



**NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2016**

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**TRANSFORMING OUR PARTY  
TO  
TRANSFORM OUR SOCIETY**

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**RESOLUTIONS  
BOOKLET**

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## RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO LRC CONFERENCE 2016

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This booklet contains all motions and amendments submitted for discussion at LRC Conference 2016 and accepted as valid by the Conference Arrangements Committee. No constitutional amendments were submitted.

Emergency resolutions are not included. Movers will distribute copies of any emergency resolutions accepted onto the conference agenda.



# RESOLUTIONS PROPOSED TO LRC CONFERENCE 2016

## 1. EQUALITY – LRC Executive Committee

We live in a capitalist society which is riddled with inequality. Apart from the overarching inequality of living in a class-divided society, discrimination persists based on gender, race, sexuality, ability or impairment, origin/nationality, age and other ingrained inequalities. The ruling class seeks to exploit these inequalities to its advantage in order to keep peoples divided from each other and so prevent people realising their shared interests and uniting to advance the common good.

Our commitment to equality and liberation must be integrated with the struggle for socialism. Many key progressive demands that we as socialists should make in 2016 are to stand against discrimination and prejudice. Current campaigning issues include:

- For a diversity of representation in political and public life
- Working to end to the gender and race pay gaps
- An end to pregnancy discrimination
- For a national childcare strategy and full carers rights
- For work/life balance and ‘flexibility’ for workers not employers
- Fighting sexual harassment in the workplace
- An end to violence against women and girls
- Challenging all hate crimes and the rise of the far right
- Against xenophobic prejudice and discrimination against migrants and people from ethnic minorities
- Against the targeting and sanctioning of disabled people by the benefits system
- Against the cuts in payments for independent living and vital home support
- For trans rights at work and in civil society
- For full pensions rights for same sex partners
- For a recognition of neurodiversity
- For a positive view of mental health
- An end to religious exemptions to LGBT workers’ employment rights
- A end to racist policing
- An end to age discrimination in employment and wider society

In addition to these ‘domestic’ demands the LRC also recognises that equality issues are key internationally at the moment. These include:

- the (ever present) campaigning for basic women’s rights worldwide
- Against the use of rape as a weapon of war
- Against the criminalising of homosexuality
- Opposing the violence against LGBT people worldwide
- Against religious discrimination and the use of blasphemy laws to jail and punish minorities
- Supporting key campaigns against racism such as Black Lives Matters in the US.

**EC recommends support**



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### **2. A £10/HOUR NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE FOR ALL – BFAWU**

That this LRC AGM:

totally rejects the suggestion in the British Chamber of Commerce's submission to the Low Pay Commission which suggested that the Brexit vote makes the increases to the National Living Wage to £9 by 2020 as "unaffordable" to business.

Notes:

that the Commission's 2016 report found that the number of minimum wage workers is set to rise from 5 per cent in 2015 to 8 per cent in 2016 and then to almost 14 per cent (3.7 million) in 2020, by which time one in six private sector jobs (18 per cent) is set to be paid at the minimum wage.

that low pay compounds other inequalities since "higher proportions of disabled workers, migrant workers, ethnic minorities and female workers were in minimum wage jobs than the total workforce".

that the problem is particularly acute for younger workers under 25, not covered by the falsely-named "National Living Wage". 7 out of 10 workers aged 16-17 working in a low-paying occupation like hospitality or retail, for whom the median wage is a derisory £5.29 an hour.

Resolves:

To support the inclusion in the next Labour Party general election manifesto a pledge to introduce a National Minimum Wage for all workers of at least £10 per hour, as recommended by the TUC, and to scrap exploitative "youth rates" and ensure that there is no age-discrimination in protections against low pay.

**EC recommends support**

### **3. STOP RACIST DEPORTATIONS – Hastings & Rother LRC**

The LRC condemns the Tory policy of "deport first, appeal later" which has seen so many unjust and cruel deportations from the UK, including the recent cases of the #Jamaica50.

The LRC further condemns the extension of this policy to all immigration cases under the 2016 Immigration Act.

We strongly condemn Home Secretary Amber Rudd for her inflammatory comments with regard to overseas students and workers.

The LRC calls on the Labour Party, particularly Leader Jeremy Corbyn and Shadow Home Secretary Diane Abbott, to pledge to repeal this abhorrent policy in the first 100 days of the next Labour Government and then to take steps to bring back all those unjustly deported.

