

LI Policy – Motions passed (traceable)

April 2021 - 2022

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APRIL 2021

Climate Justice LIM73

This CLP notes:

1. UK spends more on supporting fossil fuels than renewable energy.
2. The communities hardest hit by climate change are those that have contributed least to the problem: the poor, the indigenous, the global south.
3. UK is a key holder and enforcer of globally accrued debt.
4. UK currently does not recognise climate displacement as grounds for refugee status.

This CLP believes:

1. Destruction of ecosystems is a crime.
2. Transition costs should be borne by the polluters.
3. Debt cancellation is essential to climate justice.
4. The urgency and size of the climate emergency requires the replacement of market actors with state and international institutions as a necessary stage towards ending our dependence on the extraction of fossil fuels.

This CLP resolves to support:

1. Immediate transfer of all fossil fuel support to Just Transition funds. Cancellation of future oil/gas licensing rounds. Legislation to prevent future licensing.
2. Just Transition including green jobs guarantee for oil/gas workers.
3. Link future stimulus/bailout eligibility to climate action and Just Transition for workers.
4. Cancel all developing country debt held by UK government or banks.
5. Legislation preventing UK courts being used to stop developing countries from halting payments.
6. Setting the standard on honest carbon accounting without recourse to unproven carbon capture technologies.
7. Delisting companies failing to protect workers and the environment in the global supply chain.
8. Aiding climate resilience in global south via cross-border sharing of technology/intellectual property.
9. Freeze public investment in activities carrying a significant risk of ecological destruction.
10. Adequate funding for research and development into climate studies and green technologies

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11. Use of public procurement to create community wealth and climate resilience.

12. Building links internationally with indigenous groups, trade unions and other actors resisting ecological assault.

13. Legal recognition of climate refugees' right to asylum under UK and international law.

14. Labour-run authorities to become Cities of Sanctuary

Myanmar Coup LIM74

This CLP condemns unreservedly the military coup which has taken place in Myanmar.

This CLP notes:

1. The National League for Democracy (NLD) won the November 2020 general election with overwhelming popular support

2. There is no evidence to substantiate claims from the military junta that there were widespread irregularities in the conduct of the election

3. Continuing huge protests within Myanmar from the population have been met with violence from the military with some 500 civilians murdered so far

4. The number of deaths will inevitably mount if the junta continues its campaign to crush dissent by shooting people

5. Previous decades of military rule have brought nothing but poverty, misery and corruption to Myanmar leaving it in a desperate state which the attempted coup will only exacerbate.

This CLP believes:

1. The people of Myanmar are showing remarkable resistance and bravery. What is needed in addition is overwhelming opposition from the international community to convince the military junta to accept the result of the election and hand power to the legitimate government, thereby averting catastrophe

2. Lack of a united international opposition to the coup will consign the people of Myanmar to years of totalitarian rule, the deaths of more people protesting against the coup and a return to the oppression that previous military rule brought.

3. Further deterioration of the situation within Myanmar will affect neighbouring countries, so it is in every country's interest to take action now.

This CLP resolves:

1. To call on the Shadow Foreign Secretary to urge the UK government to pressure China and leaders of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) to oppose the coup

2. To call on the UK government to refuse to recognize the military junta and to urge the coup leaders to release all political prisoners and cease violence against protesters.

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3. To urge the UK government to follow up its sanctions on Myanmar military-linked companies by redirecting financial assistance away from the government of Myanmar to support and strengthen Burmese civil society.

4. To support all refugees forced to flee the violence, including those from the Burmese security forces.

5. To build support for a global arms embargo against Myanmar.

6. To encourage financial support for the All Burma Federation of Trade Unions and Mutual Aid Myanmar.

Labour International resolves to send a donation of £200 to the All Burma Federation of Trade Unions.

Emergency motion on Northern Ireland LIM75

This branch notes with concern and alarm the outbreaks of rioting in Northern Ireland. These riots come as a direct result of the broken promises Boris Johnson and the DUP made to the people of Northern Ireland over Brexit, and we firmly reject attempts by the DUP to divert the cause of the riots onto sectarian divisions.

This branch believes that the current situation threatens the 23 years of relative peace that followed the Good Friday Agreement, which was one of the finest achievements of the last Labour Government.

We call on the Labour Opposition to do all within its means to uphold the provisions of the GFA and hold the Govt. to account over its failures towards all communities in NI.

May 2021

Gypsy, Roma and Travellers LIM76

As a Labour Party branch based in countries facing massive problems with racism against substantial Roma populations, we are very concerned that the UK is providing a very bad example by introducing new anti-Gypsy, Roma and Traveller legislation in England and Wales. **We note that:**

1. Despite the fact that under the 2010 Equality Act, Gypsies, Roma and Travellers (GRT) are protected ethnic minority groups, the 2019 Conservative Party Manifesto included an explicitly anti-traveller policy, aiming to give the police "new powers to arrest and seize the property and vehicles of trespassers who set up unauthorised encampments... [and] make intentional trespass a criminal offence".

