

Dear Sister,

Many thanks to the sisters who attended our "empowerment" meeting on 24th January about the new women's structures coming out of the Democracy Review. We assume that attendees will be happy to be on our mailing list, but please let us know if this is NOT the case. You may wish to join LWL and a membership form is attached. Also attached is a report and the chat from the meeting, as well as some helpful notes that were prepared by committee member [REDACTED]

### Annual Women's Conference, 26th/27th June

This year's virtual conference will be a two day, standalone, policy making event. Thanks to the efforts of sisters on the Women's Conference Arrangements Committee and the National Executive Committee, it will be lively and inclusive, with a range of speakers, debates and fringe meetings. Each CLP is allowed up to two delegates, at least one coming from a doubly disadvantaged background. Whether or not you have a women's branch, your CLP Secretary will need to notify the party about delegations (by 10th May) and motions (by 28th May). Bear in mind that, with local elections confirmed for 6th May, party meetings will be suspended in April. Please find attached a letter from the LP with more details about the conference.

### National Women's Committee

The six CLP representatives on the new National Women's Committee will be elected by delegates at the Annual Women's Conference (please see the attached letter from the LP). These reps should be the radical voice of Labour women all over the country, so we are inviting sisters committed to justice and equality for all women to put themselves forward. The party has imposed the very early deadline for self-nominations (meaning your application statement will appear on the party's web page) of 18th February - though CLPs can make nominations until 10th May. LWL is working with sisters from other Labour left organisations (the Centre Left Grassroots Alliance) to produce a united left slate. We are looking for diversity in terms of background and experience as well as geography.

We are inviting any sister who would like to be considered as a candidate for the slate to let us know **by the end of next Wednesday 10th February**. Could you please write up to 350 words about your background and experience as well as your politics. We're not expecting an essay and lists are acceptable, so long as the information is clear. Please use the LWL email address: [labourwomenleading@gmail.com](mailto:labourwomenleading@gmail.com). Please be aware that your application may be shared with members of the LWL committee, as well as the slate making collective (which will meet on 12th February to consider up to two applications from each organisation). We will aim to get back to all LWL applicants over the weekend of 13th/14th February, and we'd hope that you would co-operate with the slate-making process whether or not your application is successful. Can I reiterate that we are looking for diversity, so it is possible that even the very best of candidates might not be successful, for reasons of geography and so on? **At the end of this email we set out for guidance the background information that we'd like from you, plus the policy criteria we consider important (not an exhaustive list).**

### Motions for Annual Women's Conference

It is best that your motion is on an issue that other CLPs might choose. Motions are grouped together and then placed in a "priorities ballot" to decide the policy areas that will be debated at the conference - so, the NHS, domestic violence, covid, women's jobs, migrant women, housing, schools, etc. Please let us know if you have a motion you'd like others to support and we'll try to circulate "model" motions to other CLPs.

I hope this information is helpful and that we can work together to ensure that the new party structures make a real difference in terms of socialist women's participation and politics.

In sisterhood, [REDACTED]

### Criteria to guide applicants for the National Women's Committee - shared socialist values, including:

- Women's rights, inclusive feminism and support for self organisation
- Anti-racism, including anti-black racism, fighting anti-semitism and islamophobia and support for migrants' rights
- Environmental protection as laid out in the Socialist green New Deal motion passed by Conference 2019
- Internationalism
- LGBTQ+ rights - we support the right of trans people to self identify
- Support for the progressive policies from the 2017 and 2019 manifestos
- Support for greater democracy within Labour Party structures at all levels (including the development of BAME branches)
- Support disability rights and the total inclusion of disabled people
- Commitment to trade unions and solidarity with working class communities
- Support for campaigns which affect women particularly including violence against women and girls, equality in the workplace, childcare, carers rights, social security and low pay
- Anti war and Pro-peace.

