

# **CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE**

Addendum to CAC Report 1

Sunday 22 September 2024

# CONTENTS

AI AND AUTOMATION .....	1
AN ECONOMY FOR THE FUTURE .....	3
BORDER SECURITY COMMAND.....	5
CHILD POVERTY .....	7
CLEAN ENERGY MISSION.....	15
CRIME MISSION.....	17
DEMOCRATIC REFORM .....	19
EQUALITIES.....	20
ERASMUS.....	22
FOOD SECURITY .....	23
FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT .....	24
GROWTH MISSION.....	26
HEALTH MISSION.....	28
HOUSING .....	30
INFRASTRUCTURE.....	36
ISRAEL - PALESTINE.....	38
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING.....	41
LONG COVID.....	42
MAKING WORK PAY FOR PUBLIC SERVICES.....	43
MENTAL HEALTH .....	45
OIL & GAS LICENSES .....	46
OPPORTUNITY MISSION .....	47
PATIENT SAFETY.....	49
PENSIONERS.....	50
PROCUREMENT .....	55
PUBLIC HEALTH .....	57
RAILWAYS.....	58
RIGHT TO PROTEST.....	59
RIOTS .....	60
ROAD SAFETY.....	61

SOCIAL CARE .....	62
STEEL .....	63
SUPPORT FOR SMES.....	65
TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE.....	66
TACKLING HATE.....	69
TAX REFORM.....	73
UKRAINE .....	75
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS.....	76
WATER.....	79
WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY .....	80
MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE NPF .....	82
MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE NEC .....	83

## **AI AND AUTOMATION**

Conference notes the ongoing ICO consultation series on generative AI and data protection and the round table with music industry representatives on Tuesday 17 September 2024. Conference recognises that emerging and developing technologies present opportunities for workers and industries but come with challenges and risks.

The roll-out of artificial intelligence in our lives and workplaces must be managed in a way that works for and considers people. Technologies should assist and facilitate human labour and creativity, rather than replace it wholesale.

Working people and human creators must therefore have a proper say in the roll-out of artificial intelligence and must be protected from unforeseen consequences.

The interests of workers and businesses must be balanced; major corporations and bad bosses must not be allowed to use artificial intelligence in a way that exploits working people or diminishes their rights and pay.

Trade unions must be consulted by the Labour Government in relation to AI policy to ensure that our members' rights are upheld, pay and conditions remain fair and that new rights are introduced urgently where necessary.

### **Musicians' Union**

Conference notes the TUC's publication, on 3 September 2024, of a Generative AI Toolkit, which supports union representatives in negotiating policies with employers on the use of artificial intelligence (AI). Conference commends the work being done by union representatives in this area, but notes that significant policy development is needed to address the challenges of AI and automation in the workplace.

Conference recognises that the potential impact of new technology on workers goes beyond job security, and can include work intensification, discriminatory algorithmic decisions and privacy issues. It is therefore crucial that the voice of workers is heard in Britain's digital transition.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to take action so that the UK's employment rights framework is fit for purpose, in the light of current and future advances in AI. This must include:

- The right to meaningful consultation when new technology is introduced in the workplace.
- The right to switch off.
- A requirement for Equality Impact Assessments prior to new technology being introduced, so that employers can identify where some groups will be impacted more than others and be required to take action to reduce the impact.
- The right for workers to have a human connection when decisions about them and their job are being made.

- A comprehensive review of the redundancy framework, including consultation requirements and the level of statutory redundancy pay, to strengthen protections for workers whose jobs are at risk.

### **Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers**

The introduction of Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems into workplaces without regulation or protections will further entrench discrimination.

Women, Black and Asian ethnic minority, disabled and LGBT+ workers are most vulnerable to discrimination by algorithm and AI.

Acknowledgement of AI in the King's Speech on 17th July and the publication of the TUC's Generative AI Toolkit, on 3rd September, reinforce the need to tackle this.

Workers need protection from AI-powered decision-making, particularly 'high-risk' decisions like recruitment, performance assessments and discipline

The use of AI systems like language software can replicate racist stereotypes, including linguistic discrimination by assigning speakers of African American English worse results.

The unregulated collection of data can be used to victimise on the basis of special categories of personal data, including trade union membership, known as 'digital blacklisting'.

Conference resolves:

Labour must prioritise legislation to prevent the misuse of AI and new technology in the workplace. This must include:

- The right for trade union consultation and negotiation on the introduction and use of new technologies at work, including the collection, handling and misuse of data.
- Statutory Workplace Equality Representatives with legal protections to ensure collective oversight of the misuse of AI and new technologies at work.
- Preventing use of AI for 'digital blacklisting' and discrimination.
- The extension of public sector equality duties to ensure AI does not embed discrimination in public bodies. This should include a role for the EHRC in regulating the use of discriminatory AI systems, backed by statutory guidance and equality impact assessments.

**Unite**

## **AN ECONOMY FOR THE FUTURE**

Conference notes the Prime Minister's speech delivered in Downing Street on the 27th of August 2024, where he stated that the upcoming budget was "going to be painful".

Fourteen years of Tory austerity has devastated Britain. Our schools, our NHS, our prisons- every single public service has been slashed by the Conservatives project of public destruction. Alongside this, profiteering has flourished, short-term profits are favoured over long-term investment and working people have paid the price through real-terms wage cuts.

For so long, workers have been told that if they work hard, they can have a decent life and access well-functioning public services- with the guarantee that their children will be better off. Austerity has destroyed this promise.

Conference recognises that a new economic settlement is needed to rebuild our country in the interest of working people. A Labour government cannot be held back by an economic dogma that restricts real investment and asks working people and pensioners to bear the brunt of cuts while wealth accumulates at the top of society.

Conference agrees that the Labour Government should:

- Reform the fiscal rules to unlock revenue for significant investment in public services and infrastructure.
- Reverse the introduction of means-testing for the Winter Fuel Allowance
- Commit to, at a minimum, ensuring any public expenditure gaps are restored through taxing wealth and that there are no further cuts to welfare provision for working people and pensioners.

### **CWU**

Conference notes that workers and communities voted for change - a better future, not just better management and not cuts to the winter fuel allowance.

On 27 August the PM warned voters to "accept short-term pain for long-term good".

Britain cannot wait for growth, nor turn back to failed austerity.

We need a vision where pensioners are not the first to face a new wave of cuts and those that profited from decades of deregulation finally help to rebuild Britain.

Tory austerity left a black hole worth hundreds of billions in our public services.

- The decade before the pandemic, saw day-to-day health spending at 18% below the EU14 average, and NHS waiting lists are now at record highs.
- Public sector pay is down 19% in real terms since 2010, and we have hundreds of thousands of unfilled vacancies.

Decades without industrial planning have left a public investment gap of £500 billion below the OECD average since 2000.

Net zero cannot be delivered without more money and we cannot ask workers to pay for it with their jobs.

Conference resolves that Labour will address this in the October budget and will commit to:

1. Reversing all cuts to the winter fuel allowance
2. Ending fiscal rules which prevent borrowing to invest
3. Introducing a wealth tax on the top 1%, an excess profits tax, equalise capital gains tax with income tax and apply national insurance to investment income
4. Delivering the investment necessary for a workers' transition to Net Zero

**Unite**

## **BORDER SECURITY COMMAND**

First Step: Border Security Command

On the 18th July, the UK hosted the European Political Community summit, which committed to deepening international co-operation. Conference notes that small boat crossings and Europe-wide people smuggling gangs are undermining our border security and costing lives.

Rather than a serious plan to confront this crisis, the Conservatives have offered nothing but desperate gimmicks over the past fourteen years. Conference strongly welcomes Labour's decision to scrap the Rwanda scheme on day one of government.

Labour must now turn the page and restore order to the asylum system.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour Party to:

- Introduce the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill to establish a new Border Security Command and deliver new counter terror powers to tackle organised immigration crime
- Hire additional caseworkers to clear the Conservatives' backlog and end asylum hotels, saving the taxpayer billions of pounds.
- Negotiate additional returns arrangements to speed up returns and increase the number of safe countries that failed asylum seekers can swiftly be sent back to.
- Act upstream working with international partners to address the humanitarian crises which lead people to flee their homes, and to strengthen support for refugees in their home region.

### **Bootle, Hammersmith and Chiswick**

The new Labour Government must act to tackle our broken immigration system.

Over the last 14 years of Tory rule, immigration has soared despite increasing public disquiet around this problem. In response, the Conservatives have merely offered empty gimmicks for the right-wing media and soundbite politics to lure back Reform defectors.

With the arrival of this new Labour Government, Conference welcomes the scrapping of the Rwanda scheme as a first step on this path to reform.

The recent European Political Community summit, hosted by the UK on the 18th July, committed to deepening international co-operation. Conference welcomes the understanding that only by working with our international partners can we break up the Europe-wide people-smuggling gangs whose actions cost lives via small boat crossings.

Conference now calls on the Labour Party to:



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- Negotiate additional returns arrangements to speed up returns and increase the number of safe countries that failed asylum seekers can be sent back to
- Work with international partners to address the humanitarian crises and strengthen support for refugees in their home region

### **Filton and Bradley Stoke**

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### **Wellingborough and Rushden**

## **CHILD POVERTY**

Conference welcomes the announcement by Keir Starmer of a Child Poverty Strategy on 17th July.

Conference also notes Bridget Philipson's and Keir Starmer's statements reported in the Guardian on 22nd July that the Labour Government are considering scrapping two-child benefit cap.

Conference notes the current imposition of the so-called two-child benefit cap, which restricts access for larger families to Universal Credit and Child Tax Credits.

Conference further notes that the cap is part of the Tories' toxic legacy to our Labour Government. In the seven years since its introduction by Chancellor George Osborne, the cap has significantly worsened levels of relative poverty with more than 420,000 households affected last year.

Recent projections suggest that by 2028-29 an absolute majority (51%) of children in larger families will live in relative poverty if the cap remains in place. Nearly three-in-five (59%) of households already impacted by the cap have at least one adult in paid work.

Conference agrees with the Resolution Foundation's assessment that despite initial costs, these are "low compared to the harm that the policy causes, and [that] scrapping the two-child limit would be one of the most efficient ways to drive down child poverty rates."

Conference further believes that our newly elected Government should heed the calls from Baroness Ruth Lister, Barnardo's CEO Lynn Perry, Gordon Brown, Metro Mayors Sadiq Khan and Andy Burnham, and Scottish Labour leader Anas Sarwar among others to abolish the cap with immediate effect.

### **Broxbourne, Leeds East, Wrexham**

This Cannock Chase CLP notes that before the May 2024 election we were promised that the best route to improving people's lives was a Labour government that would work with and deliver for communities right across the country.

Recent announcements would appear to confound that aim, regarding namely; child poverty and pensioner poverty.

Cannock Chase CLP would like to move a motion that this Labour government reaffirms that promise and acknowledge that as a party we will be failing the most vulnerable members of our society if we do not address these issues as a matter of urgency and have remedial measures considered as a priority.

According to reports in the I newspaper on 11.08.24 pensioner poverty is set to double in the next 15 years, concomitant effects being to place further demands on the benefit

system as well as social care. Child poverty is already recognised as a stain on our society.

There are other options, for example according to [taxjustice.uk](http://taxjustice.uk) closing five tax loopholes would raise over £7 billion a year; personal taxable allowances could be raised and such like.

Trying to defend current policy decisions, and having to help and assist members of our communities who are struggling financially against dreadful odds, we know, as activists and campaigners that we will find it very difficult to rise above the criticism our failure to act will engender and ultimately, many, many people will not trust us or vote for us again.

### **Cannock Chase**

- The Guardian reported on 20 August that Rachel Reeves will not use the autumn budget to scrap the two-child limit, indicating a deeply misguided austerity budget.
- IFS Director Paul Johnson's Times article on 22 July notes removing the two-child limit would reduce relative child poverty by approximately 500,000.
- The election of a Labour government on 4/5 July after 14 years of Tory austerity represents a once in a generation opportunity to address child poverty – a critical component of Labour's Five Missions.
- The two-child limit on child tax credits and Universal Credit is a major driver of child poverty.
- 1.5m children live in families affected by the policy, with minority-ethnic families and single-parent families disproportionately affected.
- Abolishing the limit would cost approximately £1.3bn pa, but the Women's Budget Group estimates that lifting 250,000 children out of poverty could save roughly £2.3bn in societal costs. Keeping the limit is a false economy.
- Widespread support across the labour movement to scrap the limit, including former Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Scottish Labour.

#### Conference believes

1. Labour cannot achieve its objectives without scrapping the two-child limit, which would, as the End Poverty Commission suggests, be the most cost-effective way of reducing child poverty.
2. It's immoral to treat some children as less deserving than others because of the circumstances of their birth.

Conference calls upon the Labour government to abolish the two-child limit as soon as possible as an urgent priority.

This conference welcomes the Labour Party's manifesto commitment to support families by

- tackling the underlying causes of the cost-of-living crisis.
- Lack of income is the main driver of hunger, food poverty and related health inequalities.
- Without effective interventions, rising poverty will continue to cause hunger, drive health
- inequalities and result in poorer life chances.
- We note with concern the report from the Resolution Foundation, (August 2024) [1] which
- finds that under current benefit policy assumptions, relative poverty is set to rise, especially
- for children. The number of children living in relative poverty is projected to rise by 1.5 million
- to 4.6 million by the end of the decade.

