

GUIDELINES FOR CONGRESS BUSINESS

These guidelines provide a broad, but flexible, framework for dealing with Congress business and have been drawn up in accordance with the Rules of the Union. They are intended as guidelines for the President, Congress and the Standing Orders Committee itself.

1 CONGRESS

Congress is convened and delegates are elected subject to the provisions of the Union RuleBook. Congress shall conduct its business at the following times:

Sunday	10.00am - 12.30pm
Monday-Thursday	9.30am - 12.30pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm

It may be necessary, depending on the amount of Congress business, to schedule a session for Sunday afternoon.

Changes in these times will be discussed between the President of Congress and the Standing Orders Committee.

2 STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Standing Orders Committee shall be appointed in accordance with Rule 9. The members of the Standing Orders Committee shall elect a chair from amongst their own number.

The Standing Orders Committee shall have power to recommend to Congress proposals on the conduct of Congress business as covered by these guidelines.

The Standing Orders Committee shall meet as and when may be necessary to arrange Congress business.

The Central Executive Council may appoint up to three Observers to advise Standing Orders Committee.

GENERAL MOTIONS AND RULE AMENDMENTS

Motions on general policy and to amend rules shall be placed on the agenda according to the provisions of the RuleBook.

It is the responsibility of the Standing Orders Committee at Congress to make recommendations to Congress for the handling of the agenda.

The Standing Orders Committee has three responsibilities in respect of Motions submitted to Congress:

- (1) The Committee shall determine whether or not each Motion is "in order" for debate at Congress i.e.
 - whether the Motion ought to be dealt with by a more appropriate body (for example a JIC or a Section or Delegate Conference);
 - whether, at a Congress which is not a Rules Revision Congress, the Motion conflicts with a rule, or is an explicit rule amendment or would require a consequential rule amendment to give effect to its provisions;
 - whether the Motion covers more than one subject;
 - whether, after consultation with the delegation, the provisions of the Motion are still relevant and appropriate to the present situation (i.e. whether the Motion has been "overtaken by events");
 - whether the wording of the Motion is incomprehensible;
 - whether at a Rules Revision Congress, a rule amendment Motion would leave a rule deficient;
 - whether the Motion conflicts with a previous Congress resolution that it does not expressly seek to overturn.

If a Motion comes within any of these categories, it shall be ruled "out of order" by the Standing Orders Committee, and the Committee shall recommend to Congress accordingly.

- (2) The Committee shall make proposals to Regional delegations on the withdrawal of a Motion in favour of another Motion on the Congress agenda. In determining whether to recommend the withdrawal of a Motion, the Committee shall ensure that the principles and proposals incorporated in that Motion are fully covered by the Motion that will remain on the agenda.

A Regional delegation is entitled to reject the Committee's proposal to withdraw, and to allow its Motion to stand on the agenda.

If a Regional delegation agrees to the withdrawal of its Motion the Standing Orders Committee will, if it wishes, recommend the right to second the other Motion or the right to speak in support of it. The Standing Orders Committee will report the recommendation accordingly to Congress.

- (3) The Standing Orders Committee shall assist Regional delegations in the drafting of composite resolutions and shall make proposals and recommendations accordingly.

In determining proposals on composite resolutions, the Committee shall bear in mind the following points:

- that the principles and proposals of the Motions concerned are covered in the composite resolution
- that the wording of the composite resolution reflects the meaning of the original Motions.

The first Report of the Committee shall, as far as possible, report on agreed composite Motions, and/or indicate those Motions which are being considered for compositing and fix the time and place at which Regional delegations are required to meet the SOC either to discuss the compositing of Motions, or any other matters relating to Motions standing in the name of a Regional delegation.

In the event of a delegation failing to respond to an invitation to meet the SOC this shall be reported to Congress with the recommendation that the Motion shall fall.

If in the opinion of the SOC a Regional delegation has unreasonably declined to composite a Motion, this shall be reported to Congress with any recommendations that the Chair of SOC deems appropriate.

If it is proposed to composite Motions on which the CEC has adopted different attitudes, the CEC Observers shall consult with the General Secretary. The Standing Orders Committee and the Delegations involved in the proposed compositing shall be informed of the CEC attitude prior to the proposed composite being finalised.

If the Regional delegation agrees to a composite resolution, agreement will then be sought between the delegations concerned on which shall move and second the resolution and, where appropriate, which Regional delegation shall have the right to speak in support of it. The Standing Orders Committee will report the recommendation accordingly to Congress.

Priority in debate will be given to those delegates who assist in achieving a composite.

4. EMERGENCY MOTIONS

Any Delegate wishing to submit an Emergency Motion shall in the first instance seek the agreement of his/her Regional delegation that the Motion is an Emergency Motion. It shall then be referred to the Standing Orders Committee, which shall decide whether the Motion is an Emergency Motion after taking account of the following points:

- whether the Motion involves a serious situation needing quick action
- whether the Motion relates to events that have occurred after the closing date for motions as prescribed in the RuleBook
- whether the Motion relates to a decision already taken by the Congress which is in session and would consequently amend or rescind the decision.

Emergency Motions can be composited.

5. WITHDRAWAL OF MOTIONS

If a Regional delegation wishes to withdraw a Motion in the name of a branch of the Region, or in the name of the Regional Committee, the Regional Secretary shall notify the Standing Orders Committee.

6. MATTERS OF URGENCY

Any delegate wishing to bring before Congress "a matter of urgency" not on the agenda shall in the first instance seek the agreement of his/her Regional delegation that the matter is one of urgency in accordance with Rule 70. It shall then be referred to the Standing Orders Committee, which shall recommend whether or not the matter is one of urgency, after taking account of the following points:

- whether the matter needs immediate decision and is a matter which is not (whether by Motion or otherwise) already on the agenda
- whether the matter could have been dealt with adequately in an ordinary Motion placed on the Congress agenda, or by an Emergency Motion.

The Standing Orders Committee shall inform the President of Congress and Congress of its recommendation. The President shall then, in accordance with Rule 70, put the Motion that the matter be taken as a matter of urgency, and it is then the responsibility of Congress to decide whether the matter be so brought forward.

7. CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Central Executive Council has the right within rule to submit Motions to Congress. The Central Executive Council will notify Regional delegations of these Motions prior to their pre-Congress meetings.

The Central Executive Council shall have the right to submit Motions as "a matter of emergency" to Congress. The Central Executive Council should notify the Standing Orders Committee of their intention to do so.

Subject to the provisions of Rule 8, the Central Executive Council members should only speak at Congress where they are representing Central Executive Council policy. Where a Central Executive Council member is asked by his/her Regional delegation to speak to the Regional delegation's policy, he/she shall only do so provided the delegation's policy is not in contravention with Central Executive Council policy.

8. DEBATING PROCEDURE

The Procedure for debating Congress Motions shall normally be at the discretion of the President who will indicate to Congress wherever appropriate, the procedure or procedures he/she intends to adopt.

In determining the procedure for debating Motions, the President shall have regard to the following points:

- no resolution of the Congress in session can be amended, rescinded or negated by a subsequent Motion, at that Congress;
- precedence in debates shall be given to a Motion of the Central Executive Council;
- the procedures for taking Motions are as set out in Rule 70 Clauses 3-18 in respect of Council meetings;
- rule amendments take precedence in debate over general Motions;
- personal attacks on colleagues should not take place.

The Standing Orders Committee shall advise the President what Motions will fall if another motion or a Special Report is carried.

9. TIME LIMITS FOR SPEAKERS

The times for speakers will be recommended by the Standing Orders Committee, taking account of the amount of business on the agenda.

It may be necessary, in order that the business of Congress is properly completed, that time for speakers be curtailed. The Standing Orders Committee shall recommend revised times for speakers to Congress.

If, in the interests of saving Congress time, a Motion that the Central Executive Council is accepting without qualification is formally moved and seconded, there shall be no CEC speaker on the Motion.

10. VOTING

It shall be within the discretion of the President to determine the manner of voting, whether it be by a show of hands, a tellers vote or a card vote.

Only Delegates seated in the Congress Hall should vote. If, in exceptional circumstances, the President instructs that the doors to the Hall be closed, he/she should give prior warning to Delegates.

Show of Hands: The President shall call for those in favour to show, and shall then call for those against.

Teller Vote: The tellers elected for each Region shall, when the President of Congress instructs, count the hands raised In Favour. They will report this total to the General Member Auditors. The tellers then shall likewise count the hands raised Against, and similarly report the total to the General Member Auditors. The General Member Auditors shall report the result to the President.

Card Vote: A book of voting cards will be issued to each delegate. Each book will contain numbered cards marked "For", and cards marked "Against". The number on each card is to identify the number of the vote, and cannot be used to identify the individual voting. The appropriate voting card will be selected and used by the delegate to vote either "For" or "Against". The card must not be marked in any way, but placed in the ballot box provided by the teller.

When the President has decided that a card vote is necessary:

- (a) tellers will provide a ballot box for each regional delegation;

- (b) the President will announce the number of the card to be used – for example: ‘Card Vote number 1’;
- (c) delegates will choose the appropriate numbered card, marked either “For” or “Against” from their book of voting cards and place it into the ballot box provided;
- (d) once the President has announced ‘Card Vote completed’ tellers will take the ballot boxes to the General Member Auditors;
- (e) the General Member Auditors will count the votes, and notify the President of the result

President: The President of Congress shall have no vote. If there is a tied vote, then the motion shall fall.

11. VOTING FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT

The President and Vice-President of the Union shall be elected by Congress, in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12 and 13. Ballot papers bearing the names of the candidates will be issued at Congress.

12. LITERATURE

No literature or leaflets - other than official GMB literature - may be distributed inside the Congress Building without the prior permission of the Standing Orders Committee.

Literature, wherever distributed, which is intended to influence the voting intentions of delegates to Congress, should be brought to the attention of the Standing Orders Committee.

13. PREVIOUS CONGRESS DECISIONS

The following Motions, carried at previous Congresses, relate to the conduct of Congress.

1974 CONGRESS, BLACKPOOL, MOTION 257

PRE-CONGRESS DELEGATE MEETINGS

Congress agrees that in order to widen the area of debate, and to achieve a more democratic expression of Congress delegates, Pre-Congress meetings should determine their voting intentions, with regard to resolutions

from within their own Region, and matters reflecting a point of principle. But should not determine an intractable attitude to resolutions from other Regions until the conclusion of the general debate.

PERIVALE BRANCH
(London Region)

1985 CONGRESS, BLACKPOOL, SPECIAL MOTION
CORE RULE 34

Congress re-affirms the powers of the Central Executive Council as provided for within Rule to revise Officials' salaries and matters related to conditions of service.

CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

1993 CONGRESS, PORTSMOUTH, MOTION 144
CONGRESS DOCUMENTS

Congress agrees that at future Congresses, all documents provided by the Central Executive Council and any Motions with several components, shall be voted on by paragraph or section, where that year's Congress decides by a majority vote to do so. Congress can thus reject parts of documents and Motions without rejecting all that is presented.

MELTON GENERAL BRANCH
(Midland & East Coast Region)

1999 CONGRESS, BLACKPOOL, MOTION 9
CONGRESS DEMOCRACY

Congress has previously resolved that Pre-Congress meetings should not determine an intractable attitude to resolutions from other regions until the conclusion of the general debate (1974 Congress).

Congress now demands the end of the practice of regions mandating delegates on any motions other than those of their own region, unless a major matter of principle is involved.

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH
(London Region)

2003 CONGRESS, BLACKPOOL, MOTION 11
UNION DEMOCRACY

Congress calls for delegates to have democratic freedom.

It would be of assistance to have voting procedures explained at start of Congress.

At last Congress many delegates supported motions but voted against because they were instructed to oppose.

New delegates were not aware they could have free votes.

THAMES VALLEY BRANCH

(London Region)

Motions and Rule Amendments printed in italics may be debated at recall Congress 2005.

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RA343 *RULE 14A – DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY*

RA344 *RULE 14A – DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY*
RA345 *RULE 14A – DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY*
RA346 *RULE 14A – DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY*
RA347 *RULE 14A – DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY*
RA348 RULE 17C – REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL OFFICERS
RA349 RULE 17D – REGIONAL SECRETARY
RA350 RULE 17D – REGIONAL SECRETARY
RA351 RULE 17G – ORGANISER ELECTION PROCEDURE
RA352 RULE 18 – QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE AND DEFINITION OF OFFICERS
RA353 RULE 18 – QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE AND DEFINITION OF OFFICERS
RA354 RULE 18 – QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE AND DEFINITION OF OFFICERS
RA355 RULE 20 - REGIONS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT
RA356 RULE 20 - REGIONS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT
RA357 RULE 20 - REGIONS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT
RA358 RULE 21 - RESERVED SEATS ON REGIONAL COUNCILS
RA359 RULE 21 - RESERVED SEATS ON REGIONAL COUNCILS
RA360 RULE 30 - AUDIT
RA361 RULE 30 - AUDIT
RA362 RULE 30 - AUDIT
RA363 RULE 35 – COMMISSION QUARTERAGE PAYMENTS TO BRANCHES
RA364 RULE 36 – BRANCH ALLOCATION
RA365 RULE 37 - BRANCHES
RA366 RULE 37 - BRANCHES
RA367 RULE 37 - BRANCHES
RA368 RULE 37 - BRANCHES
RA369 RULE 39 – BRANCH SECRETARY
RA370 RULE 46 - DISPUTES
RA371 RULE 49A – RETIRED LIFE MEMBERS
RA372 RULE 51 – STRIKE BENEFIT
RA373 RULE 56 – FUNERAL BENEFIT
RA374 RULE 56 – FUNERAL BENEFIT
RA375 RULE 56 – FUNERAL BENEFIT
RA376 RULE 56 – FUNERAL BENEFIT

Motions and Rule Amendments printed in italics may be debated at recall Congress 2005.

