

# October Memo to Groups



1. **Momentum's Birthday**
2. **Momentum's third national committee**
3. **Campaigns**
4. **Local press coverage**
5. **Labour Party organising, Labour Party regional conferences**

## 1) **Momentum's birthday**

Momentum launched a year ago last Saturday. What a year it's been. We now have 20,000 members and over 150 local groups running countless campaigns in their communities. Amongst other things, Momentum's has:

- Formed the backbone on the Jeremy for Labour Campaign 2016
- Ran a national campaign, *Democracy SOS*, to encourage voter registration after Tory changes that could force nearly 2 million off the electoral register.
- Successfully campaigned to get the Centre-Left Grassroots Alliance team elected to the NEC
- Incubated 'People's PPE' and Co-created 'Talk Socialism' - political education initiatives
- Hosted 'The World Transformed' as part of the Labour Party conference fringe - a four-day event of music, arts, politics and culture at the Black-E in Liverpool. Attended pickets and organised solidarity actions for a number of industrial disputes, including the junior doctors strike.
- Mobilised Labour Party members and supporters to campaign for Labour candidates in council elections, Mayoral elections and by-elections, with Plymouth Momentum running a '6 O'Clock Squad' initiative of people who met and canvassed every day during May's local elections, to encourage new members to canvass for the party.
- Raised funds for a wide range of charities - profits from the party on the opening night of 'The World Transformed', organised by Momentum Merseyside, raised £2500 for Asylum Link, an organisation dedicated to assisting Asylum Seekers and Refugees.
- Launched 'Momentum Kids', a national initiative to provide childcare for those with caring responsibilities who want to be politically active.
- And much more!

Thank you to all of you for your endless energy, enthusiasm and commitment to building our movement for a more democratic, equal and decent society.

## 2) **National Committee**

The third Momentum National committee meeting will be on Saturday 5th November, BVSC, 138 Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DR (accessible venue), 10.30am (for an 11am start) - 4.30pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

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Regional network meetings (which should meet between Monday 3rd October - Sunday 30th October) may decide to re-elect delegates for the NC. The current composition of the NC is as follows:

- 2 delegates (at least one of whom must be a woman) from the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber, West Midlands, East Midlands, Eastern region, South West, Scotland and Wales.
- 3 delegates (at least one of whom must be a woman) from the North West and South East
- 4 delegates (at least two of whom must be women) from London
- 2 delegates from each nascent/developing self-organised equality or liberation group (at least one of whom must be a woman) - BAME, LGBT, Women, Disability. 2 delegates from Momentum Youth & Students.
- 2 delegates (at least one of whom must be a woman) from each invited Trade Union, the LRC, CLP and Compass
- 2 delegates (at least one of whom must be a woman) from each lib
- 1 delegate from Red Labour, Labour Assembly Against Austerity, Labour Briefing Coop, Left Futures, Open Labour and Labour CND

## **Timetable for the NC**

No later than Monday 10th October	Deadline for the SC to circulate the draft agenda and discussion papers.
Monday 3rd October - Sunday 30th October	Regions to hold regional network meetings.  Organisers to inform <a href="mailto:bethfosterogg@gmail.com">bethfosterogg@gmail.com</a> so that all groups in the region can be invited to send two delegates. (some new groups have been established since the last round of regional network meetings)  Local groups should meet prior to the regional network meeting to discuss matters for the NC and elect delegates to attend the regional network meeting (two from each registered group, at least one of whom must be a woman. Both of whom must be a member of Momentum).
Monday 31st October	Deadline for motions / amendments from regions. Please send to <a href="mailto:emma.rees@peoplesmomentum.com">emma.rees@peoplesmomentum.com</a> (if you do not receive a confirmation email within 48 hours please send again).
Saturday 29th October	Final papers circulated
Saturday 5th November	NC meets

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## 3) Campaigns

### NHS

Momentum is developing resources for a national NHS campaign and will be updated here in the near future - <http://www.peoplesmomentum.com/momentum-nhs>

### Refugee action

We are asking Momentum members and supporters to help us to provide urgent support to refugees in Calais camp, which is due to be demolished, and its residents evicted, by French authorities by 31 October.

Please help children in Calais by writing to your MP and Lords asking them to support the Dubs II amendment to the Children and Social Work Bill, requiring the Government to put in place a safeguarding process for these children and protect their welfare. This will be debated in the House of Lords in mid-October and will then go to the Commons for approval.

