

PRIVATE - For the use of Members of the Association

Transport Salaried Staffs' Association  
of Great Britain and Ireland

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**Minutes of**  
**Annual Delegate Conference**  
(ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY THIRD CONFERENCE)

Held in

**Birmingham and**  
**online**

18th to 20th September 2021

## List of Delegates Present

Total delegates: 49

32 delegates in person:

Stephen Halliwell	London and Southern Retired
Malcolm Wallace	Anglia South General
Robin Whittaker	Anglia South General
Anand Pillai	Anglia No 3
Kerry Jack	Irish Divisional Council
Dax Byrne-Turner	Lancs and Cumbria General Branch
Aneurin Redman-White	Lancs and Cumbria General Branch
Ron Boyd	Lancs and Cumbria Retired
Tim Price	Euston
Irene Wright	Network Rail Milton Keynes
Ian McDonald	Kent
Aiden McGrady	Network Rail North London
Ian Rashbrook	Network Rail North London
John Morris	Southeastern Metro
Josephine Weller	Southeastern Metro
Peter Vincent	Midlands Retired
Kieran Crowe	Midlands General
Colin Walters	Midlands Network Rail
Bob Bailey	Midlands Network Rail
Gareth Davies	Wales No 1 Branch
Jodie Whitehead	North East Operations
David Howarth	North East General
Nikolas Alfred Anthony	London Bus & Rail Operators
Steve Floyd	London Bus & Rail Operators
Debbie Taylor	Met 454
Felix Matthew-Brown	Met 454
Esther Lathan	LU Mats and Operating Managers
Dinesh Bhardwa	LT Retired
John Newman	Underground No. 1

Luke Howard	TFL Central
Harry Gibb	Future TSSA
Jill Murdoch	Women in Focus

## 17 delegates online

Sinead Killeen	Irish Divisional Council
Sean O'Connor	Irish Divisional Council
Steven Roberts	Crewe and Cheshire General
Sarah-Jane McDonough	Euston
Adam Wilson	Network Rail Milton Keynes
Michael Wood	London North West Retired
Stephen R Lawrence	Scotland Retired
Lesley Pollock	West of Scotland
Michael Atwell	Scotland North and East General
Katrina Faccenda	Scotland North and East General
Hayley Hill	Wales No. 1 Branch
Ged Higgins	North East Operations
David Merrett	North East General
Cath Murphy	Disability Working Group
Michael Maguire	Retired Members Group
Ray Okafor	E-Mix
Alfred Maynard	West of Scotland

### Executive Committee

Mick Carney  
Al Stoten

President  
Treasurer

Melissa Heywood  
Nicola Jukes  
Paul Corcoran  
Martin Harley\*  
Jhaenelle De Souza  
Paul Beadle

Midlands  
North East  
Ireland  
Scotland  
London South  
London North West

David Hardman  
Gary Kilroy\*  
Gemma Southgate\*

Anglia & London N.E.  
North West  
Wales and Western

\* Attended via Zoom

### **Standing Orders Committee**

Gerry Kennedy	Chair
Joe Kavanagh	
Steve Leggett	
Cheryl O'Brein	

### **Head Office Staff**

Manuel Cortes	General Secretary
Frank Ward	Asst. General Secretary
Rob Jenks	President's Liaison Officer
Sian Jones	Comms Dept
Luke Chester	Hall Supervisor
Will Boisseau	Hall Steward
Kirsty Matthews	Hall Steward
Gareth Theobald	Hall Steward
Edaina Felix	Admin Support

# ANNUAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE

Held in

# Birmingham and online

18TH TO 20TH SEPTEMBER

## First Day's Proceedings

1. EC Presentation and Q&A: TSSA Strategic Plan

## Second Day's Proceedings

2. **Minutes of 2019 Annual Conference**  
The Minutes of the 2019 Annual Conference were presented.  
The Minutes of the 2019 Annual Conference were agreed.
3. **Announcement of Election Results**  
The Scrutineers report on the elections for the various offices, delegations etc. were adopted. (See Minute 92 on Page 71).
4. **President's Address**  
The President's Address was delivered by Mick Carney and warmly received by Conference.
5. **Remembrance of Deceased Colleagues**  
Conference observed a brief silence in remembrance of deceased colleagues.
6. **Stewards' Report on Attendance**

Final attendance figures show that 49 delegates attended. This included 33 delegates attending in person and 17 attending online. Delegates represented 33 Branches & SOGs, and with members of the Executive Committee, Standing Orders Committee and the paid staff, there were a total of 73 present. There were also several online visitors throughout Conference

## 7. TSSA Strategic Plan (item Em1)

### TSSA Strategic Plan (item Em1)

That this Conference (*endorses*) notes our Executive Committee's report and instructs the Executive Committee to (*open formal merger*) continue talks with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers (the IBB) on the basis of the 17 principles outlined in the report to Conference.

*(If terms of transfer are agreed between TSSA and IBB, Conference authorises our Executive Committee to seek approval from the Certification Officer for the Instrument of Transfer and the Notice to Members and to work towards balloting members with a view to any agreed transfer being concluded by 01 July 2022.)*

and with other unions in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

Conference believes that the important issue raised in the report should be widely discussed throughout the union, and instructs the EC

- To circulate an updated report including the presentation and Q&A from annual conference and further relevant information to branches, divisional councils and SOGs inviting discussion and comment;
- To prepare a revised report with recommendations taking account of responses and any other relevant developments;
- To convene a special delegate conference in 2022 to consider the report and decide on the recommendations.

*(Conference instructs the Executive Committee to give regular update branches with the progress of the formal talks and to call a Special Delegates Conference for January 2022.)*

Mover            Manuel Cortes (Executive Committee)

Seconder        Ian Rashbrook (Network Rail North London)

**CARRIED**

## Amendments

### A.

To delete 'endorses' in Line 1 and substitute 'notes'.

To delete 'open formal merger' in Line 2 and substitute 'continue'.

To delete all after 'Conference' in Line 5 and substitute 'and with other unions in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.'

Conference believes that the important issue raised in the report should be widely discussed throughout the union, and instructs the EC

- To circulate an updated report including the presentation and Q&A from annual conference and further relevant information to branches, divisional councils and SOGs inviting discussion and comment;
- To prepare a revised report with recommendations taking account of responses and any other relevant developments;
- To convene a special delegate conference in 2022 to consider the report and decide on the recommendations.

Mover            Luke Howard (TfL Central)

Seconder        Steve Floyd (London Bus & Rail Operators)

**CARRIED**

### B.

Delete 'endorses our, in Line 1 insert 'notes the'

Delete all between 'report' in Line 1 and 'If' in Line 6 and insert

'but before opening formal merger talks with the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers (the IBB) on the basis of the 17 principles outlined in the report to Conference, further information should be passed to members.'

Conference notes that in 2011 we endorsed the General Secretary's strategy to work more closely with other trade unions and agreed that we could not rule out the possibility of merger discussions. In our 2016-18 strategic vision we agreed to build strategic partnerships but to remain independent.

Conference accepts that our industry is facing serious challenges and that we have to have a clear strategy for our future. Conference, therefore, instructs the EC to conduct detailed risk assessments on the viability of the Association over the next

three years before a final decision is taken on our future. This should include taking account all relevant factors including staff levels, investment income, our membership in Ireland, the frequency of conference, and any plans to restructure the Association and staff levels to maintain its future. The result of these risk assessments shall be passed to branches and SOGS for consideration at a Special Conference to be convened as soon as possible.

Conference instructs the EC to explore the feasibility of merging with another union that is more aligned with our members' interests.

Members should be made aware of the financial position of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, the relationship we would have with its bankers and if there are any implications regarding our relationship with international solidarity bodies such as the Palestine Solidarity Campaign and Cuba Solidarity Campaign.'

Mover            **Anglia South General**

Seconder       **Euston**

**Supported By London and Southern Retired, Midlands General, Midlands Retired**

**FALLS**

**C.**

Delete 'endorses' in Line 1, and substitute 'notes'.

Delete 'instructs' in Line 2, and substitute 'advises'.

*Delete all after 'Executive Committee' in line 2 and substitute 'to examine the possibility of merger talks with other British or European Trades Unions, relevant to the transport industry in this country. If such efforts, even when previously abandoned without success, again result in no further progress, to report to Conference in 2022, with a view to consider alternative merger problems, or most importantly, savings in the costs of administering the TSSA.'*

**Kent**

**FALLS**

**D.**

Delete all between 'will' in line 180 and 'The' in line 181, and replace with "not be transferred to IBB, but held as security as required".

Insert additional point after line 216:



'18. After a reasonable period of settling in, honeymoon period, and/or in the event that the merger proves unsuccessful and/or develops conflicting interests, it will be possible to dissolve the merger retaining all remaining previously owned assets'.

**London Metropolitan**

**FALLS**

**8. EC Motion on Report and Finance Statements (item 44)**

That this Conference adopts the Report and Financial Statements for 2020.

**FALLS**

**9. EC Report on Subscription Bands and Political Fund Contributions (item 46)**

That this Conference notes the EC report and agrees to:

- a campaign to update salary information, and
- a campaign to encourage political fund opt-ins.

Conference urges the EC to work together with other trade unions on the campaign encouraging opt-ins to the political fund, as this is an issue common to all unions with political funds and there is potential to build a campaign across the labour movement. Conference further urges that this campaign, and related activity within the Labour Party, should draw attention to the contrast between the transparent and accountable nature of TU contributions to Labour and the secretive nature of individual and corporate donations which are the main source of Conservative Party funds.

Mover            Manuel Cortes (Executive Committee)

Seconder        Luke Howard (TfL Central)

**CARRIED**

**Amendment**

To add at end “subject to the following amendment to the report:  
“To delete all between table in lines 21-24 and ‘Network’ in line 33 (of report).””.

*(EC oppose)*

Mover Steve Floyd (London Bus & Rail Operators)

Seconder Formally

LOST

#### 10. EC Report on TSSA Democracy (item 52)

That this Conference endorses the EC report, subject to the following amendments to the report:

- To insert between “Conference,” and “as” in line 37 (of report) “as well as upgrading MyTSSA in a way that facilitates the operation of branches and SOGs,” and
- To insert between “levels.” in line 38 and “APPENDIX“ in line 39 (of report) “The primary aim of this IT development will be to enhance TSSA democracy in its branches and conferences.”.

Conference recognises the importance of increasing the use of MyTSSA, as highlighted in the Working Party's 2020 report (lines 100-101 of the EC Report) and wishes to ensure that the IT developments referred to in the EC's proposal (lines 36-38) should be extended to enhance the functionality and ease of use of MyTSSA for members, reps, branch officers and other activists.