Conference also notes the Child Poverty Action Group Report 'Things will only get worse - Why the two-child limit must go' published on 11th July 2024[2] in which CPAG notes that 'abolishing the two-child limit is the most cost-effective way to reduce child poverty, and the most urgent action the government must take to reduce child poverty.

We welcome the Government's intention to announce a Child Poverty Strategy in 2025. However, we call on the Party to take immediate steps to abolish the two-child limit on social security benefits and the cap on benefits that restricts the support a working-age household can receive from the social security system, lifting 1 million people, including 600,000 children, out of relative poverty and bringing absolute poverty to an all time low.

## Cardiff West

This conference welcomes the Labour Government's announcement made on 17 July 2024 of a new Ministerial taskforce that will begin work on a Child Poverty Strategy.

Conference notes:

The appalling legacy of the last Conservative Government and its impact on child poverty: after 14 years of Conservative failure, more than four million children were growing up in poverty last year - a rise of over 700,000 since 2010.

The last Conservative Government lost control of the economy and presided over a record fall in living standards, leaving behind a dire economic inheritance for the Labour Government.

Due to the economic mismanagement of the Conservative Government, millions of households have been forced to cut back on essentials, a million children are living in destitution and three million emergency food parcels were distributed by Trussell Trust food banks last year.

Conference further notes that the last Labour Government reduced child poverty by more than half a million through a comprehensive child poverty strategy that worked across Government departments.

Conference believes that this new ministerial taskforce is an opportunity to begin undoing the damaging legacy of 14 years of Conservative failure and to help ensure that every child has the best possible start in life.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour Party to endorse this new ministerial taskforce and welcome the Government's plans to develop an ambitious Child Poverty Strategy.

### **Chelsea and Fulham**

Conference welcomes the many varied commitments made in the King's Speech on 17th July by our new Labour Government and recognises the extreme financial pressures placed upon them by the last Government.

We particularly endorse those dealing with the future generations of our country and the setting up of The Ministerial Taskforce to work on the Child Poverty Strategy.

We would ask that this strategy seeks to ensure stronger integration across our national policies, programmes and action plans and to support collaboration at the regional and local levels. This will deliver Labour's ambition to achieve greater equity of experience and outcome for all children and young people.

Conference asks that by working with our network of 'Metro Mayors' and local government that there is an urgent total review of the two child benefit cap, introduced by the Tories in 2017. This cap is divisive and has financial implications for families, it infringes on families' cultural and religious beliefs and affects women's choice. There is also disparity in payment across our Nation because of policies introduced in devolved governments which make the continuation of this policy unacceptable.

### **Cramlington and Killingworth**

With reference to the Labour government's announcement of a ministerial taskforce to begin work on a Child Poverty Strategy on 17th July, Conference recognises:

- That Child Poverty rose by 700,000 under the Conservatives, with over four million children now growing up in a low-income family.

- That the last Labour government lifted over half a million children and over a million pensioners out of poverty.
- The importance of reforming the welfare and employment support system so that it tackles poverty, drives growth and opportunity, and delivers good jobs.

To support families, Conference calls on the Labour government to:

- Review Universal Credit so that it makes work pay and tackles poverty.
- Create a national jobs and careers service, bringing together Jobcentre Plus and the National Careers Service.
- Establish a youth guarantee of access to training, apprenticeships or support to find work for all 18- to 21-year-olds.
- Work with devolved authorities to ensure that people across country have access to the support they need.
- Work with local areas to create plans that support more disabled people and those with health conditions into work, with devolved funding.
- Deliver an ambitious Child Poverty Strategy that tackles the root causes of child poverty and gives every child the best start at life.

### **Erewash, Feltham and Heston**

This conference welcomes the Child Poverty Taskforce announced by the Secretary of State for Education, The Rt Hon Bridget Phillipson, on 17th July 2024. UK Child poverty increased during the previous government against international trends (Reay, 2022).

This conference recognises the findings and implications of psychological research including:

- the interaction of poverty and mental health for children and families (e.g. British Psychological Society Poverty to Flourishing and Make it 10 campaigns).
- poverty, inequality and uncertainty threaten our basic psychological need to feel: safe; able to make decisions about our life; connected; and valued.
- the impact of financial instability on stress, mental “bandwidth” and decision making; and better understanding of this would reduce shame, e.g. around budgeting and other choices.
- the impact of living with poverty on children’s language, capacity to direct their attention, problem solve and socialise at school.
- that to reduce the impact of child poverty, we must reduce the stigma/shame for people living in poverty.(because of the above) reducing poverty is also a mental health and special educational needs intervention.

This conference encourages the Secretary of State to include in the Taskforce experts by experience and psychologists; and incorporate psychological research to develop effective approaches and services that:

- address the impact of instability, uncertainty, stress and stigma; and increase understanding to empower people and meet their needs.

### **Hemel Hempstead**

Conference notes new scientific evidence, published on 9 August 2024, which shows that infant mortality rates have risen in the UK since 2021, particularly among minoritised ethnicities and deprived areas (Akanni et al, <https://www.healthequitynorth.co.uk/app/uploads/Infant-mortality-report-FINAL.pdf>). Persistent child poverty is a well-known cause for infant mortality.

Conference notes Labour's longstanding legacy in tackling child poverty, the commitment in the 2024 manifesto and the new ministerial child poverty task force. However, this rise in infant mortality was uncovered only very recently. Urgent action is needed to reduce infant mortality and ethnic inequalities in infant mortality.

Conference therefore commits to:

Increasing investment in policies to support children's health as a matter of priority, to reduce preventable infant and child mortality.

Enhancing Labour's child poverty reduction efforts with particular focus on geographical areas in deprived regions, where infant mortality is highest.

Abolishing the two-child benefit cap. Putting enhanced financial measures in place to improve maternity staffing within the NHS and ensure continuity of maternity care for women in disadvantaged areas and from Black, Asian, and mixed ethnic backgrounds. Putting in place a target of 75% for women from disadvantaged communities to have access to the same midwifery team during their pregnancy and post pregnancy.

Ensuring families have access to face-to-face health care from the same qualified health visitor from pregnancy until 5 years.

Building up culturally sensitive approaches to encourage uptake of early booking in pregnancy and uptake of vaccines to reduce preventable deaths.

### **Lancaster and Wyre**

1. That this Constituency Labour Party supports the Child Poverty Working Group instigated by the new Labour Government.
2. That this Constituency Labour Party also supports the removal of the two child benefits cap, as a priority as a first step in tackling child poverty, delivering immediate impact to families and children across Britain.

This conference condemns the previous Conservative government's 14 years dismantling of the welfare state. The election of a Labour government represents a once in a generation opportunity to address child poverty – a critical component of Labour's Five Missions.

Conference therefore welcomes Keir Starmer's announcement of a Child Poverty Strategy on 17th July.

Conference also notes Bridget Philipson's and Keir Starmer's statements reported in the Guardian on 22nd July that the Government are, as part of its policy development, considering scrapping the 2 Child Benefit Cap. Recent projections suggest that by 2028–29 51% of children in larger families will live in relative poverty if the cap remains in place.

In a report published on 3rd September Action for Children, Barnardo's, The Children's Society, National Children's Bureau and the NSPCC called for a Children's Wellbeing Bill to tackle things urgently.

Conference calls on the government as part of their cross-departmental strategy to consider the following areas for urgent action:

- a) Low-cost school uniforms
- b) Universal primary free school meals making permanent initiatives such as that by the Mayor of London.
- c) Affordable and accessible childcare to help to parents go to work  
Conference further believes in the longer term we also need to tackle other substantial areas:
  1. A reform of universal credit to make work pay, support people into decent jobs, end poverty, offer a proper safety net and promote equality.
  2. A commitment for schools' pupil intake to better reflect the socio-economic background of their communities

### **Sutton and Cheam**

Happily, 411 Parliamentary Constituencies have a Labour MP representing them but large, rural constituencies still tend to be under-represented by Labour and effective ways of tackling poverty amongst children in such areas is not widely understood or well researched.

Historically, public policy has focussed on tackling concentrations of poverty / multiple deprivation in urban areas. Efforts to alleviate urban poverty and deprivation have been based on established research and evaluation of past practice.

That is not the case for rural poverty, deprivation and exclusion. Many of the interventions appropriate to 'urban' settings simply do not apply. Examples include: limited availability of local early years child care; more limited employment



opportunities; infrequent / costly transport links; dependence on home-to-school transport over long distances mean that before and after school activities are not readily accessible; the absence of or access to FE / HE provision impacts educational aspirations and achievement.

Thirsk & Malton Constituency data (2024) shows there are 2,000 children 0-15 living in households with incomes 60% below the median (defined as relative poverty), the majority of these have working parents. Rural constituencies like Thirsk & Malton may have relatively smaller numbers of children living in poverty but the impact of this deprivation needs to be considered for all children regardless of location.

We therefore call upon the Ministerial Task Force and Child Poverty Unit to commit to an in-depth exploration of how to secure and enhance the future life-chances of children in low-income households in rural areas.

### **Thirsk and Malton**

- Conference welcomes Keir Starmer's 17th July announcement of a Child Poverty Strategy.
- Conference also notes Bridget Philipson's and Keir Starmer's statements reported in the Guardian on 22nd July that the Labour Government are considering scrapping the 2 Child Benefit Cap.
- Conference notes the current imposition of the so-called two-child benefit cap, which restricts access for larger families to Universal Credit and Child Tax Credits.
- Conference further notes that the cap is part of the Tories' toxic legacy to our Labour Government. In the seven years since its introduction by Chancellor George Osborne the cap has significantly worsened levels of relative poverty with more than 420,000 households affected last year.
- Recent projections suggest that by 2028-29 an absolute majority (51%) of children in larger families will live in relative poverty if the cap remains in place. Three-in-five (59%) of households already impacted by the cap have at least one adult in paid work.
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- Conference further believes that our newly elected Government should heed the calls from Baroness Ruth Lister, Barnardo's CEO Lynn Perry, Gordon Brown, Metro Mayors Sadiq Khan and Andy Burnham, and Scottish Labour leader Anas Sarwar among others to abolish the cap with immediate effect.

### **Tottenham**

# CLEAN ENERGY MISSION

It is now time to Switch on Great British Energy

Noting the Labour government's actions to lift the ban on onshore wind and grant permission for new solar farms on 8th July 2024, conference recognises:

- The damage done by 14 years of chaotic Conservative policymaking on energy, leaving working people vulnerable to dictators like Putin.
- The impact sky-high energy prices have had on families and businesses across the country.

Conference calls on the Labour government to:

- Pass a bill to create a National Wealth Fund, investing in clean industries and create 650,000 new high-quality jobs.
- Pass a Great British Energy Bill to establish Great British Energy, a publicly-owned clean energy generation company, headquartered in Scotland which will ensure that the British people benefit from clean energy investment and create jobs and build supply chains in every corner of the UK.
- Deliver its mission for a clean power system by 2030, accelerating towards net zero.
- Deliver a Warm Homes Plan to upgrade five million homes and cut bills for families.

## **Clydebank and Milngavie**

First Step: Switch on Great British Energy Noting the Labour government's actions to lift the ban on onshore wind and grant permission for new solar farms on 8th July 2024, conference recognises:

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### **East Thanet**

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### **Kirkcaldy, Rutherglen, Sefton Central**

# CRIME MISSION

**Motion ID:** 2214

**Organisation/s:** Norwich North

**Word Count:** 228

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On 24th July, national crime statistics were published showing shoplifting has shot up to a 20-year high and theft has risen by nearly 20% over the past year.

These figures show the disgraceful dereliction of the last Tory Government on law and order – they deserted our town centres and high streets, leaving local people facing soaring levels of street crime.

Conference believes Labour must crackdown on antisocial behaviour to deliver on it's commitment to rebuild public confidence in policing and increase the proportion of crimes solved.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

- Put 13,000 neighbourhood police and PSOs back on the beat in communities across the country so that they are visible and present in local areas.
- Introduce new Respect Orders to give the police new powers to ban persistent adult offenders from town centres to stamp out issues such as public drinking and drug use.
- Introduce the Victims, Court and Public Protection Bill to ensure victims of crime and antisocial behaviour get the support they deserve.
- Force fly-tippers and vandals to clean up the mess that they have created in their communities.
- Scrap the effective immunity for some shoplifting introduced by the Conservatives and create a new specific offence for assaults on shopworkers that will protect them from threats and violence.
- Stop young people being drawn into crime by creating a new young futures programme with a network of hubs reaching across every community.

**Norwich North**

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- Force fly-tippers and vandals to clean up the mess they have created in their communities.
- Scrap the effective immunity for some shoplifting introduced by the Conservatives and create a new specific offence for assaults on shopworkers that will protect them from threats and violence.
- Stop young people being drawn into crime by creating a new Young Futures programme with a network of hubs reaching every community.
- Provide more support for adult offenders, to reduce risk of re-offending.

**St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire**

## **DEMOCRATIC REFORM**

Conference notes:

In 2021 approximately 5.5 million Britons lived overseas.

In 2024 Britons living abroad more than 15 years regained the right to vote in Parliamentary elections, a right afforded to most major democracies.

In 2024, 2 million citizens were re-enfranchised by the abolition of the 15-year rule, which boosted electoral democracy only to be compromised as large numbers of postal votes were incorrectly, or not dispatched; in addition, legitimate Proxy Voters were denied the ability to vote.

