

## **ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012**

# ELECTIONS BOOKLET

## **National Committee attendance**

Please find below the attendance record for National Committee (NC) meetings in 2012. This record was compiled from NC meeting minutes which were agreed as accurate by the subsequent NC.

	Jan NC	Mar NC	May NC	Jun NC	Sep NC	Oct NC
<u>Officers</u>						
John McDonnell		X	X		X	
Jenny Lennox		Χ	X			
Susan Press	Χ	Χ	X	X	X	
Pete Firmin	X	X	Х	X	X	
Andrew Fisher	Χ	Χ	X	X	X	
Graham Bash	X	X	X	X	X	
Section B – Individuals						
Miles Barter			Х	X		
Andrew Berry	Х		Х		X	
Val Graham	Х	Х	Х		X	
Austin Harney	X		Х	X	X	
Stephen Humphries	Х	Х				
John Moloney	Х	Х	Х			
Gordon Nardell	Х		Х	Χ		
Mike Phipps	Χ		Х	Χ		
Francis Prideaux	X			X		
Marshajane Thompson	Χ					
Louise Whittle	Χ	Χ			X	
Lizzie Woods	X	X		X		
Section C – General Affils						
Judy Atkinson	X	X		X	X	
Kevin Bennett		X	X			
Maria Exall			X			
Patrick Hall	X	X	X	X	X	
Gary Heather			X	X		
Ted Knight	X		X	X		
Jon Lansman	X		X	X		
Rhiannon Lowton	X	X				
Terry McPartlan	X					
Jim Moody			X	X		
Vicki Morris			X			
Christine Shawcroft	X		X	X		
John Wiseman	X	X	X			

Please note that there are many legitimate reasons for absence. Absence should not be interpreted as a lack of commitment to the LRC, which has numerous sub-committees and constituent parts in which NC members may have been extremely active. All except two NC meetings – March (Liverpool) and September (Bristol) – were held in London.

## Section A - Officers

#### Chair

John McDonnell MP

**ELECTED UNOPPOSED** 

Peter Curling

CWU Greater London Combined branch

Lambeth & Southwark LRC
No statement received

Greater London LRC Unite nw/0538 branch

Graham Bash

Islington LRC Calderdale LRC

Vice chairs (TWO to be elected)

**Kevin Bennett** 

Susan Press

John Wiseman

Unite nw/0538 branch

An active trade unionist (steward) and socialist for many years including being President of Liverpool Unite NW/0538 Branch, Unite EC member, Regional Council member, CLP Secretary, anti-cuts fighter, local councillor and LRC National Committee member, I feel we need to direct the LRC across the whole country and deliver on every policy platform, so we can influence the wider movement. We need equality at all levels delivered this through strong decision-making. My union and others believe in party accountability, no more handouts. Let's deliver change support me for your Vice-Chair. I hope we get involved with Unite's new political strategy.

#### **Graham Durham**

Gerry Downing

Chris Knight

Greater London LRC

I am an active trade unionist, socialist internationalist, anti-fascist and fighter for equality and have lived and fought in Darlington, Leeds, Nottingham and London. In the 1980s I was a Labour councillor in Brent who refused to vote for cuts and was expelled from the Group.

The working-class is fighting back across the world the LRC must:

- -Be more pro-active and initiate and build unity among the left inside and outside the Labour Party
- -Build calls and practical links for a European general strike to defeat austerity
- -Ensure the LRC fights cuts at all levels including councillors
- -Grow

Vote for at least gender balance at Vice Chair and LRC officers

**Norrette Moore** 

Peter Curling

Susan Press

Greater London LRC

Ealing & Hounslow LRC

Calderdale LRCUnite

West London Medical branch

As the LRC grows through the tireless efforts of our NC and Organisers we need help to run and raise the profile of our organisation. We are all volunteers and the more of us that can support the many activities we undertake, the better. Having served on the GL-LRC and National committees I am always prepared to support marches, help with admin, spreading the word etc. I feel it is important that our work is non-partisan within and outside the Labour Party, connecting all activists who share the same cause: that our class gets its rightful representation

Susan Press

Peter Curling

Norrette Moore

Lambeth & Southwark LRC

Unite nw/0538 branch

Calderdale LRC

The LRC must be a truly national group if it is to grow and organise efficiently to mobilise around campaigns for socialist policies.