UNION ORGANISATION CONGRESS

1. MANDATE

Congress – No brother or sister or Region should be mandated attending Congress. It suppresses free speech.

242 SALFORD NO. 1
Lancashire Region

2. CONGRESS STANDING ORDERS

Congress recognises that the standing orders for Congress business are outdated and therefore require modernising for the twenty first century. Congress therefore instructs the CEC to investigate an update in the standing orders to allow non-controversial motions and composites to be dealt with quicker in order that other matters can have a fuller and more comprehensive debate.

The CEC to report back to the 2007 Congress with recommendations.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

3. CONGRESS MEETINGS

This Congress supports the resolution that the GMB Congress is held every 4 years. The money saved could be used to service the membership with badly needed officer support.

CAMBORNE C21 BRANCH
Southern Region

4. RETURN TO BIENNIAL CONGRESS

Congress acknowledges the efforts by all parties to get the union back on track financially and asks that all this work will not go to waste.

It therefore asks Congress to agree a return of Biennial Congress after 2007, enabling the union to build on this success, in doing so this move could save the union in excess of half a million pounds every alternate year.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

5. FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN THE GMB

Congress believes that protection of liberties such as free speech and public investigation and accountability, which define civilised societies, is a fundamental duty of this Union and the movement as a whole.

Consequently, it is essential that we organise our activities in ways that strengthen those liberties by encouraging delegates to participate in our proceedings as fully and confidently as possible.

Therefore, Congress requires that when guest speakers address it, they do so on the understanding that they are willing to answer questions from delegates at the end of their speeches.

Congress instructs the CEC to arrange for adequate periods of time for meaningful question and answer sessions to take place.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

6. VISITORS TO CONGRESS

Congress demands that all accredited visitors, who are members of the GMB, receive final agendas and a programme on arrival.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

UNION ORGANISATION

GENERAL

7. FORMATION OF A NEW UNION

Congress believes that the CEC should withdraw from exploratory talks with AMICUS and TGWU with immediate effect.

Over the past year the GMB has built up and excellent management team and has transformed its financial well-being. Rank and file members feel that such expertise would be better used to increase our membership and provide better service to that membership than gamble on the unknown.

Congress agrees that given the uncertainty of the structure, democracy and financial strength of a new union, and indeed its principles, the CEC should put all its resources to benefit our membership and no more resources into the talks.

HOME COUNTIES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

8. POSSIBLE MERGER (GMB-TGWU-AMICUS)

Congress, the potential of a joint merger of the three Trade Unions in the heading of the motion would be catastrophic to the Trade Union Movement as a whole. Size is not everything; balance must be weighted between size and Independence.

It has been circulated in the Media, Union Journals, Financial Papers and by word of mouth that the creation of a new Super Union by way of a merger, would somehow give greater powers (Politically and in the Workplace) to those represented by the New Union.

Clearly the Proud History of the GMB has been diluted in some way in an attempt to make this proposition attractive to some. This is clearly the view being circulated by some Regional Secretaries and Officers alike.

Should we forget that Amicus (AEEPTU) voted with the Government to continue the Private Finance Initiative, Public Private Partnerships, to the detriment of GMB members. We have nothing in common with AMICUS that would make a merger attractive. It may be that TGWU are closer to us by way of alignment, rulebook, workers we represent, but does this mean that we should merge with them on a tri-partite basis.

Congress calls upon the CEC to abandon all plans of a Tri-Partite merger, and to ensure that GMB continues as an independent Trade Union.

EAST AYRSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
GMB Scotland

9. GMB FOCUS

Congress agrees that:

The GMB union is big enough to stand alone and it does not need the dubious qualities of the TGWU or AMICUS in order to represent properly the needs of GMB members. Therefore we ask that no more valuable CEC and Officers' time is spent on the proposed merger and we take the decision that the GMB will stand on its own for the foreseeable future.

PORTSMOUTH WATER 49 P28 BRANCH
Southern Region

10. MERGERS

This Congress recognises that unless the Amicus Trade Union can adjust and accommodate their structure to meet the GMB democratic branch and contribution culture then any proposed merger with Amicus will fail.

It calls on the CEC to ensure protection of the GMB branch and contribution structure to ensure the involvement of branches and members in the democracy of our Union.

113 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

11. TRADE UNION MERGERS

This Congress criticises the Central Executive Council in that without any reference to the membership it entered into discussions with other trade unions in order to give consideration to a possible merger. We urge the Central Executive Council to immediately defer any further discussions with other trade unions until there has been full debate with membership

WESTMINSTER TUPS BRANCH
London Region

12. MERGER/CREATION OF A NEW UNION/TAKEOVER? TIMETABLE

Congress notes the discussions that have been taking place, involving senior officers and lay officials of AMICUS the TGWU and ourselves, in relation to the creation of a new union.

Congress also notes the need for each GMB member to have access to the relevant information, via their Branches, to enable questioning and debate to take place before a vote is cast one way or the other in relation to such a monumental decision.

Therefore this Congress rejects any target date of January 2007 for any such merger/ creation of a new union/takeover(?) to take place.

Branches must be given time to read, digest and debate the merits and/or shortcomings of what is on offer before any vote takes place.

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

13. GMB REVOLUTION

This congress wants to change the way the GMB operates and organises on behalf of the membership. It is not ostensibly about internal structures, job roles or a merger for that matter, although it can't be ignored that the latter has the potential to sweep aside, tsunami like, most all agenda items for the 2006 Congress, never to be seen again.

Collective bargaining for wages is as necessary to the union as it always has been but this is no longer sufficient on its own. Sure the GMB does a lot more besides but our strength is derived from acting collectively. We need to strengthen this way of operating a hundred fold and we can do this without infringing laws on a closed shop.

It is proposed that the GMB needs, as an equal aim, to increase the net disposable income and purchasing power of its members, in partnership with other unions without the necessarily merging with them, by employing collective bargaining for trade unionists' purchases; there needs to be then, at least as much focus on the community outside the workplace as there is inside the workplace.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

14. OPPORTUNITIES IN EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE UNION

Congress recognises the changes that were made in relation to being in employed as an Organiser, insofar that now you must apply for a post of Recruitment Officer, after constant review and training success in that field would allow for an individual to move onto an Organiser's post.

This substantial element of qualification is a bar to many experienced people who conduct all the business on behalf of the Union within many workplaces. There are a vast number of Full-time Joint Trade Union Convener in a multi Union environment. A role which often prevents them from being involved in recruitment directly, thereby not attaining enough experience in direct recruitment.

As an Equal Opportunities Union Congress calls upon the CEC to review this current process and to ensure that equality of opportunity is open and available to all, to put into place a system that will benefit the Union as a whole, and a clear and understandable process for those who have the aptitude and ability to progress.

EAST AYRSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
GMB Scotland Region

15. FULL TIME DIVERSITY OFFICER

Congress believes that the Regions should create the position of a Full Time Diversity Officer.

It is appreciated that as a Region we have both a Race and Equal Rights Officer to support the work of RERAC. They both have an extensive portfolio of members to represent, as well as finding time to attend Race and Equal Rights meetings.

In the last few years there has been increased legislation on human rights and diversity and this information needs to be passed on to our membership as soon as possible.

As a Region our RERAC members are very proactive and arrange and attend a number of events throughout the year promoting the work of the GMB and recruiting new members, and would like to do more, but whilst not wanting to decry the work that the two Officers do to support us, they do not have the time to dedicate to the RERAC and represent their members fully.

L.B. WANDSWORTH L26 BRANCH
Southern Region

16. SICKNESS MONITORING

Congress, this motion calls upon the CEC to introduce sickness monitoring into the employment terms and conditions of paid staff and officials of the GMB.

We are very concerned that an increasingly high percentage of officers and other staff within the GMB are constantly absent on sick leave. These absences are

reflected in the reduction of service and representation for members and the increase in workload for those officers who do have a good attendance record.

We also note with further concern that these "sick" employees are not monitored in relation to their sickness absences and in effect they can remain on sick leave indefinitely without any fear of reproach. The other effect of the sickness absences is the drain in "financial resources" by the amount of sick pay that is being paid out. We believe that those resources would be better spent on service and representation for us the members.

The absence of sickness monitoring (managing attendance) for GMB employed workers is a luxury that we as Local Government employees do not enjoy; we are regularly subjected to sickness monitoring and other initiatives, which our employers contend are in place to improve attendance and service delivery.

We therefore believe the GMB should be seen to be a caring employer with the appropriate initiatives in place to support its employees and improve attendance and in doing so, improve the standard of service to a level its members deserve.

115 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

17. AGE DISCRIMINATION

This Congress recognises that the GMB is against age discrimination in Employment. Therefore this Congress instructs the CEC to delete all references in the Rule Book, which is age discrimination in connection with employment in the GMB.

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

18. GMB OFFICES AND DISABILITY

Congress demands that the CEC ensure that all GMB offices are DDA compliant.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

19. LAY REPRESENTATIVES

Congress asks the CEC to ensure that GMB Lay Reps are financially supported to ensure they are not out of pocket when representing our members. Most employers only grant time off without pay, and not all Branches can afford to pay active Reps.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

20. RULE BOOK CLARITY

Congress believes that the Rule Book should be transparent not opaque and assist in the smooth running of the organisation it serves. Further it should be fully accessible to the membership.

Congress accepts that our current Rule Book wording and format falls far short of delivering on these points. Therefore, Congress instructs the CEC to commission both the translation of the Rule Book into plain English and change of format to loose leaf files which will be easier to update following rule changes and far more cost effective.

136 ROSSENDALE BRANCH
Lancashire Region

21. MPO FELLOWSHIP

Congress calls upon the Acting General Secretary, Paul Kenny, for a statement as to whether a previous General Secretary, John Edmonds, acted without authority from the CEC and to whether he was personally liable that the GMB was happy to fund a three year fellowship.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

22. ACCOUNTABILITY AND COMPLIANCE

Congress calls upon all National Officers and Negotiators not to enter into agreements which are to the detriment of our members ie, No Strike Agreements.

No strike agreements are in conflict with and a contradiction of Rule 46. All members, officers and committees must comply with the Rules of the Union and must not take decisions by themselves without reference to either the Regional Committees or the Central Executive Council. If they are in any doubt or require clarification of any Rule they should seek advice prior to any agreement which could be a contradiction of any Rule in the Rule Book.

SCOTTISH SECURITY BRANCH
GMB Scotland

23. INDUSTRIAL ACTION

Congress recognises that every individual has the right to take industrial action. Congress acknowledges that industrial action on public/bank holidays can have an adverse and negative affect on the union. Congress therefore calls upon all

GMB officials to take this fact into account when organising dates for industrial action.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

UNION ORGANISATION RECRUITMENT & ORGANISATION

24. BRANCH FACILITIES

Congress - recruitment and retention are the most used buzz words within the GMB, however, facilities to assist branches and its activists in ensuring recruitment and retention, does not appear to be a priority.

We call upon the CEC to end the GMB's discriminatory practices in respect of the facilities it provides to activists in different branches.

Colleagues, what we call for is a level playing field to allow activists to conduct the business of the GMB.

We call upon the CEC to undertake a review of branches to identify where the GMB is failing in the facilities it does or does not provide.

97 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

25. OLYMPICS 2012

This Congress calls for extra funding from GMB for the Olympics which will employ up to 50,000 workers and which will be a major possibility for recruitment.

SOLO BRANCH
London Region

26. GMB MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

Congress calls on the CEC to institute a review of the GMB Membership database, as to its present suitability/construct/present data build, to provide rapid, group specific contact addresses/identification flags for those GMB employees and activists who are engaged daily, in recruitment, campaigning and representation tasks.

This review should be undertaken in conjunction with a review of the current membership application form and the specific workplace identification questions that it seeks from new members.

An example to highlight the database problems, is a local authority membership; its school support staff membership cannot, at present, be clearly extrapolated or the membership in specific schools identified. This is mirrored across, especially, large workplaces, for specific work groups.

The GMB having effective recruitment and campaigning is essential for its growth and sustainability. An effective membership database is essential in support of this aim. It is also essential to the GMB addressing, effectively, the increasingly legal employment framework that it is required to operate in, eg CAC applications etc.

PLYMOUTH P20 BRANCH
Southern Region

27. NATIONAL DATABASE

Congress

This motion is to produce a National database of our members. As it stands, when attempting to contact a fellow member of our Trade Union who works for E.ON UK, but is not located within our Region, we have to contact other Regions, first to attain the telephone number etc, rather than doing so through our own Region(s). E.ON UK is now spread to the furthest corners of the UK so more than one Region needs to be contacted.

If Congress accepts this motion, our members will be better and quicker informed.

RATCLIFFE ON SOAR BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

28. MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Congress applauds the setting up of the National recruitment team working very closely in all Regions.

Organisers' priorities and resources must be to continue to service the membership as effectively as possible. One way we can ensure consistency is that we ask all Regions' membership services to identify workplaces that have membership in several Branches. This information should be passed on to Senior Organisers etc so that a consolidation exercise could be undertaken with the sole intention of ensuring the best possible service to our members.

