

# **CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE**

Addendum to CAC REPORT 1

## **Contemporary Motions**

## **01 ANIMAL WELFARE**

### **Birmingham Erdington**

The Labour Party has a track record of improving animal welfare when in office. Examples include:

Ending testing of cosmetics on animals in 1998. Ending fur farming in 2000.

Banning fox hunting and bringing in the Animal Welfare Act in 2006. We urge the Labour Party to build on its legacy by:

Ending illegal puppy farming and smuggling. Banning trail hunting of foxes, deer and hares. Banning the use of snare traps. Banning the import of hunting trophies from abroad. Banning the sale or importation of heavily pregnant dogs and cats, and animals with cropped ears. Banning the importation of puppies and young dogs without appropriate animal passports, to ensure that any genetic issues can be identified by potential purchasers.

We note that the previous Conservative government failed to pass the Trophy Hunting Bill to stop hunters killing endangered animals and displaying their body parts, and dropped a Kept Animals Bill to end puppy smuggling, puppy farming and pet theft. We also note that Farage is a supporter of fox hunting.

**Camborne and Redruth, Hereford and South Hereforshire, Stoke on Trent Central, The Wrekin, Wolverhampton North East**

Conference notes that the previous Conservative government:

- Failed to pass the Trophy Hunting Bill that would have stopped selfish hunters who slaughter and display endangered animals' body parts.
- Dropped a Kept Animals Bill that would have ended puppy smuggling, puppy farming and pet theft.

Conference believes that the Labour Party has a proud track record of improving animal welfare in government, from ending the testing of cosmetic products on animals in 1998, to stopping the cruelty of fur farming in 2000, banning fox hunting and bringing in the landmark Animal Welfare Act in 2006.

Conference condemns Reform's Nigel Farage's support for fox hunting. Reform cannot be trusted on animal welfare.

Conference urges the Labour Party to build on this legacy to:

- End illegal puppy farming and smuggling
- Ban trail hunting that allows for illegal hunting of foxes, deer and hares, once and for all
- Ban the import of hunting trophies from abroad
- Publish a roadmap to end the use of animals – including dogs, minipigs and rabbits – in the scientific testing of products
- Ban the importation of heavily pregnant dogs and cats
- Ban the sale of animals with cropped ears
- Ban the use of snare traps

## Telford

Conference notes that the previous Conservative government:

Failed to pass the Trophy Hunting Bill that would have stopped selfish hunters who slaughter and display endangered animal's body parts.

Dropped a Kept Animals Bill that would have ended puppy smuggling, puppy farming and pet theft.

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- Ban the importation of heavily pregnant dogs and cats
- Ban the sale of animals with cropped ears
- Ban the docking of tails for non-therapeutic reasons
- Regulate the breeding of brachycephalic breeds
- Ban the use of snare traps

## 02 HR Policies

### Cheadle

Discrimination in recruitment According to ACAS, to encourage fairness for all parties during recruitment, employers have a legal duty to prevent discrimination from occurring.

On closer inspection Employer's Duty: Employers are legally obligated to ensure no discrimination occurs in any recruitment process.

Individual Liability: While people can be held liable for their own discriminatory actions outside the scope of their job the employer is vicariously liable for employees actions should such behaviour occur within the scope of the employment.

Vicarious Liability: This legal principle holds employers accountable for the actions of their employees, even if the employer did not direct or approve such actions.

The problem Vicarious protection gives employees the legal freedom to discriminate with no personal accountability. Their employer is liable for the actions of the employees.

Research by a UK charity, Epilepsy Action, revealed 42% of respondents admitted deliberately discriminating against job competent people who have a disability. They believed it to be right for their employer whilst fully knowing it to be illegal

Discrimination takes many forms, occurring directly and indirectly; it's naivety destroys progress, opportunities, careers, livelihoods ultimately increasing benefit costs.

It is time to remove this vicarious mask. In the event of discrimination occurring:

All people involved, from personnel selection, retention, and promotion, must themselves be held personally liable for their contribution, with&nbsp;all vicarious protections for discriminatory activities removed.

Employers must remain liable for allowing discriminatory activities within their organisation.

## **Northampton North**

Recent ONS data shows that UK working mothers earn £302 a week less than fathers almost 20% less an hour – opening up a significant gender pay gap for working mothers. This conference calls on the Government to come forward with policies to close the gap and ensure that the earnings of working mothers are in parity with working fathers.

## Stafford

We ask conference to agree that entitlement to full pensions on early retirement for NHS Ambulance Personnel (Paramedics, Technicians and Emergency Care Assistants) should be consistent with that of Police Officers and Firefighters.

Frontline NHS Ambulance personnel operate in high-pressure, unpredictable, and often dangerous environments, responding to critical incidents and emergencies that pose significant physical and psychological demands.

Their roles are inherently reactive, requiring immediate, life-saving interventions, mirroring the frontline duties of other recognized emergency services.

Their work involves exposure to traumatic events, physically demanding tasks, and irregular shift patterns, leading to increased rates of stress, burnout, and long-term health issues. These are clearly comparable to those experienced by Police Officers and Firefighters.

Under the NHS 2008 or 2015 schemes, pensions for staff retiring early (before the age of 65 or State Pension Age) are subject to an actuarial reduction.

Under both the 2015 Police and Fire Service schemes, staff can retire at age 60 without any actuarial reduction. This fails to acknowledge the unique and demanding nature of the emergency response duties of frontline ambulance personnel.

This motion instructs conference to recommend to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care that they recognise the emergency worker status of front line ambulance personnel and that they request the DHSC and NHS employers to give consideration to amending the pension provisions in the NHS 2008 and 2015 schemes to align early retirement pension arrangements for these key front line staff to those for Police and Firefighters.

## **03 HIGH STREETS**

### **Bootle, Goole and Pocklington, Huntingdon, Preston**

Conference welcomes the ambitious steps already taken by the Labour Government to reinvigorate and revitalise high streets up and down the county.

After 14 years of Tory decline, many of our high streets were reduced to ghost towns. The Tories turned their backs on small business, lost control of the economy and presided over record falls in living standards – doing untold damage to communities.

Likewise, Reform UK has no plan to invest in our high streets and their unfunded pledges would lead to the same chaos as the Conservatives with higher interest rates, rocketing mortgages and bills.

Labour is turning the tide on Tory neglect with a new Plan for Neighbourhoods and granting Councils new powers to transform long-term empty shops through a 'right to rent' for business and community groups.

Conference welcomes the establishment of a new local growth fund for mayoral city regions in the North and Midlands in the Spending Review and the government's investment in up to 350 deprived communities across the UK.

Conference commends the government for working in partnership with USDAW on ending the Tory's 10 year abandonment of our high street shops and shop workers.

Conference also welcomes the measures taken to reform and cut business rates to help level the playing field for small businesses; and tackle antisocial behaviour through the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to re-double its commitment to strengthening high streets and town centres all across the country.



## 04 IPP SENTENCES

### North Northumberland

Imprisonment for public protection (IPP) sentences were introduced in 2005 and abolished in 2012. The application of this law was not backdated, so thousands are still behind bars indefinitely. Those released live with the threat of a return to indefinite incarceration for misdemeanor offences or more concerning if a relapse in their mental health proves a perceived risk to the public. Without adequate access to rehabilitation and in the latter case denial of care provision in the most appropriate place (hospital than prison), The European Court of human rights ruled in 2012 that this practice violated of human rights under Article 5. It is time this practice decried by the United Nations as “inhumane” was ended. We call upon the Government to:

1. Prioritise the review, and re-sentencing of all prisoners currently under an IPP.
2. Take all reasonable steps to ensure that prisoners under an IPP have access to adequate support and appropriate healthcare provision to reduce their risk to the public allowing safe release.
3. Allow urgent re-sentencing and risk assessment of those for whom the continuation of the IPP sentence has been deemed by a medical professional to be a specific barrier to the delivery of effective health care provision and recovery.

## **05 CLEANING UP OUR COMMUNITIES – FLY TIPPING**

### **Norwich South, St Albans**

Conference notes the appalling Tory record on fly-tipping, leaving our high streets, roads and countryside blighted by heaps of rubbish, while waste criminals have gone unpunished.

Reform UK has no plan to tackle fly-tipping and improve our high streets.

The surge in fly-tipping in England by more than a third under the Conservatives to over 3,000 incidents per day.

That action to penalise fly-tippers has dropped, with fixed penalty notices to penalise rubbish dumpers falling by 12,000 since 2019.

Conference believes that fly-tipping is a major problem which has been ignored and gone unpunished for far too long.

Conference welcomes the Labour government's crackdown to seize and crush fly-tippers' vans to clean up Britain's streets.

To further tackle the scourge of waste crime, Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

- Use new technology such as drones and mobile CCTV to identify fly-tip vehicles.
- Introduce legislation so that waste cowboys will face up to five years in prison if caught transporting and dealing with waste illegally.
- Carry out identity and criminal record checks on operators through the Environment Agency so that rogue waste firms have nowhere to hide.

## **South Norfolk**

Conference notes: The appalling Tory record on improving waste management and the circular economy resulting in more waste crime and fly-tipping. Only a third of waste crimes even get reported and other parties have no plans to improve this aspect of law and order. The cost of this crime to the public purse is nearly £400million a year. The surge in fly-tipping in England by more than a third under the Conservatives to over 3,000 incidents per day a million incidents a year. In Norfolk this has been exacerbated by completely closing all household waste sites on the same day of the week; That action to penalise fly-tippers has dropped, with fixed penalty notices to penalise rubbish dumpers falling by 12,000 since 2019. Conference believes that fly-tipping is a major problem which has been ignored and gone unpunished for far too long.

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## **Watford**

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To further tackle the scourge of waste crime, Conference calls on the Labour Government to:

To give local authorities powers and resources to:

- Use new technology such as drones and mobile CCTV to identify fly-tip vehicles.
- Introduce legislation so that waste cowboys will face up to five years in prison if caught transporting and dealing with waste illegally.
- Carry out identity and criminal record checks on operators through the Environment Agency so that rogue waste firms have nowhere to hide.
- Create a system where local residents can properly dispose of their household waste through schemes such as free bulky item collections.

## 06. SCHOOL ABSENTEEISM

### Bristol East

Bristol East CLP notes:

Since the pandemic, it's no secret there's a crisis in school absenteeism, approximately 20% of children are persistently absent, double the pre-pandemic rate of 10.9%.

As a parent of an adopted child with complex needs, who works for a SEND charity, I speak to a lot of parents and carers. The common theme is the transition from primary to secondary school is where things can often start to unravel.

A recent survey of over 100,000 pupils found a pupil's average school enjoyment falls from 6 in Year 6 to 3.8 in Year 7. There is a strong link between headline engagement scores and attendance, among secondary pupils, the study found.

Bristol East CLP believes:

Labour has some brilliant policies to address inequalities in the school environment but to prevent further absenteeism, robustly addressing this specific transition would be hugely beneficial. Not only would it help to keep children safe and in school, but would also support wellbeing, put less pressure on the NHS, and address Labour's goals to get increase youth employment.

Bristol East CLP resolves to:

We propose a proactive strategy, which supports the transition from year 6 to 7 more robustly, offering more flexibility and support in Year 7, and early intervention, particularly with SEND pupils. This should recognise the current landscape, i.e children in Primary are often not getting the support they need early enough. An investment at this stage in a children's education would reap long-term benefits for all long-term.

## **07 SKILLS**

### **Birmingham Ladywood, Chipping Barnet, Coventry East, Coventry North West, Gedling, Penistone and Stocksbridge, West Bromwich**

Conference notes that apprenticeship starts collapsed on the Tories' watch. 14 years of failure to tackle skills shortages has left businesses crying out for change, with young people taking the biggest hit.

Conference further notes Reform UK has no plan to improve the skills and life chance of young people, and would instead send interest rates, mortgages and bills rocketing.

Conference welcomes the first set of apprenticeship statistics under the new Labour government which show an increase in starts, participation and achievement compared to the same period under the Tories. Conference also welcomes the progression of the IfATE Bill in Parliament to establish Skills England, and confirmation that the Labour government will replace the Conservatives' broken apprenticeships levy with a reformed Growth and Skills Levy.