2. The Home Office has announced their intention to implement their proposals in England and Wales.

3. There are estimated to be 60,000+ Gypsies, Roma and/or Travellers in the UK, 20,000+ of whom follow a wholly or partly travelling lifestyle.

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This CLP believes that...

1. The great majority of police forces advise against the Home Office proposal and an All-Party Parliamentary Group has strongly advised against criminalising trespass laws.

2. The proposed legislation would be in conflict with Human Rights and Equality legislation and would further exacerbate the bias and discrimination suffered daily by GRT people. It criminalises a traditional way of life for the GRT community and will marginalise Gypsies and Travellers further. The proposal to strengthen authorities' powers to confiscate people's homes is inhumane.

3. The powers already exist to address unauthorised stopping.

4. There are insufficient numbers of official permanent sites and temporary stopping sites for Gypsies, Roma and Travellers. For example, there is no provision in the Thames Valley area for a transit site or negotiated stopping place; it would require at least 3 locations in Oxfordshire alone.

5. The solution is, and has always been, adequate site provision across the country, inclusive of transit sites and negotiated stopping. Investment is needed in legitimate stopping places, including easy access to good quality basic services / facilities necessary to maintain decent living conditions.

This CLP resolves to...

1. Reject the Home Office's proposal to change the laws relating to unauthorised encampments, and communicate that decision to the Home Secretary.

2. Request those councils work with GRT advisors to ensure adequate site provision, inclusive of transit sites and negotiated stopping.

3. Encourage the All-Party Parliamentary Group to put pressure on the Home Office to provide sufficient funding to councils for provision of adequate numbers of well-serviced sites with good basic facilities for GRT people.

4. Offer continuing support to Gypsy, Roma and Travellers community / campaign groups, including the Labour GRT campaign.

5. Call on the Labour Party to strongly object to and oppose this discriminatory proposal both in Parliament and elsewhere and to ban anti-GRT prejudice in party meetings, communications and campaign materials, and to investigate members and staff who employ such rhetoric.

To establish a parliamentary inquiry into malpractice at the Department of Work and Pensions between 2010-2015 LIM77

This CLP Notes:

1 That academics at Sheffield Hallam University have uncovered widespread unethical practices aimed at reducing the number of benefit claimants between 2010-2015. *

2 That front-line staff at job centres applied harmful psychological techniques to deter benefit applicants from making benefit claims they were entitled to.

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3 That the Cameron-Clegg coalition government instigated this policy change in 2010 and monitored the results in terms of “off-benefit flows” representing the number of claimants no longer receiving benefits they were entitled to.

This CLP Believes:

- 1 That the wider public should be made aware of this research
- 2 That this DWP policy is similar to the ‘hostile environment’ policy of the Home Office that led to the Windrush scandal
- 3 That this policy was an integral part of the austerity programme of the coalition govt which led to a general increase in UK poverty levels, and was strongly criticised by the UN special rapporteur for extreme poverty**

This CLP Resolves:

- 1 To ask the shadow minister for Work and Pensions to raise this matter in the Commons
- 2 To demand a parliamentary inquiry into this policy and to investigate if these practices remain in use today at job centres in the UK
- 3 To ask PCS, the trade union representing the front-line workers who implement such policies to organise channels to encourage their members to report the implementation of such malpractice anonymously so that their employment prospects will not be jeopardized.
- 4 That the Labour Party supports the BDS movement, and strongly opposes any ground invasion of Gaza.

Footnote:

* Research paper ‘Violent Bureaucracy’ by Sheffield Hallam University

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/026101832110017666>

**<https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FHRC>

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North West France emergency motion on Palestine LIM78

This branch strongly condemns the shocking violence perpetrated by Israeli forces at the Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem. While attacking a place of worship would be abhorrent at any time, to do so repeatedly during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan is just one more reprehensible low for the Israeli state.

Furthermore, the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian families in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood of East Jerusalem by violent settlers assisted by the Israeli security forces is totally unacceptable. The international community must condemn this and implement sanctions on the Israeli state to cease these actions.

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This branch calls on the Labour Party to express full support for the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions campaign in an effort to force the Israeli government to consider the consequences of their actions when they oppress and brutalise the Palestinian people.

We call on the Labour Party to seek support from other political parties to do the same, and to pressurise the governments of the UK into seeking justice for the Palestinian people.

