

LABOUR REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE RULES AND CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the organisation shall be the Labour Representation Committee (“LRC”).

Aims and objectives

2. The LRC will organise within the constituency parties, trade unions and socialist societies to achieve the implementation of its aims and objectives and its policies as determined by its AGM, and to restore the operation of a fully democratic Labour Party.

3. The LRC will appeal for support on the basis of its socialist policies to all existing Labour Party members and to all socialists outside the Labour Party who it will encourage to join or rejoin the Labour Party.

4 The LRC is an open, democratic and socialist organisation committed to the election of a Labour Government and the implementation of a fundamental and irreversible shift in the balance of wealth and power in favour of the working class and the promotion of internationalism, peace and equality.

5. The LRC will seek to transform the Labour Party into an organisation that reflects the interests of all sections of the working class.

Membership

a) individual membership

6. “Individual membership is open to anyone who is not a member of a party that stands candidates against Labour. Membership is subject to confirmation by the National Committee.”

7. The national committee may, in special cases, elect honorary members of the LRC.

b) affiliate membership

8. Trade Unions, Constituency Labour Parties, Branch Labour Parties, Socialist Societies and other organisations may affiliate to the LRC providing they support the principles of the LRC and are not affiliated to any political party that stands candidates against Labour. The acceptance of affiliate

membership is subject to confirmation by the national committee.

Exclusion of members

9. The national committee will have the right to exclude members from any or all of its meetings for a specified period of time for disruption or violent behaviour subject to;

(a) the right of the member to a hearing before the national committee prior to any decision to exclude them;

(b) the member having the right of appeal to the AGM.

Membership fees

10. The membership fees of the LRC for the categories of individual membership and affiliate membership shall be agreed by the AGM from year to year

Annual General Meeting

11. The LRC shall be governed by an annual general meeting (“AGM”) of members to be held at a time and place to be determined by the national committee.

a) resolutions

12. The national committee shall have the right to put forward reports, policy documents, resolutions and amendments to the AGM.

13. Affiliate organisations and local Labour Representation Committees (as defined by Clause 36 below) shall be entitled to submit one of the following to the AGM,

(a) a resolution; or

(b) an amendment to a national committee policy document; or

(c) an amendment to this constitution.

14. Resolutions submitted under Clause 13 shall, where necessary and appropriate, be composited by the national committee.

15. The timetable for the receipt and circulation of resolutions shall be set by the national committee from year to year in accordance with the needs of the LRC.

16. The chair of the AGM shall have the right to accept emergency resolutions and amendments from affiliate organisations and local LRCs to national committee policy documents with the consent of the meeting.

b) composition

17. All full individual members of the LRC shall have the right to attend, speak and vote at the AGM.

18. All full affiliates of the LRC shall have the right to send a number of delegates to the AGM, who shall be entitled to speak and vote, as follows,
National trade unions: 20 delegates
Regional trade unions: 10 delegates
CLPs / TU Branches and/or other organisations: 5 delegates
BLPs 2 delegates

c) election of officers

19. The AGM will elect the following officers of the LRC who will report and be accountable to the executive and national committee. Only members of the LRC can be elected as officers.

- (a) Chair
- (b) Vice Chairs (2)
- (c) Secretary
- (d) Treasurer

20. Nominations for candidates as officers should be made in writing to the Secretary of the LRC not less than 2 weeks before the date of the AGM. Candidates for officer positions should be supported by either two individual members of the LRC other than the nominee, two affiliated organisations, or one of both, and have the consent of the nominee.

21. Where no nomination is received for an officer's position by the date in paragraph 20 above, the Chair of the AGM shall accept nominations presented on the day of the AGM and supported by either two individual members of the LRC other than the nominee, two affiliated organisations, or one of both, and have the consent of the nominee.

d) election of National Committee

22. In addition to the officers, the AGM will also elect a National Committee who shall be individual members of the LRC. The number and proportion to be elected onto the National Committee will be decided by the National

Committee from year to year to reflect the composite sections of the LRC: individual members and affiliates; regional and local groups; and sectional groups.

