

**NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE (NCC)
SPECIAL ELECTIONS**

Candidate Booklet

NCC Special Elections

Annual Conference 2018 agreed an expansion of the National Constitutional Committee (NCC) from 11 to 25 members. As NCC members are normally elected at Annual Conference, the National Executive Committee has agreed that these new positions will be elected by a ballot of delegates to Annual Conference 2018.

Each CLP was entitled to nominate up to six members to stand for these new positions, and the personal statements of the validly nominated candidates are included in this booklet. Thanks to everyone who put themselves forward for these new positions, whether they succeeded in gaining the required nominations or not.

A ballot of Annual Conference delegates will take place between Monday 12 November and Monday 26 November. As many CLPs send multiple delegates, CLP Secretaries will receive the electronic ballot paper. Secretaries should only cast the ballot once they have received instructions from their delegation.

The deadline for returning ballots is noon on Monday 26 November.

NCC CANDIDATES



Malcolm Cunning

CLP Nominations: 23

I first joined the Labour Party in Aberdeen in 1978 and have since served in various capacities in several constituencies. I've been Branch Secretary, Constituency Chair and acted as an Election Agent for Council and Scottish Parliament elections. Between 2007 and 2012 I worked for 3 MPs and an MSP providing research and campaigning support. I was first elected to Glasgow City Council in 2003. I have been Convenor of Social Work and Chair of the largest Licensing Board in Scotland. I am currently Group spokesperson on Finance.

If elected to the NCC, I would bring 40 years' experience of the Party and a commitment to act strictly on the basis of our rules and the evidence presented. Any pre-existing prejudices, assumptions or loyalties would be left at the door. There is clearly a backlog of work for the NCC to complete and it is essential that this is dealt with both timeously and fairly.

I am no longer in employment and thus have the flexibility to give the time and dedication which being a member of the NCC would require.

I am a member of the GMB and the only Scottish candidate in this election.

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Keith Dibble

CLP Nominations: 26

I'm standing for the NCC because at this critical time for our party members must have confidence in the management of our party. We need to ensure there is a transparent, open and fair process for investigation into conduct and the appeals process.

I have gained valuable experience as both a member and Chair of the Regional Board, where I have chaired appeals, investigations and selections for Westminster, local government, PCC and European elections.

I will always put the best interests of the party and members first.

Members need a strong voice to ensure the party's core values, fairness and open government is upheld, please elect me to the NCC.

• Respect for members • Open and fair government • Great experience in the party and structures • Putting the best interest of the party first • Always campaigning for a Labour victory

My record:

- Chair of South East Labour Regional Board since 2012, member of board from 2002.
- Member of Unite, formerly south east representative on National Political Committee
- Labour Group Leader of Rushmoor Borough Council for ten years, and a Councillor for 34 years.
- Previously parliamentary candidate for Spelthorne and East Berkshire
- Founder member Third Place First
- Experienced in developing community politics

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**Joanne
Harding**

CLP Nominations: 26

It is of vital importance that the Labour Party deals with complaints and allegations swiftly and robustly. It matters because the Party is being scrutinised at every level. We absolutely must deal with the backlog of outstanding cases and be seen to be taking these issues seriously. It matters to the membership and it matters to the wider public to be clear that we as a Party are committed to getting our house in order.

As a member of North West Regional Board I have worked as part of a committed team in overseeing panel appeals, disciplinary issues and complaints

I have represented the Labour Party at a local, regional and national level. I am currently a Councillor in Trafford where I hold the Executive Portfolio for ASC and I sat on the NPF as part of the Health Commission for 7 years. These are responsibilities that I have and continue to take incredibly seriously and that I carry out with diligence and fairness. I believe I have the skills to sit on the Labour Party NCC and can be trusted to act in a fair and balanced way. I am a member of Unison and Community Union.

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**Annabelle
Harle**

CLP Nominations: 155

I am seeking election to the National Constitutional Committee because I feel I offer experience useful to the Party. I come from a Labour and trade union family and have been a union member all my working life and a Party member since 1979. For several years I worked in the Lord Chancellor's Department (now Ministry of Justice). The distillation and dispassionate consideration of information, inherent to the legal process, is in my view essential to reaching an equitable conclusion, and I should endeavour to follow this practice if elected. I more recently worked for the former Welsh Labour leader, Rhodri Morgan, and for the Electoral Reform Society. I am also a trained translator. I have served as CLP Secretary, on the Welsh Executive Committee and on the National Policy Forum. I have always striven to represent members' views fully.