Conference calls on Labour to go further and faster to reform apprenticeships to drive growth and unlock opportunity by:

- Developing new foundation apprenticeships to offer pre-apprenticeship training, giving young people a foot on the ladder.
- Creating a Youth Guarantee to get young people either earning or learning.
- Creating shorter apprenticeships to increase flexibility for businesses and fast-track the skills we need.
- Slashing red tape to ensure apprenticeship providers can focus their time on training the workforce of the future rather than on unnecessary admin.
- Modernising the apprenticeship journey through a new Apprenticeship app, a one-stop shop for tools and support.

Creating new apprenticeship standards in the sectors we need to boost to fulfil the government's missions, like apprenticeships in the green sector.

## **Birmingham Northfield**

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- Creating new apprenticeship standards in the sectors we need to boost to fulfil the government's missions, like apprenticeships in the green sector

## **08. TRAVEL**

### **Holborn & St Pancras**

Conference recognises the benefits that cycling has for the health of our nation and for its role in reducing our carbon footprint. However, action is required to regulate the behaviour of cyclists and to control the use of motorised cycles and e-bikes. Not all cyclists are well behaved and obey the rules of the road. Some use pavements and ignore traffic lights, causing injuries and deep concern to less mobile and elderly pedestrians. Some bikes for hire are simply abandoned after use, cluttering pavements and making access to homes and shops difficult. Most road traffic deaths are caused by vehicles, and deaths caused by cyclists and motorised cycles and e-bikes are rare. However, the increasing power of motorised cycles and the reckless way in which many are used is a matter of growing concern.

We call on our government to conduct a swift review of the situation and introduce appropriate improvements to legislation and infrastructure so that walking and cycling are encouraged and pedestrians and cyclists can safely share our streets.



## **Richmond Park**

This CLP strongly disagrees with the expansion of Heathrow Airport. Air travel causes more pollution, and greater environmental damage, and uses more fuel, than any other form of transport. It has also been proved that more air pollution adds to the number of cases of lung cancer, other cancers, asthma, and many respiratory diseases. It is also known that in 2010, when there was the volcanic ash cloud, glaciers which usually melt during the day and freeze again overnight, did not melt in the daytime, as there was no air traffic for almost a week.

From an economic point of view, a quarter of the people who fly into and out of Heathrow are transit passengers. If there is really a need to fly more people into and out of the London area, it would make sense to add capacity by pricing out this economically unrewarding traffic, rather than spending billions to make the airport bigger.

Therefore, for health, economic and environmental reasons, we strongly urge the Government to abandon the idea of expanding Heathrow and instead encourage more travel by rail, with better international links, and cheaper rail fares.

## **Rossendale and Darwen**

This Conference notes:

1. The unacceptable toll of road casualties, with 5 people killed and over 80 seriously injured everyday on UK roads, and that progress in reducing fatalities has stalled since 2010.
2. The Labour Government's commitment to publishing a new Road Safety Strategy this year.
3. The powerful advocacy of Labour MPs like Andy MacNae, who have highlighted in Parliament the failure of the current reactive system.

This Conference believes that:

Every death and serious injury on our roads is preventable, and that the only acceptable target is zero. A "Safe-System" approach, which designs the road environment to mitigate inevitable human error, is the most effective, evidence-based strategy for achieving Vision Zero. Local communities possess vital, first-hand knowledge of road risks that must be heard and acted upon proactively to prevent tragedies before they happen. Conference calls on the Labour Government and the National Policy Forum to:

1. Formally embed the principles of the "Safe-System" and the ambition of "Vision Zero" at the heart of the new Road Safety Strategy.
2. Ensure the strategy empowers and funds local authorities to intervene proactively, using community intelligence and risk assessments to make roads safer, rather than being constrained by reactive KSI data thresholds.
3. Develop policy that prioritises investment in safer road design and lower speed limits, particularly for vulnerable road users around schools and in residential areas, and to explore the recommendations of leading safety organisations for the creation of a national Road Safety Investigation Branch.

## **09 NHS DENTISTRY**

### **Aylesbury**

Conference notes:

The severe impact of 14 years of underinvestment and failure to reform NHS dentistry under the Conservative Government, which has left both patients and NHS dental professionals badly let down.

The ineffectiveness of the Conservative Government's New Patient Premium scheme, which failed to improve access to dental care and wasted £88 million of public money.

That an estimated 13 million people in England now have unmet dental care needs, often waiting in pain without access to timely treatment.

That Reform UK offers no credible plan to fix NHS dentistry, and in fact advocates for charging patients thousands of pounds for other NHS services.

Conference believes:

That access to high-quality NHS dentistry is a fundamental right, not a privilege.

That only a Labour Government can be trusted to rebuild NHS dentistry and make it fit for the future.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

1. Deliver its manifesto commitment to provide an additional 700,000 urgent dental appointments across the country to tackle the immediate backlog.
2. Introduce a supervised toothbrushing scheme for children aged 3 to 5, with a focus on the most deprived areas, to prevent tooth decay and improve lifelong oral health.
3. Reform the NHS dental contract to make NHS work more attractive to dentists, including the implementation of a Golden Hello Scheme, and increase overall treatment capacity.

**Bury St Edmunds & Stowmarket, Chingford and Woodford Green, Crewe and Nantwich, Dartford, Milton Keynes North**

Conference notes:

14 years of underinvestment and failure to reform NHS dentistry under the Conservatives, letting down patients and NHS staff alike.

The New Patient Premium scheme brought in by the Tories had no impact and wasted £88 million.

13 million people in England have an unmet need for dentistry through this decade of failure, and are stuck waiting in pain – some unable to get an appointment at all.

Conference believes that only Labour can be trusted to rebuild NHS dentistry and make it fit for the future.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

- Deliver on its manifesto commitment to roll out 700,000 extra urgent dental appointments across the country
- Launch a supervised toothbrushing scheme for 3 to 5 year olds to prevent tooth decay, focusing on the most deprived areas
- Renegotiate the NHS dental contract to make NHS work more appealing to dentists, and expand training of new dentists.

## **Chippenham**

Conference notes:

The House of Commons Report on NHS Dentistry in England published in June 2025, that identifies a significant reduction in people accessing NHS dentistry since pre-pandemic. 14 years of under-investment and failure to reform NHS dentistry under the Conservatives. That an estimated 13-14 million adults in England are currently unable to access NHS dentistry. That poor dental care increases the risk of serious systemic diseases. Conference further notes that Reform UK have no plan to improve NHS dentistry and want to make people pay thousands for other areas of NHS treatment.

Conference believes that only Labour can be trusted to rebuild NHS dentistry and make it fit for the future.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to:

- Reform the NHS dental contract to make NHS work more appealing to dentists. Recruit more NHS salaried dentists to provide dental services in dental deserts where patients are unable to access NHS dentistry.
- Deliver the programme to promote toothbrushing in schools (tying in with breakfast clubs) and a wider programme to promote good dental hygiene practice in the wider population.
- Expand the use of water fluoridation, targeted at addressing health inequalities. Expand training of dentists and dental hygienists.
- Remove VAT on dental hygiene products such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, inter-dental brushes and dental floss.

## 10 GAMBLING

### North West Norfolk

North West Norfolk CLP is concerned that gambling addiction is an escalating national issue with serious social and economic implications. According to Public Health England, the estimated annual cost to society now exceeds £1billion.

Gambling harms extend far beyond the individual, affecting families, public services and communities- particularly in areas experiencing socio-economic deprivation.

There is a clear link between clustering of gambling premises and the concentration of vulnerable and deprived communities who are more susceptible to gambling harms.

Gambling in the UK is a £11.5 billion industry and one of the biggest in the world, but our taxation rates on them is one of the lowest in the West.

North West Norfolk CLP calls on the government to implement higher taxation of gambling giants. An extra £3 billion could be raised from reform of gambling taxation. This could cover the cost of scrapping the two-child benefit cap and go some way to reverse this disastrous poverty epidemic and begin to end the poverty plight of half a million children.

## **Richmond and Northallerton**

Because gambling-related harms are a critical public health issue and many gambling activities are addictive, causing tragic damage to every strata of society and, up to 20% of the population are harmed by gambling, Royal Society for Public Health has called for a total ban on gambling advertising. They note that physical and mental health issues are linked to gambling and those suffering problem gambling are at greater risk of suicide and early mortality.

Gambling industry makes 86% profit from 5% of the population, spending Â£1.5billion annually on advertising. Research proves 40% of problem gamblers said adverts led them to spend more time or money on betting. 1 in 3 current gamblers are prompted into unplanned gambling spend by marketing. 27% of British 11-18 year olds gamble.

The Gambling Commission estimates at least 1.4million people suffer from problem gambling. Because of stigma, shame and guilt, gambling addiction is often hidden. Isn't it crucial to remove all gambling adverts from sport, especially to protect the young? Every day, someone takes their life because of gambling.

We are bombarded with enticements, raising serious concerns about social media content not clearly labelled as adverts; volume of gambling messaging and ineffective safer-gambling messaging.

### **CONFERENCE BELIEVES**

Gambling adverts need urgent banning from all media and sport to protect all people suffering from, or at risk of, the illness of gambling addiction.

### **CONFERENCE RESOLVES**

To take urgent action to ban gambling advertising, as cigarettes were, for Public Health.

## **11 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS, MISOGYNY, AND DOMESTIC ABUSE**

### **North Warwickshire and Bedworth, Redcar**

The scale of the violence against women and girls is stark: 1.1 million people experiencing sexual assault in the past 12 months, 2.2 million people experiencing domestic abuse, and 1.5 million people experiencing stalking.

Conference welcomes the decisive action this Labour government has taken to protect victims, such as introducing Raneem's Law with domestic abuse specialists embedded in the first 999 control rooms across the country, stronger protections for victims of stalking and new investment in specialist support services.

Conference notes Reform UK has no plan to tackle the epidemic of violence against women and girls and condemns their unfunded pledges that would lead to the same chaos as the Conservatives with higher interest rates, rocketing mortgages and bills

Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

- Implement the Crime Policing Bill to provide a stronger, specialist response to violence against women and girls.
- Ensure the police have the capability to respond robustly to domestic abuse, rape and other sexual offences.
- Appoint legal advocates to provide free legal advice and support to rape survivors across England and Wales.
- Implement the Victims, Courts and Public Protection Bill to deliver on Labour's commitment to create a justice system that puts the needs of victims first.
- Ensure that the sentencing for crimes against women and girls is fit for purpose.



## Bury South

This motion recognises the legal principle that suspects in criminal cases are innocent until proven guilty. However, we note that during criminal investigations there have been instances of relevant previous criminal behaviour or a survivor's vulnerable status being overlooked, as well as a lack of cooperation between public agencies.

This is particularly relevant when investigating and prosecuting VAWG and domestic incidents. Nationally, we note that suspected suicides following domestic abuse have overtaken the number of homicides involving current or previous partners.

We note that locally, in 2021, Bury South resident Kimberley McAssey lay unresponsive in Ryan Sheridan's bed for 30 hours after he claimed she had 'gone cold'. The coroner couldn't determine her cause of death. She concluded this had been a conscious and calculated decision. The forensic pathologist searched for signs of asphyxiation, including strangulation.

The week before Kimberley's death, an assault allegation was made against Sheridan involving his former partner. Yet this did not trigger an enhanced investigation.

Senior police officials and the National Police Chiefs' Council have made recommendations for police to check for a history of domestic abuse when there is an unexpected death in cases like these.

Bury South CLP would like to see this recommendation be made policy across all police in England and Wales so that any evidence or recent allegation of domestic abuse will automatically trigger an investigation into an unexpected death.

We submit this will improve conviction rates and help this government fulfil their promise to half VAWG within 10 years.

## **Pendle and Clitheroe**

### Conference notes:

The urgent need for dedicated safe spaces for women fleeing domestic abuse. Women often face complex trauma, including sexual violence, coercive control, surveillance in the home, and ongoing threats post-escape. Support must centre on safety, belief, and long-term recovery. Innovative models such as family hubs, libraries, council-run facilities, or non-traditional options can offer tailored, community-based refuge. (An example of a non-traditional option is Idle Women, a Pendle-based arts and support organisation, which operates a canal barge on the Leeds Liverpool Canal in Nelson. Referred by social services, it provides a trauma-informed safe space and life skills training, including driving, DIY, and financial management.)