Its elected officers should represent the geographical spread of the membership.

Two years ago we decided to move some NC meetings outside London and focus more activity in the regions. I want to see that work continue and I have worked hard travelling up and down the country to encourage activists in and outside the Labour Party to get involved in the LRC. I hope the AGM will give me the chance to continue doing that.

Marshajane Thompson

and importantly amongst the unions.

Graham Bash Maria Exall

CWU Greater London Combined branch
Unison Labour Left
Islington LRC
This year I have organised an LRC fringe at UNISON conference attended by 300 people and spoken
at the LRC fringe at the TUC. I believe we need to strengthen our links between the political and
industrial wings of our movement and the LRC is the best place to take forward the work that is
necessary to protect our movement and society in general from the attacks of this Tory led government.
If elected I will continue to work hard to build the profile of the LRC both in and outside the Labour Party

### **Secretary**

#### Pete Firmin / Andrew Fisher ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Peter Curling Norrette Moore

CWU Greater London Combined branch Greater London LRC Islington LRC

Calderdale LRC Unite nw/0538 branch

Having been joint national secretaries for 2 years now, we're well aware of the scale of the work needed to get the LRC functioning as pro-actively and efficiently as it must. The government is throwing everything it can at our class and the labour movement's response is far from adequate. We are pleased that the LRC has grown considerably in the last few years, but there is no room for complacency. Crucial to building the LRC will be local groups, networks within the unions, and equality groups – recruiting more members and opening up space for them to be active.

#### Treasurer

Graham Bash ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Peter Curling Norrette Moore
CWU Greater London Combined branch Greater London LRC

Islington LRC Calderdale LRC Unite nw/0538 branch

No statement received

## Section B - Individual members

(EIGHT to be elected; of whom at least FOUR shall be women)

**Andrew Berry** 

Gary Heather Marshajane Thompson

Islington North CLP, Islington UNISON Labour Link officer. It's is clear as austerity really bites that people will be looking for an alternative strategy, the LRC must raise its game even more then we have as the only left grouping in the party of any significance. I believe the merger with Briefing is huge step towards that, showing we can build and unite the Labour left. I am also active in campaign's to defend education against Academies and Free Schools: member of the steering committees of anti-Academies Alliance and Campaign for State Education and member of SEA.

**Gerry Downing** 

Laurence Humphries Robin Sivapalan No statement received

**Graham Durham** 

Gerry Downing Chris Knight



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- -Grow

#### **Austin Harney**

Helen Ingram Vicki Morris

Whilst the government intends to tear up the pay, terms and conditions of the Civil Service, my Trade Union, PCS, needs representation. Currently, I am the Secretary of Barnet TUC and we are fighting with large residential communities against the Council's systematic cuts programme! I have, already, established "CRAIC (Campaign for the Rights and Actions of Irish Communities) Fighting the Cuts." In addition, I have campaigned against Disability Hate Crime and Discrimination. By lobbying Labour MPs, I helped to save at least 400 jobs in my own branch. If re-elected, I will endeavour to build our campaigns against austerity!

#### Stan Keable

Graham Durham Tom Rubens

Unison Labour Link delegate, Hammersmith CLP.

Secretary, Labour Party Marxists.

Capitalism's profit drive brings exploitation and oppression, crisis, austerity, inequality, war, irrational growth, pollution and ecological destruction. The working class must organise politically to supersede capitalism internationally, replacing minority capitalist class rule with republican democracy and majority working class rule – socialism, leading to classless society and universal liberation.

Overcome idiotic left splits with democratic unity: freedom of discussion, unity in action. Democracy must start in the workers' movement, so the rank and file controls the bureaucracy – in the left, TUs, coops and Labour.

