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Transport Salaried Staffs' Association  
of Great Britain and Ireland

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**Minutes of  
Annual Delegate Conference**  
(ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH YEAR)

Held in

**EASTBOURNE**

7th to 9th May 2016

# List of Delegates Present

**Total 58**

<b>Branch</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
Anglia No 1	Bob Davies
Anglia No 1	Robin Whittaker
Anglia No 3	Andrew Paton
Anglia No 3	David Godfrey
Crewe & Cheshire General	David Lown
Disability Working Group	Catherine Murphy
East Midlands Trains No 1	Melissa Heywood
East Scotland General	Martin Hartley
E-Mix	Mary Sithole
Euston	Thomas Rickard
Future TSSA	No Delegate
Inverness and North General	Karan Park
Irish Committee	Denise Guinan
Irish Committee	Paul Corcoran
Kent	Susan Pattwell
Lancs & Cumbria	Steven Horsfall
Lancs & Cumbria	Frank Ellis
Lancs & Cumbria Retired	No Delegate
London Bus Operators	Nik Anthony
London Bus Operators	Richard Scudder
London & Southern Retired	Eddie Creighton
London Met	Sarah Magee
London Met	Felix Matthew-Brown
London North West Retired	Fred Hall
London South and West General	Dhiman Mazumder
London South and West General	Roopa Vashist
LU MATS & Operating Managers	Keiran Crowe
LU MATS & Operating Managers	Elizabeth Wren
Merseyside General	No Delegate
Midlands General	No Delegate
Midlands Network Rail	No Delegate
Midlands Retired	Peter Vincent
Network Rail Anglia North	No Delegate
Network Rail London South	Dave Barnes
Network Rail London South	Chris Maughan
Network Rail Milton Keynes	No Delegate
Network Rail North London	Andy Bain
Network Rail North London	Simon Pearson
Network Rail Midlands	Allen J Williams
Network Rail East Anglia	Hugh Roper
Network Rail East Anglia	Richard Magner
Network Rail Yorkshire	No Delegate
Newcastle General	No Delegate

North East Operations  
North East Operations  
North East Retired  
Retired Members' Group  
Scotland Retired  
South East Wales General  
Southeastern Metro  
Southeastern Metro  
Sussex  
Swindon & Chippenham  
TfL  
TfL  
Travel Trade Scotland  
Underground No 1  
Underground No 1  
Wales and Western Retired  
Wales No 1  
Wales No 1  
Wessex  
West Midlands General  
Yorkshire General  
Yorkshire General  
West Scotland General  
West Scotland General  
Women in Focus

Judith Rodgers  
Richard Cooper  
Tim Bartlett  
Malcolm Wallace  
Leslie Simpson  
Howard Morris  
Josey Grimshaw  
Keeley Lipscombe  
Michael Litchfield  
No Delegate  
Kyle Williamson  
Fliss Premru  
David Gamble  
Abdel Magid Zaki  
Ashok Modgill  
Malcolm Harrison  
Clive Raison  
Sandra Vaughan  
John Tetins  
Mick Risbridger  
Jill Murdoch  
Dave Merrett  
Derek Strain  
Lorna Deveaney  
Hilary Hosking

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)**

Mick Carney	President
Jason Turvey	Treasurer
Bob Bayley	Midlands
Chris Clark	London Transport
Andi Fox	North East
Gerry Kennedy	Ireland
Gary Kilroy	North West
Cheryl O'Brien	Wales & Western
Stephen Lawrence	Scotland (not present)
Steve Leggett	London South
Mike Wood	London North West
Steve Andrews	Anglia & London N. E.

#### **STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (SOC)**

Steve Floyd (Chair)  
Joel Kosminsky (Vice Chair)  
Joe Kavanagh  
Luke Howard

#### **HEAD OFFICE STAFF**

Manuel Cortes	General Secretary
Frank Ward	Assistant General Secretary

Rob Jenks	President's Liaison Officer
Dionne Brown	Finance Manager
Kerry Abel	Communications Manager
Tony Wheeler	Hall Supervisor
Sal Morawetz	Hall Steward
Chris Hargrave	Hall Steward
Mel Taylor	Hall Steward
Rachel Timmins	Admin Support
Pam Collins	Admin Support
John Smith	IT Supervisor
Tom Condon	Press
Sam Tarry	Political Officer

# ANNUAL DELEGATE CONFERENCE

Held in

# EASTBOURNE

7TH TO 9TH MAY 2016

NOTE: Words in resolutions which have been deleted by the acceptance or carrying of the Amendments are bracketed in italics and are included only for information. They should not be read into the final resolution. Also, where a resolution was remitted to the Executive Committee, the Committee's decision is given in italics beneath the resolution concerned.

## First Day's Proceedings

### 1. **Appointment of Tellers & Voting Clerks**

Thomas Rickard (Euston), Hilary Hosking (Women In Focus), Richard Cooper (North East Operations), Judith Rodgers (North East Operations), Roopa Vashist (London South and West General ), Dhiman Mazumder (London South and West General), Melissa Heywood (East Midlands Trains No 1 ), Elizabeth Wren (LU MATS & Operating Managers).

### 2. **Minutes of 2015 Annual Conference**

The Minutes of the 2015 Annual Conference were presented.

It was noted that Item 16, on pages 12/13, which had been carried had been reported as lost. An amendment to 2015 Annual Conference Minutes had been submitted to delete 'LOST' and substitute 'CARRIED' at the end of the resolution.

The Minutes of the 2015 Annual Conference were agreed with this amendment.

### 3. **Announcement of Election Results**

The Scrutineers report on the elections for the various offices, delegations etc., were adopted. (See Minute 74 on Page 50 for full election results).

### 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 58 delegates attended representing 40 Branches & SOGs, and with members of the Executive Committee, Standing Orders Committee and the paid staff, there were a total of 87 present. There were also several visitors throughout Conference

**7. Co-operative Bank (Item 7)**

That this Conference, noting that the Co-operative Bank, through its majority shareholders composed of US hedge funds, has closed accounts for the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign, its local support groups and Cuba Solidarity Campaign, agrees to: *(requests that the EC:)*

- (a) *(shows)* show support to those organisations working to support Palestinians that have had their accounts closed by the Co-operative Bank(;) and
- (b) *(encourages)* requests the EC to encourage them to transfer to a bank that is now more sympathetic such as the Unity Trust. *(and*
- (c) *ensures that assistance is given to Co-operative Bank customers wishing to establish a 'union of Co-operative Bank customers')*.

Conference believes that mutual bodies offer a positive banking alternative to the Co-operative Bank.

Moved by Bob Davies (Anglia No1)

Seconded by David Lown (Crewe & Cheshire General)

**CARRIED**

***Amendment -***

*To delete all between "Conference" in line 1 and "(a)" in line 2 and substitute ", noting that the Co-operative Bank, through its majority shareholders composed of US hedge funds, has closed accounts for the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign, its local support groups and the Cuba Solidarity Campaign, agrees to:".*

*To delete "shows" in line 2 and substitute "show".*

*To delete ";" in line 3 and substitute ", and".*

*To delete "encourages" in line 4 and substitute "requests the EC to encourage".*

*To delete all after "Trust" in line 5 and substitute ".".*

*Conference believes that mutual bodies offer a positive banking alternative to the Co-operative Bank."*

**Anglia No. 1**

**ACCEPTED**

**8. Devolution to City Regions (Item 8)**

That this Conference recognises that devolution may be of great economic benefit to the regions of England. However, Conference considers it imperative that national bargaining be retained in any of the companies where the Association has members.

Devolution of power to local authorities is not an excuse for undermining the terms of service of our members in these companies.

Conference instructs the EC to bring this to the attention of the TUC and the Labour Party and to all company council members in the areas affected.

Moved by Frank Ellis (Lancs & Cumbria)

Seconded by Formally

**CARRIED**

## **9. Nuclear Disarmament (Item 9)**

That this Conference is appalled at the Government's plans to replace the Trident missile weapons at a probable cost of £100 billion. No country has used nuclear weapons offensively since 1945, nor is such an event ever likely to take place again, and France is the only other European Union country with nuclear weapons. The Conservative Government is currently obsessed with forcing through austerity cuts, with devastating effect on all aspects of the British economy, jobs and employment, and attacking the welfare and social cost of supporting those citizens who need it, yet has no intention of abandoning the hideously expensive nuclear missile replacement programme, even though it will never be used.

Conference recognises that defence is one of the last significant high value manufacturing industries we have left. Therefore in moving proposals for the abandonment of the Trident programme, in order to build a wider base of public support for this position, a proposal for alternative work for those employed in this industry must be made alongside them.

Conference is very aware that any suggestion of renewing Trident is a continuation of the British government's persistence in ignoring the Non-Proliferation Treaty that came into force in 1970 and to which the UK was an original signatory. Article VI of the Treaty calls for nuclear disarmament and in 1996 the International Court of Justice interpreted that Article as 'an obligation to pursue in good faith ... nuclear disarmament in all its aspects'. Renewal of Trident clearly contravenes that understanding.

The SNP, Plaid Cymru and Green Party are all opposed to Trident replacement along with a majority of the British people. The Scottish Labour Party has now also voted overwhelmingly at its Conference in November 2015 to abandon support for Trident replacement, and therefore this Conference instructs the EC to urge the other UK Labour Parties to join the Scottish Party with a revised policy on this issue, and vote accordingly to oppose the Government's plans, and to adopt a policy of opposition to nuclear weapons if Labour comes to power.

Moved by Susan Pattwell (Kent)

Seconded by Derek Strain (West Scotland General)

**CARRIED**

## **Amendments -**

A. To insert “Union” between “European” and “country” in line 4.

### **West Scotland General**

**ACCEPTED**

B. To insert between “used.” In line 9 and “The” in line 10, new paragraph:

“Conference recognises that defence is one of the last significant high value manufacturing industries we have left. Therefore in moving proposals for the abandonment of the Trident programme, in order to build a wider base of public support for this position, a proposal for alternative work for those employed in this industry must be made alongside them.”.

### **Lancs & Cumbria General**

**ACCEPTED**

C. To insert between “used” in line 9 and “The” in line 10, new paragraph:

“Conference is very aware that any suggestion of renewing Trident is a continuation of the British government’s persistence in ignoring the Non-Proliferation Treaty that came into force in 1970 and to which the UK was an original signatory. Article VI of the Treaty calls for nuclear disarmament and in 1996 the International Court of Justice interpreted that Article as ‘an obligation to pursue in good faith ... nuclear disarmament in all its aspects’. Renewal of Trident clearly contravenes that understanding.”.

### **Women in Focus**

**ACCEPTED**

## **10. British Manufacturing (Item 10)**

That this Conference notes with dismay the closure of the SSI steelworks in Redcar, Teeside in October 2015 which represented the end of steelworking on the River Tees, a proud heritage that has not only delivered the steel for the Transporter Bridge but also bridges across the Tyne, the Sydney Harbour Bridge and the Golden Gate Bridge, all built with Teeside steel. This closure condemned 1700 workers to dole queues in an area already struggling with extreme deprivation, unemployment and poverty.

Conference also condemns the loss of 750 jobs at the Tata steelworks at Port Talbot in January 2016.