MIDLAND HEALTHCARE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

29. FULL-TIME BRANCH SECRETARIES

Congress notes the increasing use of accompanying reps and therefore withdraws the previous decision to stop appointing new full-time Branch Secretaries. This will increase the pool of available lay members for this task.

Congress also accepts that part of the decline in our membership is due to reduction in these points and it is also putting unfair pressure on present full-time Branch Secretaries to remain in post longer than they wish.

The appointments will be under the control of the Regional Secretary and Regional Committee.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

30. BRANCH REORGANISATION

This congress asks that Branches be re-organised so that they can sustain a full-time paid Branch Secretary.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

31. RECRUITING UNWAGED PEOPLE

This Congress asks that the GMB targets and makes it easier for unemployed [particularly long term unemployed], the sick, disabled and elderly to join the GMB as opposed to having joined while in the work place previous to their period of being out of work for one reason or another.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

UNION ORGANISATION REPRESENTATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

32. DECISIONS & MINUTES OF THE CEC

Congress instructs the Central Executive Council to

- produce a summary of CEC decisions to be circulated with the minutes of each meeting, listing the matters discussed and indicating the decision in each case
- ensure that, when CEC decisions are referred to in Branch circulars and other correspondence, the date of the decision is given.

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH

London Region

33. STANDARDS IN THE GMB

This Congress recognises and compliments the GMB Leadership over the past year for their actions that the GMB will not tolerate any abuse of power by officials or members of the Union irrespective of their status.

This Congress urges that they continue to ensure that high standards of conduct by officials and members of the union are maintained to protect the reputation and integrity of our great Union.

113 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

34. BRANCH SECRETARY

Calling on Congress to support the motion from 286 Branch to insert into Rule 39 that the post of Branch Secretary can only be held by Branch members/activists and exclude Union employees from holding the post.

286 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

35. EQUALITY AND SELF ORGANISATION

This Congress welcomes the changes in legislation introduced by the Labour Government since 1997, providing legal protection and equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) members of the GMB. However, Congress recognises that many LGBT members still feel isolated in the workplace and are unable to tackle the discrimination they face.

This Congress notes the success of the TUC LGBT Committee and how other unions organise around equality issues with self organised groups.

This GMB Congress calls on the Central Executive Council to review with the women, black and disabled members how their equality issues are progressed in the GMB and report back to Congress 2007 with any recommendations for further rule changes.

WESTMINSTER TUPS BRANCH
London Region

36. LGBT EQUALITY

This Annual Congress of the GMB welcomes the changes in legislation introduced by the Labour Government since 1997, providing legal protection and

equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) members of the GMB. However, Congress recognises that many LGBT members still feel isolated in the workplace and are unable to tackle the discrimination they face.

This Congress notes the success of the TUC LGBT Committee and how other unions organise around equality issues with self organised groups.

This GMB Congress further calls on the Central Executive Committee to review with the women, black and disabled members how their equality issues are progressed in the GMB and report back to Congress 2007 with any recommendations for further rule changes.

177 TYLDESLEY BRANCH
Lancashire Region

37. ELECTION PROCEDURES

Congress is concerned there are members who are unable to stand for election for their Regional Council and subsequently the CEC because of the Rules governing such elections. This practice is undemocratic and de-motivating for those affected, is damaging to the union by stopping able people from obtaining office and could bring the GMB into conflict with the Certification Officer. Congress calls upon the CEC to investigate and bring forward proposals as necessary to the next Congress that would rectify the situation.

HEATHERWOOD & WINDSOR PARK H25 BRANCH
Southern Region

38. RULE CHANGE

This Congress instructs the CEC to ensure that canvassing by candidates for the post of General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary is no longer prohibited.

REGIONAL COMMITTEE
London Region

39. POST OF GENERAL SECRETARY

Congress, we ask that Paul Kenny be considered for the post of General Secretary.

Paul was asked to take on this post at short notice and is very supportive of the union.

We feel that as he has been doing a good job for approximately 2 years, he should be given the opportunity to continue.

L.B. WANDSWORTH L26 BRANCH
Southern Region

UNION ORGANISATION FINANCES & CONTRIBUTIONS

40. BRANCH ALLOCATION

Congress instructs the CEC to ensure that Rule 36 is adopted for all Branches, commencing from the next Branch elections.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

41. LEVIES ON BRANCH BANK ACCOUNTS

Congress does not approve of the practice of the CEC levying funds from Branch bank accounts without the provision of an opt-out and does not consider this to be necessary or expedient under the terms of Rule 28. The Rule Book (Rule 28 Clauses 1 & 2) states that “All moneys shall belong to the Union ...” and that the CEC “have power to employ the funds of the Union in such a manner as shall be found necessary and expedient”.

Congress instructs the CEC not to impose such levies without offering Branches the opportunity to opt out.

LONDON NORTH WEST BRANCH
London Region

42. LAY MEMBER EXPENSES

Congress takes note of the large increase in fuel and associated running costs for motor vehicles. Congress also notes lack of public transport in some rural and semi-rural areas and also the constant ongoing reduction in provision for this service. This gives rise to our activists having no alternative but to travel on union business by car. Congress therefore instructs the CEC to increase the mileage rate to an Inland Revenue rate of 40p per mile.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

43. TRAVEL EXPENSES

This Congress calls on the CEC to review the travel expenses under Rule 34. That – where a delegate gives a lift to another, his/her travel expenses should be increased by 50% to cover the cost of petrol to carry that extra person.

130 OLDHAM BRANCH
Lancashire Region

44. GMB INFLUENCE

Congress agrees that GMB Investment Holdings should strategically purchase stock in firms where GMB members are in long term disputes. This technique allows the GMB to encourage shareholder democracy, combined with other union holdings and influence all aspects of company policy that affect our members' job security, pay and pensions.

HOUNSLOW BRANCH
London Region

45. FINANCIAL CRISIS – STAFF PENSIONS

Congress was appalled to learn staff pensions were to be cut to offset the GMB financial crisis, and calls upon the Acting General Secretary to update Congress.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

46. PROMOTIONAL RATE £1

GMB Congress agrees to £1.00 per week as a promotion discounted GMB membership rate, for a 12 month period, for temporary agency workers and for employees working on short term work permits.

GMB LONDON HOTEL & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

47. REDUCED CONTRIBUTION RATE

Congress is asked to consider making a special contribution rate for Asda members so the GMB can take Asda and their law club on and recruit new blood into the GMB and give the GMB some bargaining power against Asda Walmart.

ASDA STORES BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

48. RETIRED MEMBERS

That retired members are seen as fully financial when they have paid their Life-Time Retired Member Rate.

Currently a retired member on the Life-Time Retired Member Rate is barred from being elected as a delegate to Conference and/or Congress.

We would like an amendment made in support of the Life-Time Retired Member being seen as fully financial.

PORTSMOUTH GENERAL X21 BRANCH
Southern Region

UNION ORGANISATION UNION BENEFITS

49. MEMBERS BENEFITS

Congress instructs, the CEC to set up an investigation into the benefits now being paid to our members.

It has been some time since there has been any increase in some benefits our members may claim i.e. National Accident Benefit, Funeral Benefit, Strike Benefit, Lock Out Benefit etc., so Rule 47 to Rule 61 needs to be updated. Now may not be the time to modernise, but now is the time to plan for the future membership of this Union.

So in the interest of expedience and common sense, it would only be prudent to do an investigation now, as to whether or not we require to make any changes, deletions, or additions to our membership benefits, and what changes would need to be put in place, with regards to the Contribution rates, in order to cover any additional costs that such changes will incur. This investigation to be completed, and reported back prior to the next Rules Revision Congress.

BARKING B10 BRANCH
London Region

50. FUNERAL BENEFIT

Congress requests that the amount paid in Funeral Benefit be substantially increased.

BLYTH ENGINEERING
Northern Region

51. FUNERAL BENEFIT

Congress seeks, an increase in Funeral Benefit Payment

NORTH TYNE ENGINEERING
Northern Region

52. RULE 56 FUNERAL BENEFIT

Congress agrees that current funeral benefit payments of £130 (maximum) for Grade 1 Members with 10 years membership and £58.00 (maximum) for Grade 2 members with 10 years membership, have remained unchanged for at least the past 20 years. Therefore, in this modern day, they are, by comparison, unrealistic and offer little material assistance to the bereaved family of a deceased member.

Congress recommends an urgent revision of funeral benefit payment scales including a substantial increase in payments.

Also Congress agrees that all future payment scales are index linked, preventing any future de-valuation.

TORFAEN BRANCH
South Western Region

53. BMS SUPERANNUATION

Congress requests an increase in payment funded by savings in administration.

NORTH TYNE ENGINEERING
Northern Region

54. UNION BENEFITS

Congress calls upon the GMB to exercise its considerable bargaining power with our recommended insurers, to secure competitively priced annual travel insurance premiums for members aged over 65 years. Our members in this age range currently find it either, in some cases, impossible to get cover, or where cover is available, premiums are extortionate.

HULL HEATING WORKERS BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

55. STRIKE PAY

Congress agrees that the current provision for strike pay is hopelessly outdated and instructs the CEC to explore ways of imposing a levy on contributions that would be remitted back to the Regions for accumulation in a separate fund that

could be used to alleviate hardship for members in dispute. The CEC should produce a report with recommendations within 6 months.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

56. FREE INSURANCE

This GMB Congress notes that members have been sent letters offering free accident and disability cover insurance of £2,500 from Union Income Benefit Holdings Plc.

These letters were signed by our Deputy General Secretary and if the offer was not taken up then members received a further two letters offering this free insurance.

Congress believes this kind of high pressure selling is unhelpful in building trust between the union and its membership and leads to the danger of members seeing GMB correspondence as just more junk mail.

Congress urges the Deputy General Secretary to avoid selling insurance forthwith.

BARNSELY GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

57. THORNE CREDIT UNION

Congress congratulates the Thorne Credit Union on its successful establishment as one of the foremost Credit Unions in the country, and asks the CEC to investigate the feasibility of the extension of Thorne Credit Union services to other GMB Regions.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

58. THORNE CREDIT UNION

Congress requests that the National Union encourages all of its Regions who are not participating in the Thorne Credit Union to do so, so that all GMB members have the facility of availing themselves to the benefits of the Thorne Credit Union.

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

UNION ORGANISATION EDUCATION & TRAINING

59. GMB APPROACH TO REPRESENTATIVES EDUCATION

Congress acknowledges the need to close GMB National College in view of the financial situation. However, there now needs to be a consistent delivery of education and training across all Regions and at a National level in order that GMB policies and objectives can be applied consistently to all Reps.

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

60. TRAINING FOR REPRESENTATIVES

Congress would like to ensure that all Representatives of the Union are correctly trained. However, following the closure of the National College, all courses are now held within the Region. Due to this change in policy, Regions are finding it difficult to get sufficient numbers to attend courses and as a result have to cancel courses. In turn this means that representatives are not sufficiently trained to do their job. We call upon each Region to offer undersubscribed courses to other Regions so courses can go ahead and ensure the Stewards / Health & Safety Representatives can effectively undertake their duties.

BRAINTREE & BOCKING BRANCH
London Region

61. EDUCATION

Congress calls on the CEC to ensure that when funding is being acquired to resource education that it is supported by all Regions. This will maximise the funding received to the benefit of all areas, especially those that are specified in the National Strategy.

B10 BANBURY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

62. TRAINING FOR REPRESENTATIVES

Congress agrees that Shop Stewards' Induction Courses should be completed for all newly elected representatives, and that all should attend at least one training course per year, in order that our activists are educated in the basics that they all need to support our members within the workplace.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

63. SINGLE STATUS

We call upon Congress to reintroduce comprehensive in-house training for its activists. We believe that in light of the closure of National College that there has been little visible progress in the implementation of a comprehensive stewards' training programme (particularly) in those areas that affect GMB members employed within Local Government, i.e. Single Status, Job Evaluation and Outsourcing to name but three.

We believe the lack of such a programme is seriously affecting our objectives in terms of recruiting new members not to mention retaining and servicing our existing members at both local and regional level.

We therefore call upon Congress to charge the CEC to authorise the introduction of a bespoke programme to address the current shortfall in stewards' training particularly within Public Services.

112 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

64. MIGRANT WORKERS

This Congress congratulates CEC in their efforts to combat the exploitation of migrant workers and would urge Congress to set up an education programme for GMB activists to assist them in involving migrant workers in the GMB

SOLO BRANCH
London Region

65. BRANCH INFORMATION

Congress, where a branch exceeds 2,000 members, the branch is to be provided with access to the retrieval of branch information, including membership records from the union computer.

Congress instructs the CEC to provide training in all Regions on full financial and day to day branch administration.

This training to include all type of cash returns.

This training to be made a prerequisite for all Branch Secretaries, Branch Presidents and Branch Auditors.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

66. CHARTER FOR WOMEN

This Congress recognises that in real terms, and despite the raft of legislation, women's situation in the workplace, in society and in the labour movement is much the same as it was 30 years ago.

Congress also notes that the differential in women and men's pay has remained fairly constant, and many women pensioners are struggling due to pension inequality.

The Charter for Women is a platform of demands for women that the labour movement can adopt and work towards which once attained will improve standards for all working people. Most of the major affiliates to the TUC are already signed up to the campaign.

Congress therefore agrees to:

- Sign up to the Charter forthwith
- Instruct the CEC to nominate a woman to sit on the National Steering Group to ensure the views of GMB members are taken into account

LONDON NORTH WEST BRANCH
London Region

67. EQUAL PAY

The GMB are successfully continuing to campaign for equal pay in the public sector, some 30 years after legislation on equal pay.