#### Jenny Lennox

Andrew Fisher Norrette Moore

I think we need to focus in the next year on building the LRC across the country, supporting those local groups that already exist, and setting up new ones where activists wish to build them. By having better structures in the regions, we will be able to improve our campaign work and ensure that more people know about the LRC and what we stand for. I will do my best to support this work if elected to the NC.

#### **Rhiannon Lowton**

Susan Press John Wiseman

I'm a (mature) student, unite equalities activist (branch officer) in a Unite community branch, a Labour Party member, also involved in local anti-cuts organisations and trades council. In all my political activity, I make broader arguments for socialism.

For me, socialism isn't just different economics. It's also about a cultural equality change. Central to this are attitudes to children, working class women, and single parents within the Labour movement. I wish to stand for national committee, as the LRC are leading by example by making childcare a priority at conference. I want to help take these ideas into the wider movement.

#### Mike Phipps

Graham Bash Pete Firmin

I am a founding member of the LRC, a member of its National Committee and Chair of its Anti-War Commission, in which capacity I organised seminars in Parliament on Iraq, Afghanistan and Gaza. Last year I was asked by the EC to convene the new International Commission.

I am a member of Brent Central CLP, Chair of Kensal Green branch, and of the editorial board of Labour Briefing. Additionally, I am Chair of Brent Stop the War and editor of Iraq Occupation Focus's enewsletter. I am a member of the World Development Movement and Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign.

#### Francis Prideaux



Gary Heather Norrette Moore

WHERE WE ARE

LRC members worked well with others to improve Labour's position on the NHS. We haven't yet succeeded on the Railways, etc.

PRIORITIES FOR 2013

As the cuts deepen, there will be more and more groups needing solidarity. We must also press Labour to put forward a positive alternative programme of Investment, Public Ownership, Progressive Taxation, etc.

WHY VOTE FOR ME?

As an experienced NHS worker and committed Labour Party activist, I continue to welcome your comments and queries

c/o (Tel:) 020-8960-7460 (email) francisprideaux@btinternet.com

#### **Susan Press**

Graham Bash Norrette Moore

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Its elected officers should represent the geographical spread of the membership.

Two years ago we decided to move some NC meetings outside London and focus more activity in the regions. I want to see that work continue and I have worked hard travelling up and down the country to encourage activists in and outside the Labour Party to get involved in the LRC. I hope the AGM will give me the chance to continue doing that.

#### John Sweeney

Paul Clark Anne Holt

I am a member of UCATT's Eastern Regional Council and the UCATT political co-ordinator for the East of England.

I am standing for the LRC National Committee because I see the Labour Party as the only realistic platform from which to build a movement that can deliver a Socialist alternative to Capitalism If the Labour party is to win the next election it must take the lead in fighting for the most vulnerable in our society I suffer from Epilepsy and know all about the vindictiveness and disdain the Tories have towards all those with a Disability.

#### **Marshajane Thompson**

Andrew Berry Jon Rogers

This year I have organised an LRC fringe at UNISON conference attended by 300 people and spoken at the LRC fringe at the TUC. I believe we need to strengthen our links between the political and industrial wings of our movement and the LRC is the best place to take forward the work that is necessary to protect our movement and society in general from the attacks of this Tory led government. If elected I will continue to work hard to build the profile of the LRC both in and outside the Labour Party and importantly amongst the unions.

#### **Lizzie Woods**

Graham Bash Andrew Fisher

This is class war. Never has there been more of a need for the left to unite, within and without of the Labour Party, in the trade unions and our communities. I set up the LRC's organising strategy last year, which has seen the LRC grow in numbers and activity and helped put our Young Members firmly on the map as a force to be reckoned with. I am a member of the EC and NC, GMB rep and full time organiser for PCS.

## Section C - General Affiliates

(TWELVE to be elected; of whom at least SIX shall be women)

**Judy Atkinson** 

**ELECTED UNOPPOSED** 

Unite West London Medical branch



I have been a member of the LRC since it started and currently an NC member. I am Secretary of my CLP which is actively opposing the cuts being carried out by our Labour council.