Mover Manuel Cortes (Executive Committee)

Seconder Formally

CARRIED

## 11. Rule Alteration (item 28)

**Preface:** To permit the use of digital technology for communication purposes for non-statutory matters contained within the rule book and guidance notes.

### **Rule 3 RULES New Rule 3.4**

To insert new Rule:

#### **‘3.4 TSSA Communications**

References to written and postal communications contained within the Rule Book and Guidance Notes shall also include electronic forms of communication as agreed by the EC for the purpose in question unless prohibited by statute. Whenever using electronic communications, the EC will take account of members who have difficulties with these means of communication and provide alternatives on request, by making physical copies or accessible electronic versions available or by other appropriate means.’.

Mover            Manuel Cortes (Executive Committee)

Seconder        Luke Howard (TfL Central)

**CARRIED**

## 12. Rule Alteration (item 29)

**Preface:** To create a new category of membership for those working from home.

### **Rule 4 MEMBERS 4.1 Qualifications for membership New Clause (g)**

To insert new Clause:

‘(g) Anyone working in the transport and travel Industry who is required to work from home.’

Mover            Stephen Halliwell (London & Southern Retired)

Seconder        Formally

**LOST**

### 13. Rule Alteration (item 30)

**Preface:** to introduce a category of Life membership, whereby a Retired Member can pay a one-off subscription fee to remain a member for life

#### **Rule 4 MEMBERS**

#### **4.3 Subscriptions**

#### **4.3.1 Subscription rates**

#### **Clause (c)**

To insert '(other than Life Members)' between 'members' and 'shall' in line 1.

#### **New Clause (e)**

To insert new Clause:

'(e) Life Members shall pay a one-off subscription of £500 (€600 for Life Members resident in the Republic of Ireland), adjusted where appropriate under sub clause (j) of this Rule 4.3.1.'

To re-letter subsequent clauses.

#### **Guidance Note A: MEMBERSHIP**

#### **Section 1 Types of Members**

To insert between 'members' in line 5 and 'Honorary' in line 6 (new line):  
'Life members'

#### **New Clause 1.4**

To insert new Clause:

'1.4 Life Members

Life Members are Retired Members who have paid the one-off subscription specified in Rule 4.3.1.

They have the same rights and benefits as Retired Members, as set out in Sections 1.2 and 1.3 of this Guidance Note A, except that they are not entitled to Retirement Benefit.'

To renumber subsequent clauses.

Mover            Dinesh Bhardwa (LT Retired)

Seconder        Luke Howard (TfL Central)

**LOST**

#### 14. Rule Alteration (item 31)

**Preface:** To oblige the EC to provide members with representation or assistance in appropriate circumstances.

#### **Rule 4 MEMBERS**

#### **4.4 Members' Entitlements**

#### **4.4.1 Legal Proceedings and Legal Assistance to Members**

#### **Sub clause (c)**

To add at end 'The EC shall provide any member with representation and/or legal assistance for any valid claim that the member lodges to an Employment Tribunal within the relevant deadline, if the member requests such assistance.'

Mover Michael Maguire (Retired Members' Group)

Seconder Luke Howard (TfL Central)

**LOST**

#### 15. Rule Alteration (item 33)

**Preface:** To reduce the representation of small Branches at Divisional Council.

#### **Rule 7 DIVISIONAL COUNCILS**

#### **Clause (b)**

To delete 'Up to' in line 3 and substitute:

'Up to 100 members - 2 delegates  
101 to'.

Mover Lesley Pollock (West of Scotland General)

Seconder Peter Vincent (Midlands Retired)

**LOST**

## 16. Rule Alteration (item 34)

*Preface: To allow the EC to propose amendments to motions at TSSA Annual Conference, to improve the quality of Conference decisions and reduce or remove the need for the EC to ask branches to remit items.*

### Rule 9 THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### 9.1 EC MEETINGS AND POWERS

##### Conference, Clause (h)

To insert 'and amendments' between 'motions' and 'at' in line 1.

Mover Luke Howard (TFL Central)

Seconder Formally

LOST

### Amendment

*To delete all after “(h)” in line 6 (of motion) and substitute (new paragraph):  
“To insert between 'Conference.' and 'It' in line 2, ‘The EC may propose amendments to address technicalities and minor inconsistencies but not matters of substance.’”.*

Mover Aiden McGrady (Network Rail North London)

Seconder Jill Murdoch (Women in Focus)

LOST

## 17. TSSA Report & Accounts (item EM2/3)

That this conference notes that the EC Report and Audited Financial Statements for 2020 have not been published by 21st August 2021 as required under rule 10.1(n). Conference is very concerned at this failure. This has occurred even though Conference is taking place more than three months after it was planned. Conference further notes that in recent prior years the EC Report and Audited

Financial Statements were not published in accordance with TSSA rule 10.1(n). It is vital that the Association's finances are managed effectively and reported to the membership in a transparent and accountable fashion: the failure to ensure that this takes place is a major breach of the EC's responsibilities.

Conference also notes that, in the Auditors' Report on the Audited Financial Statements for 2019, the Auditors reported that the EC breached its legal duty to maintain proper accounting records.

Conference believes that the failure of the EC to publish the Audited Financial Statements as required under rule and to offer satisfactory and timely explanations of its lack of compliance with its legal duties is totally unacceptable as well as constituting a denial of the rights of members at Conference to exercise democratic oversight of the financial decisions and judgements of the EC.

Conference instructs the EC to:

- (a) provide a verbal explanation to Conference for the failure to produce the 2020 Report and Accounts on time;
- (b) circulate a full explanation for this failure to branches, Divisional Councils and SOGs within a month of the end of Conference;
- (c) conduct a comprehensive review into the successive late Reports over several years. This review should address:
  - the roles played by union officers, auditors, the EC, Trustees and other relevant parties;
  - the timing of requests and the exchange of information between the auditors and the union;
  - any explanation offered by the auditors for delays, and
  - the payment of fees to the auditors;
- (d) put changes in place to ensure that these breaches are not repeated and transparency and accountability are improved as soon as possible, and definitely to take effect in time for consideration of the 2021 Report and Accounts, and
- (e) report to branches, Divisional Councils and SOGs on the progress of the review and actions in December 2021, March 2022 and to Conference 2022.

Mover            Formally (London & Southern Retired)

Seconder       Formally (Retired Members Group)

**CARRIED**

## 19. Rule Alteration (item 36)

**Preface:** to give all EC members equality in the number of years they can serve on the Executive.

### Rule 9 THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### 9.2 ELECTION OF PRESIDENT, TREASURER AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

##### Clause (a)

To insert 'to a maximum of six years' between 'nominated' and '. Their' in line 5.

To delete all between 'Committee' and 'whose' in line 15.

To delete all between 'Committee' in line 16 and 'for' in line 17.

Mover Gareth Davies (Wales No. 1)

Seconder Ron Boyd (Lancs and Cumbria Retired)

LOST

## 20. Rule Alteration (item 37)

**Preface:** To increase the number of elected members of SOC from four to five.

### Rule 10 ANNUAL AND SPECIAL DELEGATE CONFERENCES

#### 10.1 ANNUAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE

##### Standing Orders Committee, Clause (m)

To delete 'four' in line 1 and substitute 'five'.

Mover Jill Murdoch (Women in Focus)

Seconder Nikolas Alfred Anthony (London Bus & Rail Operators)

CARRIED



## 21. Rule Alteration (item 38)

**Preface:** To allow more time for Branches and SOGs to consider the EC Report and Accounts, while ensuring that the EC have adequate time to prepare the Report.

### Rule 10 ANNUAL AND SPECIAL DELEGATE CONFERENCES

#### 10.1 ANNUAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE

##### Executive Committee's Report and Accounts, Clause (n)

To delete '4' in line 1 and substitute '16 April or 6'.

To insert 'whichever is the later.' between 'Conference' in line 2 and 'Questions' in line 3.

Mover            Formally (Retired Members Group)

Seconder        Luke Howard (TfL Central)

LOST

## 22. Rule Alteration (item 39)

**Preface:** To ensure that the Report and Accounts are sent to Branches and SOGs in a timely manner even if Conference is postponed or cancelled for any reason.

### Rule 10 ANNUAL AND SPECIAL DELEGATE CONFERENCES

#### 10.1 ANNUAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE

##### Executive Committee's Report and Accounts, Clause (n)

To add after 'Annual Conference.' in line 6 new paragraph:

'In the event of postponement or cancellation of Conference then the original date of commencement of Conference shall apply. The Report and Accounts shall be sent to Branches and SOGs, and the Executive Committee's replies to questions (together with the questions themselves) shall be circulated to all Branches and SOGs within 7 days of the original date for commencement of Conference.'

Mover            Dave Howarth (North East General)

Seconder        Formally

CARRIED

## 23. Rule Alteration (item 40)

**Preface:** To restore to the Association's elected Scrutineers full responsibility for the duties as outlined in this Rule.

### Rule 11 ELECTIONS, DELEGATIONS, ETC

#### 11.1 TSSA SCRUTINEERS

#### Duties of Scrutineers, Clause (c)

#### Sub-Clause (1)

To insert 'and determine the validity of' between 'examine' and 'all' in line 1.

Mover Dave Howarth (North East General)

Seconded Formally

**NOT CARRIED**

## 24. Rule Alteration (item 41)

*Preface: to synchronise the publication of the voting papers for Conference elections with that of the Conference Preliminary Agenda.*

### Rule 11 ELECTIONS, DELEGATIONS, ETC

#### 11.4 CONFERENCE ELECTIONS

#### Clause (c)

To delete 'February' in last line and substitute 'the preceding December'.

#### Clause (e)

To delete '2' in line 1 and substitute '3'.

Mover Formally (TfL Central)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

## 25. Rule Alteration (item 42)

**Preface:** to ensure that authorised industrial action is not terminated prematurely.

### Rule 13 INDUSTRIAL ACTION

#### New Clause 13.3

To insert new Clause:

#### '13.3 Termination of Industrial Action

Authorised industrial action may not be terminated ahead of a declared end-date or time, unless the objective(s) of the action have been definitively achieved, except by vote of the Executive Committee at a quorate meeting, whether face-to-face or electronic, where not less than 75% of those present vote to support a cessation.'

Mover            Dinesh Bhardwa (London and Southern Retired)

Seconder        Formally

LOST

## 26. Rule Alteration (item 43)

**Preface:** to assist the Irish committee to fill all delegate seats at Annual Conference and to enable participation at Annual Conference by a wide age group of the Irish membership.

### Rule 15 IRELAND

#### 15.1 IRISH COMMITTEE

Annual Conference Delegation Candidates for Ireland, Clause (e)

To delete '26' in last line and substitute '35'.

