

# **WOMEN'S CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE**

ADDENDUM TO REPORT 2 to National Annual Women's  
Conference 2021

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## **MOTIONS – VOTE RESULTS**

### **WCAC REPORT 2**

#### **CARRIED**

Results (CLP Section)	Votes	%
For	153,482.50	72.09
Against	59,434.00	27.91

Results (Affiliate Section)	Votes	%
For	1,806,106.00	99.42
Against	10,500.00	0.58

Final Results	For	Against
CLP Result	72.09	27.91
Affiliate Result	99.42	0.58
Weighted Result	85.75	14.25

### **COMPOSITE MOTION 5: WOMEN AND PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

#### **CARRIED**

Results (CLP Section)	Votes	%
For	183,866.00	76.65
Against	56,006.50	23.35

Results (Affiliate Section)	Votes	%
For	1,838,644.00	99.89
Against	2,000.00	0.11

Final Results	For	Against
CLP Result	76.65	23.35
Affiliate Result	99.89	0.11
Weighted Result	88.27	11.73

**COMPOSITE MOTION 6: EARLY YEARS AND EDUCATION – C1**  
**CARRIED**

Results (CLP Section)	Votes	%
For	248,030.00	96.42
Against	9,222.50	3.58

Results (Affiliate Section)	Votes	%
For	1,827,383.00	99.17
Against	15,277.00	0.83

Final Results	For	Against
CLP Result	96.42	3.58
Affiliate Result	99.17	0.83
Weighted Result	97.79	2.21

**COMPOSITE MOTION 7: EARLY YEARS AND EDUCATION – C2**

**CARRIED**

Results (CLP Section)	Votes	%
For	241,387.00	96.32
Against	9,216.50	3.68

Results (Affiliate Section)	Votes	%
For	1,827,383.00	99.17
Against	15,277.00	0.83

Final Results	For	Against
CLP Result	96.32	3.68
Affiliate Result	99.17	0.83
Weighted Result	97.75	2.25

## **COMPOSITE MOTION 8: WORKING PARENTS' AND CARER'S RIGHTS**

### **CARRIED**

Results (CLP Section)	Votes	%
For	244,347.00	97.77
Against	5,562.00	2.23

Results (Affiliate Section)	Votes	%
For	1,857,660.00	100
Against	0.00	0

Final Results	For	Against
CLP Result	97.77	2.23
Affiliate Result	100	0
Weighted Result	98.89	1.11

## **COMPOSITE MOTION 9: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS**

### **CARRIED**

Results (CLP Section)	Votes	%
For	197,983.50	79.11
Against	52,295.50	20.89

Results (Affiliate Section)	Votes	%
For	1,860,244.00	99.97
Against	650.00	0.03

Final Results	For	Against
CLP Result	79.11	20.89
Affiliate Result	99.97	0.03
Weighted Result	89.54	10.46

## **VOTE ON MOTION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

<b>Composite Motion</b>	<b>CLP</b>	<b>Affiliates</b>
WOMEN'S EQUALITY AFTER THE CORONAVIRUS	22,242	1,293,158
WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY	9,284	215
WOMEN AND CLIMATE JUSTICE	14,831	0
SOCIAL CARE	51,866	3,533
WOMEN AND PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST	37,314	650
EARLY YEARS AND EDUCATION - C1	26,006	0
EARLY YEARS AND EDUCATION - C2	12,477	0
WORKING PARENTS AND CARER'S RIGHTS	6,542	515,000
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS	80,702	46,871

# MOTIONS TO BE SENT TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021

## Affiliate Section

Conference calls on the Labour Party to develop a comprehensive COVID-recovery plan that specifically addresses the needs of women.

Conference notes with concern the serious impact the pandemic has had on women's equality: especially when it comes to jobs and employment.

Conference believes that a commitment to gender equality in the workplace and in training must lie at the heart of plans for a sustained and just recovery.

Conference notes that women have been affected disproportionately by the pandemic and for the most vulnerable it has been even worse.

Women are more likely to be in agency/zero-hour/part-time work and so are at high risk of COVID-related unemployment.

Women are 69% of low wage earners, 54% of zero hours contract workers and have 74% of part time contracts.

In the childcare sector, 96% of workers are female and one in eight workers earns less than £5 per hour.

These inequalities grew during the years of Tory austerity and have been exacerbated by the pandemic and Government responses.

Women on furlough or who took unpaid leave for childcare reasons may be more likely to be selected for redundancy.

Poverty during the pandemic has been exacerbated for women compared to men.

Conference notes COVID-19 has exacerbated inequalities experienced by women in the UK in particular BAME women, working class women, women on low-incomes, disabled women, mothers and carers.

Single parents (90% women) and mothers of children with disabilities have been seriously affected, struggling to balance full-time childcare and work.

78% of workers employed in COVID-19 high risk roles were women, many in low paid roles.

The Government's economic recovery plan 'build back better' favours male dominated sectors.