I have worked in the NHS for 40 years and am a Unite union activist.

I am currently active in the campaigns to stop the closure of four accident and emergency departments in North West London, as well as the campaigns to keep up the pressure on the Labour leadership to repeal the NHS and Social Care Act.

#### **Kevin Bennett**

Unite nw/0538 branch

An active trade unionist (steward) and socialist for many years including being President of Liverpool Unite NW/0538 Branch, Unite EC member, Regional Council member, CLP Secretary, anti-cuts fighter, local councillor and LRC National Committee member, I feel we need to direct the LRC across the whole country and deliver on every policy platform, so we can influence the wider movement. We need equality at all levels delivered this through strong decision-making. My union and others believe in party accountability, no more handouts. Let's deliver change support me for your Vice-Chair. I hope we get involved with Unite's new political strategy.

#### **Sharon Connor**

#### **ELECTED UNOPPOSED**

Unite nw/0538 branch

I have a strong belief in social equality. I strive for opportunities to be open to all and I work hard to make positive changes and promote fairness. As a unite equalities officer and the chair of Halewood Labour Party, I am leading a campaign against Welfare reforms. I have worked within the social housing sector for over eight years. For the past year I have also worked with Andy Burnham MP shadow health secretary on local and national NHS Campaigns including Drop the health bill. I am fully committed in Labour's future policy to repeal the NHS reforms.

#### **Simon Crew**

Brislington East BLP

Member of the Labour Party for 20 years since age 16, currently Chair of Bristol East CLP, Secretary of Bristol Co-operative Party and a UNITE union rep. Formerly a Labour/Co-operative Bristol City Councillor and Vice-President of the Bristol Trades Council.

I hope to play an active role in setting up a local LRC in Bristol and raising the profile of the LRC in the South West. We must take an unequivocal position of opposing these savage cuts to local services and by encouraging Labour Councillors and Members locally to take this position can reach new areas of support.

#### **Maria Exall**

#### **ELECTED UNOPPOSED**

CWU Greater London Combined branch

I am standing for the National Committee in order to contribute to LRC campaigns on issues such as fighting the anti union laws and arguing for the public ownership and democratic control of key areas of the economy. I also wish to support LRC work in the Labour Party including a more effective use of the trade union- labour link to make the case for socialist policies. In addition I want to help raise the profile of the LRC in the area of equalities, especially on LGBTQ and feminist issues

#### **Patrick Hall**

Left Front Art
No statement received

#### Alex Halligan

Unite nw/0538 branch

As a lead trade unionist and socialist for a number of years within Unite and in particular within the Salford community I come from, I feel as a campaigner, that I could make a difference to the local unemployed. I've started a community branch of Unite with others within the Salford Area, with another Launch in Manchester. I'm currently chair of the North West Unite Youth community. I am currently the Equalities Officer for the Unite Gorton Branch. I am also TULO for my local CLP Blackley and Broughton. I work for the local trade council and community projects.

#### **Gary Heather**



#### Islington North CLP

We need a government investing in jobs and public services - not cuts. I want a fairer egalitarian society with justice for all citizens. Wealth must be redistributed from rich to poor. I believe in co-operation, not competition. All public services and utilities should be publicly owned and accountable. We must oppose war and promote peace. The Labour Party must provide working class representation in Parliament, and improve its union link. In a globalised world we must be internationalist. Equality and diversity are essential. The LRC must organise to promote its socialist policies in the Labour Party and wider society.

#### Sacha Ismail

Alliance for Workers' Liberty
No statement received

#### Jon Lansman

Labour CND

Member of the NC for several years, longstanding CLPD EC member and 35 year veteran of Bennite politics. Labour is the Left's only option, but Ed Miliband kowtows to Progress, even if he has created some space for the Left. The LRC must work with others on the centre-left to oppose austerity and war, redemocratise the party, maximise centre-Left influence at every level and re-shape the PLP, and to counter-balance the malign Progress influence. The LRC has made progress in this direction in the last 2 years and I'm keen to continue this process.