After 5 July 2024, 335 new MPs, who took office for the first time following the State opening of Parliament, 17 July 2024, will be obliged to represent constituents living abroad but are not equipped with the necessary resources.

British citizens living abroad have more in common with each other/common concerns among them than with constituencies in which they previously lived.

Conference therefore resolves:

- To consult with Labour's Sister Parties in countries with overseas constituencies to gain knowledge and understanding of how such a democratic right can be developed for Britons.
- To coordinate with the Labour International CLP in developing a mechanism to ensure Parliamentary representation for 5.5 million citizens.
- To establish a bipartisan, cross-party consultation body to develop legislation to restore this democratic right.
- To ensure a Labour government commits to introducing legislation to give British citizens the same democratic voice as homeland residents in matters that affect them.

**Labour International**

## EQUALITIES

- Labour's 2024 manifesto promised to "remove indignities for trans people".
- Hate crimes against trans people have risen by 186% in the last 5 years, according to ONS.
- Average waiting times to access healthcare at NHS gender identity clinics at least doubled between 2018 and 2023.
- The UK's system of gender recognition is difficult and degrading to navigate, with a European Commission study of 2020 finding that the UK is the second most difficult country in Europe for trans people to legally transition.
- On 12 July 2024 Health Secretary Wes Streeting declared the Tory ban on puberty blockers would be permanent. Conference resolves
- To condemn the growth of divisive and demonising rhetoric about trans people in society • To affirm that trans women are women, and trans men are men.
- To call on our new Labour cabinet to commit to reducing waiting lists to access gender identity clinics to the NHS 18 week target and establish a larger interdisciplinary network of gender identity clinics.
- To call on our Labour cabinet to ban all forms of conversion therapy including a ban on this practice being carried out against transgender youth.
- To adopt a definition of transphobia based on the definition advocated for by TransActual and Labour for Trans Rights which is already used in transphobia training for CLPs.
- To end the blanket ban on puberty blockers for trans youth, allowing for evidence-based case-by-case decisions by medical professionals.

### **Heywood and Middleton North**

Conference notes:

That previous Labour governments introduced policies which protected the rights of trans people, including the 2004 Gender Recognition Act and the 2010 Equality Act.

On 12 July Wes Streeting signalled a permanent puberty blocker ban.

Hate crimes against trans people have risen by 186% in the last 5 years, according to ONS statistics.

Average waiting times to access healthcare at the majority of NHS gender identity clinics at least doubled between 2018 and 2023, with many waiting more than five years for their first appointment.

The UK's system of gender recognition is difficult and degrading to navigate, with a European Commission study of 2020 finding that the UK is the second most difficult country in Europe for trans people to legally transition.

## Conference resolves

To condemn the growth of divisive and demonising rhetoric about trans people in society, and express our solidarity and support for the trans community.

To affirm that trans women are women, and trans men are men.

To call on our new Labour cabinet to commit to reducing waiting lists to access gender identity clinics to the NHS 18 week target.

To call on our Labour cabinet to ban all forms of conversion therapy including a ban on this practice being carried out against transgender youth.

To adopt a definition of transphobia, based on the definition advocated for by Trans Actual and Labour for Trans Rights which is already used in transphobia training for CLPs.

**Stockton North**



## **ERASMUS**

On 18 July 2024, ahead of the summit of the European Political Community (EPC) held at Blenheim, the Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer said: "We cannot let the challenges of the recent past define our relationships of the future. That is why European security will be at the forefront of this government's foreign and defence priorities, and why I am focused on seizing this moment to renew our relationship with Europe. The EPC will fire the starting gun on this government's new approach to Europe, one that will not just benefit us now, but for generations to come."

On 16 July 2024 it was announced that following the return of British scientists to the Horizon Project, the UK is the top beneficiary in the 2024 inaugural round of the European Research Council grants.

Conference welcomes this progress in renewing the UK's relationship with Europe and the emphasis on 'generations to come'.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour Government to open negotiations to re-join the Erasmus+ scheme, which gives young people the chance to study, work and travel across Europe. This Europe-wide programme created countless opportunities for young people in the UK, as well as bringing talent from other countries into our universities and workplaces. Being outside Erasmus+ puts our country and our young people at a disadvantage.

**Bognor Regis and Littlehampton**

## **FOOD SECURITY**

Conference notes the government's King's Speech 2024 that contained plans to implement restrictions on the advertising of high fat, salt and sugar products. Conference believes that UK Food Policy requires overhaul after years of neglect, with focus at every level of Government. Learning from the 2007-08 commodity price crisis and anticipating structural problems ahead, the last Labour government developed the Food 2030 strategy, only for it to be discarded by the Coalition.

Poor diets cause untold health damage and NHS cost. Food production and food security are depleted. Current trade deals threaten high quality food standards. Conference endorses Keir Starmer's mission on building an NHS fit for the future, and reaffirms that food security should form part of ongoing work to focus on prevention of illness.

The food supply chain needs clearer direction to address the mix of environmental, social, and economic challenges in a way that values all those engaged in food production. A food and public health strategy is needed to address the range of challenges from diet-related causes of ill-health to improving biodiversity, all while supporting a transition to net zero.

Conference believes a new National Council for Food Security and Resilience should be created to help provide scientific and policy coherence in this mission.

Conference therefore commits the Party to ensure Food resilience, sustainability and the ending of food poverty be a focus of our mission driven approach to government, commencing with the reinstatement and acceleration of Labour's "Food 2030" vision.

**Tooting**

## **FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Conference believes that the election was a resounding rejection of the Tories. The public, sick and tired of austerity, economic mismanagement and crumbling public services, used their votes to demand change.

Conference is under no illusion about the challenges facing our new government; no quick fix will repair the damage done over the past 14 years.

However, Conference is clear that the government does not have the luxury of time and therefore welcomes the Deputy Prime Minister's letter to local leaders on 16 July, and speech to the Local Government Association Councillors' Forum on 18 July 2024.

Conference welcomes the promise that this government would be "laser focused on pushing power out of Whitehall and lighting the touch paper of growth across our regions", and its commitment to providing greater stability to councils through multi-year funding settlements and ending wasteful competitive bidding.

The manifesto recognised that good local government jobs deliver better services that communities can rely on and must be at the centre of providing capacity and support to councils.

Conference calls on Labour to:

1. Invest in high-quality local government services and safeguard jobs, increasing funding alongside a fairer system for distributing the funds and longer-term settlements;
2. Rebuild the important range of public services that local government provides as part of its economic growth strategy;
3. Work with the recognised trade unions, Local Government Association, Metro Mayors, Labour councils and councillors to develop a workforce strategy including good jobs with decent pay and conditions and end outsourcing.

**Unison**

Conference reiterates its solidarity with the bereaved, survivors and residents of the Grenfell Tower fire, in light of the public inquiry report published on 4 September 2024.

Conference condemns the cladding manufacturers, private contractors, BRE, RBKC and the TMO for their roles in the Grenfell Tower fire.

Conference hopes that those found guilty of breaching the law will swiftly face justice for their crimes.

Conference condemns Westminster government policies of deregulation and austerity, which were central reasons for the safety failures at Grenfell Tower.

Conference is appalled by the continued cladding crisis, which leaves more than four million people living in residential buildings over 11 metres tall in fear for their safety.

Conference is horrified that half of the 4,600 known buildings of 11 metres or more with unsafe cladding have not started remediation.

Conference demands that the Labour government and local authorities prioritise justice for Grenfell and making every home safe for people to live in.

Conference demands that ministers consult with tenants, residents, trade unions and housing campaigners on the inquiry recommendations, and the speedy implementation of the most urgent, agreed practical measures.

Conference demands the Labour government:

Provide sustained investment in local government and the fire and rescue service, including fire inspectors. Ensure building control is only carried out by local authority staff, not private contractors. Bring fire testing and research under public ownership and control. Establish a statutory advisory body, including the FBU, to oversee fire safety policy, research, training and guidance.

**Fire Brigades Union**

## **GROWTH MISSION**

Labour fought and won the General Election on the promise of economic stability after fourteen years of Tory chaos.

Noting the publication of the Labour government's Budget Responsibility Bill on 18th July 2024, Conference recognises:

- The necessity of avoiding a repeat of the disastrous Liz Truss 'mini budget', which wreaked havoc on the finances of working people.
- That economic stability is essential to keeping inflation and mortgages as low as possible and therefore the importance of maintaining strong fiscal rules that promote economic stability, while allowing for investment to grow the economy.
- The Labour government's commitment to delivering economic stability, following years of economic chaos and short-termism under the Conservatives.
- The importance of economic stability for families who have suffered from a cost-of-living crisis, with high prices for energy, food and other essentials.

Conference calls on the Labour government to:

- Protect family finances by passing a Budget Responsibility Bill to introduce a fiscal lock, strengthening the Office for Budget Responsibility.
- Introduce a Draft Audit Reform and Corporate Governance Bill to create a certain and stable environment for investment necessary to grow the economy
- Create a more stable investment environment, including a Planning and Infrastructure Bill to reform planning and unlock housing and infrastructure.
- Deliver its mission to boost growth, aiming for the highest sustained growth in the G7.

### **Bristol Central**

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- That economic stability is essential to keeping inflation and mortgages as low as possible and therefore the importance of maintaining strong fiscal rules that promote economic stability, while allowing for investment to grow the economy
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- Deliver its mission to boost growth, aiming for the highest sustained growth in the G7.

**Hinckley and Bosworth**

## HEALTH MISSION

Conference notes that:

New official data, as of August 2024, shows 7.6 million on an NHS waiting list, with over 300,000 patients waiting longer than 52 weeks. This Labour Government inherits an NHS that is broken, after 14 years of Conservative mismanagement in England and 17 years of SNP mismanagement in Scotland. Conference welcomes:

The forthcoming action promised by a Mental Health Bill and Tobacco and Vapes Bill to reduce pressure on our NHS and improve public health. A full and frank assessment of the state of the NHS that Labour inherits, noting that diagnosing the scale of the problem is essential in treating it. Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

Tackle the crisis in the NHS waiting list through delivering on the manifesto pledge to deliver 40,000 NHS appointments every week, during evenings and weekends. Invest in the technology and equipment needed to build an NHS fit for the future through doubling the number of CT and MRI scanners, allowing the NHS to catch cancer and other conditions earlier. Recruit and train the NHS staff needed, including the manifesto commitment to recruit 8,500 additional mental health staff. Steadfastly protect the founding principles of the NHS, a comprehensive, free at the point of use service with access based on clinical need, not the individual's ability to pay.

### **Iford North**

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- Recruit and train the NHS staff needed, including the manifesto commitment to recruit 8,500 additional mental health staff. – Steadfastly protect the founding principles of the NHS, a comprehensive, free at the point of use service with access based on clinical need, not the individual's ability to pay.





## **HOUSING**

A decent home is the foundation of a good life for everyone. It should be a sanctuary, a springboard from which children can go out into the world, a haven for adults after a hard day's work. Instead, for many people in the UK, housing is a source of anxiety and ill health; inadequate, insecure and unaffordable. Across all tenures, there is insufficient housing at a cost that ordinary people can afford.

Conference welcomes the ambitious target of 1.5 million homes by 2029, and the associated regulatory changes. High quality social housing in volume should be a priority and can only be delivered through public sector investment.

Conference welcomes the proposal in the King's Speech to end S21 evictions.

Conference resolves that the Labour Government must prioritise and act urgently to end the housing crisis by:

- Putting local councils at the centre of the social housing programme.
- Amending the Affordable Homes Programme to enable completion of new council homes stalled by the state of the economy.
- Recognising that the return on investment in public sector housing will include jobs, savings to the NHS and benefits bill, as well as higher productivity.
- Establishing a Green and Decent Homes Programme, capital funded to bring council homes up to a new standard in terms of safety, decency and energy efficiency.
- Establishing a long term rent settlement for council homes that will deliver high quality management and maintenance.
- Recognising that building housing is not just about bricks and mortar but about building communities.

### **Dulwich and West Norwood**

Conference notes that, on 23rd July, Copernicus, the EU's climate change service, stated that we are now in truly uncharted territory and that the last year's record global temperatures were not a statistical oddity but a large and continuing shift in the climate.

However, the 18th July progress report of the UK's Climate Change Committee (CCC) concluded that urgent action is needed to achieve the 2030 net-zero target and that there are no credible plans for buildings decarbonisation.

Conference believes that the installation of low-carbon energy technologies in UK homes should be accelerated and incentivised.

Decarbonising homes legislation will help achieve the crucial 2030 and 2050 net-zero targets and massively boost the UK low-carbon energy industry, creating high-skilled

green jobs. It will also strengthen national security and reduce energy costs for the UK population.

Conference resolves that:

All energy demand must be supplied by low-carbon energy technologies in all newly-built homes immediately and from 1st January 2030 no fossil-fuel appliances may be installed in any domestic premises. The government should reinstate the plan to require landlords to upgrade private-rented homes to meet the EPC C standard by 2028 and agree to all other recommendations in the 2024 CCC progress report. The Energy Saving Trust should establish a nationwide network of certified advisers to provide UK householders with local, independent guidance on decarbonisation.

## **Hexham**

The previous Conservative Government presided over a generational housing crisis and the new Labour government is making brilliant strides in solving it.

