

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Elect Ann Black for 2020 / 2022



Through 18 years on the NEC I was part of the centre-left grassroots alliance. That broad coalition ended two years ago, and I ran as a left independent candidate. I was nominated by 179 constituencies but lost in the ballot. I am now standing again, still committed to accountability, members' rights and a left policy agenda. Please check my record at www.annblack.co.uk, and ask how much you've heard from the NEC since then.

On the NEC I Will Work To

1. Support the leadership. I've had differences with all leaders, but never questioned their democratic mandate. I will be loyal to Keir Starmer and Angela Rayner as I was to their predecessors. I will also support Labour councillors through tough times, not of their own making.
2. Keep in touch. I will report on every meeting, consult widely and visit as many local parties as I can.
3. Extend party democracy. Restore full decision-making power to local parties, with a continuing role for online participation to include those with disabilities, caring responsibilities or lack of transport, and value the volunteers who keep the party alive.
4. Build on the 2017 and 2019 manifestos towards a popular socialist programme. The national policy forum must be reformed so that it involves every member and affiliate and reaches out to the wider electorate.
5. Allow local parties to choose their candidates. From June 2017 CLPs were begging to select parliamentary candidates. Many were still waiting when the 2019 election was called, and again had candidates imposed.
6. Review membership subscriptions and give local parties a fair share. In 2011 conference agreed changes which distributed money more equally between large and small CLPs, but also increased central control. With 550,000 members national surpluses are piling up while the grassroots struggle, and even the reduced rate excludes those on low incomes. In 2018 the NEC promised a full review. It's time to deliver.
7. Work with Labour women. I steered the women's conference to independence in 2019. Sadly 2020 fell off the agenda, and doubts hang over 2021. Women's organisation cannot be relegated to second place again.

Out of Control

Boris Johnson is lurching from crisis to crisis. At first the Tories promised "whatever it takes", paying private sector wages, housing rough sleepers and praising low-paid carers. Now the buck is being passed to cash-strapped councils, support is being withdrawn from furloughed workers regardless of occupation, shielded people will lose benefits and private companies are using Covid-19 to infiltrate our NHS. The disproportionate impact of coronavirus on BAME communities and people in precarious employment raises disturbing questions. The climate crisis continues unchecked. Labour's coherence is more important than ever, in opposing any return to austerity, making the Tories own the consequences of their hard Brexit, setting out an alternative vision for the next election and presenting Labour as a government in waiting.

Please contact me at annblack50@btinternet.com or on 07956-637958 if there is anything you would like to ask me, or to tell me. I hope to represent you again in the years ahead.

In solidarity, Ann Black

Labour Party: Secretary of Oxford Labour, elected to the regional executive from 1998, the national policy forum from 1998 and the NEC from 2000. Served on the business board for ten years, chaired the disputes panel for nine years. Chair of the NEC 2009/10, elected Chair of the national policy forum in 2018.

Trade Union: NALGO from 1982, UNISON from 1993. Also member of Open Labour, the Fabian society, Labour Movement for Europe, Campaign for Labour Party Democracy, Labour Campaign for Electoral Reform.

From Anneliese Dodds MP, John McDonnell's shadow financial secretary 2017/20, shadow chancellor:

"Ann has been standing up for socialism and members' interests within the Labour Party for decades. I can't think of anyone who has worked harder to ensure that all our members have their voices heard without fear or favour - going beyond any cliques or factions. She has also been a democratising presence on our NEC, producing full, clear and unbiased reports on every meeting. I very much hope that members will support her to once again be a strong voice for all parts of the Labour membership."