Mover            Formally (Irish Committee)

Seconder        Formally

CARRIED

## Third Day's Proceedings

### 27. Housing (item 7)

That this Conference believes that a secure, safe, affordable home of a suitable size is one of the basic needs to enable people to live a fulfilling life. Market based strategies have failed to provide this for most people and local authority housing provision has been decimated since the days of the Thatcher Government.

Conference supports the housing strategy published in the Labour Party's 2019 election manifesto and instructs the EC to call on the current leadership of the Labour Party to use this as the basis of its plans for the future.

Mover            Formally (Anglia South General)

Seconder       Formally (Disability Working Group)

**CARRIED**

### 28. National Care Service (item 8)

*That this Conference notes that (Sir Keir Starmer, Leader of the Labour Party, has repeatedly said that he wants to see working people have a greater share of wealth and power. The Labour Party set out the means of doing this in its 2019 election manifesto and Conference urges the Party to fulfil these objectives, particularly for retired people.*

*Conference notes that this manifesto included) the Labour Party has made a commitment to a National Care Service. Conference believes that such a service, working in partnership with the NHS, will ensure that care is for people, not profit. This service should be funded like the NHS through general taxation, free at the point of use and without means testing.*

In addition, this new service should be entirely in the public sector employing qualified, appropriately supervised, fairly paid and organized staff.

Conference instructs the EC to campaign in support of this policy.

Mover Formally (Retired Members' Group)

Seconder Dax Byrne-Turner (Lancs & Cumbria General)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendments**

*A. To delete all between second 'that' in line 1 and first 'a' in line 6 and substitute 'the Labour Party has made'.*

Mover Peter Vincent (Midlands Retired)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

*B. To insert between 'testing.' in line 9 and 'Conference' in line 10, 'In addition, this new service should be entirely in the public sector employing qualified, appropriately supervised, fairly paid and organized staff.'*

Mover Cath Murphy (Disability Working Group)

Seconder Formally (Southeastern Metro)

**CARRIED**

### **29. Scotland (item 9)**

That this Conference notes that Scotland is now in the unenviable position of 'drug abuse capital of Europe'. It has disproportionate child poverty and serious urban

deprivation. The education system, policing, the NHS and council services have gradually faltered under the SNP's control.

Conference urges the EC to lobby and pressurise the Scottish Parliament to address these ongoing domestic issues as a priority and put a further independence referendum on hold for at least a generation i.e. 20 years.

Mover            Formally (Scotland Retired)

Seconder       Formally

**CARRIED**

### **30. Anti-Racism (item 10)**

That this Conference recognises that the re-election of the Conservative Government in December 2019 has allowed it to continue with its anti-immigrant policies. This election has in many ways given far right groups and individuals' confidence to spout their hateful views.

Conference notes that this Government has continued its hostile environment policy which has contributed to forcing many people into destitution, has helped to foster racism and discrimination, and has erroneously affected people with the legal right to live and work in the UK.

Conference further notes that the Government have merely paid lip service to Wendy Williams's Lessons Learned report on the Windrush scandal.

Conference therefore agrees that racist laws must be challenged by all means possible.

Conference notes the importance of the Black Lives Matter campaign.

Conference agrees that the trade union movement, representing millions of workers as well as having links in communities, must play a leading role in combating racism and fascism locally, nationally and internationally.

Conference instructs the EC to work with other trade unions in exposing racism and fascism whatever their source.

Conference:

- (a) agrees that regular material should be placed in union publications, including social media;
- (b) agrees that there is a clear need to give union representatives and members the tools and skills to combat racism and fascism;
- (c) agrees to work with groups opposing racism and fascism including those who represent people confronted by racist actions, and

(d) agrees that there is a requirement to put forward a socialist alternative to the scapegoating and targeting of people.

Conference calls on the EC to ensure that union representatives have the skills and support to enable them to effectively represent those members who are racially discriminated against in the workplace or as a consequence of their employment.

Mover Formally (Euston)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

### **31. Unemployment (item 11)**

That this Conference is concerned about the very high levels of unemployment and under-employment, both worsened by the Covid crisis.

This is the worst reduction in jobs in the UK over a short period since trade unions began. The reaction from the trade union movement should be of a similar scale.

Conference calls on the EC to be proactive in working with other trade unions in fighting to retain jobs under threat and promoting investment strategies that will create real jobs and apprenticeships. Such joint working should include agreements to eliminate competition over recruitment, campaigning for a four day week or less hours and against zero hour contracts and encourage solidarity activity with other trade unionists in dispute.

If trade unions are to win a better future, they will also need to be central in a mass movement of community campaigns and organisations.

Conference therefore calls on the EC to encourage members to get involved in local Trades Councils and campaigns against cuts, job losses and austerity and for investment in a sustainable economy.

Network Rail North London

**REMIT**

### 32. Banking Services (item 12)

That this Conference opposes the withdrawal of cash facilities in the UK for normal daily transactions, and supports all reasonable measures to allow both 'card' and cash payments. Conference notes that the increase in the limit for contactless payments announced in the Budget in March 2021 will add to the pressure on shoppers and retailers to move away from cash payments, without any protections against the fraud potential of the increased limit or any recognition of the difficulties cashless payments present for many disadvantaged people.

Conference further states that everyone has the right to access their cash without charge, within reasonable geographic reach during reasonable hours, and seeks the EC's support for this principle and to lend the Association's name to any such campaigning.

Conference calls on the EC to support activity to pursue these objectives and, where appropriate, to work with our Self-Organised Groups and any relevant Branches to ensure cash is an option in financial transactions as much as possible.

Mover            Formally (LT Retired)

Seconder       Formally (Retired Members' Group)

**CARRIED**

### 33. Banking Services (item 13)

That this Conference notes that Bank Branch closures hit the most vulnerable members of society.

Conference believes that a Minister for Banking should be appointed with the aim of promoting Banks joining together to share resources, establish joint bank outlets in many towns and cities using shared staff and costs.

Conference notes that this would require active support from politicians at Westminster of all political parties and persuasions.

Conference therefore calls on the EC to bring this motion to the attention of the Government, CBI, TUC and the Labour Party.

Mover            Formally (London & Southern Retired)

Seconder       Formally (Irish Committee)

**CARRIED**



### 34. Composite A - Covid and Transport Workers (Items 14, 16 and 17)

That this Conference believes that the hard work and dedication of railway workers in keeping our country's rail network operating during the current Covid pandemic deserves real recognition alongside those of all the other public sector workers who are maintaining Britain's vital public services.

Rail workers have kept the rail network open to take key workers to their jobs and keep our food and other critical supplies flowing during this unprecedented time. These efforts deserve all our thanks and Conference instructs the EC to express its gratitude to all key workers, to campaign for decent pay rises for them, and to submit evidence to the People's Covid Inquiry.

Conference fully supports the efforts of the General Secretary working with industry leaders during the Covid crisis.

Conference urges the EC to fight any knee-jerk job losses as the country slowly moves into recovery. Our industries will need rebuilding and people will be needed on the ground to do this. Jobs should not be sacrificed in a crisis not of our making and the Government should not see this as an opportunity to slim down the rail industry so it can be more attractively handed back to the privateers.

Conference notes that the Government's review of the rail sector, led by Keith Williams of the privatised Royal Mail and previously British Airways, contains statements about using the present crisis to seek "opportunities for efficiencies" and that "These include the elimination of duplication and workplace reform.", which are clear references to attack transport workers' jobs, pay and pensions. The Department for Transport is now advertising for a newly created position titled "Director, Rail Pensions and Workforce Reform", which is effectively a directorship for confronting the unions, TSSA included.

Conference notes that from the beginning of the Covid crisis the Association and other unions have been essential in protecting the rights of workers. Through our actions the Association has been able to protect pay, jobs and safety where we are best organised. Despite this, the Government's agenda has clearly been to protect the wealth of the wealthiest in society at the expense of the rest of us. It is clear that the gap between rich and poor has widened, the risks to the lowest paid essential workers has been exposed as far greater, the impact of Covid on BAME workers demonstrated as much greater and gains in equality of women in the workplace dramatically reversed.

Conference recognises that the balance of the Tory Government strategy has been to protect the interests of profit for the few rather than investing in the essential workers that have so clearly demonstrated their value through the Covid crisis. Conference notes with alarm that the effect of the drive to reduce costs is being targeted in the rail industry, including Network Rail, to:

- (a) attempt to introduce a pay freeze;
- (b) reduce the focus on safety which has impacted on workforce fatalities;
- (c) establish headcount caps without consultation and in contradiction of consulted organisation;

- (d) reduce the infrastructure renewal programme without no apparent justification for the consequence of the safe operation of the infrastructure, and
- (e) threaten job security from Government attempts to bail out TOC organisations and potential reorganisation of the rail industry.

The EC should remain vigilant to any such attacks on jobs and to act appropriately. The Association must be prepared for a huge and sustained attack from the government and must be ready to work with our sister unions to protect jobs, conditions and safety.

Conference instructs the EC to build the scale of campaign necessary to reverse the trend of workers being subject to cuts whilst profits are still being made by the few.

Conference further instructs the EC that, when it can be established that employers have broken the law in driving through these changes, they shall be held to account accordingly.

Conference notes that the new Labour Party leadership has done little to oppose this assault on working people and instructs the EC to campaign to reverse this trend.

Mover            Formally (Southeastern Metro)

Seconder       Formally (London Bus & Rail Operators)

**CARRIED**

### **35. Covid and the Travel Trade (item 18)**

That this Conference is aware that the travel trade has been decimated by the pandemic, and that the industry needs a route to recovery. With airlines grounded, travel restrictions imposed and the loss of over a year of income, many travel agents, airlines and tour operators have been forced to lay off staff, close offices and in some cases close their doors permanently.

Conference understands that at least 20 travel companies ceased trading between March and October 2020, and that a return to pre-pandemic levels is not predicted until 2025. Many staff were furloughed for over a year and several have been made redundant.

Conference notes that the rollout of the vaccine against Covid offers hope, and asks the EC to call upon the UK Government and devolved administrations for:

- (a) the expansion of sector specific grants to keep businesses buoyant;
- (b) the extension of measures such as furlough, business rates relief and the deferral of VAT to mitigate against the lack of revenue for over a year, and

(c) rapid testing at airports in addition to quarantine measures for people arriving in the UK.

Conference believes that only with a raft of measures in place, will the travel trade be able to retain jobs and to trade its way out of this pandemic.

Mover Lesley Pollock (West of Scotland)

Seconder Formally (Disability Working Group)

**CARRIED**

### **36. Covid and Women Workers (item 19)**

That this Conference believes women workers have borne the brunt of the problems created by the coronavirus pandemic. They are more likely to be in the front line and exposed to the public as they are the majority of key workers in the NHS, in retail and elsewhere. With the stress at work and worry about taking the virus into the family, they also continue to do the majority of child caring and, studies have shown, home schooling.

