

Happy New Year!

2017 is going to be a busy year as we battle within the Labour Party to advance the cause of a mainstream and electable Labour, and as hard-working Labour campaigners we take on the Tories and our other opponents in this May's elections, which include County Councils, Metro Mayors, Welsh and Scottish councils. There's an astute analysis of the situation inside the party here:

<http://news.sky.com/story/sky-views-2016-that-was-the-easy-bit-for-corbyn-10710674>

Our new organiser

I am delighted to let you know that we were within £3,000 of our £40,000 fundraising target in our pre-Christmas appeal so for the first time ever Labour First will have a full-time Organiser. Over 450 people donated! This will hugely increase our capacity as we have previously relied entirely on volunteers – though of course me and other voluntary campaigners intend to work just as hard as before, but with the benefit of professional support.

Labour First's new Organiser is Matt Pound. Matt is an active member of the Labour Party in Streatham CLP and has already been involved as a volunteer in Labour First nationally. He has worked in Parliament for the last 4 years as an adviser to Toby Perkins MP and before that to Rt Hon John Spellar MP. He graduated in Politics from the University of Liverpool.

Matt will start work on 9th January and will be in touch with many of you soon after that. His primary duties will include initiating and supporting local Labour First groups, organising for the elections for Labour Party Annual Conference delegates, and improving our profile online.

If you haven't already donated you can still do so to help us get the final £3,000 we need. Extra fund will mean we can produce more materials, run more events, and ensure the Organiser role is sustainable into 2018. Donate online here: <https://www.crowdpac.co.uk/campaigns/558/labour-first>

If you'd like to make your donation in a more traditional way, we are still accepting the old-fashioned methods!

- Write a cheque made payable to Labour First and send to Labour First, 125 Oxford Road, Old Marston, Oxford, OX3 0RB
- Send us a bank transfer to Labour First's account, which is with Unity Trust Bank: Sort Code. 60-83-01, Account No. 20250940
- Fill in and return this Standing Order form to Labour First, 125 Oxford Road, Old Marston, Oxford, OX3 0RB:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/271f6fffa61efcfd965911e04/files/Labour_First_Mandate_Form.doc

Who will your CLP send to Labour Party Annual Conference?

The election of Annual Conference delegates by CLPs will be very competitive this year as the Hard Left will be seeking to change the party rulebook to their advantage at Conference 2017 – we are particularly concerned that they want to reduce the number of MPs required to get a leadership

The election of Annual Conference delegates by CLPs will be very competitive this year as the Hard Left will be seeking to change the party rulebook to their advantage at Conference 2017 – we are particularly concerned that they want to reduce the number of MPs required to get a leadership candidate on the ballot, in case they decide to replace Jeremy Corbyn with John McDonnell.

We want to repeat the strong moderate presence that led to us winning key votes at Annual Conference 2016.

Delegates can be registered with HQ from 1 January 2017.

The deadline is likely to be in June, but we would advise all CLPs to elect their delegates as early as possible, in case a snap General Election leads to a moratorium on party meetings.

Please let us know by replying to this email as soon as you know the date when your CLP will be electing its delegates. Please start thinking about who the moderates are in your CLP who are best placed to get elected as delegates.

CLPs send one delegate for the first 749 full members they had on 31 December 2016, and one further delegate for every additional 250 individual members in the constituency or part thereof. At least every second delegate from a CLP has to be a woman; where only one delegate is appointed this must be a woman at least in every other year. Where the individual women's membership in a constituency is 100 or more, an additional woman delegate may be appointed. Where the individual Young Labour membership in a constituency is 30 or more an additional delegate under the age of 27 may be appointed.

CLPs do not need to send their full delegation entitlement, their card vote remains the same value even if they just send one delegate. Each CLP's delegation votes as a block, casting a card vote equivalent to its membership on most key votes, so the key objective is to ensure that a majority of your CLP's delegates are moderates.

National elections in the Labour Party in 2017

The election of CLP reps to the National Policy Forum previously scheduled for 2017 has been postponed.

That leaves two elections where CLPs can nominate candidates. Nominations happen at CLP meetings on the same timetable as the election of Annual Conference delegates:

- 2 CLP reps on the Conference Arrangements Committee (CAC). Elected by One Member One Vote. We would recommend support for the two incumbents, Gloria De Piero MP and former MEP and NEC Chair Michael Cashman. This committee prepares the agenda for conference and ensures it runs smoothly. We are arguing that this very expensive OMOV election should be delayed and held at the same time as other OMOV ballots in 2018, but at the moment it is scheduled to go ahead.
- 2 CLP reps on the National Constitutional Committee (NCC). Elected at Annual Conference by CLP delegates. We are recommending support for the incumbent Chair, Rose Burley. We will

- 2 CLP reps on the Conference Arrangements Committee (CAC). Elected by One Member One Vote. We would recommend support for the two incumbents, Gloria De Piero MP and former MEP and NEC Chair Michael Cashman. This committee prepares the agenda for conference and ensures it runs smoothly. We are arguing that this very expensive OMOV election should be delayed and held at the same time as other OMOV ballots in 2018, but at the moment it is scheduled to go ahead.
- 2 CLP reps on the National Constitutional Committee (NCC). Elected at Annual Conference by CLP delegates. We are recommending support for the incumbent Chair, Rose Burley. We will make a recommendation for the second seat imminently. This committee deals with the most complex and contentious disciplinary cases and disputes (for instance the current case involving Ken Livingstone).

As with delegate elections please ensure your CLP nominates as soon as possible and let us know the outcome.

We will circulate flyers for all candidates as soon as we have them.

Unite General Secretary Election

Many of you have asked how you can help Gerard Coyne's campaign to win the Unite General Secretary election. If you are a Unite member you can sign up to support Gerard's campaign here: <http://www.vote Gerard Coyne.co.uk/>

Luke

Luke Akehurst
Secretary, Labour First

P.S. please do forward this email to your friends and encourage them to join our mailing list by signing up here: eepurl.com/Nzh75

Copyright © 2017 Labour First, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are on the Labour First mailing list.

Our mailing address is:

Labour First
125 Oxford Road
Old Marston
Oxford, OX3 0RB
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)