**EC recommends support**



### 4. ENVIRONMENT – LRC Executive Committee

As the planet faces environmental catastrophe, the answer is not more nuclear power, fracking and aviation expansion. Britain needs an energy policy based upon clean renewables, research into carbon capture and storage, and cheap, accessible, fully integrated public transport systems.

**We must invest in infrastructure now to avoid climate disaster and kick-start the economy.** The principal target of the Paris Climate Accord is to limit the rise in world temperatures to 2C. 60% of global greenhouse gases are linked to roads, power plants, buildings, sanitation and other structures. The increasing trend for people to live in cities demands integrated public transport and energy efficient buildings. The overhaul of our heavy infrastructure needs – buildings, public transport and energy – has started, but we must ensure that it benefits people and our environment, rather than serve profit. In order to achieve this, subsidies to fossil fuels, including the huge tax breaks given to fracking, must be eliminated and government support switched to clean renewables, with better planning and green investment. The upfront costs of alternative clean investments will be offset by long term sustainability gains, fuel savings, efficiency gains, and health and societal benefits. The LRC supports the one million climate jobs campaign.

**Switch to renewables:** Britain is to phase out unabated coal-fired power stations by 2025. Already 25% of UK energy comes from renewables, including 750,000 homes generating their own energy from rooftop solar panels. The LRC supports solar panels and high environmental standards becoming part of mandatory specifications for all new and retro-fitted buildings, to reduce energy consumption, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and eliminate fuel poverty.

One of the cheapest and most popular forms of UK energy, solar PV deployment in August 2016 was one-third its August 2015 level due to Tory cuts. The switch to renewable energy requires consistent government investment, including the development of storage systems such as tidal arrays, to overcome potentially intermittent supplies. Investment benefits scientific research, education and jobs, while renewable energy gluts can provide free energy. The LRC calls for the next Labour Government to switch public investment to the renewables sector, especially encouraging community energy companies which offer local and democratically-controlled sustainable energy generation.

**Fracking is just another fossil fuel – leave it in the ground!** Fracking can only be viewed as low carbon when compared to coal. The UK Committee on Carbon Change has said that UK energy must be all but decarbonised by 2030. With no major breakthrough in carbon capture and storage, there is no future for fracking – but it can still devastate communities and countryside now. Tory posturing about localism has been exposed again in Lancashire, where over 18,000 objections were overruled as 200 supporters of fracking prevailed. The LRC opposes all subsidies, tax breaks and cash handouts (or bribes) to communities for fracking – and calls for its nationwide ban.



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**People need integrated public transport!** The LRC's priority is the day to day need of working class people for cheap, reliable, accessible and fully integrated mass transport. All such transport systems, including bus, coach, tram and train, must be publicly owned and run in the interests of people and environment, not profit. There is an urgent need for investment in rail in order to eliminate polluting, short haul flights.

**Flood protection** grants of up to £5,000 are available from government to flood-proof properties, but only after a property has been flooded. As typical flood-proofing measures reduce future damages by over £5 for every £1 invested, these grants should be available to all households in flood risk areas to help prevent flooding. Most importantly the LRC supports the FBU's call for the Fire & Rescue Service to be given a statutory duty to deal with flooding and the budget for the job.

**And don't forget: air pollution, sustainable agriculture, litter, food waste, soil contamination, endangered species, loss of habitats....**

**EC recommends support**

### **5. WE NEED BETTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT NOT ANOTHER GATWICK RUNWAY Sussex LRC**

The LRC notes:

Unsurprisingly, for a company which earns large profits but pays no corporation tax, Gatwick Airport's plans for a second runway prioritise capacity and profit over people and environment.

Gatwick's expansion plans envisage aircraft numbers on existing routes doubling, and mean more CO2 emissions. This contradicts the Paris Climate Accord which should rule out any new runway at Gatwick or Heathrow.

A new Gatwick runway would mean over 50,000 people suffering worse air quality, more even than would be affected by another Heathrow runway.

Failing to meet Government aviation noise policy including respite, noise controls and night noise, Gatwick's proposed flight paths and operating arrangements would significantly worsen the noise environment across Kent, Sussex and Surrey.

There would be a huge ecological impact with land and irreplaceable ancient woodlands bulldozed to construct a second Gatwick runway, plus many AONB threatened and demolition of 17 listed buildings.

Further environmental destruction would occur from the massive road and rail infrastructure works made necessary by Gatwick expansion.



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Gatwick's compensation plans fail current legal requirements, will result in neighbourhood blight, and worsen urbanisation problems already facing Crawley. Day in, day out, the majority of people urgently require a cheap, efficient, accessible, fully integrated public transport system. That is the LRC's transport priority, not airport expansion which provides no answers to questions of air quality, noise pollution and climate change.