S. Spain, Canaries and Gibraltar emergency motion on Palestine LIM79

This General committee observes with horror the recent events in Jerusalem including Israeli forces attacks on peaceful religious worship, the Hamas attacks on Israel and the renewed Israeli bombardment of Gaza which have triggered communal disturbances in those parts of Israel where previously Jewish and Arab citizens lived side by side.

We call on the NEC to

1 Unequivocally condemn the bombing of Gaza by the Israeli state. It is inhuman to target civilians, including children, residential tower blocks and the social infrastructure of Gaza, on the pretext of 'defence' against Hamas rocket attacks opposing the policy of collective punishment meted out by this regional super power.

2 Condemn the continued violation of international law with the further encroachment of Jewish settlers into Arab land, and especially in Jerusalem. East Jerusalem has long been inhabited by Arab Palestinians, many of them in the same area for generations. The Israeli state, with a nod and a wink to 'unofficial' settlers, has been using ancient ownership deeds, or the absences of property deeds, as a pretext to hound or to expel Palestinians from East Jerusalem.

3 Opposes any ground invasion of Gaza by the Israeli state forces which would serve to exacerbate the already tense situation.

4 We cannot support religious or ethnic discrimination anywhere it raises its ugly head and at the moment we see the results of such policies being played out daily on our TV screens. Labour must stand with the oppressed and for the unity of the peoples of Israel and the occupied territories as well as the entire Middle East

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Netherlands emergency motion on Palestine LIM80

This branch notes:

1. that during the past week Israeli military forces and far-right extremists have attacked Palestinian civilians on numerous occasions, including attacking the Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem where congregants were gathered for Ramadan prayer; attacking families with children gathered for community celebration at the Damascus Gate, Jerusalem; and attacking residents participating in political protest at the Damascus Gate and in the Sheikh Jarrah neighbourhood;
2. that the residents of Sheikh Jarrah in Jerusalem are being forcibly evicted from their homes;
3. that these attacks have resulted in the deaths of civilians including children and provoked an escalation of reciprocal violence, including the bombing of multiple civilian targets;
4. that intentional attacks on civilian populations, individuals and infrastructure are designated war crimes by the UN(1);
5. that forcible displacement of population in the context of a 'widespread or systematic attack on a civilian population' is designated a crime against humanity by the UN (2);
6. that the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, and Human Rights Watch have recognised the treatment of the Palestinians by the Israeli administration and military as constituting the crime of apartheid, which is a crime against humanity (3, 4, 5);

This branch believes:

1. that all people have a right to live peacefully, free from violence, colonisation, oppression and persecution;
2. that strategically targeting families with children and attacking a place of worship are particularly abhorrent acts of state violence;
3. that this treatment of Palestinians in East Jerusalem and the Occupied Territories constitutes the crimes of apartheid and ethnic cleansing;
4. that the attacks on civilians at the Al Aqsa mosque and the Damascus Gate, the forcible dispossession of residents of Sheikh Jarrah, and the destruction of civilian buildings and neighbourhoods should therefore be investigated as war crimes and as crimes against humanity, and that those individuals found responsible should face trial in the ICC;

This branch resolves to call upon the LP leadership to

1. unequivocally condemn the actions of the Israeli government and military in Jerusalem and the Occupied Territories;
2. support legal measures that may be taken by the international community to pressure Israel into meeting its international obligations, and pressure the UK government to adopt the same measures;

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3. That the Labour Party supports the BDS movement, and strongly opposes any ground invasion of Gaza.

4. advocate the investigation of Israeli government and military high command with a view to possible prosecution in the ICC, and pressure the UK government to advocate this as a member of the UN;

5. reach out to Palestinian members of the Labour Party in solidarity and hold an event to hear and respond to their needs for Party support.

To be sent to the leader's office, the shadow foreign secretary and the NEC.

(1) <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/war-crimes.shtml>

(2) <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/crimes-against-humanity.shtml>

(3) <https://www.un.org/unispal/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/AHRC43NGO185.pdf>

(4) <https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/crimes-against-humanity.shtml>

(5) <https://www.hrw.org/report/2021/04/27/threshold-crossed/israeli-authorities-and-crimes-apartheid-and-persecution>

June 2021

Selection of Candidates - Proposed Rule Change for Conference LIM81

Preamble

In order to make the party truly democratic, Labour International CLP proposes a rule change that the final arbiter on Labour Party candidate selections be the Constituency Labour Party branches and their membership. This would include long and short lists for all candidate selections concerning local branches and regions. Labour Party officials are welcome to add their input but the membership should have the final say.

Proposed Rule Change

Currently, Rule 5.I.2 reads

Party units shall act in accordance with guidance that shall be issued by the NEC in the application of these rules. The NEC has the authority to modify these rules and any procedural rules and guidelines as required to meet particular circumstances or to further the stated objectives and principles of these rules. Further the NEC has the power to impose candidates where it deems this is required by the circumstances.