Ann Morrison WITHDRAWN

Unite nw/0538 branch No statement received

#### **Nick Parnell**

Unite nw/0538 branch

I've been a councillor within Bury for many years. I'm an active senior shop steward first with TGWU and within Unite. I am on my NISC and RISC within Unite and am a lead councillor within my Borough. I have fought against the cuts at all levels and am keen to lead from the front. I believe in campaigning in the community and am on the Regional Political Committee within Unite. As a lead activist I would like organisations such as the LRC take a lead role within the party and deliver on policy. I believe in Unite's Political strategy.

#### Jon Rogers

Unison Labour Left

2013 must be the year in which the Labour Left makes our distinctive contribution to the left in the trade unions

Both to support our opposition to austerity in the here and now, and to give meaning to our support for an alternative to the Coalition Government, we need to see effective pressure from the trade unions to push Labour leftwards.

I am standing for the LRC NC from UNISON Labour Left to contribute to this vital work.

#### **Steve Turner**

Unite nw/0538 branch

As an trade unionist and Convenor for many years, I feel we can only deliver changed through a reformed Labour party. We need a strong LRC in the Labour movement that helps with campaigns such as the one I am leading with others in Chorley trades council, preventing the loss of many jobs within the local NHS and the moving and closure of key services to a hospital many miles away. I am Chair of Unite the Union regional political committee and a supporter of the Political Strategy, eg linking all trade unionists together as a force.

#### John Wiseman

Unite nw/0538 branch

As an active trade unionist for many years, I'm keen to make a difference. I've been involved with the LRC for some years, am North West Chairperson and on the NC. I'm Convenor of a local high school, Vice-President of Liverpool NUT, National and Regional political Committee of Unite. I'm also a



member of Cuba Solidarity and other left campaign groups, a member of Liverpool and Warrington Trades Councils and the Regional Co-operative Party Board. I believe both Labour Briefing and LRC can evolve, campaigning on issues including social housing, equality, the cuts, international solidarity, and local campaigns against austerity.

#### **Philip Wiseman**

Unite nw/0538 branch

As an active trade unionist and socialist for 55 years, and currently Chair of Unite the Union National Retired Members Committee, I would consider it an active role to serve on LRC national Committee. I am currently Branch Scretary of my Unite branch and I am a firm supporter of Unite the Unions political Strategy. As a convenor, I lead from the front and I hope to do the same for you. I am a committed activist within the NPC executive, and want to the LRC to campaign more for retired people as well as others within equality spectrum.

## Section D - Equality seats

(EIGHT to be elected; TWO in each section – at least one of whom shall not identify as a man)

#### BME:

#### Earl Jenkins

#### **ELECTED UNOPPOSED**

Unite nw/0538 branch

As an active local campaigner for many years within the South Liverpool area, I am keen to make a difference to our young people. Within the Unite the Union and the Unity Community Centre I am involved with, as well as being a local Learning Mentor and community activist within a Liverpool secondary school, I am keen to make a difference for their future as part of a bigger struggle. Our young people need jobs and schemes in which they are supported. Education cuts are not the way forward. Let's make it together as a community.

#### Jacqueline Walker

**ELECTED UNOPPOSED** 

Graham Bash Val Graham No statement received

#### Disability:

#### **Thomas Butler**

Unite nw/0538 branch No statement received

#### Val Graham

#### **ELECTED UNOPPOSED**

Jacqueline Walker Pam Woods Unite West London Medical branch
I am delegate from Unison to Chesterfield CLP and TUC and I am CLP Trade Union Liaison Officer
working to ensure both sectors take the economic and political fight against austerity seriously. I have
recently been active in solidarity with striking Remploy workers in Chesterfield.

I am an autistic person. I do not claim to speak for disabled people but I do think we need a supportive environment for ourselves and our concerns. Whatever differences of opinion exist, solidarity must begin at home, in the LRC.