We recognise that men and transwomen can also be victims of domestic abuse and must have access to appropriate support.

### Conference Believes:

Safe, trauma-informed spaces are essential for survivors' recovery. Local authorities must play a central role in sustaining such services. Grassroots initiatives like Idle Women are powerful models of community care.

### Conference Resolves:

To campaign for long-term funding for women's safe spaces and safe spaces for transwomen, via County Councils and Unitary Authorities. To create a public register of agencies supporting women leaving abuse. To promote training for volunteers working with survivors. To map and support agencies offering post-refuge care.

## **Pontypridd**

### Conference notes:

The growing misogynistic attitudes and incidences of abuse towards women, including those who hold political office. While a sizeable proportion is online, it is not limited to that medium.

### Conference believes:

Whilst recent events and viewpoints promoted by prominent individuals may be at the extreme end of the spectrum, there is a growing culture where aspects of misogyny are loyally upheld. Online abuse contributes to normalising negative discourse about women and fuels attitudes and actions in public life and society. The impact on young men and boys, often targeted by online figures promoting misogyny, is particularly concerning. That public bodies should have a duty to elevate their focus on addressing this issue by challenging misogynistic ideology through. The development of policies and practices which promote equality and challenge negative attitudes to women and are embedded in the ethos of organisations. The provision of easily accessible information to counteract negative messages promoted online. A requirement to promote approaches to challenge and counteract misogynistic ideology and behaviour in induction programmes, including information about complaint processes. An expectation that all public bodies will formally record complaints about incidences of misogynistic behaviour in a formal way as well as identifying the steps taken to address the issue.

### This conference calls on:

The Labour Governments in Westminster and the Senedd to act proactively to prevent the escalation of unacceptable behaviour and attitudes that promote misogynistic ideology and behaviour ensuring a safe and comfortable environment for all.

## **Bolsover**

The scale of violence against women and girls is stark: 1.1 million of them experienced sexual assault in the past 12 months, 2.2 experienced domestic abuse and 1.5 million experienced stalking. This is fueled by a rising tide of influencers on social media promoting a toxic brand of masculinity to men and boys.

Conference welcomes the decisive action that this Labour government has taken to protect victims, such as introducing Raneem's Law that has embedded domestic abuse specialists in 999 control rooms across the country, providing both stronger protections for victims of stalking and new investment in specialist support services.

Conference notes that no other major party has plans to tackle the epidemic of violence against women and girls.

Conference calls upon the Labour Party to:

- Implement the Crime and Policing Bill to provide a stronger, specialist response to violence against women and girls.
- Ensure the Police have the capability to respond robustly to domestic abuse, rape and other sexual offences.&nbsp;
- Appoint legal advocates to provide legal advice and support to all rape survivors across England and Wales.
- Implement the Victim, Courts and Public Protection Bill to deliver on Labour's commitment to create a justice system that puts the needs of victim's first.
- Ensure that the sentencing for crimes against women and girls is fit for purpose.

## Islington South and Finsbury

### Conference notes:

- Data published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has found that “women were more likely to have experienced violent crime. A higher proportion of women experienced domestic abuse (6.6%), stalking (4.0%), sexual assault (3.4%), and harassment (11.2%) in the last year, compared with men (3.0%, 2.3%, 0.8% and 6.6%, respectively)”.
- Women were also disproportionately represented among victims of domestic abuse-related crimes, as in previous years, with 72.5% of all victims being female in the last year.
- The 264% increase in the number of police-recorded rape and sexual assault offences from 2009 to 2024.

### Conference supports

- The Labour Party’s 2024 manifesto pledge to halve violence against women and girls in a decade.
- The imminent release of the government’s new strategy, which was planned to be released in summer 2025.
- Ensuring that in future strategies, VAWG commitments are fully implemented, given that as of July 2024 the Home Office had only implemented 78% of the 2021 VAWG strategy commitments, and the NAO finding that the Home Office had not been on track to achieve their commitments since the launch of the strategy.
- Oversight on government funding that is being spent on preventing VAWG, given that between 2021-2024 the Home Office underspent its budget allocated to VAWG by an average of ~15%.
- Learn from good practice in Labour authorities, for example daily MARAC in Islington.

## 12 WILD CAMPING

### High Peak

Access to land is not a luxury. It is a necessity for a healthy, connected society. For the people of High Peak in particular, surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscapes in the country, the opportunity to camp wild, respectfully and responsibly, opens the door to mental well-being, physical health, and environmental awareness. The freedom to sleep under the stars, wake to birdsong, and experience nature up close is transformative especially for young people, families, and those without the means to travel far or afford conventional holidays. We believe that a licencing approach similar to Scotland would help safeguard the countryside and ensure accountability of those choosing to camp.

Wild camping should be seen as a natural extension of our right to roam, a right rooted in the struggle for access that began with the Kinder Scout mass trespass in 1932. It is part of our local history, and our local identity. Expanding this access is not just about recreation it is about fairness, connection, and reclaiming the relationship between people and land.

By supporting this motion this conference can stand at the forefront of a growing national movement one that says our natural landscapes should be open to all, not just the few. Let us honour our legacy, embrace the Supreme Court's judgement, and make wild camping a right across all national parks. Because land belongs to everyone and access is freedom.

## **13 WATER**

**Bexhill and Battle, Bournemouth East, St Austell and Newquay, South Dorset, Stratford-on-Avon, Streatham and Croydon North, Windsor**

Conference notes:

- Record levels of illegal sewage dumping in our rivers, lakes and seas inherited by the Labour government after 14 years of Tory failure
- That despite this, only three people in the water sector have ever been prosecuted for environmental related crimes since privatisation
- The Conservatives failed to invest in broken infrastructure and let consumer money be spent irresponsibly on bonuses and shareholder payouts
- The Conservatives also cut the Environment Agency (EA) budget by half since 2010, enabled by the Lib Dems while in coalition leaving the EA powerless to crack down on polluting water companies
- That Reform didn't mention sewage even once in their manifesto
- That it is only with a Labour government in Westminster that action on sewage can be delivered.

Conference welcomes the record £104m fine issued to Thames Water for environmental breaches and the groundbreaking new Water (Special Measures) Act which will force water bosses to clean up.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to enforce this Act to:

- Bring criminal charges against persistent lawbreakers – including prison terms for water bosses who cover up illegal sewage spills.
- Stop companies profiting from failure and ban the payment of bonuses to executives of water companies if they fail to meet high standards to protect the environment, their consumers, and their company's finances.
- Introduce severe and automatic fines for offences.
- Ensure independent monitoring of every outlet for transparency around emergency sewage overflows to hold water companies to account.

## **Esher and Walton**

Conference notes that:

- In the south-east and across the UK, rivers and natural waterways are a vital resource, essential for ecological diversity and leisure.
- The Conservatives failed to invest in this infrastructure, facilitating public money being spent on shareholder bonuses and cut the Environment Agency (EA) budget by half, leaving the EA unable to crack down on polluting water companies
- This government inherited record levels of illegal dumping in our rivers, lakes and seas
- Since privatisation, only three people from the water sector have been prosecuted for environmental crimes
- The Reform party manifesto did not mention sewage or the position of water companies
- It is only with a Labour government in Westminster, that action on illegal sewage can be delivered.

Conference welcomes the record £104m fine issued to Thames Water for environmental breaches and the 2025 Water (Special Measures) Act forcing water companies to clean up our rivers, lakes and seas; protecting them in future.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to ensure this Act is enforced and thereby to:

- Enable criminal charges to be brought against lawbreakers – including possible prison terms for water company employees who cover up illegal sewage spills.
- Make water company managers legally responsible for their company's actions, banning the payment of bonuses to executives who fail to meet high standards to protect the environment.
- Enable local authorities to work in partnership with all regulators to help enforce the legislation at every level.



## 14 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

### ALC

Conference recognises the vital role councillors play in delivering democracy in communities. Their safety is paramount, therefore it is alarming to see levels of abuse of elected representatives. A recent LGA survey showed persistently high rates of reported abuse and intimidation, with seven in 10 councillors reporting experiencing these issues in the last 12 months and feeling personally at risk while fulfilling their councillor role.

One quarter of respondents said that they or someone closely connected to them had experienced a threat of violence or death – 21 per cent of these had reported an incident to the police, showing the serious nature of these incidents.

The survey also found of those who said they had experienced abuse:

- 11% reported they have had private information made public
- 64% said they had experienced abuse online while 59% said they'd experienced in person abuse.
- 8% said they had a member of the public attend their home in an intimidating or inappropriate manner
- 5% reported being stalked by a member of the public
- 5% reported property damage
- 3% experienced actual violence as part of their councillor role

Councillors with protected characteristics had suffered higher levels of abuse.

Conference condemns any attack or abuse of an elected representative.

Conference welcomes the focus from police forces through Operation Ford which focuses on elected representatives and calls on a greater level of consistent approach on these matters.

Conference calls on MHCLG and Home Office to implement further improvements to protect and defend local elected representatives.

## **Bromsgrove**

With housing more unaffordable than ever before for people from all walks of life, we call upon our government to introduce new legislation to grant local councils the ability to borrow in order to invest in a new generation of social housing.

## **Hartlepool**

This Conference notes that:

1. The current Council Tax system is unfair, regressive, and outdated.
2. The system, based on 1991 property values, creates regional inequalities where poorer households pay a higher proportion of their income compared to wealthier areas.
3. The localisation of Council Tax Support has resulted in a postcode lottery, leaving vulnerable households without sufficient support.
4. The system is unreliable, with many households unable to pay their full tax amounts, leading to harsh debt recovery.
5. Local government funding relies heavily on Council Tax, and in areas like Hartlepool, 70p of every £1 goes towards social care, leaving little for other services.
6. There is a need for regional devolution to explore alternatives to the outdated tax system and ensure fairer local funding for councils.
7. Alternative tax models such as proportional property tax or local income tax could offer a more equitable and sustainable approach to funding.

This Conference believes that:

1. The current system perpetuates inequality, especially in areas of high deprivation like Hartlepool.
2. Social care funding should be separated from Council Tax to ease financial pressures on councils.

Therefore, this Conference resolves:

1. To call on the Government to review Council Tax and its impact on communities.
2. To explore alternative tax models for local government funding.
3. Whilst recognising the welcome progress made by the Government through Fair Funding 2.0 – to continue to push for fair funding settlements for local authorities to ensure service delivery.

## Stoke-on-Trent North

### Conference notes:

The continued erosion of workers' rights across the UK, including attacks on the right to strike, collective bargaining, and fair pay. The growing pressures on local economies caused by austerity, insecure employment, and rising living costs. The importance of Community Wealth Building (CWB) as a transformative economic model to ensure that wealth generated in communities remains in those communities. Conference believes:

A Labour government must be at the forefront of protecting and advancing workers' rights and reversing anti-union legislation. Community Wealth Building should be a central pillar of Labour's economic programme, to address structural inequality, support decent unionised jobs, and build resilient local economies. Trade unions like Unite the Union are essential partners in delivering these goals—through organising, bargaining, and advocating for public investment and democratic ownership. Conference resolves:

To endorse Unite's campaigns to defend and expand workers' rights and repeal anti-trade union legislation. To call on the Labour Government to promote Community Wealth Building nationally by:

- a. Supporting progressive procurement policies that prioritise local, cooperative, and social enterprise-based provision.
- b. Advocating for the creation of high-quality, unionised jobs in both public services and strategic industries.
- c. Encouraging the development of community-owned energy and housing initiatives as part of a democratic economy.

To support Councils— already engaging in CWB practices—to act as trailblazers for this agenda. To campaign for Community Wealth Building and trade union rights to be front and centre in the next Labour manifesto.

## 15 FURNITURE POVERTY

### Liverpool Wavertree

Conference notes research conducted by End Furniture Poverty, highlighting that thousands of people moving into social housing are forced to live without essential items such as beds, fridges, and floor coverings and that one in four people in England can no longer apply for essential furniture items from their local authority. This entrenches hardship, undermines health and wellbeing, and increases the risk of tenancies failing.