Delete the second and third sentences.

Rule now reads

Party units shall act in accordance with guidance that shall be issued by the NEC in the application of these rules.

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Deliberative Democracy and Citizens' Assemblies - Motion to Conference LIM82

This CLP believes that

1. Citizens' Assemblies, if used widely, increase trust in the democratic process by allowing wider and more representative participation in political decision making.
2. A key component of citizens' assemblies is its deliberative nature supporting arrival at conclusions and recommendations based on informed discussion.

This CLP notes that

1. Citizens' Assemblies have been initiated in Canada, the Irish Republic, Denmark and several other countries.
2. Their wide use in Canada has resulted in improved public trust of the political process, with 76% either satisfied or very satisfied with the way democracy works (2019) compared with 48% in UK.

This CLP calls on the Labour Party

1. To position wide use of Citizens' Assemblies at the centre of its future programme for constitutional reform.

A Solution for Palestine LIM83

We support the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and rather than determining a specific desired political outcome, we see the role of the Labour Party as protecting the rights of the Palestinian people under international law, thus supporting justice and democratic process and enabling the Palestinians to determine their own political future.

Labour International CLP:

1. notes that support for a two-state solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict is Labour Party policy;
2. believes that as this policy has failed to resolve the conflict over a period of 72 years it must be discarded;
3. calls on the Labour Party to discard its existing policy, to proactively support the inalienable right of the Palestinian people to self-determination; and to vigorously pursue their rights under international law, including the right of return, the end of the occupation and annexation of Palestinian territory.

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July 2021

Proscriptions of Left Wing Groups LIM84

The Labour International CLP notes with concern reports carried in the Daily Mirror of a purge of four left wing groups at Tuesday's NEC meeting and strongly condemns any factional attempt to disenfranchise the LP membership.

The CLP condemns the use of factional blanket bans as a party management tactic and thus urges Keir Starmer not to proceed as described in the Daily Mirror.

All Woman Shortlist (AWS) for the Next Leadership Election LIM85

This CLP notes that:

AWS have been very successful in increasing women's representation within the Labour Party. 51% of the PLP are now women, reflecting the fact that 51% of the electorate are women, and Labour's NEC remains "committed to upholding the principal of affirmative action for women". (2018 NEC Statement on All Women Shortlists, women's officers and minimum quotas for women.)

This CLP believes that:

It is regrettable that our party has yet to have a woman leader. AWS have been very successful in increasing the number of women Labour MPs. However, in the last leadership election, despite there being two women candidates, the only man standing was elected. The use of AWS, a device which has been so successful in improving Labour's Parliamentary makeup, should now be introduced at the highest level of the party's structure.

This CLP resolves that:

in order to ensure that the next leader of the Labour party is a woman, the shortlist should be made up of women only.

Copies of this motion to be sent to:

Angela Rayner - Deputy Leader and Chair of the Labour Party
Marsha de Cordova - Shadow Minister for Women and Equalities
Jess Phillips - Shadow Minister for Domestic Violence and Safeguarding
Ann Henderson - Chair of the Equalities Committee, NEC
The Labour Party National Womens committee

Trade Union and Labour Movement Action to End Complicity in Israeli Attacks LIM86

Whereas, over the past few weeks Israel has significantly escalated its attacks against the Palestinian people - invading Al Aqsa mosque and brutalising worshipers, unleashing settler violence on Palestinians throughout historical Palestine, declaring martial law in some areas and bombing and shelling Gaza.

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Whereas, since the start of Israel's latest escalation in violence, more than 258 Palestinians have been killed, 2,000 injured and more than 1,000 arrested throughout historic Palestine and in Palestinian refugee camps.

Whereas, Palestinians have responded to Israel's attacks with bravery and determination, building a youth-led movement uniting Palestinians across their homeland and in exile.

Whereas, Palestinians declared a general strike on May 18th in order to challenge Israel's escalating attacks, likely to be the first of many.

Whereas, Palestinian trade unions have issued an appeal and call to action asking their brothers and sisters in the international trade union movement to take immediate action to prevent further Israeli attacks.

This CLP believes that:

Israel's actions and escalation are enabled and facilitated by the impunity afforded it by sections of the international community, such as the US, Germany and the UK, who provide it with the weapons, machinery and technology to maintain its illegal occupation and to undertake its attacks. As Labour activists and trade unionists we must always stand on the side of justice, both in word and in deed.

Lobbying our governments and issuing statements must be coupled with trade union and labour movement action, ensuring that we are practically contributing to Palestinian liberation.

This CLP resolves to respond to the call by Palestinian trade unions by:

Issuing a public statement of solidarity with the Palestinian people, and expressing support for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel to bring it in line with its obligations under international law.