Increased membership and the advent of electronic communications and social media have led to situations which need methodical and clear-headed resolution, keeping fair treatment of members as paramount. The appointment of extra NCC members should aid this. If you vote for me please also support Gary Heather, Stephen Marks, Khaled Moyeed, Susan Press and Cecile Wright. Thank you.

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NCC CANDIDATES



Cllr Gary Heather

CLP Nominations: 143

I want to be elected to the National Constitutional Committee to help ensure fairness and justice for all Labour Party members.

I have been a Party member for 29 years, and served as CLP chair. I am a borough councillor, with experience as a parliamentary candidate. As a trade unionist, I served on the CWU NEC and I was President of Islington TUC. I am also a member of Momentum, the Fabians and the Co-operative Party.

I am knowledgeable regarding the rules of the Party, and believe that people receiving justice in society – including in the Labour Party – is a fundamental human right. I have experience of dealing with disciplinary matters in the Party and in my union, where I served on the national discipline committee and also assisted union members at Employment Tribunals.

The Party rules must be applied fairly to all members, while always looking to resolve disputes and conflict so as to maximise unity and effectiveness within the Party.

Labour under the leadership of Jeremy Corbyn has to advocate an alternative to Tory Government austerity and cuts, and gain power to implement this vision.

Please vote for me and also support: Harle, Marks, Moyeed, Press and Wright.

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Caroline Hexter

CLP Nominations: 24

My name is Caroline Hexter and I'm a Councillor in the New Forest. I've been a member of the South East regional board since 2012, where I've been involved in a number of investigations into members conduct, including overseeing a CLP in my region which was put into special measures. I'm also an active member of the GMB and Labour Women's Network.

I'm standing for Labour's NCC because I believe it is only right and fair that the Labour Party rulebook is upheld and it's disciplinary processes applied equally to all members. For too long as Labour Party Members we have been aware of disciplinary cases dragging on for months or even years. This is totally unfair, both on the accused member and on the complainant. If elected to the NCC I will make sure I am available to do the maximum number of disciplinary panels required and ensure that we clear the backlog of cases, ensuring swift and determinate justice for our members.

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Steve Lapsley

CLP Nominations: **15**

Comrades, I have been a member of the Labour Party for most of my adult life. I am a clinician in the NHS, a proud member of Unison and I also sit on the National Committee of Open Labour. My politics are unashamedly left.

I support the democratisation of Party processes and the involvement of the membership as we improve our systems. There are a small number of people who are actively damaging our Party's reputation (and our electoral chances) and we must tackle these issues as we prepare for government, sending a clear message that abuse of any kind, whether it is racism, misogyny, bullying etc, is not acceptable and will not be tolerated. We are the Party of equality and we are better than this. The NCC needs to be both fair and robust – and decisions taken on the basis of rules, not emotions.

I ask for your vote for a left, independent-minded candidate who will ensure that issues are dealt with in a non-partisan, fair manner, swiftly and sensitively. We need to future proof our Party processes now, to ensure we become the party we all want us to be.

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Stephen Marks

CLP Nominations: **148**

The enlargement of the NCC offers a vital opportunity to restore the reputation of our disciplinary procedures by clearing the backlog of cases and ensuring that our processes comply with natural justice as recommended by the Chakrabarti report.

I have been a party member continuously since 1981, first in Hampstead and Highgate, and since 1991 in Oxford East. I am currently Vice-Chair of Oxford District Party and a former Oxfordshire County Councillor and deputy group leader.

I am also a life member of the NUJ [retired]; as a workplace union rep [FoC], I have represented members in disciplinary cases and before industrial tribunals.

As a local party EC member I have also chaired local candidate selection meetings and panels.

I am a member of UNITE Community, Coop Party, Fabian Society, Momentum, CLPD, Jewish Voice for Labour and SERA.

I have worked for Tribune and the Labour Party publication 'New Socialist' as well as for the Greater London Enterprise Board and as a consultant on a variety of projects from co-operation between European cities on promoting clean vehicles to leading a research and exchange project on China's involvement in Africa.

Please also support: Harle, Heather, Moyeed, Press and Wright.

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NCC CANDIDATES



Khaled Moyeed

CLP Nominations: **150**

In May 2018, I was elected as a councillor in Haringey, London after campaigning successfully against the mass privatisation of council homes in the form of the Haringey Development Vehicle.

I worked as a community organiser in the early years of my career delivering projects to improve community cohesion and reduce crime. I went onto work at two leading international law firms specialising in dispute resolution.