Conference notes the Labour government's announcement on 30th July 2024 that all councils in England are to be given new, mandatory housing targets to pave the way to deliver 1.5 million more homes;

"We are facing the most acute housing crisis in living memory, with 150,000 children in temporary accommodation, nearly 1.3 million households on social housing waiting lists and under-30s less than half as likely to own their own home compared with the 1990s. Rents are up 8.6% in the last year. Total homelessness is at record levels. There are simply not enough homes."

Conference notes that the Labour government signaled local leaders in Greater Cambridge on 27 August 2024 that we are in a new era of partnership between central government and local partners to deliver sustainable growth.

Conference note there are issues in this country that we need to work towards resolving that include leasehold reform, more protection for private tenant and reforming a broken planning system.

Conference affirms that we need to tackle the housing crisis and the solution is a greater supply of homes of all tenures, most importantly social housing.

Conference endorses the Labour government's plan to give renters more rights.

Conference endorses the Labour government's plan to reform the UK planning system and the drive to get Britain building.

## **Labour Housing Group**

Conference welcomes the announcement made by the Secretary of State for Housing to set ambitious housing targets to start building the homes we desperately need, and

to improve renters' protections through a new Renters Rights Bill, including by ending no-fault evictions.

Conference notes that:

The housing crisis is worsening and students are one of the worst affected groups; often living in expensive, poor-quality accommodation which is mostly privately rented.

64% of students struggle to keep up with rent costs and two in five students have considered dropping out because of it. Students' rent costs average 66% of the maximum maintenance loan. New graduates often struggle to find affordable housing and spend a significant portion of their salary on rent.

Damp, mouldy and energy inefficient housing is rife in rented student accommodation. 37% of students report issues with damp in their homes, posing a threat to everyone's right to a decent home, and creating a wider public health issue.

Renters are poorly protected, and students are often unaware of the rights they have to challenge rogue landlords.

Conference calls on:

The Secretary of State for Housing to consider the way in which the housing crisis is affecting young people and students, particularly in the student housing sector and improving the rights of renters.

The Secretary to bring forward the manifesto commitment to extend Awaab's Law to the privately rented sector as soon as possible, to empower students and fellow citizens to hold rogue landlords accountable.

## **Labour Students**

Conference welcomes Angela Rayner's statement that delivery of "affordable" and social homes is her number one priority.

Conference also notes concerns expressed across the housing sector about the limitations of the housing reform proposed in the King's Speech.

The National Housing Federation commented that building 1.5 million homes over the next Parliament will not be possible through planning reform alone but must be part of "a nationally coordinated and fully funded long-term plan for housing which places social housing at its core."

Conference notes the report "Securing the Future of Council Housing," published July 10th by twenty of England's largest council landlords, calling for emergency funding. It warns that, "unless something is done soon, most council landlords will struggle to maintain their existing homes adequately, let alone build new homes for social rent."

Therefore, to improve the quality of existing homes and ensure delivery of new social homes at the scale needed, conference calls upon the government to:

- Grant Fund building/acquisition of 150,000 social rent homes a year, including 100,000 council homes;
- Invest in Direct Labour Organisations with well paid, unionised jobs and apprenticeships to deliver this;
- End Right to Buy to stop the loss of homes;
- Fund councils for the full cost of temporary accommodation;
- Review council housing 'debt' to fund housing revenue accounts sufficiently to improve the standard of council housing;
- Provide the emergency funding called for by the councils;
- End so-called 'affordable rent' and above inflation rent increases.
- Increase fines on rogue landlords.

## Lincoln

Conference notes Angela Rayner's statement that delivery of "affordable" and social homes is her number one priority.

Conference also notes concerns expressed across the housing sector about the limitations of the housing reform proposed in the King's Speech. The National Housing Federation commented that building 1.5 million homes over the next Parliament will not be possible through planning reform alone but must be part of "a nationally coordinated and fully funded long-term plan for housing which places social housing at its core."

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- Review council housing 'debt' to fund housing revenue accounts sufficiently to improve the standard of council housing;
- Provide the emergency funding called for by the councils;
- End so-called 'affordable rent' and above inflation rent increases.

The Energy Savings Trust estimates that homes lose up to 45% of heat without insulation. Loft insulation alone reduces two-fifths of this loss. Floor insulation reduces this by a further 10%. A typical solar panel will save over 900kg of CO2 per year. A heat pump can reduce a property's heating costs by around two-thirds compared to direct electric heating.

Encouragement of owners to insulate their own properties via grants or government contributions has been patchy and expensive, and owners run the risk of engaging "cowboy" installers too. By contrast, developers have management organisations and group buying power to bring down costs significantly, and a portfolio of sub-contractors to carry out the work in bulk, reflecting the benefit of scale and economy.

This motion proposes that the following requirements should be added to the overhaul of residential planning processes announced by the government on 30 July 2024:

- For all multiple new-build developments, planning approval should include a condition that developers are to manage the insulation of an equivalent or multiple number of existing houses, with the additional insulation paid for by grant.
- Local Authorities will be responsible for deciding which existing housing areas should be included, and the developer would survey and agree insulation requirements (e.g. external wall, roof space, underfloor insulation, double/triple glazing to windows and doors etc) then tender the diverse schedule of work and manage to completion.
- The developers will provide a NHBC
- style warranty for the insulation work for 10 years after the work is completed.

## Tatton

Conference notes Angela Rayner's statement that delivery of "affordable" and social homes is her number one priority. Conference also notes concerns expressed across the housing sector about the limitations of the housing reform proposed in the King's Speech. The National Housing Federation commented that building 1.5 million homes over the next Parliament will not be possible through planning reform alone but must be part of "a nationally coordinated and fully funded long-term plan for housing which places social housing at its core."

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- End Right to Buy to stop the loss of homes;
- Fund councils for the full cost of temporary accommodation;
- Review council housing 'debt' to fund housing revenue accounts sufficiently to improve the standard of council housing;
- Provide the emergency funding called for by the councils;
- End so-called 'affordable rent' and above inflation rent increases.

### **West Dorset, Witney**

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- Fund councils for the full cost of temporary accommodation;
- Review council housing 'debt' to fund housing revenue accounts sufficiently to improve the standard of council housing;
- Provide the emergency funding called for by the councils;
- End so-called 'affordable rent' and above inflation rent increases.

### **Wokingham, Wycombe**

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Conference welcomes the Government's motto for transport: "move fast and fix things," and congratulates the Secretary of State for Transport on her excellent work pushing forward the Passenger Railway Services (Public Ownership) Bill.

Conference also welcomes the 'Rail and Urban Transport Review', published on 21st August, which outlines the need for a long-term vision for transport infrastructure, including setting a goal of doubling the mode share of rail in a decade and a more ambitious rail freight growth target.

This comes at a challenging time for rail freight. High electricity costs contributed to Royal Mail's 10th July announcement to scrap their electric rail fleet and has also seen operators running diesel-powered trains under electric wires.

Conference recognises that the lack of industrial strategy and effective growth targets for rail freight under the previous government, combined with years of underfunding, means rail freight is at a significant disadvantage.

Conference further notes that Labour's 'Getting Britain Moving' report outlines the need for Great British Railways to manage freight contracts and introduce a statutory duty to promote the use and growth of rail freight.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour Government to:

Continue to work with trade unions to develop and deliver a real industrial strategy.

Lower track access charges, make available more rail freight paths, and ensure electricity is affordable for rail freight operators, as part of the plan for an integrated green freight sector. Set a real and ambitious rail freight growth target.

**ASLEF**

Conference welcomes the Labour Government's decision on the 1st August 2024 to examine the proposed takeover of Royal Mail by Czech billionaire, Daniel Kretinsky, under the National Security and Investment Act.

Conference recognises privatisation has failed customers and workers and that the company's recent leadership has grossly mismanaged Royal Mail's finances, while continuing to prioritise shareholder interests over its own employees.

Conference recognises the company has manufactured a crisis in service quality, staffing and morale to facilitate USO reform, in conjunction with Ofcom. Their current Universal Service Obligation (USO) reform plan solely focuses on cost-cutting and extreme price increases, rather than utilising its trusted workforce and unrivalled national infrastructure to develop new growth opportunities and to maximise social value in supporting our NHS and communities.

Conference agrees the Government must now urgently intervene and act to secure the future of Royal Mail, protecting the interests of customers, workers and the country, as follows:

- As part of the assessment of the proposed takeover, ensure stronger contractual obligations are provided, including on the future of the USO, the need to protect jobs and on preventing asset stripping or the splitting of the company.
- Ensure that any final decision on USO reform is taken by the government, rather than Ofcom and Royal Mail's failed leadership team.
- Facilitate a new business governance and ownership model that truly aligns the interest of employees, customers and the company.

**CWU**

Conference notes that on 12 July 2024, Carpetright filed notice of intent to appoint administrators and that, despite a rescue deal, more than 1,500 jobs were subsequently lost, in the latest of many retail closures.

The UK retail sector is an essential part of our economic and community infrastructure. It has an economic output of over £112 billion per year, directly employs around three million people and is present in every community across the country. However, analysis by the British Retail Consortium shows that 6,000 retail outlets have been lost over the last five years. Retail closures have left shop vacancies within our communities and workers facing redundancy. Action to address the issues facing the retail sector will be a critical step in establishing an effective industrial strategy.

This Conference believes that a thriving retail sector must be a central element of Labour's Plan for Growth. Conference therefore calls on the Labour Government to:

- Continue to recognise the importance of the retail sector within the UK's economic and community infrastructure.
- Reform business rates and tackle the uneven playing field between online and bricks and mortar retailers, as an early priority.
- Tackle the employment issues facing workers in the sector through the introduction of the New Deal for Working People.
- Ensure union representation of retail workers on the UK's Industrial Strategy Council.
- Invest in our high streets and deliver training and skills to ensure that the workforce is ready for the challenges of the future.

**Union Of Shop, Distributed & Allied Workers**



## **ISRAEL – PALESTINE**

Conference notes that:

- a. Recent events in the Middle East seriously increase the risk that the bloodshed in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel will escalate into a broader regional war;
- b. On 19th July, the International Court of Justice concluded that
- c. “Israel’s continued presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory is unlawful”; that “the State of Israel is under an obligation to bring to an end its unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory as rapidly as possible”; and that states “should not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by the continued presence of the State of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.”

Conference welcomes the Labour government’s actions in:

- Calling for an immediate ceasefire, release of hostages, unfettered access of humanitarian aid and respect for international institutions;
- Restoring UK funding for UNRWA;
- Suspending 30 licences for the export of arms to Israel.

Conference resolves that:

1. In line with the ICJ’s conclusions, commercial dealings with illegal settlements should be banned;
2. UK licences for arms exports to Israel should be suspended to ensure compliance in all cases with Britain’s responsibilities under the Arms Trade Treaty, as should export licences to any state or group where there are known risks of International Humanitarian Law being violated;
3. To catalyse peace negotiations and to demonstrate that both Israelis’ and Palestinians’ rights should be upheld equally, the UK should immediately recognise the State of Palestine alongside Israel.

**Birmingham Northfield**

Conference welcomes the government lifting the pause on funding to the UN Relief and Works Agency on the 19 July 2024

Conference notes the intolerable situation in Palestine and the Middle East, condemns the 7th October attacks and the ongoing death and destruction in Gaza. The tragic loss of life must be stopped.

Conference calls for an immediate ceasefire complied with by both sides, the immediate release of all hostages and immediate unimpeded access to humanitarian aid into Gaza.

Conference believes that Palestinian statehood is the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and is not in the gift of any neighbour. Conference believes in the recognition of a Palestinian state as a contribution to a renewed peace process, which results in a two-state solution with a safe and secure Israel alongside a viable and sovereign Palestinian state.

Conference calls on the Labour government to play a full diplomatic role in securing an immediate ceasefire deal and in setting the path towards a renewed peace process.

### **Chipping Barnet**

Conference welcomes the government lifting the pause on funding to the UN Relief and Works Agency on 19 July 2024.

Conference notes the intolerable situation in Gaza and settler violence in the West Bank while condemning the 7th October attacks by Hamas. Over 100,000 Palestinians have been killed, injured, or are missing due directly to Israeli military action since early October 2023. The Israeli military action in Gaza far exceeds anything that could be described as legitimate self-defence and constitutes collective punishment of the Palestinian people for the crimes committed by Hamas.

On 27 August, a UN humanitarian vehicle was hit by Israeli gunfire, resulting in The World Food Programme suspending delivery of its aid to Gaza. The tragic loss of life and collective punishment must be stopped. The poliovirus has been detected in Gaza for the first time in 25 years; all children in Gaza must be vaccinated immediately.

Conference notes the recent decisions of the ICJ, and the ICC on Israel's continuing illegal occupation of Gaza and the West Bank and war crimes committed by the Israeli Government.

Conference calls for the immediate:

Ceasefire complied with by both sides  
Release of all hostages  
Unimpeded access to humanitarian aid into Gaza  
Ban on UK weapon sales to Israel  
Recognition of the State of Palestine in line with many of our European allies. This could lead to a two-state solution in line with Labour Party policy.

### **Glasgow Southside**

Conference notes:

On July 12, UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, said "Just when we thought it couldn't get any worse in Gaza... civilians are being pushed into ever deeper circles of hell."