Taking immediate and concrete steps to ensure that, as the Labour party, we ourselves are not complicit in supporting and sustaining Israeli oppression, and to examine our investments including:

Working to cut any ties with firms complicit in the Israeli occupation

Encouraging workers to refuse to handle Israeli goods and/or supporting those refusing to build Israeli weapons

Actively, as a CLP, in future general strikes called by Palestinian popular organisations and trade unions by holding protests and vigils on these dates and promoting information through our social media accounts and email lists

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Women and COVID LIM87

We note that:

1. Women have been affected disproportionately by the pandemic and for the most vulnerable it has been even worse.
2. Women are more likely to be in agency/zero-hour/part-time work and so are at high risk of COVID-related unemployment.
3. Women are more likely to be employed in non-remote, high-exposure, front-line work.
4. Pregnant women are facing increased illegal discrimination over maternity/return to work rights.
5. Women (90% of single parents) are more likely to leave employment to meet child-care/home-schooling needs.
6. Domestic violence has worsened with deaths increasing from 2 to 5 a week. Social distancing/increased isolation have made it more difficult to access help.

We believe that:

1. Progress towards gender equality in pay and work access has been set back considerably.
2. COVID related issues/problems will continue to have negative impacts on mental and physical health, and women as carers will continue carrying the burden of care for other family members.
3. Now is the opportunity to resolve gender inequality. Any post-COVID recovery plan must address this issue.

We call on:

The Labour Party leadership to develop a comprehensive COVID-recovery plan and push the government to address the specific needs of women to:

1. Bridging the gender pay and pension gap (short and long-term).
2. Retraining women for secure, better-paid employment.
3. Providing
 - a. legally protected access to secure, flexible working opportunities
 - b. subsidised well-paid professional child-care
 - c. direct income support for women
 - d. more funding to women's refuges
 - e. extra support for hard-hit sectors with high female employment.

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Islamophobia in the Labour Party LIM88

This branch welcomes Kim Leadbeater's victory in the recent Batley & Spen by-election and wishes her every success in her new role as Labour MP.

We note that despite the fact that Labour won this by-election, the Labour lead in the seat was reduced from 6.7% to 0.9% of the total vote.

We are alarmed by the negative briefings by alleged Labour officials which attribute this reduction of the vote share to "the conservative Muslim vote over gay rights and Palestine" and claim that the campaign "won back a lot of 2019 Tory voters". It was also claimed that "This result shows we're reconnecting with the wider electorate again," implying that the Muslim community is not a valued part of this wider electorate. These comments echo similar remarks made in the recent past by a "senior Labour official" to the Mail on Sunday concerning a so-called Muslim "backlash"¹.

We note the statement of the Labour Muslim Network that "There is pretty unprecedented dissatisfaction among Muslim voters, not just in Batley, but around the country", and has called the briefings out as "deeply rooted in Islamophobia".

We welcome the comment made by the Deputy Leader Angela Rayner, "I will be ensuring that the Party investigates this reported comment in line with our Party's rules and processes. Anybody who has made these comments should and will be dealt with in line with our independent disciplinary procedures, which I have no role in as Deputy Leader.

We resolve to:

- 1 ask our leadership to reject these divisive and racist briefings,
- 2 demand officials, campaigners and activists desist from making such comments, and
- 3 request that the NEC instruct the GLU to investigate these remarks and to take immediate appropriate action against the party officials responsible.

¹ <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-9704175/DAN-HODGES-Whos-spreading-poison-final-nail-Keir-Starmers-coffin.html>

Mail on Sunday, 19 June 2021

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Social Care LIM89

This CLP notes that the 2019 annual party conference voting overwhelmingly in favour of a legal right to independent living, as demanded by article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability, becoming party policy.

The motion called upon a newly elected Labour government to establish a National Independent Living Support Service (NILSS). A Service:

- that gives new universal right to independent living
- enshrined in law and delivered through a new national independent living service co-created between government and Disabled people,
- funded through general taxation and managed by central government,
- led by Disabled people and delivered locally in co-production with Disabled people.

It also notes the statement by Keir Starmer "I want this to be the best country to grow old in."

We further note with interest that during his successful campaign to be elected party leader Keir Starmer supported the policy motion's call for a National Independent Living Support Service (NILSS) funded through general taxation and managed by central government.

Labour International therefore condemns the statement by Thangam Debbonaire, shadow leader of the House of Commons, that introducing free social care for disabled and older people would "give the Tories a stick to beat Labour with".

We consider that it is essential to make the provision of all social care free to the recipient as is the case for health care under the NHS and for social care to be needs-based and publicly funded, free at the point of use.

We urge Keir Starmer to restate publicly his support for the motion on free social care which he endorsed during his campaign for party leader.