Conference is equally appalled at the closure on 18 December 2015 of the Kellingley Colliery, North Yorkshire, the final death knell for deep coal mining in this country at a time when we are still importing coal from abroad. Thirty two years on, this

Conference acknowledges that Arthur Scargill was right all along. These betrayals of British manufacturing jobs finally put paid to the Tory lies of a ‘Northern Powerhouse’.

The Labour Party cannot escape some criticism here. Back in 2010 when the first attack on the steelworks in Redcar took place the local MP at the time, Vera Baird, did little or nothing to resist the job cuts. It is therefore worth noting that the newly-elected Labour MP in the area was at the forefront of the campaign to keep the Redcar steelworks open.

Conference is also rightly concerned about the effect that the loss of these heavy industries will have on the levels of freight traffic in the local economy and on the communities in these areas.

Conference calls on the EC to reaffirm its commitment to opposing all Tory cuts, especially those that have such devastating consequences for our communities. Conference also calls on the EC to work with our friends within the Labour Party to call for renationalisation of the remaining steelworks and open-cast coal mines within these Isles to protect jobs and communities against failed Tory ideology and dogma.

Moved by                      Josie Grimshaw (South East & Metro)

Seconded by                 Richard Scudder (London Bus Operators)

**CARRIED**

***Amendment -***

*To insert between “poverty.” in line 6 and “Conference” in line 7, new paragraph: “Conference also condemns the loss of 750 jobs at the Tata steelworks at Port Talbot in January 2016.”.*

*To delete “in the North.” in line 18 and substitute “, the local economy and on the communities in these areas.”.*

**London Bus Operators**

**ACCEPTED**

**11. Blacklisting (Item 11)**

That this Conference supports trade union efforts to expose and challenge historic and current blacklisting.

Conference notes that the Labour Party is opposed to blacklisting and welcomes the statement by John McDonnell MP that ‘Labour will do everything in our power to ensure that taxpayers’ money is only given to companies with the highest ethical standards’.

Conference urges the EC to explore actions that can be taken to persuade Network Rail not to let contracts to known blacklisting companies.

Moved by Simon Pearson (Network Rail North London)  
Seconded by Malcolm Wallace (Retired Members' Group)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

To insert between “blacklisting.” in line 2 and “Conference” in line 3, new paragraph:

“Conference notes that the Labour Party is opposed to blacklisting and welcomes the statement by John McDonnell MP that ‘Labour will do everything in our power to ensure that taxpayers’ money is only given to companies with the highest ethical standards’.”.

**Retired Members’ Group**

**ACCEPTED**

### **12. Housing (Item 12)**

**WITHDRAWN in favour of Composite Item 12 and Item 14**

That this Conference notes the proposals to sell off social housing without replacement have already resulted in the poor, the needy and the disabled living on the streets, this has led to increasing disenfranchisement. Conference also notes that it is a basic human right for everyone to have somewhere to live. The housing crisis is now one of the major scandals of the 21st Century leaving the younger generation, people on average wages and below with no hope of decent housing. The ongoing reduction of council housing and Housing Association properties for rent on secure tenancies has resulted in the shocking rise in rents in the private sector as more buy-to-let landlords are cashing in and getting rich on the back of the housing crisis. The social cleansing of the poor and disabled from our cities as part of the Tory agenda to blame the poor and those on benefits for their own plight, is turning the clock back to pre-war conditions. The terms ‘affordable’ and ‘accessible’ should be defined more clearly and be based on a reasonable proportion of the average wage. Conference therefore instructs the EC to call on the Labour Link to press for:

- a) stronger rent controls
- b) better regulation in the rented sector;
- c) an increase in the numbers of council homes built each year, and
- d) the removal of welfare caps that have led to the social cleansing of our cities.

Conference also instructs the EC to engage with the TUC, Trades Union Councils, Shelter, other charities, community groups, faith groups and the People’s Assemblies to build a broad-based campaign to support the introduction of a ‘Living rent’ system and new council house building programme.

Moved by Catherine Murphy (Disability Working Group)  
Seconded by Frank Ellis (Lancs & Cumbria)

**CARRIED**

**13. Housing (Item 13)**

That this Conference is concerned at the lack of affordable housing for first-time buyers and comfortably-priced rental properties being provided.

Conference believes in an affordable central Government housebuilding programme, where houses can then be sold to first-time buyers at cost price (land plus building cost). Conference believes there must be stipulations placed on the purchase of this type of starter home. An individual can own no more than one, they cannot be used for private rented accommodation and can only be resold to the responsible Government agency, at the original cost price adjusted for inflation. The money recouped from the sale of these homes will then be reinvested into building more homes.

During this building programme, Conference believes substantial numbers of affordable rental homes of the same standard as first-time buyer properties need to be included in all developments. Any new development must conform to carbon footprint reduction and all new dwellings must include wheelchair access. Conference instructs the EC and requests the Irish Committee to engage with their relevant Government departments to discuss the contents of this motion.

Moved by Paul Corcoran (Irish Committee)  
Seconded by Waived

**REMITTED**

**14. Housing (Item 14)**  
**WITHDRAWN in favour of Composite Item 12 and Item 14**

**15. Pensions (Item 15)**

That this Conference believes that certain pension benefits are now a national embarrassment. These benefits are the 25 pence increase per week for over-80 year olds and the £10 Christmas bonus for all pensioners which have not increased in value since their introduction.

Conference instructs the EC to bring the terms of this motion to all interested parties.

Moved by Eddie Creighton (London and Southern Retired)  
Seconded by Formally

**CARRIED**

**Amendment**

To insert between “bring” and “this” in line 6 “the terms of”.

**London & Southern Retired**

**ACCEPTED**

**16. Pensions (Item 16)**

That this Conference notes that this Government, in its first year in office, has broken a main manifesto policy.

It has put back, until at least 2020, an increase in the limit a pensioner can have before having to pay for care, despite a commission stating the present limit is currently too low.

Conference instructs the EC to bring the terms of this motion to all interested parties.

Moved by Eddie Creighton (London and Southern Retired)

Seconded by Formally

**CARRIED**

**Amendment -**

To insert between “bring” and “this” in line 6 “the terms of”.

**London & Southern Retired**

**ACCEPTED**

**17. Meals on Wheels (Item 17)**

That this Conference is deeply concerned that the ‘Meals on Wheels’ service is being drastically reduced as part of the Government’s austerity strategy.

Conference notes that ‘Meals on Wheels’ is subsidised by the taxpayer, as is the provision of food and beverages in the Houses of Parliament. Conference, however, believes that those who receive ‘Meals on Wheels’ should have higher priority than MPs and those who sit in the House of Lords.

Conference is alarmed that, with the UK being one of the richest countries in the world, more than one million elderly people are malnourished within our nation and that the cost of malnutrition to the UK economy is £13 billion per year. Conference

notes that the average cost of a hospital bed is £300 per day and that the prevention of malnutrition will save the NHS money.

Conference believes that 'Meals on Wheels' should be a statutory protected service for those considered most at risk in the community rather than one that is discretionary. Conference, therefore, calls on the EC to make the Association's views known to all the relevant Government Ministers.

Moved by Malcolm Wallace (Retired Members' Group)

Seconded by Hilary Hosking (Women In Focus)

**CARRIED**

**18. Food Waste (Item 18)**

That this Conference instructs the EC to establish a campaign to stop TOCs wasting food and to work with communities to distribute this food to homeless centres and Food banks.

Moved by Judith Rodgers (North East Operations)

Seconded by Hilary Hosking (Women In Focus)

**CARRIED**

**19. Health (Item 19)**

That this Conference supports a 'sugar tax' and requests the EC to campaign in support of it.

Moved by Roopa Vashisht (London South & West General)

Seconded by Formally

**CARRIED**

**20. People's Post Campaign (Item 20)**

That this Conference supports the People's Post campaign, established by the Communication Workers' Union. This campaign sets out to defend postal services and decent employment standards in the postal industry - both of which are now under serious threat from privatisation and aggressive regulation.

As part of the People's Post campaign, Conference supports the view that Royal Mail should be renationalised and that a Workers' Trust in Royal Mail be established that gives staff a meaningful collective voice.

Moved by Bob Davies (Anglia No.1)

Seconded by Formally

**CARRIED**

## 21. BBC (Item 21)

That this Conference is concerned at the possible threat to the BBC following Charter renewal at the end of 2016. Opinion polls show that the BBC is a much-loved institution, but has often been under threat from political interference and the unique way it is funded.

Conference believes that the Government should be looking at ways to retain the BBC's core values and impartiality in news reporting and journalism, whilst maintaining value for money. While the licence fee has been frozen in real terms until 2017, Conference notes that this compulsory fee could be increased, not only to cover the continuation of free licences to (*over 75s*) people over the age of 75, and notes that other methods of funding could be found, even though research has found many vocal complaints come from the same respondents who are paying extra subscriptions to cable companies.

Conference reaffirms that a fully sustainable BBC, without advertising and sponsorship, should still be adequately funded by the state, whether by direct or indirect methods of collection.

Conference believes that the BBC should remain independent and maintain the ability to respond to creative freedom, without perceived pressure from Government or political interference. Conference believes that greater coverage should be given to Trade Union matters to highlight the growing levels of ordinary workplace injustices.

Conference recommends that future funding provides for a BBC to promote quality broadcasting that the British can continue to be proud of.

Conference is totally opposed to any cost saving initiative proposed by the BBC that involves those over the age of 75 being asked to make a voluntary contribution towards their TV Licence.

Conference instructs the EC to convey these views to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and the BBC.

Moved by Richard Scudder (London Bus Operators)

Seconded by Malcolm Wallace (Retired Members Group)

**CARRIED**

### Amendments

A. To delete "over 75s" in line 9 and substitute "people over the age of 75".

To insert between "of." in line 19 and "Conference" in line 20, new paragraph:

“Conference is totally opposed to any cost saving initiative proposed by the BBC that involves those over the age of 75 being asked to make a voluntary contribution towards their TV Licence.”.

To add at end “and the BBC.”.

### Retired Members Group

ACCEPTED

B. To insert between “interference.” in line 17 and “Conference” in line 18 “Conference believes that greater coverage should be given to Trade Union matters to highlight the growing levels of ordinary workplace injustices.”.

### Lancs & Cumbria General

ACCEPTED

## 22. Morning Star (Item 22)

That this Conference applauds the tremendous work carried out by the Morning Star newspaper in supporting the Association and the national and international Labour movement. Conference also notes the Morning Star’s steadfast support for Jeremy Corbyn before, during and after his successful Labour leadership campaign and believes that the newspaper acts as a vital and effective counter-balance to the right-wing mass media’s unabashed attacks on the poor, disadvantaged and unemployed.

*(Conference instructs the EC to demonstrate unequivocal support for People’s Press Printing Society (PPPS), the co-operative which owns the Morning Star, by purchasing the maximum 20,000 shares allowed by PPPS rules, at a cost to the Association of £20,000.)*

In light of the above and the regular positive references to the Association in this daily newspaper, Conference asks the EC to buy a significant number of shares in the People’s Press Printing Society which is the co-operative owning the Morning Star. The number of shares should reflect a balance of the Association’s financial resources with the support given to the Association and the labour and trade union movement by the Morning Star, which is very much in need of financial support.

