who face danger in the UK) from asylum seekers (who face danger in their country of origin).
- Ensuring high-quality health, social care, education services for those in sex work/sex work, including targeted properly funded programmes that support those wanting to leave sex work.
- A holistic approach that includes a Public information campaign, Education programmes in schools, and training for police and others who work with sex workers.

General Election called and CLP's went into Purdah.

**2020**

**March**

## **23. Motion on Arms Trade**

### **LISEAC notes:**

1. Labour's 2019 manifesto commitment to "conduct a root and branch reform of our arms exports regime so ministers can never again turn a blind eye to British-made weapons being used to target innocent civilians."
2. The comment by Janes military publisher that "The defence market worldwide is worth a trillion dollars annually. The energy and environmental market is worth at least eight times this amount. The former is set to contract... the latter is set to expand exponentially, especially in the renewable arena."
3. Increasing problems such as food security caused by climate change will not be solved through military control which will only exacerbate conflict.

### **LISEAC believes:**

1. The concept of security should be reconsidered and resources allocated appropriately.
2. Public funds which support the arms trade should instead support new jobs in renewable energy and low carbon technologies.
3. There are enough potential jobs in Labour's Green Industrial Revolution to encompass a just transition for workers in both the arms and fossil fuel industries.

### **LISEAC urges the PLP to press the following:**

1. To support the creation of a Shadow Defence Diversification Agency (DDA)
2. To argue that the Committee on Arms Export Controls (CAEC) become a full Select Committee with members not also on other committees, with an elected and paid chair and proper staffing.
3. Work towards the closure of the Defence and Security Organisation

**Apr**

## **24. Covid**

"The UK is facing an unprecedented crisis in recent history as Covid 19 takes hold against a background of the austerity policies and cuts in all public healthcare and social services since 2010.

The lessons of Italy should be noted. They have 5,200 ICU beds compared to 4,100 critical care beds that encompass ICU beds in the UK. These UK beds operate at +90% occupancy. Italian doctors are calling for 4000 more beds.

The UK Tory government has proved it has no commitment to the health and well-being of working people. The 2020 budget is aimed at supporting profit over people.

This branch supports the call of the GMB London Branch for the government to requisition private hospitals to save lives through a planned approach to health services.

However, we have no confidence that the Tory government will turn away from the " Shock Doctrine" of seeing crisis as the opportunity for profiteering.

We therefore call on the Labour Shadow Cabinet to:

- \* set up a crisis committee including union reps, CLP reps and science and health experts to create a plan of action based on nationalizing all health services and resources
- \* To support all workers threatened with loss of income or health safety through a Universal Basic Income
- \* To support and publicise this plan across all media and supply resources online for Labour members.
- \* To work for a co-ordinated international approach with our sister organisations.
- \* To pressure the government to continue parliamentary democracy through remote conferencing- this should not be an excuse to shut down parliamentary business and debate.
- \* To hold this government to account for its failure to support the UK people and to build a movement to remove them from office as soon as possible.

## **25. Emergency Motion on Coronavirus**

"This branch of Labour International calls on the Officers of LI to organise the holding of a Special General Committee meeting as soon as the Constitution allows. We believe that this should be followed by an All members Meeting for LI members to hear the latest update on the coronavirus crisis and to be able to express their views.

Labour International categorically rejects the British government's gradual step-by-step coronavirus policy which is at odds with the action being taken through the rest of the world. This policy is designed to isolate the elderly and vulnerable in their homes for many months while the virus passes through the rest of

the UK population. Not only is this wildly discriminatory, it has far too many loopholes.

Instead of the Conservative Government's high risk and perilous strategy we call on the Labour NEC and the Labour Parliamentary Party to learn from the experience of China, Taiwan and elsewhere, and adopt a much more decisive policy. In particular we call for:

- **Transparency:** immediately publish the infection statistics, projects and modelling so that medical and other specialists, and the general public can influence decision-making
- **Immediate Full and Compulsory Quarantining:** instead of the government's drawn out step-by-step approach which will give the virus more time to spread and prolong the health and economic misery of the population; we need to implement a short, sharp, full shutdown that will stop the spread of the virus, give the NHS the chance to care for the critically ill, and allow the virus to burn out of those less seriously infected. All this giving us time for preparations to be put in place in order to stop another mass outbreak of the virus."

## **26. Covid**

Labour International CLP asks that the Labour Party distances itself from the inadequate Government response regarding the Coronavirus and asks that the Government adheres to WHO and International Scientific demands that ALL necessary medical and social measures are taken to halt the advance of the virus. Correspondence This is to let you know that LISEAC branch supports the idea of calling a special GC to discuss the corona virus.

## **27. Covid and BAME**

We have been extremely distressed following news of how disproportionately COVID-19 is affecting BAME communities.

According to recent reporting:

- Over one-third of the patients most severely impacted by the coronavirus are from Black and Asian communities, despite these groups accounting for only 13% of the population (Source: Intensive Care National Audit and Research Centre)
- All ten doctors, a significant number of other NHS staff, and a large percentage of the transport workers who have all died thus far have been BAME (Source: British Medical Association)
- BAME students are statistically more likely to outperform grade predictions and therefore risk getting lower marks for exams cancelled this year (Source: Birmingham University Centre for Research in Race and Education)
-



**May**

## **28. Leaked LP document**

International CLP endorses the following statement from the Socialist Campaign Group of MPs regarding the leaked Labour document. In the light of wide ranging subsequent debate on this matter we wish to add the following demands:

1. All hearings and investigation meetings except disciplinary hearings related to individuals should be open and available to the public, through livestream, with a facility to meet in camera if legally advised, subject to that legal advice being published.
2. The report in full should be sent to the EHRC, and a redacted version should be made available to the public.
3. Cases should be reopened where their validity has been called into question by the activities of those involved.
4. That the following additional proposals suggested by the SCG be adopted, namely:
  - a. That the panel be expanded to include Alf Dubs as originally considered
  - b. That a peer group advisory panel is established comprising rank and file party members, especially reflecting the cultural diversity of our party, to provide advice and support to the investigation team
  - c. That the investigation covers the operation of both Labour Headquarters and Labour's Regional Offices

To be sent to: NEC Keir Starmer Angela Rayner Richard Burgon Alf Dubs Baroness Wilcox Lord Whitty  
Statement by Socialist Campaign Group 22 April 2020

## **29. Ten pledges by Keir Starmer:**

This Branch notes the 'ten pledges' made by Keir Starmer in his leadership campaign. We welcome the fact that they are 'pledges' and not just policy proposals, and look forward both to campaigning for them, and to them being the basis of policy within the Party's next manifesto but not the limit of its ambition.

We would also like to note that Conference is the sovereign democratic party policy-making body. Our current manifesto is based on conference policies and it is also, compared to the reality many Labour International members experience, not especially radical or ambitious, when seen in a wider European context. The ten pledges:

### 1. Economic justice

Increase income tax for the top 5% of earners, reverse the Tories' cuts in corporation tax and clamp down on tax avoidance, particularly of large corporations. No stepping back from our core principles.

### 2. Social justice

Abolish Universal Credit and end the Tories' cruel sanctions regime. Set a national goal for wellbeing to make health as important as GDP; Invest in services that help shift to a preventative approach. Stand up for universal services and defend our NHS. Support the abolition of tuition fees and invest in lifelong learning.