On 19 July, the International Court of Justice ruled Israel to be unlawfully occupying Palestinian land in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem. It demanded Israel withdraws immediately, dismantles illegal settlements and pay reparations. It

confirmed Israel is guilty of violating Article 3 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which prohibits racial segregation and apartheid.

The ICJ's January finding that South Africa's claims concerning the right of Palestinians in Gaza to be protected from acts of genocide – and related prohibited acts identified in the Genocide Convention – are plausible.

Conference welcomes the decisions of the Labour government to restore UNRWA funding and abandon Tory attempts to block the International Criminal Court from holding Israeli leaders accountable for crimes against Palestinians.

Conference believes Britain has a moral and legal obligation not to assist violations of international law. We must commit to the application of international law, including abiding by rulings and judgements of the ICJ and ICC.

Conference believes the new Government should:

Support an immediate and permanent ceasefire.

Impose a full arms embargo until Israel complies with international law.

End trade with illegal settlements and all other trade that aids or assists Israel in maintaining its illegal occupation.

**North Bedfordshire**

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING**

Conference notes:

The report "Securing the Future of Council Housing," published July 10th by twenty of England's largest council landlords, calling for emergency funding for local councils. According to the National Audit Office, local authorities experienced a 49.1 per cent real terms reduction in central government funding between 2010/11 to 2017/18. Since 2018, Northamptonshire Croydon, Northumberland, Nottingham, Slough, Thurrock, Woking and Birmingham councils have all issued Section 114 notices. One in five local authorities are at risk of having a Section 114 Notice issued to them this year. The Labour Government has yet to lay out how it will enable local authorities to genuinely reverse austerity and fully meet all statutory responsibilities.

Conference demands:

The Labour Government reverses government grant cuts to ensure all statutory responsibilities of councils are fully funded as well as providing adequate funding for councils to use their discretionary powers according to local priorities.

**Gorton and Denton**

## **LONG COVID**

Conference notes a review paper on long Covid by the Universities of Oxford, Leeds and Arizona, published in August 2024 in the Lancet, reported that long Covid now affects nearly 2% of the UK population, with 71% of long Covid sufferers having the condition for more than a year. Strikingly, the rate of long Covid in the most deprived fifth of the UK population (3.2%) is more than twice as high as that in the least deprived fifth (1.5%).

Furthermore, another recent study by the Universities of Birmingham and Keele of more than 9,000 people, who were in work before the pandemic, has found that people with long Covid are at three times higher risk of leaving employment compared to those without Covid symptoms.

Conference calls upon our Labour Government to:

1. guarantee sufficient funds for research both into identifying the complex causes of long Covid and its effective treatment;
2. ensure that people with long Covid receive benefits to which they are entitled; and
3. introduce legislation requiring employers to provide support for their employees with long Covid and other serious post-viral conditions, as this will benefit both employees and employers alike.

**Orpington**

## **MAKING WORK PAY FOR PUBLIC SERVICES**

Conference welcomes the King's Speech announcement that the Employment Rights Bill will reinstate the School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB), working with National Joint Council unions including GMB to ensure national terms and conditions, training, career progression and fair pay rates for support staff are delivered.

Conference notes:

- Labour's manifesto commitment to "value and recognise the professionalism of the entire school workforce and address recruitment and retention challenges."
- Nearly half of school support staff in England work in an academy school.
- The Low Pay Commission has listed many school support staff roles as 'low-paying occupations' as term-time only contracts and outsourcing of non-teaching support roles has kept overall pay low.
- GMB members' concerns that insufficient training, development and pay for frontline staff supporting pupils identified with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) contributes to staff shortages.

Conference believes:

- Properly valuing and recognising the professionalism of all school support staff is essential to fulfilling Labour's manifesto commitments.

Conference calls upon our Labour Government to work with NJC Unions to:

- Ensure all support workers in schools are covered in the definition of School Support Staff and by the SSSNB, including academy schools.
- Ensure that pay awards for School Support Staff negotiated under the SSSNB are fully funded and implemented.
- Reform SEND provision to increase accountability and funding so that all children receive the inclusive education they deserve.
- Bring outsourced school workforces back in-house.
- End the scandal of Term Time Only contracts for school support staff.

**GMB**

Conference welcomes the Employment Rights Bill announced in the King's Speech on 17 July 2024, which the government has promised will lead to a Fair Pay Agreement in adult social care.

The sector is critically short of funding and suffers too much from its scarce resources leaking out in the form of profits, excessive executive pay, and other wasteful practices. The sector should only be focussed on delivering world-class care for those who need it.

Conference notes that there are around 131,000 vacancies in the sector, with thousands of our society's most vulnerable people not receiving the levels of support they need.

Conference notes that employment in the sector is frequently insecure and largely underpaid, often illegally so. Proper sick pay remains elusive for thousands of care workers, alongside training and progression opportunities. Conference is particularly alarmed at the exploitation of the migrant workforce.

Therefore, Conference welcomes Labour's manifesto plan to establish a Fair Pay Agreement in adult social care to set fair pay, terms and conditions, along with training standards.

Conference welcomes wider plans to create a National Care Service, underpinned by national standards leading to a sustainable sector delivering for the workforce and those they care for.

Conference calls on our Labour Government to:

1. Support the development of a Fair Pay Agreement in adult social care;
2. Deliver a credible workforce strategy and tackle the exploitation of migrant workers;
3. Work with unions demanding change and the development of a National Care Service.

**Unison**

## **MENTAL HEALTH**

There is a mental health crisis amongst our young people. 1 in 5 children and young people aged 8 - 25 have a probable mental health condition. Statistics from the NHS Confederation published on 10 September show thousands of young people are struggling to move from studying to working because of poor mental health. The pandemic and social media have exacerbated mental health difficulties in young people.

We need change – access to specialist mental health professionals in every school funded through VAT on private schools, tackling the backlog in our NHS to access support are welcome steps we need to take to help young people.

Recruiting 8,500 new mental health staff to support children and adults in the first term of government through closing the carried interest tax loophole and modernising the Mental Health Act will improve the lives of people suffering with poor mental health.

Young people can face significant harm online. We need to build on the Online Safety Act and urgently explore ways to keep young people safe on social media and the internet. All education facilities, including schools, Higher Education and Further Education, need a whole institution approach to how they protect students and staff mental health and wellbeing.

Conference supports the steps set out in Labour's election winning manifesto and urges for action to be taken to improve young people's mental health.

Conference welcomes Lord Darzi's review of the NHS and calls for the next steps to look at young people's mental health.

**Young Labour**



## **OIL & GAS LICENSES**

Conference welcomes:

- The introduction of the Great British Energy Bill on 25 July 2024 to support the creation of the new publicly-owned company and deliver homegrown clean energy power in the UK
- The actions of the Labour government to lift the ban on onshore wind and grant permission for new solar farms

Conference believes that:

- After 14 years of Tory chaos, leaving working people vulnerable to dictators like Putin, Labour is taking decisive action to make Britain a clean energy superpower and boost our energy security
- Nuclear, oil and gas will play an ongoing role in our energy mix in order to achieve energy security and save families hundreds of pounds on their bills

Conference calls on the Labour government to:

- Pass the Great British Energy Bill to establish Great British Energy, with the publicly-owned company headquartered in Scotland, to ensure that the British people benefit from clean energy investment
- Deliver its mission for a clean power system by 2030, accelerating towards net zero
- Support the workforce through a phased and responsible transition by managing existing oil and gas fields for the rest of their lifespan, not issuing new licenses
- Not grant new coal licenses and ban fracking for good

**Poplar and Limehouse**

## **OPPORTUNITY MISSION**

Conference notes new analysis, released by the Education Policy Institute on the 16 July 2024, which shows that poorer pupils are now 19 months behind their better-off classmates by the end of secondary school

Conference welcomes the work already started to address this issue by this Labour government in the form of the Children's Wellbeing Bill, which seeks to boost standards, recruit 6,500 teachers, and deliver free breakfast clubs for all primary school pupils.

Conference further calls on Labour to:

- Deliver on the manifesto commitment to recruit 6,500 expert teachers and specialist mental health support in school, noting the positive progress already made and acknowledging that the increase in poor mental health is in the main related to social and economic factors that need urgent attention.
- Tackle teacher attrition and vacancies through respecting and supporting the teaching workforce, starting by introducing a new Teacher Training Entitlement to ensure teacher stay up to date on best practice with continuing professional development and work to reduce class sizes.
- Address the acute recruitment and retention crisis in support roles.
- Create a curriculum that is rigorous and broad, which supports children to succeed in life and work.

### **Bexhill and Battle**

First Step: Schools, Education & opportunity

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- Tackle teacher attrition and vacancies through respecting and supporting the teaching workforce, starting by introducing a new Teacher Training Entitlement to ensure teacher stay up to date on best practice with continuing professional development.
- Address the acute recruitment and retention crisis in support roles.

- Create a curriculum that is rigorous and broad, which supports children to succeed in life and work.

**Liverpool West Derby, Wolverhampton North East**

## **PATIENT SAFETY**

Physician Associates (PAs), Anaesthesia Associates (AAs) and Surgical Care Practitioners are not doctors. Their training and professional development are a fraction of that required for doctors. Despite this, they see unselected and undifferentiated patients, diagnose and initiate treatment. Simultaneously, qualified doctors struggle to access training opportunities and to find employment. Following an inquest into the death of a patient that concluded on July 29th 2024, the senior coroner for Manchester North wrote to the Department of Health and Social Care reporting lack of regulation and no national framework as to how PAs should be trained, supervised and deemed competent. The coroner said this places patients, PAs and their employers at risk. The project to create a big expansion of PAs employed by the NHS is creating a two-tier health system and endangering patients. Cases are increasingly reported of them making clinical decisions beyond their competence in primary and secondary care, including anaesthetics. There are numerous accounts of them replacing doctors on medical rotas. Patients, the British Medical Association, and other professional bodies are very concerned.

Labour Conference resolves:

1. To call for an immediate freeze in the recruitment of physician or anaesthesia associates and surgical care practitioners and the closure of their courses.
2. To urge government to review their regulation, scope and training.
3. That these three roles be phased out in the next 2 years and be reclassified as Medical Assistants with duties strictly limited to professional competence, regulated consistently at national level, without exception.

**Henley and Thame, Socialist Health Association**

## **PENSIONERS**

That this Government reconsider the winter fuel allowance in its current form by raising the threshold and to look at raising money by other means

### **Amber Valley**

Conference recognises, given the government has inherited a worse financial position than was expected by the OBR, that difficult decisions will have to be made to deliver financial stability and deliver the commitments outlined in their manifesto. We also recognise that as a Labour Party our duty is to the most vulnerable in society.

The cutting of the universal benefit of winter fuel payments ensures that all pensioners in receipt of pension credits or housing benefit continue to receive this valuable lifeline to heat their homes.

Conference also recognises that the cost of energy is linked with the cost of oil, which causes it to fluctuate, but in reality a lot of energy is generated through renewables such as solar and wind energy, or through nuclear power. Given these current high costs of energy we believe that, this threshold is too low and that it leaves those pensioners above the cut off in a very vulnerable position.

Conference understands that energy costs would drop if linked to renewables. It therefore resolves that the government should link the costs of energy to cost of generation and not oil thus reducing fuel cost for all. Until this re-costing takes place, the threshold for Winter Fuel Payments should be raised to protect pensioners in need.

### **Camborne and Redruth**

Conference recognises the major financial black hole left by the Conservatives' reckless spending plans and the urgent need to restore public spending control. After 14 years of mismanagement of the economy, the scale of the Conservatives economic mismanagement has been fully exposed and it falls to Labour to fix the mess they have left behind.

Conference further notes that over the last 14 years, pensioners have been failed by successive Conservative Governments that lost control of the economy and presided over falling living standards, rising levels of pensioner poverty and an abysmal economic inheritance for the Labour Government.

Conference resolves to support the difficult decisions needed to restore public spending control to protect economic stability and household finances, without increasing the financial burden on working people, alongside kickstarting economic growth.

Conference further supports the Labour Party to ensure that the living standards of the poorest pensioners in society are protected by bringing about economic stability,

maintaining the Triple Lock on State Pensions and by promoting the uptake of Pension Credit.

### **Ely and East Cambridgeshire**

Conference notes the Chancellor's Statement on 29th July 2024 where she revealed the Conservatives have left behind a £22 billion black hole in the public finances; the worst inheritance for an incoming government since the second world war.

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### **Hastings and Rye, Ilford South, Wallasey**

This Conference shares the concerns expressed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 29 July 2024 about the appalling state of the economic inheritance left by the last Conservative Government and condemns their mismanagement. Conference accepts that hard choices now need to be made.

The Winter Fuel Allowance is a proud gain made under the last Labour Government, helping to ensure that pensioners struggling to make ends meet do not fear putting the heating on. So, we are deeply concerned that the Chancellor announced on 29 July that Winter Fuel Payments will only be available to households in receipt of Pension Credit.

Conference does not agree with making Winter Fuel Payments a 'cliff-edge' benefit and does not believe the proposed change is fair to pensioner households with incomes only just above the Pension Credit threshold. Therefore, Conference calls on the Government to:

- suspend implementation to undertake and publish an impact assessment,
- seek options on alternative funding,
- extend eligibility and introduce a taper.

This has become increasingly important after Ofgem announced an energy price cap increase on 23 August of 10% for the next quarter and Cornwall Insight produced a forecast on 19 August saying they expect the cap to increase further in January 2025. That will leave too many low-income pensioners, the majority of whom are women, with much higher bills and no support from the Government under current proposals.

