

Young People

Replace Chapter 1, Clause VIII, section 1 F with the following:

F One young member of the party who is at the close of nominations under 25 years old and who shall be elected in a national one member one vote (OMOV) ballot of all members of Young Labour as defined by Chapter 1.II.2.F, plus one young member who is at the close of nominations under 25 years old elected by trade union delegates to the Young Labour Conference.

For comparison the existing rules read:

Chapter 1 (Constitutional rules) Clause VIII (The National Executive Committee)

1. The NEC shall comprise:

F one youth member elected at the national Young Labour Conference who must be a woman at least every other term.

G one member elected by the BAME Labour at its conference as laid down in the rules of the socialist society. This member to be elected once the individual membership of the socialist society has reached 2,500 and at least one third of eligible trade unions have also affiliated to the socialist society.

H One frontbench member of the Scottish Parliament nominated by the Leader of the Scottish Labour Party.

I One frontbench member of the National Assembly of Wales nominated by the Leader of the Welsh Labour Party.

Supporting Argument

This rule change is based on the understanding that young party members and trade unionists played a massive role in the incredible surge of support for the Labour Party in the 2017 General Election, both as voters and as active campaigners. Many young people got out on the doorstep for Labour for the very first time. Young people are crucial to the long-term strength and vitality of the party, but are not adequately represented on the National Executive Committee by current arrangements. More broadly, the Labour Party membership has massively increased but the representation on the NEC is only 6 places out of 35. The lack of membership representation on the NEC has meant that the NEC has taken decisions which massively disenfranchise members, as happened in Summer of 2016.

This rule change is designed to ensure that young party members have a stronger voice on the NEC. By having one representative elected by One Member One Vote, it ensures that all young party members have a direct input into NEC representation. In addition, the rule change also provides a place for a young trade union representative, thus

acknowledging the massive role played by many young members in the trade union movement. Both of these changes are essential if Labour is to build up a strong base of activists among young people, which is essential for the party's long-term health and vitality.