The private sector however remains a huge area of inequality. Congress calls on the CEC to campaign for equal pay legislation to be implemented in the private sector.

SUNDERLAND CITY LA BRANCH
Northern Region

68. EQUAL PAY

This Congress notes the potential that currently exists to exploit the equal pay for work of equal value legislation.

Congress therefore calls on the NEC to ensure that an in depth investigation with a view to understanding the full potential of this legislation takes place. The aim would be to enact practical steps to pursue equal pay for work of equal value cases.

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

69. SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT MANUFACTURING SITES

That this Conference reaffirms its commitment to Supported Employment Manufacturing sites, such as Remploy, within the UK. Conference views with anger and disappointment the apparent view that such sites are too expensive to be viable as stated in the National Audit Office Report of October 2005 "*Gaining and Retaining a Job; The Department of Work and Pensions Support for Disabled People.*"

Conference views with anger the proposed closure of the Crosfield factory in Croydon and calls on the CEC to support a campaign, by any means at the Union's disposal, be it politically or industrially to fight any such closures.

Conference further calls on the CEC to withdraw any support from GMB Supported MP's who sanction such closures.

REMPLOY SWANSEA BRANCH
South Western Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY HEALTH & SAFETY AT WORK

70. HEALTH & SAFETY INSPECTORS

Congress calls on the Government to put more funding into the HSE to ensure more inspectors are available for workplace visits.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

71. HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK ACT

Congress calls upon the CEC to lobby the government on the removal of the words “reasonably practicable” from the Health and Safety at Work Act.

Over the years since the Act has been in place managers and company directors have been taking these words to mean not financially viable, giving them an excuse to flout the law and cut corners where health and safety is an issue.

C80 DUDLEY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

72. GOVERNMENT PROPOSED CHANGES TO ASBESTOS REGULATIONS

Congress demands that there should be no changes to the Asbestos Regulation which the Health and Safety Executive are intending to water down to the detriment of GMB members.

Y24 COVENTRY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

73. HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK REGULATIONS – DISABLED

Congress is concerned that the present day Health and Safety Regulations restrict certain persons from being able to undertake employment.

50 years ago health and safety hardly ever arose and workers were given an opportunity in whatever field of employment they chose, yet today they are barred.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

74. CORPORATE MANSLAUGHTER BILL

This Congress welcomes the publication of the draft Corporate Manslaughter Bill and the recent report of the Select Committee. Strong and effective legislation is required to reduce the number of fatal accidents and serious injuries at work, but any legislation must be effective and impose strict penalties on grossly negligent employers. This congress is concerned at the limited penalties proposed by the Bill and urges that the CEC sets out to the Government in clear terms that for the legislation to be effective, much stronger penalties are required in addition to fines to include corporate probation, imprisonment and the disqualification of directors.

CARDIFF & DISTRICT BRANCH
South Western Region

75. SMOKING

Congress urges this Government to continue with legislation to achieve an outright ban on cigarette smoking in public places in this country; ignoring the screams of businesses 'that it will ruin the country economically'. Look at the benefits it has for the vast majority of people. If it can be successfully implemented in the Republic of Ireland then anything is possible.

We urge Congress to support.

101 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

76. PASSIVE SMOKING

Congress calls on the CEC to amend the GMB Passive Smoking policy, adding that whilst upholding the passive smoking policy in the workplace, the GMB will support any member who does not wish to stop smoking and are facing different treatment, even facing disciplinary action for smoking in the open air and/or outside workplace closed areas.

2 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

77. MEMBERS' JOBS GO UP IN SMOKE

Congress

With the constant attack on the tobacco industry through various Bills and Legislation we believe that if the mounting pressure to bring in another Act for a full ban of the smoking of tobacco products in public places, rather than a partial ban in England and Wales which has already gone through Parliament, it will most certainly cost thousands of members' jobs who work in the industry and related industries.

We believe that if smoking areas and ventilation is provided which does not endanger the health of the workers whilst at work, we further believe that the individual should have the right, if they wish, to smoke tobacco products in the places designated to them.

Congress, please support this motion, and support a common sense approach to a highly controversial issue. Many hundreds of GMB members' jobs are at risk if a total smoking ban is introduced.

NOTTINGHAM 8 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

78. VIOLENCE AT WORK

Congress is deeply concerned about the level of violence, both verbal and physical, that workers dealing with the public suffer on a daily basis.

Congress believes that the GMB should initiate a campaign to highlight this unacceptable side of working with the public and the long term health problems this causes.

NOTTINGHAM TRAM & TRANSPORT BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

79. LONE WORKING

Congress calls on the CEC to persuade the Government to move against those companies who do not take action under the law in support of their employees who work alone whilst carrying out their duties. Individuals must be deterred from both physically and verbally abusing any worker going about his/her lawful duties on behalf of his/her employer. Companies must realise that they have a legal responsibility in safeguarding their employees

1 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY PENSIONS & RETIREMENT

80. PENSIONS

GMB Congress 2006 is very concerned that other employers may follow Rentokil Initial's decision to close final salary pension schemes to existing employees. This will freeze benefit at present level and greatly reduce pension payment at retirement age. Total deficit of FTSE 100 companies of approximately £40bn is a worrying trend, this suggests companies will have to pump in billions of extra money to cover short falls in pension fund assets and pension liabilities. We believe any attack on our member's benefits and terms and conditions of employment should be challenged in the courts but that we should also explore any government initiatives, with CBI or DTI, to safeguard pension plans. We instruct the GMB CEC to mount the same level of campaign to defend private salary pension schemes as with local government schemes.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH
London Region

81. PENSIONS

Congress calls on the CEC and the TUC to take all necessary actions to prevent any reduction in the terms of Final Salary Pension Schemes, both for existing and new members of such schemes.

WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION BRANCH
South Western Region

82. DEATH OF D B SCHEMES

Congress deplores the closing of final salary schemes to new members.

This action alone means that final salary schemes within the private sector could be wiped out within ten years.

This Congress calls for a more rigid set of rules to be applied to companies before decisions are made on closures.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

83. FINAL SALARY PENSIONS

This Congress moves to protect the existing final salary pension scheme in the workplace and to lobby the government to give greater protection to final salary pensions.

SECURICOR 1 BRANCH
London Region

84. PENSION RIGHTS (FINAL SALARY)

Congress congratulates our British Gas Engineers in their unselfish action to try and secure their final salary pensions for the next generation of workers.

Conference is resolved to support and encourage our members by any legal means in their resistance to the dilution or ending of their final salary pension schemes.

16 BLACKBURN BRANCH
Lancashire Region

85. FINAL SALARY PENSION SCHEMES

Congress calls on the Government to stop employers from closing final salary pension schemes and to let new employees join.

25 BUXTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

86. FINAL SALARY PENSION LEGISLATION

Congress calls on the Government to enact legislation that makes it more difficult for employers to abandon Final Salary Pension Schemes and encourage employers to be more creative in funding ways to sustain Final Salary Pension Schemes.

79 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

87. PENSIONS

Congress calls on the CEC to campaign against the ever increasing attacks on members' pensions, companies preferring instead to get rid of 'final salary' schemes in favour of cheaper options, for example 'Stakeholder' schemes which in the end could be to the detriment of our members. This could also potentially have an effect on those members in 'Defined Pension Benefit' Schemes, leaving them no time to improve their pension status. This could leave them facing poverty.

1 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

88. PENSIONS

This Congress requests the CEC to continue to campaign and put pressure on companies to retain and preserve the hard won pension arrangements for our members, particularly to halt the closure of final salary schemes, but also make sure that our members are not forced to work longer and contribute more in order to maintain the same benefits, company pension schemes now offer.

PENCOED BRANCH
South Western Region

89. PENSIONS

Congress calls upon the CEC to mount a campaign against the continued attack on employee pension rights.

As we are all aware, the death of the define benefits pension scheme could just be a short step away and we must not let this happen. We must ensure that a good pension in retirement is not just for the fat cats in the boardroom, or MP's and MEP's, but for everyone.

It is time to step up the campaign to make contributions to pensions compulsory for both employees and employers so we can all look forward to a better retirement.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

90. FINAL SALARY PENSION SCHEMES

Congress deplores the attitude of many employers in closing final salary pension schemes. Congress calls upon the Government to introduce legislation to make both the employer and employee contribute to a final salary scheme on a fair and equitable basis.

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

91. PENSIONS

Congress recognises that final salary pension schemes are the best way to alleviate pensioner poverty.

We call upon the Government to legislate to make employers contribute towards their employees pension – be it final salary, money purchase or stakeholder.

LITTLEWOODS / JANET FRAZER
Northern Region

92. PENSIONS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Congress instructs the General Secretary, to initiate a campaign within the wider movement, to lobby government for protective legislation in relation to Occupational Pension Schemes, within the private sector. Congress recognises the work done in safeguarding public service pensions, but does not wish to see the creation of a two tier system with private industry. Congress calls for legislation which will not allow for the closure of defined benefit/final salary pension schemes, unless in exceptional circumstances. Congress calls for compulsion with regard to pension contribution. Congress further calls for 'means testing' to reduce the vast monthly payments from pension schemes to some former company directors.

DOVER FERRIES X23 BRANCH
Southern Region

93. RESOLUTION MONEY PURCHASE SCHEME

This Congress recognises that a serious situation has developed with the ending of the final salary scheme and companies replacing it with a money purchase scheme.

We therefore call for the Government to legislate that the money purchase scheme be made unlawful because it is unsafe and subject to the whims of the stock market and offers no security to employee's occupational pensions.

MILTON KEYNES CITY BRANCH
London Region

94. THE PENSION CRISIS

Congress believes the current pension crisis must be addressed immediately and condemns this current Labour Government's inaction.

The State pension is hopelessly inadequate and Occupational funds and Public Sector Pensions are seriously under funded on the employer's side. It appears the only advise the Government is willing to listen to is to make the employee pay more, work longer or accept reduced benefits. Congress completely rejects this.

Congress calls upon the CEC to campaign strongly for increased funding for the State Pension, increased employer funding for Occupational Pensions, minimum guarantees for Occupational and private pensions and no reduction of employee benefits in the Public Sector.

Congress further calls for private pensions to be made more attractive and affordable to the lower paid through the introduction of more equitable tax incentives.

LUTON BRANCH
London Region

95. COMPANY PENSION SCHEMES – TRUST STATUS

Congress agrees that the GMB should conduct a campaign for legal changes to re-establish company pension schemes as charitable bodies equivalent to registered charities, benefiting their members and with their funds being separate from the assets of the parent company.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

96. PROTECT PENSIONS

This Congress notes that:

1. The Turner Commission recommendation to raise the state retirement age to 67 by 2040 and 69 by 2050.
2. The average life expectancy of a man in Glasgow is 69 years and 3 months compared to the 80 years and 8 months in Kensington and Chelsea.
3. That, according to research commissioned by the union Unison, the average life expectancy of a female hospital cleaner did not rise between 1972 and 1999.

4. That 53 of the 54 directors of Britain's biggest private firms can claim their pension at 60—and that bosses' pensions are worth 26 times that of the national average and 30 times that of public sector pensions.
5. That Britain spends only 6% of GDP on pensions compared to a European average of 11% .
6. That 1 in 5 pensioners currently lives below the official poverty line.

This Congress believes that:

1. That increasing the state pension age will mean many thousands more working people will die before they retire and millions will have a shortened retirement.
2. The real pensions crisis is one where pensions spending is weighted towards the rich—the top 10% of earners in Britain receive £11 billion in pensions tax relief each year. It would only cost £6 billion to raise the basic state pension to £110 a week.
3. It is wrong to see proposals to “trade off” linking pensions to earnings with an increased retirement age as an acceptable compromise.
4. If a retirement age of 60 is good enough for the bosses then it is good enough for us—whether we are existing workers or new entrants.
5. That the proposed £20-25 billion Blair wants to spend on a replacement for Trident (with an estimated £1 billion a year maintenance cost) and the £6 billion spent on the war in Iraq would be put to better use ending pensioner poverty.

This Congress resolves to:

1. To campaign against any increase in the state pension age, for a retirement age of 60 for us all, for pensions to be linked to the wage index not inflation and for an immediate rise to £110 per week for all pensioners.
2. To call on the TUC to launch a national campaign against the Turner proposals, including a national demonstration
3. To support any group of workers who take action against the worsening of their pension rights.
4. To encourage branches of the GMB to invite other Unions to planning meetings in their locality to set up a campaign against the Turner Report recommendations.

5. To encourage branches of the GMB to organise public meetings within their locality with speakers from both private and public sector unions, pensioners' organisations, Trades Councils, Youth Councils, local councillors and MPs.

6. To produce stickers, badges, and fact sheets to build the opposition to the pensions attack.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

97. PENSIONS – TURNER PROPOSALS

GMB Congress 2006 notes the Turner Commission recommendation to raise the state retirement age to 67 by 2040 and 69 by 2050.

We believe that increasing the pension age will see thousands more working class people die before retirement.

We also note that most top private company directors can retire at 60.

We believe it is wrong to see any 'trade off' linking pensions to earnings with an increased pension age as an acceptable compromise.

We resolve to campaign against any increase in the state pension age and campaign for a retirement age of 60 for us all.

We resolve to call on the TUC to launch a national campaign against the Turner proposals including a national demonstration.

