

Local Groups Memo

Thursday 3rd November 2016

This week's memo includes information on:

1. Unanimous statement from the Steering Committee
2. Newsletter
3. Labour Party Engagement - Grassroots Now!
4. Party Reform
5. Momentum's NHS Campaign

1. Statement from the Steering Committee

Last night, Momentum Steering Committee members unanimously agreed the below statement on the way forward for the organisation's democratic structures.

The Steering Committee recognises and regrets the discontent and frustration felt by Momentum members in recent days. Momentum's democratic structures were always intended to develop. Unfortunately, this summer's leadership election delayed that development, with all our energy being diverted into ensuring Jeremy Corbyn's reelection. The Committee recognises the need for a greater level of accountability and transparency from the leadership and administration of the organisation and will work to deliver that over the coming weeks.

Our path to democratisation, through our first National Conference in the new year, has not been sufficiently effectively communicated, leading, at times, to a breakdown in trust between different sections of our movement. There was not enough consultation and discussion with the diverse political and organisational traditions that exist in our movement. Pluralism is our strength, and all views must be properly engaged with.

After further discussion, the Steering Committee has agreed unanimously the following path for Momentum's democratisation, which places unity, pluralism and member-control at its heart.

The National Committee, postponed from this Saturday, will take place on 3 December. We will ensure that this meeting is properly representative, including new elections for



our liberation strands where necessary. A plan for ensuring this will be submitted and approved by the Steering Committee at the latest by 11 November.

A further National Committee meeting will be held in January before our Conference in February. Our Conference, involving all members of Momentum, groups and affiliated organisations, will decide our organisation's long-term structure.

Taking into account the strong views on both sides of the OMOV (one member, one vote) vs. delegate for Conference votes, the Steering Committee has agreed on a recommendation to the National Committee of a suitable format. There will be both a physical delegates conference to thoroughly debate proposals submitted from the membership, and then OMOV voting on the proposals in the period after the conference. The details of this procedure will be determined over the coming weeks.

We know all levels of Momentum are committed to a truly inclusive and democratic structure and will make it succeed over the next few months.

Please note that the NC will be in Birmingham on Saturday 3rd December 2016. We will be in touch again with further details as soon as possible.

2) Newsletter

Momentum is launching an e-newsletter to provide information to provide local groups with information about the types of grassroots activities other Momentum groups are engaging in across the country. Please send details of your events and activities to groups@peoplesmomentum.com.

3) Labour Party engagement - Grassroots Now!

The 'Grassroots Now' campaign encourages Labour members to get more involved with their local Labour Parties. To win elections, our party must modernise by enabling its members to become a hive of activity in every community.

The phone-canvassing app used during the campaign has been re-purposed to encourage Momentum members and supporters to take part in the Labour party. The app contains details of local meetings and can be used to contact members in your local area - register to start calling [here](#). To get in touch with other members using the app, you can join our 'Users Support Group' on Facebook [here](#).

If you would like to add the details of your local Labour Party to the app, so that Momentum members in your area can be contacted about forthcoming meetings, please complete the form for your region and we will add the details to the app.

[Eastern](#), [East Midlands](#), [London](#), [North East](#), [North West](#), [South East](#), [South West](#), [West Midlands](#), [Yorkshire and the Humber](#)

Our campaign relies on the generosity of ordinary people like you. Momentum is funded entirely by membership dues, small donations and the support of our union affiliates. [Please donate](#) to help us continue Labour's modernisation into an open, democratic, activist party, embedded in communities.

4) Party Reform

Momentum is collaborating with a range of grassroots groups, including CLGA and CLPD, to call for party reform to give members a greater say in the Labour party. An all members email will be sent out this evening providing further details of the campaign and encouraging members to add their support via this website: <http://www.your-party.co.uk/>

5) Momentum's NHS campaign

Tomorrow, there will be a second reading of the National Health Service (NHS) bill which is due to take place tomorrow, Friday 4 November. It's crucial that we mobilise to demonstrate our support for the Bill today and tomorrow and that we continue to build public pressure around this important piece of legislation in the coming weeks.

Can you help us mobilise this week in support of the bill?

Do a call out to your members on email and social media about quick things they can do today:

- Sign the [petition](#) to all MPs
- [Email your local MP](#) asking them to back the Bill (it takes 1 minute!)
- Take a photo with the '[I support the Bill](#)' poster or the '[I'm backing the Bill](#)' poster and upload it to Facebook and Twitter with the hashtag #NHSbill

Activities your group can do this week:

- Can your group [hold stall in your local area](#) this weekend?
- Can members of your group [attend your MPs surgery](#) and ask them to sign and take a photo with the pledge poster for MPs?
- London groups: can you share the [Save our NHS: rally to support the #NHSbill](#) event with your members and encourage them to join the rally if they're available.