### 3. Climate justice

Put the Green New Deal at the heart of everything we do. There is no issue more important to our future than the climate emergency. A Clean Air Act to tackle pollution locally. Demand international action on climate rights.

### 4. Promote peace and human rights

No more illegal wars. Introduce a Prevention of Military Intervention Act and put human rights at the heart of foreign policy. Review all UK arms sales and make us a force for international peace and justice.

### 5. Common ownership

Public services should be in public hands, not making profits for shareholders. Support common ownership of rail, mail, energy and water; end outsourcing in our NHS, local government and justice system.

### 6. Defend migrants' rights

Full voting rights for EU nationals. Defend free movement as we leave the EU. An immigration system based on compassion and dignity. End indefinite detention and call for the closure of centres such as Yarl's Wood.

### 7. Strengthen workers' rights and trade unions

Work shoulder to shoulder with trade unions to stand up for working people, tackle insecure work and low pay. Repeal the Trade Union Act. Oppose Tory attacks on the right to take industrial action and the weakening of workplace rights.

### 8. Radical devolution of power, wealth and opportunity

Push power, wealth and opportunity away from Whitehall. A federal system to devolve powers – including through regional investment banks and control over regional industrial strategy. Abolish the House of Lords – replace it with an elected chamber of regions and nations.

### 9. Equality

Pull down obstacles that limit opportunities and talent. We are the party of the Equal Pay Act, Sure Start, BAME representation and the abolition of Section 28 – we must build on that for a new decade.

#### 10. Effective opposition to the Tories

Forensic, effective opposition to the Tories in Parliament – linked up to our mass membership and a professional election operation. Never lose sight of the votes 'lent' to the Tories in 2019. Unite our party, promote pluralism and improve our culture. Robust action to eradicate

the scourge of antisemitism. Maintain our collective links with the unions.

#### 30. **Motion on Jeremy Corbyn**

"Labour International CLP wishes to place on record our grateful thanks to Jeremy Corbyn for his Stewardship of the Party during his Leadership. We affirm the re-appraisal and re-affirmation of Democratic Socialist Values within our Party that have been a consequence of his Tenure of Office.

### **Jun**

#### **31. Motion supporting #CancelTheRent Campaign**

This CLP recognises the insecurity faced by tenants living in private rented accommodation in the UK both before and during the Coronavirus crisis, with many spending the vast majority of their monthly income on rent and bills. Landlords that profit from our long-term housing crisis to squeeze out a largest proportion of that income through rent rises or face eviction, contributing to the dramatic rise in homelessness over the last decade.

This demographic of private renters are made up of key workers in public sector roles, workers in low paid positions and those that are economically precarious. Many face destitution, only shortly delayed by government initiatives, due to a loss of work, due to a reduction in work, and due in some cases to being furloughed, with a 20% pay drop.

With the risk of further economic shocks from a potential new wave of the Coronavirus and from leaving the transition period with or without a comprehensive trade deal with the European Union, there are undeniable threats of unemployment and lack of re-employment facing hundreds-of-thousands of workers.

This CLP notes that the five point plan outlined by Labour Shadow secretary of State for Housing, Thangam Debbonaire seeks to:

- prevent evictions through an extension of the eviction ban
- speed up and improve the provision of Universal Credit and consider an increase of the Local Housing Allowance

- scrap Section 21 'no fault' evictions now and outlaw Section 8 on the grounds of arrears accrued through the Covid crisis
  - give residential tenants the same protections as commercial tenants in not being made bankrupt should they fail to pay rent
- However on point four, we do not agree that arrears accrued during the Covid crisis due to no fault of the worker should be a debt held over them with an obligation for the tenant to pay it back over a two year period. We call on the government to provide income support for any landlord whose income falls below an agreed basic level

This CLP agrees with the three core demands of the #CancelTheRent campaign That sees rent deferrals as `pushing economically precarious workers into debt and firmer action is needed to protect tenants:

"If a worker misses out on three months worth of income, and has to pay that back over 2 years, that is a 12% increase of rent that must be paid, in the worst recession in

centuries."

Variations of this #CancelTheRent policy are now supported by likely Democratic Presidential candidate Joe Biden and US Senator Ilhan Omar.

Therefore, this CLP calls for the Shadow Secretary of State for Housing Thangam Debbonaire MP to push the government to:

1. Cancel, at the tenant's request, payments of rent, for any tenant experiencing any drop in income.
2. Cover, at the tenant's request, utility payments, for any tenant experiencing any drop in income.
3. Halt all eviction processes due to failure to produce rent until employment stabilises.

## 32. **BDS (Boycott Divestment, Sanctions)**

Labour International CLP calls on NEC to establish support for the Palestinian Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign (BDS) as Labour Party policy until such time as Israel complies with international law by meeting three demands:

1. Ending its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Gaza Wall.
2. Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality.
3. Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to

their homes and properties as stipulated in UN Resolution 194.

NEC is also called on to note that the Palestinian BDS campaign is opposed on principle to all forms of discrimination, including anti-semitism and Islamophobia

## **September**

### **33. Don't Leave Organise**

In view of the concerning fact that over 500 members of Labour International have cancelled their membership of the Labour Party so far this year, we encourage current members to support Don't Leave, Organise<sup>i</sup> and endorse any LIEC officers who wish to do the same<sup>ii</sup>.

Proposed by Ian Hollingworth on behalf of LIEC, seconded by Anne Wafer

<sup>i</sup> <https://www.dontleaveorganise.org/>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://mailchi.mp/ab8c6a63a83a/full-sick-pay-now-rally-wednesday-9th-sept>

### **34 Built Environment**

This branch believes:

- planning processes are weighted too much in favour of commercial and professional interests which lead to damaging effects on the environment.

This branch calls upon Labour to:

- establish planning processes for the built environment that allow for the maximum possible consideration of the views of residents, users and local communities.

Motion to be sent to the NEC

### **35 Government Covid strategy**

We note that the UK has recorded more than 50,000 extra excess deaths when compared to a comparable state like Germany.

We also note that in January, February and the first half of March the British government was following a so-called 'herd immunity strategy' while ignoring any lessons that could have been used from those countries which had their initial virus spike earlier, including Germany.

The above was confirmed when on the 22nd. March the Sunday Times reported that Dominic Cummings had told a meeting that the government's strategy was "herd immunity, protect the economy,

and if that means some pensioners die, too bad". The government has since been denying that this ever was policy.

Herd immunity could never be a strategy in a modern society as it allowed for the deaths of the old and sick in Britain. Herd immunity occurs both through surviving natural exposure and vaccination.

The present government is therefore culpable for the deaths of nigh on 50,000 British citizens, more than those killed in the German Blitz of the UK in World War Two.

We therefore call upon the Parliamentary Labour Party and its leader and shadow cabinet to amplify and support citizen initiatives which seek to call the government legally to account.

To be sent to NEC and various labour movement media

### **36 Labour Students**

This branch/CLP notes that:

- the NEC voted to disaffiliate the Socialist Society "Labour Students" from the Labour Party in September 2019, and to set up a new organisation for students in the Labour Party.
- prior to this happening, many student Labour Clubs had disaffiliated from Labour Students due to dissatisfaction with the way it operated.
- numerous reports have been made, in the media and at meetings, of undemocratic practices and extreme factional bias in the Labour Students organisation and by its officers and others associated with it, in particular in allegations in the recently leaked report on Antisemitism.
- Labour Students is still active as an organisation and is hoping to be re-affiliated under the new Party leadership.