### **Mid Cheshire**

Average fuel bills are set to rise by 10% in October to £1717 a year after the regulator Ofgem raised the energy price cap on 22 August.

This makes it crucial that the government urgently reviews the restriction of the winter fuel payment to people in receipt of pension credit.

The full rate of new State Pension is £221.20 a week, which is above the threshold for pension credit (income below £218.15) so people receiving a state pension only are not eligible for it, and one in three who are eligible are not claiming it.

Although, some older people have substantial incomes from private or occupational pensions, or property, many do not and depend entirely on their state pension.

The winter fuel payment is a lifeline for a lot of pensioners, during the coldest months of the year. Removing the winter fuel payment to pensioners on the state pension rate of £221.20 will cause severe hardship to older people who are just getting by.

Conference believes the government should ensure low-income older people are protected and receive the winter fuel allowance by increasing the eligibility for pension credit in line with the full state pension amount and a national campaign rolled out to raise awareness and take-up.

### **North Shropshire**

Conference notes the Chancellor's Statement on 29th July 2024 where she revealed the Conservatives have left behind a £22 billion black hole in the public finances; the worst inheritance for an incoming government since the second world war.

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Conference further supports the Labour Party to ensure that the living standards of the poorest pensioners in society are protected by bringing about economic stability, maintaining the Triple Lock on State Pensions and by promoting the uptake of Pension Credit.

## **Rother Valley**

Conference notes that:

While recognising the need for change, voters have not been well-disposed to the elimination of Winter Fuel Payment for all pensioners except those in receipt of Pensions Credit. Voters in Shipley, many supporting Labour for the first time alongside long-standing Party supporters, have expressed concerns to local Party campaigners. They believe the mandated change is not what they voted for and is a profoundly unfair measure for those just outside the threshold for receiving Pension Credit. According to the 2021 ONS Census, 21,200 people in Shipley constituency are over age 65 (21.8% of the population compared with 19% in England and Wales). As many as 19,000 constituents could be impacted.

Conference resolves that: The government:

1. Eliminates the benefit for all 1 in 4 pensioners estimated to be millionaires.
2. Eliminate the Winter Fuel Payment for all non-UK residents who are in receipt of it. The current arrangement for overseas recipients is not means-tested, yet it is available to all in 23 countries.
3. Taper the rate at which pensioners receive the Winter Fuel Payment so that once a pensioner receives twice the rate of the State Pension in total income, then the benefit is fully eliminated.
4. Conducts and publishes a comprehensive impact assessment of the above measures, which are informally estimated to deliver an approximate £500-700 million saving. This assessment is crucial for ensuring transparency and accountability in the decision-making process.
5. Review the potential for other potential routes to making this benefit more appropriately available.

## **Shipley**



Average fuel bills are set to rise by 10% in October to £1717 a year after the regulator Ofgem raised the energy price cap on 22 August.

This makes it crucial that the government urgently reviews the restriction of the winter fuel payment to people in receipt of pension credit.

The basic state pension at £11,502 per year is above the threshold for pension credit so people receiving the basic state pension are not eligible for it, and one in three who are eligible are not claiming it.

Although some older people have substantial incomes from private or occupational pensions, or property, many do not and depend entirely or mostly on their state pension. Removing the winter fuel payment will cause severe hardship to those older people.

Women on average have one seventh of the private/occupational pension wealth of men. This is because their lifetime earnings are lower due to lower paid “women’s work” and family responsibilities. So women have much lower pension incomes and will be disproportionately hurt by this measure.

Conference believes that means testing the winter fuel payment is a regressive move which will hit the most vulnerable hardest, and women in particular.

The Government should either:

Retain Winter Fuel Payments as a universal benefit but subject it to income tax

Or

Ensure low-income older people are protected by significantly increasing the threshold for pension credit, and campaigning to raise awareness and take-up.

**Shrewsbury**

## **PROCUREMENT**

Conference notes that:

On 11th September the Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds gave a ministerial statement to the House of Commons on co-investing with Tata Steel UK.

Following months of difficult negotiations with the company, unions were able to secure extensive investment commitments, as well as a comprehensive skills and retention package. Those commitments have now been strengthened and locked in by the Labour government's intervention.

Conference believes that:

A wide range of challenges face the UK steel industry and a just transition to greener steel making, with many relating to the way procurement is undertaken within the UK. The UK must make far greater use of social and environmental clause in procurement contracts as well as steel content targets to ensure that UK producers get a greater share. That UK primary steel production is a key strategic interest and should be supported where possible.

Conference resolves to:

Reaffirm its commitment to a just transition protecting jobs, the environment, and the economy.

Lobby the UK Labour Government for:

A comprehensive Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism to be introduced in-line with the European Union's to ensure that the UK steel market is protected from cheap high carbon steel imports effecting procurement contracts.

The setting up of a steel task force to identify how procurement can be reformed as part of the Steel Strategy and wider Government work to ensure UK steel producers are not disadvantaged against international steel producers.

### **Community**

Conference welcomes:

The Labour manifesto commitment to fully delivering its plan to "Make Work Pay" and the Employment Rights Bill announced in the King's Speech. Labour's "Make Work Pay" commitment to a new Procurement Bill, the biggest wave of insourcing in a generation and a National Procurement Plan that recognises decent pay and union recognition under mandatory social value weightings.

Conference believes:

Trade union recognition and the right of workplace access to promote it must be enshrined when contracting and determining strategic suppliers such as Amazon.

Labour's procurement plan is central to delivering other manifesto commitments improving public services and energy security to industrial policies that onshore high-quality skilled jobs and supply chains in industries like hydrogen, nuclear, defence manufacturing and steel.

UK national security is dependent on an interventionist state building an economy with good jobs at its core and an industrial strategy which recognises energy and manufacturing sectors are interconnected.

Labour's plan to grow the economy relies upon its manifesto commitment "to modernise trade rules and agreements so they work for Britain.

Conference calls on Labour to:

- Fully partner with trade unions to co-design plans to Make Work Pay.
- Implement its National Procurement Plan and deliver its manifesto commitments.
- Ensure unions have a voice in the Social Value Council and the review to strengthen social value commitments, including fair pay.
- Guarantee defence shipbuilding contracts are built and procured in UK shipyards
- Seek repeal of UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement clauses mirroring WTO restrictions on domestic content requirements.

**GMB**

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

In Summer 2024 alcohol was a major contributing factor to riots and public disorder.

Figures released in July 2024 show that the number of incidents involving drink drivers are the highest for 15 years.

Excessive consumption of alcohol has detrimental effects on the health, safety and wellbeing of too many people in the UK. Alcohol is the cause of much domestic violence and many sexual assaults. Government statistics show that premature deaths from alcohol-related liver disease are increasing.

In May 2024 the British Liver Trust estimated the cost to the NHS, social services, the criminal justice system and the labour market at £27bn annually.

Whilst not seeking to discourage responsible drinking conference calls for measures aimed at reducing excess alcohol consumption and the appeal of alcohol to young people.

To include:

- a. A minimum price by alcohol content for all alcoholic drinks across the UK, and an alcohol levy on retailers to tax the extra profits retailers earn from minimum pricing, with the proceeds passed directly to the NHS for public health measures and combating addiction.
- b. Restrictions on advertising of alcoholic drinks to include:
  - No advertising on TV before the watershed
  - A ban on alcohol advertising in cinemas for films rated less than 18
  - A ban on alcohol sponsorship of sporting and cultural events
  - Social media advertising to be targeted at adults only
  - Introduction of mandatory labelling on all alcoholic drinks containing information about health risks, number of units etc.

**Skipton and Ripon**

## **RAILWAYS**

The £22 billion of underfunding left by the Tories must be addressed. However, it is important that projects already in the pipeline as part of the Restoring the Railway fund be protected, on a case by case basis.

The Metro project has been running for several years. It will reopen stations at Wellington, Somerset and Cullompton, Devon on the Taunton to Exeter mainline (which were closed in the Beeching Cuts 60 years ago). Approximately £6 million pounds has been spent in planning the two new stations.

Wellington station is at the stage of final detailed construction and business planning. It is planned to be opened in 2026. Wellington station will provide much needed transport infrastructure for a rapidly growing town, serving new housing estates and easing pressure on local roads. It will link the town to an integrated transport network, help meet net zero targets and is the kind of infrastructure project which will help grow the economy for many years to come.

Taunton and Wellington CLP believe that infrastructure projects such as this are vital to achieving the Labour Governments aims of growing the economy and achieving net zero. Such projects business cases should be assessed on a case by case basis to avoid wasting resources and stifling growth.

**Taunton and Wellington**

## **RIGHT TO PROTEST**

This July climate activists were handed harsh sentences of four or five years for their non violent protests. The last UK government passed a wave of anti-protest laws to shut down everyone's ability to peacefully protest in England and Wales. Rights to freedom of expression were attacked, protesters were demonised and scapegoated and challenges to government actions were restricted.

This CLP notes that street protest is important. The UK has a long history of protest including anti-apartheid protests, protests against the poll tax, protests against section 28, and in more recent times, marches for climate action, protests in solidarity with Palestinians and calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

The new Labour government has the opportunity to reverse the repressive authoritarian laws brought in by the last Conservative government and to scrap the anti-protest restrictions in the Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, the Public Order Act 2023 and the Serious Disruption Regulations.

This CLP believes in freedom of opinion, freedom of expression and the right to protest and hold government to account.

This CLP calls upon Conference to scrap anti-protest restrictions in the Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022, the Public Order Act 2023 and the Serious Disruption Regulations.

**Colne Valley**

## **RIOTS**

Conference is saddened by the tragic killings in Southport on July 29th. Our thoughts are with the families of those affected, the wider community and all those whose lives are impacted by violent crime.

Conference is angered by the subsequent outbreaks of racist and Islamophobic thuggery which led to violent protests and intimidation in parts of the United Kingdom. Conference welcomes the clear and unified message from government, police, councils, faith groups, charities and individuals that unlawful acts by a minority will not detract from their important work of developing and maintaining cohesive communities.

Conference further applauds the work of volunteers and tradespeople who turned out in force to deliver clean-up operations throughout the country in order to mend the damage caused by rioters.

Conference welcomes the respectful and joined up approach taken by key stakeholders to strengthen communities before, during and after the threat of riots.

Conference also recognises the swift, strong response from Home Secretary Yvette Cooper and Prime Minister Keir Starmer whose rapid, well-publicised measures served to deter further violence.

Conference re-commits to local council's leadership in the ongoing building of positive communities. As the elected body closest to communities, local government will continue to be at the heart of delivering positive changes for all those they serve, grounded in respectful partnership and meaningful communication.

**Association of Labour Councillors**

## **ROAD SAFETY**

This Conference notes with dismay the failure of Tory road safety policy that since 2010 has tolerated 30,000 deaths and serious injuries every year. Alongside the tragic loss of life to families, the social and economic costs of road crashes exceed £43.5 billion annually. Road deaths almost halved under the previous Labour Government but since 2012 progress has stalled. No longer world leading, 25 countries have performed better than the UK in reducing road fatalities. On July 7th the UK fell behind best practice in global vehicle safety standards due to the Tory's refusal to remain aligned with new safety technologies now mandated for all new vehicles across the European Union. On July 25th the Department for Transport reported that the central estimate of fatalities caused by drink driving collisions is the highest level since 2009. The Tory Government has failed to prepare a long overdue road safety strategy that could address multiple challenges such as the disproportionate burden of road injury on young people, rural areas, low income groups and vulnerable road users.

Conference, therefore calls on the Labour Government to urgently prepare a new – evidence based – road safety strategy that will restore progress in saving lives and reduce billions of pounds in social and economic costs, re-establish the UK's previous global leadership on road safety, and reaffirm commitment to the UN target to halve road deaths by 2030 ahead of next February 's Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety hosted by the Government of Morocco.

**Weald of Kent**



## **SOCIAL CARE**

### Conference notes

On 29th July, the chancellor announced that the government would not proceed with the proposed social care cap. In response, the Alzheimer's Society called for work to start urgently on a new national care service; however, nearly 1 million people living with dementia in the UK need help now.

Individuals with dementia occupy 1 in 4 hospital beds; addressing difficulties with self-hydration, nutrition and medication may reduce preventable admissions (Lancet Commission, July 31, 2024).

Secondary medical care for dementia sufferers costs the NHS £3 billion a year, their reduced economic consumption costs £4 billion a year, and 16% of unpaid carers for dementia sufferers have left the workforce due to their care duties.

Private care for dementia is broken - over 1 in 5 care home providers are rated as inadequate or requiring improvement; private care agencies charge up to 3 times the amount paid to care workers for live-in care.

Conference calls upon party leadership:

- To work alongside charities to set-up non-profit or public agencies for screening, training and matching of live-in carers to individuals with dementia at a fraction of the cost of private care agencies.
- To resource district nurse teams to provide medication, nutrition and hydration visits for dementia sufferers who live alone.
- These steps will improve quality of life for dementia sufferers and decrease their financial burden while reducing secondary healthcare costs, strain on hospital beds, and costs linked to lost economic consumption and carers' contributions to the workplace.

### **Oxford East, Oxford West and Abingdon**

This conference notes the omission of legislation in the King's speech regarding a national care service.