Conference further notes that 2% of social rented properties are let as furnished or partly furnished (i.e. floor coverings/curtains) in comparison to 29% of private rented properties. This means that for those fleeing domestic violence, moving from homelessness or those leaving care, they can be moving into a property with nothing, into an empty box.

Conference believes that access to essential furniture should be viewed as a core component of a decent standard of living, and that furnishing social homes can improve tenancy sustainability, reduce tenancy failure costs, and promote social dignity, all reducing the cost of welfare for Government.

Conference calls on the Government to:

Introduce a requirement that at least 10% of all newly-let homes for social rent are offered as furnished, including essential items and good-quality floor coverings;  
Amend the Decent Homes Standard to include access to core furniture and appliances as a recognised measure of decency.

## 16 MENOPAUSE

### Croydon East

This is a motion to address the issues around menopause in primary care.

There is a lack of training of GPs to recognise and treat menopause and its symptoms, a stigma and lack of understanding about prescribing HRT.

Menopause symptoms are crippling women's life health and wellbeing.&nbsp;

Virtually all women will experience menopause and approximately 1 in 4 will experience debilitating symptoms.&nbsp;

Suicide rates for women is at the highest rate is between 45-55, the peak years of menopause

This lack of education and awareness is costing the NHS.

Labour's 2024 manifesto says:

"Our plan to Make Work Pay will transform the lives of working women, including by strengthening rights to equal pay and protections from maternity and menopause discrimination".

But this doesn't address the issues with primary care and that virtually all women go into menopause, so it's not the workplace that needs to step in at the first instance. Instead, this should be dealt with by primary care.

We are asking the Labour Government / Wes Streeting MP to address this urgently to accept and implement the APPG manifesto and recommendations and proceed with these steps:

1. Integrate menopause into the NHS free Health Check for women over 40
2. A national government funded public health campaign for menopause.

(This was already agreed in January 2023 Ministers accepted "in principle" the committee's recommendations).

## 17 AI AND OUR RIGHTS

### CWU

Conference notes the announcement on August 22nd 2025 of over 500 redundancies of UK-based moderators at TikTok and the company's plans to either offshore their jobs or replace them with artificial intelligence (AI). Conference also notes the whistleblowers' reports that indicate TikTok's senior leadership purposefully timed these redundancies to thwart the CWU's national technology branch (UTAW) organising efforts and recognition ballot process.

As tech and social media giants have become increasingly powerful, they have also become unrestrained in their efforts to proliferate the use of AI in moderating content and engaging in union-busting tactics that have no place in our society. Our telecoms and financial services sectors have also seen an increase in offshoring of jobs, potentially posing a critical risk to our key infrastructure at a time when security is paramount.

Workers' rights must be at the heart of policy-making around AI and the deployment of these technologies, across all sectors and all platforms. This is not only essential for protecting our industries and those who work within them but for creating truly safe online spaces for all.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to:

- Introduce legislation that prevents the offshoring of UK jobs and that prevents human content moderators being wholly replaced with AI.
- Work with trade unions to develop a charter on workers' rights in the technology sector, including a strategy to combat offshoring and introduce robust protections regarding AI in the workplace.

## **East Kilbride**

### Conference Notes:

- That the Labour Government established the Regulatory Innovation Office to support innovation and to bring to the market speedily, but safely, new AI products.
- That through the AI Opportunities Action Plan Labour has established the AI Security Institute.

### Conference Believes:

- The advances in AI capabilities bring increased risks of digital manipulation and misinformation such as deep fakes which can undermine our democratic and electoral processes.
- That protecting individual citizens and our democratic institutions is a priority for AI industry regulators.
- Labour must lead on digital safety to protect the privacy and dignity of all citizens and especially the young and the most vulnerable.

### Conference therefore calls for

- The UK regulatory bodies to be strengthened and to be sufficiently resourced to detect AI misuse and have powers to sanction those responsible for AI misuse
- To expand the definition of harmful on-line content to include AI-generated abuse, deepfakes, and algorithmic amplification of extremism.
- To continue to advance international cooperation on AI regulation.



## **Musicians' Union**

The Government is currently holding a series of roundtable meetings on AI and Copyright, which will wrap up in September 2025.

As tech giants have become increasingly powerful, musicians' ability to benefit financially from their own creative work and control its use has been severely impacted.

The upcoming Artificial Intelligence (AI) Bill is a historic opportunity to change copyright law and ensure musicians get a fair deal from both AI generated music and music streaming.

Despite intense Government pressure, the major record labels have refused to pay a greater share of streaming revenue to musicians. Session musicians receive no streaming royalties at all, and even most featured artists receive very little.

Copyright reform is now required to ensure that musicians are fairly paid in relation to AI and music streaming.

We call on the Government to bring forward an AI Bill in the next King's speech and ensure that:

- The Bill provides appropriate and proportionate remuneration for musicians from both AI-generated music and music streaming
- AI developers training on copyright works are required to report which works they trained on and that AI-generated works are appropriately labelled for consumers
- Musicians are given the right to contract adjustment, which would allow old royalty rates to be increased to modern digital royalty rates
- Featured artists, songwriters and composers can claim their rights back from record labels and music publishers after a certain period of time, like in the US.

## Usdaw

Conference welcomes the publication of the TUC's 'Building a Pro-Worker AI Innovation Strategy' document on 27 August 2025. This document sets out key building blocks to ensure that workers can benefit from technological developments at a time where the rapid adaptation of AI across the economy is changing the nature of work and damaging job security.

Conference recognises the need to introduce pro-worker AI regulations and upgraded workers' rights along with a clear and effective strategy to support workers during change. Furthermore, it remains too easy and too cheap to make workers redundant, something which encourages bad employers to dismiss rather than retrain their workforce.

Congress welcomes the Labour Government's commitment to gathering further views on strengthening the collective redundancy framework in 2025. Conference recognises that to deliver job security, this review also needs to include proposals to improve statutory redundancy pay provisions.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to:

- Work with relevant stakeholders to introduce into law, as quickly as possible, the provisions contained within the TUC's Artificial Intelligence (Regulation and Employment Rights) Bill.
- In partnership with trade unions and other stakeholders, urgently review skills provisions within those sectors, such as retail and distribution, which are heavily impacted by AI and workplace technology, and direct Skills England to develop a strong and effective skills strategy.
- Engage with trade unions, through a new Union Learning Fund model, to deliver necessary skills provisions.
- Include improvements to statutory redundancy pay within the forthcoming review of the collective redundancy framework.

## **18 GUARANTEED HOURS**

### **Udaw**

Conference reiterates the clear, democratically endorsed manifesto commitment in the Plan to Make Work Pay to “banning exploitative zero hours contracts and ensuring everyone has the right to have a contract that reflects the number of hours they regularly work”. Conference resolves that Government must deliver on this commitment, in full.

Conference celebrates the Employment Rights Bill passing third reading in the House of Lords on 3 September 2025. Conference recognises that bringing the New Deal for Workers Green Paper into law is a huge milestone for workers’ rights.

Conference wholeheartedly rejects attempts by the Tories and Lib Dems to weaken the Bill through amendments in the Lords. We also recognise Reform for what they are, a Party repeatedly voting against the interests of workers and siding with bad employers.

We welcome the Labour Government’s commitment from 8 September 2025 to backing the Employment Rights Bill and overturning opposition amendments passed in the Lords.

Conference calls on Labour to:

- Ensure that the Make Work Pay plan on guaranteed hours is delivered in full, including the right to a contract that reflects the number of hours they regularly work, for all workers up to and including full-time workers.
- Steadfastly reject any amendments that would weaken this right.
- Tackle head on the myths of opposition parties, being clear that secure hours and strong workers’ rights are key to delivering the growth agenda.
- Ensure strong and effective enforcement for guaranteed hours rights so that they make a meaningful difference to working people.

## 19 SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES AND INSOURCING

### Unison

Conference welcomes the announcement by Liverpool Women's University Hospital on 28 August that cleaning, catering, portering and security services will be brought back in-house.

Conference wants to see more of these decisions, in line with the Make Work Pay commitment to bring about the biggest wave of insourcing in a generation.

Conference is alarmed that outsourcing is still taking place under a Labour government, including through a new push to establish subsidiary companies in the NHS.

Conference notes that existing subcos have been associated with downward pressure on terms and conditions and that the tax advantages they are seeking to exploit are likely to be curtailed by Treasury reforms.

Conference is particularly concerned that over recent months NHS England has been encouraging desperate trusts to turn to subcos as a way of cutting deficits, threatening thousands of low-paid health workers, predominantly female and black, with being outsourced to non-NHS bodies.

Conference does not believe the government can hide behind this being an NHS England policy; these decisions are taking place on Labour's watch and directly contradict the policy platform that health ministers adopted in opposition.

Conference therefore calls on the government to:

- undertake urgent work to make insourcing promises a reality;
- work with contracting authorities to bring about a rolling programme of services being returned in-house;
- act decisively to block the outsourcing of NHS services to subsidiary companies;
- begin work to bring services currently delivered by subcos fully in-house.

## **20 BRITISH VALUES**

### **Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn**

#### Conference notes

That on 22 August 2025, the so-called “Operation Raise the Colours” was organised by well-known far-right extremists to promote mass displays of national flags.

This attempt to appropriate the Union Flag, the Saltire and the St George’s Cross was designed to intimidate migrants and minority communities, and to sow division.

#### Conference believes

That Britain and Scotland’s flags represent a proud and shared history which belongs to us all. They should be symbols of welcome, unity and solidarity, not of hatred.

Our national identity is strengthened, not threatened, by the multicultural society we have built together.

That Reform UK and the far right seek to weaponise national symbols for political gain. In opposing them, Labour must stay true to our own values of solidarity, equality and respect values that have always defined our movement.

#### Conference resolves

To condemn attempts by extremists to use national flags to divide our communities.

To celebrate the diverse, inclusive and internationalist character of modern Britain and Scotland.

To ensure Labour’s message of pride in our history is always combined with a clear commitment to a welcoming, multicultural society.

To campaign vigorously against Reform UK and the far right, doing so in a way that reflects Labour’s core values and unites people across our nations.

## **BAME Labour**

Conference notes the alarming increase and wave of protests outside hotels and HMO housing people seeking asylum and refugee in the UK. The High Court decision of 15th August 2025 on the Bell Hotel at Epping has been used to embolden and give confidence to those far-right groups at the heart of the wave of often violent protests that have once again swept Britain this summer.

The far-right attacks on so-called free speech in Britain is an attempt to continue to control the political narrative on racism, immigration, asylum and refugees. Their distortion and propaganda continue to poison our communities and pollute public opinion on race and religious ideology.

The debate on asylum hotels and immigration is at risk of destroying decades of good community and race relations in our communities. Conference calls on the Government to develop a robust rebuttal strategy to retain the competitive edge and stop this distortion and division being promoted by the poisonous far-right narrative.

The Conference further calls on the Government to publish a clear and comprehensive race equality strategy across the Government; to demand that the Equality and Human Rights Commission take urgent action as the enforcement regulator to tackle racism and strengthen race and community relations in the UK.

Conference calls on the Government and mainstream politicians to challenge the rhetoric of hate and division promoted by the far right; work with trade unions and CLPs to mobilise and strengthen our counter-narrative.

## **21 INDUSTRIAL ENERGY PRICES**

### **Aslef**

Conference notes the recent calls, as highlighted in the 3rd September FT article, for the Government to support rail freight operating companies due to the uneven playing field between road and rail freight in terms of energy policy.

Rail freight's energy costs have risen significantly over the last decade, while those for road freight decreased. Meanwhile the cost for electric traction has risen by 66% in real terms in the last decade pushing operators to use diesel trains under electric wires.

Conference also notes that electricity bills for industry overall are 60% higher than before the energy crisis began in 2021, largely due to high gas prices. These high gas prices almost left the UK without a virgin steel making capability when Scunthorpe Steelworks needed to be saved by emergency legislation. This situation put ASLEF members jobs in the supply chain at risk and compromised the safety of our rail network.

Conference recognises that without swift intervention from the Government, the rail freight sector will continue to shrink causing redundancies and harming the UK economy. Further, if electricity prices remain high, operators may continue to utilise diesel trains or sell or scrap electric locomotives, directly affecting the Government's net zero targets and health mission.