Moved by Kieran Crowe (LU MATS & Operating Managers)

Seconded by Andy Bain (Network Rail North London)

CARRIED

## **Amendment**

To delete all after “unemployed.” in line 6 and substitute new paragraph:  
“In light of the above and the regular positive references to the Association in this daily newspaper, Conference asks the EC to buy a significant number of shares in the People’s Press Printing Society which is the co-operative owning the Morning Star. The number of shares should reflect a balance of the Association’s financial resources with the support given to the Association and the labour and trade union movement by the Morning Star, which is very much in need of financial support.”.

## **Network Rail North London**

**ACCEPTED**

### **23. European Union (Emergency Item E1)**

That this Conference recognises that our union has a long and proud record of critical support of the United Kingdom’s membership of the European Union (EU). We know that, whilst not perfect, membership has brought many benefits for Association members.

Conference notes the so-called reforms negotiated by the Prime Minister as part of his drive for the UK to remain within the European Union. Conference is concerned that the Prime Minister’s theatrics in Brussels, in trying to appease his critics and opponents within the Conservative Government and the wider Conservative Party, do nothing to address the needs of working people across Europe.

Conference shares the positive vision put forward by Labour Party Leader, Jeremy Corbyn, when making the case for the UK to remain within the EU. In particular, the Association shares his determination to fight for a Europe which puts the interests of working people before those of capital. The Association will work with the Labour Party, the Party of European Socialists, TUC, ETUC and ETF to help make this a reality.

Conference therefore recognises the improved rights and protections that EU membership has given UK workers, from maternity and paternity leave to paid holidays, protections for agency workers, laws against discrimination and TUPE. Conference also recognises that the current UK Government is amongst the most pro-business and anti-trade union and anti-worker rights of any within the EU. Conference believes that were the UK to exit the EU we would be faced with a Conservative Government dedicated towards destroying individual, collective and trade union rights under the guise of reducing red tape for business and through their ideological commitment to ‘race to the bottom’ free trade deals. This would impact adversely on employment security and health and safety. Conference recognises that, whilst the EU as an institution is far from perfect, Association members would be worse off in the event of a UK exit and therefore commits to continue campaigning for the UK to remain in the EU.

Conference further believes that the efforts to bring peace to Ireland will be undermined by the re-establishment of a border between North and South, an inevitable consequence of the UK leaving the EU. Opinion polls also strongly suggest that Scottish voters will overwhelmingly vote to remain within the EU. Conference is therefore concerned that a vote to leave the EU is likely to result in the breakup of the UK.

However, in committing to a future within the EU, Conference strongly believes that we need a new kind of Europe. Conference commits the EC to campaign around a positive vision for an EU reorganised to better promote workers' rights and social provisions, and one which recognises that freedom of movement is intrinsically linked with the rights of migrants and refugees across Europe so that all three are safeguarded.

Conference agrees that achieving a better EU should be based on addressing the following key issues:

- (a) strengthening the Social Chapter to address issues around requiring all employers to undertake collective bargaining, restricting zero hours contracts, agency working, and other forms of casualisation of work, ensuring minimum living wages and pensions in each member state, achieving equal opportunities and pay, etc.;
- (b) ensuring that social and environmental chapters and legislation take precedence over corporate interests (e.g. on trade relations and deals), ensuring transparency of all corporate deals and disputes, and restricting corporate power and lobbying of the EU Commission and Parliament;
- (c) strengthening EU democracy, through giving the EU Parliament increased powers to vote on and amend EU legislation, and to hold the EU Commission and bureaucracy to account;
- (d) better management of migration and the funding and development of support services and public infrastructure investment to avoid negative consequences on affected communities, and
- (e) the rejection of the austerity agenda, and the institution of an EU wide public investment agenda, including a major shift to investing in renewable technologies, and away from fossil fuels, in order to address the urgent need to tackle climate change and create new and better paid jobs.

Conference instructs the EC to make these demands an explicit part of the Association's campaigning position on the EU, and to press the Labour Party to do likewise. Conference further commits to continue this Association's solidarity with the people of Greece and any other countries negatively affected by the EU's ongoing neoliberal policies which sadly mirror what the Tories are doing in the UK.

Moved by	Manuel Cortes (General Secretary) on behalf of the Executive Committee
Seconded	Dave Merrett (Yorkshire General)

**CARRIED**

## 24. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (Item 23)

That this Conference is extremely concerned at the implications for the Association's members if the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership agreement is signed between the EU and the US.

TTIP, a malevolent treaty negotiated in secret and unseen by millions of Europeans, will, if ratified, hasten the privatisation of the NHS, erode food safety standards, undermine the individual's right to privacy, create unemployment and damage democracy.

Perhaps most disturbingly, TTIP would bring into being an 'investor-state dispute settlement' mechanism, which in reality would mean US-based companies being empowered to sue sovereign EU states for policy changes which result in loss of profits. The German Association of Judges (DRB) has said that there is 'neither a legal basis nor an actual need for such a court'.

Conference therefore calls upon the EC and requests the Irish Committee to inform all members of the Association of the clear and detrimental effects that TTIP will have on them and their families, and to oppose this treaty through lobbying elected political representatives and any other ways available to them to prevent this treaty ever coming to fruition.

Moved by Kieran Crowe (LU MATS & Operating Managers)

Seconded by Formally

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

To insert between "US." in line 3 and "Conference" in line 4, new paragraphs:  
"TTIP, a malevolent treaty negotiated in secret and unseen by millions of Europeans, will, if ratified, hasten the privatisation of the NHS, erode food safety standards, undermine the individual's right to privacy, create unemployment and damage democracy.

Perhaps most disturbingly, TTIP would bring into being an 'investor-state dispute settlement' mechanism, which in reality would mean US-based companies being empowered to sue sovereign EU states for policy changes which result in loss of profits. The German Association of Judges (DRB) has said that there is 'neither a legal basis nor an actual need for such a court'."

To insert between "Committee" and "to" in line 4 "to inform all members of the Association of the clear and detrimental effects that TTIP will have on them and their families, and".

**LU MATS & Operating Managers**

**ACCEPTED**

**25. Cuba/US Trade Embargo (Item 24)**

That this Conference welcomes the improvement in relations between Cuba and the US. However, Conference is concerned that the illegal US embargo against Cuba remains in place.

Conference therefore calls on the EC and requests the Irish Committee to use their influence to demand that this vindictive and politically inspired embargo be ended and so allow Cuba to trade as any normal state with the rest of the world.

Moved by Paul Corcoran (Irish Committee)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**26. Climate Change (Item 25)  
WITHDRAWN in favour of Composite Item 26 & Item 27**

**Composite 26 and 27 Climate Change and Air Quality**

That this Conference notes the headline failure of the Paris COP21 climate talks to deliver the binding legal commitments necessary to keep climate change within anything approaching a safe limit, or to secure a truly adequate funding agreement to meet the costs for developing nations to move directly to non-carbon based development approaches, or to ensure any adequate policing of the individual nation carbon reduction commitments (INDCs). Conference recognises, however, that the agreement sets a framework for future progress and reporting, takes 1.5 degrees as the desirable target limit for the first time, and these, along with the voluntary national commitments, are a step forward. It is vital that we hold governments to account to deliver these commitments and to build on them.

Conference notes the abandonment by the Tory UK Government of any serious commitment to tackling climate change, beyond its limited EU legal obligations, while ramping up the dash for oil and gas.

Conference welcomes in contrast the Labour Party leadership's continued support for tackling climate change, and Jeremy Corbyn's backing in Paris for:

- (a) the Million Climate Jobs report supported by the Association;
- (b) democratising UK electricity generation along German lines, where two million German citizens and hundreds of local authorities now renewably generate their own power, and
- (c) delivering a zero carbon Britain by 2050 (and for the parallel commitment by 150 Labour Local Authority leaders to achieve the same in their cities and areas).

Conference recognises that it is up to all of us to help shift public opinion and public policy on this - reports suggest that two-thirds of the UK public were unaware of the

Paris talks whilst they were on. Progress in these areas must be driven by progressive mass movements, and trade unions have a key part to play in creating and supporting these movements.

Conference welcomes wholeheartedly the ‘Break Free from Fossil Fuels’ initiative launched in Paris: a global climate justice movement led by working class, indigenous and peasant farmer frontline communities who are suffering most from fossil fuel extraction, to keep fossil fuels in the ground and accelerate a just transition to 100% renewable energy instead of highly dangerous and unworkable geo-engineering false solutions.

Conference also recognises the potentially significant changes that will be required in transport to achieve net zero carbon. Electrification and/or the introduction of hydrogen or other non-fossil fuel based technologies in all ground based transport will be required. This will additionally have major public health benefits, particularly in urban areas, as we remove carcinogenic diesel particulate emissions that currently account for 30,000 premature deaths a year in the UK. Conference calls on the EC to encourage the most rapid switch possible, now that commercial electric buses, taxis and cars are on the market, in preference to hybrid-engined vehicles which typically only have a third of the benefit. Conference calls on the EC to support the acceleration of rail electrification and linked renewable energy generation, and for the necessary Government investment, including for the expansion of the workforce to deliver this.

Conference resolves to campaign on tackling climate change and improving air quality through all channels, and calls on the EC to engage with the Government, the Labour Party, the TUC, the employers we deal with, through our contacts and connections with the wider trade union, Labour and environmental movements and with elected politicians.

Conference calls on the EC to work with ‘Break Free from Fossil Fuels’ and other related campaigns, to demand:

- (a) a rapid transition from fossil fuels;
- (b) energy democracy and climate jobs;
- (c) a just transition for workers put at risk by a move from fossil fuels and related occupations, to provide good sustainable jobs;
- (d) improved links between anti-war and climate campaign movements, taking account of the links between war, climate change and population displacement, and challenging the view of climate refugees as a threat;
- (e) action against TTIP, CETA and other trade treaties that will empower trans-national corporations over democratic structures, could bankrupt governments, and will prevent climate justice, and

(f) a properly supported Climate Justice Fund so that wealthy nations and polluting companies provide resources to the countries most suffering the effects of climate change, support climate refugees including indigenous peoples, and help developing countries improve living standards with renewable energy technologies.

Conference instructs the EC to raise these demands with the Government, the Labour Party and the TUC.

Conference further calls on the EC to step up campaigning in this area, to create environmental & climate change champions within the union to take this work forward, and to ensure that related activities are effectively promoted to members.

Moved by Fliss Premru (TfL Central)  
Seconded Dave Merrett (Yorkshire General)

**CARRIED**

**27. Climate Change WITHDRAWN in favour or Composite Item 26 & Item 27 (Item 26)**

**28. Fracking (Item 27)**

That this Conference shares the Labour Party's concerns about fracking, whether for oil or gas, already planned in Lancashire, Kent and Sussex, as well as for anywhere else in the UK targeted for this exploitation by corporations with little concern for the environment, including implications for future subsidence, whether rural or residential, for maximum profit, with Conservative Government authorisation. Conference instructs the EC to urge the Labour Party to maintain their stance so far, and to strengthen and establish their firm opposition to fracking if they come to power.

Moved by Susan Pattwell (Kent)  
Seconded Fred Hall (London North West Retired)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

To insert between "environment," and "whether" in line 4 "including implications for future subsidence".