Research recently undertaken by Queen Mary University of London found that 24% of BAME mothers and 38% of disabled mothers they surveyed reported that they were struggling to feed their children.

Conference notes the appalling loss of lives/livelihoods from Tory incompetence, corruption, failure to reduce transmission/eliminate spread SARS-CoV-2, exacerbated by austerity, privatisation and the disproportionate impact on women, especially women of colour and disabled women.

The virus doesn't gender discriminate, but women are disproportionately represented in health/social care as workers/residents.

Women are disproportionately responsible for childcare/home schooling; less eligible statutory sick pay, loans, grants.

Looking through a wider inequality lens, women are also disadvantaged in society through issues associated with the judiciary and there are extremely worrying patterns that women are not being supported by both the establishment and the legal process.

This is backed up by the fact that from over 58,000 allegations of rape only 2,102 ended with a successful prosecution. The horrific murder of Sarah Everard also brought into sharp focus the vulnerability that women face when simply walking the streets.

We resolve that these inequalities are urgently addressed through the benefits system, wages, employment legislation and health provision. For example, increasing child benefits and making childcare sustainable.

The Party must put women at the heart of policies, increasing pay and benefits, making childcare affordable and accessible, ensuring these policies are at the heart of Labour's policies and challenge the Tories to do the same.

We call on the Party to:

- Support Labour-led councils to take actions for women and their families, to support the Poverty Emergency declaration, as put forward by Cheshire West and Chester Council, and to promote Community Wealth Building initiatives such as those supported by Preston Council and North Ayrshire Council.

- Campaign for the necessary legislation and funding to make women's working lives easier and to get gender equality back on track including day one rights to flexible working, parental and carers' leave and accessible, affordable childcare and social care.
- Demand that the Government commit fully to gender pay gap reporting and for gender pay 'action plans' to be mandatory.
- Develop a campaign for the implementation of CEDAW into domestic legislation to help eliminate discrimination and ensure gender equality.
- Develop policy that tackles the very wide problems of misogyny in society and the judicial blind-spots that all act as a major disincentive for women to challenge abuse of various kinds.
- Bring together prominent women's groups and women's role models to help lead the debate around possible campaigns to tackle these gender-based inequalities
- To reaffirm its support for flexible working from day one, and to prioritise lobbying the Government to make flexible working, by design, from day one a right for all workers.
- Support women to train for well paid jobs in green industries.

## **CLP Section**

### **VIOLENCE AGAINST AND WOMEN AND GIRLS**

- Women and girls continue to face violence and stalking in the home, on the streets, at work and at school, in the UK and all over the world.
- Conference notes with concern the increase in domestic abuse and violence against women and girls during the pandemic.
- Nearly two-thirds of referrals to refuges for victims of domestic abuse had to be declined last year because of a 'sustained funding crisis' says a report from Women's Aid and the National abuse Help Line.

- Last year Women's Aid audit concluded that demand for all domestic abuse services continues to exceed available provision which has led to a very high level of dangerous outcomes because women are left with impossible choices of either returning to their perpetrator or becoming homeless on the streets with their children taken away.

Conference notes:

- That sexual assault, including reports of rape have increased by almost a third in the four years to March 2020, but in the same time period the number of rape prosecutions has more than halved.

Conference further notes:

- Conference stands in solidarity with every woman who has reported sexual assault.
- Conference believes that anyone experiencing domestic abuse should be able to leave an abusive partner or family member and seek safe accommodation regardless of their immigration status.
- Conference notes the need to continue to campaign for and support women with no recourse to public funds.

Conference believes that:

- Radical change is needed to laws that protect the ingrained institutional sexism within society. Meaningful education in schools for girls and boys is also required. Women will be unable to feel safe until misogyny and racism are tackled at an institutional level within government, politics, police and the criminal justice system.
- Social justice, equality and inclusion, can never be achieved without recognition and support for all women and marginalised groups.

Women's Conference notes that:

- That the Destitute Domestic Violence Concession (DDVC) is only available for specific groups of migrants, and not, for example, to those on work or study visas, making it difficult for them to access safe accommodation.
- That France, Belgium, New Zealand, Portugal, Chile, Peru, Argentina, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, and Croatia all have laws specifically relating to sexual harassment in public spaces, and demand that the UK follows suit.
- that financial insecurity and lack of safe spaces keeps women and children in violent and controlling relationships and that fleeing a violent relationship is the most dangerous time for a women when she is navigating a complex financial, practical and emotional process.

Conference further notes that:

Women's refuges provide a vital service to women (and children) escaping domestic violence. However, they do not receive the funding they need, and following ten years of Tory austerity, they are in crisis.

- The laws around intimate image abuse are currently inadequate.
- Conference believes that the internet is a powerful platform but tech firms must consider women's experiences, Tech firms and their users must be forced to address the abuse that exists on their platforms.