Despite this, little or no special provision has been made for women in terms of additional payments, time off for childcare and other caring duties.

Conference calls on the EC to ensure that the Association prioritises the needs of women workers in our industry when negotiating with employers around provision for front line workers during the pandemic.

Mover Formally (Women in Focus)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

*To insert between 'schooling.' in line 6 and 'Despite' in line 7, 'These roles often involve shifts and we instruct the EC to work with the employers and BT police to improve the safety environments wherever possible.'*

*To delete 'calls on' in line 9 and substitute 'instructs'.*

*To insert 'and after' between 'during' and 'the' in line 11.*

Mover Nye Redman-White (Lancs & Cumbria General)

Seconder Formally

**LOST**

### **37. Covid and Women Workers (item 20)**

That this Conference notes that the pandemic has created a significant change in the working environment for a swathe of the population. Commentators suspect that women may have been disproportionately impacted by these changes for example, home working, balancing family commitments and separating home life from working life.

To make matters worse, Conference is also aware that women are more likely to have lost their jobs during the pandemic, they are twice as likely to have been furloughed (although 70% of women, including in rail industries, who asked for furlough to help with childcare issues were refused) and, while Conference recognises that workers across the board are losing their jobs, redundancies for women have been significantly higher than for men. This is partly due to the concentration of women in low paid work and partly due to their disproportionate representation in the hospitality industry, among other factors. Overall, Conference believes that the effect of the pandemic for women has been to exacerbate the existing inequalities in both the workforce and the home.

Conference asks the EC urgently to establish a working group to investigate and formulate a plan that can be shared, adopted and implemented by reps that will support and help women navigate post Covid working.

Mover Formally (North East Operations)

Seconder Formally (Women in Focus)

**CARRIED**

### **38. Composite B - Covid and Public Transport (item 21 & 22)**

That this Conference recognises that the Covid pandemic has played havoc with public transport. Train and bus operators have seen passenger numbers tumble and services have been either reduced or cancelled. Whether for work, shopping or

leisure, numbers are down and past experience tells us that once passengers have been lost, it is extremely difficult to win them back.

Public transport remains a safe and environmentally-friendly way to travel. It is also the primary means of transport for people who do not have access to a car. It is therefore vital to plan now for the end of the pandemic if there is to be a resurgence of public transport. A plan is needed that can immediately be implemented to minimise the chances of a further reduction in services or increases to fares.

Conference instructs the EC to draw up a 'Post Covid Transport Plan', liaising with other transport unions, the TUC and the Labour Party.

Mover            Formally (Lancs & Cumbria General)

Seconder       Formally (Crewe & Cheshire General)

**CARRIED**

### **39. Covid and Public Transport (item 23)**

That this Conference is concerned about the effect the Covid pandemic has had on the bus industry. Many areas have noted a substantial fall in the number of people using buses, in part due to the warning to avoid public transport.

Not only will this have a disastrous effect on the viability of some bus routes, it will affect the economy of struggling town centres, the staff who work on providing bus services, and the bus building industry and its supply chains.

Conference is reminded that increased bus travel helps mitigate climate change and aids social mobility and the economy.

Conference instructs the EC to lobby the Department for Transport to provide support for bus services both in London and throughout the UK.

Mover            Steve Floyd (London Bus & Rail Operators)

Seconder       Formally

**CARRIED**

### **40. Covid and Disabled People (item 24)**

That this Conference notes that disabled people face a disadvantage at work as they are more likely to be vulnerable to Covid. Working from home should be

considered as a reasonable adjustment for these staff. The necessity to make reasonable adjustments for those with impairment is well-recognised within employment law. However, the pandemic has added a host of other risk factors and potential avenues for discrimination, which includes the addition of “Do Not Resuscitate” orders on medical records, that were not there before. In recent months, all workers have had to change the way we work in response to the health risk posed by the pandemic.

Conference must not forget the growing evidence of people suffering from Long Covid. It is too soon to say with certainty, but it is looking likely that someone with Long Covid is likely to be covered under the Equality Act. Employers need to be reminded of this as the pandemic progresses, and be prepared to work with the trade unions.

The Association will need to continue to adapt our ways of working whilst ensuring the safety and wellbeing of employees, and making sure that no vulnerable person is forced to return to work.

With this in mind, Conference instructs the EC to highlight the responsibility of the employer to provide reasonable adjustments.

Mover            Formally (Disability Working Group)

Seconder       Formally (Lancs & Cumbria General)

**CARRIED**

#### **41. Covid and Loneliness (item 26)**

That this Conference believes that action is required to reduce impact of the Covid Pandemic on mental health.

Workers in all age and socio-economic groups have been affected, but young workers have been disproportionately affected. Often in precarious work, many have found themselves at a loss as a result of the pandemic. With rising unemployment, reduced opportunities for progression, financial worries, health anxiety and the impact of isolation on social lives, young people have been put into turmoil.

There is much to learn from what has happened in recent times. It looks likely that the world of work will be forever changed. With members facing the prospect of spending more time working from home, the Association needs to understand how to offer the necessary support for our members to maintain a healthy balance between work and home lives.

Conference believes that the Association has the power to make a positive difference. Branches, Divisional Councils and SOGs have organised in virtual formats throughout the pandemic. This has sustained the running of the union and offered a chance for social interaction. There is, however, more that can be done

in the fight against loneliness and isolation, with special reference to lower income groups who struggle to afford and/or use IT.

This Conference calls on the EC to explore social initiatives to tackle the impact of isolation on our members. In particular, this should involve looking at the possibility of facilitating remote social activities where members across the country can share their experiences of life in the pandemic.

Conference also believes that the Association should take the opportunity to document how our members have functioned throughout the pandemic, to remember these unprecedented times and the impact our union had on life in lockdown.

Conference further calls on the EC to investigate what impact the pandemic has had on the working lives of our members, in order to understand what can be done to aid members seeing a change in their workplaces as a result of the pandemic.

Mover Formally (FutureTSSA)

Seconder Formally (LT Retired)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

**A.** *To insert between ‘affected’ and ‘Often’ in line 3a, ‘during the pandemic, making worse the already difficult pressures of low pay and high rents.’.*

*To insert ‘their often pressured’ between ‘between’ and ‘work’ in line 10.*

*To insert ‘Many’ between ‘difference.’ in line 12 and ‘Branches’ in line 13.*

*To delete ‘organised’ in line 13 and substitute ‘struggled, but did manage to organise’.*

*To insert between first ‘to’ and ‘explore’ in line 17, ‘work with Branches and members to’.*

*To insert between ‘lockdown’ in line 23 and ‘Conference’ in line 24, ‘and in the process to learn lessons for the future.’.*

*To delete ‘seeing a change in their workplaces as a result of’ in line 26 and substitute ‘improving their work environments after’.*

Mover Formally (Network Rail North London)

Seconder Formally

**LOST**

## 42. TfL Funding (item Su2)

That this Conference notes that the Tory Government between 2016 and 2020 had cut central grants to TfL to zero, to punish London for electing a Labour Mayor. This left London's public transport excessively dependent on fares revenue. London entered the Covid pandemic as the only major city in Europe where public transport was expected to operate without funding from general taxation.

This massive dependence on fares revenue meant that the collapse in demand with the Covid lockdowns led rapidly to a crisis in TfL's financial position, requiring bail-outs from the Government. These have taken the form of a succession of short-term settlements, far from the stable and assured financial support necessary for effective maintenance of the transport networks on which London depends.

Conference notes that the latest package of government funding for Transport for London, put forward at the start of June 2021, comes with a number of conditions that pose a threat to services, jobs and terms and conditions, including pensions.

Conference also notes with incredulity the government's fixation on driverless trains - an undesirable development that seems as far away from becoming a reality as it always has.

Conference also notes that business leaders in London also back a longer term financial settlement, so that a sustainable long-term approach can be made for London's public transport needs

Conference instructs the Executive Committee to support reps and activists in delivering a public-facing campaign to resist cuts to services, jobs and terms and conditions, and to bring pressure on the Mayor of London, Department for Transport and TfL leadership to abandon these plans, and instead to agree a long term, stable funding package for London's public transport network.

Conference further notes the PFI contract to build a road tunnel across the Thames at Silvertown, with an estimated cost of about £2 billion. Conference believes that this project, under which TfL will depend on toll revenue to meet the PFI payments, presents an unacceptable financial risk for TfL. The main thrust of TfL's transport policies is and must be to reduce traffic levels.

In addition:

- experience of road schemes is that, far from reducing congestion, such 'improvements' lead to traffic growth;
- the pollution from traffic through the tunnel will exacerbate air quality problems around the tunnel approach routes, and
- such expansion of road capacity conflicts with the need to eliminate carbon emissions in London and the South East.

For these reasons, Conference instructs the EC to call on the Mayor to cancel this project and similar road schemes.



Mover Formally (TfL Central)  
Seconded Formally (Underground No. 1)

**CARRIED**

### 43. Covid and TfL Resilience (item 27)

That this Conference congratulates Transport for London (TfL) on its efforts to ensure public and staff safety were placed ahead of the dire financial situation imposed by the present Government's politically-motivated actions, and by the pandemic which followed.

Conference instructs the EC to continue to ensure that staff and passenger safety remains paramount as services and resources adjust to deal with the ongoing health crisis, and that no lessening of staff welfare nor wellbeing is imposed.

Conference however deplores some of TfL's adjustments to the new financial situation, through imposing worsened workplace and reward practices, through unreasonable workforce reductions, and in particular imposing 'hot-desking' and similar practices, especially for staff with special needs who have sometimes been obliged to find suitable and sufficient workstations away from their usual workplaces. Conference therefore calls for an end to these practices and the restoration of conventional work practices. This includes honouring staff's needs for access to work and reasonable adjustments.

Conference instructs the EC to work with the Labour Party and other relevant bodies for a future Labour administration to:

- (a) write-off the debt burden caused by the imposed loans placed on TfL, by conversion into a grant;
- (b) implement a statutory funding structure for London's passenger transport which cannot be easily overturned by any future change of Government;
- (c) ensure that comparable funding and resource protection is in place for all UK authorities charged with resourcing public passenger transport at any time now or in the future for their residents, workers, contractors and visitors, and
- (d) comply with the Equality Act for reasonable adjustments.

Mover Dinesh Bhardwa (LT Retired)  
Seconded Cath Murphy (Disability Working Group)

**CARRIED**

#### 44. TSSA Organisation (item 47)

That this Conference believes that relationships between members, reps, Branches and union staff could be improved if the Association were to adopt a formal quality management system.