**London North West Retired**

**ACCEPTED**

**Items 29 to 33 see second day's proceedings.**

**34. Transport Policy (Network Rail) (Item 28)**

That this Conference notes the threat of privatisation of Network Rail and its assets. In the 2015 summer budget the Tory Government announced plans for future fragmentation of Network Rail. These included the transfer of responsibilities to regional managers, channelling subsidy through train operators instead of Network Rail, and a new property body ‘to realise value from public land and property assets in the rail network’. This Tory plan to extend the reach of privatised companies over the control of Britain’s railways has been justified by the cost overruns of rail electrification projects.

Conference, however, recognises that it is precisely the privatisation of British Rail and the inability of the subsequent fragmented private companies to develop long-term solutions for the efficient running of an integrated railway that have led to massive increases in costs. Conference notes that Network Rail, rather than taking control of its supplier contractors and bringing more functions in-house, is being pushed by the Tory Government for more devolution and sale of Network Rail assets.

Conference recognises that the fragmented privatised control of infrastructure resulted in disasters such as Hatfield and Potters Bar and these lessons must not be forgotten.

Conference therefore instructs the EC to work with anti-privatisation campaigns and other rail unions to vigorously campaign against any proposal such as Network Rail’s consideration of the sale of telecoms and electrical distribution to private companies.

Moved by	Dave Barnes (Network Rail South)
Seconded	Formally

**CARRIED**

**35. Transport Policy (Calmac) (Item 29)**

That this Conference notes that for over 160 years the Clyde and Hebrides ferry service has kept Scotland’s islands and mainland connected and has supported a way of life which has lasted for many years. This service has been run in the public sector on behalf of the Scottish Government and now the Government wants to sell it off to the highest bidder.

The Government claims that it must privatise CalMac under EU law are completely unfounded. This has been challenged in other parts of Europe as any lifeline service does not need to be privatised and rightly so. The Government are trying to state that these services are not lifeline services. This is completely wrong as these services are the only way to travel between the mainland and some of the outer islands. Men, women and families should not be forced to pay money to the private sector just to be able to live and go about their business.

The ferries are essential to everyday life on the islands and enable people to stay in work, deliver goods and various other services. They also provide a lifeline for people to attend hospital appointments along with various other appointments.

Conference instructs the EC to lobby the Scottish Parliament on behalf of the people of the highlands and islands, which include the Association's members, to stop this privatisation and keep CalMac public.

Moved by Lorna Deveaney (West of Scotland General)

Seconded Karan Parks (Inverness and Northern)

**CARRIED**

### **36. Transport Policy (Buses) (Item 30)**

That this Conference is extremely concerned that Government-imposed Local Authority spending cuts are adversely impacting support for socially necessary transport services.

Conference is alarmed at the frequency of county councils announcing cuts from April 2016, with Dorset, Hampshire and Lincolnshire, and a further round in Surrey planned for later this year. The bitter irony is that some services which were introduced to replace railway services cut by Beeching in the 1960s are now having 'Beeching cuts' on them.

For instance, Lancashire and Oxfordshire County Councils are planning to cease support for all such services. In the case of Lancashire, this includes reduced support for maintenance of the Blackpool Tramway, which has just been modernised at vast expense. So much for the Chancellor of the Exchequer's 'Northern Powerhouse'.

Some bus services, especially in the evenings and Sundays, do not make money by themselves, but are still essential as not everyone has access to a private vehicle or wishes to drive everywhere, even in rural areas.

Conference also acknowledges that the disabled in society are often hardest hit by the cuts to public transport. Disabled people, through no fault of their own, are often most reliant on frequent local bus services and like the elderly, can run the risk of becoming prisoners in their own homes.

The 1985 Transport Act prevents bus operators from cross subsidising such routes, using money earned by profitable ones. There is also an obligation on local Councils to provide support for 'socially necessary' bus services which would not ordinarily make a profit but which nevertheless are still an important part of overall local transport provision.

*(Conference feels that this continued attack is symptomatic of the Tory attitude towards people who rely on public transport for their day-to-day existence.)* Whilst cuts to education and health service provision are often resisted by politicians and

councillors of all parties alike, it is frequently ignored how people who rely on public transport are supposed to get to schools and hospitals, as well as to their workplaces and the effect on business economy in their areas.

Conference condemns this continued attack on bus services, which is symptomatic of the attitude that cutting subsidies for socially necessary buses is an easier target.

Conference calls upon the EC to raise the terms of this motion via the correct channels with the Government and to seek reassurances from the Labour Party that any incoming Labour government is fully committed to a just, fair and robust public transport sector.

Moved by Josey Grimshaw (South East & Metro)

Seconded Nik Anthony (London Bus Operators)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendments**

**A.** To insert between “services.” and “For” in line 3, “Conference is alarmed at the frequency of county councils announcing cuts from April 2016, with Dorset, Hampshire and Lincolnshire, and a further round in Surrey planned for later this year. The bitter irony is that some services which were introduced to replace railway services cut by Beeching in the 1960s are now having ‘Beeching cuts’ on them.”.

To delete all between “provision.” in Line 15 and “Conference” in line 18 and substitute “Whilst cuts to education and health service provision are often resisted by politicians and councillors of all parties alike, it is frequently ignored how people who rely on public transport are supposed to get to schools and hospitals, as well as to their workplaces and the effect on business economy in their areas.

Conference condemns this continued attack on bus services, which is symptomatic of the attitude that cutting subsidies for socially necessary buses is an easier target.”.

### **London Bus Operators**

**ACCEPTED**

**B.** To insert between “areas.” in line 10 and “The” in line 11, new paragraph:

“Conference also acknowledges that the disabled in society are often hardest hit by the cuts to public transport. Disabled people, through no fault of their own, are often most reliant on frequent local bus services and like the elderly, can run the risk of becoming prisoners in their own homes.”.

### **Disability Working Group**

**ACCEPTED**

**37. Transport Policy (TfL) (Item 31)**

That this Conference notes with grave concern the outcome of the Government's spending review for Transport for London.

Despite the rose-tinted optimism of TfL's leadership, London's transport services and networks will suffer drastically from the obligation placed on TfL to reduce operational revenue spending to zero. This dramatic cut, forced on TfL by the Tories' doctrinaire austerity agenda, defies all logic and will damage the living and working standards of Londoners. The obligation to cut costs and raise money from other sources will increase the pressure on TfL to act in unacceptable ways as an employer, landowner and public service provider.

Conference calls on the Labour leadership and the new London Mayor to challenge the Government and insist on the restoration of TfL's revenue budget, to ensure that TfL can continue to deliver the transport services that London needs.

Moved by Kyle Williamson (TfL)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**38. Transport Management (Electrification) (Item 32)**

That this Conference notes with concern the report by Sir Peter Hendy, Chairman of Network Rail, regarding enhancement projects, in particular the delay in completion of the Great Western Main Line electrification through to Swansea. It is vital that this section of the scheme is a continuation of the Paddington to Cardiff electrification and not delayed until 2024 as proposed in his report.

The proposed delay will have a detrimental effect on the Welsh economy, will probably result in an increase in costs and the situation where a service is part diesel-operated when without the delay a full electrified service would be in operation to the benefit of rail customers.

Conference instructs the EC to make representations to the Secretary of State for Transport and the Chairman of Network Rail asking for the full scheme to proceed without delay.

Moved by Howard Morris (South East Wales General)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**39. Transport Management (Station Staffing) (Item 33)**

That this Conference condemns the practice of unstaffed railway stations. Conference notes that this practice leads to increased crime on the railway and can

increase the risk for women travelling alone at night. This practice also greatly reduces the accessibility of stations for elderly and disabled people who may need assistance from staff when using public transport. Unstaffed stations make the use of public transport less appealing and encourages greater use of cars, contrary to the Scottish Government's stated policy of encouraging the use of public transport to go to work.

Conference rejects the notion that CCTV and customer help points on the platform are adequate for ensuring customer safety and disagrees with the decision to put profits ahead of customer safety.

Conference also notes with disgust the announcement made by Govia in early February 2016 of plans to close 81 ticket offices across their Thameslink and Southern franchises. Conference feels that this is the same failed policy adopted by London Underground and will have similar results of staff disappearing from stations. One more step towards destaffing.

Conference calls on the EC to work together with the other rail unions, RMT and ASLEF, and other stakeholder bodies to:

- (a) organise a high profile campaign to highlight the dangers of unstaffed stations and to have all stations staffed;
- (b) put pressure on the Scottish Government to adopt a policy supporting staffing at every station; *(and)*
- (c) to present a report to 2017 Annual Conference on the outcome of the campaign with recommendations if further campaigning is required; and
- (d) to oppose by all necessary means closure of ticket offices and further destaffing of stations.

Moved by Derek Strain (West of Scotland General)

Seconded Josie Grimshaw (South East & Metro)

**CARRIED**

## **Amendments**

**A.** To insert between "safety." in line 10 and "Conference" in line 11, new paragraphs:

"Conference also notes with disgust the announcement made by Govia in early February 2016 of plans to close 81 ticket offices across their Thameslink and Southern franchises.

Conference feels that this is the same failed policy adopted by London Underground and will have similar results of staff disappearing from stations. One more step towards destaffing."

To delete ", and" in line 16 and substitute ";

To add at end ", and

(d) to oppose by all necessary means closure of ticket offices and further destaffing of stations.”.

## **Southeastern**

**ACCEPTED**

**B.** To delete “, and” in line 16 and substitute “;”

To add at end “, and

(d) to oppose firmly the plans by Govia to close many booking offices in their franchise areas in South East England completely (Southern, Thameslink and Great Northern), to shorten the hours of opening, or to reduce numbers of staffed windows at some busy stations. Conference calls on the EC to publicise these plans in a region of considerable passenger discontent currently.”.

## **Kent**

**ACCEPTED**

### **Second Day's Proceedings**

Video message from Justice for Colombia

Presentation on the Rail Unions' Visit to Palestine from Andi Fox, Manuel Cortes, Mick Carney and Paul Scholey (Morrish Solicitors)

#### **29. Middle East (Item 34)**

That this Conference notes the ongoing serious situation in the Middle East, a situation made worse with the increased tension in Israel, the continued killing of Palestinians in the West Bank and the imprisonment of the population in Gaza.

Conference notes the continued silence by the British Government over the activities of the Israeli state and the Government's failure to support the implementation of successive resolutions of the UN which are critical of Israel.

Conference also condemns the Government's plans to introduce legislation to ban publicly funded organisations such as local authorities, and even student unions, from operating any boycotts of goods and services from companies involved with (among other unethical trading) products from Israeli settlements in the West Bank, with severe financial penalties threatened, even though such boycott decisions have been agreed democratically. Conference notes that several Jewish anti-Zionist organisations, including Jews for Boycotting Israeli Goods, have already publicly condemned this Government threat.

Conference further condemns the British Government for its intervention and attempts to stop local councils supporting the Boycott, Disinvestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign. BDS is widely supported by the Palestinian people and has been shown to succeed, as Israeli firms, such as SodaStream, withdraw from the Occupied Territories

Conference instructs the EC to raise with the TUC the demand that 'Trade Union Friends of Israel' be banned from the TUC 2016 Congress and the following Congresses.

Conference views the continuing proxy wars being fought by powerful regional powers in Yemen, Syria and Iraq to be playing in to the hands of those who wish to destabilise the region in the search for continued cheap oil and easy access to it.

Conference fully supports the Association's involvement in the rail unions' delegation to Palestine and the report by our President on the delegation's return.