This conference re-affirms the Labour Party's commitment to creating a national care service.

### **Rochdale**

## **STEEL**

Conference welcomes:

- The creation of the National Wealth Fund, as announced by the government on 9 July 2024, to help unlock investment in new and growing industries
- The announcement made by the Secretary of State for Business that job guarantees will form part of the negotiations with Tata over the future of its Port Talbot plant

Conference believes that:

- For 14 years, the Conservatives failed to back Britain's steel industry, letting the industry decline and undermining our economic security and resilience
- British steel is a bastion of UK industry, and has the potential to make the UK a world leader in clean green steel

Conference calls on the Labour government to:

- Pass a bill to create a National Wealth Fund, investing in clean industries and creating 650,000 new high-quality jobs
- Allocate £2.5 billion of this fund to rebuild our steel industry
- Work in partnership with the workforce to deliver a world leading clean steel sector

### **Cardiff East, Newport East, Redcar**

Conference deplores the dismantling of port facilities at Port Talbot since mid-July 2024.

It condemns the reckless and irresponsible decision by TATA Steel to close the blast furnaces at Port Talbot resulting in a projected 2,800 redundancies of its highly-skilled and experienced workforce and the devastation this will cause to companies supplying the steel works. For the communities involved this will be disastrous and will have economic consequences for the whole of south Wales and further afield.

Conference believes that this decision by TATA Steel is short-sighted and ignores the UK's national economic and security interest by removing capacity for virgin steel production in the UK.

Conference recognises the huge potential for the Port Talbot steel works to supply new, green industries in Wales and elsewhere, especially those associated with developments in the renewable and low carbon energy industry, that can support a transition to more sustainable ways of living and working.

Retaining one of the blast furnaces would avoid the unnecessary mothballing of production at Port Talbot steel works for over two years. It would sustain more jobs

whilst allowing time for adjustments in the labour market and exploration of technologies to enable virgin steel production to be retained in Wales and the UK.

Conference resolves that the Labour government should act in the national interest by immediately taking the Port Talbot Steel works into public ownership as the only means of guaranteeing the future of steel production in the UK.

**Gower**

## **SUPPORT FOR SMES**

SMEs and sustainable economic growth

Conference welcomes the FSB report on “The Future of the High Street” published 5th August 2024 highlighting that “a diverse range of independent businesses is one of the most important features for the long-term sustainability and future of the local high street.”

Conference notes other recent reports demonstrating the vital role and challenges faced by SMEs in promoting sustainable economic growth:

- FSB report on “Small Business Big Heart” evidencing the social value SMEs provide.
- MSDUK report on “Minority Business Matters” evidencing the challenges to access affordable finance. Conference further notes:
- SMEs comprise 99% of the businesses in the UK, producing 65% of our GDP and employing 61% of the workforce.
- Partnership between trade unions, businesses of all sizes and capital markets make our economy stronger and more resilient and will be essential to enable Labour to deliver its promise of the highest rate of growth in the G7.

Conference calls on the Labour Government to commit to:

- 40% of public procurement being spent at national and local level on SMEs.
- Government departments and local authorities publishing annual reports on SME procurement.
- Suppliers to government evidencing that they have ethical social and environmental standards and 30-day payment terms for SMEs.
- Working with capital markets to provide SMEs access to cheaper finance to support the green transition.
- Ensuring online companies pay fair taxes.
- Ensuring SMEs get fair energy prices.
- Establishing accessible business banking centres.
- Addressing the threat posed by bank branch closures on SMEs.

**Labour Business**

# TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE

## Conference Notes

- Labour fought the election with a mission to decarbonise the energy grid by 2030, and commitments to bold climate action and economic growth.
- Labour's Green Prosperity Plan is the vehicle through which we will turn Britain's economy around.

## Conference Recognises

- Following 14 years of Conservative Government, the Climate Change Committee believes that the United Kingdom is not currently on track to meet its net zero goals.
- UK businesses could capture a global market share in new green industries worth £1 trillion by 2030, but we are being left behind.
- The CCC has stated that "the UK should now be in a phase of rapid investment and delivery."
- The Labour government has taken swift action, including launching GB Energy to reach net zero in electricity generation by 2030, including by co-investing in new technologies.
- The Labour Government must invest in adaptation measures, as well as the skills and training required to deliver the workforce and high-skilled jobs of the low-carbon economy in the UK.

## Conference Calls on the Labour Government

- To deliver on the mission to reach net zero in the energy grid by 2030.
- To ensure a just transition to net zero, to build on the UK's strategic strengths, creating real energy security.
- To back ClimateTech businesses, which represent a key source of economic growth with the potential to accelerate climate action.
- To invest in a national Warm Homes Plan to upgrade millions of homes, including accelerating heat pump deployment, cutting bills, and driving local economic activity.

## **Bristol South**

Conference notes: the contents of the report to Parliament published by the Climate Committee on July 18th 2024.

Conference notes: that under the previous government there was a slowing of progress on net zero targets.

Conference notes: the very encouraging steps in the King's speech which will speed up the transition to renewable energy.

Conference asks:

- That the new government takes action on the ten recommendations required to speed up progress on reducing emissions in line with internationally agreed targets for 2030.
- That the government takes account in its plans of the nature and biodiversity crisis which is an integral part of the climate emergency.
- Supporting information from the Climate Committee
- New report: 2024 Progress Report to Parliament. See link below to the report
- The Committee has published its assessment of the UK's progress towards reaching Net Zero.
- This motion was agreed by a vote at our all members meeting on 19.7.24

**Clwyd East**

Tackling the climate-nature crises together to build a fairer, greener Britain

This Conference notes that:

- Globally, 22 July was the hottest day recorded.
- The window has almost closed on limiting the global temperature rise to 1.5°C.
- The UK is heating at twice the global average.
- The UK is one of the most nature-depleted countries: DEFRA reported on 30 July that 16% of British species are at risk of disappearing.
- The UK's pledges to reduce emissions in line with 1.5°C and reverse nature loss by 2030 are not legally binding.
- Labour's manifesto recognised that the climate-nature crisis is the greatest long-term global challenge we face.

This Conference believes that:

- Climate change and nature loss are interlinked and we can only limit global warming if we restore biodiversity.
- Labour's mandate for change from the British people means delivering an integrated response to the climate-nature crisis that involves citizens.
- Labour's vision of a fairer, greener future must be delivered via a joined-up plan that addresses the climate and nature crises together.

This Conference therefore calls on the Government to:

- Demonstrate leadership ahead of COP16 and COP29 by locking into law the UK's commitments to reduce emissions in line with 1.5°C and reverse nature loss by

2030. Schedule and support the passage of the Climate and Nature Bill through the Parliament in order to deliver the joined-up, science-led and people-powered climate-nature strategy Britain needs.

**New Forest East**

## **TACKLING HATE**

### Conference Notes:

- The despicable acts of political, racist and Islamophobic violence seen in August are a stark reminder of the Far-Right's presence in Britain.
- In many European democracies the Far-Right has established itself as a permanent feature of electoral politics.
- Far-Right leaders prey on economic insecurities and the spread of disinformation, targeting those who are vulnerable, such as young people.
- While attempts were being made to quell the riots, national and global figures sought to exacerbate tensions through traditional and social media.
- This included some industry leaders who have considerable influence over the content that we see.

### Conference Believes:

- Britain is at its greatest when it embraces its diverse communities and the contributions that immigration has made to its culture, economy and wider society.
- The Far-Right should not be allowed to become a permanent feature of British electoral politics.
- Social media is a powerful tool that can bring people together, but when used maliciously, it has immense power to drive people apart and sow division and hate.

### Conference Resolves:

- To support legislation to regulate social media companies to stop disinformation and online hate.
- The Government should review its strategies to counter the radicalisation of children, ensuring they cover all forms of hate.
- Ofcom should be empowered to impose heavier sanctions on all media sharing disinformation and spreading hate.
- The Government should work with international partners to develop a strategy for countering online extremism and disinformation across borders.

**Edinburgh Central**

### Conference notes:



- The July/August wave of riots across Britain in which mobs of thugs mounted attacks, including on mosques, synagogues, asylum seekers' accommodation, ethnic minority businesses, Muslims, Jews, people of colour and police officers;
- mobs were mobilised through channels promoting racism, Islamophobia and anti-migrant bigotry; and
- violence was whipped up by key figures with fascist and extreme right connections, and the mobilisations were afforded legitimacy by key political figures on the far right.

Conference further notes the growing support for the far right in Britain and that:

- the mobilisations had significant backing – YouGov polling in early August reported that 42% considered the 'protests' 'justified' and 12% considered the 'unrest at the protests' 'justified'.

Conference, aware of such high levels of support for the far right, for racist mobilisations and for violence, is concerned that this wave of racist riots may be just the first such outbreak.

Conference believes our Party should respond to this dangerous development by adopting policies to protect targeted communities and to combat the bigotry being used to justify the attacks. Such policies should include:

- more support (both political and material) for black and ethnic minority people, Muslims and Jews, to lead community and trade union responses to the appalling violence; and
- clear communications by our Labour Government to challenge the racist, Islamophobic and anti-migrant bigotry being promoted by the media and politicians.

## **Kensington and Bayswater**

This CLP notes:

The UK is home to over 3.9 million Muslims and 290,000 Jews, a vital part of our diverse society. The tragic murder of three young girls in Southport has been exploited by far-right groups the tragedy to incite hatred and violence against Muslims. TellMAMA recorded a 335% increase in Islamophobia incidents since Hamas terror attacks on 7 October 2023.

Likewise, in 2023 over 4,000 attacks were committed against Jewish people in 2023 according to the CST.

Statistics from 2022/23 revealed that 44% of recorded religious hate crimes were Islamophobic, and nearly a quarter were anti-Semitic

This CLP believes:

The Conservative Government's failure to adopt an official definition of Islamophobia may have exacerbated the recent far-right riots.

Ongoing Government failure to communicate the rationale behind its decisions regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict risks empowering those who seek to fuel division, potentially leading to an increase in both antisemitic and anti-Muslim hate crimes.

Failing to address Islamophobia and anti-Semitism effectively will only encourage far-right extremists.

This CLP resolves:

To demand Labour adopts an official definition of Islamophobia, developed in consultation with Muslim communities and institutions.

To hold politicians accountable for inflammatory language regarding any community, ensuring that such rhetoric is not used to divide communities.

To hold to account any individual who commits any act of anti-Semitism or Islamophobia in the UK including those who took part in the summer riots.

## **North West Hampshire**

### Background

Many children have been charged with violent offenses following recent far-right riots across the UK. Government sources have said that young people risk being "sucked into dangerous online spaces" which were highlighted by the riots, particularly those encouraging hate crimes.

Furthermore, smartphones and social media:

- are directly linked to poor mental health and low self-esteem. Social media use in teens correlates with higher rates of anxiety and depression.
- expose children to pornography, extreme violence, suicide, self-harm and anorexia content.
- stop children from developing socially. The daily average time that teens spend with friends has dropped 65%. The average 12-year-old spends over 4 hours on a screen each day.

Government policy should:

1. Raise the statutory minimum age restriction on social media platforms to 16 and ensure that the social media companies comply with the law by removing the millions of under-age accounts on their platforms and using meaningful sanctions, e.g. fines.

2. Institute a review to explore banning smartphones from all primary and secondary schools during school hours and what, if any, exceptions should apply to said ban (e.g. for SEND pupils). The 11% of UK schools that have an effective ban (where smartphones are not accessible for any reason throughout the school day) achieve significantly higher grades and have happier teachers and pupils.
3. Empower parents by making it obligatory for phone companies to include parental control tools in their software and by providing information to parents on what tools are available and how to use them.

**Selby**

In August 2024, the UN committee review highlighted a sharp increase in racist hate speech and xenophobic discourse by some unnamed political and high-profile public figures in the UK; the report considers the issue to be "a serious one".

Far-right anti-immigrant and anti-asylum seekers ideology is targeting people of colour (brown and black) as easily identifiable. Attitudes towards Muslims and multiculturalism have worsened since the riots. The consequences of these attitudes are far reaching and traumatic and, in some cases, remain undocumented or unreported as hate crime incidents.

Of particular concern is the use of the term "illegal immigrant", wrongly applied to asylum seekers and even to acknowledged refugees. The myth that these people are coming here to get benefits and free housing is widely circulated.

The Labour Government should:

- Curb the use of hate speech by politicians and social media outlets.
- Continue to enact "swift justice" for thuggery and incitement of hatred or harm towards others.
- Ensure access to victim support with adequate provision for related services.
- Commit to building community resilience through outreach programmes.
- Remove the bar to asylum seekers being allowed to work.
- Protect and enhance the rights of migrants to access public funds and the NHS.

**Stroud**

## TAX REFORM

Conference notes:

On Wednesday 5 July, the Health and Social Care Secretary officially stated that “the NHS is broken”.

On Monday 29th July, the Chancellor of the Exchequer in a statement announced a budget shortfall of £22 billion, left by the last government. As part of this statement cuts to the NHS building plans and the Winter Fuel Allowance were announced.

However, on 9 July 2024 HMRC reported “continued evidence of a recovery in numbers of non domiciled taxpayers since the height of the Covid-19 pandemic”. Previously Tax Justice UK identified ten tax reforms, outside raising the main income tax, VAT, etc. rates which would raise £60 billion a year for public services.

