

## **NEC BAME REPRESENTATIVE 2020 – PROCEDURE AND TIMETABLE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The election for the BAME NEC representative positions on the NEC of the Labour Party will take place in line with the election for Leader, Deputy Leader and the NEC CLP representatives that are currently vacant. The National Executive Committee has met and agreed the procedures and timetable for the selection and these are set out below.

### **PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES**

1. The election of the NEC BAME rep will be held under the constitutional rules as detailed in Chapter 4 of the Labour Party Rule Book, 'Procedural rules for elections of national committees'.
2. The National Executive Committee (NEC) has constitutional responsibility to ensure that procedures, including the length of any contest, are laid down in advance of any such contest and that these procedures are adhered to throughout the campaign. These general procedures are set out below. In addition, there shall be a Code of Conduct, for Candidates.

### **NOMINATIONS**

1. To be successfully included on the ballot candidates must secure at least five nominations from CLPs or at least 2 nominations from trade unions.
2. Only members who have 8 weeks continuous membership at the date of the meeting can take part in the CLP nomination meeting.
3. Each CLP may submit one nomination for the NEC BAME representative position. All members shall face a membership verification check at the door. No registered or affiliated supporters may attend CLP nomination meetings unless they are also an eligible member.
4. Members must vote for one candidate. The candidate with the most votes will receive the CLPs nomination.
5. Each trade union may submit one nomination for the NEC BAME representative position.

6. All nominations must be received by the General Secretary of the Labour Party by the time and date detailed in the timetable.

### **ELECTOR ELIGIBILITY CHECK**

1. The vote will be taken through an electoral college of 50% one member one vote ballot of all members self-defining as BAME and 50% affiliated trade unions.
2. For the members section of the vote only Labour Party members on the national membership system and not lapsed from membership that have 8 weeks continuous membership at the freeze date set on the timetable and who identify as BAME with the party nationally will be eligible to vote.
3. For the trade union section only those affiliated trade unions whose affiliate fees are fully paid up to the party as of the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 will be eligible to participate.
4. No abuse of any kind by members or supporters shall be tolerated. All eligible members and supporters must conduct themselves in a calm and polite manner and be respectful to each other at all times. Any racist, abusive or foul language or behaviour at meetings, on social media or in any other context will be dealt with according to the rules and procedures of the Labour Party.
5. Any disputes as to the eligibility of individual members must be raised by the date set on the timetable. The NEC have designated the General Secretary to rule on eligibility of individual members and his/her decision will be final.

### **BALLOT**

1. The National Executive Committee has appointed an independent organisation, ERS, to conduct the One Member One Vote (OMOV) ballot of all members who self-identify as BAME.
2. Each affiliated trade union eligible to take part in the ballot will be issued with a ballot paper.
3. The party will conduct a ballot of all eligible electors for the contested position using the OMOV process. This ballot will take place by electronic voting. All members with a verified email address in the system will receive an online ballot by email, all those without a verified email address in the system will receive a ballot by post. Details will be contained in the voting package or voting email. Details will be sent to the address or electronic address registered on the National Membership System. During the actual ballot Civica will provide a helpline should an individual member have a problem.

4. The voting package sent to all members will consist of (or the electronic equivalent):
  - a. Covering letter
  - b. Ballot paper
  - c. Return envelope
  - d. Candidates' statements and lists of nominations and supporting nominations
5. The procedure for the ballot is shown below.
6. All validly nominated candidates must supply a photo and a statement of a maximum of 250 words to the party. This will be included in the booklet of candidates' statements and details of nominations received which will be sent out to members. The statement must not exceed the stated word allowance.
7. Contact details for up to five channels may be supplied in addition to the 250 words.
8. The last date for reissuing ballots that have been lost or not received will be set out in the timetable.

#### **THE COUNT**

1. In the members section each member may vote for one candidate.
2. The trade unions may vote for one candidate each with their vote being weighted to the number of fully paid up members that they have affiliated to the party as of the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.
3. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes in the two sections combined will be declared the winner.
4. The result will not be published prior to its formal declaration.

#### **TIMETABLE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
Mon 6 Jan	NEC Meeting – timetable agreed and published. Freeze date for membership
Wed 15 Jan	Open of CLP and affiliate nominations
Fri 14 Feb	Close of CLP and affiliate nominations. Last day for members to self-identify as BAME
Fri 21 Feb	Ballot Opens
Fri 27 March	Last date for postal ballot reissues
Mon 30 March	Last date for email ballot reissues
Thu 2 April (Noon)	Ballot Closes