

Rules for the National Labour Party Women's Organisation, Committee & Conference

National Labour Party Women's Organisation

Clause I.

Aims and values

1. To lead political work relating to women members.
2. To organise women members.
3. To build the Labour Party amongst women across the country.
4. To strengthen the voice and presence of women throughout the Labour Party.

Clause II.

Membership

1. All women members of the Party shall automatically be members of the Labour Party Women's Organisation.

Clause III.

Structure

1. There shall be a National Labour Party Women's Committee to ensure the effective administration and organisation of the Labour Party Women's Organisation.
2. Women's Branches may be established throughout England, Scotland and Wales, which shall usually be co-terminus with Constituency Labour Parties (CLPs)
3. There may be established a regional/Welsh/Scottish Women's Committee for each English Region, Wales, and Scotland. Such Committees shall produce regular reports on their work and progress to the National Labour Party Women's Committee and to the appropriate Regional/Welsh/Scottish Executive Committee.
4. The Labour Party Women's Organisation shall ensure at every level close cooperation and liaison with other women trade unionists, and other women in affiliated organisations.

Clause IV.

Amendment to rules

1. Labour Party Women's Conference shall have the power to propose changes to these rules (Chapter XX), providing that such changes do not contravene the spirit and intention of the rules as adopted by Party conference or alter the party objects, basis or conditions of affiliated and individual membership, or effect a change in relationship of Labour Party Women's Conference with the Party. Any

such proposal must secure the support of at least a two thirds majority at Labour Party Women's Conference.

2. Rule Changes receiving a two thirds majority on a card vote at Labour Party Women's Conference would, subject to agreement to timetabling by the NEC, be tabled at the next Annual Conference. Amendments to these rules would take effect once passed by Annual Conference.

National Labour Party Women's Committee & Conference

Clause I.

Aims and values

1. To lead political work relating to women members.
2. To organise women members.
3. To build the Labour Party amongst women across the country.
4. To strengthen the voice and presence of women throughout the Labour Party.
5. To make recommendations to the NEC and its sub-committees relating to women members.
6. To set a timetable for Labour Party Women's Conference (in consultation with the WCAC), and to oversee the overall direction of the Labour Party Women's Organisation, including Annual Labour Party Women's Conference.

Clause II.

Membership

1. The National Labour Party Women's Committee shall comprise women members of the Labour Party as follows:
 - a. Voting members:
 - A. Six members elected by CLPs at the Labour Party Women's Conference.
 - B. Six members elected by affiliated trade unions at the Labour Party Women's Conference.
 - C. One member elected by Socialist Societies at the Labour Party Women's Conference.
 - D. One member elected by the Women's PLP.
 - E. One member elected by women members of the ALC.
 - F. One member appointed by each of any Scottish or Welsh Women's Committee.
 - G. The NEC Vice Chair for Women.
 - b. In order to ensure effective communication and joint working across different parts of the Party, the following people will be Ex Officio members of the Committee:
 - A. Women members of the NEC

- B. When in Government, the Minister or Secretary of State with responsibility for Women. When in Opposition, the relevant Shadow Minister or Secretary of State.
 - C. One woman member appointed by each of any national BAME, disabled members or Young Labour organisation.
2. Representatives of other groups within the Labour Party may be invited to attend meeting of the National Labour Party Women's Committee, at the discretion of the Chair.
 3. All members of the National Labour Party Women's Committee shall serve a term of two years.
 4. Ex officio members shall not have voting rights.

Clause III.

Officers

1. The Officers of the National Labour Party Women's Committee shall be Chair and two Vice Chairs, to be elected by members of the Committee.

Clause V.

Meetings

1. The National Labour Party Women's Committee shall meet at least three times per year, with additional meetings to be scheduled as often as necessary.

Clause VII.

Labour Party Women's Conference

1. There shall be an Annual Labour Party Women's Conference which shall wherever practicable be held in the spring.
2. The NEC will determine the basis for delegations of women to the Labour Party Women's Conference, with positive action to ensure BAME, LGBT, disabled members or young members as delegates.
3. CLPs and affiliated organisations will be entitled to send delegations to the Annual Labour Party Women's Conference.
 - i. For CLPs, where established, delegates shall be elected by Women's Branches, otherwise delegates shall be elected by CLPs. Where a Women's Branch covers more than one CLP, delegates shall be elected only by members of the Women's Branch who are also members of the individual component CLPs.
 - ii. Delegates shall be appointed by affiliated trade unions or other affiliated organisations in accordance with each organisation's rules and processes. This will be on the basis of one delegate per 10,000 members or part thereof, up to a maximum of 25 delegates per affiliate.
4. The procedure to be followed at Labour Party Women's Conference shall mirror Annual Conference as far as practicable, in the event of card votes or ballots, voting shall be in two sections: affiliates and CLPs.
 - i. Affiliated organisations shall cast a vote on the basis of the number of members for whom affiliation fees were paid for the year ending 31

- December preceding the conference in accordance with Chapter 1 Clause II.
- ii. CLPs shall cast a vote on the basis of the actual number of fully paid up members in the CLP at 31 December preceding the conference.
 - iii. The balance of the two sections will be 50/50.
5. One motions or rule change may be submitted to Labour Party Women's Conference by each affiliated organisation and CLP/Women's Branch. Motions from CLPs/Women's Branches shall be submitted on the same principles outlined in Clause VII.3 above.
 6. In addition each of any Scottish or Welsh Women's Conferences may submit one motion.
 7. There shall be a Women's Conference Arrangements Committee elected by Labour Party Women's Conference comprising three members elected by CLPs/Women's Branches and three members elected by affiliated organisations, and one member appointed by the national Conference Arrangements Committee. Each member will serve a two year term.
 8. The Labour Party Women's Conference shall be entitled to send up to two policy motions to the subsequent Annual Conference, which will be automatically be timetabled for debate and not subject to the Annual Conference priorities ballot, one of which shall be chosen by delegates from CLPs, and one of shall be chosen by delegates from affiliated organisations at the end of Labour Party Women's Conference. Only motions passed by Labour Party Women's Conference shall be eligible to be sent to Annual Conference.
 9. The WCAC shall decide in advance how many issues will be debated at Women's Conference and inform CLPs and affiliated organisations. The WCAC shall submit all motions to a priorities ballot before or at the start of conference. The ballot will be divided into two sections, one section for CLPs, and one section for trade unions and other affiliated organisations. Each section will select an equal number of priorities to be debated at Annual Labour Women's Conference
 10. Any standing orders and procedures for Labour Party Women's Conference shall as far as practicable mirror those of Annual Conference, and must be agreed by the NEC.