Conference welcomes recent moves towards improving accountability and transparency, such as asking SOGs to have a defined vision and purpose. However, it remains the case that the Association's current arrangements lack transparency and oversight, not only for members, but for representatives and elected officials. Many members and elected officials are frustrated by this situation and it may be a cause for the poor health of the Branches as they lack an effective means to engage in the day-to-day running of the Association and for the elected representatives that look to the branches for guidance and support.

Quality management systems have been well researched and are used across all types of businesses and organisations globally since the 1960s. By placing the needs of the member at the heart of all activities, such a system would improve transparency and consistency and reduce errors and waste. This would increase member satisfaction and boost recruitment, as well as encouraging participation from reps, branch activists and others.

Conference instructs the EC to establish an organisational improvement project to implement a quality management system. The project should aim for such a system to be substantially in place by the 2023 Annual Conference, with a report on progress presented to the 2022 Annual Conference.

Mover            Luke Howard (TfL Central)

Seconder        Adam Wilson (Network Rail Milton Keynes)

**CARRIED**

#### 45. TSSA Organisation (item 49)

That this Conference recognises that at the beginning of the Covid pandemic, most people had never heard of Zoom technology but now it, and other video conferencing technologies, have become the basic means of conducting trade union business. Conference congratulates the Association reps and branches that took imaginative steps to maintain contact with members, setting up online or telephone meetings and using other means to ensure that members' concerns were put before employers despite the challenging environment.

These technologies have allowed members to participate in meetings that previously they could not have attended in person, whilst other members, who

would normally have attended in person, have been unable to participate due to a lack of equipment or broadband internet access.

Conference notes that there is a high likelihood that patterns of flexible working and working at home will become established permanently in many workplaces. This will present challenges for members and the Association. Traditional means of union recruitment, organising and representation will be more difficult, while union support for employees will be more necessary than ever.

However, Conference is concerned that there has not been enough encouragement from the EC and little effort has gone into promoting best practice and encouraging this sort of approach throughout the Association.

Conference instructs the EC to review the experiences of video conferencing during the pandemic, and to provide guidance for its continued use whilst also addressing the issue of making it accessible for all.

Conference calls on the EC to ensure that comprehensive guidance, support and encouragement is provided to reps and branches to make sure that the union's functions of:

- (a) campaigning in workplaces, locally and nationally;
  - (b) representing and supporting members, and
  - (c) appealing to and recruiting non-members
- continue and increase in the difficult environment we face.

Mover            Formally (TfL Central)

Seconder        Formally (Crewe & Cheshire General)

**CARRIED**

#### **46. TSSA Organisation (item 50)**

This Conference instructs the EC to ensure that when Association members retire, they are (*directed*) advised to transfer their membership of the Association to a local Retired Branch and be given details of the Retired Members' SOG.

Conference however notes that not all Divisions have a retired members branch and branch officers are permitted to remain within their existing branch. The EC will need to assist individuals to contact the Retired Members' Group where there is no retired branch.

Conference also notes that Head Office already have a new Retirement Form prepared by the Retired Members' Group. This form has already been accepted for use and encourages members to remain in membership upon retirement.

Conference instructs the EC to ensure that universal use of this form is compulsory at all levels of the Association including all branches, divisional councils and SOGs.

Conference further instructs the EC to ensure that the form is used by TSSA staff when dealing with impending member retirement.

Mover            Ron Boyd (Lancs & Cumbria Retired)

Seconder        Stephen Halliwell (London & Southern Retired)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendments**

**A.** *To delete 'directed' in line 2 and substitute 'advised'.*

*To insert between 'Branch' in line 2 and 'Conference' in line 3 'and be given details of the Retired Members' SOG'.*

### **West of Scotland General**

**ACCEPTED**

**B.** *To delete 'directed to' in line 2 and substitute 'to be advised that they can'.*

*To insert between 'Branch' in line 2 and 'Conference' in line 3 'if they so wish.'*

### **South East Wales General**

**FALLS**

### **47. TSSA Organisation (item 51)**

That this Conference recognises the extensive work and commitment of many Association members who have been rewarded for those achievements with Honorary Life Membership (HLM). This illustrious list includes past Presidents and other senior lay officers.

Conference is deeply concerned that these HLMs are being neglected by the Association.

Conference instructs the EC to maintain the details of HLMs to the same standard as all other members. Conference asks the EC to send each HLM an individual letter each year, and to copy these letters to the Retired Members' Group and the appropriate Branch (either the relevant Retired Branch or the Branch covering the

member's former workplace) to help branches and the RMG maintain contact with these members.

Mover Michael Maguire (Retired Members' Group)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

#### **48. TSSA Democracy (item 53)**

That this Conference notes that, under Rule, most elected positions in the Association have a limitation of the number of terms or years that the position can be held. EC members, SOC members, Scrutineers etc can all hold office for a maximum number of years.

There are two clear exceptions: the positions of President and Treasurer. Under Rule 9.2(a) they are elected for a period of two years and can be re-elected any number of times if nominated.

While Conference is aware that the possibility is always there for a change through the election process, Conference questions why all elected lay officers of the Association are not subject to similar rules.

Conference therefore calls on the EC to look at the relevant rules and consider whether a change would be beneficial to the Association, in particular as a preliminary step towards achieving some gender balance amongst elected lay officers.

Mover Ged Higgins (North East Operations)

Seconder Nye Redman-White (Lancs and Cumbria General)

**LOST**

#### **49. TSSA Democracy (item 55)**

That this Conference believes that improvements can be made to how members' democratic voices on workplace issues are acted upon. On this basis, Conference urges the Association to take further steps to advance its promise to be a member-led organisation.

Members of certain workplace Branches, such as the Network Rail Milton Keynes Branch, are currently discriminated against as decisions concerning workplace

issues are exclusively determined by Industrial Relations (IR) representatives without the requirement for affected members' endorsement. The IR representatives are elected every three years, and members have no mechanism to recall their representatives, or complain about or voice their preferences on their representatives' actions or decisions.

The only democratic mechanism open to Association members is via a Branch motion. However, due to the unspecified scope of Branch authority in the Association Rule Book in relation to representatives' actions during collective bargaining, there is a lack of accountability in the relationship between representatives on one hand and members and Branches on the other. This has resulted in IR representatives and Association staff members negotiating collective agreements with employers without clear endorsement by the membership.

To remedy this accountability gap, Conference seeks increased access to democracy for Association members.

In order to empower members with clearer democratic rights, Conference further resolves the following as requirements of Association representatives and Branches:

- (a) A motion shall only be open for vote by members that are impacted by the collective agreement in question, and
- (b) Workplace representatives shall engage and feed back to members through relevant Branch meetings and activities.

Mover            Aiden McGrady (Network Rail North London)

Seconder       Adam Wilson (Network Rail Milton Keynes)

**LOST**

#### **50. TSSA Education (item Su1)**

That this Conference calls on the EC to look into bringing back TUC recognised courses as part of training for all reps as the in-house and GFTU courses have proven not to be working properly and we are getting a backlog of reps waiting for courses to take place. We have also identified that the courses provided by GFTU are not fit for purpose as, at this present time, they have been compressed into three days whereas a TUC stage 1 course takes 10 days to complete and provides a qualification which the GFTU courses do not.

Mover            Felix Matthew-Brown (London Metropolitan)

Seconder       Formally

**NOT CARRIED**

## 51. TSSA Accessibility (item Su3)

Conference demands that our union recognise once and for all that members with impairments have equality with able-bodied members. It is unacceptable that members with impairments are still being treated as 'second class citizens' by their union.

It is disappointing that our union fails to deliver for our members on these issues that we take employers to task for.

Every year since 2015 Annual Conference in Eastbourne, members with impairments have had to take issue with our union over very basic requirements at meetings and in particular at annual conferences. Conference instructs the EC to provide information for all activities within the Association such as branches, Divisional Councils and Self Organised Groups on the requirements needed to make venues accessible for all.

We have repeatedly had to raise issues with regard to lift access, fire evacuation and Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan (PEEP) policies, ramps and accessible rooms to name just a few.

Conference instructs the EC to implement the motion on accessibility carried unanimously at 2015 Annual Conference (Minute 60, TSSA Meetings) with immediate effect.

Conference further instructs the EC to undertake a review of all its existing offices to ensure they comply with current standards for disabled access and facilities, and to undertake appropriate alterations and modifications to achieve compliance with those standards (for example by providing a step free entrance to the TSSA office / meeting room in York).

Mover Cath Murphy (Disability Working Group)

Seconder David Howarth (North East General)

**CARRIED**

## 52. TSSA Conference Elections (item 56)

That this Conference endorses the EC report.

Mover Formally (Executive Committee)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

**53. TSSA Annual Conference (item 57)**

That this Conference, bearing in mind the difficulty in influencing Government policy and actions and the number of companies whose staff the Association represents, with most negotiations being carried out by Company Council members, instructs the EC to bring a report to the 2022 Annual Conference detailing the value and relevance of holding a conference annually.

The report should detail the 'pros' and 'cons' of a Biennial conference against an Annual one.

Mover Peter Vincent (Midland Retired)

Seconder Formally

**LOST**

**54. TSSA Diary (item 58)**

That this Conference notes with regret the poor quality of the 2021 TSSA diaries, which have thin floppy covers and a binding which prevents the diary opening flat. Conference also notes that the diaries were sent out so late that some members did not receive them until after the start of the year.

Conference instructs the EC to ensure that future diaries are of not less quality than the 2019 diaries with stiff board covers in a business-friendly colour or colours and with a binding that allows the diary to open flat and include details of ALL of the SOGs.

Mover Peter Vincent (Midland Retired)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

**Amendment**

*To add at end, 'and include details of ALL of the SOGs.'*

Mover Allan O'Hare (West of Scotland General)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**



**55. TSSA Credit Union (item 59)**

That this Conference believes that Association members could benefit from a TSSA credit union.

Other trade unions have credit unions that enable their members to benefit from ethical savings accounts and low interest loans. In these uncertain financial times, such a scheme would both benefit our existing members and draw prospective members.

Conference requests that the EC fully investigates the benefits and risks of setting up a TSSA credit union and report their findings back to Branches, with a view to potentially setting one up if viable.

Mover Luke Howard (TfL Central)

Seconder Formally

**LOST**

**56. TfL Pension Fund (item 60)**

That this Conference notes that the TfL Independent Funding Review, published in December 2020, found that the TfL Pension Fund was ‘outdated and must be reformed’ and that a commission be established to look at options for modernising the scheme and reducing TfL’s costs. The report called for the work of this commission and the implementation of its recommendations in 2025.

