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9 May 2019

TSSA 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE: GLASGOW

Items 56, 57 and E1

Following Circulars 31, 32 and 33 of 25 March 2019, the SOC wishes to advise of the following amendments:

Item 56 Guidance Note Changes (Circular 33)

No amendments proposed, the motion stands as in Circular 33 with the EC Report.

Item 57 TSSA Democracy (Circular 31)

Two amendments proposed as on following pages.

Item E1 EC Report on Subscription Bands and Political Fund Contributions (Circular 32)

Two amendments proposed as on following pages.

The Circulars, including the EC Reports, are available on the TSSA website at www.tssa.org.uk/en/Your-union/TSSA-democracy/annual-conference/index.cfm.

Branches involved in these motions are asked to attend Standing Orders Committee as shown on the Call Sheet.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Cortes', written in a cursive style.

Manuel Cortes

General Secretary

TO EC, SOC, ALL BRANCHES AND SOGs, Delegates to Annual Conference



Item 57 TSSA Democracy

<p>That this Conference endorses the EC Report and instructs the EC to progress the appropriate actions.</p>	<p>1 2</p>
<p>Executive Committee</p>	
<p>Amendments -</p>	
<p>A <i>To delete ‘endorses’ in line 1 (of Motion) and substitute ‘welcomes’.</i></p>	
<p><i>To delete all after ‘Report’ in line 1 (of Motion) and substitute ‘but considers it not sufficiently robust to meet our needs and should be seen as an Interim Report.</i></p>	
<p>Conference does not consider a Special Conference to be financially acceptable and instructs the EC and Working Party to issue a further paper for consultation with a view to reaching agreement at the 2020 Annual Conference. Conference instructs the EC and the Working Party to take account of the proposals below and authorises the EC to implement them, along with any proposals in its own report, as long as no rule changes are required.</p>	
<p>Conference accepts that it is not just the “nature of the bureaucracy” that is restrictive and hinders participation, but also because many members are in branches that cover a wide area; this makes it difficult for members to engage in branch meetings. Conference agrees that the Irish Model is a positive step forward but the benefits of Divisional Councils are diminishing. Conference asks the Working Party to re-evaluate their role and put forward recommendations as to their future.</p>	
<p>Conference accepts that there is no easy answer to engaging members but that the current position is not totally negative.</p>	
<p>Conference believes that the Association can move forward, particularly by improving the way in which Branches and SOGs communicate to members, including an increase in the use of regular newsletters. Ideally, these should be distributed electronically but if this is not possible, then by post. Conference recognises that as Branches, Divisional Councils and SOGS all contain members with different strengths and weaknesses, we need to improve their collective skills by providing knowledge of what is available, Conference, therefore, calls on the EC to develop a training programme to this effect.</p>	
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>	

Item 57 TSSA Democracy (continued)
Amendment A (continued)

Conference welcomes the use of technology to improve its procedures and the possibility of it being “paperless” but believes that this has to be balanced against cost. Before any steps are taken members should have a fully costed business case before proceeding and the approval of branches.

Conference also believes that all Branches, SOGS, Divisional Councils and the EC should have the authority to explore further ways to engage and communicate with the membership as long as they are within the rules of the Association. Where new practices have been established and found to be successful these should be reported to the EC so that best practice can be applied elsewhere. Conference recognises that this strategy to improve our democracy has to be an ongoing process.

Conference notes that the Working Party discussed, but did not find a solution, to “the lack of participation in TSSA elections (eg to the EC)”. Conference recognises that this, in part, is owing to the drop in membership, the lack of participation in the democratic process, and the reduction in the number of branches. Conference agrees that ways have to be found to encourage members to take on the role of an EC member. All members need to be aware of the EC member’s role, their workload, the role of its committees, the induction process, the training they will be given, and other relevant information that will assist them in their duties. Conference calls on the EC and the Working Party to give further thought to how this can be achieved.

Conference notes that the report states: “There is a hole in TSSA’s democracy which needs to be plugged by involving reps and activists”. However, no recommendations have been made regarding activists. Conference agrees that this needs to be revisited with recommendations as to how activists and reps will be accountable for their attendance at Conference.’.

Anglia South General

(continued)

Item 57 TSSA Democracy (continued)
Amendments (continued)

B *To delete all after ‘Conference’ in line 1 (of Motion) and substitute ‘notes and welcomes the EC Report, but regrets that there has not been better consultation about these ideas. The Report contains some good proposals for addressing the important issues that need to be addressed, but some of these are controversial and some have significant resource implications. More discussion is needed before these ideas can be endorsed by Conference.*

Conference calls on the EC and Working Party to adopt the following programme for taking these ideas forward:

- a. urgently re-publish this Report to Branches, Divisional Councils and SOGs as a consultation document;
- b. develop detailed proposals taking account of the consultation responses;
- c. publish these proposals in late 2019 for further consultation;
- d. reserve time at Annual Conference for a full debate on this issue;
- e. taking account of consultation responses, publish a report and proposals for Annual Conference 2020. Each proposition should be in a separate motion.’.

Retired Members’ Group
TfL Central

The EC Report is included in Circular 31, available on the TSSA website at www.tssa.org.uk/en/Your-union/TSSA-democracy/annual-conference/index.cfm.

Item E1 EC Report on Subscription Bands and Political Fund Contributions

That this Conference endorses the EC Report and instructs the EC to implement the various actions proposed	1 2
Executive Committee	
Amendments -	
A <i>To delete ‘endorses’ in line 1 (of Motion) and substitute ‘notes’.</i>	
<i>To add at end (of Motion) (new paragraphs):</i>	
‘Conference is concerned that none of the actions required by Resolution 73 of the 2018 Annual Conference have been included in this Report. In particular, the Review of the demands on the Association’s Political Fund is not included and therefore Conference does not have the requisite information to make an informed decision on the future contribution levels.	
Conference therefore instructs the EC to produce the Report on the Political Fund as agreed at the 2018 Annual Conference. This Report should be with Branches no later than 30 th September 2019.’	
Yorkshire General	
B <i>To add at end (of Motion) (new paragraph):</i>	
‘Conference welcomes the proposals to encourage members to join the Political Fund but notes that no mention has been made to ensure that there will not be a repeat of its over expenditure. Conference instructs the EC to manage the Political Fund more efficiently and with greater openness.’	
Anglia South General	

The EC Report is included in Circular 32, available on the TSSA website at www.tssa.org.uk/en/Your-union/TSSA-democracy/annual-conference/index.cfm.