This branch/CLP believes

- that the decision to disaffiliate Labour Students and set up a new organisation to replace it was the correct one,
- that students are an important part of the Labour Party and urgently need a new, fully representative organisation with properly democratic procedures, so they can work effectively towards Labour Party aims.
- a new improved organisation for students in Labour will be a great asset to the whole Labour Party, and will help to nurture the next generation of Labour politicians, party officers, active volunteers and voters.

We call on Keir Starmer, and the NEC to immediately do the following:

- Confirm that Labour Students will not be re-affiliated to the Labour Party.
- Confirm that a plan is currently being developed for a new Labour Party students' organisation.
- Name the team who are developing this plan
- Announce the means by which Labour Party students will be consulted on the plan.
- Provide a timeline for the development and implementation of the plan.
- Provide the terms of reference for the plan and an outline of its aims.
- Announce how the final decision will be made to implement the plan and who will make it.
- Start providing regular updates on the progress being made on the plan until it is implemented.

### **37 LI Comms advisory group**

This branch notes the need to review Communications within the CLP and requests the Labour International General Committee mandates the LI Executive to set up a Communications Advisory Group by 19 October 2020 to review and audit the role of Communications within Labour International CLP and to provide an interim report by 1 December 2020.

### **38 Election of general secretary**

This Branch notes that Labour is a democratic socialist party, and that in order for Labour to live up to its ideals, the sunlight of democracy must shine on every aspect of Party life.

This Branch believes that democracy demands accountability, and that now that the Party has nearly 600,000 members, a position as powerful and influential as that of General Secretary must be fully accountable to the membership.

This Branch calls for a rule change to make the General Secretariat a position elected by the whole membership as soon as is practically possible, with reasonable and adequate compensation to be paid to the current incumbent for loss of employment.

### **39 LP communications**

This branch notes that the MemberCentre of the Labour Party has been operational for Labour International branch secretaries to consult for about eight weeks over the past two years. This branch

also notes that the Labour Party provides no platform for constituency party members to communicate in a safe online environment.

It is almost five years since Tom Watson, the Deputy Leader of the Labour Party addressed conference in these terms:

"We can only refashion ourselves as a modern party by making ourselves digital. There's no alternative. We have to relocate online." He called for a "digital revolution" that went deeper than social media or cutting down on spamming emails sent out by the party. He said, "I'm talking about changing the nature of what we are. So that Labour's embedded in our daily lives through technology we no longer even notice." and "The party will be in your pocket, on your smartphone, on the tool bar of your tablet - wherever you want it."

This branch believes that proper segmentation and decentralisation of access to information is a key aspect of organisation for action and that the Labour Party should take every step possible to reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and enable safe, agile, online communication between members. This branch believes that the current communication services provided to Labour Party members are not fit for purpose. Members deprived of safe party channels for communication often resort to corporate channels not associated with the party and not supportive of our aims, such as Facebook, Google, Slack, Zoom, Zoho, WhatsApp and others.

This branch believes that the Labour Party should provide viable in-house communication channels to members and/or explore ethical, easy-to-use, privacy-conscious alternatives to well-known software. (See <https://switching.software/>)

This branch resolves that the Labour International CLP should protest in the strongest possible terms to the Labour Party National Executive Committee about the communication deficit of our party and the current lack of progress in rectifying the situation.

## **40 Internal Market Bill**

The Labour Party needs to oppose the Internal Market Bill to prevent it undermining the Northern Ireland peace process.

The Labour Party international CLP urges the Labour Party nationally to strongly oppose the proposed Internal Market Bill's provisions that undermine the commitment given in the revised protocol on Ireland and Northern Ireland included in the Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community treaty signed on Jan 24th 2020 (the Withdrawal Agreement) that the



economic integrity of the Island of Ireland be maintained, avoiding the need for an economic border between Northern Ireland and The Republic of Ireland.

The Good Friday or Belfast agreement of 1997 established peace in Northern Ireland based on shared sovereignty governed by power sharing arrangements within Northern Ireland, cross border power sharing institutions, a recognition that people in Northern Ireland could hold British, Irish or joint nationality and a recognition that the constitutional position of Northern Ireland could only be changed by consent of the people of the province.

The underlying issues that include identity and economic justice which drove the Civil Rights movement of the late 1960's and the subsequent troubles were not resolved by the Good Friday agreement, but a peaceful and constitutional pathway to dealing with these issues was established.

The unilateral breaking of the agreement by the British government, resulting in a need for cross border trade regulation and infrastructure breaks one of the fundamental principles of the British Irish Agreement of 1999 codified as 'commitment to the principles of partnership, equality and mutual respect and to the protection of civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights in their respective jurisdictions'

This CLP believes the proposed Internal Market Bill undermines the principle of change by mutual consent and therefore the fragile but hugely precious trust that both communities have in the peace process, and will inevitably lead to the establishment of practical difficulties and physical barriers to economic activity which will become the cause of conflict and a target for extremists in the province, risking reigniting the Northern Ireland Conflict.

This CLP Calls on the Party nationally to do its utmost to oppose this bill.

## **Oct**

### **41 PR**

Portugal Branch resolves:

- To call upon the Labour Party to reject First Past the Post, the voting system currently used for General Elections, and to support the introduction of a form of Proportional Representation in which all votes count equally and seats match votes.
- To call upon the Justice and Home Affairs Policy Commission of the National Policy Forum to conduct a full and comprehensive

consultation with the party membership on electoral reform for a more equitable system in the next cycle of policy documents.

- To call upon the Labour Party to set out how it will select a new, proportional voting system for general elections and to put forward an offer as a concrete alternative to first past the post to the Labour Party Conference for the delegates to debate, so that conference can decide what is the best way forward.
- Resolves that Labour International shall affiliate with the Labour Campaign for Electoral Reform and campaign for PR within and outside Labour International

## **42 BLM and racism**

This branch/CLP notes that:

- The Black Lives Matter movement has highlighted the ongoing racial injustice in the UK and elsewhere
- Racial inequality in the UK is not just prevalent in the criminal justice system, but also across health, education, employment, housing and other systems
- Numerous reports have already been published making recommendations to address these inequalities, including the Lammy Review (2017), the Race Disparity Audit (2017), the Wendy Williams report into Windrush (2020) and the COVID-19 BAME Report (2020)
- Labour's race and faith manifesto published ahead of the 2019 General Election made strong commitments to tackle racial injustice

This branch/CLP believes that:

- as a party founded on principles of equality, social justice and human rights, Labour must be robust in its commitment to tackle racial inequality in all policy areas
- we must now convert the large body of available evidence into concrete action

We call on the Joint Policy Committee and the National Policy Forum and the NEC to:

- Ensure that commitments made in the 2019 race and faith manifesto continue to be the official policy position of the Labour Party
- Review the recommendations in the existing reports named above, and ensure they inform the work of the relevant policy commissions
- Ensure that each of the eight policy commissions develop specific policies on implementing accurate data collection and

reporting systems to monitor racial equality in the policy areas they cover

We call on the Leader of the Labour Party to:

- demand the implementation in full of the recommendations of the aforementioned Williams Report into the Windrush scandal in accordance with the governments commitments as Williams herself has called for in her recent article in the Guardian newspaper of Wednesday the 14th of October 2020 (1)

### **43 Arms trade**

This CLP notes that:

- The UK is the second-highest exporter of arms in the world, second only to the US.
- UK-made weapons have been used in several conflicts throughout the world, including the Saudi-led bombing of Yemen, and the occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and East Jerusalem by Israel.
- UK-made military equipment and anti-riot gear has been used in the repression of peaceful protests in the United States by police forces.