Accordingly, the LRC resolves to reject a second runway at Gatwick and to campaign actively against airport expansion at both Gatwick and Heathrow. .

### **EC recommends support**

## **6. PEACE – LRC Executive Committee**

Through perpetual war, drone attacks and illegal detention, the USA and its allies strike at those who oppose the dominance of capital, while the IMF, the World Bank and their puppet governments impose savage cuts. However, across the world workers are fighting back in struggles for free governments, trades union rights, socialism, peace, justice and freedom of speech.

The LRC opposes British military forces and military equipment being deployed to prop up reactionary forces and to defend US imperialism and its allies. With British forces still active overseas and other foreign wars threatened, we need a foreign policy based upon peace, justice, solidarity and scrapping nuclear weapons. This is the global alternative – for peace and internationalism.

By the very nature of international policy, many of the goals set by previous LRC Conferences have yet to be attained. The election of Jeremy Corbyn as Labour Leader provides us with the best opportunity in generations to make Labour an internationalist party of peace and justice, within which we can build or support existing high profile campaigns in areas such as these:

- Opposition to renewal and replacement of Britain's Trident nuclear weapons.
- Opposition to British military action overseas.
- Outlawing mercenary private security contractors operating from the UK.
- Campaigning for justice for the Palestinians and the establishment of a viable Palestinian State.
- Campaigning against the development and use of Predator Drones, not only by the US but also by the UK government.
- Campaigning to ensure the UK no longer develops, manufactures or sells biological weapons.
- Calling for the closure of all foreign military bases on UK soil, and withdrawing from joint military projects such as US missile defence.
- Pushing to withdraw the UK from the international arms trade, in conjunction with industry and the trades unions, to develop alternative technologies using the skills and plant currently devoted to arms manufacture.
- Opposing the corporate plunder of global energy and mineral resources and supporting public ownership alternatives.
- Campaigning for an International Arms Trade Treaty to control the proliferation of





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small arms, and for an absolute ban on cluster bombs and depleted uranium weapons.

- Campaigning to divert defence spending and research into public services and international aid.
- Supporting Chagossian Return to the British Indian Ocean Territory (the Chagos Islands).

**EC recommends support**

### **7. DEFENCE DIVERSIFICATION**

#### **Labour CND**

The LRC AGM notes that Labour Party foreign policy is now explicitly committed to end unnecessary military interventions, committed to the peaceful resolution of conflicts and to multilateral global and regional nuclear disarmament. In order to be completely consistent this policy necessitates that Britain will not participate in nuclear proliferation and will put pressure on other countries not to do so.

The LRC, therefore, advocates that the Labour Party commits itself to:

1. scrap and not replace the Trident missile system;
2. instruct the NEC to set up a Shadow Defence Diversification Agency on which trade unions are represented. The Shadow Defence Diversification Agency will report to the Labour Party conference each year until a Labour government sets up a Defence Diversification Agency;
3. explain - while campaigning on these policies - that the Shadow Defence Diversification Agency will, if necessary, advocate the setting up of publicly-owned companies and agencies to carry out its projects if they are unlikely to be taken up by private companies.

**EC recommends support**

### **8. AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT**

#### **Hastings & Rother LRC**

Insert as new paragraph 16A after existing paragraph 16:

“With the goals of re-democratising the Labour Party and facilitating the full participation of Labour members in Party meetings, forums and conferences, during 2016-17 the LRC will encourage the holding of, promote, and organise where necessary, local workshops around the country to educate Labour members about the Party’s rules, standing orders, procedures and organisation. Such workshops can be run jointly with other left organisations which share these goals, including CLPD, Momentum, and CLPs, as considered appropriate in local areas.”

**EC recommends support**





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### 9. AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT Sussex LRC

At paragraph 22:

Insert “and democratic” between “political” and “strengths” in the final sentence, so that sentence begins: “We want to share the political and democratic strengths of the LRC tradition with Momentum...”

Add at end of paragraph 22:

“It is now an urgent priority for both the development and democracy of Momentum to hold a national conference of its members, branches and affiliates. Such a conference should be organised in the democratic traditions of the labour movement, with Momentum members, branches and affiliates deciding the policy priorities and governance structures of the organisation, and electing its national representatives and officers.”