Our National Policy Forum report stated that Labour will “tax fairly”, but left for further consideration the detail of how to do that, in an era of rising inequality.

Increased public investment is an essential lever to get growth such as will bring tax revenues, but it requires funds upfront.

Taxes on wealth and capital gains would affect few ordinary-income households, and make the tax system fairer.

Conference therefore calls for such tax rises focused on the wealthy to fund restoring the NHS and other public services.

### Calder Valley

Conference notes that, on 29/7/24, the Chancellor announced a £22bn hole in public spending inherited from the previous government. Measures announced do not cover this shortfall nor the cost of repairing public services, which are in a worse state than was understood before the General Election. Resentment over poverty and inequality makes fertile ground for the far-right, as evidenced by the recent riots across the country, and if people do not see a rapid improvement in public services, opportunities and quality of life, the situation could deteriorate. Relying on economic growth to improve the fiscal position causes unnecessary delay in addressing inequality and improving the lives of those struggling the most. The country cannot afford to wait and there is a risk that unforeseen events outside the Government’s control could undermine growth. Increased awareness of the unfairness of the current tax system and obscene levels of wealth for some has resulted in huge public support for wealth taxes.

Conference calls on the government to introduce wealth taxes for a fairer society, improved public services, including healthcare, education and social care, and investment for transformative projects such as green energy, infrastructure and housing. Wealth taxes to include but not limited to the following (with annual estimates):

Tax assets over £10 million (1% = £11bn) Equalise capital gains with income tax (£15bn) Apply national insurance to investment income (£8.6bn) End inheritance tax loopholes (£1.4bn) Tax share buybacks (4% = £2bn) (Data source: Tax Justice UK/UK Wealth Tax Commission).

**Horsham**

## **UKRAINE**

Conference welcomes the meeting on the 19th of July 2024 of President Zelensky and the Cabinet and the discussion between the UK Government, President Zelensky and the UK defence industry to discuss how to work together to step up support for Ukraine.

Conference asserts that the UK should support Ukraine until President Putin fully withdraws from Ukrainian territory.

Conference welcomes the Labour Party's ironclad commitment to stand with Ukraine and encourages other parties around the world to do the same.

Conference calls on the Labour government to ensure the military, financial, diplomatic and political support from the UK remains steadfast until Ukraine wins.

Conference calls on the Labour government to work with our allies to:

- Enable the seizure and repurposing of frozen Russian state assets to support Ukraine,
- Support international efforts to hold Putin's Russia to account for its illegal war, backing calls for a Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression,
- Play a leading role in providing Ukraine with a clear path to NATO membership and
- Work with our allies and international financial centres to tackle corruption and money laundering.

**Cities of London and Westminster**

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Conference is concerned by the recorded number and increase in violent crimes reported against women and girls on the transport network in the past year as reported by the British Transport Authority (August 2024). This reported 20 per cent increase is alarming.

Conference believes that these figures are evidence of shocking attacks on women, as VAWG highlights is an extreme form oppression of women buttressed & enabled by sexist and misogynist ideology.

Conference welcomes the new Labour Government Manifesto commitment to tackle this issue in Government. Conference resolves to:

- i. Ensure there is monitoring of the prevalence of violence including racialised forms of violence including sexual harassment to which Black women are subjected, particularly those who have to travel late from precarious jobs.
- ii. Ensure that there is a statutory obligation on transport providers to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls and that there are safety and security measures are provided to support women and girls using public transport.
- iii. Support measures to prevent violence against women and girls, including resources and support for schools to address harmful sexual behaviour.
- iv. Campaign to eradicate the cultural, economic and social norms that are the root causes of violence against women and girls.
- v. Ensure that there are staff on trains and stations receiving training to protect and support women and girls.

### **BAME Labour**

The NPCC's July 2024 analysis of VAWG declared a "national emergency" with at least 1 in 12 women a victim of male violence annually, 1 in 20 adults a perpetrator and perpetrators getting younger.

We welcome Labour's pledge to halve VAWG in a decade and the recent Home Office announcement (19th Aug 2024) of a rapid review to address gaps in the current system of tackling people pushing harmful and hateful beliefs including extreme misogyny. But we also call on the government to create a concrete plan of preventative action with extreme urgency.

This motion calls on the government to:

- Adopt the language of the NPCC report and declare VAWG a national emergency. Recognise that VAWG is intersectional and set out clear plans for how issues of violence for women of colour are to be addressed specifically. More proactively use current powers of prosecution to deter individuals,

especially influencers, who promote incite violence against women and girls and ensure that the Online Safety Act addresses emerging issues such as organised exploitation and deep fake porn.

- Review the sex education curriculum and set concrete targets for changes in attitudes and behaviours of teenage boys to ensure an appropriate scale of impact.
- Instigate properly funded and evidenced programmes to act as early interventions in cycles of domestic abuse especially amongst young offenders.
- Tackle the unacceptably high level of risk of men on probation committing serious violent crimes against women and children with licence conditions related to transparency around new and past relationships.

## **Battersea**

### Conference Notes

- Police Chiefs report domestic abuse 'a national emergency' (23.07.24), one in six homicides relating to it. Civil injunctions ('non-molestation orders') once offered applicants, ever-averse to criminal proceedings, a safe and permanent route from abuse, controlling respondents' behaviour when killings most occur – around and following separation.
- Part 4 of the Family Law Act 1996 strengthened injunctions, widening applicant types and mandating courts to attach powers of arrest. The power of arrest ordered police to arrest a respondent instantly an applicant reported an injunction had been broken ('breached'), returning them to court the next day to face two years' committal for contempt, namely disobeying a judge's order.
- The Domestic Violence (Crime and Victims) Act 2004 amended the 1996 Act, making breach a criminal offence, preventing courts from attaching powers of arrest.

### Conference Believes

- Powers of arrest deterred breach as consequences were immediate. 90 % of injunctions were obeyed, promoting 12-months' calm to resolve related issues.
- Now, on breach, injunctions lapse, with unprotected former applicants theoretically complainants in criminal proceedings.
- The usual sentence for breach is community service that may be served back in the family home. This is cruel and absurd, when an injunction's purpose is to ensure safe, permanent separation from a respondent.

### Conference resolves

- To repeal that part of the 2004 Act making breach a criminal offence, allowing family courts to attach powers of arrest again.



- In the interests of justice and fairness, both parties in injunction and related children and financial proceedings be eligible for legal aid.

## **Harrogate and Knaresborough**

### Conference Notes

- Police Chiefs report 'a national emergency' (23.07.24), one in six homicides relating to domestic abuse
- Injunctions ('non-molestation orders') emerged in 1976 after 'battered wives' from Erin Pizzey's Chiswick refuge told MPs they needed protection when most at risk - around and after separation - not criminal proceedings putting them in more danger
- In 1996 a law commission team under future Supreme Court President, Lady Hale, created the Family Law Act, widening the class of applicants and mandating courts to attach powers of arrest to injunctions where applicants allege threats of, or actual, violence
- The power of arrest ordered police to find and arrest respondents immediately applicants reported an injunction had been broken ('breached'), returning them to court within 24 hours to face up to 2 years' committal for contempt
- The much-misconceived Domestic Violence (Crime and Victims) Act 2004, implemented in 2007, made breach a criminal offence and stopped courts from attaching powers of arrest

### Conference Believes

- Powers of arrest deterred breach as consequences were certain and immediate. 90 % of injunctions were obeyed, promoting 12-months' calm to resolve related issues both parties' long-term accommodation, finances, importantly children
- The typical sentence on criminal conviction for breach (now common) is community service
- absurd when the purpose of applying for an injunction is to safely and permanently separate from a respondent

### Conference resolves

- To repeal the 2004 Act, letting courts attach powers of arrest again
- In the interests of justice and fairness both parties be eligible for legal aid

## **Richmond and Northallerton**

# **WATER**

## Conference notes:

- OFWAT published its draft Price Review on 11 July. This sets price controls for water and sewerage companies for 2025 to 2030.
- Water companies were privatised debt free: £64 billion of debt has been loaded on to them, £78 billion in dividends have been paid out.
- The Tories allowed water companies to pollute our rivers, lakes, and seas with effluence daily – whilst neglecting our vital water infrastructure.
- The introduction of the Water [Special Measures] Bill on 5 September begins Labour’s mission to clean up the Tories mess.

## Conference welcomes:

- The full review announced, “to shape further legislation that will fundamentally transform how our entire water system works and clean up our rivers, lakes and seas for good”.

## Conference believes:

- That under the Tories water industry investors, bondholders and executives were rewarded for failure.
- That water industry regulators failed to use the powers and laws available to stop water pollution and maintain and build new infrastructure.
- That in Labour’s plan for fixing our broken water system economic growth cannot come at the expense of protecting and preserving our rivers, lakes and seas.

## Conference resolves:

- Labour must deliver water infrastructure and regulatory policies that win back the trust of the British people by ensuring:
- The cost of cleaning up the Tories water mess is not borne by billpayers alone.
- Fines should be greater than financial returns water companies and other polluters receive from their actions.
- The Water System Review should be independent, and nothing should be off the table.

**Socialist Environment & Resources Association**

## **WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY**

Conference is aware that in a modern progressive country such as Britain women must receive fair pay in relation the entire workforce. The ONS 2023 Pay Gap Report revealed that, based on full time employment, women are still paid 7.7% less than their male counterparts, along with a host of further data demonstrating unequal pay across the divide.

In May 2023 Keir Starmer pledged to close the gender pay gap. After 5 July 2024, the cabinet contained no minister with a full-time responsibility for Equalities and Women. The latest King's Speech contained no mention of gender pay inequality.

Conference believes that equality should mean equality and that the current pay gap both stops women taking opportunities to reach their full potential while impeding public sector recovery and British business growth. Angela Rayner wrote in May 2023 'Want to boost the economy? Boost Women first'. Unequal pay erodes trust and engagement in the workplace and leads to negative impacts on growth and recovery.

Conference calls upon the Labour government to:

- make Pay Equality a core issue and commit to address issues in the 2023 Report and ensure employers are transparent in their reporting;
- require employers to take real action to reach pay equality across the board;
- appoint a full-time cabinet minister for Women and Equalities; and
- ensure that by the end of the 'Decade of Renewal' we have finally achieved truly equal pay for women.

### **Bicester and Woodstock**

Chancellor Rachel Reeves said she wants to emulate Barbara Castle and Harriet Harman, Equal Pay Act and Equalities Act proponents. On 17 July the King's Speech pledged commitments to workers' rights. Later, the Chancellor announced public sector pay rises for nurses, teachers and associated industries.

The 2024 gender pay gap (compounding the pensions gap) is 14.5%, the difference 'in median earnings between women and men', the UK being 17 (down from 13) amongst OECD countries.

Unequal pay arises:

in trades and professions where women participate with men, and in traditional female fields – nursing, teaching, childcare, elder-care, welfare-work, librarianship ...Differences are more easily identified in (A). Differences in (B) require Work Skills Value Enquiries (WSVE's) assessing skills-value in women's work compared with skills-value in men's work.

The Cambridge CLP urges the Chancellor to end the wage gap (and hence the pensions gap) by establishing industrial panel/s to review women's wages in traditional fields through Work Skills Value Enquiries (WSVE's) assessing work skills-value to adjust wages in women's traditional fields comparable to wages in men's traditional fields, recognising that women's work skills are equal to work skills of men in their traditional work.

**Cambridge**

## MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE NPF

The below organisations submitted motions that do not meet the CAC criteria for Conference and have therefore been referred to the NPF

Altrincham and Sale West	East Lothian	Maidenhead
Bath	Edinburgh Northern and Leith	Middlesbrough and Thornaby East
Beckenham and Penge	Erith and Thamesmead	Monmouthshire
Bedford	Farnham and Bordon	Montgomeryshire and Glyndwr
Beverley and Holderness	Finchley and Golders Green	Newton Abbot
Bishop Auckland	Gosport	North East Cambridgeshire
Blackley and Middleton South	Guildford	North East Hertfordshire
Blaydon and Consett	Hackney North and Stoke Newington	North Norfolk
Bournemouth East	Harpenden and Berkhamsted	North Somerset
Bournemouth West	Harrow West	Northampton North
Bristol East	Hartlepool	Northampton South
Bury St Edmunds and Stowmarket	Herne Bay and Sandwich	Peckham
Chesham and Amersham	Holborn and St Pancras	Penistone and Stocksbridge
Chester North and Neston	Hove and Portslade	Poole
Chichester	Kingston and Surbiton	Queen's Park and Maida Vale
City of Durham	Kingston upon Hull North and Cottingham	Runcorn and Helsby
Clacton	Labour Animal Welfare	Rushcliffe
Colchester	Labour Women's Network	Sheffield Hallam
Crewe and Nantwich	Lewisham North	Sherwood Forest
Croydon East	Liverpool Wavertree	South East Cornwall
Darlington	Loughborough	South Ribble
Dudley	Lowestoft	South Shields
Dwyfor Meirionnydd		St Ives
Earley and Woodley		Stafford

Stalybridge and Hyde

Torridge and Tavistock

Ynys Mon

Swansea West

Warrington North

Tonbridge

Waveney Valley

## **MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE NEC**

The following organisations have submitted motions that have failed to meet the CAC criteria for Conference in that they refer to an organisational matter. They have therefore been referred to the NEC.

Llanelli

Twickenham

Northern Ireland