This CLP believes:

1. That UK arms manufacturers should implement
  - a. A comprehensive programme where arms manufacturing is converted to socially useful work, including the construction of renewable energy infrastructure and upholding public health
  - b. The retraining of workers in the defence industry
  - c. Redeployment of said workers into more constructive work.
2. That the British defence and security priorities be reconsidered to prioritise non-military threats to the UK's security, such as climate change and public health. The UK government should also ensure that the personnel who serve in the UK military are increasingly deployed in more socially constructive ways including to produce renewable energy technologies, while making sure that their domestic deployment does not lead to a greater militarisation of society.
3. British foreign policy should promote similar conversion programmes internationally, to reduce the global market for UK arms.

4. The UK government should take steps to halt the export of UK arms to repressive regimes

## **Nov**

### **44 Committing to Electoral Reform Motion**

This branch/CLP notes that:

1. The UK is one of only three major developed countries to use First Past the Post (FPTP) for general elections. Some countries use a form of Proportional Representation (PR), including the world's most equal and progressive societies.
2. The Labour Party played a leading role in introducing forms of PR to the UK's devolved parliaments and assemblies in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and London.
3. There are systems of PR that retain a strong constituency link between MPs and their electorates and allow voters to vote for candidates rather than just party lists, while ensuring that all votes count equally and seats match votes.

This branch/CLP believes:

1. FPTP has too often gifted the Conservatives a parliamentary majority despite having the support of only a minority of the electorate. In 19 of the last 20 general elections, most people have voted for parties to the left of the Conservatives, yet the Tories have been in power for most of this time.
2. This has had devastating consequences for the people the Labour Party represents. Attacks on the welfare state, public services and workers' rights have been carried out by successive Conservative governments that could not have held office under a proportional system. This has contributed to making the UK one of the most unequal societies in the OECD.
3. FPTP means voter inequality: some people's votes carry greater weight than others. This compels Labour to concentrate resources on marginal constituencies to the detriment of voters in safe seats. A voting system in which every vote counts equally, wherever it is cast, is needed to address the worrying levels of alienation, division and mistrust in British politics.
4. Some people have voted Labour in every election of their lives without ever being represented by a Labour MP. With PR, all Labour voters could expect to be represented by a Labour MP who reflects their views, concerns and values.

This branch/CLP resolves:

1. To call upon the Labour Party to reject First Past the Post, the voting system currently used for General Elections, and to

support the introduction of a form of Proportional Representation in which all votes count equally and seats match votes.

2. To call upon the Justice and Home Affairs Policy Commission of the National Policy Forum to consult the party membership specifically about their views on Proportional Representation in the next cycle of policy documents.
3. To call upon the Labour Party to set out how it will select a new, proportional voting system for general elections, in time to offer it as a concrete alternative to First Past the Post in our next manifesto.

## **45 Creating a safe, welcoming Labour Party**

This branch/CLP notes that:

1. Recent NEC and Young Labour internal elections have seen multiple candidates subjected to cyber-bullying and abuse by party members and supporters including one case of violent sexual threats towards a minor which led to that candidate dropping out of the race.
2. Evidence of text messages from the phone of a member of the Parliamentary Labour Party demonstrated harassment of a former Leader of the Labour Party.
3. Multiple events including Lisa Nandy's Leadership Campaign Launch and the recent Connected conference have seen seemingly organised interruptions by anti-trans activists to promote exclusionary viewpoints in Labour Party settings.
4. Anecdotally, members of the party from ethnic minority backgrounds or who are trans have left the party in recent months due to perceived inaction over racism and transphobia.
5. The Party is being investigated by the Equality and Human Rights Commission over allegations of antisemitism.
6. The statements of most candidates for the NEC and Young Labour elections signify that bullying, safeguarding and complaints process reform are significant issues right now.
7. These incidents have **occurred** at every level of the party.

This branch/CLP believes that:

1. A hostile environment in both physical and online spaces deters people from our movement, in-particular young people and those from under-represented groups in the party.
2. The Labour Party thrives on the diversity of its membership and a diversity of ideas across our movement.

3. Members should feel that their contributions in meetings, should they be concise so that everyone gets the opportunity to be heard and aired respectfully, are welcome.

This branch/CLP resolves:

1. To call on the NEC to ensure all members of the disciplinary committee are given unconscious bias training.
2. To call on the NEC to formulate a workable action plan, alongside the office of the Leader and Deputy Leader, to tackle widespread bullying, intimidation and harassment both online and in physical spaces.
3. To call on the NEC to introduce independent complaints procedures that are free from political interference, include an educational element, provide support for all parties involved, and decide cases based on clear terms of reference informed by the parties' liberation and representation groups.
4. To call on the NEC and Young Labour to investigate safeguarding concerns with regards to the recent Young Labour elections and to review whether safeguarding protocols are adhered to across all areas of the party's infrastructure.
5. To call on the NEC to introduce easy routes to access counselling or mental health support for party members.
6. To call on the CLP to survey its membership as to whether our online meetings and spaces are perceived as welcoming environments to members that attend and don't attend them, to publicly publish the results, and to formulate next steps if problems are identified.
7. To call on the CLP to evaluate whether conduct in our online meetings, spaces and communications are in line with the 'Principles for the Labour Party's use of Social Media' in Appendix 9, Part 3 of the Labour Party Rule Book 2020.

## **46 "SpyCops Bill"**

This CLP notes that:

1. The Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons on 15th October 2020. The Bill would amend Part II of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) to create a new process of 'Criminal Conduct Authorisations', constituting an express power for MI5, police forces and a range of other public authorities to authorise their agents and informants ("Covert Human Intelligence Sources" "CHIS") to commit criminal offences.

2. This legislation would license offences, committed during cover operations, for a wide range of public authorities, from the intelligence services and the police, to the Gambling Commission and the Food Standards Agency. Unlike comparable legislation in the USA, the Bill places no limits on the types of crimes which can be authorised, with no express prohibition on human rights violations, including murder, torture, kidnap, or sexual offences.
3. In placing current guidelines on a statutory footing, the Bill would give legal basis to the infiltration of trade unions, as grounds for criminal conduct would include not only 'national security', but also 'preventing disorder'.
4. Not only does this Bill make it impossible to prosecute such crimes, it gives prior authorisation to commit them and with no judicial oversight or transparency. As such it is weaker than comparable laws for phone-tapping, despite involving potentially far more harmful conduct.
5. Past victims of such covert operations include Pat Finucane, the Orgreave picketers, the Hillsborough victims, and multiple women who were abused as the result of state infiltration of environmental and social justice campaign groups.
6. The Labour Party issued a one-line whip to abstain on the third reading of the Bill. 34 Labour MPs opposed this Bill.