BARNSLEY GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

98. PENSION PROTECTION

Congress, lobby government to ascertain the position of members' pension rights at time of retirement, due to lack of funds at present time (according to leaked sources). Do we need to make provisions for private subsidy? Can we work on until after 65 or 60? Are pensions going to be guaranteed to people who have made their monetary dues. What is the position?

Y26 DUDLEY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

99. RAISING OF RETIREMENT AGE TO SIXTY-SEVEN

Congress, is this Congress to accept the raising of retirement age, out of hand, without any input from the people who will have to do it.

Y24 COVENTRY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

100. RETIREMENT AGE

Congress believes that by increasing the retirement age, it will make no difference whatsoever to the so called crisis about which every MP and Pension Companies are creating.

How many employers will employ people over 65 years of age? At present most people over 65 years of age, and most people in their late fifties or early sixties are already exempt from signing on fortnightly, and are on income support because there is no work available to them, this will continue, whatever age they can retire at.

There will be no contribution to any finances to any pension funds, so the whole exercise is just a total waste of time and more importantly a lot of public money.

Maybe it's time we looked at the other end of the scale, for those people on part-time and low pay, should contribute something to the system, as I am sure if a pensioner was paid the minimum rate for a basic 39 hour week he/she would not object to paying Tax and Insurance.

243 MANCHESTER NO.1
Lancashire Region

101. PENSIONS

This Congress calls upon the GMB to organise a vigorous national campaign to protect our members' hard earned pension rights.

In particular, this Congress totally opposes any move to extend the retirement age beyond 65.

We believe the GMB should include in our campaign a commitment by sponsored GMB MPs to support this issue as a condition of any sponsorship.

162 STOCKPORT BRANCH
Lancashire Region

102. RETIREMENT AGE

This Congress condemns and cannot support the moves by this Government to change the retirement age from 65 upwards. This philosophy of working beyond 65 is a retrograde step and harks back to the era of Robert Tressell's "Ragged Trousered Philanthropist" where workers had no choice but to "work until they dropped." Any increase in the retirement age is an anathema to any trade unionist or socialist and is not a policy we should countenance and we collectively have to fight any increase every step of the way.

MOTIL PLASTICS BRANCH
South Western Region

103. INDEX LINKED PENSIONS

Congress calls on the Government to re-introduce index linked pension increases.

HULL PAINT & ENGINEERING BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

104. THE STATE PENSION

This Congress urges the General Secretary to lobby the government through the GMB member MPs to increase the state pension scheme in line with average earnings and to also increase pensioner allowances enabling them to have more disposable income.

Congress also requests the General Secretary to inform GMB MPs the need for them to give total support to GMB policies in the same way as GMB supports them.

D40 DUDLEY ENGINEERING BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

105. STATE PENSIONS RESTORE THE LINK FOR PENSIONERS

Congress, our pensioners are most concerned about the attitude of MPs to OAPs. We are sure they would find it impossible to live on a state pension.

If the link had been kept, a state pension today would be worth approximately £30 a week more. The administration cost for pension credit is £400million per year.

Bring back the link and the £400million will almost cover the cost of restoring the link.

Bring back the link

S74 STOKE GAS FITTERS BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

106. PENSIONS AND THE POVERTY LEVEL

Congress is extremely concerned that many pensioners are having to exist at or below the poverty level. This even includes pensioners who have small occupational pensions.

Congress believes that aligning tax thresholds to the poverty level, which is currently £123.00 per week, would not only help alleviate pensioner poverty, but also benefit the low paid.

CORBY COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

107. WOMEN'S PENSIONS

Congress is concerned that despite more than thirty years of equality legislation Women's pensions are still considerably lower than men's. We are also aware of the Minister, Ed Ball's statement prior to the election that it would be five years before the Government would act on pension reform. This is unacceptable to our members.

We therefore call upon the CEC to use its political clout to ensure that all our women members receive a pension equivalent to those of men's.

LEICESTER HOMECARE & GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

108. TRANSFERABLE PENSION FUNDS

This Congress asks that an individual's pension fund be part of a person's estate and as such should become part of a spouse or civil partner's inheritance when the entitled person dies to become part of the surviving partner's pension fund to draw on. Also that this too may become part of the surviving partner's estate when they die to be left to a next of kin as part of their pension fund.

This is to acknowledge that a pension fund is truly the property of the person who saves into it and in part to address the increasing uncertainty over future pension streams whilst addressing the ever-increasing power of pension fund managers.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY RIGHTS AT WORK

109. ANTI UNION LAWS

This Congress notes:

1. That trade union rights have deteriorated since 1906 and unions are again liable for damage caused by strike action.
2. Britain has the worst Industrial trade union and employment laws in Europe.
3. These laws act as a barrier to the interests of union members in relation to protecting fair employment conditions and wages.
4. As a result of these anti-trade union laws, employer can use them to further their own interests by making employees work the longest hours in Europe and drive down wages.
5. The fact that the conditions of the workers employed in the private-sector are made more vulnerable than their public sector counterparts is a typical effect of the anti-trade union laws.
6. The Gate Gourmet dispute of 2005 has brought to the immediate attention of trade unionists the weakening effects of the anti-trade union laws such as secondary picketing.
7. In September 2005, the TUC, calls for the repeal of the anti-union laws and their replacement with a framework of positive rights, in accordance with minimum ILO standards, called the 'Trade Union Freedom Bill' to be put forward to parliament this year (2006).
8. The TUC Executive has called for trade unionists to march for trade union rights and in support of a Trade Union Freedom Bill on May Day.

This Congress believes:

1. The Thatcher legacy; her war on the unions, and ultimately, the defeats and retreats of the unions have given rise to a lack of confidence and consequently a fall in union membership.
2. The ideas of 'partnership', accommodating and agreement deals with the employers over the last twenty years have been a failure.
3. The Gate Gourmet dispute in 2005 and the subsequent solidarity action undertaken by the Baggage Handlers at Heathrow Airport have highlighted the inadequacies of Britain's Industrial Labour Laws. And therefore it is high time that they are repealed.
4. That it is necessary for maximum unity of all trade unions to actively endorse the TUC's call to repeal these anti-union laws and to support the initiatives of the 'Trade Union Freedom Bill', including the march for trade union rights.
5. However, the proposed Trade Union Freedom Bill is only a stepping stone towards the repeal of the anti-union laws and only a high profile, consistent campaign of demonstrations and united generalised actions carried out by all the unions can fully repeal these laws.
6. That the unions can secure fair employment rights most effectively where possible co-ordinating industrial action in their separate disputes, and if necessary in defiance of anti-union legislation.

This Conference resolves:

1. That the GMB supports the TUC's initiatives of the 'Trade Union Freedom Bill', including the march for trade union rights on May Day.
2. The GMB will actively campaign nationally against the anti-union laws and co-ordinate the campaign to involve and encourage other the unions to link up their own campaigns on pay and conditions with trade union rights in the work place

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

110. ANTI TRADE UNION LEGISLATION

Congress seeks to abolish all anti trade union legislation in total.

SOUTH SHIELDS NO 1
Northern Region

111. GMB CONSULTANCY

Congress recognises the sustained expansion of the consultancy sector and the billions of pounds spent on the services of consultants at Company, Council and Government level.

Our Labour Government has not allowed the reinstatement of the 'Closed Shop' principle, allowing many 'freeloaders' to enjoy the benefits that trade unions provide, but without making any contribution to the organisation.

Clear statistical evidence demonstrates that unionised workplaces receive higher pay, increased holidays, safer work environments, better sick pay schemes and generally improved T&C packages in relation to non-unionised workplaces.

Failure to become a trade union member in a union recognised workplace, thus allowing the receipt of benefits whilst giving nothing in return, is unacceptable to Congress.

Congress calls upon the General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary and management team to campaign and lobby government to address this situation. The GMB demands the right and powers to collect commission/fees from non union employees for the services of negotiating pay increases, enhanced redundancy terms above state provision, holiday entitlement improvements and any other general T&C's benefit.

DOVER FERRIES X23 BRANCH
Southern Region

112. EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Congress welcomes the new Employment Rights since Labour came to power, however unfair dismissal rights from day one must remain a priority.

141 PRESTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

113. ANTI TRADE UNION LEGISLATION

This Congress instructs CEC to pursue the removal of Anti Trade Union legislation and the establishment of Trade Union rights from day one.

SOLO BRANCH
London Region

114. EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Congress calls upon the Government to introduce employment rights from day one of employment.

HARTLEPOOL 2
Northern Region

115. ANTI TRADE UNION LAW & WORKERS RIGHTS

Congress agrees that despite having a Labour Government since 1997 there has been negligible change to anti-trade union legislation and workers rights. MP's who voted against nine anti-trade union bills whilst in opposition now appear to actively support these laws.

Trade Unions must give more notice of industrial action than firms do to sack workers.

Full Employment Rights from day one was a firm promise from a previous leader of the Labour Party.

There is no prospect of improving this situation when the Government only wants our money and feels comfortable in the lap of big business.

Congress agrees that the GMB should, along with other Trade Unions, ask for urgent talks with the Government to review anti-trade union legislation and worker's rights and if there is no satisfactory review then we should withdraw all financial help to the Labour Party.

HOME COUNTIES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

116. EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION

Congress calls for a strengthening of employment legislation in order to assist the Trade Union Movement to carry out its duties effectively within the workplace. The growing reduction of terms and conditions of employment to employees across the economy is a cause of major concern. Obstacles to Trade Unions being able to carry out their duties effectively need careful examination to ensure fairness at work. We believe a review and strengthening of Employment and Industrial Relations legislation to enable Trade Unions to conduct their appropriate duties on behalf of members is now called for.

The review should include an examination of legislation that prevents Trade Unions from taking effective collective action. The ability of employers to sack employees whilst taking industrial action and attacks on union funds should be

reviewed. A general strengthening of Trade Union and Employment Legislation is required in order to comply with International Labour Organisations Standards. The review should be undertaken by a joint Government and Trade Union Working Party with recommendations to be made to Parliament in respect of changes to existing legislation to ensure Trade Unions and their members can defend their working rights without undue interference or threat.

D41 MANCHESTER CENTRAL BRANCH
Lancashire Region

117. EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

Congress calls upon the Government to improve the right to recognition procedures in order to facilitate trade unions to negotiate pay and terms and conditions on behalf of our members.

GATESHEAD 3
Northern Region

118. UK REDUNDANCY LEGISLATION

Congress recognises the heavy employer bias in current UK redundancy legislation and the incentive effect, to sack a UK worker as opposed to an EU counterpart. GMB activists report daily of further outsourcing and the UK manufacturing sector appears in terminal decline.

Congress wishes to destroy the myth that a laissez faire and de-regulated approach to UK business has created labour market flexibility and delivered a 'British economic miracle'.

The so called, highly regulated, German industrial sector, still maintains a very high manufacturing output and the allegedly successful UK employment figures do not account for the large numbers of economically inactive Britons.

Congress calls upon the General Secretary, Deputy General Secretary and management team to lobby government for a complete overhaul of the UK's totally inadequate redundancy legislation. UK legislation should mirror the best aspects of the national legislation of our major EU partners.

DOVER FERRIES X23 BRANCH
Southern Region

119. REDUNDANCY ACT

Congress requests that the Central Executive Council of the Union press the case for the limitation of 20 years maximum service for redundancy calculation

be removed and that every year of service should be included for statutory redundancy. This is long overdue as this is a pathetic and ignominious reward for long and loyal service and the United Kingdom's redundancy legislation is out-dated and needs modifying and lags well behind many of our EU partners.

HENGOED ENGINEERING BRANCH
South Western Region

120. REDUNDANCY PAYMENTS

GMB Congress urges GMB Union to make representation to Government to raise minimum Redundancy payments. Every occasion there is a downturn, due to economic reasons, or reorganisation due to merger or takeovers redundancy is an easy option. At present terms are as below:

For each complete year of continuous service between the ages of 18 and 21, you will receive half a week's pay.

For each complete year of continuous service between the ages of 22 and 40, you will receive one week's pay.

For each complete year of continuous service between the ages of 41 and 65 you will receive 1½ weeks' pay. However, if you are over 64, the total amount of the payment you receive will be reduced.

There is a limit on the amount of a week's pay that can be taken into account in working out entitlement. The limit changes annually in line with the Retail Prices Index (up or down) as appropriate. The limit was raised from £270 to £280 on 1 February 2005

We urge the Government to increase by 1 week all age groups in calculation of redundancy payments. Workers who spend many years of loyal service working for an employer may find very little reward at the end of their working life with no prospect of another job. We also call on the GMB union negotiators to include redundancy items as part of any pay, terms and condition negotiations.

HARROW GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

121. INSOLVENCY / ADMINISTRATION OF COMPANIES

Congress seeks a change in the law relating to Protective Awards to employees awarded by Employment Tribunals.

Congress states it is immoral that under normal redundancy the consultation period can be reduced from 12 weeks to a maximum of 8 weeks when paid by the Insolvency Department. Congress also seeks to put pressure on the Government that any wages that have already been paid should not be clawed back out of such award.

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

122. COMPANIES IN ADMINISTRATION

Congress calls upon the CEC to use its power to put pressure on the Government's Insolvency Department ensuring that employees receive all of their entitlements including contractual wages.

Congress says the Administrators should not be allowed to hide behind sections of the Act whereby employees are classed as non preferential creditors, particularly when the Administrators are aware monies are owing to the employee.