This conference therefore calls on the Government to:

Urgently support UK energy-intensive industries by acting to lower electricity prices  
Commit to a rolling programme of electrification on our railways to deliver cost effective infrastructure renewal and enable operators to use affordable electric traction

## Community

Conference highlights that affordable industrial energy costs are critical to retaining a competitive steel sector and recognises the necessity of steel to the delivery of the government's industrial strategy and growth mission.

Conference notes the strategically important role of Speciality Steels UK (SSUK) as a major producer of low-carbon domestic steel, a crucial employer of a highly-skilled workforce, and a critical supplier of steel for the defence industries, aerospace manufacturing and national infrastructure.

Conference recognises the uncertainty created by the insolvency of Speciality Steels UK on 21 August 2025 for the steel assets, for the workforce and steel communities, and for the wider economy.

Conference commends the swift action taken by the government to intervene in SSUK to retain the integrity of SSUKs sites, and its ongoing commitment to securing the future of the businesses.

Conference welcomes the measures taken by the government to safeguard the future of Britain's steel industry but recognises that further durable measures must be taken to combat uncompetitive energy costs which deter investment and threaten jobs.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

- Reduce wholesale energy prices for our steel industry through measures such as the introduction of a two-way Contract for Difference (CfD) model.

Conference believes that delivering internationally competitive energy costs will support long-term investment including in low-carbon technologies, contribute to reducing operating costs to competitive levels, sustain thousands of good jobs outside of London and the South East, and help secure the future of the steel industry.



## GMB

Conference notes:

Household ceramics manufacturer Armitage Shanks announcement on 22nd August 2025 that it will close one of its Kilns due to high energy costs, adding to hundreds of recent job losses in the industry in Staffordshire.

Labour's 2024 Manifesto pledged to cut electricity costs for UK manufacturers and households but not gas costs. UK manufacturing employs 2.7 million workers and consumes a fifth of UK gas demand but average gas costs have more than doubled since 2021.

Conference recognises:

Warnings from energy workers in unions like GMB that capacity shortages in the electricity grid means we will need to utilise the existing gas network and workforce to fix UK energy insecurity and meet our Net-Zero commitments.

Trials run by SGN in July 2025 show that the existing gas infrastructure can be safely repurposed to supply low-carbon hydrogen gas to help homes and industry contribute to reaching the UK's Net-Zero commitments.

Economic growth relies on recognising that energy and manufacturing sectors are interdependent.

Leaving unionised foundation industries like ceramics to collapse while importing what they make from countries with less workers' rights and higher carbon footprint harms growth and is against Labour values.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to:

Urgently support UK energy-intensive manufacturers by acting to lower gas prices.

Boost UK manufacturing by defending existing jobs, skills and communities

Increase investment in low-carbon technology that works with existing energy infrastructure to protect the future of UK manufacturing, such as hydrogen and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage.

## 22 PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS

### UNITE

Local authorities have been under attack. Services are at risk.

Local authority funding was cut by over 50% between 2010 and 2020.

Tory austerity delivered nothing but enormous budget cuts that led to the closure of many critical amenities.

Social care, libraries and youth services have all been cut.

Almost half of local authorities in Britain could be subject to Government intervention soon.

But this cannot be used as an excuse to attack the jobs, terms, and conditions of local authority workers. Or carry out long planned restructuring that slashes the pay of workers.

On 3 September, the Employment Rights Bill received Third Reading in the Lords including Government amendments that will permit “fire and rehire” to be used against local authority and other public sector workers.

Workers must not be made to pay the price for a crisis not of their making.

In Birmingham, the Labour Council has sought to use the crisis as cover to cut refuse workers’ pay. But it’s not about money. There is a low-cost solution to the dispute.

Therefore, Conference calls on the Government to:

- Ensure that no local authority is allowed to use debt as cover to attack the pay, terms and conditions of their own staff.
- Scrap all legislative loopholes that allow local authority and other employers to use “fire and rehire” against their own workforce.
- Make it a duty for Government appointed Local Authority Commissioners to ensure that good industrial relations are maintained and disputes resolved.

## **23 STAFFING IN ADULT SOCIAL CARE**

### **GMB**

Conference notes:

- The warnings of Care sector leaders on 3rd September 2025 that the adult social care sector is in crisis after new government restrictions on migrant workers have exacerbated staff shortages.
- The Casey Review commissioned by the Government to reform adult social care does not mention addressing staff shortages.

Conference recognises:

- Years of privatisation and fragmentation of adult social care has contributed to an unsustainable staffing crisis where low pay, poor conditions and violence at work has forced staff to leave their jobs.
- Migrant workers must not be scapegoated for the crisis in care but instead celebrated for their contribution and deserve a visa scheme that protects them from exploitation and deportation.
- Properly recognising and rewarding the social care workforce benefits those being cared for, and this must be the bedrock of future care delivery.
- Current regulations for staff-to-patient ratios in care are inadequate and do not require care homes to publish what staffing levels they decide is required to properly deliver care.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to:

- Work with social care workforce unions and the sector to establish minimum safe staffing levels in care homes.
- Ensure the Social Care Fair Pay Agreement has central public funding to negotiate decent sector-wide rates of pay with workforce unions that properly value care workers.
- Ensure that the Casey Review's 'national conversation' on adult social care includes the need for better pay, conditions and training so that more care workers remain in the sector.

## **Tiverton & Minehead**

Conference notes the significant challenges facing our social care system, and the pressure this is putting on staff across the sector. Workers are too often underpaid and undervalued, with vacancies in adult social care rising to 131,000 in England in 2023/24.

Conference believes that care workers deserve to be paid properly for their hard work caring for our most vulnerable, and that staff are set to play a crucial role in the building of a National Care Service.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to support the adult social care workforce – and boost the recruitment and retention of homegrown talent in the sector by:-

- Working with trade unions, councils and employers to deliver the first ever pay agreement for social care staff
- Expanding the national career structure for care staff to ensure more opportunity for career progression and development pathways
- Funding courses and qualifications for carers to develop new skills, build expertise and advance their careers
- Developing a shared digital platform so that care staff can receive the most up-to-date medical information
- Ensuring that working conditions and retention are considered as part of Baroness Casey's commission

## **Unison**

Conference notes the first cross-party roundtable on the Independent Commission on Social Care, held on 8th September, as a step towards a National Care Service.

Conference congratulates the government on plans to establish an Adult Social Care Negotiating Body – a successful FPA has the potential to be a gamechanger for the sector.

Conference notes that there is additional pressure on the FPA to boost recruitment and retention in social care, because policy changes have created new hardships for migrant workers and their families.

Rule changes in the Immigration white paper restricting rights and imposing new conditions on migrant workers in the NHS and in social care will exacerbate staffing shortages and affect the delivery of services. The White Paper also proposes doubling the qualifying period for Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) from five to ten years, potentially retrospectively – which would be devastating for those who have committed to working in the UK.

Conference asserts that migrant workers have kept vital services running and are not to blame for the ills of our labour market.

And Conference is clear that scapegoating migrants does not tackle the far right, it encourages them.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour government to:

- retain the 5-year route to ILR and halt any moves to retrospectively extend the qualifying period;
- establish a sector-wide visa scheme in social care enabling workers to challenge bad employers without the threat of deportation;
- provide central funding to allow the FPA to meet the scale of the challenge in social care.

## 24 URBAN PLANNING

### Bournemouth West

Gender-responsive urban planning is an approach that recognises and addresses the different experiences of women and men in urban spaces. It aims to create cities and towns that are inclusive, safe, accessible, and sustainable for all genders.

According to one study of 800 women respondents, 62% fear using public spaces with 10% even changing their jobs because of their perception of public spaces. Research has found that women and men have different travel patterns, with women often engaging on longer trips that combine multiple activities. Overall, women make 50% more stops than men on the way home from work, according to the Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey.

Conference agrees that –

1. Inclusive, safe, accessible and sustainable cities and towns are created through gender-responsive urban planning and through an effective public transport infrastructure, which meets women's needs.
2. In-depth Equality Impact Assessments are carried out on all planning, development and transport proposals.
3. Women and women's groups are regularly and actively involved in the design/planning decision making process and in transport planning.
4. Urban planning and design should ensure women feel visible and welcome in public spaces through walkable streets, mixed use streets, open gathering spaces and well-lit pathways
5. Facilities are designed to contain more women's toilets and/or all-gender toilets
6. Better street lighting is provided using warm LED lighting.
7. Transport hubs, stations and bus stops are well lit and accessible. Accurate real-time bus service information should be comprehensively available.

## 25 PUBLIC SPENDING

### FBU

Conference notes the devastating wildfires over August 2025. Wildfires in Dorset saw firefighters from seventeen fire and rescue services, from as far away as Merseyside provide support to local crews. Similarly, firefighters from London attended fires in North Yorkshire.

Conference notes that fire and rescue services across the UK are stretched beyond breaking point, after 14 years of damage inflicted by Conservative-led governments. One-in-five firefighter jobs have been cut since 2010 and 80 fire stations have closed.

Conference believes this is unsustainable and puts firefighters and the public at risk.

Conference notes that that central funding for 2025-26 was only 1.4%, regrettably below the rate of inflation.

The spending review failed to provide the sustained investment the fire and rescue service needs to tackle risks today and in the future.

Conference believes the public services we all rely on are increasingly strained while the super-rich and overseas investors are seeing their wealth increase.

Conference believes that a fairer system of progressive taxation, including a tax on extreme wealth, is needed to invest in our vital public services and ensure frontline workers have the resources they need.

Therefore, conference calls on the government to commit to:

- Sustained investment in the fire and rescue service
- An immediate increase of 5,000 firefighters with a review to examine further expansion
- Decent, sustained pay rises for firefighters and good conditions of work

## TSSA

Conference notes that borrowing costs reached a high on 2 September.

Conference is alarmed by subsequent calls, reported in the media on 3 September, to cut public spending.

Conference notes that the Spending Review already imposed reductions across Government departments, especially to welfare budgets.

Conference believes that the previous Tory Government's cuts and privatisation agenda was a false economy leading to low growth, stagnating wages, eroded conditions, and crumbling public services, and represents a failed economic model.

Conference notes that it also produced record low levels of the investment needed to boost growth, fix our crumbling infrastructure, and create good, unionised jobs – while private profits and inequality soared.

Therefore, Conference strongly supports the Government's plans to bring Train Operating Companies into public ownership, which could provide a broader example for tackling profiteering and low levels of investment to deliver for service users.

However, Conference believes that cuts undermine both this agenda and the Government's plan to Make Work Pay, as they have prompted unnamed Government sources to float significant job losses in the transition to public ownership, which Conference strongly opposes.

Instead, public ownership in any sector is the opportunity to level-up pay and conditions for workers. Reversing Tory cuts and creating – not cutting – good, unionised jobs must be at the centre of Government economic strategy.

Conference therefore calls on the Government to

1. Reverse Tory cuts and austerity
2. Increase public investment to fix our crumbling infrastructure, boost growth and productivity, and create – not cut – good, unionised jobs



## CWU

Conference notes the media reports on August 14th 2025 that UK growth has slowed to 0.3%.

A combination of slow growth, low wages and enormous pressure on public services has pushed Britain to breaking point. The ultra-wealthy and overseas investors are reaping the benefits of a broken economic model, while working-class people, especially the disabled and elderly, are facing significant cuts to the services they rely on. This cannot be right and will only fan the flames of support for Reform and Nigel Farage.

Such economic inequality is only exacerbated by the insecure, fragmented model of employment that has become commonplace in our society. The economy's sluggish recovery is directly linked to the world of work becoming more exploitative and insecure, with the most vulnerable being the most affected. We must embed collective rights and sectoral bargaining across our economy, if we are to achieve growth and better living standards for all.

With tech giants making windfall profits and billionaires expanding their empires, there can be no justification for welfare cuts or a race to the bottom on jobs. There is a clear way to restructure our economy, so that inequality does not destroy our society. Therefore, Conference calls on the Government to:

- Commit to expanding collective rights and sectoral bargaining to boost growth and security for working people.
- Commit to ensuring that any gaps in public expenditure are remedied through a system of progressive taxation where the wealthy pay their fair share.