This CLP believes this:

1. This Bill is part of a wider project by this government to wrest key scrutiny powers away from parliament and the judiciary. It is contrary to the rule of law.
2. The Bill has alarming and destructive implications for the development of progressive movements in the UK as well as the trade union movement in general. It is a violation of guaranteed legal rights to privacy, freedom of expression and freedom of association and assembly, including the right to a home and family life, and to protest for legal, social, employment and environmental justice.
3. There was no legitimate basis for abstaining on this Bill and the Labour Party's strategy of abstention is unacceptable.
4. The prohibition against torture, sexual violence and murder on behalf of the British state must be absolute.
5. The use of sexual relationships has no place in any form of undercover policing and the Regulation Of Investigatory Powers Act (2000) should be amended to reflect this.

This CLP resolves:

1. That the Labour Party should oppose this Government's ongoing project to place British authorities above the law.
2. To condemn the decision to abstain against Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill and call on the leadership to now unreservedly oppose it.
3. To thank the 34 Labour MPs who opposed the bill at the third reading.
4. To publicly campaign against the Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill.
5. To publicly campaign on behalf of victims of covert operations, and support the Pat Finucane Centre, the Orgreave Truth and Justice campaign, the Hillsborough Justice Campaign, and Police Spies Out of Lives in their work to expose covert criminality by the British state.

## **47 Protect labour's legacy of an effective and compassionate UK international development program**

Labour International notes that:

1. Ensuring that the UK is a leader in the global sustainable development agenda is a longstanding and proud achievement of the Labour Party.
2. Overseas development assistance (ODA) should not be 'tied' to any political or economic interests of the UK, as recognized by the OECD, amongst others.
3. The absorption of the Department for International Development (DfID) into a combined Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), combined with the Conservative Party's "mutual prosperity" rhetoric will take money away from development-focused support and could very well lead to a sharp decline in the positive impact UK Aid has in the world.
4. This CLP is in a unique position in the Labour Party to both perceive and advocate against cuts to UK Aid, given its global footprint and considerable, in-house development expertise.
5. This CLP has previously passed a motion condemning the merger of DfID and the FCO in August 2020 (see background information for details).

Labour International resolves to:



1. Create a Labour International campaign to protect Labour's legacy of an effective and compassionate UK government International Development (UK Aid) program.

This motion is for the attention of the Labour International Executive Committee, especially the Policy and Campaigns Officer, and may be shared with the Office of the Shadow Minister for International Development for information.

## **48 Support the right to solidarity**

As trade unionists and democratic socialists, this BLP/CLP fully supports the rights of trade unionists, Labour members and our elected MPs to express their solidarity with anyone they believe to be suffering an injustice, and calls upon the NEC, Keir Starmer and David Evans to affirm their commitment to this most fundamental of democratic rights.

## **49 LP disciplinary procedures**

This CLP notes that the current Labour Party disciplinary procedures are "not fit for purpose", as is widely acknowledged by all stakeholders, and therefore welcomes the conclusions of the EHRC report. We reaffirm our solidarity with our Jewish comrades and our continued commitment to fighting antisemitism both in and outside the Labour Party.

This CLP further notes that:

1. The complaints and disciplinary procedures, described in the report and agreed by all stakeholders as "not fit for purpose", are still in use, despite their widely recognised inadequacies and in apparent direct contravention of the findings and recommendations of the EHRC Report.
2. That a number of recent disciplinary cases remain in progress under the now thoroughly discredited, unfair and damaging disciplinary process.
3. The apparent leaking of disciplinary case details in contravention of directions from the office of General Secretary.
4. David Evans's appointment as General Secretary is yet to be approved and ratified by Annual Conference.
5. The apparent inability of the acting General Secretary to adequately explain the rules justifying a number of his actions, including demands imposed on elected CLP and BLP officers including threats of disciplinary action.

6. The repeated issuing of notices to CLPs forbidding free discussion on a number of matters of public interest on the undefined grounds of "competent business" which has no basis in the 2020 Rulebook.

The indefinite postponement of Annual Conference due to the Covid19 crisis.

This CLP believes that:

1. It is vital that all members at all levels of the Party reflect and learn from the concerns raised in the report, and discuss them freely and openly.
2. Dealing justly and effectively with antisemitism requires a robust and timely complaints and disciplinary process that follows principles of natural justice and fairness.
3. The functions, responsibilities and power of authorisation of the acting General Secretary require urgent review.

This CLP resolves to call upon the NEC to:

1. Review the actions of the acting General Secretary since occupying his post, and his ongoing attempts to stifle free discussion without sufficient reference to the 2020 Rulebook.
2. Assess the suitability of the acting General Secretary to conduct Party business competently and respect the conclusions of the EHRC report concerning the inadequacy and unfairness of the current disciplinary procedures.
3. Impose a general moratorium on current further suspensions and expulsions using the current disciplinary procedures declared unfit for purpose by the EHRC. To not do so would be to ignore the recommendations of the report and be detrimental to the party's duty to implement a just and transparent system across the party for all disciplinary investigations, hearings and adjudications.
4. Carry out a major review of suspended/expelled members since 2015, given that these decisions were made using a now discredited process, as emphasised in the EHRC report. It must be made possible for members who resigned while the disciplinary process was running, or their next of kin to ask for a review of their case

This CLP further calls upon the Labour International Executive Committee to publish this motion as an open letter.

## **50 Antisemitism and the EHRC**

This Branch:

1. believes that antisemitism is a poison in society and has no place in the Labour Party and there is agreement across the Party that we must double our efforts to eradicate it;
2. believes that publication of the EHRC report was a very sobering moment for the Labour Party, and the Party must reflect on its findings, implement them and unite and move forward, ensuring that `all communities see Labour as an anti-racist party where all are welcomed and valued irrespective of race, religion or ethnic background.
3. believes that in this moment of crisis, the Labour Party should avoid internal strife, any action that could be seen by members as internally motivated factional politics and instead focus on Party unity first and foremost;
4. notes that on page 27 of the EHRC report it states that: "Article 10 of the [European Convention of Human Rights] will protect Labour party members who, for example ... express their opinions on internal party matters, such as the scale of antisemitism within the party, based on their own experience and within the law" and this Branch believes this, along with the rest of the report, should be upheld and adhered to by the Labour Party.
5. believes that the Labour Parliamentary Party must unite to fight the common Tory enemy, should not abstain from voting on, but instead strongly oppose, all Government legislation that is contrary to socialist values, and that infringes civil liberties and human rights.'
6. This Branch/CLP expresses its solidarity with Jeremy Corbyn. Jeremy is a lifelong campaigner against racism and antisemitism. We believe that unity not division is important for the Party to make progress and effectively challenge racism, fascism, antisemitism and harassment in what ever form this may take.

## **51 Democracy in the LP**

Democratic discussion is essential to the Labour party and we affirm that as members and as a branch we should be free to discuss matters of vital importance.

This branch notes that democratic discussion has been stifled by administrative decrees and the arbitrary actions of the General Secretary over the last few months. We call for the NEC to explain whether they have actually delegated authority to the General Secretary to make decisions such as these which have stifled members' abilities to discuss vital party matters

# 2021

## 52 US elections

**This CLP notes** the success of the Democratic Party in the recent US presidential election and congratulates President Elect Joe Biden and Vice President Elect Kamala Harris on their victory. We welcome the advent of

a Democratic presidency and offer our sincere hopes that the USA is able to

come together in a spirit of peace and justice to heal the country's deep wounds of inequality, injustice and division.

**This CLP believes** that international cooperation is vital to address the urgent existential threats we currently face.

