

NCG Meeting

Monday 6/07/2020

Date and Time: 18:00 6th of July 2020

Participation: Carol Turner, Matt Wrack, Shona Jemphrey, Alan Gibbons, Andrew Scattergood, Abbie Clark, Ana Oppenheim, Barry Gray, Callum Bell, Charlie Bollaen, Craig Anderson, Darran McLaughlin, Ed McNally, Emina Ibrahim, Gaya Sriskanthan, Harriet Protheroe-Soltani, John Taylor, Liz Smith, Mick Moore, Phil Clarke, Puru Miah, Sarah Doyle, Solma Ahmed, Sonali Bhattacharyya, Tony Kearns

Apologies: Mike Bird, Deborah Hermanns, Rory Maclean, Jon Trickett, Mish Rahman, Tracey Hylton, Jen Forbes, Leigh Drennan, Carol Turner (partial absence)

Staff: Ollie Hill, Chloe Koffman, Rachel Godfrey Wood

Item 1: Discussion/Decision Number of Candidates to put forward to CLGA

CT noted that the statement of principles circulated is out of date and noted the newly edited one. MW suggested negotiators having license over the number of candidates to run but advocated for a larger slate. AG noted agreement. AS asked for any objections to this strategy. None were made.

SJ suggested picking five candidates and two back-ups. EI noted her past experience with negotiations and agreed that there should be seven candidates to allow room for negotiation. MW referred to previous discussions with BG about going with three names. MW noted the importance of a united left slate and as many left candidates being elected as possible. MW said there should not be seven candidates going into negotiations. JT agreed with MW and noted the previous consensus of no left organisation coming to negotiations with a full slate. JT suggested five candidates and noted Momentum needs to go in with humility. AG noted agreement with MW and JT and voiced support for three candidates. SD asked what the negotiators feel comfortable with and suggested aiming high, to come out with the most candidates possible. AS said the negotiators need flexibility. SB said that we should have five candidates with the full backing of the NCG. AS noted proposal for reserve candidates. AS noted this would be difficult for negotiators. MW voiced concern about deciding reserve candidates.

AS moved to vote on going in with either 3, 5 or 7 candidates. **This was put to a vote via poll and 5 candidates were decided on.**

Item 2: Discussion/Decision of candidates

SB noted the strength of candidates. RGW clarified that the specific process to decide on candidates can be decided in the meeting. EI noted the large number of participants means it is easier to do an exhaustive ballot rather than consensus. AG noted there should be strong BAME representation. AG noted lack of female representation on the NEC. SA noted agreement with AG.

MM noted issues around time management. EI noted the importance of unity going forward from the NCG elections. EI noted that active people are often put forward for multiple positions. TK noted thanks to the panellists. TK noted previous points that had been made. TK noted the importance of unity. TK noted the strength of all candidates. LS noted the importance of woman-heavy slate. PM noted the importance of continuity.

CA noted strong candidates and the need for candidates who can win. CA noted the need for variation. PC raised the possibility of an all-woman candidate list. AC noted lack of action on racism from the leadership.

AS noted that a poll/ballot would be a suitable way to decide candidates rather than consensus. MW and EI noted support for an eliminating ballot. MM noted support for an eliminating ballot. GS noted support for an eliminating ballot.

AS proposed FPTP as a voting system. OH noted that the only ranking system with multiple winners is STV and noted other non-ranking voting systems. EI noted eliminating ballot features. RGW asked what the benefit of not using STV would be. SJ said an alternate system would result in the backing of the full NCG. AS proposed using a FPTP system and selecting the top five candidates.

Vote was conducted via online ballot.

AS asked for any objections on the basis representation and none were made.

Item 3: Discussion of negotiations

MW asked about priorities regarding negotiation. EM noted the results in the vote to establish the top five candidates might inform the priority list and noted the candidates that came 6th and 7th as reserves. AS noted that the issue of reserves does not need to be revisited. MW noted the point from the previous meeting from BG that most organisations are coming into negotiations with three names and noted support for this suggestion. CB suggested either re-voting or taking the rankings from the initial vote. OH noted both are possible.

AS asked if people wanted to rank the candidates. MM noted support for leaving it to the negotiators. EI noted there is no harm in re-ranking them but may not be necessary. AS moved to vote on re-ranking, this was rejected with a clear majority.

Item 4: Young Labour NEC Rep and Disabled NEC Rep

RGW noted the 50/50 vote split between members and unions for both the Youth and Disability representatives. MW proposed the co-chairs speaking to the staff and coming back to the next NCG meeting with proposals on how to approach the Youth representative endorsement. AS agreed to report back on Saturday.

EI noted ALC positions and asked what approach we would take in regards to endorsements. AS noted that this needs further discussions with the staff.

Item 5: Statement of Principles for CLGA and possible changes

RGW noted paper. RGW asked if the NCG were happy with the overall tone. MW noted the phrasing and it should include “transformative socialist government” and “socialist Green New Deal”. EM noted he was asked to amend the statement and asked if he should send it around. AS asked for any suggestions to be emailed to chairs by tomorrow.