Moved by Josey Grimshaw (Southern Metro)

Seconded None

**WITHDRAWN**

### **Amendments**

A. To insert between "Israel." in line 6 and "Conference" in line 7, new paragraph:

"Conference also condemns the Government's plans to introduce legislation to ban publicly funded organisations such as local authorities, and even student unions, from operating any boycotts of goods and services from companies involved with (among other unethical trading) products from Israeli settlements in the West Bank, with severe financial penalties threatened, even though such boycott decisions have been agreed democratically. Conference notes that several Jewish anti-Zionist organisations, including Jews for Boycotting Israeli Goods, have already publicly condemned this Government threat."

**Kent**

**WITHDRAWN**

B. To insert between "Israel." in line 6 and "Conference" in line 7, new paragraph:

"Conference further condemns the British Government for its intervention and attempts to stop local councils supporting the Boycott, Disinvestment and Sanctions (BDS) campaign. BDS is widely supported by the Palestinian people and has been shown to succeed, as Israeli firms, such as SodaStream, withdraw from the Occupied Territories."

**Southeastern Metro**

**WITHDRAWN**

## Item 29 - Executive Committee Statement

The following Executive Committee statement was endorsed by Conference delegates:

The Executive Committee wishes to make the following statement on the recent anti-Semitism row within the Labour Party.

Firstly the EC wants to make it clear that it does not feel that criticism of the actions of the Israeli government is anti-Semitic. Indeed there are many Jewish organisations that are critical of the actions carried out against the Palestinian people and Israeli Arabs by the Israeli state. The EC is among many who consider that the treatment of the Palestinian people over many years has been abhorrent. Our union stands full-square as a critic of the Israeli government, however, we also stand totally opposed to anti-Semitism in all its forms.

Much of this recent furore has been media fuelled, seized on by a vitriolic right wing press and used to attack Jeremy Corbyn and his progressive left leadership of the Labour Party. This, in turn, has fuelled others from within his own party to continue the attacks.

The timings of these attacks are no coincidence. The original social media post by Naz Shah was tweeted before she was elected as an MP. Whilst not defending either this or the actions by Ken Livingstone or John Mann the matter has been raised to do maximum damage to Jeremy, the leader we have supported from the outset, a week before important elections both in London and across the country.

But much of this can also be about perception. The EC is fully supportive of Item 29 and the associated amendments on the final agenda, however in light of recent events lines 7-9 of the motion could be used to cause further embarrassment to the Labour Leadership and also draw our union into what has become a cynical campaign designed to use anti-Semitism simply for political gain. The General Secretary may wish to take some of the issues forward that the branch seeks to raise, in private, with the TUC General Council. Equally so the branch may wish to be cognisant of this statement and the Executive Committees general support before moving the motion.

**Vote on EC Statement**

**ENDORSED**

### 30. Syrian Refugees (Item 35)

That this Conference applauds the stance taken by Jeremy Corbyn and others to oppose British airstrikes on Syria (*and agrees to commit to defending his leadership against those who are seeking his removal.*) Conference notes that, as a direct result of bombing of Syria by all parties, millions of civilians have been made homeless and have had to flee their homes.

Conference instructs the EC to use every suitable opportunity to show solidarity with refugees from these conflicts in the face of scapegoating by politicians and the national media.

Conference further believes that Britain should use every possible peaceful and diplomatic means of bringing an end to the conflict in Syria, exerting whatever influence it can with the Syrian Government, Russia, opposition groups that Britain and the US have funded and also using the Government's close relationship with Saudi Arabia to persuade them to cease funding and supplying the Daesh group there and in Iraq. Conference calls on the EC to raise this issue in every possible way within the Labour Party and in the TUC.

Moved by Chris Maughan (Network Rail London South)

Seconded Jill Murdoch (Yorkshire General)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendment**

To insert between "Corbyn" and "to" in line 1 "and others".

To delete all between "Syria" in line 2 and ". Conference" in line 3.

To add at end new paragraph:

"Conference further believes that Britain should use every possible peaceful and diplomatic means of bringing an end to the conflict in Syria, exerting whatever influence it can with the Syrian Government, Russia, opposition groups that Britain and the US have funded and also using the Government's close relationship with Saudi Arabia to persuade them to cease funding and supplying the Daesh group there and in Iraq. Conference calls on the EC to raise this issue in every possible way within the Labour Party and in the TUC."

### **Yorkshire General**

**ACCEPTED**

### **31. Railcards (Item 36)**

That this Conference instructs the EC to enter into discussions with ATOC to remove the 10am restriction on the Young Persons Railcard. Conference believes that the restriction acts as a barrier to young people seeking to use the Railcard for work and full-time study and is discriminatory when no such barrier exists on Senior Railcards.

Moved by Richard Cooper (North East Operations)

Seconded Formally

**REMITTED**

**32. Transport Policy (Rail) WITHDRAWN in favour or Composite Item 32 and Item 33.**

**Composite 32 and 33. Transport Policy (Rail) (Item 37)**

That this Conference expresses its support for the Labour Party's recent commitment to take back our railways following the disaster of privatisation and place them in the hands of the public.

Conference notes that the Labour Party is intent on establishing a new National Rail body to oversee and establish a plan for the railways, and to give rail users a greater say in how trains operate.

Conference welcomes this policy initiative but believes that an incoming Labour Government needs to go much further. Plans have to be formulated as to:

- (a) how this will take place
- (b) which organisations will be involved in the National Rail body, and
- (c) through what machinery rail users and communities will be encouraged to feel that they 'own' the railways.

This is essential if the public is to have confidence in the future of a publicly owned railway system.

Conference furthermore believes it is important that the Labour Party learns from the mistakes and errors of former Governments and engages the railway workforce at all levels of the industry.

Conference believes that to develop this project the EC should bring forward its proposals to the 2017 Annual Conference and that the Association's plans which ensure the future democratisation of the railways, engaging both employees, communities and rail users be finalised as soon as possible. When completed the Association's proposition should be passed to the Labour Party for consideration when its policies are being developed.

Moved by Bob Davies (Anglia No. 1)

Seconded Tim Bartlett (North East Retired)

**CARRIED**

**33. Transport Policy (Rail) WITHDRAWN in favour or Composite Item 32 & Item 33 (Item 38)**

**40. Transport Management (Graffiti) (Item 39)**

That this Conference is appalled at the ever-increasing amount of graffiti being sprayed on infrastructure and rolling stock.

Conference believes that only a concerted effort by Network Rail and British Transport Police will remove this eyesore.

The EC is instructed to pursue this matter with these bodies.

Moved by Mick Risbridger (West Midlands General)

Seconded Allen Williams (Network Rail Midlands)

**CARRIED**

**41. Transport Management (Rail Replacement Bus Services) (Item 40)**

That this Conference is concerned about the increasing level of complaints about rail replacement bus services. This affects the reputation of both rail and bus companies in providing an integrated service, particularly as it is increasingly necessary to increase the maintenance work and renewals of the railway infrastructure.

Conference is aware that this is no bad thing, and increasingly it is more cost effective and less disruptive to plan for longer lasting blockades, but these also affect the optional off-peak travel arrangements of less frequent users.

Conference is disappointed that the most frequent complaint is lack of information in some areas, despite a rail industry-wide commitment to provide reliable timetable information up to 12 weeks in advance.

Conference is appalled that there is often no written information on display about replacement bus timetables other than vague notices about checking before travel, or even where to board those buses. There is often no visible assistance either, and bus drivers often will not have any comprehensive information about rail journeys, fares and connections to assist passengers.

Conference believes that accurate information should be visible at stations about engineering work that may affect services from that station, and that printed bus timetables should be available or displayed at least a week in advance, and certainly visibly displayed on the day of affected services at the station.

Conference instructs the EC to support this policy with Rail Future and London TravelWatch, and to convey these views to the Department of Transport.

Moved by Nik Anthony (London Bus Operators)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**42. Pay (Item 41)**

That this conference is deeply concerned that the Association's members in the CIE group of companies (C6ras Iompair 6ireann, Iarnr6d 6ireann, Bus 6tha Cliath and Bus 6ireann) have not received a pay rise since 2008.

The Irish Government and the respective companies have not honoured the commitments given as part of 'Towards 2016 Ten-Year Framework Social Partnership Agreement 2006-2015', which provided for pay rises for our members during the tenure of this agreement.

Instead Association members have suffered pay cuts and lost hard-fought-for terms and conditions as part of the cost containment agreements at the height of the economic crisis.

A recent IBEC survey found employees in almost three quarters of companies in Ireland are set to benefit from pay increases in 2016. Overall, 71% of companies surveyed said they expected to increase basic pay in 2016. Conference believes the CIE group of companies should be at the forefront of companies who are increasing the basic pay of their employees in 2016.

Conference notes that the Irish Government is claiming an economic recovery and is planning to implement tax cuts for the wealthy to reflect this.

Conference calls upon the EC and requests the Irish Committee to immediately engage in genuine and meaningful negotiations with the CIE group of companies and the Irish Government to have pay rises implemented in the year 2016.

Moved by Denise Guinan (Irish Committee)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**43. Collective Bargaining (Item 42)**

That this Conference is extremely concerned about the attitude of senior management in some of the companies with which this Association has collective bargaining agreements in Ireland. In some cases senior managers and CEOs refuse point-blank to acknowledge or engage with this Association, and some go as far as intimidating the Association's reps.

Conference calls upon the EC and requests the Irish Committee to use their influence and resources to reaffirm our collective agreements with these companies to bring this abominable behaviour to an end.

Moved by Denise Guinan (Irish Committee)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**44. Health and Safety (Item 43)**

That this Conference applauds the fact that the Association has now established a National Health and Safety Steering Committee. This Committee has:

(a) ensured that the Association's voice is heard on all of the key rail industry health and safety bodies;

- (b) played a key role in ensuring that the Association is now seen by employers and safety professionals as playing a key role in working with them to improve railway health and safety;
- (c) involved the Association's Health and Safety reps, as well as members employed as health and safety professionals;
- (d) been effective in co-ordinating the Association's work to reduce risks to members as well as the public, and
- (e) developed a programme for the Association's Health and Safety Conference held in early 2016.

Conference is concerned that high level structural issues threaten to reverse the recently improving safety trend in the railway industry. Too often, trade unions are not properly consulted - sometimes unions are ignored altogether. Senior management may espouse intentions of collaboration and co-operation, but often permit middle and junior levels of management and supervision to put performance before health and safety. A blind eye is turned to managers and supervisors who respond to enormous pressure to get the job done whatever the consequences for health and safety.

Problem areas include:

- (1) speedy and continuous change and reorganisations without adequate consultation or planning;
- (2) management failure to consult trade unions on significant changes such as workplace design, especially on railway stations, and
- (3) management lack of consultation in essential efforts to make on-track working safer, such as 'Planning and Delivery of Safe Work'.

Conference urges the EC to increase the Association's efforts at all levels to improve safety and to integrate this with organising and recruitment initiatives as both will strengthen the Association and in turn maintain and improve members' working conditions.