**This CLP resolves** to call upon LOTO and the NEC to exert all possible pressure on the UK Government to work with the US government on these vital objectives:

1. Address the global public health crisis in line with the best recommendations of international health experts.
2. Robustly stand up for human rights and civil liberties at home and internationally to counter the rising threat of racist authoritarian nationalism worldwide.
3. Bring about a Green New Deal in our respective nations in order to urgently address the climate emergency.

## 53 Young Transgender treatment services

**This CLP notes:**

1. That on 1 December 2020, the High Court judged that young trans and gender-questioning people referred to GIDS must have their competence confirmed by a court before they can be prescribed 'puberty blockers'.
2. That in 2016 the Women and Equalities Committee identified serious problems with the current long wait-times for GIDS treatment to the extent that the NHS is failing in its duties under the Equality Act.
3. That the right of young people under 16 to access the drugs commonly known as 'puberty blockers' is based in legal recognition of a given young person's individual mental competence to make informed, autonomous decisions, colloquially known as Gillick Competence, and that the Bell-Tavistock judgement upheld this principle, but set a higher bar for confirming it.

4. That Gillick Competence is also the legal foundation for providing reproductive healthcare (contraception and abortion) to young people under 16.

**This CLP believes:**

1. That the recent judgement in the Bell-Tavistock case will inevitably add further delays to young people's ability to access treatment, which is already delayed unacceptably.
2. That young people have the right to self-determination and bodily autonomy within the parameters of Gillick Competence, and that the medical profession is ethically obligated to safely facilitate the exercise of these rights in a medical context.
3. That any threats to Gillick Competence are a feminist issue as well as a trans issue, and threaten the right to bodily autonomy of cis girls and young women, and all young people who require reproductive healthcare.

**This CLP resolves to call upon the NEC and the shadow cabinet to:**

1. Raise the issue of NHS provision of trans healthcare, and unacceptable waiting times in parliament.
2. Pressure the government to make adequate provision in NHS funding for training of medical professionals with regard to health issues affecting trans youth, and for an increase in available clinical facilities with expertise in trans and paediatric health.
3. Call upon the Women and Equalities Committee to open a consultation with trans and gender-questioning youth, their parents and the organisations that support them, so that their voices can be heard in the drafting of legislation that affects them.
4. Work to solidify the alliance between feminist and LGBT+ elements of the Labour Party on the clear basis of comradely solidarity and the rights to bodily autonomy, self-determination and timely, accessible healthcare for all.

## **54 Nuclear Weapons**

**This CLP notes:**

1. That since 1950 there have been 32 major nuclear weapon accidents resulting in the launching, firing, detonation, theft or loss of a weapon (<https://www.atomicarchive.com/>)
2. The Republic of South Africa unilaterally destroyed its nuclear weapons in 1991 and has since led the campaign for worldwide abolition

3. The UK is a signatory to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty of 1968. Article VI says: *"Each of the Parties to the Treaty undertakes to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."* Such negotiations for nuclear disarmament have not been pursued.
4. The United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was passed in 2017 and comes into force on the 22nd January, but has not been ratified by the UK government.

**This CLP believes that:**

1. Nuclear weapons represent an existential threat to humanity
2. Nuclear weapons represent an existential threat not only in time of war but even more so on an everyday basis because of the inevitability of accidental use at some point if they are never prohibited
3. Countries at most risk are those in possession of nuclear weapons because they are the targets of other nuclear powers

This CLP calls on the Labour Party to include ratification by the UK of the 2017 UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as a top foreign policy priority.

## **55 Trade and sustainable development**

**This CLP notes:**

1. That two thirds of UK production is for domestic use, the remaining one third goes to exports;
2. Without a bilateral trade deal, the US is Britain's largest trade partner;
3. Without a trade deal, the US accounted for 19% of UK exports and 11% of UK imports in 2019;
4. The scope for further economic benefit from a UK trade deal is limited;
5. DIT (Department for International Trade) study suggests an ambitious trade deal might add 0.16% to GDP after 15 years;
6. A less ambitious deal might add 0.07% after the same period, equal to two weeks of normal growth;
7. The US president has suggested a deal could be reached by mid-January

**This CLP welcomes the Party's opposition to:**

1. A US deal which limits UK ability to set standards for food quality, animal welfare or public health;
2. A US trade deal which weakens financial regulation or consumer protection;
3. A US trade deal which opens public procurement, including the health service, to competitive tendering;
4. A US trade deal which creates ISDS (Investor-state dispute settlement) processes outside existing courts.

**This CLP concludes:**

1. That trade with the US is welcome and contributes benefits to producers and consumers in the UK;
2. That a new trade deal with the US is not necessary;
3. That the benefits of a trade deal are minute and uncertain;
4. That the risks of a deal outweigh any potential benefits.

**This CLP calls on:**

1. The NEC and the shadow cabinet to push for any UK-U.S. trade deal to include a TSD (Trade and sustainable development) chapter, clause on workers' rights;
2. To campaign against the US trade deal in parliament that reduces standards in areas such as (not limited to) environment, procurement, ISDS, food and health standards, labour rights; and if necessary, to challenge the assertion that Britain needs a trade deal with the United States at any cost.

## **Feb**

### **56. LP and the media**

The Labour Party believes that families should have a right to consider the ecological truth in order to decide on the best future for their children.

In a country which prizes the 'freedom of the press' the current monopolistic ownership model for the media is not effective. Statistics prove that British media marginalises and delegitimizes views and policies that would be entirely unremarkable in just about every neighbouring country.

In short, we are a nation that is uniquely vulnerable to corporate capture and authoritarianism.

With a woeful lack of serious reporting on the climate and ecological emergency we propose that the Labour Party initiate the creation of an independent agency to monitor newspaper coverage of climate

change. This could help to collect publicly available data on the misrepresentation of the issue by news outlets.

## 57. Human Rights - Uyghurs

This CLP notes:

1. Reports from the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and other organisations that over a million Uyghurs are being held in detention camps in Xinjiang.
2. Credible reports of the following having taken place in said camps and elsewhere in China:
  - a. Torture, abuse, and forced sterilisation.
  - b. Forced labour of Uyghurs in factories in the supply chains of global brands, where Uyghur workers are subjected to intimidation and threats, restrictions to their freedom of movement, abusive working conditions, and excessive hours
  - c. extreme and intrusive surveillance in Xinjiang province
  - d. restrictions on the linguistic, religious, and cultural freedom of Uyghurs
  - e. Mass separation of Uyghur children from their parents.

This CLP believes:

1. That the Chinese state is carrying out mass persecution of the Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities in NW China, under the guise of combatting religious extremism and terrorism.
2. The Chinese State is in breach of International law:
  - a. This includes customary international law, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and acts prohibited under Article II of the Genocide Convention.

This CLP resolves:

1. To uphold the motion passed at the 2019 Labour conference that committed our party to *"stand proudly and unequivocally with the Uyghur people against oppression and persecution by the Chinese State"* and *"support and mobilise for protests and demonstrations in support"*.
2. To push Labour, our campaign organisations and our unions into ongoing action on this issue, such as calling for the following:
  - a. Urge China to grant unfettered access to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.
  - b. Support the Coalition to End Uyghur Forced Labour<sup>1</sup>
  - c. Introduce a Human Rights Due Diligence law on UK companies requiring them to investigate their value



chains to identify, prevent and mitigate human rights abuses.