23. Nominations for membership of the National Committee should be made in writing to the Secretary of the LRC not less than 2 weeks before the AGM, and be supported by not less than:

I. (Individual Members Section) - 2 current individual members of the LRC other than the nominee

II. (General Affiliates Section) - An affiliated organisation

All nominations must have the consent of the nominee and may be supported by a personal written statement of not more than 100 words.

24. Where no or insufficient nominations are received for the National Committee by the date in paragraph 23 above, the Chair of the AGM shall accept nominations presented on the day of the AGM and supported by not less than:

I. (Individual Members Section) - 2 current individual members of the LRC other than the nominee

II. (General Affiliates Section) - An affiliated organisation

All nominations must have the consent of the nominee and may be supported by a personal written statement of not more than 100 words.

e) Executive committee

25. The executive committee will consist of the officers and members elected from the National committee. It will be responsible for decisions between meetings of the National Committee and be accountable to it.

26. Members of the executive committee, other than the officers, will be elected by the National Committee from amongst their members. These will be one member from each section of membership for NC election. They will be nominated and elected by the National Committee as a whole.

f) auditors

27. The AGM shall elect 2 auditors who shall be neither officers nor members of the national committee but who shall be full individual members of the LRC.

28. Nominations for auditors should be made in writing to the Secretary of the LRC not less than 2 weeks before the date of the AGM and be supported by not less than 2 full individual members of the LRC other than the nominee and have the consent of the nominee.

29. Where no or insufficient nominations are received for auditors by the date in paragraph 26 above, the Chair of the AGM shall accept nominations presented on the day of the AGM and supported by not less than 2 full individual members of the LRC other than the nominee and have the consent of the nominee.

Special general meetings

30. The national committee may at any time call a special general meeting to discuss any business of the LRC.

31. If 25 per cent of all members entitled to vote at the AGM send to the Secretary in writing a request for a special general meeting, the national committee shall arrange for the meeting the earliest convenient date thereafter and shall circulate any resolutions submitted.

National committee

32. The national committee shall comprise of the officers and other members elected at the AGM.

33. The national committee shall have the right to co-opt other members subject to them being members of the LRC. It will also have the power to appoint other officers as it sees fit who shall be full members of the LRC.

34. The quorum for the national committee shall be 25% of its membership.

35. The national committee shall conduct the general business of the LRC, appoint such paid officers and staff as it deems necessary, create an executive and such sub-committees and groups as are considered desirable from time to time, sanction publications and appoint all delegates to represent the LRC.

36. The national committee shall, subject to the rules of the LRC, have the power to make and revise rules for the composition and procedure of subcommittees, local societies (and their regional or other committees) and other bodies of the LRC.

37. Subject to the decision of the AGM or any special general meeting, the national committee shall have full control over the affairs of the LRC.

Local Labour Representation Committees

38. The national committee shall have the power to recognise local Labour Representation Committee(s) (“LLRC”) and to approve their rules and constitution provided they have a minimum of 10 individual members of the LRC.

39. The rules of a LLRC shall conform to the rules of the LRC and shall ensure that full membership is limited to those eligible under rule 6

40. LLRCs shall pay an annual subscription to the national committee of an amount to be determined from year to year by the AGM. The secretary of every LLRC shall supply during the year such accounts and reports of its activities as the national committee may require.

41. LLRCs shall operate in accordance with the aims, objectives and rules of the LRC. The national committee shall have the power to withdraw or suspend recognition of a LLRC subject to a right of appeal to the AGM.

42. The national committee shall have the power to set up such regional or other groupings of members of the LRC as it may from time to time determine.

Revision of rules and constitution

43. These rules may be revised by the AGM or by a special general meeting, provided the proposals have been circulated not less than 2 weeks before the meeting. Any alterations of or additions to rules 1-5 shall be adopted only if supported by not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting at the AGM or special general meeting.

Interpretation of rules

44. Any question as to the interpretation of these rules shall be settled by the national committee subject to appeal to the AGM or a special general meeting.

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