Moved by     Andy Bain (Network Rail North London)  
 Seconded     Formally

**CARRIED**

#### **45. Mental Health (Item 44)**

That this Conference, believes that managements' attitudes, due to possible lack of understanding or empathy about Mental Health issues, (*are a major contributing factor*) can be major contributory factors to sickness and absence in the workplace. This Conference (*is appalled by the lack of recognition and support offered*) recognises that this can be difficult subject matter to approach. We should look constantly at ways to offer support to our members regarding these issues. We do not believe the full extent is known and therefore instruct the EC to:

- (a) (*construct a survey to all members by post or electronic means;*

- (b) report the results to EC, DCs Branches and SOGs by the end of September 2016, and*
- (c) formulate an action plan by October 2016 for implementation and review at 2017 Annual Conference.)*

- (a) consult with branches, reps and the DWG to ascertain what practical and positive support can be given;
- (b) raise awareness at every possible opportunity, and
- (c) encourage a greater understanding of mental health issues within the companies where we organise, ensuring that they are treated just like any other illness.

Moved by Melissa Heywood (East Midlands Trains No. 1)

Seconded Kyle Williamson (TfL Central)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendments**

**A.** To insert between second “that” and “mental” in line 1 “managements’ attitudes due to possible lack of understanding or empathy about”.

To delete “are a major contributing factor” in line 1 and substitute “can be major contributory factors”.

To delete all between “Conference” in line 2 and “to” in line 3 and substitute “recognises that this can be difficult subject matter to approach. We should look constantly at ways to offer support”.

To delete all after “to:” in line 4 and substitute new paragraphs:

“(a) consult with branches, reps and the DWG to ascertain what practical and positive support can be given;

(b) raise awareness at every possible opportunity, and

(c) encourage a greater understanding of mental health issues within the companies where we organise, ensuring that they are treated just like any other illness.”.

### **Disability Working Group**

**ACCEPTED**

**B.** To insert between “issues” and “are” in line 1 “including dealing with neurodiversity”.

To insert between “recognition” and “and” in line 3 “of these issues”.

To delete “regarding these issues” in line 3.

To delete “construct a survey to” in line 5 and substitute “conduct a survey of”

To delete “September” in line 7 and substitute “November”.

To delete “October 2016 for implementation and” in line 8 and substitute “February 2017 for”.

To add at end “and implementation urgently after Conference.”.

**TfL Central**

**DECLINED**

C. To delete “offered to the Association’s members” in line 3 and substitute “, to include financial and human re human resources,”.

**London North West Retired**

**DECLINED**

**46. Apprenticeships (Item 45)**

That this Conference welcomes the increase in apprenticeships within the rail industry. A number of TOCs as well as Network Rail are now taking on apprentices in increased numbers. Conference recognises that apprenticeships can give young people the required skills and background in the railway industry for a long career.

However, Conference believes that the Association must remain vigilant that apprentices are not having their terms and conditions abused, either through unscrupulous employers, or by sheer ignorance. Anecdotal evidence exists of apprentices working more than their contracted hours, being used to cover permanent positions for apprentice’s wages, or being told that they are unable to join a trade union.

Conference believes that recruitment is the responsibility of us all and this should apply particularly to the recruiting of young and vulnerable workers and that, in line with our ‘Time to Grow’ recruitment policy, this should be encouraged with a targeted strategy and the appropriate literature.

Conference also instructs the EC to write to all employers with whom we have recognition, and reinforce their obligations under law with regard to the employment and treatment of apprentices.

Moved by Keeley Lipscombe (Southeastern Metro)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**47. Travel Facilities (Item 46)**

That this Conference recognises that many Association members are retired from Network Rail or other railway companies and still continue to support and contribute to our union. Conference wishes to recognise this support by pursuing some benefit

for these retired members. One area to chase up is for safeguarded retired members to be able to use First Class travel during off-peak periods.

Conference also recognises that many current Network Rail staff do not have travel facilities even though they maintain the infrastructure to enable the trains to travel. Conference asks the EC to examine ways of introducing benefits for Network Rail staff who are not safeguarded, starting with just one or a few tickets and/or a privileged rate facility. This will give something to build upon in the future.

Moved by Allen J Williams (Network Rail Midlands)  
Seconded Dave Barnes (Network Rail London South)

**CARRIED**

**48. Labour Party (Item 47)**

That this Conference notes the serious improvement in the political content and actions of the Labour Party since September 2015. The overwhelming victory for a progressive, pro-working-class leadership, which has featured thousands of young people flocking to Labour, is to be recognised as the success that it is. Conference now has high hopes and expectations that Labour Party policies will now move into line with Association Conference decisions.

Conference warns, however, that any organised reactionary opposition from internal sects such as 'Progress' will be met head on and the Association will act together with other affiliated unions to support the democratic mandate of the new leadership.

Conference does not take the view that the Parliamentary Labour Party are the all-knowing Labour Party influence that some seem to consider themselves.

Conference welcomes the Party policy to implement the Association's long-held views on public ownership of railways.

Conference urges the Labour Party to continue to put forward policies in the interests of 99% of people in Britain and to undo the years of stagnation under Blair, Brown etc.

Moved by Tom Rickard (Euston)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**49. Labour Party (Item 48)**

That this Conference notes with great pleasure that we finally have a leader of the Labour Party who is not only committed to public ownership of the railways but also to building a fairer society for all.

Conference particularly applauds those of our members and staff who played important roles in Mr Corbyn winning the leadership election.

Conference recognises that one of the failings of ‘New Labour’ was to do nothing about the Tory rip-off privatisations, where a few people could make a quick profit off what belonged to all of us. Not only should the railways be in public ownership but so should all public utilities, the Royal Mail and the NHS.

Conference insists that the Association gives Mr Corbyn our full support, so that he stands the best chance of returning a Labour government in 2020 which will fight for a fairer society for all.

Whilst Conference does not call for the workers to own the means of production, yet, Conference firmly believes that it is time for the Association to fight, by hand or by brain, for the full reinstatement of the former Clause IV into the Labour Party Constitution. Conference therefore instructs the EC to make all necessary representations to the Labour Party, its leadership and our friends within it.

Moved by      Keeley Lipscombe (Southeastern Metro)  
Seconded      Lorna Deveaney (West Scotland General)

**CARRIED**

Presentation from the TSSA Communications Working Party by Jason Turvey, Malcolm Wallace, Jill Murdoch, Andy Bain

**50. EC Motion on Report and Financial Statements (Item 49)**

That this Conference adopts the Report and Financial Statements for 2015.

Moved by      Jason Turvey (Treasurer)  
Seconded      Formally

**CARRIED**

**51. EC Motion on Appointment of Auditors (Item 50)**

That this Conference endorses the EC’s recommendation for the appointment of Auditors.

Moved by      Jason Turvey (Treasurer)  
Seconded      Formally

**CARRIED**

**52. Rule Alteration (Item 51)**

Preface: To reduce the Quorum for the Executive Committee to better reflect the reduced size of the EC.

**Rule 6 - The Executive Committee**

Clause (d)

To delete 'Seven' in line 1 and substitute 'Six'.

Moved by Jason Turvey (Treasurer)

Seconded Formally

**FELL**

**53. Rule Alteration (Item 52)**

Preface: The Association is obliged by virtue of the Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014 to appoint a qualified independent person to be an Assurer in relation to each reporting period. The Assurer shall provide a certificate in relation to each reporting period (Jan - Dec each year) following a membership audit which accords with the requirements of the Act. In effect the purpose of the rule amendment is to allow Conference to appoint an assurer to audit our membership database and confirm whether it is being adequately maintained, or not.

**Rule 14 - Membership Audit Certificates**

*To replace deleted Rule 14 with the following new Rule:*

**'Rule 14. Membership Audit Certificates**

(a) Annual Delegate Conference shall appoint a qualified independent person as an Assurer to prepare an annual Membership Audit Certificate for each reporting period in accordance with the statutory requirements from time to time in force.

(b) Subject to Rule 14(c), the Assurer shall hold office for a period of 3 years. In the event of the Assurer being unable or unwilling to act for any reason the Executive Committee shall have power to engage a successor to act until the next Annual Delegate Conference.

(c) An Assurer may be removed from office only by resolution of Annual Delegate Conference.'

Moved by Manuel Cortes (General Secretary)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**54. Rule Alteration (Item 53)**

Preface: to permit the allocation of chargeable gains to the Provident Benefit Fund and Benevolent Fund and to update the Fund rules generally.

**Rule 38 - Provident Benefit Fund and Benevolent Fund**

Clause (a)

*To delete 'income' in line 2 and substitute 'returns'.*

Clause (c)

*To delete '440 (2) of the Income Tax Act 1952' in line 2 and substitute '982 (2) of the Corporation Tax Act 2010'.*

*To delete first 'income' in line 4 and substitute 'returns'.*

*To insert between 'include' and second 'income' in line 4 'any chargeable gains, and'.*

*To delete all after 'TSSA' in line 6.*

Moved by Manuel Cortes (General Secretary)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**55. Rule Alternation (Item 54)**

Preface: to give effect to the proposal to permit Divisional Council delegates at Annual Conference.

**Rule 42: Annual Delegate Conference**

Clause (a)

*To add at end (new paragraphs):*

*'Divisional Council Representation at Conference*

*Each Divisional Council may be represented by up to two Delegates. If a Divisional Council sends two Delegates, at least one of them must be a member of one or more SOGs.'*

Clause (e)

*To add at end (new paragraph):*

*'Each Divisional Council delegate must be a TSSA member, clear on the books, and a Workplace Representative. Where possible Divisional Council delegates should be branch delegates to the relevant Divisional Council but if no such delegate is able or willing, the Divisional Council may seek substitute delegates from its Branches.'*

Clause (k)

*To delete all between ‘Conference’ in line 1 and ‘must’ in line 3.*

*To insert between ‘January.’ In line 3 and ‘When’ in line 4 (new paragraphs):*

‘Each Branch may submit up to two Resolutions for Annual Conference, except in Rule alteration years, when two additional motions for changing the Rules may be submitted.

Each Divisional Council may submit one Resolution for Annual Conference, except in Rule alteration years, when one additional motion for changing the Rules may be submitted.’.

Clause (m)

*To delete all between ‘Amendments’ in line 1 and ‘must’ in line 3.*

*To add at end (new paragraphs):*

‘Each Branch may submit up to two amendments for Annual Conference, except in Rule alteration years, when two additional amendments to motions for changing the Rules may be submitted.

Each Divisional Council may submit one amendment for Annual Conference, except in Rule alteration years, when one additional amendment to motions for changing the Rules may be submitted.’.

Moved by Manuel Cortes (General Secretary)

Seconded Kyle Williamson (TfL Central)

LOST

**Amendments -**

A. *To delete all between “Delegates.” in line 7 and “Clause” in line 10.*

*To insert between “Representative” and “. Where” in line 13 “, or be employed in a workplace where there are no TSSA Workplace Representatives”.*

*To delete “Resolutions” in line 19 and substitute “motions”.*

*To delete “Resolution” in line 22 and substitute “motion”.*

**Midlands Retired**

LOST

B. *To insert between “must” and “be” in line 8 “be eligible to”.*

*To delete “Workplace” in line 13 and substitute “lay staff”.*

*To delete “one Resolution” in line 22 and substitute “two Resolutions”.*

*To delete “one amendment” in line 31 and substitute “two amendments”.*

**TfL Central**

LOST

**56. EC Motion on TSSA Rule Book (Item 55)**

The EC issued a circular to Branches and SOGs in March 2016 reporting on progress towards a new Rule Book and inviting amendments to the following motion:  
That this Conference endorses the EC report.