Conference believes that ‘reformation’ and ‘modernisation’ of pension schemes in reality means attacks on pension benefits, resulting in members paying in more and receiving less in their retirement.

Conference instructs the EC to lead on and actively oversee a concerted campaign of action in response to any and all attempts on the part of TfL and/or the Government to reform or modernise the TfL Pension in any way acts to the detriment of TfL workers, including the use of strike action.

Mover Esther Lathan (LU MATS & Operational Managers)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

## 57. Maternity Discrimination

That this conference notes that employees who take maternity leave are not entitled to 'credit' (for example for performance related pay purposes) for their time after the first 28 days. Employees who undertake volunteering with release from work and jury service are not penalised in this way.

The detriment seems to be a clear case of discrimination. Conference calls on the EC to negotiate with all employers where the Association represents members to change this situation. Conference further calls on the EC to use all possible means to persuade the Labour Party to ensure that a future Labour government changes the relevant law on maternity pay.

Mover            Jill Murdoch (Women in Focus)

Seconder        Irene Wright (Network Rail Milton Keynes)

**CARRIED**

## 58. Apprenticeships (item 62)

That this Conference believes it is time to end the exploitation of apprentices for cheap labour. Too many employers see apprenticeships as an opportunity for cheap labour, offering minimal training and measly wages.

By paying below minimum wage, employers discriminate against those from less affluent backgrounds, and from older people looking to change career.

Apprentice minimum wage stands at £4.15 an hour for those under 19 or in the first year of their apprenticeship (February 2021). This is £5.35 less than the UK Living Wage (determined by the Living Wage Commission in November 2020) and £6.70 below the London Living Wage. Whilst it is understandable that some salary is sacrificed whilst apprentices are unable to carry out the duties of an experienced employee, this rate is unacceptable, particularly in roles where the apprentice undertakes the same duties as any other employee.

Whilst apprentices are often paid below the living wage, there is no concession in the cost of housing, food and utilities, often meaning young people are unable to leave home to find opportunities further from their family homes.

This Conference appreciates the recent offering of trade union organiser apprentices within our own staff. This stands to set a precedent in apprenticeships, offering a fair wage, meaningful training, and the opportunity for personal growth.

Conference instructs the EC to work with young members to formulate an apprenticeship charter, to promote best practice and offer guidance to employers

in the transport and travel industries on what should be expected of a fair and meaningful apprenticeship. Conference further instructs the EC to take the result of consultation into discussions with sister unions in order to share best practice with a view to developing a protocol to be adopted by the TUC, in order to improve apprenticeships across all workplaces.

Mover Harry Gibb (FutureTSSA)

Seconder David Howarth (North East General)

**CARRIED**

### **59. Home Working (item 63)**

That this Conference notes that during the pandemic there has been a great increase in home working, much of which may become permanent. Staff working from home may not have adequate facilities such as a proper office, internet facilities and appropriate office furniture. Conference believes that all employers requiring workers to work from home, or where there is an agreement to work from home, or a Government directive to work at home, should be liable to provide them with the appropriate equipment at the employer's expense.

Conference instructs the EC to campaign for these rights and to raise this issue with the TUC and the Labour Party.

Mover Dax Byrne-Turner (Lancs & Cumbria General)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

*To delete 'the appropriate equipment' in line 6 and substitute 'suitable and sufficient appropriate equipment, and ensure that safety standards applicable in the conventional workplace are suitably adopted in the home environment,'.*

Mover Dinesh Bhardwa (LT Retired)

Seconder Formally

**LOST**

## 60. Labour Party (item 64)

That this Conference notes the Labour Party defeat in the latest General Election in December 2019 and is concerned that many key areas of former Labour constituencies turned away from previously strong support.

Conference is concerned, following the Covid pandemic that the Party cannot wait for four years to highlight key issues, such as the NHS, public ownership and pay for low-paid, but 'key' workers including those on zero-hour contracts, in the gig economy, and in precarious employment.

Conference is convinced that the trade unions should take a more active role and step up campaigning for these key issues.

Conference instructs the EC to join with other trades unions and with the TUC to campaign on these issues and to keep up the pressure on the existing Government and Labour Party.

Mover            Formally (London Bus & Rail Operators)

Seconder       Formally (London North West Retired)

**CARRIED**

## 61. Labour Party (item 65)

That this Conference is concerned that the present Tory Government will start to further weaken worker rights.

Conference notes that it is also probable that further anti-trade union legislation will be enacted.

Conference instructs the EC to convey our concerns to the Labour Party Leadership and the NEC and to demand of them that future Labour Party policy will include the protection and enhancement of workers' rights and the repeal of various anti-trade union Acts from 1980.

In the absence of a satisfactory response from the Labour Party, as determined by the EC, the EC will consider a reduction in contributions to the Labour Party.

Mover            Sarah-Jane McDonough (Euston)

Seconder       Jill Murdoch (Women in Focus)

**CARRIED**

## Amendment

*To delete all after '1980'.*

### South East Wales General

**FALLS**

#### 62. Labour Party (item 66)

That this Conference is very concerned that the divisiveness within the Labour Party has become so intense, and has not presented the face of unity, essential if voters are expected to support it as the leading opposition party to the disastrous Tory Government at the next general election. Conference has no confidence in Sir Keir Starmer and David Evans and calls on them to resign their positions as Leader and General Secretary of the Labour Party. The current Labour leadership has caused mayhem with its suspension of constituency Labour party officers and individual members, for seeking to restore full parliamentary rights to former Party leader Jeremy Corbyn, or for daring to question or disregard the party's General Secretary's instruction not to debate the issue at meetings.

Conference congratulates the General Secretary and the EC for taking a principled and public stand on this issue so far, and urges the EC to escalate this concern further.

Also of considerable concern are the ongoing expulsions and suspensions of so many active and principled socialist and anti-racist members on false accusations of alleged anti-Semitism. At time of writing, there are as many as 35 Jewish members of the Labour Party under investigation too for breaches of discipline, or preposterously for anti-Semitism!

Conference urges the Labour Party leadership to cease this clear-out of members on flimsy charges and to restore full parliamentary status to Jeremy Corbyn. Until it is clear that the Labour Party have followed this advice, this Conference regrettably recommends that the EC make no additional donations to the Labour Party other than the affiliation fee.

Conference instructs the EC to campaign to pressure the Labour Party to call a special Conference to discuss this matter and further instructs the EC to support any proposals that are debated at future Labour Party Conferences that seek the resignations of Sir Keir Starmer and David Evans.

Mover            Ian McDonald (Kent)

Seconder        Luke Howard (TfL Central)

**CARRIED**

## Amendment

*To insert between ‘election.’ and second ‘The’ in line 4, ‘Conference has no confidence in Sir Keir Starmer and David Evans and calls on them to resign their positions as Leader and General Secretary of the Labour Party.’.*

*To add at end (new paragraph):*

*‘Conference instructs the EC to campaign to pressure the Labour Party to call a special Conference to discuss this matter and further instructs the EC to support any proposals that are debated at future Labour Party Conferences that seek the resignations of Sir Keir Starmer and David Evans.’.*

Mover            Malcolm Wallace (Anglia South General)

Seconder        David Merrett (North East General)

**CARRIED**

## 63. Labour Party (item 67)

That this Conference notes with growing concern the attacks on democracy within the Labour Party. *(There is no doubt that the former leader Jeremy Corbyn could have handled things differently when the report into anti-Semitism during his leadership was released. The report itself went some way to exonerating him from a lot of criticism and in actual fact pointed the finger where it firmly belonged, at the party’s previous General Secretary. The party leadership was left with little choice but to act when Corbyn made comments downplaying the report within moments of its release).* The report into anti-semitism during Jeremy Corbyn’s leadership showed that the quantity of cases being examined went up once Jennie Formby became General Secretary of the Party in 2018, backed by Jeremy Corbyn. It also showed that there was “an improvement in the rate of determining cases” under Corbyn’s leadership. The Party leadership chose to suspend Jeremy Corbyn when he commented after the report’s release that the scale of the problem was overstated for political reasons.

However, once these remarks had been quantified and Corbyn was let back into the party that should have been the end of the matter. Instead, on the back of calls from the usual suspects, Corbyn was prevented from taking up the whip. This at best appeared churlish and at worst vindictive.

Since then, the former leader has been treated as a pariah, CLPs suspended for passing motions of supporting Corbyn and, more damaging, a complete failure to act on those from within the Party who deliberately attacked our electoral chances in 2017.

Conference reaffirms its support for the Party and strongly believe that the best for working people in this country is a Labour Government. However, this support is not unconditional. Attacks on the democracy within our Party are deeply alarming. The Party should remain a free space for all legitimate views.

Conference instructs the EC to bring the sentiments of this motion to the attention of the Labour leadership and party.

Mover            John Morris (Southeastern Metro)

Seconder       Formally

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

*To delete all between ‘Party.’ in line 2 and ‘However’ in line 8 and substitute ‘The report into anti-semitism during Jeremy Corbyn’s leadership showed that the quantity of cases being examined went up once Jennie Formby became General Secretary of the Party in 2018, backed by Jeremy Corbyn. It also showed that there was “an improvement in the rate of determining cases” under Corbyn’s leadership. The Party leadership chose to suspend Jeremy Corbyn when he commented after the report’s release that the scale of the problem was overstated for political reasons.’*

**Euston**

**ACCPETED**

### **64. Labour Party (item Em4)**

That this Conference notes with concern the decision of Labour’s National Executive Committee on 20 July to proscribe four groups, that may lead to over 1,000 members being automatically expelled from the party. This accompanies a decision to establish a panel to consider bans of other groups. Conference congratulates Andi Fox, the TSSA member elected to the trade union section of the NEC, for opposing these decisions. We do not wish to express any support for the organisations affected, and re-emphasise our opposition to racism in all its forms, including anti-Jewish racism. However, Conference is concerned at the restriction of party democracy and the precedent set by this NEC decision on auto-exclusions as well as by the retrospective nature of the bans which is against all concepts of natural justice. Conference notes that there have been calls to add other organisations that have contributed greatly to party activity in recent years to the banned list.

This NEC vote follows a succession of decisions by paid officials of the party to restrict and control debate, such as edicts that some subjects could not be discussed by constituency parties, prolonged suspension of many party officers and some entire constituency parties without adequate justification and the over-ruling of the elected London Regional Board to set an unreasonably early date for the London Regional Conference.

