

Workers Party of Britain

91 Church Road, Moseley, B13 9EA

1. Constitution

- 1.1 The name of the Party shall be the Workers Party of Britain
- 1.2 The Party shall be organised in England, Scotland, and Wales, and will be registered in Great Britain.
- 1.3 Branches shall be established taking into account membership spread and density.

2. The policies and aims of the Party

- 2.1 The Workers Party of Britain is a socialist party and strives for a socialist society where the workers by hand and by brain share the full fruits of their industry.
- 2.2 We believe in a strong British economy which recognises the guiding hand of the state in ensuring that our economic development is to the benefit of all our people.
- 2.3 The Workers Party of Britain believes in the public ownership of the commanding heights of the economy but will ensure the rights of small and medium-sized businesses and producers in the private sector. In the immediate term, we fight for higher wages, for workers' rights and for the common ownership of utilities and essential public services.
- 2.4 The Workers Party of Britain will fight for a new Britain, free and democratic, with no place for exploitation and discrimination or the despoliation of the environment.
- 2.5 The Workers Party of Britain will organise workers in advancing our demands for a radical economic programme for Britain.
- 2.6 The policies of the Party are set out in the publications and documents of the party and in the political resolutions which have been ratified by the National Members Council.

3. Objectives

- 3.1 In order to achieve its aims the Party will:
 - a. Raise funds from members and supporters that will cover the cost of engaging in the activities of the Party.
 - b. Organise courses and events.
 - c. Stand candidates in elections, including local, general and mayoral elections in Great Britain.
 - d. In addition to public rallies and conferences there shall be private members meetings, these will meet at a frequency to suit the members.
 - e. All meetings shall abide by the decisions of the party taken at the Congress and all relevant laws of the land.

4. Membership

- 4.1 Application for full membership of the Party shall be open to any person over 16 who will: -
 - a. help the Party to achieve its aims and objectives.
 - b. abide by the rules of the Party.
 - c. pay any subscription agreed by the Members Council.
- 4.2 Application for membership shall be available to anyone without regard to gender, race, nationality, disability, sexual preference, religion or belief.

- 4.3 Applications for membership must be made to the General Secretary in the first instance and can be made either in person or online.
- 4.4 Admission of supporters, affiliates and other temporary membership schemes is made at the discretion of the National Members Council.
- 4.5 The conferring of Full Membership status is organised through the National Members Council.
- 4.6 Every full individual member shall be entitled to one vote at meetings.
- 4.7 Members will be eligible to stand as electoral candidates following an agreed selection process.

5. Officers

- 5.1 The officer positions are:
 - a. Leader
 - b. Three Deputy leaders
 - c. General Secretary
 - d. Nominating Officer
 - e. Treasurer
- 5.2 The duties of the Leader and Deputy Leaders are to:
 - a. Uphold the decisions of the Congress.
 - b. Represent the Party at events/meetings that have been organised.
 - c. Act as spokespersons for the Party
- 5.3 The duties of the General Secretary are to:
 - a. Uphold the decisions of the Congress.
 - b. Represent the Party at events/meetings.
 - c. Maintain the membership list.
 - d. Deal with correspondence.
 - e. Record minutes of meetings.
- 5.4 The duties of the Nominating Officer are to assist in:
 - a. Planning and coordination of the work of the Party that relates to the role of the Nominating Officer.
 - b. Fulfilling the requirements of relevant UK law in relation to the role of Nominating Officer in line with compliance with Electoral Commission policies and procedures.
- 6.5 The duties of the Treasurer are to assist in:
 - a. Planning and coordination of the work of the Party that relates to the role of the Treasurer.
 - b. fulfilling the requirements of relevant UK law in relation to the role of Treasurer in line with compliance with Electoral Commission policies and procedures.
 - c. Fulfilling those functions and duties outlined in the Financial Scheme

6. Election of officers

- 6.1 Nominations for elected positions must be made by full members of the Party.
- 6.2 Valid candidates for elected positions must be full members of the Party.
- 6.3 Voting rights shall be accorded to all those who are full members.
- 6.4 The officers shall be elected by the Party's Congress on the basis of one member one vote with the exception of the Nominating Officer and Treasurer, whom will be appointed by the National Members Council.

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- 6.5 Should any position become vacant due to death, injury, serious ill-health or any other eventuality then the National Members Council may appoint an interim replacement until the next Congress where an election will take place where applicable.
- 6.6 The normal term of office for any officer is between Congresses.

