

Labour International Executive Committee (LIEC)

Date: 5th September 2026 **Time:** 10.00 CEST (08.00 UTC) **Location:** Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Attendees: Imogen Tyreman (Chair), Boyd Stephen (Vice-Chair), Graham Ward (Secretary), Karen Henderson (Membership), Frankie Ashton (Policy/ Campaigns), Frank Little (Representative NL branch), Tim Putnam (Representative Southern France branch), Valerie Swales, (Representative Southern France branch), Tracey Scott (Disabilities and Carers Officer)

Apologies

Anthony Fuller (Americas branch), Nicky Turk (EMEA), Becky Slack (Women's officer), Hector Müller (Youth Officer). Not present: Balen Najmalddin (Communications), Treasurer

2. Action Item updates

(Closed action items will be archived after these minutes are approved.)

	Action	Who	Status
1.1	Arrange additional signatories on bank account.	Chair	5 Sep: Tom (Treasurer) did not wish to become a signatory. A new signatory application has been submitted (not yet processed); Graham's details received and will be submitted. Bev assisting with payments in the meantime.
4.1	Treasurer to finalise accounts for HQ.	Treasurer	5 Sep: No update. The EC may need to take this over.
4.3	Apply for bank cards from Unity Bank	Chair, Treasurer	5 Sep: Bank card

			forms to be submitted now that the signatory application has been made.
4.4	Fundraising: investigate to organise raffle	Treasurer, P&C	5 Sep: Paused until contact is re-established with Tom (Treasurer).
4.7	Prepare paper for EU-UK MPs on overseas voter issues	Chair	5 Sep: EU survey group meets 11 Sep to agree analysis, format and distribution. Unlikely to be ready for September.
6.1	Imogen will have a meeting with a group of MPs on Monday (8th June). She will raise the Winter Fuel Payment issue and ask for support on amendments.	Chair	5 Sep: Closed. Meeting held; contact email for the Winter Fuel Payment issue obtained but no reply yet. MPs were mainly focused on the UK-EU relationship.
6.2	The EC will review the voting system and consider whether to use a more anonymous/secure platform. A proposal may be brought to the EC or GC for a decision on a consistent system.	Secretary	5 Sep: Closed. Eligo worked well for the conference motion vote (full STV) and is cheaper; proposed to continue using it.
6.3	Treasurer to pay outstanding debts:	Treasurer	5 Sep: Closed. Personal

	- MailChimp monthly payment (June) - Reimburse previous Treasurer for personal payments made for LI		payments reimbursed (thanks to Bev). MailChimp not renewed – free replacement working; to be confirmed after the October newsletter. (Bev reimbursement: see 9.1)
9.1	Confirm that Bev has been fully reimbursed for payments made on LI's behalf and pass on the EC's thanks.	Chair [NEEDS CHECK]	5 Sep: New
9.2	Write to members of the Representation of the People Bill committee expressing disappointment that amendments on overseas voter registration (e.g. automatic renewal, reminders) were not accepted.	Chair, P&C	5 Sep: New
9.3	Add a reminder to the weekly bulletin for members to respond to council electoral-registration renewal requests.	Secretary	5 Sep: New
9.4	Ask HQ to postpone the Roleholder Support meeting by one week; raise Labour support for overseas voters (e.g. letters from the Deputy Leader) and the members' area.	Chair, Secretary	5 Sep: New
9.5	Propose autumn meeting dates for the Overseas MPs and Voter Registration working groups.	Chair	5 Sep: New
9.6	Bring the proposal for a parliamentary liaison/strategic planning role (or small team) to a future EC for discussion.	Secretary	5 Sep: New
9.7	Audit LI and branch Facebook pages/groups and other social media	Vice-Chair,	5 Sep: New

	accounts (who controls them) and prepare a branding guide for branches.	Communications	
9.8	Arrange social media (and possibly website) training for members in September.	Communications	5 Sep: New
9.9	Investigate secure options for branches to share meeting materials (e.g. proposed motions) online, including costs of a separate domain; report to next EC.	Secretary, Chair	5 Sep: New
9.10	Submit written officer reports for the 19 Sep LIGC by 15 Sep.	All officers	5 Sep: New
9.11	Submit the UK2Zero conference motion to the LIGC as an EC-proposed motion.	Secretary [NEEDS CHECK]	5 Sep: New
9.12	Asia-Pacific branch: check where members are based, trial different meeting times, contact the member who attended, and organise individual outreach.	Secretary, Vice-Chair	5 Sep: New
9.13	Northern France & Channel Islands branch: raise Zoho ticket to reset the branch email's phone verification (add Hector's number); share membership list with branch roleholders; check whether Ruby Cox is still a member.	Secretary, Membership	5 Sep: New
9.14	Arrange an internal discussion among interested members on European technology autonomy (and data centres/water use) and identify possible speakers.	Secretary, P&C	5 Sep: New