A united party is more essential than ever to challenge the criminal incompetence, negligence, contempt and corruption of the Tory Government. Although Sir Keir Starmer promised to bring the party together at the time of his election as Leader, his leadership has seen a succession of attacks on the left of the party, denial of the legitimacy of a significant wing of party opinion, and tacit abandonment of popular policies that formed the 2019 manifesto. This has led to a dramatic loss of party membership, the disillusionment of many party supporters (particularly younger members who were inspired to become active by the popular policies offered in recent years) and a party machinery much more engaged in internal fights than in attacking the Government's failures. It has also led to a worsening of Labour's position versus that of the Tories in polls of voting intention.

Conference remains committed to the Labour Party as the best vehicle to deliver a new deal not only for TSSA members but for working people in general, and instructs the EC to call on the Labour leadership to:

- (a) urgently review these bans and suspensions;
- (b) ensure that party officials understand that they are there to serve the party membership, not to instruct local parties what they can debate;
- (c) redouble attacks on the Tories' failed and fatal policies, and
- (d) concentrate on building a strong, united, growing and well funded party that can work with trade union affiliates to take forward positive and progressive policies.

Mover            Luke Howard (TfL Central)

Seconder       Formally (Women in Focus)

**LOST**

## **65. Labour Party (item 68)**

That this Conference notes with deep disappointment the poor performance of the Labour Leader, Sir Keir Starmer, since his election and the Parliamentary Labour Party in general.

Specifically, Conference notes the following examples of sub-optimal performance:

- (a) that membership of the party has dropped by over 50,000 since the election of Sir Keir Starmer as leader;



- (b) that Sir Keir Starmer suspended Mr Jeremy Corbyn MP in October 2020, in so doing making Mr Corbyn the only former leader of the Labour Party ever to be suspended, for his statement in response to the publication of the EHRC report on its investigation into anti-Semitism in the Labour Party;
- (c) subsequent to Mr Corbyn's reinstatement following a NEC hearing, Sir Keir Starmer undermined the authority and autonomy of the National Executive Committee by withdrawing the whip from Mr Corbyn, for which fourteen members of the NEC, including the Association's representative, signed a letter to the Labour Party General Secretary calling on him to admonish the Labour Leader for his actions;
- (d) that Sir Keir Starmer drew criticism for describing the Black Lives Matter movement, which was born from the brutal slaying of George Floyd by Minneapolis law enforcement, as 'a moment', a turn of phrase he later stated that he regretted, but did not apologise for;
- (e) that Sir Keir Starmer stated, in an article he wrote for The Mail on Sunday, published on 15th August 2020, that 'My message to the Prime Minister: I don't just want all children back at school next month, I expect them back at school. No ifs, no buts, no equivocation.', a statement which boxed in the Leader of the Opposition and the Parliamentary Labour Party in light of evidence that the opening of schools, colleges and universities had led directly to the second wave of coronavirus and daily cases reaching 58,000 by the beginning of January 2021;
- (f) that Sir Keir Starmer and the Shadow Cabinet failed to back the actions of the National Education Union, which held an online meeting on 3rd January which was attended or watched by 400,000 NEU activists and supporters and which called on its members to refuse to work on the ground of health and safety in the face of Government intransigence on schools opening following the Christmas holidays on January 4th 2021;
- (g) that Sir Keir Starmer ordered his MPs to abstain on the Covert Human Intelligence Sources Bill (also known as the 'Spycops Bill'), which set out new legal rights for state undercover agents to commit crimes in order to 'maintain economic well-being' or 'prevent disorder', a Bill heavily criticised by Amnesty International;
- (h) that Sir Keir Starmer was forced to back down and instruct his MPs to vote against the Overseas Operations Bill, a change in policy from the prior position of abstaining on a Bill which would legalise war crimes and torture by British soldiers serving abroad by introducing a five year 'statute of limitations' on almost all crimes committed overseas, and
- (i) that Sir Keir Starmer instructed Labour MPs to vote in favour of the European Union (Future Relationship) Bill, despite personally voting against the Brexit deal put before Parliament in December 2018 and despite the Association's General Secretary calling on Labour MPs to vote against the Bill in an article in The Guardian on 29th December 2020.

Conference believes that the current Government has been one of unbridled corruption, shameless cronyism and blithering incompetence since being elected in a landslide General Election victory in 2019. The Covid pandemic has exposed the fault lines which exist in the Government's free-market, neoliberal ideology and that ideology's impotence in effectively protecting society from the ravages of the

biggest pandemic this planet has seen in over 100 years. Yet, this Government has rarely been held to account, either inside or outside Parliament, by an Opposition which apparently exists in name only.

Conference further believes that if the Labour Party truly does stand for working people, as it pontificates, then this must start and end with fighting to defend the interests of all working people in this country, whatever their struggles.

Conference instructs the Executive Committee to:

- (i) Convey the terms of this motion to the Labour Party, and
- (ii) To commence a consultation exercise with members on our Association's future relationship with the Labour Party.

Mover Esther Lathan (LU MATS & Operational Managers)

Seconder Sarah-Jane McDonough (Euston)

**CARRIED**

#### **66. International Relations (item 69)**

That this Conference notes the continued threat to peace from the USA which has over 800 foreign military bases.

Conference is dismayed that following the election of US President Biden, foreign policy remains no less aggressive than that of the former President. Conference is concerned that this policy has been supported by the British Government and the loyal opposition. Conference calls for the British Government and the Labour Party to add (*its*) their support to those working to de-escalate the moves towards a Cold War.

The Cold War, moves towards military threats and ultimately the risk of war with Venezuela, Syria, Iran, Russia, and China will not solve problems that their people may have, as was promised before the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya.

Conference instructs the EC to bring this motion to the attention of the Government and Labour Party and to support motions at conferences, attended by TSSA delegates, that seek to reduce international tensions.

Mover Ian Rashbrook (Network Rail North London)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

## Amendment

*To insert between 'Conference' and 'calls' in line 3, 'is dismayed that following the election of US President Biden, foreign policy remains no less aggressive than that of the former President. Conference is concerned that this policy has been supported by the British Government and the loyal opposition. Conference'*

*To insert between 'Government' and first 'to' in line 3, 'and the Labour Party'*

*To delete 'its' in line 3 and substitute 'their'.*

*To add at end (new paragraph):*

*'Conference instructs the EC to bring this motion to the attention of the Government and Labour Party and to support motions at conferences, attended by TSSA delegates, that seek to reduce international tensions.'*

## Anglia South General

ACCEPTED

### 67. European Relations (item 70)

That this Conference believes the new relationship with Europe means it is in the interests of working people and trade unions that the United Kingdom remains intact and supports moves and energies from trade unions to form new, as well as retain existing, relationships with our Continental neighbours.

Conference believes that this relationship should be based on equal interests and partnership. Conference calls on the EC to bring this motion to the attention of the TUC and other trade unions.

Mover            Formally (London and Southern Retired)

Seconder        Formally

CARRIED

### 68. Parliamentary Scrutiny of Trade Deals (item 71)

That this Conference was dismayed by the lack of time available for Parliamentary scrutiny of the Bill containing the Brexit Trade deal that was presented to Parliament for 'rubber stamping' on Wednesday 30th December 2020. Conference is deeply concerned that this may set the pattern for any future trade deals that the Government negotiates - whether with the EU or other countries - with either

no, or minimal opportunity for scrutiny by Parliament. Such a lack of transparency would put environmental standards and workers' rights at great risk.

Conference calls on the Labour Party to insist on Parliamentary scrutiny of all trade deals negotiated by the Government and to demand that adequate time is given for such scrutiny. Conference instructs the EC to use all of its influence within the Labour Party, including motions to Labour Party Conference, to pressure the Party into achieving this aim.

Mover David Merrett (North East General)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

#### **69. The Economy and Society (item 72)**

That this Conference will continue to oppose those policies of the Conservative Government that seek to undermine the well-being of working people and their families. In doing so, it determines that the Association will seek to work with other trade unions, including unions representing precarious workers, to identify the most effective ways available to mobilise members, trades councils and others who share the same views.

Covid has shown that the existing economic model is fundamentally broken and the experiences of working people and their trade unions over the past months has opened up a space to ask questions about what type of economy, and what kind of society, we want to see. Conference, therefore, calls on the EC to promote its own policies to the community and the wider movement in order to work collectively to advance the interests of working people.

Mover Formally (Anglia South General)

Seconder Formally (London North West Retired)

**CARRIED**

#### **70. COP26 and the Green New Deal**

That this Conference notes:

- (a) the crises posed to sustainability and human life by the climate crisis, Covid and the potential for future pandemics;

- (b) that these crises throw inequalities into sharp relief and call out for a global Green New Deal, as supported by the Association for many years;
- (c) that we face a global and UK crisis of unemployment but also an opportunity to invest in climate jobs, a just transition and a fairer society;
- (d) that the UK is hosting the rescheduled COP26 international climate negotiations in Glasgow in 2021, and
- (e) that a commitment to climate justice and the Green New Deal was one of the key pledges made by Sir Keir Starmer when he became Labour Leader.

Conference asks the EC to ensure that the Association:

- (i) participates meaningfully in trade union and community actions to promote climate justice and the Green New Deal, particularly actions addressed to COP26;
- (ii) encourages members to take part in such actions, through the COP26 Coalition and other organisations;
- (iii) works with the ITUC and in other ways to promote climate justice and extend solidarity and support to delegations from the global south to COP26;
- (iv) commits to continue campaigning in support of climate justice through the Labour Party and related organisations, to deliver Labour conference policies including the Green New Deal, public ownership, climate justice and a just transition to environmental sustainability;
- (v) promotes our affiliation to the Campaign Against Climate Change Trade Union group to members, and encourages branch and individual affiliation to and participation in CACCTU, and
- (vi) sends delegates to the TUC Trade Union Sustainable Development Advisory Group (TUSDAG).
- (vii) sends the General Secretary if possible, or a well-advised suitable alternative TSSA representative, to the COP26 to observe whenever possible the relevant sessions on transport, and participate in relevant fringe meetings where transport is a primary issue, and to report back to the EC afterwards, and
- (viii) urges the relevant train operating companies and the Secretary of State for Transport to promote and encourage enhanced rail travel to the COP26 for British and near-European participants, with additional trains from London Euston and by Eurostar, with through bookings and reserved accommodation on selected trains, as a highly-motivated alternative to travelling by air.

Mover            Luke Howard (TfL Central)

Seconder        Formally

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

*To add at end (new paragraphs):*

- ‘(vii) sends the General Secretary if possible, or a well-advised suitable alternative TSSA representative, to the COP26 to observe whenever possible the relevant sessions on transport, and participate in relevant fringe meetings where transport is a primary issue, and to report back to the EC afterwards, and
- (viii) urges the relevant train operating companies and the Secretary of State for Transport to promote and encourage enhanced rail travel to the COP26 for British and near-European participants, with additional trains from London Euston and by Eurostar, with through bookings and reserved accommodation on selected trains, as a highly-motivated alternative to travelling by air.’.