7. National Members Council (NMC)

- 7.1 Five officers and 20 full members shall be elected to a Members Council.
- 7.2 The duties of the Members Council are:
 - a. Fulfil the decisions of the Congress.
 - b. Represent the policies of the Party,
 - c. To act as spokespeople,
 - d. To plan and coordinate the work of the Party and manage the finances.
 - e. The day to day running of the Party.
 - f. Planning and coordination of the work of the Party, including the appointment of the Nominating Officer, Treasurer, and those positions necessary for the proper and legal functioning of the Party.
 - g. Represent the Party at events/meetings that have been organised.
 - h. Ratify membership applications where necessary.
 - i. Ratify candidates for public election.
 - j. Ratify removal of membership where necessary.

8. Party Congress

- 8.1 The Party's Congress is held at the discretion of the National Members Council but not longer than once every four years.
- 8.2 The National Members Council shall give notice summoning a Congress at least four weeks before the date of the Congress and issues the agenda.
- 8.3 The powers of Congress are: -
 - a. To elect the officers of the Party
 - b. To elect the delegates to the National Members Council
 - c. To make resolutions on the political and organisational direction of the Party
- 8.4 Decisions of the Congress shall be recorded and passed by a simple majority vote.

9. Finance

- 9.1 Any money obtained by the Party shall be used only in pursuance of aims and policies of the Party.
- 9.2 Any bank account opened for the Party shall be in the name of the Party.
- 9.3 The financial scheme, as required by the Electoral Commission shall be adopted in line with PPERA from the moment of registration.

10. Alterations to the Party Rules

- 10.1 Any changes to these Party Rules must be agreed by a majority vote by those full members present and voting at any Congress.

11. Dissolution

- 11.1 The Party may be wound up at any time if agreed by two-thirds of those full members present and voting at any Congress.
- 11.2 In the event of winding up, any assets remaining after all debts have been paid shall be given to another Party with similar aims.

12. Public Elections

- 12.1 A right of Party membership includes the opportunity to nominate candidates for public office in an area where the officers and Members Council approve.
- 12.2 Core principles shall apply to these selections that will enable members to nominate Party candidate's representative of our society who can uphold the highest standards of probity and integrity in public life.

13. Candidate Selection Process

- 14.1 General rules for selections for public office
 - a. All individual eligible members of the Party are entitled to participate in selections.
 - b. Persons wishing to stand as a candidate must be approved by the Members Council or relevant subcommittee, which shall instruct the Nominating Officer accordingly.
 - c. The Party does not tolerate electoral fraud and no member who has been found guilty of an illegal or corrupt election practice as defined by the Representation of the People Act 1983 and subsequent legislation may be considered for selection for public office at any level.
 - d. Nominees will be given a code of conduct which will indicate the rights a potential candidate has in a selection, based on the principle that all eligible members shall have a fair and equal opportunity to seek selection.
 - e. All nominees shall undertake in writing, in a form stipulated by the Party Officers, if selected, to abide by Party rules and standing orders.
 - f. The Party will take action in all selections to encourage a greater level of representation and participation of groups of people in our society who are currently under-represented in our democratic institutions. In particular, the Party will seek to select more candidates who reflect the full diversity of our society and increase working class representation.
 - g. Selection processes must enable the inclusion and involvement of all full members on an equal basis and take into account the barriers to participation which underrepresented groups may face.
 - h. One member one vote (OMOV) shall be adopted in all selections where reasonably practicable.
 - i. Support shall be provided to those administering the selections process.
 - j. The Members Council and Officers have the authority to modify this rule and any procedural rules and guidelines (as required) to meet particular circumstances or to further the stated Party objectives and principles.

14. Conflict resolution

- 14.1 The following general principles for conflict resolution will be applied at each level of the conflict-resolution procedures.

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- a. Address the conflict at the lowest possible level of intensity, beginning with the individuals/agencies directly involved, and escalate to the next level only if a resolution cannot be found.
- b. Generate and document valid and useful information about the issues, and work to develop a common definition of the problem.
- c. Allow and expect parties to the conflict to state their positions clearly.
- d. Develop options for resolution, taking into account context, and weigh these in a transparent process based on agreed criteria.
- e. Once resolved, parties to a conflict agree to support the resolution and seek to ensure each other's success.
- f. In exceptional circumstances and where serious breaches of conduct have occurred, or where requirements for membership in accordance with these rules place the person outside the ranks of the party, a recommendation for termination of membership from the General Secretary should be ratified by the National Members Council.

15. Discipline

15.1 The grounds for demotion, suspension or expulsion are:

- a. Failure to pay subscriptions.
- b. Making public statements concerning private Party business.
- c. Actions that are hostile to the Party.
- d. Actions constituting a breach of the policies and aims of the Party.

15.2 All disciplinary cases shall be ratified by the Members Council.

15.3 There shall be no appeal against decisions of the Members Council.