3. Votes and Motions

Item		For	Abstain	Against	Decision
4	July minutes approved.	5			Approved
11	EC to propose the UK2Zero conference motion to the LIGC (no branch meeting available in time). [NEEDS CHECK: number in favour not clear on recording]	5	0	0	Approved

4. Minutes of previous EC & Matters Arising

- The July minutes were approved (5 in favour).
- The members' coffee morning in June went well. Further informal sessions will be held around key events (e.g. pre/post conference, the Budget) rather than monthly.
- **Overseas MPs:** Frank reported an ongoing email exchange with Anthony Fuller and Nigel Williams following the ruling that overseas constituencies are out of scope of the Representation of the People Bill, and whether the working group should meet again to decide how to proceed. A regular (monthly or bi-monthly) campaign meeting has been proposed to move the discussion off email.
- **Electoral registration:** Members were reminded to respond to council requests to renew their overseas registration. At committee stage the Bill committee accepted no non-Labour amendments, including those on automatic renewal and reminders, despite LI and other overseas groups giving evidence. As this is existing policy, the EC can write to committee members without referral to the GC (action 9.2). A reminder will be added to the weekly bulletin (action 9.3).
- Frankie proposed a core background paper on overseas representation (including international comparisons), an updated leaflet, and a forum with sympathetic MPs to raise visibility. The existing leaflet and Imogen's earlier paper will be updated.
- Karen noted that overseas voters are strategically important in an increasing number of marginal seats and that the barriers are policy-level rather than technical. Imogen will raise at the Roleholder Support meeting what support Labour can give overseas voter registration

(e.g. letters from the Deputy Leader). There was discussion on whether to target marginal-seat MPs or treat every seat as potentially marginal.

- Tim and Valerie reported Nigel Williams' proposal for a survey of LI members on their experience of participating in UK elections; this can feed both the Overseas MPs and Voter Registration groups.
- Frank noted the wider strategic question of whom to approach given Labour's limited interest, linking to the discussion on the effectiveness of motions.

5. Correspondence

- No responses from MPs were received over the summer.
- HQ has invited LI to a Roleholder Support meeting next week.

6. Campaigns

6.1 EU Survey

- Revised EU survey is under way.

6.2 UK2Zero (Local energy)

- UK2Zero met in August. Its conference motion came second in the LI ballot by two votes; if the Gaza motion is not accepted by the CAC, the UK2Zero motion could be submitted before the deadline (17th) if CAC allows that.
- Frankie has circulated a c. 12,000-word occasional paper substantiating the motion (with contents list), plus a summary and proposed article; feedback so far has been positive. To be discussed at the UK2Zero meeting on 12th September.
- Ideas include municipal energy enterprises, engaging Andy Burnham and the Secretary of State on energy localism, a leaflet and small campaign, and approaching the relevant APPG. Frankie has compiled a long list of green-sympathetic MPs, peers, trade unionists and committees.

6.3 Working groups (Overseas MPs, Voter Registration)

- Updates were covered under Matters Arising. Imogen will propose dates for autumn meetings.
- Frankie suggested certain MPs as potential allies.
- Frank stressed the need to prioritise topics, follow what is happening in Parliament and the parties, and track individual contacts, since influence works through people. Imogen's evidence to the Bill committee has created useful relationships.

6.4 Parliamentary liaison proposal

- Graham outlined a potential approach for an officer (or small team) to oversee strategic planning: track Westminster business weekly, prioritise a short list of policy areas, draw on branch members, and build relationships with MPs (Labour and possibly Green). Frankie supported the idea and suggested dedicated ECs three or four times a year. To be discussed further (action 9.6).