If amended, paragraph 22 will then read:

22. The LRC was party to and welcomed the launch of Momentum. We continue to help build it and politically shape its character. Crucially, we must ensure and insist that it becomes a democratic membership body with union involvement. Working alongside others we can provide political input to turn the slogans and sentiments, which have emerged as the main achievement of Corbyn’s transformation of Labour so far, into a programme of policies for electoral success and a change in government. We want to share the political and democratic strengths of the LRC tradition with Momentum and encourage it in the most fruitful direction possible – outgoing political activity and effective, democratic organisation. It is now an urgent priority for both the development and democracy of Momentum to hold a national conference of its members, branches and affiliates. Such a conference should be organised in the democratic traditions of the labour movement, with Momentum members, branches and affiliates deciding the policy priorities and governance structures of the organisation, and electing its national representatives and officers.

**EC recommends support**

**Compositing note:** Sussex LRC’s proposed amendment to the NC statement and Sussex LRC’s amendment to any LRC Conference resolution have been composited and will be moved jointly, by mutual agreement of LRC CAC and Sussex LRC.



### 10. SOCIALISM – LRC Executive Committee

With global capitalism in control of the political agenda, there is an urgent need for a major shift of wealth and power in favour of ordinary people. This is what we mean when we say the LRC stands for the socialist transformation of society. The LRC believes that the most direct route to achieving this is through collective struggle and the election of a Labour Government with a socialist programme. This is why the LRC campaigns for workers' rights, civil liberties and political representation of the working class, as well as fighting back against those who have undermined Labour's democratic socialist traditions.

The democratic transformation of our party, the Labour Party, is key. There is much room for improvement in Labour's democratic constitution, not least in its application. As the ongoing purge makes clear, Labour staff and officials are unaccountable to the Party's membership, while many in the Parliamentary Labour Party apparently regard themselves as above the members and are happy to behave as a law unto themselves. With the election of Jeremy Corbyn at the head of a mass movement, we glimpse the start of the democratic transformation of the Labour Party into what it always should have been – a mass campaigning socialist party ready to hold its representatives to account.

The LRC has always opposed austerity, which is nothing more than a political choice to make the working class pay the price of the financial crisis, and to put a burden created by city bankers onto the backs of workers and families. Our country needs investment, providing jobs and improved living standards for all, instead of austerity cutting support and facilities in our communities for all but the wealthy elite. The National Investment Bank advocated by Labour under Corbyn and McDonnell is a first step in a direction to benefit all, as is the proposed national minimum wage of £10/hour for all.

Our aim is a society where the essential sectors of the economy are held in social ownership for everyone's benefit. To this end we support the renationalisation of the railways and the big utility companies within an economy transformed at a local level, with community-run energy generation projects, for example, and public participation not bureaucratic state control. We also believe that social ownership of the banks and the financial services sector is necessary, in order to channel the flow of investment funds through the economy to where it will benefit most people, rather than just to chase the most profits. Good examples include investment in alternative energy and re-fitting housing to provide improve and warm homes with reduced energy demands, plus the development of clean energy storage facilities, rather than subsidies to frackers.

In the short term the LRC demands the repeal of the UK's anti-union laws, which neuter the trades unions and leave workers without a full defence or proper advocates. We encourage the Shadow Minister of Labour to draw up a positive



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charter of workers' rights along the lines of the 'Manifesto for Labour Law' from the Institute of Employment Rights.

The LRC has long opposed privatisation of our public services and welfare state, whether that be called outsourcing, contracting out, PFI or anything else. We stand for an end to all private involvement in the NHS, and for restoration of a comprehensive, publicly and adequately funded health service. We support comprehensive education and Corbyn's proposed national education service, with universal free childcare, maximum class sizes of 30, free tertiary education and a programme of lifelong learning. We oppose any extension to segregation in education via academies or grammar schools and call for the abolition of private schools.

There is no lack of ideas or policies we could list (housing, tax reform, local democracy, Europe, etc), just as there is no lack of wealth in the UK or worldwide. The core problem that must be addressed is that this wealth and other resources are held in the hands of too few people.

Forward to a Corbyn-led Labour Government elected on a socialist programme!

**EC recommends support**

### **11. PROPOSAL TO AMEND LABOUR PARTY RULE BOOK 2016 Hackney LRC**

#### **Preamble**

At National Conference 2016 the NEC was increased in size from 33 to 35 members with the new nominated members of the Scottish and Welsh Party leadership. Of the 35 places the CLPs elect 6 members representing less than 20% of the votes on the NEC; in contrast the trade unions have 12 elected members and 34% of the votes. CLPs are grossly under represented on the NEC, more so given the three-fold increase in membership over the last 12 months or so.