We also urge Angela Rayner, who was an organiser in the care sector for Unison before she became an MP, to make her position clear on the subject.

Send to NEC, Keir Starmer, Angela Rayner, Thangnam Debbonaire, Liz Kendall

Global climate justice LIM90

This branch believes that international climate justice must be put at the core of Labour Party environmental and trade policy. There is no such thing as a Just Transition in one country. "Green" technology is only green if you address the global supply chains that produce it. Workers in the Global South are our comrades - only when we link our struggles together can we win.

This branch calls on the CLP to strongly urge its delegates to follow existing Labour International policy on international climate justice and vote for the Global Climate Justice and the Green Jobs motions in the priorities ballot at Conference.

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New Internationalism LIM91

This branch reaffirms the 2019 Manifesto commitment to a New Internationalism and notes that Labour puts human rights, support for International Law and tackling climate change at the heart of our international policies.

We recognise that failed military interventions in countries such as Iraq and Libya have made the world a more insecure place and have accelerated the refugee crisis.

We believe that diplomacy is the most effective way to protect the British people and enhance Britain's global influence for peace in the world.

A future Labour government should resolve:

1. To introduce legislation to ensure that no Prime Minister can bypass Parliament to commit British military personnel to military action;

2. To implement the recommendations of the Chilcott Inquiry;

3. To conduct an audit of the impact of Britain's colonial legacy to understand its impact on the social and economic situation in former colonies, including the Mandate;

To reprioritise our diplomatic service to secure Britain's global role as a country which promotes peace, negotiates ambitious global climate agreements and works through international organisations to secure political settlements to critical issues.

August 2021

No GC Meeting

September 2021

Standing Labour Party Candidates in Elections in Northern Ireland LIM92

Central & Eastern Europe

This Branch/CLP notes that:

1. Residents in Northern Ireland have been allowed to join the Labour Party since 2003.

2. These members are organised as a single, province-wide CLP, known as the Labour Party in Northern Ireland (LPNI), which covers 18 electoral constituencies.

3. This CLP had well over 2000 members at its peak, plus about seven hundred more supporters.

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4. These members pay their membership subscriptions, elect an executive committee, send delegates to Annual and Women's Conference, submit motions and responses to policy consultations, have a representative on the NPF, and vote in Labour Party internal elections like any other CLP in the UK.
5. Northern Ireland also has the highest density of Trade Union membership in the UK, the main Unions being UNITE, UNISON, GMB, USDAW and BFAWU, which are all affiliated to the Labour Party.
6. The members of these unions contribute a large sum of money to the Labour Party in the form of political levies.
7. In spite of all this, the Labour Party does not allow members in Northern Ireland to stand as candidates in local, regional or national elections.
8. For a number of years the executive of the LPNI and NI trade union leaders have strongly expressed the demand from their members to have the same opportunity to run, campaign for and vote for Labour Party candidates as in all other parts of the UK, but they have so far met with a negative response from the party.

This branch/CLP Believes that:

1. To continue denying Labour Party members and supporters in Northern Ireland the possibility of running, campaigning and voting for Labour party candidates in NI elections is a serious infringement of their basic democratic rights.
2. The previous reasons given for refusing to change this rule are now outdated and invalid.
3. Labour is the only party in Northern Ireland with close connections to the trade unions, and therefore the only one capable of representing the political interests of trade union members there.
4. Labour is the only left wing, anti-sectarian, cross community party in NI. The people of NI are being denied the possibility of voting for a party with those characteristics.
5. NI is home to a growing number of people from ethnic minorities, who find the Labour Party represents their interests better than the other NI parties.
6. Disabled people and those from the LBG+ community also find Labour more in tune with their needs.
7. LPNI attracts members from both side of the sectarian divide who want to be able to campaign and vote for more progressive policies than the other NI parties are promoting.
8. In refusing to stand candidates in NI, the Labour Party is leaving all these people without a political voice. This discrimination and distortion of the 'free expression of the will of the people' contravenes Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

LI Policy – Motions passed (traceable)

April 2021 - 2022

This branch/CLP

Calls on the NEC and Labour Party leadership to urgently review this situation, in consultation with the LPNI and affiliated Union NI sections. Then, with their agreement, to make and implement appropriate plans to optimise the organisation of the Labour Party in Northern Ireland, to register it as a political party in the province, and to enable Labour Party members in NI to stand as candidates in local, Stormont Assembly and Westminster elections.

Motion on Labour Staff LIM93

Netherlands

This CLP welcomes the news that Labour is not planning compulsory redundancies, and note with regret that 80 staff members are leaving the party imminently. We further note with alarm the perilous state of Party finances and falling membership numbers, and the threat this poses to the Party's ability to organise to win future elections.