I joined the Labour Party in 2010 and was elected to serve in different roles at branch and constituency level. I supported Jeremy Corbyn in both leadership elections.

I am running for the NCC because I would like to be a powerful voice representing ordinary members. My skills as a dispute resolution lawyer will certainly be helpful as the NCC is a semi-judicial body. I am familiar with principles of natural justice.

My background as a thirty-something Muslim who grew up in an inner city council home is relevant, because internal Labour Party structures have not always been representative of our diverse membership.

I would like to see the NCC transformed to make it fit to serve Labour's mass membership. This process should begin by fully implementing the recommendations of the Chakrabarti Report.

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Michelle Perfect

CLP Nominations: **7**

When I started as a Regional Organiser in North Wales a decade ago I'd never heard of the NCC, but since I left in early 2016 tumultuous political events have dragged it from the shadows and created a capacity issue – hence this election.

I'm honoured to have been nominated without the backing of either of the main factions in our Labour family. Our newly expanded Labour family must remain a broad church and it's vital that we have vibrant and passionate internal debates over policy conducted with sensitivity and acceptance for dissenting opinions; but we simply cannot ignore or trivialise abusive, discriminatory or hateful behaviour that goes against our most fundamental values.

If elected I'll assess every case without fear, favour or factional partisanship, but in a fair and measured way on the evidence presented and based on the Rulebook and applicable NEC guidelines.

Britain needs Labour to move on from now settled internal battles of the recent past and show we're capable of governing ourselves if we want people to trust us to govern them. We need an NCC that is fit for purpose and which restores confidence in our commitment to fighting against all aspects of discrimination.

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Susan Press

CLP Nominations: **148**

Lifelong Labour Party member, activist, councillor for Todmorden in Calderdale where like everywhere else local government and front-line services are being decimated by Tory austerity. Standing on left slate for NCC.

The past three years have seen unprecedented attacks on Labour's leadership by the media and a damaging leadership election in 2016, with members suspended and disenfranchised.

More recently allegations of anti-Semitism, misogyny and bullying have caused serious concern and division within our Party leading to collapse of trust in processes and procedures. I welcome the fact our new General Secretary and NEC have pledged to act to restore faith with the membership and wider community.

Labour has a proud record fighting racism and championing diversity and it is a matter of concern to all of us that this should ever have been called into question. However when there are serious issues to be investigated we must address them fairly, swiftly and transparently. A more accountable, democratic NCC with increased member involvement will help us do that and I hope to contribute as an experienced advocate for my community with a lifetime commitment to our values. Please also support fellow CLGA candidates Harle, Heather, Marks, Moyeed and Wright.

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Gillian Troughton

CLP Nominations: **26**

I am standing for NCC because I believe we are a democratic socialist party and that behaving in a respectful and honest way is part of our values.

I was a UNISON steward for many years and have supported numerous members through grievances and disciplinary hearings. As a school governor and in work I have investigated and instigated capability, grievance and various disciplinary matters including through formal processes.

As a Labour councillor, I'm on the governance committee and have dealt with numerous complaints against councillors (of all parties and none). I helped shape the complaints procedure which governs how we deal with these. It recognises that whilst taking complaints seriously and dealing appropriately with those who are clearly breaching standards, there are unfortunately those who are vexatious and actively seeking to undermine for political gain.

I am a borough and parish councillor, and have been a county councillor as well as a Parliamentary candidate. I was an executive member with responsibility for finance, resources and HR until a change of administration in 2015.

I have been Secretary and Chair of Copeland CLP, and have started the disciplinary processes against members, so understand the difficulties and constraints that CLPs operate under.

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Cecile Wright

CLP Nominations: 157

I have been a lifelong member of the Labour Party and a socialist. I am a standing for NCC. We need to ensure the NCC is a transparent, accountable, open and fair, process for investigation into conduct and the appeals process and makes timely decisions. Members need a strong voice to ensure the party's core values, fairness and open government is upheld, please elect me to the NCC

The Labour Party members are our greatest asset and I am committed to a membership-led party. I will always put the best interest of the party's members first .

I have extensive experience of representing Labour members through positions held at Branch and CLP and having attended and spoken at regional and national conferences and stood as a candidate for the local elections in Derby on several occasions. A member of University of College Union(UCU) and Unite.

I have gained valuable experience as both the former Vice- Chair of a Mental Health Trust and a member of the National Executive Committee member of union, where I have chaired appeals, investigations and disciplinary panels.

Please also support: Harle, Heather, Marks, Moyeed and Press.