The LRC national conference therefore supports the following amendments to the Labour Party Rule Book:-

#### **Amendments proposed ( highlighted in bold and underlined)**

##### **1. Amend CHAPTER 1 CLAUSE VIII as follows:-**

Delete "24" and insert "30" to read

"1. The NEC shall comprise:

A. **30** members elected in such proportion and under such conditions as may be set out in rules



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Chapter 3.III below and Chapter 4.III below.”

### **And 2 Amend CHAPTER 4 CLAUSE III as follows:-**

Delete “6” and “3” and insert “12” and “6” to read:

“ Division III (CLPs) shall consist of twelve members, at least six of whom shall be women, “

and delete “their own CLP and “ and “other” to read

“...to be nominated by at least two CLPs.”

Further, this LRC National Conference supports a rule change to allow Scottish and Welsh Party members to elect their NEC member and thereby disapproves of the present arrangement of these positions being the nominees of the respective national leaders.

**EC recommends remitting this motion to LRC NEC for further consideration**

**----- END OF RESOLUTIONS -----**

## **12. Appendix: Extracts from the Labour Party’s 2016 Rule Book**

### **Chapter 1 Constitutional rules**

#### **Clause VIII The National Executive Committee**

1. The NEC shall comprise:

- A. 24 members elected in such proportion and under such conditions as may be set out in rules Chapter 3.III below and Chapter 4.III below.
- B. the leader and deputy leader of the Party
- C. the leader of the EPLP
- D. the treasurer of the Party
- E. three frontbench Members of Parliament, at least one of whom must be a woman, nominated by the Cabinet or Shadow Cabinet in opposition)
- F. one youth member elected at the national Young Labour Conference who must be a woman at least every other term.
- G. one member elected by the BAME Labour at its conference as laid down in the rules of the socialist society. This member to be elected once the individual membership of the socialist society has reached 2,500 and at least one third of eligible trade unions have also affiliated to the socialist society.

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### **Chapter 4 Elections of national officers of the Party and national committees**

#### **Clause III Procedural rules for elections for national committees**

The following procedures provide a rules framework to be followed when conducting elections for places on the Party's national decision-making committees. The NEC will also issue procedural guidelines on nominations, timetable, codes of conduct for candidates and other matters relating to the conduct of these elections.

##### **A. Election of the NEC**

- i. No elected member of the House of Commons, European Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly or a member of the House of Lords shall be eligible to stand in Divisions I, II, III, or IV of the NEC. Any member of Divisions I, II, III or IV shall cease to be a member of the NEC if they are elected to the House of Commons, European Parliament, Scottish Parliament, Welsh Assembly or are appointed to the House of Lords. The resulting vacancy shall be filled according to the provision of Clause iv-vi as appropriate below. For the purpose of nomination and election the NEC shall be divided into five divisions:
  - a. Division I (trade unions) shall consist of 12 members, at least six of whom shall be women, to be nominated by trade unions and elected by their delegations at Party conference.
  - b. Division II (socialist and co-operative societies) shall consist of one member to be nominated by socialist, cooperative and other organisations and elected by their delegations at Party conference.
  - c. Division III (CLPs) shall consist of six members, at least three of whom shall be women, to be nominated by their own CLP and at least two other CLPs. The ballot for these places shall be conducted among all eligible individual members of the Party by means of a national one-member-one-vote postal ballot conducted to guidelines laid down by the NEC.
  - d. Division IV (local governance) shall consist of two members from either the Association of Labour Councillors ('ALC'), directly elected mayors, or elected Police Commissioners, at least one of whom shall be a woman, duly nominated by Labour groups. The ballot for these places shall be conducted among all individual ALC members, directly elected mayors, and elected Police Commissioners by means of a national one-member-one-vote postal ballot conducted to guidelines laid down by the NEC.
  - e. Division V (PLP) shall consist of three Commons members of the PLP or members of the EPLP, at least one of whom shall be a woman. They shall be nominated from among backbench Labour MPs and all MEPs (except the leader of the EPLP) and elected by all Labour MPs and MEPs. The ballot shall be conducted to guidelines laid down by the NEC.

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### The Red Flag

The people's flag is deepest red,  
It shrouded oft our martyred dead,  
And ere their limbs grew stiff and cold,  
Their hearts' blood dyed its ev'ry fold.

Then raise the scarlet standard high. Within  
its shade we'll live and die,  
Though cowards flinch and traitors sneer,  
We'll keep the red flag flying here



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