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

123. PAID LEAVE

Congress welcomes Government efforts to increase the amount of paid leave guaranteed by law to 20 days exclusive of bank holidays; however the GMB is concerned that this may lead some employers, especially in the private sector, making people work through bank holidays; and calls on the Government to guarantee that all employees either get public bank holidays off or receive another day off in lieu.

LA STAFFS TAYSIDE BRANCH
GMB Scotland Region

124. HOLIDAYS

This Congress calls on the Central Executive Council to continue to pressurise the Labour Government to progress the Warwick Agreement commitment with regards to Fairness at Work, whereby all employees would be entitled to four weeks paid holiday exclusive of Bank or Public Holidays. We believe this pledge should now be acted upon and the CEC should continue to lobby for this fair policy to be legislated in full and no compromise be accepted.

TREFOREST 2 BRANCH
South Western Region

125. NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

Congress calls on the Government to increase the National Minimum Wage to the European threshold level.

HULL PAINT & ENGINEERING BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

126. STATUTORY MATERNITY PAY

Congress calls upon this Government for the statutory maternity pay to be extended to twelve weeks, not six weeks as it is currently, and that 90% of average earnings to be paid to the mother for twelve weeks instead of six weeks as it now stands.

Maternity leave remains at twenty six weeks, but needs the option to a further twenty six weeks, if required.

ALFRETON NO.1 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

127. EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS FOR AGENCY WORKERS

Congress

The rights, terms and conditions of huge numbers of people, currently working in the United Kingdom, would easily be recognised today by the great industrialists of the 18th and 19th centuries, if they were still alive. None existent!

Congress calls upon the CEC to campaign vigorously for full employment rights for agency workers so that the feeling of dignity and decency can be enjoyed by people entering working and so that the GMB can recruit and represent them on a level playing field.

SCUNTHORPE DISTRICT & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

128. AGENCY STAFF

Congress believes that Agency staff doing the same job for twelve months should be offered a permanent position if they so desire

HAVERING BRANCH
London Region

129. COMPANY SICK PAY

This Congress asks the CEC to endorse this motion that any Company sick pay scheme reflects the amount of pay that would have been earned, had the

employee been working the normal company roster. That any waiting days required in the company scheme includes any rest days or additional rostered days shown on the company roster.

HOME OFFICE PROFESSIONAL STAFF BRANCH
London Region

130. BULLYING IN THE WORKPLACE

Congress we call upon you to eradicate the culture of bullying and intimidation in the workplace and to reaffirm its support for mutual respect between management and colleagues.

A15 ASDA BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

131. CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT AND TUPE

Congress call on the Government to set into motion laws to fine employers who do not issue Contracts of Employment to new employees, after the two months period as stated in law. The fine should be imposed after two months further grace.

Some employers are also abusing TUPE regulations by not passing on all information to the next employer thus not complying with Employment legislation in its entirety.

This may cause unnecessary loss of income to employees, any delay may cause bank interest charges and this should be paid to employees with final settlement.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH
London Region

132. TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKING PROTECTION OE EMPLOYMENT

Congress supports that given the present crisis regarding pensions which is affecting many of our members and the growing number of members involved in transfers between companies following takeovers that members pensions built up at the date of any takeover should be protected by law and to become part of the TUPE Rules.

REDCAR ENGINEERING
Northern Region

133. TWO TIER WORKFORCE

Congress notes that the "Two-tier workforce" legislation is too little too late and difficult to enforce. Congress also notes that it is considered discriminatory to pay

an individual less for doing the same job as a colleague on the grounds of sex, race, trade union activities, and sexual orientation and so on. Congress believes that this should be extended to the effect that it would be unlawful to have any worker doing the same job on worse terms and conditions than any other, apart for legitimate reasons such as incremental pay awards, and that the GMB should campaign for this to become law.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

134. END OF THE 'TWO TIER' WORKFORCE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Congress abhors the development of a two tier workforce within the private sector. This is especially prevalent within the context of the staff at the sharp end of private business, responsible for generating the majority of the profits of private companies, suffering in terms of pensions, holiday pay and sickness benefit.

The present case is that those indirectly involved in the industrial process enjoy not only a better level of remuneration, but better and longer holiday provision, more advantageous sickness provision and a far better pension on their retirement.

We urge that this Congress does all within its power to raise the issue of the development of two tier workforces within the private sector, including inadequate pension provision and inferior sickness and holiday benefits.

HOUNSLOW BRANCH
London Region

135. THE RIGHTS OF EASTERN EUROPEAN WORKERS

Congress, we call upon you to start a campaign to stop the exploitation of Eastern European Workers at the expense of jobs for British workers.

The Eastern European Workers need the same right on terms and conditions as the British Workers.

BRADFORD GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

136. VOLUNTEER WORKERS ARE WORKERS

This Congress asks that people who work as volunteers in the not-for-profit or charitable sector be defined as workers for the purposes of employment law.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

137. CARERS ARE WORKERS TOO

This Congress asks that people in receipt of Carer's Allowance be classified as workers and not benefit claimants for the work that they do for the disabled.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY COMMERCIAL SERVICES

138. HEALTH & SAFETY

Congress 2006 welcomes the joint approach by GMB and Security Industry Association (SIA) to the Home Office to highlight safety concerns for Cash in Vehicle Transit (CIVT) Officers whilst transporting cash, and welcomes the protective measures sought. We also call on SIA to monitor the attacks on our security staff in high risk public areas that includes Benefit Agency and Hospital A&E areas. All such high risk staff should be provided with protective vests.

We further suggest security companies lone worker procedures should be checked on a regular basis to ensure compliance with Health & Safety guidelines.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH
London Region

139. SAFETY CONCERNS FOR CHECK-IN AGENTS AT LONDON AIRPORTS

Congress calls upon the Health & Safety Executive to investigate the growing number of verbal and physical assaults on check-in agents at London Airports.

STANSTED AIRPORT BRANCH
London Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY CFTA

140. REMPLOY

Congress we call upon you to continue the campaign to support Remploy workers.

In 1945 Remploy was founded to provide supported employment for supported people with disabilities, mainly it was war veterans. The Labour Government set up Remploy, however, the same Labour Government is now attacking Remploy employees. We are under attack for at least the third time in this decade. Only two years ago we campaigned to make it that anyone who leaves is replaced where we have a minimum of 6000 employees in the factory.

Only last year at conference I reported that Remploy was on the decline. This is a company that has been mismanaged by incompetent, careless, ruthless management who only have two objectives to ride on top of disabled people for their own ends and close the company down (just think of Rover).

We have got to act now, as there was a report issued by the National Audit Office which says Remploy is a non-entity and people are moved into open employment to outsiders, instead of everyone being shipped out where there is choice for disabled people.

It is the Disability Minister who has given it the green light to be actioned and the Government will move this within two years. The Disability Minister is Anne McGuire, ex GMB CEC member.

We need to actively keep up the campaign and build on the work that has been done, as this is a campaign to support workers who are very vulnerable.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

141. REMPLOY

This Congress calls on the Central Executive Council to continue to put pressure on the Labour Government to increase the Remploy funding levels. An increase in this level of funding would enable the Company to increase manning levels at all manufacturing sites which would secure our Remploy members future and protect this important area. This would also enable future workers to seek employment in a sympathetic environment which would enrich their lives and in turn allow them to make a positive contribution to the local and national economy.

BRIDGEND REMPLOY BRANCH
South Western Region

142. FAIR PLAY FOR REMPLOY COVENTRY

Congress, the GMB has more members in Remploy Coventry than the T&G who agreed to have joint recognition with the company. This was three years ago. We are still waiting. We ask Congress to say NO to any merger with the T&G before we get joint recognition.

Y24 COVENTRY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY ENERGY & UTILITIES

143. ENERGY POLICY REVIEW

Congress welcomes the Government's long overdue Review on Energy Policy.

Given the uncertainty of energy supplies a balanced Energy Policy based on home grown supplies is necessary. Congress recognised that fuel bill price hikes are a financial burden on our members. Congress recognises that the dash for gas to produce electricity needs to be reviewed. Congress calls on the CEC to fully participate in this Review.

AYRSHIRE ENERGY BRANCH
GMB Scotland Region

144. BALANCED ENERGY POLICY

We are all aware of the gap in energy supplies in the UK. With North Sea Oil in steep decline, nuclear power stations coming to the end of their lives and the coal industry virtually gone – urgent action needs to be taken.

We need a balanced energy policy taking account of all sources, renewables, nuclear, coal etc in order to safeguard our energy supplies in the future.

SELLAFIELD BRANCH
Northern Region

145. NUCLEAR ENERGY

Congress deplores the secret lobbying of government by a cabal of people, including Brian Wilson, David Bellamy and No 10 insider, Geoff Morris and a number of pro-nuclear journalists.

Congress notes this lobby is desperately seeking a way round the issue of who pays for a new generation of nuclear plants. The economics of this are of the madhouse. Congress also notes the many problems that follow the nuclear option, not least waste disposal, insurance liabilities, etc.

Congress would condemn any talk of rigging the energy market to cover costs for private investors. Congress notes that a 10 reactor programme would need a kind of rigged market to cover some £20bn capital costs.

Congress also sees that the nuclear lobby invokes the UK's vulnerability to the Russians with the option of gas. Therefore they say nuclear is the only viable option.

Congress says this is wrong. Coal currently supplies some 30% of the market. Therefore the need to develop advanced coal technologies with carbon capture and storage is a must.

Congress therefore demands the government immediately press ahead with the development of a national programme of advanced coal and carbon capture technologies. This, along with a roll out of wind, wave and solar energy negates the need for the dash to a new generation nuclear programme.

182 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

146. NUCLEAR ENERGY

Congress agrees that there should be no further increase in energy obtained from nuclear power.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

147. POWER INDUSTRY

Congress believes now the debate on nuclear power has raised its head again, 20 years after it was totally rejected by the country as a whole, we have a different problem now if it's agreed to. Then we had the manpower and companies to fabricate, install and maintain them, but not anymore.

There's not a major manufacturing engineering company in the country, so once again it means importing more labour from abroad to install and maintain stations, no matter what system is installed, as we will require some system to generate power.

So maybe it's time to try and establish a major construction system and have a proper training scheme that the country as a whole can benefit from.

243 MANCHESTER NO. 1
Lancashire Region

148. ENERGY PRICES AND SUPPLIES

This Congress expresses alarm at the devastating effect on the Manufacturing industry by the ever-increasing oil and energy prices.

In particular, the UK's dysfunctional gas market has led to severe price shocks affecting the ability of manufacturers to compete effectively and to reductions in output with consequential job losses or lay-offs.

This Congress calls on the Prime Minister to intervene into energy pricing and supplies which we the GMB believe is threatening to undermine the competitiveness and viability of the UK manufacturing industry.

162 STOCKPORT BRANCH
Lancashire Region

149. PRICE REVIEW

Congress calls on the CEC to campaign on behalf of its members and the public at large against the ever increasing price rises being imposed by Gas, Electricity and Water.

These increases are having a terrible effect on people's ability to pay their bills.

1 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY ENGINEERING

150. SHIPBUILDING

Congress calls upon this Government to ensure that all war or warlike vessels be built in the UK, that no parts of these ships be constructed elsewhere.

This Government should support the skills of our indigenous workforce.

NORTH TYNE ENGINEERING
Northern Region

151. SHIP RECYCLING

Congress notes that there are many ships that will be decommissioned over the next few years. This needs to be done with due regard to the highest health and safety standards adhered to.

We call upon the Government to set up a state of the art ship recycling facility within the UK.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENGINEERING
Northern Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY FOOD & LEISURE

152. RETAIL GIANTS

This Congress calls upon the CEC to campaign and bring to further public attention negative aspects and unfair practices currently being displayed by the biggest supermarket chains both here in the UK and elsewhere. Prompted by ever-growing competitive pressure and the need to maximise profit, companies such as Wal-Mart, Asda, Morrisons etc use their influence to ride roughshod over employee rights and public opinion.

Union representation has come under extreme pressure as we struggle to combat a disturbing tendency to ignore collective bargaining and consultation procedure and the introduction of degrading new work techniques. Union membership in some stores and distribution centres is barely tolerated, or as in the USA remains unrecognised, resulting in abysmal pay rates. Legitimate objections by workers, small traders, community and church leaders to a further extension of Sunday trading hours, and expansion of massive unsightly out of town outlets may count for little in comparison to the influence of the giant retail lobby with both national and local government.

It is high time that the giants of the supermarket industry became subject to statutory independent regulation in order to protect employee rights and the wider public interest. We ask that the GMB campaign for this.

113 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

153. GMB'S FIGHT AGAINST ASDA

Congress we call upon you to pursue with increased determination its commitment to fully support our members against any form of unfairness and injustice in the workplace and to help educate employers to foster a spirit of

frankness and open mindedness in order to create a stress free and productive working environment.

A15 ASDA BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

154. ASDA STORES

Congress calls on the relevant negotiating Officers to more vigorously enforce the National Agreement concerning the members in ASDA.

There is an inconsistency in Store Managers attitude towards their workers and to Shop Stewards and the Union Officials. Meaningful Union recognition should not be dependant on the chance location of a co-operative Manager nor the luck of having a diligent official.

The NEC/CEC should take steps to ensure that all regions take a coordinated approach to the 'brick wall' that many ASDA Managers build around their stores. Regional Officials should make every endeavour to recruit more workplace reps.

LOWESTOFT BRANCH
London Region

155. ASDA "WAL-MART"

Wal-Marts along with ASDA are anti-union and the recent campaign to organise within ASDA led to severe damaging distribution of literature against the GMB. It's time we faced Wal-Mart head on.