#### John Sweeney

Mick Gilgunn Stephen Humphries

I am a member of UCATT's Eastern Regional Council and the UCATT political co-ordinator for the East of England.

I am standing for the LRC National Committee because I see the Labour Party as the only realistic platform from which to build a movement that can deliver a Socialist alternative to Capitalism If the Labour party is to win the next election it must take the lead in fighting for the most vulnerable in our society I suffer from Epilepsy and know all about the vindictiveness and disdain the Tories have towards all those with a Disability.

www.l-r.c.org.uk

#### LGBT:

Paul Clark ELECTED UNOPPOSED

John Sweeney Lizzie Woods

The Left is the natural home for the LGBT community. We show compassion, respect and have always felt that the law given to heterosexuals should be afforded to the LGBT community. The voice of all LGBT people should be heard and we should be at the forefront of the anti-austerity campaign and all campaigns that defend the rights and lives of our community.

I shall personally fight for the rights and acceptance that all LGBT people deserve if it be in the workplace, at home or just walking down the street. I hope for your support.

Hannah Thompson

**ELECTED UNOPPOSED** 

Vicki Morris Bruce Robinson

No statement received

#### Youth:

**Liam McNulty** 

Vicki Morris Daniel Randall

No statement received

Rachel Mullan ELECTED UNOPPOSED

**BFAWU** 

No statement received

Max Shanly

Paul Clark Andrew Fisher

No statement received

- That ENDS the contested elections for the National Committee -

**Section E** provides two reserved seats to each of our nationally affiliated trade unions (ASLEF, BFAWU, CWU, FBU, NUM and RMT)

**Section F** provides one reserved seat to each of our sister organisations (Welsh Labour Grassroots and Campaign for Socialism (Scotland))

**Section G** provides one reserved seat to each of our local LRC groups.

## **Labour Briefing Editorial Board**

(SIX to be elected of whom at least THREE must be women)

#### Graham Bash

Andrew Fisher Jacqueline Walker

I have been a member of the Briefing EB since Briefing started. I have tried to ensure that Briefing remains

- 1. politically intransigent against New Labour,
- 2. based on the struggles of the working class and oppressed,
- 3. centred on the fight to build a Labour Party capable of providing political representation for the working class
- 4. based on the widest possible pluralism to ensure freedom of criticism and debate.



I supported Briefing merging with the LRC. Building the LRC and Briefing is not an end in itself but a means of transforming the labour movement. For this reason Briefing must remain Labour Briefing.

#### **Graham Durham**

Gerry Downing Chris Knight

I mobilised and helped ensure victory for the transfer of Briefing to the LRC this summer. This was essential to enable Briefing to grow as an organ of class struggle, debating issues inside and outside the Labour Party.

The Briefing tradition is a rich one – in 1982 I wrote and signed the front page of London Labour Briefing - Let's Run London Our Way. That call to an independent programme for the working-class remains true today.

#### Andrew Fisher

Graham Bash Pete Firmin

Labour Briefing was a magazine without an organisation, and the LRC was an organisation without a magazine. The Labour left needs a healthy and open debate about the way forward for the labour movement and I strongly believe that Labour Briefing must develop as a pluralistic forum that represents and discusses all shades of left wing opinion and socialist ideas in the labour movement. A magazine is not an end in itself, but a forum for discussion, new ideas, and sharing information and experiences. I hope you will vote for me, but more importantly subscribe if you don't already.

#### Stan Keable

Graham Durham Tom Rubens

Unison Labour Link delegate, Hammersmith CLP.

Secretary, Labour Party Marxists.

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Overcome idiotic left splits with democratic unity: freedom of discussion, unity in action. Democracy must start in the workers' movement, so the rank and file controls the bureaucracy – in the left, TUs, coops and Labour.

Norrette Moore ELECTED UNOPPOSED

Graham Bash Andrew Fisher

No statement received

Mike Phipps

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