## UNITE

Workers are bearing the brunt of a broken economic model.

Conference notes that on August 27, 2025, Ofgem announced a 2% increase in the energy price cap, raising the typical household's annual energy bill to £1,755.

Since July 2021, energy prices have surged 30% more than wages, driving millions into hardship.

Real wages have flatlined, yet the cost of essentials continues to rise.

This is not accidental—it's the result of a rigged economy that rewards wealth, not workers.

Nowhere is this clearer than in spiralling domestic energy prices. During the last five years, household bills have soared by over £700. More than 6 million people live in fuel poverty. Meanwhile, energy giants record excess profits and shareholders pocket billions.

Inflation may be falling, but prices remain high and rising, especially for energy, pushing more working people to the brink.

The British public already pays some of the highest energy prices in Europe.

Enough is enough.

This cost-of-living crisis is a political choice. The Government must act decisively to rebalance the economy in favour of workers.

Conference calls on the Government to:

1. Scrap the October 1st energy price rise and save households £31 per year;
2. Freeze the energy price cap for at least 12 months to prevent further hardship;
3. Extend and toughen the windfall tax on energy giants to fund this freeze;
4. Introduce a wealth tax on the richest to raise revenue for public services and support for struggling households.

## **26 HILLSBOROUGH**

### **Knowsley**

The Hillsborough disaster of 15th April 1989 resulted in the tragic loss of 97 lives and caused profound suffering for survivors, bereaved families, and the wider community, many of whom reside in our city region.&nbsp;

This trauma was compounded by decades of institutional defensiveness and cover-ups by public authorities.

The Hillsborough Law, formally known as the Public Authority (Accountability) Bill, aims to establish a statutory duty of candour, requiring public authorities servants and officials to act with transparency and honesty, and to cooperate in investigations, inquiries and inquests related to major incidents.

The proposed legislation crucially includes provisions for criminal sanctions for non-compliance.

It also provides for equal legal funding of bereaved families at inquests and inquiries, addressing institutional defensiveness and supporting justice.

The Hillsborough families and campaigners, including the Hillsborough Law Now campaign, have consistently demanded the full implementation of this legislation without dilution, to honour the legacy of the victims.

This Conference resolves to:

Endorse the Hillsborough Law in its entirety, as originally drafted, including a robust duty of candour and provisions for equal legal representation for victims families; and

Urges the Labour Government to introduce the Hillsborough Law in full, as set out by Ian Byrne MP in Parliament recently, in full and without further delay, meeting the expectations of bereaved families and survivors, as previously pledged by the Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer MP.

## **27 COMMUNITY ENERGY**

### **Cunninghame North**

This Conference believes that in order to reach its target of 8GW of Community owned generation capacity, the UK Labour Government needs to promote Community Energy through its proposed reforms of the grid to support the added social and economic value it provides by designating Community Energy as needed in NESO next Project Designation Methodology to allow NESO to consider Regional Energy Strategic Plans when assessing projects.

The UK Government also requires to establish a minimum price floor for Community Energy sold to the grid via a Community Energy Export Guarantee that will provide a stable income to Community Groups, de-risking their projects and helping provide access to private finance to develop more community energy generation.

In addition, Government must require energy developers to offer shared ownership stakes – in all new and re powering renewables and storage developments to community groups to develop their own renewables or buy into private projects through shared community ownership, thereby increasing the added social and economic value of such development to local communities as a means of Community Wealth Building in the host communities.

Conference further believes GB Energy's Local Power Plan (LPP) should include a fair share for Scotland, recognising the higher renewables potential to help meet the 8GW target and considers any grants to Local Authorities must be conditional on distributing sub-grants to community energy organisations in their areas and also offer local communities opportunities for shared ownership in Local Authority developments funded by the LPP.

## **Na h-Eileanan an Iar**

Conference endorses Labour's 2030 mission for Net Zero and calls for the government to enable geographically defined communities to have the right to buy a stake in onshore and offshore renewable electricity developments in or adjacent to their area.

## 28 CORPORATE STRUCTURES

### Kensington and Bayswater, Spen Valley

#### CONFERENCE NOTES:

Reports on Sky News and the Guardian on 12th August that Ministers have lined up insolvency practitioners to prepare for the potential collapse of Thames Water.

A report by the Guardian on 8th August showing English swimming waters are five times more likely to be polluted than those in the EU.

Private ownership of water has been a catastrophe, leading to under-investment, polluted coastlines, and rip-off prices, while private companies have made huge profits.

According to 2024 YouGov polling, 82% of the public want water to be in public ownership.

That over 90% of the world has public ownership of water.

The Government has repeatedly ruled out public ownership of water based on false figures commissioned by the private water sector which dramatically overstate the financial cost of public ownership.

The Independent Water Commission's inability to consider public ownership options undermines its legitimacy and fails to reflect the will of the people.

According to research by Common Wealth, under existing laws, the government already has the power to begin bringing water companies back into public hands for next to nothing.

#### CONFERENCE CALLS ON GOVERNMENT TO:

Commit to a clear, planned shift to public ownership, using powers Parliament already has.

Introduce water boards run by those with a genuine stake in clean, affordable water workers, citizens and communities, not distant profiteers.

Make sure polluters are made to pay for the damage they've caused, instead of the public footing the bill.

## Stockton North

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The Independent Water Commission's inability to consider public ownership options undermines its legitimacy and fails to reflect the will of the people.

According to research by CommonWealth, existing laws already give the government the power to begin bringing water companies back into public hands for next to nothing.

### CONFERENCE CALLS ON GOVERNMENT TO:

Ensure polluters pay for the damage they've caused, instead of the public footing the bill.

Allow unlimited fines on all water companies that fail to comply with Government standards.

Where this strategy fails, commit to a clear, planned shift to public ownership, using powers Parliament already has.

Introduce water boards run by those with a genuine stake in clean, affordable water workers, citizens and communities, not distant profiteers.

## 29 POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL TRAINING

### Tatton

Over the past ten years, the UK has witnessed a substantial increase in medical student undergraduates, without a corresponding increase in postgraduate medical training places. This has affected all stages of postgraduate medical training, creating severe bottlenecks in specialty training post Foundation Years 1+2.

For example, Internal Medicine Training (IMT) in 2024 had 6,273 applicants for 1,698 posts, a near tripling of the competition ratio compared to 2019 where 2,229 applicants applied for 1,563 posts. Meanwhile for other medical specialties, such as Public Health training, there were 1,816 applicants in 2024 for 104 training posts resulting in a competition ratio of 17.5 applicants to 1 training post. In 2019 there were only 804 applicants for a similar number of posts. Meanwhile, the number of applicants taking the Multi-Specialty Recruitment Assessment (MSRA) examination, a pre-requisite for many postgraduate medical specialties, has also continually risen with no associated rise in postgraduate training place numbers.

As a result of this, many doctors are not progressing through into specialty training and are instead being held up at a post Foundation Year 2 level, with many choosing to locum or go abroad to seek better opportunities for career progression as a result.

To address this severe problem, there needs to be an immediate and substantial increase in postgraduate medical training posts across all medical specialties. Failing this, we jeopardise the future of the medical workforce in the NHS, risk prolonging patient waiting lists and negatively impacting patient care.



## **30 SMALL BUSINESSES**

### **Labour Business**

The Tories' economic mismanagement inflicted immeasurable damage on small businesses nationwide, failing to address late payments, rising shoplifting and the death of the High Street.

Reform have no interest in small businesses, proposing dangerous unfunded tax cuts and deeper cuts to public services.

This Labour government is already taking vital steps to support the backbone of our economy and support all working people.

Conference Commends:

- Permanently lowering business rates for SMEs on our high street with rateable values below £500,000.
- Launching a new £4 billion wave of financial support aimed at boosting growth by supporting more small businesses and start-ups to grow, including a £1bn boost for new businesses, with 69,000 Start-Up Loans.
- Tackling late payments with the most significant legislative reforms in 25 years so payments must be made in 60 days and fines for persistent late payers.
- Pledging to cut the administrative costs of regulation for business by 25%.
- Regulation of umbrella payroll companies to protect workers who need to use them.

Conference Calls For:

- Entitlement for small business and the self-employed to written contracts for work and fair access to public contracts.
- Labour to stay true to bringing payment terms down further to 45 days and then 30 days.
- Labour to investigate equal pay and protections for the self-employed.
- A freelance commissioner for all sectors of self-employment.
- A widening of the role of the small business commissioner with powers to investigate to prevent scandals such as the Horizon scandal.

## **31 TAXATION**

### **Bishop Auckland**

This CLP supports the government in its work to rebuild the public services, run responsible public finances and keep its promises to voters on tax. We believe it is possible to do all these things by raising taxes on capital gains; ending higher rate relief on pension contributions; tackling the loophole on high paid partnerships; and taxing internet giants to finance reform of business taxes. Together these measures could raise over £30bn and would be far preferable to cuts in public services.

## **Greenwich and Woolwich**

Conference supports the government in its work to rebuild the public services; strengthen our defences; run responsible public finances and keep its promises to voters on tax.

We call on the Labour government to facilitate these things by considering raising taxes on capital gains; ending higher rate relief on pension contributions; tackling the National Insurance contributions loophole on high paid partnerships; reforming the outdated basis of council tax bands and raising the digital services tax to ensure a level playing field in retail and finance business rate reform.

Together these measures could raise over £35bn and would be far preferable to cuts in public services.

## Wellingborough and Rushden

Simple Tax loophole elimination.

Encourage the government to remove the tax loophole that allows a CEO to pay less tax as a percentage than a nurse (as an example). This motion aims to address the disparity in tax rates between high-income individuals and average workers by eliminating tax loopholes that allow for unfair tax advantages.

### Background

In the UK, capital gains tax is currently 20% for higher-rate taxpayers, compared to up to 45% for income tax. Additionally, National Insurance contributions are not applied to capital gains. This creates a significant disparity, allowing high-income individuals to pay a lower effective tax rate than average workers, such as nurses.

On top of this, using very simple mechanics, an individual can pay these into tax-efficient accounts to pay almost 0% tax.

Taxation is essential for funding public services such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure. Tax avoidance practices, while legal, undermine the fairness of the tax system and reduce the resources available for these vital services.

We propose

That the government closes tax loopholes that allow high-income individuals to pay a lower effective tax rate than average workers, ensuring a fairer tax system where everyone pays their fair share.

## 32 RURAL AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

### East Thanet

Conference notes:

Following the 2024 General Election, Labour now represents more coastal constituencies than ever before, with 66 MPs in the Coastal PLP—seats vital for a Labour majority.

Yet coastal communities face deep-rooted inequalities. They are 42% more likely to fall in the lowest income decile, and people are 15% more likely to suffer early, preventable death than inland areas.

Years of Conservative neglect has worsened housing, healthcare, employment, and infrastructure outcomes. National funding formulas often obscure coastal deprivation within broader regional statistics.

Despite this, coastal areas hold enormous potential—from clean energy to year-round economies and cultural regeneration. Labour must harness this potential and deliver for the communities that helped put us into power.

Conference believes:

- A place-based, targeted approach is needed to regenerate coastal communities and drive long-term renewal.

Conference resolves to call on Labour leadership and government to:

- Deliver a National Coastal Strategy in the first term, recognising coastal areas as a distinct policy priority.
- Introduce a Coastal Healthcare Strategy, informed by Professor Chris Whitty's research.
- Appoint a Minister for Coastal Communities to lead cross-government action.
- Change funding formulas to ensure fair investment.
- Support economic growth through investment in clean energy, digital infrastructure, and development corporations where needed.
- Give councils powers to regulate short-term lets.
- Pause and review devolution plans to protect coastal representation.
- Adopt a place-based regeneration model focused on transport, high streets, and civic spaces.

Coastal renewal is key to national renewal—and to winning in 2029.

## Lowestoft

Conference notes:

Following the 2024 General Election, Labour now represents more coastal constituencies than ever before, with 66 Coastal PLP—seats vital for a Labour majority.

Yet coastal communities face deep-rooted inequalities. They are 42% more likely to fall in the lowest income decile, having a 12% higher crime rate, and people are 15% more likely to suffer early preventable death than inland areas.