Conference reaffirms the Labour Party's commitment to:

- Increase funding for frontline services supporting women and children living with or seeking to leave domestic abuse situations.
- Invest in public services, including local authority housing, with specific allocations to meet the needs of women experiencing domestic violence.
- Invest in mental health support services, with dedicated resources for women and girls.

- Press for the incorporation of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women into UK, Scottish and Welsh law.

This Conference calls:

- On Labour to insist that changes to the Criminal Justice System ensure protection for all women; including specialist training for police officers.
- Work with Trade Unions to improve women's safety in the workplace, tackle misogyny within the Labour Party, protecting women and girls from verbal, physical and sexual abuse, address the impact of Covid-19 on the experiences of Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) women
- Use our influence within the English government to amend the current law removing the defence of reasonable chastisement or punishment and ensure children are equally protected from physical violence and abuse from physical violence and abuse.
- Provide model policy for schools to challenge sexual harassment for students and staff (teacher training should include anti sexist education).

And support campaigns for well-funded specialist public services for survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

- Furthermore we urge the party to campaign for an expansion of the types of behaviours outlawed by existing criminal laws on taking and sharing intimate images without consent to include 'downblousing' and sharing altered intimate images, such as deepfakes.
- Criminalising threats to share intimate images (including other forms of 'sextortion')
- Automatic anonymity for all victims of intimate image abuse.
- A new framework of offences better focused on this form of criminal conduct and the harm it causes.

- Conference supports amendments to legislation to include specific measures to reflect the gendered and intersectional nature of online abuse.

We call for:

- Labour to develop long-term funding strategies to deliver essential services in domestic abuse specialist support to assist women and girls experiencing all forms of violence against women.
- Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, better known as the Istanbul Convention and Ratify the International Labour Organisation's convention on violence against women.
- To create a specific module on Domestic Violence to be delivered in PHSE/RSE lessons in every Secondary school.
- And to invest in and respond to research in understanding the roots of domestic violence and abuse towards women.
- Aim to provide mental health services that attend to the prevention of violence and abuse towards women, recognising the importance of the context of relationships within the family, transgenerational trauma and that services need to be connected for effective care.

Strengthen the client-centred approach to supporting Trans Women, proactively deliver trans-inclusive services, creating specific policies and delivering staff training.

- Amend policies that may prevent BAME women from accessing these services such as immigration policies or where a male be situated as the interpreter.
- Allow our educational facilities to deliver information and support in recognition of healthy relationships / dynamics as essential to personal care.
- We call on Conference to campaign for adequate funding for women's refuges.

- Improve training for policing and law officials over coercive control.

Conference Resolves to:

- let family courts again attach powers of arrest to non-molestation orders.
- And to campaign for a holistic and comprehensive Women's LGBTQI+ inclusive strategy to educate all on gender, sex and relationships, and systemic power dynamics, led by survivors and specialist services.
- Pre-existing structural inequalities based on disability, class, ethnicity, and sexuality mean that women with intersecting characteristics experience these issues differently and, in some cases, more frequently. VAWG does not happen in isolation, a coordinated, whole society and culturally competent approach is necessary to tackle the issue.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to:

- Prioritise developing a VAWG strategy, designed with diversity at its core, with the input of trade unions and specialist women's organisations.
- The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has an appalling track record of dealing with cases of stalking; with a recent inspection finding that none of the 112 sample cases were dealt with properly and the care of the victims was judged to be inadequate in 95% of those cases.

Conference therefore calls on the Labour Party in Parliament to:

- Press for the introduction of a stalking register to identify, track and monitor repeat offenders.
- Ensure police forces provide protection to victims as cases progress.
- Require the CPS and courts to enforce restraining orders, to campaign alongside all those speaking up against violence against women, and to resist measures which prevent women from taking to the streets to protest and express their very legitimate anger.

- To roll out education across the party that promotes the understanding that violence against women and girls impacts all of society.
- To create policy which supports education to change negative societal attitudes to women and girls.
- Women's Conference calls on the Party to ensure that any and all reviews of Life Sentencing for Murder recognise in the length of sentence the extreme violence and control that is involved in domestic homicides.
- Trans and non-binary people must have equal access with cisgender people to participate in society.

Conference resolves that:

- UK law must prosecute LGBT+ and disabled hate crimes as aggravated offences, consistent with other hate crimes.
- Police, prosecutors, judges and all public servants should receive training and guidance on transphobic hate crimes and discrimination.
- Education is required to stop the spreading of abuse around self-identification, and protect the rights of trans women.
- Trans women must be encouraged to participate in public life and stand as candidates for public office.
- Violence against girls often sees them victims of child sexual exploitation.
- We therefore call upon the Labour party to support and enact legislative change, so that public sexual harassment is a specific criminal offence in the UK.
- And Conference calls on the Labour leadership to highlight the need for landmark legislation and education in every possible forum to raise awareness of misogyny while developing strategies to combat it.
- The ultimate aim being to make our society a safer, fairer place for women.