Moved by Manuel Cortes (General Secretary)

Seconded Peter Vincent (Midlands Retired)

**CARRIED**

**57. TSSA Branch Reorganisation (Item 56)**

That this Conference is alarmed at the impact on the Association of Circular 216 of 2015, in restructuring branches without detailed consultation with, and agreement of, Divisional Councils. Conference concedes that Item 59 of 2015 Annual Conference called upon the EC to *'be far more assertive with Divisional Councils in seeking justification for the continued existence of Branches who are not active in the democratic processes or meeting the criteria for their continued existence'*. However, it was not the stated intention of those who proposed and seconded that Item - or those who voted in favour - thereby to authorise over-riding of the responsibility placed upon Divisional Councils under Rule 10 (c)(1). The issuing of Circular 216 is therefore considered to have been invalid within the provisions of the Rule Book, and to have over-ridden the authority of Conference.

Conference has no confidence in the General Secretary because of his failure to intervene on a matter of such fundamental importance, and therefore instructs the EC to exercise its powers under Rules 6(h) and 5(b) to dismiss him from office.

Conference further instructs the EC to now engage in meaningful and constructive discussion with Divisional Councils in order to ensure that the Association's branch structure properly reflects the needs and wishes of members.

**RULED OUT OF ORDER**

**58. TSSA Branch Reorganisation (Item 57)**

That this Conference deplores the decision to remove some branch officers prior to the closure of their branches, as referred to in Circular 274/15, 30th October 2015. This action was exacerbated by a lack of communication from Walkden House and effectively placed some branches into a state of limbo.

The indecent haste in the introduction of the branch closure programme has been insensitive, and has trampled roughshod over the wishes of branch officers to manage their parts of the reorganisation efficiently and with confidence.

Conference requests a formal apology from the General Secretary to all those branch officers and members who, in this instance, have been so poorly treated by the Association.

Moved by Peter Vincent (Midlands Retired)  
Seconded Tim Bartlett (North East Retired)

**CARRIED**

**59. TSSA Branch Reorganisation (Item 58)**

That this Conference is critical of the EC regarding its implementation of items 59 and 60 carried at 2015 Annual Conference. Item 59 was clear in its objective of examining branches that failed to engage with the Association's democratic process by not responding to EC requests. However, this was deemed by the EC as an instruction to close a large number of branches. The initial request to branches to provide information regarding the working of their branch and compliance with criteria was a first step but following receipt of that information, Divisional Councils should then have been involved in accordance with rule 15(b).

Conference is of the opinion that the branch closures and mergers initially proposed in Circular 216 are seriously flawed and that all representations from branches and Divisional Councils should have been taken into account prior to implementation and issue of Circular 274.

A number of branches submitted a request to hold a Special Delegate Conference although this was ruled out by the EC despite an apparent 20 branches making the Conference notes that the closures and mergers have been implemented but the EC and Head Office staff are reminded that the Association is a member-based organisation and the membership should not be ignored in future.

Moved by Howard Morris (South East Wales)  
Seconded Frank Ellis (Lancs & Cumbria)

**CARRIED**

**Appeal by Tim Lulham (Swindon & Chippenham)**

**LOST**

**60. TSSA Organisation (Item 59)**

That this Conference recognises the work the EC has done to reorganise the Association and appreciates the efforts that have gone into this. Conference feels that the time is now right to ensure the SOGs are encouraged and supported by Head Office to engage more fully.

*(The)* In light of this, conference feels that the liaison officer responsible for each SOG should attend at least one of their meetings each year and the SOG should in turn be encouraged to work closely with the officer. Support is vital if we are to succeed as it has been said so many times.

*(Conference instructs the EC to provide each SOG with their liaison officer.)*  
Conference instructs the EC to provide each SOG with details of their liaison officer and the lines of communication.

‘We are in this together.’

Moved by Catherine Murphy (Disability Working Group)

Seconded David Lown (Crewe & Cheshire General)

**CARRIED**

### **Amendments**

**A.** To delete “The” in line 5 and substitute “In light of this, conference feels that the”.

To delete all between “times.” in line 7 and ““We” in line 9 and substitute new paragraph:

“Conference instructs the EC to provide each SOG with details of their liaison officer and the lines of communication.”.

### **Crewe & Cheshire General**

**ACCEPTED**

**B.** To delete “The” in line 5 and substitute “In light of this, Conference feels the”.

To insert between “with” and “their” in line 8 “details of”.

To insert between “officer.” in line 8 and ““We” in line 9 “and the lines of communication”.

### **Network Rail West Midlands**

**ACCEPTED**

## **61. EC Motion on TSSA Annual Conference (Item 60)**

The EC issued a circular to Branches and SOGs in March 2016 with its recommendations for the length of Conference from 2017 onwards, and inviting amendments to the following motion:

That this Conference notes the EC report.

Moved by Manuel Cortes (General Secretary)

Seconded Kyle Williamson (Crewe & Cheshire General)

**CARRIED**

**62. EC Motion on Appointment of an Assurer (Item 61)**

That this Conference endorses the EC's recommendation for the appointment of an Assurer.

Moved by Jason Turvey (Treasurer)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**63. TSSA Organisation (Cash Subscription) (Item 62)**

That this Conference is concerned to find that, since Head Office has been dealing with cash subscriptions, cash members no longer receive receipts for their subscriptions and neither is the member contacted about arrears, even if the member is out of benefit. Conference considers that a system of receipts for cash payments is essential.

Conference therefore instructs the EC to remedy this by ensuring arrangements are introduced for cash members to receive receipts for subscriptions paid and statements of their subscription position not less than every 3 months and for any member in arrears by more than 1 month to receive a monthly statement. These revised procedures are to be adopted as soon as possible and no later than 30th September 2016.

Moved by Peter Vincent (Midlands Retired Branch)  
Seconded Gerry Kennedy (Executive Committee)

**LOST**

**64. TSSA Organisation (Executive Committee) (Item 63)**

That this Conference agrees that, if a member of the Executive Committee is unable to attend any meeting of the EC, then that member may nominate a substitute to attend the meeting. The substitute shall be an officer of the relevant Divisional Council where one is available, or otherwise a member of the Divisional Council. The substitute shall be permitted to participate in all business of the EC, except where such participation would conflict with relevant Trade Union legislation.

**LOST**

**65. TSSA Organisation (Ireland) (Item 64)**

That this Conference is deeply concerned with the inactivity of the Association in the workplace.

There are many factors contributing to this:

- (a) the loss of most of our senior or more experienced industrial relations reps due to voluntary severance and voluntary exit schemes introduced by companies in the North and South of Ireland;
- (b) the lack of a concerted recruitment drive in Ireland;
- (c) the impact of the economic crisis on the wages and the terms and conditions of the Association's members resulting in increased industrial disputes and a massive increase in Labour Law Court representations for the paid organising staff, and
- (d) a communications structure that does not deliver fully.

Conference believes it is vital for the survival of the Association in Ireland that we focus our resources over the next 24 months on replacing our lost union skill base through a process of recruitment and identifying new industrial relations reps and introducing a complete and timely training package for all reps.

Conference also believes that the lack of engagement with members by paid organising staff is detrimental to the image of the Association. This however is understandable due to the restructuring undergone in the past year and the extra workload due to lack of experienced rep support.

Conference therefore calls on the EC and requests the Irish Committee to implement:

- (1) a recruitment training course for existing workplace reps;
- (2) a recruitment drive in Ireland;
- (3) training for new industrial relations reps as early as possible to alleviate the pressure on paid Organisers;
- (4) exploration of ways in which the Association's paid Organisers can engage with the membership, and
- (5) a re-launch of our website and MyTSSA.

Moved by Paul Corcoran (Ireland)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**66. TSSA Organisation (Branches) (Item 65)**

That this Conference notes that during the past several years the Association has gone through financial hardship and at one stage was looking at opportunities to merge with other unions. However, since then, we have worked together through a painful financial reorganisation to become a viable and stable union where outgoing

payments are no longer greater than our income. This is a great achievement in itself.

Conference notes that in 2015, the Association has undergone changes to remove a lot of the dead and non-functioning branches, again a painful experience. We have yet to see if this will be a success, whilst we think the present reorganisation of branches is a temporary stop-gap which will allow our Association to continue. It does not address the problem regarding lack of members' involvement. Conference therefore feels strongly that we need an alternative structure to the present branches that is fit for the 21st Century.

Network Rail West Midlands Branch has been discussing one alternative proposal and Conference hopes that there are other proposals out there. Conference asks the EC to collate these ideas and proposals, get feedback from branches and Divisional Councils and submit a new and viable members' structure for debate at 2017 Annual Conference with a view to implementing this structure within a reasonable timescale.

Moved by Allen Williams (Network Rail Midlands)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**67. TSSA Organisation (Communications) (Item 66)**

That this Conference, following the recent reorganisation within our Association, applauds the EC for their efforts to stimulate activity within the membership.

In line with this, and to support it, this Conference instructs the EC to provide each rep, Branch, Divisional Council and SOG with complete clarification of the lines of communication and accountability between Head Office and the various levels of member representation, thus enabling issues to be dealt with efficiently and with clear lines of accountability, saving time, money and frustration.

Moved by David Lown (Crewe & Cheshire General)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**68. TSSA Organisation (Communications) (Item 67)**

That this Conference believes that, while members have the facility to use the 0800 number, the website and emails to contact Head Office with queries, this should also be expanded to include a Freepost option, and calls for the implementation of this.

Moved by Fred Hall (London North West Retired)  
Seconded Formally

**LOST**

**69. TSSA Organisation (Communications) (Item 68)**

That this Conference notes that Rule 54 encourages the exchange of communications between branches on matters directly concerning members, but acknowledges the concerns about information security which hinder this.

Conference therefore calls on the EC to make provision for the secure exchange of electronic communications (e.g. emails) between branch officials.

**Amendment**

To add at end “as part of a comprehensive communications strategy.”.

**RULED OUT OF ORDER**

**Third Day's Proceedings**

**70. TSSA Recruitment (Item 69)**

That this Conference recognises that the reforms and reorganisations have put the Association's finances on a much firmer footing. The continuing fall in total national membership, however, shows no sign of improvement and constitutes a potentially lethal threat to the Association's financial position, its industrial bargaining strength and its status as an independent trade union.

Conference believes that recruitment and retention of members must be made the number one priority and regrets that the EC does not appear to have addressed this issue properly and have not given it sufficient attention.

Conference instructs the EC to review current recruitment, (*and*) including the implementation of 'Time to Grow' and, if necessary, retention policies and to formulate urgently a new strategy which will arrest the constant decline in membership. This should include consideration of the re-introduction of paid recruiters.

Conference recognises that the Association is losing potential members by not being represented at Company Induction Courses. Conference therefore calls on the EC to give this matter serious consideration.

Moved by Malcolm Wallace (Retired Members Group)

Seconded Bob Davies (Anglia No 1)

**CARRIED**

**Amendment**

To delete second “and” in line 9 and substitute “including the implementation of 'Time to Grow' and, if necessary,”.

To add at end new paragraph:

“Conference recognises that the Association is losing potential members by not being represented at Company Induction Courses. Conference therefore calls on the EC to give this matter serious consideration.”.

**Anglia No 1**

**ACCEPTED**

**71. TSSA Recruitment (Item 70)**

That this Conference is disappointed with the development of the recruitment campaign from Head Office. It was launched with fanfare at 2015 Annual Conference and enthused many delegates. However, there has been little follow-up, even in the context of an organising union. There is very little, if anything, on the website to give a sense of an on-going campaign or to inform people who are keen to recruit.