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- Change funding formulas to ensure fair investment.
- Support economic growth in clean energy, digital infrastructure, and development corporation.
- Give councils powers to regulate short-term lets.
- Ensure devolution plans protect coastal representation.
- Adopt a place-based regeneration model focused on transport, high streets, and civic spaces.

## South East Cornwall

Conference notes that many rural and coastal communities across the UK face unfair transport costs and inadequate infrastructure, which hold back local economies, limit access to public services, and deepen regional inequality.

Conference further notes the example of South East Cornwall, where residents face some of the highest transport costs in the country due to tolls on the Tamar Crossings, and where the A38 remains one of the most dangerous and congested roads in the South West. These issues are mirrored in other regions, where poor connectivity and underinvestment have left communities isolated and disadvantaged.

Conference believes that transport is a fundamental driver of equality, opportunity, and economic growth, and that every region deserves safe, affordable, and reliable transport links.

Conference resolves to:

- Deliver fair funding settlements to remove or reduce transport costs, such as bridge and ferry tolls, that disproportionately affect vulnerable groups and low income households accessing work, healthcare and education.
- Invest in safety and capacity upgrades for key regional roads, including bypasses, junction improvements, and pedestrian & cycle protections;
- Guarantee affordable, reliable rural bus services, integrated with rail and ferry networks to ensure seamless public transport;
- Embed transport justice in Labour's regional development strategy, recognising infrastructure as essential for accessing equal opportunity, public services and allowing communities to thrive.
- Conference resolves that tackling transport inequality must be central to Labour's mission to rebuild Britain, ensuring no community is left behind due to cost, danger and disconnection.

## Suffolk Coastal

Conference notes :

Over 150 Labour MPs now represent constituencies with significant rural communities who face particular disadvantage in accessing essential services including, Public transport, healthcare, education and broadband connectivity.

These communities suffer from;

Higher levels of unemployment, underemployment and lower wages, Limited opportunities for economic development, entrepreneurship, and social mobility, Poor housing quality and availability, Social isolation, Poor connectivity.

Conference recognises:-

Initiatives such as the Rural England Prosperity Fund.

The English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill, &nbsp;aims to decentralise power and boost local growth by granting more autonomy to local leaders and communities.

Conference believes that:-

More needs to be done to tackle the root causes of rural deprivation to enable such communities to better contribute to and benefit from the growing economy.

Conference resolves:-

To call on the Government to:

Ensure that the planned Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation develops and implements targeted policies and initiatives to address rural deprivation, tailored to the needs and challenges faced by rural areas.

Undertakes Rural Impact Assessments of all government policies to ensure that they address the identified needs of rural communities.



## **33 END OF LIFE CARE**

### **City of Durham**

Palliative and end of life care aims to support people to live as well as possible and to die with dignity.

St Cuthbert's Hospice in Durham lost over 20 staff in January 2025 due to underfunding. Independent hospices get only 44% of their funding from the NHS/government, relying heavily on donations an unsustainable model.

The recently passed Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill makes proper funding more critical, so no one feels forced into assisted dying due to lack of care.

Everyone deserves high-quality end-of-life care, regardless of income, location, or condition.

Investing in end-of-life care is both morally and economically right.

City of Durham CLP asks the conference to urge the Prime Minister and the Health Secretary to develop a long-term funding plan for universal access to good end-of-life care.

## 34 LEVESON

### South Ribble

The South Ribble Constituency Labour Party (SR CLP)

- notes that Labour pledged to implement the Leveson reforms to improve media standards and protect the public from intrusions and falsehoods, Sir Keir Starmer has rightly called for an end to political corruption and a focus on public interests.

-states that the government must uphold its promises to those affected and remain accountable to the British public.

The Leveson Inquiry aimed to address past issues and the future of ethical journalism in the UK.

-supports all the recommendations outlined as 'What the Government should do' in the report 'Pressing Issues – Making the Media Work for Democracy' Fabian Ideas No.669. These include preventing newspapers and their websites from covering important issues that are facing the country—such as human trafficking, climate change and domestic violence—inaccurately, unethically and in a way that can entrench division in communities.

The SRCLP requests that the Labour Government implements the following recommendations taken from the report

Press-and-Media-final-online.pdf .

- Tighten competition law.
- Revive plans to provide public funding for smaller news outlets.
- End the lobby system in political journalism.
- Hold newspapers to the same standards as individual social media users under the Online Safety Act.
- Close the loophole that gives newspaper publishers special exemptions online.
- Introduce a new anti-SLAPP bill
- Consult on mechanisms of alternative dispute resolution for defamation cases.
- Give Ofcom powers to act as a backstop regulator for newspapers not joining a recognised independent regulator
- Consider establishing a dedicated and more energetic regulator.

## 35 DISABLED ACCESSIBLE HOUSING

### Harrow West

Conference welcomes the commitment to get Britain building again with 1.5 million new homes over the next parliament and deliver the biggest increase in social and affordable house-building.

Conference acknowledges campaigns of disability voluntary groups urging the Prime Minister to take immediate and decisive action to address the chronic shortage of accessible and affordable homes.

The conference notes

1. 1 in 5 Disabled people in social housing and 1 in 3 Disabled private renters live in inaccessible homes.
2. Inaccessible homes are not designed to enable people with varied needs to use all facilities or access all rooms. Too many of disabled people cannot wash, cook and (in some cases) enter and leave their homes independently.
3. Local planning authorities have failed to increase the supply of accessible homes, with more than half of all local plans in England having no requirements to build accessible or adaptable homes.

Conference calls on the Government to

- Deliver 'change' by championing accessible and affordable housing by building more accessible social rent homes to genuinely transform the lives of millions of disabled people.
- Mandate the 'Building Regulations M4(2) adaptable and accessible homes' as the minimum standards for all new build homes by the end of 2024.
- Set a minimum target of 10% of all new-build homes to meet Building Regulations M4(3) standards for wheelchair-user homes, by the end of this year.
- Ensure that the majority of accessible homes are built in the social rented sector.

## **36 FINANCIAL EDUCATION**

### **Bognor Regis and Littlehampton**

Conference notes that:

This Labour government is committed to breaking down barriers to opportunity and tackling economic insecurity.&nbsp;

Conference further notes that:

The last Labour government was committed to making Personal Financial Education (PFE) compulsory for all young people but proposals were dropped by the incoming Tory Government in 2010.

The APPG on Financial Education found that over half of teachers were unaware or uncertain about teaching financial education, and many students did not recall receiving it, despite its presence on the curriculum. It expressed concern that this leads to a widespread lack of financial literacy, especially in disadvantaged groups. For children of families struggling to balance family income and expenditure, this is of crucial importance.

This conference calls on our government to:

Make age appropriate PFE compulsory for 7-18 year old students in all education settings. Train teachers to confidently deliver an engaging PFE curriculum rooted in real life. Make sure all young people understand the pitfalls of credit and of “buy now, pay later”. Help young people to critically assess financial products and special offers. Give students skills in money management and budgeting. Explain the concept of pensions and their crucial importance in later life. Help young people to navigate the increasingly complex and virtual nature of financial transactions, including cryptocurrency. Reinstate Enterprise Education to build entrepreneurial skills. Understanding money is a fundamental right. We must give young people the tools they need to ensure their economic success.

## 37 TOURISM AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

### St Ives

This constituency Labour Party, welcomes our Governments' commitment to tackling the national housing crisis.

However, it believes this objective will not be successfully attained, in those regions where housing availability has been severely eroded by second and holiday homes, that are not primary residences, unless specific policies are adopted, to tackle their impact.

We note that the number of second and holiday homes in Cornwall (26000) exceeds the number of households on the council housing need register (24000)

That, because of the impact of second and holiday homes on housing availability, the housing affordability gap between local wages and local housing costs, is much wider in Cornwall than is generally the case in similarly low wage areas.

That many Cornish households are impoverished by unaffordable rental costs and Cornish communities have been "hollowed out".

This constituency calls for Government to end the exemption of business premises holiday lets from both Council Tax and Business Rates. Instead of subsidising their owners, use the money funding this tax dodge (around Â£22 million pa in Cornwall) to provide first homes in local communities.

Allow councils to apply the second home levy to those holiday lets designated as business premises.&nbsp;

Require councils to use the money raised from second home levies (around £24 million pa in Cornwall) for housing provision.

Enable councils to use planning controls to restrict increases in holiday and second homes in areas of housing shortage.

## York Central

This conference notes:

- the rapid rise of whole property short term holiday lets (STHLs) in many tourist destinations around the country in the last decade with consequent loss of local housing accommodation, forced evictions, increased rents for remaining private rented accommodation, increased pressure on Council housing waiting lists, and unfair competition on unionised hotels the unsatisfactory position on planning use for holidays lets, which lacks clarity and leaves local authorities with insufficient resources to take on the burden of proving “material change of use” concerning STHLs;
- Positive steps from other jurisdictions to control the unrestricted rise of holidays lets show what can be achieved where the powers and political will exists;
- York Central MP Rachael Maskell’s Short-term Lets Accommodation Bill which seeks to address this issue.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour government to:

- legislate to give English local authorities the powers to license STHLs including controlling the concentration of holiday lets and introducing conditions on how such lets operate but without allowing any grandfather rights for existing STHLs;
- introduce a new English planning use class to cover STHLs and appropriate amendments to the National Planning Policy Framework to address the particular challenges they create including compensating for the loss of existing residential accommodation in the last decade, allowing restrictions on STHLs in new developments/main residence only conditions;
- amend the tax regime to ensure parity between STHLs operating as businesses, and long term lets, removing preferential treatment for the former.

## **York Outer**

This conference notes:

- that places and areas around the country attract millions of visitors annually, significantly contributing to local economies & employment but placing additional strain on housing, infrastructure, public services, and the local environment without directly contributing to offsetting these impacts;
- that modest visitor levies do not deter tourists and are widely accepted in much of Europe and beyond;
- a visitor levy could provide additional revenue for maintaining public spaces, public transport, heritage conservation, waste management, sustainability projects, providing new and social housing, supporting the local regions and area economic and other goals;
- that budget consultations in places like York demonstrated strong public support for the introduction of a visitor levy, with around 90% of residents who responded to the consultation in favour.

Conference calls on the Government to progress:

- exploring the feasibility and practical mechanisms for introducing visitor levies for overnight stays, including for short-term holidays lets, in consultation with mayors, combined & local authorities, and tourism and hospitality industry stakeholders;
- researching visitor levy models from other countries to determine the best approach for the UK, and potential ring-fencing for projects and initiatives that enhance the visitor and resident experience, improve public services, provide better facilities and reduce the social and environmental impact of tourism;
- granting mayors and local authorities the necessary legal powers to implement a compulsory visitor levy to ensure tourism remains sustainable, and benefits residents and visitors alike.

## **38 ORGREAVE**

### **Sheffield Central**

Conference welcomes the Home Secretary Yvette Cooper's announcement of an inquiry into police actions at the Orgreave coking plant on 18 June 1984.

Conference notes:

- The work of the Orgreave Truth & Justice Campaign culminated in this announcement.
- The IPPC 2015 report, which concluded that there was evidence of criminal assault, perversion of the course of justice, and that officers committed perjury.
- The operational order for police deployments that day disappeared and other evidence was embargoed until 2066 and 2071.
- Northumbria Police confirmed that in April 2024 they destroyed two boxes of documents relating to the strike and Orgreave.

Conference believes:

- striking miners and their families deserve truth and justice.
- That a public inquiry should determine:
- Who was responsible for the deployment of a paramilitary-style operation, and whether it was ordered by the then government?
- Who and how was it decided that pickets should be attacked and arrested at Orgreave and charged with riot and unlawful assembly?

Conference demands the Home Secretary ensures the inquiry will:

- have the power to require all the relevant information and evidence to be produced to it.
- ensure those who have an interest in the inquiry must be able to fully participate in order to lend their experience and knowledge to the process.
- be accessible and inclusive to allow people to provide oral contributions to the evidence gathering process.
- recognise the OJTC as a principal stakeholder throughout.
- be concluded swiftly so participants can see the outcome.