T10 TAMWORTH BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

156. RECRUITMENT IN ASDA FROM DAY ONE

Congress calls for Asda to allow the GMB, the recognised Union, to recruit members in induction from day one.

HULL RETAIL & DISTRIBUTION BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

157. MIGRANT WORKERS

Congress is concerned that some employers are using the "FEAR OF VICTIMISATION" of migrant workers not to issue legal contracts of employment. This is a major concern for the GMB, and is an obstacle when trying to recruit members among ethnic minorities and migrant workers. This Conference calls on

the GMB National Union to work on the following measures to overcome this problem and highlight their plight.

1) To make the public aware of this situation, which is opposed to the basic principles of democracy, through meetings and union campaigns.

2) Put pressure on Food and Leisure sector employers to facilitate trade union access to workplaces.

3) Force employers to give their employees written individual guarantees that they will not be victimised for joining a trade union

4) Increase the number of GMB Union representatives dedicated to investigating different forms of abuse within the sector, and take legal re-address when necessary and work via GMB Race Committees in protecting workers interests at the workplace level.

5) Ensure a level of contact with the Home Office when addressing some work permit issues and ensure the new influx of migrant workers from Eastern EEC countries are advised of their rights at work and to join a trade union.

6) Work with GMB Learning Reps, TUC and Skills Councils to promote training needs.

This will go some way to protecting new workers and will ensure there is no two tiered Terms and Conditions in the service industry, including the Hospitality sector.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

158. HOW IS MY DRIVING

Congress is aware of the growing number of employers who display telephone numbers on the rear of company vehicles with wording such as "How is my driving?" or "Am I a safe driver?" who then use their own complaints procedures as a tool to discipline our members.

In worse case scenario's, employers rely solely on hearsay evidence of the alleged complaint, left on an answer service, without any check or trace on the caller. This can lead to a dismissal deemed by an Employment Tribunal as fair.

Congress instructs all out National Officers who deal with those employers who use these types of telephone numbers, to reach an agreement for the removal of the telephone numbers from the company vehicles.

HENDON BRANCH
London Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY PUBLIC SERVICES

159. PUBLIC SERVICES SECTION REVIEW

Congress calls for a review of the effectiveness of the Public Services Section.

Each year the continuing dilution of the National Terms and Conditions leaves many members with ever worsening Terms and Conditions, due to local bargaining with employers who have little regard for the important jobs our members do, and only ever see the balance sheet and not the service users.

Currently, Single Status and Local Pay and Grading Reviews, a process designed to eradicate Equal Pay issues, is leaving members worse off and fighting with individual employers to maintain decent terms, wages and holidays.

This review should examine why we agree each year for more of the National Terms and Conditions (Green Book) to be locally negotiated and not kept at a national level. Are we to lead our members into a position where neighbouring authorities are providing very different terms and conditions of employment, or very different rates of pay – where is the logic in that?

Congress demands the GMB resists any further attempts by the Employers to move away from the National Agreement.

ASHFIELD GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

160. PUBLIC SECTOR JOB EVALUATION EXERCISE

Congress calls upon Central Government to finance the cost of the Job Evaluation Exercise.

We believe the cost of implementation should be met from national and not local government.

HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS BRANCH
GMB Scotland Region

161. PUBLIC SERVICES – NO TO PERCENTAGE PAY DEALS

Congress instructs through the CEC and the General Secretary, the National Secretary for Public Services, that when the next round of pay talks start, it must be made clear to both the National Employers and our fellow Trade Union partners, that this Union says NO to any PERCENTAGE pay awards. All future

pay awards must be across the board, with bottom loading to close the differential.

Why should those on the lower scales continue to pay for the few at the upper echelons of the pay spine? Close the differential and stop discrimination against the lower graded workforce.

BARKING B10 BRANCH
London Region

162. LOCAL GOVERNMENT SALARY ALLOWANCES

Congress notes that many allowances within the local government pay structures, such as sleep in allowances, standby allowances, etc. are paid below the national minimum wage. This is unacceptable and instructs the CEC and the National Secretary to ensure that the next local government pay claim, to be submitted later this year, includes rates for such allowance to be no less than the national minimum wage.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

163. RESIDENTIAL WORKERS – SLEEP IN DUTIES

Congress notes that many residential social and care workers are required to undertake sleep in duties in their place of work, either immediately prior to or immediately following a normal working shift. Congress is concerned that such practices may well be in contravention of the working time directive. Congress instructs the CEC and the National Secretary to campaign for such working practices to cease and to ensure that guidance is given to members in such circumstances.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

164. TIED ACCOMODATION

Congress it has come to my attention during recent investigation into tied accommodation rights of the post holder.

A licence to occupy the property was issued when in fact a licence for secured tenant should have been issued.

Reference the post holders position this in effect cancels out any years of service and housing purchase discount had the employee been in council tenancy from the first day of employment. This is a sever blow to employees who have served

their local authority in many cases over 20-30-40 years. We therefore request the union – CEC to take immediate action to resolve this action and unfair treatment of their tied accommodation employees.

STOCKTON 1
Northern Region

165. PENSIONS

We call upon the Government to ensure that all public sector pensioners are treated equally.

Congress urges the GMB to campaign to stop the erosion of public sector pensions.

NEWCASTLE CITY LA
Northern Region

166. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEMES

Congress agrees that it would be in the best interests of our members for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) to be unfunded. Congress therefore instructs the union to campaign at all levels and as part of all negotiations, for the LGPS to be an unfunded scheme.

BARKING & DAGENHAM LGO BRANCH
London Region

167. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEMES

Congress instructs the CEC and the National Secretary to ensure that any 'deal' on the Local Government Pension Scheme is no worse than the deal achieved in 2005 for the Civil Service, Health Service and Teachers.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

168. PAY AS YOU GO PENSIONS

Congress agrees that Pay As You Go (PAYG) pensions for local government workers are the safest way to ensure our members have financial security when they retire. Congress instructs the union to adopt a policy of PAYG pensions and to negotiate and campaign for their earliest introduction.

BARKING & DAGENHAM LGO BRANCH
London Region

169. SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

Congress notes the increasing professionalisation of school support staff, within the framework of Workforce Re-modelling. Whilst much of this is to be welcomed, in terms of career development and structures, access to training, etc. for school support staff, it is clear that what remains lacking is a national framework for pay and conditions of service.

If teachers can enjoy the benefits of national pay and conditions why shouldn't other school based staff.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC and the National Secretary to campaign for a national structure for the pay and conditions of all school based staff.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

170. SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

Congress calls upon the Government to ensure:

- i) Remodelling is funded in its entirety to ensure staff are deployed in their new roles on a full contractual hours basis.
- ii) HLTA's are not used to teach English and Maths on the cheap.
- iii) That firm guidelines are produced to protect staff from false allegations with the right to a full independent investigation

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

171. LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTROL OF EDUCATION

Congress believes that the control of school policies and procedures should lie with the Local Authority and not individual schools. Only by this can a consistent, fair and open approach to our school membership be achieved

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

172. TEACHING SUPPLY AGENCIES TO BE ABOLISHED

Congress calls for teaching supply agencies to be abolished.

Education staff at all levels are continuously under threat of redundancies yet Local Authorities pay the agencies who contribute nothing to the Education Service.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

173. METHICILLIN RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS

Congress, aware that MRSA is a very dangerous virus, calls upon all GMB members and families to be constantly vigilant that cleanliness is of the utmost priority, especially should you be visiting hospitals.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

174. INVESTMENTS BY PRIVATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Congress shall conduct a campaign for legal changes to prohibit private investment trusts contracting or sub contracting with public bodies in private finance initiatives (PFI's) or public, private partnerships (PPP's) projects, and to prohibit private investment trusts from purchasing interests in such projects. Bidders for PFI and PPP projects should be limited to publicly accountable enterprises, ie Public Limited Companies (PLC's).

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

175. STAFFING LEVELS IN RESIDENTIAL AND NURSING HOMES

Congress calls upon the GMB to campaign for changes to the national minimum standards for care homes for elderly people contained in the 'Care Standards Act 2000' (section 6 'staffing', standard 27 'staff compliment').

27.1 and 27.3 are too loose, and allow the management to determine what staffing is required. The staffing levels are not published or made public knowledge by either the home or CSCI, which leads to distrust by service users, families and staff.

Staffing levels are constantly being abused, as the homes are determining the number of staff required.

Prior to April 2002 a staffing notice was issued, which stipulated the numbers of nurses and carers required for each home.

All new registrations from April 2002 were required to comply to the residential formula, but this formula is voluntary and not enforceable.

Congress therefore calls for an active campaign to make the residential formula compulsory and insist on staffing levels being published.

MIDLAND HEALTHCARE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

176. CARE HOMES

Congress

Prior to April 2002 a staffing notice was issued which stipulated the number of nurses and carers required for each care home.

The present National Standards for care homes are guidelines only that allow management to determine staffing levels in homes, and these are constantly abused.

This conference therefore calls for the CEC to mount a campaign to changes to the National Standards for care homes in the "Care Standards Act 2000" to make the residential formula compulsory and insist on all staffing levels being published.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY MANUFACTURING

177. MANUFACTURING POLICY

Congress notes the promises of the Labour Party Manifesto 1997 with particular reference to a Manufacturing Policy, now 9 years on we are still waiting.

Congress therefore urges the CEC to pursue this matter as a priority.

141 PRESTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

178. MANUFACTURING

Congress calls on this Government to introduce a manufacturing policy that will protect and support our indigenous manufacturing industry.

HARTLEPOOL 3
Northern Region

179. LOSS OF MANUFACTURING JOBS IN THE UK

Congress calls on the Government to introduce measures to halt the loss of jobs in the manufacturing industry.

HULL PAINT & ENGINEERING BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

180. MANUFACTURING

Congress again calls on the Government to stop the continuing decline in UK manufacturing.

NOTTINGHAM TEC BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

181. PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Congress calls on the CEC of the Union to continue to apply pressure on the Labour Government, as well as the devolved Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly, to promote a Public Procurement Policy which safeguards jobs and skills, encourages contracts to be awarded to UK firms who manufacture in the UK using the thrust of the EU Directive whereby contracts can be awarded for social, employment ethical and environmental issues. We as an organisation should be lobbying for the use of this EU Directive as a level to secure public procurement contracts to UK firms for the benefit and protection of our members' future employment. This was a commitment in the Warwick Agreement and this Government should now be delivering this agreement and this would go some way to staunch the flow of manufacturing jobs being taken outside the United Kingdom.

CHRISTIE TYLER BRANCH
South Western Region

182. PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

Congress calls upon the CEC to continue to lobby Government to act on their Warwick commitment with regards to Public Procurement, by awarding contracts to British Companies who manufacture in the UK to produce and supply our Armed Forces with their equipment, i.e. clothing and footwear. Also all Local Authorities should be lobbied and pressurised to award their contracts to British based firms with British unionised labour to supply goods for the public sector.

MID GLAMORGAN C&T BRANCH
South Western Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY

THE ECONOMY

183. BRITAIN FOR SALE

Congress instructs the General Secretary, Executive and GMB Management to campaign with the TUC and Labour Movement to end the Labour Governments laissez faire market led approach to British Industry, recently highlighted by the bidding for the major UK Shipping and Ports Company, P&O Group. Britain should not be 'For Sale'. Our major international competitor countries do not allow this 'Open Season' approach to their industry and neither should the UK.

DOVER FERRIES X23 BRANCH
Southern Region

184. OFF-SHORING

Conference is amazed and disgusted that a Labour Government are actively considering off-shore work currently done by employees in the Work and Pensions Ministry.

Conference calls upon the CEC to forge links with our sister Unions to campaign jointly to put an end to this industrial sabotage.

16 BLACKBURN BRANCH
Lancashire Region

185. FOREIGN LABOUR

Congress accepts and welcomes our colleagues from member states who choose to come and work in this country, but Congress cannot accept when companies from outside the British Isles win British contracts and then use non British labour, when our own GMB members, who are equally if not better skilled remain jobless.

Congress needs to apply pressure on the Labour Government to ensure that foreign labour will not be used at the expense of our members.

101 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

186. CHINA TAX REBATES

Congress calls on the Government to put a stop to the highly unfair advantages that Chinese producers hold over a European company like London &

Scandinavian, Rotherham, due to the inequities in the export duty and tax regimes between China and the United Kingdom.

ROTHERHAM CHEMICALS BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY THE ENVIRONMENT

187. CLIMATE CHANGE

This Congress notes the severity of the threat of climate change. This Congress believes that concerted international measures are necessary to offset the worst potential effects of climate change and that public pressure and mobilization can help to secure such change. Therefore, this Congress welcomes the sizeable demonstrations in many countries on December 3rd 2005, led by the Campaign against Climate Change. This Congress condemns the governments of the USA and Australia for failing to support the Kyoto treaty. However, we also note the emission reductions contained in Kyoto are only a small first step. This Congress calls for binding global emission reduction treaties based on large and rapid reductions in emissions. This Congress calls on the government to introduce a rapid switch to renewable energy sources, legislate to reduce wasteful energy consumption in housing and industry, and to instigate a switch from private car, truck and plane travel to walking, cycling, tram and rail, combined with policies to provide local jobs and services to reduce the need to travel. This Congress notes that the worst effects of climate change disproportionately affect poor and working class communities across the world and recognises climate change is a work place issue. It urges all representatives to campaign for the introduction of company emission reduction targets. This Congress will organise for the largest turnout on the international demonstrations for November 2006 during the next talks on Kyoto, by organising transport from the Regions and informing members. This Congress agrees to pay £1000 to the Campaign against Climate Change to support the demonstration.

