

Governance and Legal Unit
Southside, 105 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6QT
0207 783 1498 | legal queries@labour.org.uk

NEC DIVISION III (CLP SECTION) AND NEC BAME REPRESENTATIVE – CANDIDATE CODE OF CONDUCT

CONDUCT OF CANDIDATE CAMPAIGNS

- 1. Validly nominated candidates will be entitled to a list of organisations entitled to nominate in the relevant election in order to seek supporting nominations on request to the Governance and Legal. See section 13 for further details.
- 2. The list of organisations is supplied solely for the purposes of the candidate's election campaign and is not transferable to any other campaign or person or for any other use whatsoever, in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 and GDPR. Use of the list for any other purpose will lead to disqualification as a candidate and potential further disciplinary action. The selling or providing of a list to any third party for purposes other than this election may lead to automatic exclusion from the Party for five years.
- 3. For elections to be conducted by an OMOV ballot, the Labour Party will supply a candidates' statement booklet to all eligible Party members at no cost to candidates. For elections where the ballot will take place at annual Conference, candidates' statements will be printed in the Delegates' Report which will be sent to delegates in advance of Conference and will be available on Membersnet.
- 4. Canvassing is specifically allowed and candidates and their supporters may approach members and relevant organisations to seek their support. Contact must not be carried out in a manner likely to cause offence or be seen as applying pressure to any member.
- 5. Candidates are permitted to mail and email relevant organisations direct with canvassing or promotional material.
- 6. No candidate or persons acting on behalf of a candidate will use their own material or access to publicity to disparage any other candidates or members or staff. This includes social media, websites and blogs. Candidates are particularly reminded to be careful when linking to other websites that may contain disparaging material.
- 7. All candidates are expected to maintain the highest standards of probity and behaviour at all times and reminded of their responsibilities as a member in relation to the Labour Party Rule Book and all codes of conduct.
- 8. No financial or other inducement may be offered in an attempt to secure support.
- 9. Only officers designated by the General Secretary will be authorised to issue statements to the media about any aspect of the election process, and then only after consultation with appropriate senior Party officers. This does not preclude candidates undertaking press,





- radio or TV interviews; though under no circumstances should any candidate disparage any other candidate.
- 10. No candidate or persons acting on her/his behalf will interfere with or put under duress any member in regard to how they vote at any stage during the process.
- 11. Party staff will not use their position, Party resources or time in the process of an internal election so as to further the interests of any candidate(s). This does not preclude normal contact or general conversation undertaken in their capacity as a member of the Party or undertaking of their normal duties. The General Secretary is responsible for all staffing matters and will deal with alleged breaches of the code by Party staff.
- 12. Members seeking election as a national officer or to a national committee are regulated donees for the purposes of the Political Parties Elections and Referendums Act 2000. Donations of more than £500 (cash or non-cash) must be from a permissible donor. Donations of more than £1500 (cash or non-cash) from the same donor in a calendar year must be reported to the Electoral Commission directly by the candidate within 30 days of receipt. Contact the Governance and Legal Unit on 020 7783 1498 for more information. Members of Parliament make these declarations via the Register of Members Financial Interests.
- 13. Any member breaching this Code of Conduct or knowingly allowing others to do so on her/his behalf will be liable for disciplinary action. The NEC will not hesitate to use its powers of disqualification and suspension to impose sanctions to enforce the Code.