We believe that Labour should lead by example and seek to hire core staff on long term contracts, it should only use temporarily contracts where appropriate such as staffing up for a General Election campaign. Agency staff should not be used under any circumstances. We believe that its electoral success relies on fostering a strong and motivated team of staff and organisers to connect with communities and constituencies facing deprivation under a Tory government.

We resolve to express our solidarity and support to Labour staff members facing job insecurity in this difficult time, and the unions representing them. We further resolve to call upon the party leadership to do everything in its power to reverse the drop in Party membership and resulting deficit in Party finances.

This motion to be sent to the NEC and relevant Unite and GMB contacts.

Reference:

<https://www.unitetheunion.org/news-events/news/2021/september/no-compulsory-redundancies-for-labour-party-staff-unions-told/>

Motion on Unite Elections LIM94

Netherlands

This CLP congratulates Sharon Graham on becoming the first woman General Secretary of Unite, and wishes her success in the post.

Motion to be sent to the office of the Unite General Secretary

LI Policy – Motions passed (traceable)

April 2021 - 2022

October 2021

ACTION AGAINST DEMONSTRATORS IN MONTENEGRO LIM95

Central & Eastern Europe

This CLP:

1. strongly condemns the disproportionate use of aggression by the authorities of the Montenegro State against peaceful demonstrators in the city of Cetinje on 5th September 2021.

2. notes that over 300 teargas canisters ,several dozen Flashbang Grenades and Rubber Bullets were used in a 5 hour time frame, causing injury to demonstrators, including the President of the SDP Ranko Krivokapic.

3. agrees that a message of solidarity will be forwarded to the appropriate individuals and groups in Montenegro and

1. **the message be sent** to Alex Sobel MP, Chair of APPG for Montenegro and to Catherine West MP, Shadow Foreign Minister for Europe.

November 2021

NHS LIM96

Americas

This CLP notes:

1.the personal experiences of many Labour Party members and supporters in countries with Healthcare for Profit Systems, most notably the U.S.A., which warn of the dangers of privatised healthcare systems. That the Conservative Government is seeking to destroy the National Health Service by making it available for purchase by private healthcare corporations,

This CLP therefore calls on the Labour Party leadership to:

1.adopt a position of unequivocal support for the National Health Service and a position of outright opposition to any and all forms of privatization of the NHS;

2.commit to vote against any and all forms of privatization of the NHS;

3.commit to returning all privatized portions of the NHS to public control immediately upon forming a Government;

4.not accept donations from companies interested in outsourcing NHS functions;

5.immediately launch a public campaign against privatization of the NHS and actively and vigorously support any current campaigns, including but not limited to, that being conducted by Keep our NHS Public; We Own It; and similar activist groups;

6.publicly support all NHS Trade Unions campaigning to return to and retain all public control of the NHS, including, but not limited to any legal Industrial action.

LI Policy – Motions passed (traceable)

April 2021 - 2022

December 2021

No GC Meeting

January 2022

Local Electricity Bill motion LIM97

Portugal

INTRODUCTION :The financial and organisational obstacles inhibiting the development of community and local authority energy generation and supply could be lifted by the carriage of The Local Electricity Bill. 2nd reading 25th February 2022.

This CLP notes that Local Electricity generation and supply:-

- i. Extends democratic control over infrastructure, power, heat and pricing
- ii. Enables transmission distances in which electric power is lost, to be shortened through the establishment of 'local grids'.
- iii. Enables electricity to be generated from renewable and local sources - solar and wind, but also geothermal from granite (Eden Project geodomes; St Austell) Limestone Karst (potential being developed at Durham University) Geothermal borehole (Southampton UK), hydro (Totnes, Devon) waste heat and , short-range, in-shore tidal turbine (Orkney), wave power, subject to energy audits biomass - waste food, (Wales) sewage sludge (Japan, China), brash waste wood (Swaffham Prior, SE Cambridgeshire), Pallet waste wood (Lot, France), hi-energy industry waste heat (Heineken), data centres, steel works.
- iv. Spreads energy security risks across different sources in different areas and removes control from sources of concentrated power - mega energy companies, central government and foreign powers
- v. Obviates the need for international transportation of energy sources via hi-embedded carbon transmission pipelines (Oil and natural gas) or sea (wood pellets currently from USA - often hardwood tree stock)
- vi. Lowers the kWh price tag helping obviate fuel poverty
- vii. Generates an extra revenue stream for Local authorities via Municipal Energy Companies and for Community Energy Enterprises.

LI Policy – Motions passed (traceable)

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This CLP calls upon the Labour International General Committee to adopt as LI, and The Labour Party to adopt as Labour Party policy;

the provisions of The Local Electricity Bill and the principles of local energy generation, to the extent that they do not interfere with any genuine national strategies to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible. We call on MPs, ministers and shadow ministers to support this bill on 25th February and its further progress through parliament. This CLP urges LI members to write to their MPs urging them to support the Bill at its second reading.