- d. Work with Central Asian and other Muslim majority countries to ensure protection to Uyghur refugees.

Copies of this motion to be sent to:

- Lisa Nandy, Shadow Foreign Secretary
- Preet Gill, Shadow Secretary of State for International Development
- Labour Members of the Foreign Affairs Committee: Neil Coyle MP, Chris Bryant MP, Graham Stringer MP
- Emily Thornberry, Shadow Trade Secretary

## **58. Censure of David Evans Gen Sec**

The acting General Secretary of the Labour Party, David Evans, recently announced his intention to veto “unsuitable” candidates for council or parliamentary seats. A general secretary, as an unelected employee of the party, is neither intended or qualified to play a role in candidate selection, which is, under current rules, a role played exclusively by the NEC.

We therefore call upon the NEC to censure Evans for his comments and instruct him to desist from such acts in future. We would further request that the NEC consider if he is a suitable applicant to put before members to agree to his confirmation in the post of General Secretary at the next party conference.

## **59. Recall of LP conference**

This CLP notes the escalating crisis within the Labour Party concerning freedom of debate, freedom of speech and interference in the workings of our CLPs.

This CLP believes that the Party’s crisis needs to be addressed urgently.

This CLP recognises that the supreme policy-making body of our Party is our national conference, composed of delegates from the CLPs, trade unions and other affiliated organisations. We believe that this is the only body with the necessary authority to resolve this crisis.

We therefore demand that the NEC organise an immediate national recall conference of the Labour Party under Clause VI.1 of the

Constitutional Rules with the purpose of ending the impasse, restoring party democracy and achieving genuine unity as the only means for the Party to achieve victory at forthcoming elections.

## **60. Covid and developing nations**

This CLP notes that:

1. COVID-19 is a medical, social and economic catastrophe that is impacting people worldwide. Across Africa and the Middle-East, current forecasts estimate that more than 300,000 people could die from COVID-19 [1] while a far greater number - more than 100 million people - are currently facing starvation in Africa because of the disruption to livelihoods and economic systems the virus and measures to protect against it are having [2].
2. In the absence of greater support from advanced countries, developing countries will be unable to access COVID-19 vaccinations, due to high demand from advanced countries and their greater ability to pay.
3. The UK has been a forerunner in developing COVID-19 vaccines with the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine, developed and produced in the UK, one of the earliest vaccines approved for use and suitable for developing country use (given its relative ease of storage) [3].
4. The UK has now secured supply of 407 million COVID vaccine doses, more than enough to vaccinate the entire population three times over [4].
5. The UK is part of the multilateral COVAX facility, which commits to ensuring supply of 2 billion vaccines to developing countries by the end of 2021 [5].
6. Current allocation of COVID-19 vaccines through COVAX indicates a large gap in vaccination will remain for the continent [6].
7. The nature of the virus means that until all people are safe, no one country is safe. Studies have shown that national economic recovery from COVID is dependent on global inoculation [7] and therefore fully supporting vaccine roll-out through COVAX is an imperative [8].
8. The Prime Minister has made ambiguous statements about providing 'surplus' vaccines to developing countries and intends to tie this to the G7 summit in June.

This CLP believes that:

1. Keeping hundreds of millions of vaccines that are not needed at this critical time will directly harm other countries, and by

keeping the COVID-19 in circulation in the world will add to risks to the UK. The government must change their position of indefinite equivocation on this [9] immediately.

2. The UK government must act now to mobilise a global effort to fully fund the COVAX facility for moral, health and economic reasons.

This CLP resolves that:

1. The Labour Party must be strong and clear in pressuring the Conservative government to take the global lead in taking this obvious step without delay, and engage other nations in doing the same.
2. Labour should ask the Government to clarify what is meant by "surplus" as the UK has secured 4X the needed doses. Labour should ask the Prime Minister not to wait until June for the politically advantageous opportunity of the G7, but rather act now.

This Motion is to be sent to the NEC, the Office of the Shadow Minister for International Development and The Shadow Minister for Health.

## **61 Grammar schools and selection**

1. This CLP notes new research by the IFS and the Centre for Education Policy and Equalising Opportunities, written for the Social Mobility Commission, which found selective education to be a factor in unequal earning outcomes for children in local authorities maintaining the 11-plus<sup>1</sup>.
2. This CLP also notes extensive research by Durham University which conclusively establishes that grammar schools lead to social segregation without delivering any better academic results than equivalent comprehensives<sup>2</sup>.
3. This CLP further notes that the 11-plus exam is set to continue, despite the pandemic disrupting education and closing schools, which is likely to exacerbate existing socio-economic inequalities in access to grammar schools<sup>3</sup>.
4. This CLP believes in the comprehensive ideal: that all children deserve an excellent education and that this is best achieved in an inclusive, mixed and diverse setting.
5. This CLP notes with concern that the National Policy Forum (NPF) interim report on Early Years, Education and Skills did not

mention ending academic selection, despite submissions calling for grammar schools to be phased out<sup>4</sup>.

6. This CLP believes that there is an inconsistency in Labour's current policy between opposing new grammar schools but accepting existing grammar schools.
7. This CLP believes that Labour's opposition to new grammar schools would carry much more force if this inconsistency is corrected.
8. This CLP therefore resolves:
  - a. To call on the Leadership, to conduct a wide ranging consultation on current school admission policies, with a particular reference to the impact of academic selection using the 11-plus at the age of transfer to secondary school.
  - b. To call upon the Labour Party to state its commitment to phasing out 11-plus selection and to abolish grammar school status.

## **62. Zero Covid strategy**

To: Keir Starmer (Labour Leader) and all members of the NEC

This CLP/Branch notes that:

1. the Tory government's handling of the coronavirus pandemic has already led to more than 100,000 deaths - one of the highest per capita death tolls in the world - plus many suffering with virus-related long term health problems;
2. this has resulted in the UK experiencing the deepest economic recession for any major economy;
3. countries that have adopted a 'Zero Covid' strategy - such as New Zealand, Vietnam, Australia and China - have the lowest death tolls and suffered the least economic contractions due to the pandemic.

We believe that:

1. the Tories' approach which allows the virus to spread ('herd immunity'/'living with the virus') is responsible for this disaster - the evidence indicates it is not possible to live safely with this virus;
2. Britain urgently needs to adopt a 'Zero Covid' strategy, to stop the situation deteriorating even further and more deadly mutations arising;
3. such a strategy requires a serious lockdown - not the partial lockdowns introduced by the Tories. All non-essential

workplaces, nurseries, schools, colleges and universities need to be closed, the test, track, trace and isolate system should be completely overhauled so that it works, full economic support provided to everyone affected and border controls/quarantine measures need to be introduced that are capable of halting the spread of new cases arriving from abroad, without any cost to the passenger;

4. the lockdown should only be lifted when the level of new infections has been suppressed to the point where the virus can be eliminated - any earlier will simply result in the virus spreading again, many more dying and further economic damage;
5. vaccinations play a part in suppressing the virus, but are not sufficient on their own to eliminate it;
6. suppressing the virus is a necessary precondition for economic recovery.

We call on our Party Leader to campaign for such a 'Zero Covid' strategy and to stop supporting the Tory government's disastrous policies on this pandemic.