Although the Dubs Amendment was passed by Parliament in March 2016, which committed us to taking our fair share of the refugee children in Europe who have fled persecution, only a handful have children have safely made it to the UK.

According to Help Refugee's latest census, there are 1,022 unaccompanied minors in the camp, in extremely dangerous conditions - sleeping rough, living in tents with strangers, begging for food and hiding from traffickers. When French authorities evicted part of the camp earlier this year, over 100 children went missing. 387 children have been identified who have the right to stay in the UK - either due to family ties here or qualifying under the Dubs Amendment. The Home Office has been given their details, yet these children remain in Calais.

If you are able to donate anything to emergency appeals please follow the links below - even a few pounds can help to provide shelter, clothing and food and other vital support.

How you can help:

Write to your MP and Lords to persuade them to back efforts by Stella Creasy MP, Yvette Cooper MP and Lord Dubs to speed up the process of accepting unaccompanied minors. [Find your MP here](#) and email them, and ideally follow up with a call to their office and/or a tweet. Find [contact details for Lords here](#). You can find a [template text for your email here](#).

Sign the petition by Lord Dubs, calling on the Government to give sanctuary to refugee children <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/128833>

Join the [Momentum bloc](#) at the demonstration Help Refugee Children in Calais: Enact Lord Dubs Amendment Now! #DUBSNOW on Saturday 15th October at 2pm - 3pm at Parliament

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Square. The Momentum bloc will meet at 1:20pm in Parliament Square, under the Momentum banner.

To purchase items on emergency appeal wish lists to be delivered directly to Calais, follow one of the following links:

Help 4 Refugee Children <https://www.gofundme.com/4refugeechildren>

Care 4 Calais <https://gogetfunding.com/care4calais/>

Help Refugees list of most needed items on the Leisure Fayre website. To get 20% discount and free delivery to Calais, use the login and password provided on the checkout page [https://www.leisurefayre.com/section.php/86100/1/help\\_refugees](https://www.leisurefayre.com/section.php/86100/1/help_refugees)

If you wish to donate to a project / initiative, here is a list of organisations working in Calais which rely on donations: <http://www.calaidipedia.co.uk/donate-cash>

If you want to deliver donations to warehouses or to organise a convoy to Calais email [calaisdonations@gmail.com](mailto:calaisdonations@gmail.com) or if you want to find out about and contribute to existing convoys have a look at the [Calais Solidarity - Action from the UK](#) Facebook group.

## **4) Local Press Coverage**

Momentum Press Team have set up a feedback mechanism so you can let us know about all the exciting campaigns you're involved in to assist you in getting press coverage especially at a national level.

Please fill in this form <https://goo.gl/forms/r9uczVth8v2316i03> to let us know what you are getting up too so we can brief journalists and raise the profile of your local campaigns.

Feel free to send it around members of your group, and also to fill it in as many times as necessary.

## **5) Labour Organising**

Making sure new members are aware and informed about their local party branches is crucial to building a transformative, election-winning party.

Too often, new members are criticised for not taking part in their local parties but new members tell us they don't know what to go to and when.

Help us organise and mobilise by filling out the form, so we can let other members know how and when to get involved in their local parties.

London: <https://goo.gl/forms/3pR2PqbgVTjqy2x53>

Scotland: <https://goo.gl/forms/6a7jdPE03ASknkR82>

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Wales: <https://goo.gl/forms/oxVbfDW3uUaU69Nf1>

Yorkshire and the Humber: <https://goo.gl/forms/njpAPuCe0itznXva2>

North West: <https://goo.gl/forms/WCs67wWllqmN8wa43>

North East: <https://goo.gl/forms/BIAqIEMyr7kMV1EE3>

South West: <https://goo.gl/forms/AJCdeW5FVphLjKbp2>

West Midlands: <https://goo.gl/forms/z53YyPBkt1zTJKwt2>

East Midlands: <https://goo.gl/forms/C60XO6MrvA08AN7R2>

Eastern: <https://goo.gl/forms/neUgnunqGcsadM682>

South East: <https://goo.gl/forms/7xroXC3Gsced5BIW2>

**Please advertise amongst your local group upcoming Labour Party regional conferences:**

Labour North West - Blackpool 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> November 2016:

[http://www.labournorthwest.org.uk/regional\\_conference\\_16](http://www.labournorthwest.org.uk/regional_conference_16)