Conference believes that recruitment should be promoted as a collective effort and believes that members are committed to the successful future of the Association, and are poised to be part of such a collective move. However, such a project requires clear and consistent leadership and, sadly, Conference feels that leadership on this particular issue is lacking at present. Conference is aware that membership figures continue to drop and may indeed be approaching a critical level.

Conference therefore urges the EC to put recruitment at the top of its agenda and at the heart of all its activity, as without new members, and retention of existing members, the Association’s effectiveness will continue to decrease. As part of the collective activity, Conference calls for recruitment training to be part of all training courses for reps and activists, and for the website to be used as an active recruiting tool with front page information, directions to on-line training sessions and regular updates on the recruitment campaign.

Moved by Jill Murdoch (Yorkshire General)

Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**72. TSSA Affiliations (Item 71)**

That this Conference notes that the Association has always encouraged branch members to affiliate to their local Constituency Labour Parties. Many other trade unions also encourage this practice, all with the purpose of the Constituency Parties supporting trade union aims and informing the Labour Party Head Office of their support. Our affiliated members are put at a disadvantage as most other trade unions have regular contact with their delegates whilst our delegates are left to their own devices.

Conference instructs the EC to establish a regular point of contact with our delegates, suggesting suitable subjects to be developed locally in the Constituencies.

Moved by Malcolm Harrison (Wales & West Retired)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**73. Rule Alternations (Item 72)**

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.

Moved by Formally  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**74. Annual Conference Documents (Emergency Item E2)**

That this Conference recognises that a great deal has changed in recent years regarding Annual Conference. Conference thanks all the staff concerned for the tremendous work they do to ensure that it runs smoothly. It does, however feel that much would be gained by having a feedback questionnaire supplied to delegates, SOC, SOGs and branches so that lessons can be learned. This should cover documentation before and during Conference, the venue and accommodation.

Conference calls on the EC to start this process this year, ideally by distributing a questionnaire at this Conference, or as soon as possible after Conference. As part of the feedback process Conference notes that:

- (a) Printed copies of Annual Conference 2016 Final Agenda were only made available to Branches on request and in A5 format with a very small print size, which members who are registered sight impaired could not read, and which caused difficulty to some other members;
- (b) No printed copies of the Report and financial statements were made available to Branches; and
- (c) Circulars 56, 57 and 58 and their attachments, the Report and financial statements, were not placed on the TSSA website in accordance with Emergency Item E2 carried at the 2014 Annual Delegate Conference (Minute 60).

Conference regrets that due to these shortcomings it was impossible for all members to consider the documentation adequately prior to attending Branch and SOG meetings, and for all members present at Branch and SOG meetings to play a full part in considering the amendments and questions to be submitted and how to mandate delegates.

Conference does recognise the need for economy in printing and postage, but this must not reach a point where the documentation fails to be readable to all. In order to ensure decisions at Branch and SOG meetings can be democratic, Conference instructs the EC to ensure that adequate printed copies of documents are made available to Branches and SOGs for use at meetings and that copies in large print are made available to Branches and SOGs with registered sight impaired members.

Conference further instructs the EC to ensure that the requirements of Emergency Item E2 carried at the 2014 Annual Delegate Conference are complied with fully for all future Annual and Special Delegate Conferences.

Moved by Peter Vincent (Midlands Retired Branch)  
Seconded Malcolm Wallace (Retired Members Branch)

**CARRIED**

**75. Education (Emergency Item E3)**

Conference notes the shocking news on BBC on 20th April that Halewood Academy on Merseyside is closing its 6th form. This will mean the second entire borough in England where no pupil can take an A level.

Conference notes the continued privatisation and attack on education and the squeezing of funding for sixth form colleges, which have had nearly a quarter of their funding cut since 2010 - the reverse of social mobility to the point where only the elite will have access to many courses.

We note that the NUT is now balloting for strike action over academisation. We therefore ask the EC to join the fight against threatened academisation and attacks on our schools, including 6th form opportunities, and to link with the NUT campaigns.

Moved by Fliss Premru (TfL Central Branch)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

**76. Gentrification (Emergency Item E4)**

Conference notes the announcement by the Green Party on 20 April in London not to endorse either leading London Mayoral candidate as second choice.

While Labour supporters feel some anger at the Green Party's failure to acknowledge the difference Labour will make compared to the wolf in sheep's green clothing,

Conservative candidate Zac Goldsmith, nevertheless there are some valid criticisms with swathes of Londoners feeling disenfranchised and not supported.

At present some Labour councils in London are behaving disgracefully over gentrification. Lambeth Council for example is demolishing Cressington Gardens estate despite the vast majority of residents voting against it and a court judgement that they are acting illegally. This is one of a number of “regeneration” schemes in conjunction with property developers which pushing rents and house prices up to levels that are completely unaffordable for local residents, forcing more and more of them to leave London altogether. Lambeth is also selling off libraries and turning them into gymnasiums, despite a huge campaign against it. So far Sadiq Khan has been completely silent on these issues.

The new London Mayor and Labour councils need to stand up for the poorer members of the community against gentrification, airport and road expansion and closure of community services such as Lambeth libraries.

Thousands of people have joined the Labour party because of Corbyn’s anti-austerity agenda - not because he stood for less bad neo-liberal policies.

Following Sadiq’s win, we need a strong lobby to bring him back to representation of the people, to defend our public services and social housing, and to support the tenant and user led campaigns that are being attacked by Labour councils at the moment.

We ask the EC to support the campaign against the Housing Bill and campaign with Kill the Housing Bill and the Radical Housing Network.

Moved by Fliss Premru (TfL Central Branch)

Seconded Kieran Crowe (LU MATS & Operating Managers)

**CARRIED**

## **77. Campaigns Committee (Emergency Item E5)**

That this Conference notes that, yet again, there was a very limited TSSA presence at the People’s Assembly demonstration, held on 16 April 2016. Conference is aware that there is limited co-ordination for such events within Head Office and, as an organising union, calls on the Executive Committee to create a Campaigns Committee.

Activism can be increased by taking a systematic approach to demonstrations, protests, lobbies and other gatherings of members and Conference suggests the following, or similar, be implemented by the EC.

The EC should set up a standing Campaigns Committee convened by an EC member. Other members should be invited from Divisional Councils, Branches, company reps, local/area reps, members who are councillors.

The Committee will operate an email group or similar electronic means, but if necessary meetings will be held.

The Committee will write its own remit to enhance the details listed here. The convenor will lead in the exchange of information.

The head office will provide the necessary limited support.

When the head office or any member becomes aware of a national or regional protest that relates to TSSA policy and aims, they will send details to the convenor.

The convenor will initiate an email discussion with the Committee and decide on the relevant issues, including:

- Whether to arrange activity and level of priority
- Who to inform about it and publicity (e.g. head office support for circulars etc.)
- Dates, times, locations
- Banners, flags, petitions, leaflets etc.

The convenor will report as required to the EC for approval of recommendations and if timescales do not allow this then this approval will be sought from the General Secretary.

The relevant publicity, including website updates, and organising will then be applied.

The convenor will make a report to the Annual Conference.

Moved by Andy Bain (NR North London)

Seconded Kieran Crowe (LU MATS & Operating Managers)

**CARRIED**

## **78. May Election Results (Emergency Item E6)**

Conference welcomes the positive gains made by the Labour Party in England, winning two by-elections, a whole series of Mayoral contests including the prizes of London and Bristol, a 4% increase in vote in England, and the re-election of Labour as the largest party in Wales - all despite an exceptionally difficult period for the Party with internal division and an incredibly aggressive and hostile press and media campaign against the Party Leader. Conference also notes the major setback for Labour in Scotland continuing the post Scottish referendum trend.

Conference believes that the relatively positive results in England reflect on some of the changes in approach brought in by Jeremy Corbyn, John McDonnell, and other colleagues, including in the House of Lords, to actively oppose the Tory Government's extreme proposals and policies - on Austerity, on Welfare cuts, on destroying social housing, on the forced academisation of schools, on bombing Syrians, and applauds this more principled approach.

Conference is however appalled at the continued number of personal attacks being made on the Party's Leader, Jeremy Corbyn, by supposed colleagues in the Parliamentary Party right into and through the election period. Conference calls on the Parliamentary Labour Party (PLP) to tighten up its rules and codes of conduct to ensure action is taken against those making personal attacks on colleagues, whilst maintaining the welcome new openness on policy - outside of elections and instructs the EC to write to the PLP to raise this.

Conference recognises that the Labour Party needs to change organisationally and culturally - its reduction over recent decades to an almost purely election machine, its neglect and loss of many of its connections to ordinary working class communities and its social base rooted in the communities it seeks to represent have contributed to the disastrous loss of support in Scotland and the difficulties with UKIP in substantial parts of England and Wales. Conference calls on the EC to press the Labour Party strongly to make the necessary organisational and cultural changes to start to urgently address this.

Finally Conference recognises the difficulty the Labour Party has with a hostile national press and media, and the urgent need to find new ways of engaging with the public, and to widen the party's reach, engagement and appeal, so that it can obtain the much wider electoral support it needs in order to win the next General Election. Conference asks the EC to work for and support the necessary actions by the Labour Party to achieve this.

Moved by Dave Merrett (Yorkshire General)  
Seconded Formally

**CARRIED**

## 79.

## ELECTION RESULTS 2016

**Labour Party 2016**

Mary Sithole	6,525
Rebecca Barnes	5,375
Jason Turvey	4,625

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Bob Bayley	3,400
Josey Grimshaw	2,175
Chris Clark	1,800
Ray Spiteri	1,600
Preston Brooker	300

**Trades Union Congress 2016**

Jill Murdoch	8,425
Al Stoten	7,350
Fliss Premru	5,650

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Billie Soule	1,825
Mary Sithole	1,425
Nicola Jukes	1,125

**TUC Disabled Workers' Conference 2017**

Mick Carney	8,775
Cath Murphy*	
Richard Scudder	7,550
Ray Spiteri	5,975

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Bob Bayley	3,850

**Standing Orders Committee 2017**

Andy Bain*	
Luke Howard*	
Joe Kavanagh*	
Joel Kosminsky*	

**Women's Labour Party 2016**

Jill Murdoch	9,675
Hilary Hosking	7,425
Sharon Simmonds	6,150
Josey Grimshaw	5,750
Mary Sithole	4,525

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Cath Murphy	4,225
Nicola Jukes	1,475

**Women's TUC 2017**

Josey Grimshaw	7,600
Cath Murphy	6,975
Mary Sithole	5,650
Melissa Heywood	4,125
Mariana Vidic	2,850

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Amanda Richmond	2,100

**TUC Black Workers' Conference 2017**

Manjit Gill*	
Ben Johnson*	
Mary Sithole*	

**TUC Young Workers' Conference 2017**

Kyle Williamson*	
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**TUC LGBT Conference 2017**

Colin Brazier*	
Dave Drewry*	
Richard Scudder*	

**Scrutineers 2017**

Jill Murdoch*	
Mitch Tovey*	

\* candidates elected unopposed at first call for nomination

A further call for nominations will be made from Branches/SOGs for those Conferences where insufficient nominations were received at first call.

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