7. Communications

- Parliamentary business is reviewed at the start of each week to plan posts on the website, social media and internally (e.g. this week's debates on the impact of the EU referendum and the Representation of the People Bill), using an overarching comms planner.
- The Communications working group met recently and confirmed three pillars: campaigning on policy, engaging members and international outreach. The immediate priority is social media presence – the Facebook page has very few followers; the LinkedIn page has none; branches have been asked to encourage members to follow it.
- LI now has accounts on Facebook, Instagram (with help from Hector), Bluesky, X (handle retained only), LinkedIn and YouTube, linked via a Linktree.
- Balen will run a social media training session for members (date in September to be found); a website session may follow. Branch and officer pages on the website will be updated, visual templates created from reference papers, and awareness days (e.g. European Day of Languages) used. Hector is preparing a conference comms plan, including short videos.
- **Procedure:** Content within LI policy can be passed to Communications (copying Balen) for posting; sensitive items will be checked. Members may submit articles (e.g. to LabourList) in their own name. Frankie will forward Balen's local clean heat graphics for Instagram.
- **Branch social media:** Branch accounts should use branding consistent with the LI CLP. An audit of LI and branch Facebook pages/groups and who controls them will be carried out (Boyd); a second Southern France page with c. 1,000 followers has already been found. A short guide for branches may follow. Frank and Valerie noted objections to Meta platforms. Frankie recalled past misuse of the LI name on social media, underlining the need for control of accounts.
- **Branch materials on the website:** Tim and Valerie asked whether branches could post meeting materials (e.g. motions) on the LI website, as some members struggle with email attachments. Branches could maintain their own branch pages (WordPress logs). Frank was concerned about publishing motions not yet passed. Labour is not keen on a members' area as a subdomain; a separate LI domain is an alternative but has cost and security implications. Options to be reported to the next EC (action 9.9).

8. Meetings

- Planned: social media training (Balén), possible website training, a motion-writing session before October, and coffee mornings around events.
- UK2Zero meets on 12th September at 16.00, followed by Hector's rescheduled presentation on compassion and empire. Frankie is arranging further presentations, including on economics, and has asked Richard Williams (NPF) to present on his first year.
- A meeting on the US midterms is being considered; possible speakers include Mike in Minneapolis, Anthony Fuller, Democrats Abroad and contacts at the American University of Paris (via Hector). John Curtis is due to speak in about five weeks [NEEDS CHECK].
- Frankie proposed LI discussions/events on data centres and water use (accountability, water crises), possibly via a motion to the GC. Valerie and Frank urged caution: internal discussion is needed first to build understanding before public events or a position.

8.1 Competitive European technology industry

- Southern France BLP reported on a recent branch discussion on European alternatives to US dominance in software and hardware (e.g. Linux as an alternative to Microsoft), licence costs, and the direction of AI and its environmental impact.
- Tim noted the issue began as saving public money but has broadened to strategic autonomy, competitiveness and sovereignty; this is of particular interest to members keen on closer EU ties. Agreed to hold a separate discussion among interested members, framed around tech autonomy and environmental goals, and to seek external speakers (action 9.14).

9. Finance

- The Treasurer was not present; no update. Banking and payment items are covered in the action list.

10. National: Conference planning

- A planning meeting for conference delegates and visitors will be held on 8th September at 19.30 CEST. It will focus on campaigning for LI's motion, raising LI's profile and arranging meetings with MPs. An update will follow.

11. LIGC Preparation (incl. monthly officer reports)

- The LIGC meets on 19th September. Officers with anything to report are asked to submit a short written report (a paragraph is enough) by 15th September for the GC pack. No branch reports are needed. Frankie will report on UK2Zero after the 12th September meeting.
- Richard Williams (NPF) has been asked for a presentation and a short report. In October, delegates will be asked to report on conference.
- The UK2Zero conference motion cannot go through a branch meeting in time. Under the revised rules the EC may propose it to the GC; the EC agreed to do so, with no votes against.

12. Branch topics

12.1 Africa & Middle East

- Boyd reported a followup attempt to revive the branch (c. 21 members, at most two women). A WhatsApp group has been set up and a meeting is planned for Tuesday. Interim officers and a reduced quorum (e.g. 10% of membership) will likely be needed, possibly with only a Secretary/Treasurer.

12.2 Asia-Pacific

- Only one member attended the recent meeting (19.00 Singapore time) out of c. 110 members, although 42 opened the email.
- Actions: check where most members are based (possibly Australia) and set times accordingly, trial different times, ask the attendee about taking a lead, and split the list among volunteers for individual contact (action 9.12).

12.3 Northern France & Channel Islands

- The branch held its AGM on 4th September. Alan's resignation was accepted with thanks for his work over many years. Seven members attended), mainly through personal outreach, although 79 opened the email.
- Officers: Frankie (Chair), Hector (Secretary), Nicky (Vice-Chair and Treasurer). All attendees agreed to act as GC delegates.
- It was confirmed that branch roleholders may hold a copy of the membership list (action 9.13).

13. AOB

- None. The meeting closed; a summary of action items will be circulated.