Mover            Ian McDonald (Kent)

Seconder        Malcolm Wallace (Anglia South General)

**CARRIED**

## **71. Climate Change and the Railways (item 74)**

That this Conference regrets the recent loss of life at Stonehaven, caused by the major derailment of a train after the collapse of the railway embankment resulting from severe heavy rainfall. This type of incident adversely affecting railway infrastructure following storms, and more frequent weather deteriorations, causing flooding, earthwork damage, trees blocking lines, and buckled rails, is becoming more frequent, with scope for truly major disasters in future. Government needs to invest massively to strengthen and rebuild where necessary on rail infrastructure, some of which may be up to 170 years old.

Conference also notes that while, in its much proclaimed efforts to meet climate change targets overall, the Government has pledged to make some investment in reopening closed railway lines, only on a modest handful of lines are considered so far. Some of their press releases are repeats of previous ones: for example the major East-West (Oxford-Cambridge) part-route reopening was investigated in 2006, finance promised in 2011, and the same scheme was reported again in the press at end of January 2021 as if it was new money rather than actually reduced money, and without the electrification proposed previously. Meanwhile the Government plan to spend £27 billion on new roads in 2020-25. This target may have slipped but remains their policy.

Conference therefore instructs the EC to raise with Government the essential need for investment to be shifted from this absurd massive roads programme to comparable expenditure on rail modernisation, with an 80% total route electrification target. The HS2 project, now absurdly and unnecessarily expensive and environmentally unpopular for many, cannot be the only significant rail project.

Conference is disappointed that no reference was made in the budget on 3 March 2021 or in the policy document 'Build Back Better' about future railway policy or funding, despite investing in the A66 Trans-Pennine upgrade or the Lower Thames Crossing road schemes.

Conference also urges the Labour Party and possibly other parties and the TUC to campaign more forcefully on such policies, if the Government is really serious on meeting its climate impact reduction targets, only achievable in transport by significant modal shift being accomplished for both people and freight.

Mover            Ian McDonald (Kent)

Seconder       Formally

**CARRIED**

## **72. Transport Policy - Public Ownership (item 75)**

This Conference is concerned at the lack of effort being employed by the current Tory Government to implement change to the ownership and operation of the rail industry in Great Britain. Conference is aware that the Government announced in September 2020 that they have 'ended' rail franchising. This is not true. What in fact they have done is kicked franchising into the long grass by placing existing operators on transitional contracts rather than taking back ownership of the contracts themselves.

The Williams Rail Review was established in September 2019, it was expected to publish its findings and recommendations in Autumn 2019, with reform expected to commence in 2020.

Conference believes the Tory Government is now using the Coronavirus pandemic as an excuse to delay the change being introduced to the rail industry. How long will private companies and international rail operators profit from taxes and for how long will the travelling public suffer at the hands of the same operators? The wait for Williams is delaying change.

Conference calls on the EC to challenge the Tory Government through all means possible to have the railway returned to Public Ownership and have change made a reality.

Conference instructs the EC to ask the Irish Committee to resist any future plans by the Governments of either the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland to privatise any part of the rail network in Ireland.

Furthermore, Conference requests that the Irish Committee take whatever action is required to intervene and prevent the further selling of bus routes in the Republic of Ireland.

Mover Formally (Irish Committee)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

### **73. Transport Policy - Cross-Border Funding (item 76)**

That this Conference is concerned at the loss of European funding for rail infrastructure projects in Northern Ireland. Most of Northern Ireland Railways' infrastructure projects on urban and the cross border rail links were partially subsidised by the EU. With the implementation of Brexit in January 2021 this funding has vanished. Northern Ireland Railways' cross border rail service is a vital direct land link to the EU marketplace and a trade route essential to the economic growth of Northern Ireland. Translink (the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company) will now have to find this funding from other sources.

Conference calls on the EC to request the Irish Committee to encourage joint union and ICTU engagement with the Northern Ireland Executive and the Irish Government, with the aim of having special status awarded to Translink for extra funding so this vital trade link can be maintained and grown.

Mover Formally (Irish Committee)

Seconder Michael Maguire (Retired Members' Group)

**CARRIED**

### **74. Transport Policy - Rail Freight**

That this Conference believes that rail freight is more environmentally friendly when compared with road haulage over long distances, yet the total volume of rail freight fell to its lowest level in 23 years in 2020.

Conference is concerned that, though goods transported by rail have a lower carbon footprint, rail freight is decreasing in favour of road haulage. Rail infrastructure is being removed to make way for more lorries and, though the



capacity of a freight train is greater than an HGV, more freight is being sent by road.

Conference is also aware that one of the leading issues for the various Governments' historic promotion and justification for HS2 was that the transfer of most long distance express north-south train services to the route would provide badly needed additional route capacity on the classic rail routes, for large amounts of freight to be transferred from the roads. However, Government press releases have omitted all such justifications in more recent promotions and advocacy for HS2. We urge the EC to remind them of this, and seek a response on how they will persuade freight shippers to transfer existing traffic from roads to the railways instead, and ask whether they will assist this objective through lower railfreight charges and higher tax costs for road freight.

Conference calls upon the EC to ask the Labour Party to push for an increase in market share for rail freight, and to put pressure on the Government, in order to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and congestion on our roads.

Mover            Allan O'Hare (West of Scotland)

Seconder       Formally

**CARRIED**

#### **Amendment**

*To insert between 'road.' in line 7 and 'Conference' in line 8 (new paragraph):*

'Conference is also aware that one of the leading issues for the various Governments' historic promotion and justification for HS2 was that the transfer of most long distance express north-south train services to the route would provide badly needed additional route capacity on the classic rail routes, for large amounts of freight to be transferred from the roads. However, Government press releases have omitted all such justifications in more recent promotions and advocacy for HS2. We urge the EC to remind them of this, and seek a response on how they will persuade freight shippers to transfer existing traffic from roads to the railways instead, and ask whether they will assist this objective through lower railfreight charges and higher tax costs for road freight.'

Mover            Ian McDonald (Kent)

Seconder       Formally

**CARRIED**

## 75. Rule Alterations (item 78)

That this Conference, having duly passed the several Resolutions which involve alterations to the Rules of the Association, hereby instructs the EC to give effect to all such Resolutions by making the authorised amendments to the Rules affected (including such re-numbering and verbal correcting as may be necessary) and to have the same registered in accordance with statutory requirements - also to produce a sufficient number of printed copies of the amended Rules to be made available to each member on request; the revised Rules to come into operation forthwith, except where otherwise provided for.

Mover Formally (Executive Committee)

Seconder Formally

**CARRIED**

## 76. Election Results

### 2021 Labour Party (three required)

Name	Branch	No. of Branch Votes
Jill Murdoch	North East General	235
Fliss Premru	TFL Central	192
Paul Beadle	Euston	142
Cheryl O`Brien	Wales No. 1	71
Nicola Jukes	North East Operations	52
Frank Ellis	Lancs and Cumbria General	41
Dave Merrett	North East General	30
Anand Pillai	Anglia No. 3	4
Josie Weller	Southeastern Metro	0

### 2021 Labour Party Women's Conference (two required)

Name	Branch	No. of Branch Votes
Cath Murphy	Crewe and Cheshire General	235
Josie Weller	Southeastern Metro	185
Nicola Jukes	North East Operations	52
Cheryl O`brien	Wales No. 1	54

Katrina Faccende	Scotland North & East General	12
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**2021 Trade Union Congress (three required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
Sarah-Jane McDonough	Euston	316
Cath Murphy	Crewe and Cheshire General	272
Al Stoten	Southeastern Metro	269
Cheryl O`Brein	Wales No. 1	88
Nicola Jukes	North East Operations	67
John Haynes	Wales No. 1	20
Hayley Hill	Wales No. 1	20
Josie Weller	Southeastern Metro	0

**2022 TUC Women’s Conference (five required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
Sarah-Jane McDonough	Euston	321
Josie Weller	Southeastern Metro	311
Fliss Premru	TFL Central	271
Maryse Thiau-Chi	Euston	203
Cath Murphy	Crewe and Cheshire General	195
Cheryl O`Brien	Wales No. 1	181
Nicola Jukes	North East Operations	87
Hayley Hill	Wales No. 1	20
Sophie Davis-Williams	First Great Western East	2

**2022 TUC Black Workers’ Conference (five required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
Anand Pillai	Anglia No. 3	Elected unopposed
Irene Wright	Network Rail Milton Keynes	Elected unopposed

A further call for nominations and an election will be held for three delegates, including at least one woman.

**2022 TUC Disabled Workers' Conference (five required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
<b>Mick Carney</b>	<b>Southeastern Metro</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>John Haynes</b>	<b>Wales No. 1</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Cath Murphy</b>	<b>Lancs and Cumbria General</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Ray Spiteri</b>	<b>TfL Central</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Irene Wright</b>	<b>Network Rail Milton Keynes</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>

**2022 TUC Young Workers Conference (four required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
<b>Josie Weller</b>	<b>Southeastern Metro</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Sophie Davis-Williams</b>	<b>First Great Western East</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Aneurin Redman-White</b>	<b>Lancs and Cumbria General</b>	<b>283</b>
<b>Harry Gibb</b>	<b>North East General</b>	<b>270</b>
<b>Cameron Law</b>	<b>West of Scotland General</b>	<b>65</b>

**2022 TUC LGBT Conference (five required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
<b>David Drewrey</b>	<b>Southeastern Metro</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Hayley Hill</b>	<b>Wales No. 1</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Aaron Lee</b>	<b>London Metropolitan</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Aneurin Redman-White</b>	<b>Lancs and Cumbria General</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Gemma Southgate</b>	<b>Wales No. 1</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>

**2022 Standing Orders Committee (five required)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
Luke Howard	TFL Central	334 (withdrawn)
<b>Gerry Kennedy</b>	<b>Belfast</b>	<b>338</b>
<b>Steve Leggett</b>	<b>Southeastern Metro</b>	<b>329</b>
<b>Joe Kavanagh</b>	<b>Midland General</b>	<b>272</b>
<b>Cheryl O`Brien</b>	<b>Wales No. 1</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Anand Pillai</b>	<b>Anglia No. 1</b>	<b>7</b>

### Scrutineers

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
<b>Andy Bain</b>	<b>Network Rail North London</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Steve Floyd</b>	<b>London Bus &amp; Rail Operators</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>

### Trustees

<b>Name</b>	<b>Branch</b>	<b>No. of Branch Votes</b>
<b>Dave Porter</b>	<b>Anglia No. 3</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>
<b>Malcolm Wallace</b>	<b>Anglia South General</b>	<b>Elected unopposed</b>

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