We encourage all LI members to sign up to the Zero Covid campaign:  
<https://zerocovid.uk/>

Email addresses for Keir Starmer and NEC members can be found here:-

<https://www.clpd.org.uk/resource/nec-members-and-contact-details/>

### **63. GND (ratified – already LI policy)**

1. The Green New Deal emerged simultaneously in the US and UK in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis to promote radical structural transformation of the economy to ensure that
  - a. as we move away from carbon we build stronger, more resilient communities
  - b. we create good, unionised jobs
  - c. everyone is warm, fed and housed
  - d. key infrastructures such as transport, energy, water, broadband and mail are put back into public ownership.
2. In 2019 after a hard-fought compositing process which included LI members, Conference overwhelmingly passed a Socialist Green New Deal motion. This committed the party to radical measures including decarbonisation by 2030 and the nationalisation of energy and transport.
3. This became the basis of the Green Industrial Revolution in the 2019 manifesto.

4. In Nov 2020 the party announced its Green Recovery Plan, following consultation with members in the summer on The Green Recovery Report - a consultative document whose scope is specifically limited to the post-Covid recovery rather than a wider GND in general.

This CLP believes

1. That alarmingly, much of the radicalism of the 2019 manifesto is missing from the Green Recovery Plan
2. That examples of omitted policies include:
  - a. the 2030 decarbonisation target
  - b. a £60bn 'Warm Homes for All' scheme which could create 250,000 jobs as part of the creation of a million good green jobs
  - c. notably, there is no mention of public ownership including energy and transport, which has been a key demand of Labour members and trade unions
  - d. a just transition for workers
  - e. a National Care Service
  - f. rolling out universal broadband
3. That Conference is sovereign and Labour as a democratic socialist party must advance its resolutions. Labour members and trade unionists backed a socialist Green New Deal at the 2019 Labour conference so there is a mandate for this, and did so again in Labour's policy consultation this summer, where more than two-thirds of all responses backed LGND's radical plans.
4. That the coronavirus crisis has shattered the lie that radical political and economic change isn't possible. With millions unemployed and the Arctic burning, the case for a radical Green New Deal - rooted in public ownership, rapid decarbonisation and climate justice - has never been stronger. Now is decidedly not the time to scale back our ambitions.

This branch resolves

that Labour International CLP commits to supporting and campaigning for the socialist Green New Deal overwhelmingly endorsed by the 2019 Labour Party Conference, for a real green recovery.

## **64. Votes for Life (ratified – already LI policy)**

This CLP Notes:

1. That external voting operations are complex and pose considerable challenges (i).

2. "Votes for life" is opposed by the Labour Party, which cites the difficulty and expense of identifying and registering long-term expatriates.
3. The globalization of political, personal and professional life, alongside an increase in migration have contributed to an increasing interest in voting rights for citizens who are temporarily or permanently absent from the UK (i).
4. While the constitutions of many countries guarantee the right to vote for all citizens, British citizens who are absent from UK for 15 years are disenfranchised.
5. The UK is one of the few developed democracies not to have "Votes for Life" for its citizens.
6. Disenfranchised voters are estimated to number more than 1 million (ii) estimates to be potentially 3 million 'overseas electors' (iii).
7. Ending the 15-year limit was a Conservative promise in the last two manifestos.
8. A Conservative private-members Bill to give the vote back to Britons living long-term overseas passed through two readings unopposed and without debate in Westminster. It was lost as it ran out of discussion time. Dr Susan Collard of Sussex University, an expert on overseas voting, called it a "travesty of democracy". (footnote French-News)

This CLP believes:

1. That the realization of the principle of universal suffrage is a democratic voting right.
2. a real increase in political participation, justifying the political effort and financial costs involved supports the legitimacy of the democratic system

This CLP calls upon the Labour Party

1. To make provision extending the basis on which British citizens outside the UK qualify to participate in parliamentary elections as well as for connected purposes.

## **65. Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill**

**This branch notes:**

1. The Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill passed its third reading in the House of Commons on 15th October 2020.
2. The Bill would amend Part II of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) to create a new process of 'Criminal Conduct Authorisations', constituting an express power for MI5,

- police forces and a range of other public authorities to authorise their agents and informants ("Covert Human Intelligence Sources" "CHIS") to commit criminal offences.
3. This legislation would license offences, committed during cover operations, for a wide range of public authorities, from the intelligence services and the police, to the Gambling Commission and the Food Standards Agency.
  4. The Bill places no limits on the types of crimes which can be authorised, with no express prohibition on human rights violations, including murder, torture, kidnap, or sexual offences. It allows state agents to commit crimes to stay undercover. There is no provision for innocent victims to get compensation.
  5. In placing current guidelines on a statutory footing, the Bill would give legal basis to the infiltration of trade unions, as grounds for criminal conduct would include not only 'national security', but also 'preventing disorder'.
  6. Not only does this Bill make it impossible to prosecute such crimes, it gives prior authorisation to commit them and with no judicial oversight. As such it is weaker than comparable laws for phone-tapping, despite involving potentially far more harmful conduct.
  7. That past victims of such covert operations include Pat Finucane, the Orgreave picketers, the Hillsborough victims, and multiple women who were abused as the result of state infiltration of environmental and social justice campaign groups.
  8. That Labour Party leader Keir Starmer issued a one-line whip to abstain on the third reading of the Bill. He has since expressed what sounds like full support for the bill, claiming it was "impossible" to argue that the Bill would allow undercover agents to torture people.
  9. That 34 Labour MPs ignored the whip and voted against the bill.
  10. That Unite the Union has launched a campaign against the bill

**This branch believes:**

1. This Bill is part of a wider project by this government to wrest key scrutiny powers away from parliament and the judiciary.
2. This Bill has alarming and destructive implications for all progressive movements in the UK as well as the trade union movement in general.
3. Keir Starmer was wrong to whip his MPs into abstaining on the bill.



4. The prohibition of torture, sexual violence and murder on behalf of the British state must be absolute.

**This branch resolves:**

1. That the Labour Party must oppose this Government's ongoing project to place British authorities above the law.
2. That the Labour Party must not just oppose this bill, which seeks to put these activities on a statutory footing, but should also support making any criminal activity on behalf of the British state illegal.
3. To condemn the decision to abstain against Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill and call on the leadership to now unreservedly oppose it.
4. To thank the 34 Labour MPs who refused to follow the whip and who voted against the bill.
5. To publicly campaign against the Covert Human Intelligence Sources (Criminal Conduct) Bill.
6. To publicly campaign on behalf of victims of covert operations, and support the Pat Finucane Centre, the Orgreave Truth and Justice campaign, the Hillsborough Justice Campaign, and Police Spies Out of Lives in their work to expose covert criminality by the British state.

**67. Forde report**

1. This Branch notes with deep concern the indefinite delay to the promised publication of the Forde Report<sup>1</sup>
2. This Branch further notes the letters from Labour BAME MPs and NEC member Howard Beckett.<sup>2</sup>
3. We believe firmly that further delay to publication will be harmful to the Labour Party and to our standing with BAME voters and BAME members in particular.
4. The Labour Party should act to erase any form of racism or prejudice, bigotry towards or exclusion of any ethnic group and follow procedures laid down in the Chakrabarti Report.
5. Party democracy is weakened by a lack of transparency.
6. This Branch expresses our full support, solidarity and agreement with the signatories of the letter from BAME MPs and with that from Howard Beckett.
7. This Branch requests the NEC to urgently press the leadership to hold to its commitment and urge the immediate publication of the Forde report without further delay or obfuscation.