

MODEL MOTION

Strengthening the link between the trade unions and the Labour Party

This Branch / CLP notes that:

1. the Labour Party was founded to give a political voice to working people, their families and their communities.
2. that the Labour Party has always been a partnership between Labour Party members and working people, through their affiliated trade unions.
3. that the formal link with the trade union movement gives Labour a foundation in thousands of workplaces across the country - together, the affiliated trade unions bring the collective voices of nearly 4 million working people to the heart of our Party.

This Branch / CLP believes that:

1. the direct link to working people, through the affiliated trade unions, makes our Party unique, and gives us a direct insight into the lives of the people we seek to represent.
2. the Labour Party and the affiliated trade unions are both stronger when we work together.
3. only Labour Governments, with a strong trade union voice in the Labour Party, can create real, lasting change for working people.
4. in the last Century, that partnership between the unions and Labour brought about the NHS, the Equal Pay Act, the National Minimum Wage and so much more.
5. the 21st Century brings so many challenges – a hugely unequal society, poverty pay, insecure work, struggling public services, unaffordable housing and a radically and rapidly changing world of work – it is only by working together, through the collective power of trade unions and the Labour Party, that we can rise to them.
6. the link with the trade unions must be strengthened, not weakened.
7. that this Branch / CLP should commit to support the formal link with the trade unions at every level of the Party.
8. that this Branch / CLP should undertake to strengthen our own links with local affiliated trade unions.

Therefore this Branch / CLP resolves:

1. to strengthen the link between this CLP and local affiliated trade unions by undertaking a programme of work, led by the CLP TULO Officer, including:
 - a. inviting a series of trade union representatives to address our General Meeting on their industrial and campaigning priorities;
 - b. identifying shared campaigning priorities, and seeking to build a joint campaign between the CLP and local trade unions;
 - c. working with local unions to get trade union members to join our campaign activities, and get more involved in the Party.
2. to strengthen the trade union link locally by supporting the rights of local affiliated trade unions to be part of the decision-making processes of our CLP through collective, delegate-based structures, and by consulting local trade unions when drafting submissions to the Party's policy development process.
3. to support the trade union link more widely, by opposing any attempts to reduce the role of the affiliated trade unions in the Labour Party.
4. to encourage every member of the local Party to be a member of an appropriate affiliated trade union, and to communicate with all members of the Party to ask them to join an appropriate affiliated union, and to update their union membership info on the Labour Party's membership system.
5. to work together with local unions to build a campaign team to win a Labour Government.