

London Labour Conference 2019

Emergency Motions

Transport for London's Austerity Cuts

Conference notes:

- London mayor Sadiq Khan has yesterday said there is no date that Crossrail chief executive Mark Wild can give "with confidence" for when Crossrail will open. (City AM 25th Feb).
- That Crossrail delays will strip TfL of £600m in revenue over 3 years, with possible further delays and losses running to millions more.
- The gaping hole in TfL's finances created by the Government's decision to withdraw the Operating Grant of £700 million annually
- The announcement of 30% more cuts to TfL's business plan by 2022, including staffing.
- Job losses, already in their thousands, overwhelmingly affecting lower grades, with no equivalent reduction in Directors.
- Tens of millions of pounds spent each year on private sector consultants, many costing £1,500 per day

Conference calls upon the Mayor to:

1. Campaign publicly with our party and movement for the full restoration of the Grant
2. Instruct TfL's leadership to honour its existing policies, and to implement a step change in industrial relations
3. Lead a review of TfL's Pay for Performance scheme
4. Reconstitute a common pay and conditions structure and network-wide collective bargaining for London's busworkers
5. Commission an independent review of the use of consultants at TfL
6. Launch an immediate public review into the Crossrail fiasco.
7. Engage immediately with trade unions on the proposals to cut a further 30% of expenditure on "middle and back office roles".
8. Halt proposed reductions of bus services and routes; scoping instead for increased and extended public transport services including buses.

Proposer: TSSA London

Secunder: Unite London

Stop Tory Brexit damaging London's communities

London Labour congratulates our leadership, MPs, MEPs, Labour councillors, the Mayor, the Co-operative Party and our affiliated unions for exposing the damage that Brexit would cause to our city.

The threat to London's communities from Tory Brexit is four weeks away and constitutes an emergency. Labour must now lead the campaign for an alternative course of action.

During February, London NHS trusts warned a no deal Brexit would require 'major incident' procedures to protect medical supplies and patient safety; NHS staff from Europe are leaving faster than they can be replaced; the JCWI said the 'settled status' scheme risks London's 1.2 million EU nationals suffering the Tory 'hostile environment' experienced by the Windrush generation; Coram Children's Legal Centre said hundreds of London's looked-after children without documentation cannot register; employers said post-Brexit immigration rules will stifle London's economy; and the LSE reported falling service industry investment, risking London's £140bn tax contribution, long-term austerity for public services and economic decline that will damage working class living standards for generations.

Conference condemns the Government's rejection on 10 February of Labour's criteria for an acceptable withdrawal agreement, including close alignment with the Single Market, a customs union, no hard border in Northern Ireland and guarantees for workers' rights, environmental protection and co-operation on crime and national security.

Conference supports Labour Assembly Members' and the Mayor's call for a public vote if Parliament cannot pass a withdrawal agreement, and, recognising the Tories' deliberate delaying tactics, calls on:

- Our elected representatives to campaign to stop the Tories' dangerous Brexit;
- London Labour MPs to vote in Parliament for extending Article 50;
- London Labour MPs to vote to prevent no deal or a bad deal, and for a public vote to ratify the result of the Government's EU withdrawal negotiations, with the option to remain in the EU. The Government should not be afraid to put its deal to the public.

Proposer: London Co-operative Party

Secunder: Finchley & Golders Green CLP

The Independent Group

This Conference notes:

- In February 2019, 8 Labour MPs resigned the whip and left the Labour party to form a centrist `Independent Group`, which has been joined by former Tory MPs.
- 3 of the former Labour MPs in the `Independent Group` represent London Region constituencies, namely Mike Gapes (Ilford South), Chuka Umunna (Streatham) and Joan Ryan (Enfield North).

This Conference believes:

- These 3 London-based former Labour MPs were elected on the hugely popular 2017 Labour manifesto and their constituents should have the right to decide whether they want these new `Independent Group` MPs to represent them in Parliament.
- There is no space in the Labour Party for any sort of racial discrimination and London Conference condemns the racist comment made by one of the `Independent Group` MPs - with whom the three London MPs are associated - regarding BAME people having a 'funny tinge'. It is intolerable language. One of London's greatest strengths is its diversity, and as Labour members we celebrate this and stand firmly against all forms of racism.

This Conference resolves:

To support the NEC in calling for selection processes to be fast-tracked in Ilford South, Streatham and Enfield North and to bring all possible pressure to bear on these three ex-Labour MPs to stand down so that by-elections can take place. We believe that democracy must be respected.

Proposer: Hornsey and Wood Green CLP