Motion on candidate selection LIM98

Southern France

INTRO: The NEC took control of Labour's by-election process in Old Bexley and Sidcup, despite a rule change passed by Labour Party conference which explicitly gave local CLPs control over Westminster by-elections and snap elections.

This CLP, notes:

- 1) Labour's Annual Conference is the sovereign body of the Labour Party. The Rule Book, Chapter 1.VI.1 clearly states: "The work of the Party shall be under the direction and control of Party conference";
- 2) The composition of shortlisting panels for snap parliamentary elections was agreed by Labour's 2021 Annual Conference as: 3 CLP reps, plus 1 NEC rep and 1 REC rep;
- 3) Despite this, the Party assembled a shortlisting panel for the Old Bexley and Sidcup by-election selection which comprised of: 3 NEC reps, plus 1 CLP rep and 1 REC rep;
- 4) The justification for not following the rule agreed by Annual Conference was, apparently, that the new rule was "inexpertly drafted";
- 5) The Party employs staff to advise on "technical" matters and in the past, if HQ had considered something was 'poorly drafted' staff would have advised the CLP before Annual Conference;
- 6) Whether the drafting was carried out "expertly" or not, the intention of the rule was clear to Conference and remains clear today.

This CLP supports the decision of Annual Conference and believe that CLPs should play the key role in selecting their parliamentary candidates. Therefore, this Branch calls on LI to demand that the NEC follows the decision of Conference that the composition of shortlisting panels should in be: 3 CLP reps, plus 1 NEC rep and 1 REC rep. That is to say, the Labour Conference Decision on Shortlisting Panels Should be Respected.

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Arguments in support.

Passing NEC procedures for a by-election selection with 3 NEC reps 1 CLP and 1 REC is to ignore the decision taken by Conference for these shortlists to be decided by a panel of 3 CLP 1 NEC and 1 REC rep.

The rule change agreed at Conference represents a view shared across a broad swathe of party members that by-elections and snap elections should not be used as an excuse to override the rights of members to choose their candidates. The excuses traditionally given to do this, (equalities considerations, legalistic concerns, media scrutiny), simply do not wash especially given the unfortunate habit of the NEC to impose candidates for short term political gain and to the detriment of Party democracy.

The NEC's constitutional role and responsibility is to issue guidance and not to overturn Conference decisions. This is because Conference is sovereign.

Chapter 1.VI.1 states: "The work of the Party shall be under the direction and control of Party conference". The NEC's discretionary powers to issue procedural guidance and intervene in selections should be understood in light of that.

While it is true that Chapters 5.I.2 gives the NEC discretionary powers to issue its own procedural guidelines on selections and ultimately impose candidates. These powers are supposed to be used in the face of exceptional circumstances and the NEC is not permitted to use its discretion unreasonably. Similarly, Chapter 2.II.7 states that the Party must exercise its discretion in good faith and not treat members unfairly. In other words, Party rules do not allow the NEC to use its discretion to fundamentally change Conference amendments.

February 2022

Luxembourg

Motion on affiliation of Labour International to the Care4Calais charity LIM99

This CLP notes the longstanding situation on the French side of the Channel coast, where thousands of migrants who wish to seek asylum in the UK are unable to travel to the UK by normal means and live in the most squalid of conditions in makeshift camps along the French coast near Calais and Dunkerque. Members of the CLP have been painfully aware of the situation, as many travel regularly through this area of France.

The organisation Care4Calais has provided a minimum of support to these migrants since 2016, in the form of tents, bedding, clothing, hygiene and food. They neither encourage nor discourage them from their chosen aim of reaching the UK and , but provide the most basic of human needs. The Luxembourg Branch of LI has fundraised and provided volunteer support to Care4Calais on two occasions in the last 3 years.

LI Policy – Motions passed (traceable)

April 2021 - 2022

Care4Calais is a UK organisation and its action is in line with Labour's socialist principles of solidarity, tolerance and respect for everyone, regardless of status or place of origin.

The LI General Committee calls upon Labour International to financially and morally support the Care4Calais organisation by affiliating with it at a cost of £200 per year. This seems entirely appropriate as most of LI's members are themselves migrants living in Europe and, like Care4Calais, LI operates where the UK meets the rest of the world.

LISEAC

Open Selection LIM100

LI reaffirms its support for Open Selection. It notes the revival of the campaign under the banner Open Selection 2022. It invites all interested members to join the Open Selection 2022 campaign and requests a brief update from the Steering Committee as a regular agenda item at future GCs. Contact: campaign@openselection.org

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