



# London Left Regional Executive Committee Report

Report Back from Momentum, London Labour Left and CLPD members on the London Regional Executive Committee (REC).

## ***Jargon Buster:***

*REC - Regional Executive Committee*

*ALC - Association of Labour Councillors*

*BAME - Black Asian and Minority Ethnic*

*CAC - Conference Arrangements Committee*

*CLP - Constituency Labour Party*

*LGBTQ+ - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+*

*NCC - National Constitutional Committee*

*NEC - National Executive Committee*

*NPF - National Policy Forum*

*MEP - Member of the European Parliament*

*LCF - Local Campaign Forum*

*RD - Regional Director*

*DRD - Deputy Regional Director*

This was the second meeting of the new London Regional Executive Committee, previously known as the London Regional Board.

The Labour Left REC members were elected at the London Regional Conference, held early March 2019, and represent a considerable majority on the REC.

Left REC members were elected on a platform of **greater communication, transparency, party democracy and active campaigning.**

Our key aims are to:

- **Ensure that Conference motions are acted upon in a meaningful way (and for them not to simply disappear into a galactic black hole, as our Vice Chair aptly puts it).**
- **Ensure that our London Labour Mayoral Manifesto reflects the views of our hugely expanded new membership.**
- **Ensure that members are regularly engaged and included with the work on the board.**

# Agenda

## **Introduction & Item 1: Apologies.**

Sadiq Khan attended an informal pre-meeting prior to the second meeting in order to spend some time to get to know the newly elected members of the REC. Jim Kelly gave Sadiq the opportunity to address the group before the start of the meeting emphasising his objectives and priorities for the year.

## **Item 2: Minutes of the last meeting**

All the minutes were agreed and Hazel Flynn the regional director made a request that if anyone on the committee wanted to send out information to CLPs it needs to be sent through her team, using the templates provided.

## **Item 3: Matters arising from the minutes**

# Regional Conference Motions

## **Item 4: Regional executive motions working groups plan and progress**

One of our key priorities is to ensure that motions passed at the London Regional Conference are acted upon. Working Groups were granted approval for each of the motions passed, and it was agreed to implement the following actions to promote them, including: the creation of a Labour Party banner for use on marches ie Grenfell. For each of the motions letters to go to local Councils, GLA members and Mayor's office to highlight specific elements, and round table discussions with community groups, CLP and elected representatives.

### **Conference Policy Working Groups:**

#### **1. Housing - The Grenfell Tower Atrocity**

Action following the first meeting will be to set-up a stakeholder meeting to discuss how to put pressure on the government for a full enquiry, Contacting the FBU to include a representative on the group, and sending letter out from the

chair asking the Mayor to create a stakeholder group to monitor and remove flammable cladding.

## 2. Housing in London

Will be meeting up in the next few weeks

## 3. Racism and the Far Right

Moving forward the group will be called London United and the objectives of the group will be to:

- Educate union members
- Mobilise members to safely protest
- To reinstate the Rise Against Racism festival
- To work and organise with the London Labour party

## 4. Workers' Rights

Will be meeting-up in the next few weeks

## 5. Advocating Transparency of the BAME Pay Gap

A plan of actions in taking the motion forward is being formulated.

## 6. Local Government Austerity (*anti-cuts campaigning*)

It was agreed that the Local Government Austerity motion should be split into 2 working groups. The first will look at the instructions regarding campaigning against Local Government austerity. The elements of the motion that refer to No Recourse to Public Funds and institutional racism have been referred to a new working group.

## 7. Embedded Immigration officers working group

The REC chair has sent a letter to chairs of all LCFs to pledge to remove their embedded officer or committing not to introduce one, and will publish this letter on the London Labour Twitter account

## 8. Crime & Policing

The working group will write to Mayor and Unmesh Desai (Assembly Member) calling for greater funding for British Transport Police and, will set-up a stakeholder meeting to focus on schools and youth services to prevent knife crime

## 9. Modern Slavery

The decision to add this to precarious workers working group, who are workers that fulfil permanent job needs but are denied permanent employee rights. These workers are subject to unstable employment and low wages and dangerous work conditions.

## 10. Making Misogyny a Hate Crime

Will be meeting-up in the next few weeks

## 11. Climate Change

Will be meeting-up in the next few weeks

### **Item 5: TULO update**

GMB have been campaigning against Amazon about the way they treat staff, they should be treated like humans not robots. The Union has also campaigned for stab vest to automatically be included as part of their equipment for all security staff. Uvw the Union recently won an industrial dispute for cleaning staff against St Georges Hospital.

### **Item 6: Mayoral campaign progress report**

Sadiq suggested that there would be the most extensive engagement ever on policy with members and affiliates in London in advance of the Mayoral elections. The consultees will include CLPs, Affiliates, Assembly Labour groups candidates (if in place) Borough Labour groups, London PLP and the Shadow Cabinet. There will be less formal arrangements with non-party stakeholder's i.e. civil society groups, campaigners, local residents groups, businesses across the city. The manifesto to be written-up later and the motions from conference will need to feed into the process. The REC also requested the regional director to put together a list of devolved powers to the Mayor for circulation.

### **Item 7: Reselection of sitting MP trigger ballots and role of REC**

Last year at the Labour party conference, Momentum supporters won changes, which gives labour members the opportunity to campaign for fair and open selections in every constituency and open the door to a new generation of MPs.

The schedule for the trigger ballots is in place and the specific timetable for any given reselection process will be agreed at a meeting between the NEC representative and the CLP executive. This will commence shortly in all constituencies with sitting Labour MPs. REC members may sit as NEC representatives and are keen to support and ensure the freeze date is agreed, and each trigger ballot will be completed within 6 weeks.

### **Item 8: Reports**

Reports submitted in writing ahead of the meeting. These included reports from: Chair, Regional Director, BAME, LGBT+, TULO, London Assembly, Local Government, PLP, NPF Reps.

*Women's Report from Alison McGarry, Women's Officer*

I will send an email to introduce myself with a survey out to all CLP's Via the RO.

The survey will ask CLPs about their womens work programme and what training needs women in the CLP's have .

We will then hold a network meeting and a one day event hopefully in November 2019 with JC. The event will be a development and training event.

Union sisters will be welcome and we will approach unions for support as Region has no designated resources for regional women's work.

I am willing to speak at CLPs. and Womens local LP events.

**The next meeting October 28<sup>th</sup> 2019**

## Summary

The meeting worked particularly well with open communications to enable the sharing of what was happening across the working groups. The new members of the REC are more aware of the responsibility and the tasks and this second meeting helped to clarify them and set some direction.

It was particularly encouraging that the REC members all came to a unanimous decision to support the chair to write a letter to Jenny Formby, expressing solidarity and complete support for her in the role of General Secretary.