## **39 RIGHT TO BUY**

### **Bury North**

This CLP notes that local authorities have a legal obligation to house homeless people. Further, the current solution to meet this obligation is placing people in unsuitable, vastly expensive temporary accommodations due to inadequate housing supply.

This CLP believes that prior to the right to buy policy introduced by the Thatcher government, this obligation could be met using council owned property.

This CLP calls on the party to withdraw the right to buy nationally. We further call for a house building strategy to build enough new council homes to meet the needs of Bury people and those across the country.

## 40 CHILD MAINTENANCE

### Edinburgh Southern

Conference awaits the announcement of findings of 17th July 2024 of the Ministerial Taskforce set up July 24 to deliver the Child Poverty Strategy.

Conference notes that one factor contributing to child poverty is the failure of non-resident parents to support their children. This places financial strain on single parent households, the majority of whom are women, and exacerbates gender inequalities.

Conference calls on the Taskforce to include measures to address this issue in its work, including measures to:

- 1) improve enforcement measures, streamlining processes for attaching wages, seizing assets and accessing bank accounts.
- 2) increase funding where possible for the Child Maintenance Service (CMS) to improve its enforcement capacity.
- 3) impose stricter penalties for non-compliance, including potential criminal penalties.
- 4) develop a robust system for cross-border enforcement to ensure that non-resident parents living abroad fulfil their financial responsibilities.
- 5) provide additional resources and legal support for parents navigating the CMS and enforcement processes.
- 6) establish a dedicated fund to provide interim financial support to parents and children affected by non-payment, to be reimbursed upon successful collection from the non-resident parent.
- 7) require the CMS to publish regular reports on enforcement activities, including the number of cases pursued, amounts recovered, and success rates.
- 8) implement a review mechanism to ensure continuous improvement in the effectiveness of the CMS and enforcement strategies
- 9) ensure that throughout the process of legislation and enforcement that the voices of affected parents must be heard openly, with respect, and without intimidation.

## **41 SUPPORTING FAMILIIES**

### **Cardiff North, Christians on the Left, Dulwich and West Norwood, Poole, Worthing West**

Conference notes the call to end the two-child benefit limit issued by 15 anti-poverty leaders including from Save the Children and the Trussell Trust on 12th August.

Conference notes the child poverty emergency detailed by the Children's Commissioner's recent report containing evidence of children condemned to Dickensian levels of poverty in Britain.

Conference further notes that families suffered from the Torie's freezing of child benefit over many years and from the imposition of the two-child limit.

Conference welcomes, in the first year of this Labour Government, the expansion of breakfast clubs, school meals, family centres and the increase in the national minimum wage, but knows that to reduce child poverty from the currently unacceptable record numbers of 4.5 million, and from what the Child Poverty Action Group estimates will be at least 4.8 million in 2028/09, improved financial support for children is needed.

Conference further welcomes the Government's establishment of the child poverty review and agrees with 73% of the public that all "children deserve a good childhood, even if it costs the government more to support families that need it.

Conference calls on the Government to find the resources needed to abolish the two-child limit by:

- allocating £3 billion from a levy on the undertaxed online gaming and offshore betting industry;
- allocating a further £3 billion from restoring the 8% levy on the profits of commercial banks or ceasing to pay interest on some of their funds held at the Bank of England.

## **42 CHILDREN IN CARE AND CARE-EXPERIENCED PEOPLE**

### **Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse**

This Conference:

Acknowledges the systemic failures facing children in care, who through no fault of their own endure trauma, instability, and neglect.

Condemns high staff turnover, the denial of basic needs, and the placement of children under 18 in unregulated and unsafe accommodation.

Deplores the abrupt end of support at 18, which leaves care leavers vulnerable to homelessness, exploitation, discrimination, rising suicide rates, and overburdened adult services.

Notes the failure to prioritise kinship care before removing children, and the criminalisation of vulnerable young people for survival acts such as seeking food.

Calls on Government to make care experience a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, ensuring fair treatment in employment, housing, and justice.

Demands that corporate parenting

responsibilities extend to at least age 25, with guaranteed stable housing, financial support, and access to services.

Urges a ban on unregulated accommodation for all under-18s, alongside increased funding for social workers, foster carers, and youth services.

Mandates that family and kinship options are fully explored before placing a child into care, with proper financial and practical support for kinship carers.

## Mid-Derbyshire

This CLP notes that:

Children and young people who have grown up in care face serious inequalities in education, housing, health, employment, and the criminal justice system. Around 25% of people experiencing homelessness and 25% of the prison population have spent time in care. Only 9% of care leavers progress to higher education by age 19.

The Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill (2024–25) introduces important measures to support care leavers but does not require government departments to publish annual reports on care-experienced inequalities or actions taken.

This CLP believes that:

A statutory duty should require the Department for Education, Ministry of Justice, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, and other relevant bodies to publish annual reports showing:

- Inequalities faced by care-experienced people in their remit.
- Actions taken to reduce these inequalities.
- Clear targets for future progress.

This CLP calls on the Labour Party to:

- Establish a statutory cross-government duty to publish annual reports on care-experienced people's life outcomes and the steps taken to improve them.
- Ensure these reports are transparent, accessible, and used to inform policy and funding decisions aimed at closing opportunity gaps.

## 43 EQUALITY ACT

### Liverpool Riverside

This Branch is aware that Section 1 of the Equality Act 2010 introduced a socio-economic duty on public bodies, including local authorities, that required them: when making decisions of a strategic nature about how to exercise its functions to have due regard to the desirability of exercising them in a way that is designed to reduce the inequalities of outcome which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

The Branch understands and welcomes the positive impact this would have in tackling the socio-economic disadvantage based on factors such as class, education, occupation and place of residence. Branch is concerned that despite the Equality Act being passed by the UK Parliament in 2010, successive UK governments have still not enacted Section 1 which would have enabled this important part of the Equality Act to come into force.

Branch understands that a number of local authorities, including Liverpool City Council, have voluntarily enacted the duty, are undertaking activities designed to tackle socio-economic disadvantage, and are therefore acting in the spirit of the duty written into the Equality Act.

Branch recognises the hard work carried out across the city to address the causes and impact of socio-economic inequality. Branch applauds the commitment from all involved, including the public, private, voluntary, community and faith sectors, along with the cross-party support to make Liverpool a strong city built on fairness.

This Branch requests this Labour Government to issue the commencement order that would bring Section 1 of the Equality Act into force, as a matter of urgency.

## Nottingham South

Conference notes that:

The National Policy Forum annual report 2025 section Break down barriers to opportunity does not mention the Equality Act 2010 or the Equality and Human Rights Commission; the Equality Act 2010 was a ground-breaking and significant piece of legislation when first introduced by the then-Labour Government, and has substantially advanced progress on equality and inclusion; Labour is and always has been the party of equality, with a proud record of extending rights and protecting people from discrimination on the basis of sex, race, ethnicity, nationality, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity; concepts and practice relating to equity, diversity and inclusion have moved on significantly over the last decade and a half. In view of this, Conference resolves that the Labour Government should commit to:

extend the Equality Act to more fully reflect the principle of non-discrimination in Article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights, widening the range of protected characteristics;

include care experience, caring responsibilities and gender identity (as distinct from gender reassignment or sex) as protected characteristics;

foreground the role of intersectionality in relation to protected characteristics – this should include bringing into force Section 14 of the Equality Act 2010 on combined discrimination;

recognise the role of internal diversity within protected characteristic groups. The process of reviewing and extending the Equality Act should be undertaken through an inclusive consultative process to ensure that a full diversity of views within protected characteristic groups can be properly and respectfully considered.

## 44 DIGITAL INCLUSION

### Portsmouth North

This CLP is increasingly concerned about the public's ability to defend itself against IT attacks and subsequent data loss, especially those unable to defend their interests effectively. Recent and ongoing IT-related events e.g. energy blackouts across Europe, attacks on company systems, the PO subpostmaster scandal etc, illustrate the new world in which we all exist.

The speed at which IT is being used in nearly all aspects of our lives makes it increasingly difficult for many citizens to absorb and keep up with its diverse uses. Without the IT skills and the financial ability to keep up with these changes, many find great difficulty with everyday situations when dealing with organisations such as Banks, Civic Authorities, Insurance Companies, Utilities, and whole range of commercial businesses. The new situation in which cash transactions are refused is contrary to the national position in which the Bank of England still issues printed money and coinage for citizens general use.

This CLP is increasingly alarmed at the divisions the use of IT is causing by undermining and devaluing sections of society the ability to live normal lives, where IT is the only method available to make a transaction.&nbsp;

#### Proposal

We therefore call upon the Labour Party to create a legal authority that ensures all organisations provide a working alternative to their IT procedures when dealing with their services. This to ensure that all citizens are able to live and function with ease and respect without the fear of technological barriers.



## 45 SKILLED WORKER VISAS

### Peckham

This Branch (GC/Conference) notes:

- In 2024, 57,336 people were granted Skilled Worker dependant visas, mostly partners, of which most are female (approx. 70%).
- The majority of the 57,336 are in work (71%).
- Skilled Workers must complete 5 years of residency to obtain settlement. Dependant visas also require 5 years of residency.
- Yet, Skilled Worker dependant visa holders who decide to leave their partner must “reset the clock” on settlement to zero – an unfair and harmful technicality.
- This consequence is immediately more severe due to the Government’s May 2025
- Immigration White Paper that aims to double the qualifying period (5 to 10 years).

This Branch (GC/Conference) believes:

- The policy creates an arbitrary and unfair trap: stay in an unhappy or harmful relationship or lose up to 10 years of life in the UK.
- The policy disproportionately affects working women who contribute billions to the British economy.
- The policy contradicts Labour values of equality, fairness, and the mission to put the country in service of working people.
- The impact of the policy is set to become catastrophically worse when the qualifying period doubles.

This Branch (GC/Conference) calls upon our Labour Government to:

- abolish the “clock reset” before the qualifying period is extended; and
- recognise the time lived as a dependant in the UK as part of the qualifying period for those who successfully transition to an independent Skilled Worker visa.

## **46 HIGHER EDUCATION**

### **Lancaster and Wyre**

Conference notes an unprecedented financial crisis affecting UK higher education. Cuts in the sector of £238m have been covered widely in the media. According to the University and College Union (UCU), 101 (out of 166) UK universities have announced job cuts, amounting to over 10,000 jobs lost if the government does not intervene. Mass redundancies and degree closures will be devastating to staff and their families and the quality and variety of education generations of students can access.

On 6 May 2025, the UK Parliament's Education Committee published an urgent inquiry to the Education Secretary about the crisis of British HE. Parliament has heard that this crisis is caused largely by a failed funding model, forcing universities to rely heavily on (international) tuition fee income. There is now an urgent need for the government to act.

Conference therefore commits to making it a priority for the current Labour government to:

- 1) Make public emergency funds available as a matter of urgency to all universities that are now in financial distress.
- 2) Implement, as a matter of priority, a sustainable public funding model for UK HE that ends the need for universities to rely on tuition fees as the main source of income and prevents any further university bankruptcies, degree closures and job losses.
- 3) Build a task force working on the new funding model which should include representatives of HE trade unions.

## Selby

The government should replace the current tuition fee system with a hybrid funding model that ensures access, fairness, and sustainability in higher education.

This motion is intended to break down barriers to opportunity; to make sure there is no class ceiling on the ambitions of our young people.

Under this plan, tuition fees will be scrapped for undergraduate students in England.

Instead, the government will fund university places upfront through general taxation, reflecting our belief that education is a public good. To ensure shared responsibility and sustainability, graduates will contribute back through a fair, income-based system once they earn over a suitable threshold. Contributions will be capped in time and total amount, with no real interest charged - ending the era of student debt.

This model protects students from financial barriers to entering Higher Education while maintaining high-quality university funding. It is progressive, affordable, and practical.

The existing loan repayment infrastructure should be reformed and rebranded as a "Future Contribution Service" to reflect its role in national investment and shared prosperity.

The government should also work with employers, particularly in shortage sectors like health and engineering, to explore voluntary co-investment schemes, ensuring that education aligns with workforce and societal needs.

This hybrid approach strikes the right balance between opportunity and responsibility. It reflects Labour values and restores trust in a system that has become unfair, unaffordable, and uninspiring for the next generation.