HOLBORN 1 BRANCH
London Region

188. CLIMATE CHANGE

This Congress recognises that specific reports confirm the threat we face from climate change.

We welcome the coming together of environmentalists and trade unionists to oppose the dangers climate change poses and call on Congress to affiliate to the national organisation 'Campaign Against Climate Change' who attempt to unite

the movement and organised a successful national demonstration in London in December 2005.

We further agree to keep our members informed of events organised by the Campaign Against Climate Change and encourage maximum participation.

BARNESLEY GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

189. INCINERATION OF WASTE

Congress welcomes the various initiatives being undertaken regarding the recycling of waste as an alternative to landfill. Congress also agrees to campaign against and support opposition to any extension of incineration sites.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

POLITICAL LABOUR PARTY

190. STRENGTHENING THE LINK BETWEEN THE GMB AND THE LABOUR PARTY

Congress should strengthen its campaign to encourage all GMB members to join the Labour Party. The re-branding of the Tory party will confuse young working voters and Congress must ensure that they understand the true agenda of the Tory party and its impact on young working families.

HOUNSLOW BRANCH
London Region

191. WARWICK AGREEMENT

Congress calls for the full implementation of the Warwick Agreement a watered down version is not acceptable.

SOUTH SHIELDS NO 1
Northern Region

192. WARWICK AGREEMENT

This Congress instructs CEC to pursue with vigour the implementation of the Warwick Agreement in its entirety

SOLO BRANCH
London Region

193. LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE VOTING

Congress deplores the suggestion by Alan Johnson that union voting at party conference is influencing party policy and should be slashed. It is up to individuals how they vote whether they are personally or by trade union on behalf of their members.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

194. LABOUR MP'S ADHERANCE TO POLICY

Congress expresses its concern that our Union still appears to be sponsoring Labour MP's and/or their constituencies despite the apparent anomaly that they are voting and acting in opposition to GMB policy.

This is clearly against the agreed policy of Congress to only give financial backing to those MP's who vote and act in line with the policies of our Union.

Congress calls upon the NEC to ensure that the appropriate action is taken to correct this situation.

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

195. FUNDING OF GMB SPONSORED MP'S AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT CANDIDATES

Congress instructs all Regions to withdraw any funding for any MP's, or Local Government candidates, who refuse to support all motions and policies adopted by the GMB Congress.

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

196. FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR MP'S

Congress instructs the CEC to ensure that GMB's political and financial support is only given to those labour MP's who support the general aims of the union.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

197. SPONSORSHIP OF MP'S, MEP'S, MSP'S, WAM'S and COUNCILLORS

Congress instructs the General Secretary and the CEC to draw up "contracts" for GMB sponsored MP's, MEP's, Members of the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly and Councillors, stipulating what is expected of them in terms of not voting for legislation that contravenes Union policy and not acting against the Union's interests. Any politician that refused to sign their "contract" or breached

the terms of the same would be struck off the approved list and would receive no further support of any kind.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

198. GMB & “NEW LABOUR” PARTY

This Congress is dismayed by the apathy and disregard this New Labour Government has shown towards the Trade Union movement. In particular the treatment it has shown towards the Public Service Unions and to the Public Sector as a whole.

This reminds New Labour that the GMB’s policy is that it is no longer prepared to give them our unconditional support and money. further instructs the CEC and General Secretary, to do everything in their power to pursue the re-establishing of the OLD LABOUR principals and the re-introduction of clause 4 which is already GMB policy.

BARKING B10 BRANCH
London Region

199. SUPPORT FOR MPs AND CANDIDATES TO PUBLIC BODIES

Congress notes that Rule 2, Clause 10 of the Objects of the Union is to secure the return of members to Parliament and Public Authorities who will support the policies of the Union and further the interest of members through political means, providing the candidates are pledged to collective ownership under democratic control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Congress further notes that Rule 66 Line 6 re-affirms the criteria for support.

Congress agrees that in the light of the Labour Party decision to abandon Clause 4, our rules do not allow us to give financial support to candidates from the Labour Party. Neither do the rules allow the CEC any discretion on this according to Rule 3.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to immediately with draw financial support from Labour Councillors, Candidates, MPs, etc. until such time as the Labour Party fulfils the criteria laid down by our Union’s rules.

5 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

200. COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP

Congress believes that in line with Rule 2 (10) of the GMB Rule Book, “to secure the return of members to Parliament and Public Authorities who will support the policies of the Union and further the interests of members through political

means, providing the candidates are pledged to collective ownership, under democratic control, of the means of production, distribution and exchange”.

Monies given by, and on behalf of this Union to political parties should have the same prerequisite.

This Congress therefore calls upon the CEC to cease making contributions to any political party that does not have the principle of collective ownership, under democratic control, of the means of production, distribution and exchange, as part of its constitution.

ANWICK & MID LINCS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

201. POLITICAL AFFILIATION

Congress notes;

- 1) That the OBJECTS of the union under Rule 2 includes that the prospective candidates seeking union support ‘pledged to collective ownership under democratic control, of the means of production, distribution and exchange’.
- 2) That the Labour Party abandoned collective ownership, as even a nominal ambition, in 1995 when Clause 4 was arranged.
- 3) That the Labour government since its election in 1997 has continued the privatization agenda of the Tories by implementing PFI hospitals and schools, by implementing the break-up of the tube network, and by failing to reverse the disastrous and expensive privatization of railways, coal, gas and electricity – contrary to the policy of this union.

Congress believes that there are still many Labour councilors and MP’s who subscribe to the policies of the GMB.

Congress therefore resolves to end the organizational affiliation of the union to the Labour Party, which currently is simply a blank cheque, offering members no opportunity to influence Labour party policy at any level.

Congress further resolves to empower branches to make recommendations to the CEC on which candidates for local and national public office they believe are actually prepared to ‘support the policies of the union’ under the provision of rule 2.10

WILTSHIRE & SWINDON W15 BRANCH
Southern Region

202. CHECK OFF

Congress notes that some Labour controlled councils charge the GMB a fee for administering check-off. Congress therefore agrees that the sum of those fees should be taken out of the political fund and deducted from our affiliation to the Party.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

203. CANDIDATES STANDING FOR ELECTION TO LABOUR PARTY 'MUST' BE MEMBERS OF A TRADE UNION.

Congress

Any person standing as a candidate for election to the Labour Party at the moment does not technically have to be a Trade Union member. The wording is "should also be". This is a permissive statement and not mandatory. It should be changed to "must be a member of a Trade Union, whether they are employed, unemployed, or retired. This would then make it mandatory for them to be tied in to paying political fund contributions within their Trade Union.

The Labour Party needs to enforce its own rules!

GRIMSBY FOOD & LEISURE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

204. LABOUR LEADERSHIP

This Congress recognises the performance of Tony Blair as Prime Minister since 1997 and Leader of the Labour Party, but it also recognises the need to have a smooth transition of power to his successor to enable the Labour Party to prepare effectively for the next General Election.

It therefore calls on Tony Blair to resign his position as Prime Minister and Labour Leader with immediate effect to allow the Labour Party to organise a smooth transition of leadership so that preparations can be successful.

113 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

POLITICAL DEMOCRACY & CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

205. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

Congress acknowledges that the Trade Unions and the Labour Movement as a whole have been the driving force for constitutional reform over the past 20 years.

Congress notes and applauds the efforts made to reform the House of Lords and to have a fully elected Second Chamber.

Congress realizes that there is still inequality within our society; there are still those who are more equal than others; why do the working classes still suffer discrimination from the state? Why do we still have the “boss and the worker” mentality? Why do we still suffer under the *master* and the *servant* regime?

Congress looks forward to a democracy fit for the 21st century; this will mean the completion of Constitutional Reform.

This Motion asks the GMB Union to be the catalyst for change. This Motion asks that we move to fulfill the dreams of our forbears and call for a constitutional monarchy that belongs to the history books. Why do we pay homage to an unelected Head of State?

Congress demands we become full citizens and not just subjects. We demand to have true freedom and equality under a new constitution with a new Bill of Rights.

Congress calls for a movement of the people to force change for the future betterment of the British people with a full republic.

SOUTHAMPTON CFTA S61 BRANCH
Southern Region

206. PARLIAMENTARY SALARIES – PENSIONS – EXPENSES AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT UPON LOSING THEIR CONSTITUENCY SEAT FOLLOWING AN ELECTION.

Congress condemns and is outraged to learn that this present Parliament has awarded themselves a financial package that secures salaries – pensions – expenses and assures themselves of financial support should they lose their Constituency seat following an election. This at a time knowing the plight it leaves millions of workers with no chance of securing a decent overall package for their retirement.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

POLITICAL RACISM & FASCISM

207. UNITE AGAINST FASCISM

This GMB Congress notes that the BNP:

- is a fascist, racist organisation that stands for an all white Britain, the destruction of trade unions and the elimination of basic democratic rights
- tries to present itself as a 'respectable' political party
- seeks to attract votes on the basis of racism, homophobia, Islamophobia and the vilification of refugees and asylum seekers

Trade unions play a crucial role in defending fascism in Britain. We welcome the position taken by several unions to expel members of the BNP from trade unions.

This Congress further notes:

- Unite Against Fascism is a broad national campaign formed to defeat the BNP, uniting trade unions, anti-racists, MPs, MEPs, faith groups and all those opposed to the BNP
- that the TUC has fully supported Unite Against Fascism since it was set up in November 2003.
- 17 national trade unions have affiliated to Unite Against Fascism and 21 General Secretaries have signed the campaign statement including: Derek Simpson AMICUS, Dave Prentis UNISON, Tony Woodley TGWU, Billy Hayes CWU, Steve Sinnott NUT, Mark Serwotka PCS and Paul Mackney NATFHE
- Unite Against Fascism has been actively campaigning against the British National Party in particular and other fascist organisations
- the Unite Against Fascism strategy is to raise the turnout and mobilise the anti-BNP vote nationally, whilst actively challenging BNP's racism and ensuring a central role in the campaign for those who are particularly targeted by the BNP.

This GMB Congress resolves:

- to affiliate to Unite Against Fascism
- to circulate Unite Against Fascism leaflets and other materials
- to send a significant financial donation to Unite Against Fascism
- to encourage the union's members the take up of individual membership.

BARNSELY GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

208. UNITE AGAINST FASCISM

Congress notes that the BNP is a fascist and racist organisation and calls for all branches within the GMB to support this organisation to defeat all the BNP objectives.

It therefore calls on Branches to affiliate to UAF and encourage membership individually to both circulate leaflets and donate as appropriate to the above organisation.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

POLITICAL EUROPEAN UNION

209. BOLKESTIEN DIRECTIVE

Conference notes with alarm the effect the Bolkestien Directive will have on British workers. Companies will be allowed to sink to the lowest levels of pay and health and safety standards should this Directive become EC Legislation. Conference calls upon the CEC to campaign vigorously to prevent this Directive becoming law.

16 BLACKBURN BRANCH
Lancashire Region

210. E.U. SERVICES DIRECTIVE

This Congress requests that the Central Executive Council of the Union to continue to lobby the Labour Government to honour and meet its commitment of the Labour Party's manifesto which should not bind us to achieving a Services Directive at any cost, but strive to achieve an effective Directive which provides real benefits to consumers, new opportunities for British business, protects our employment standards and does nothing to undermine or jeopardise our regulatory framework.

MAESTEG 2 BRANCH
South Western Region

211. EUROPEAN SERVICE DIRECTIVE

This Congress notes that:

1. That our government is currently engaged in negotiations concerning the European Services Directive or Bolkenstein Directive (referred to in this motion as the "Services Directive").
2. That the Services Directive includes the principle known as the Country of Origin Principle (or *freedom to provide services*).
3. That reputable employers in the areas of private security, cleaning and temporary agencies are calling for an exclusion from the principle.
4. That the TUC and European TUC are opposed to the directive and have called demonstrations to oppose the directive.

This Congress believes that:

5. That the Country of Origin principle will:
 - i. Open the floodgates for deregulation, contracting-out, privatisation and undermine the quality of services.
 - ii. Significantly damage the terms and conditions of workers in the UK. For example, a Polish Security Firm would be able to operate in the UK, employing Polish staff on terms and conditions regulated by Polish National Standards. This will cause a downwards pressure on pay and conditions rather than upwards harmonization of standards and conditions.
 - iii. Make enforcing the minimum wage more difficult.
 - iv. Damage efforts to licencing the security industry and to regulate temporary agencies.
 - v. Undermine equality and non-discrimination laws.
 - vi. Encourage bogus self-employment as the self-employed are not covered by labour law protections in many countries.
6. That there should be a right of workers to insist on having a representative in the host territory and the prohibition under Article 16 3c of a representative must be removed.
7. That services of general economic interest should be excluded from the Directive.
8. That Temporary Agencies should be excluded from the Directive.
9. That the private security industry should be excluded from the Directive.
10. That the Country of Origin principle should be withdrawn.
11. That all workers of whatever national origin should have access to the same rights and be paid according to the host nation's regulations, legislation and prevailing terms and conditions.
12. That the directive should be based not on the Country of Origin but instead on the Country of destination principle.

This Congress resolves:

13. To support the TUC's and European TUC's campaign against the implementation of the Services directive.
14. To inform/educate our membership through our union structures and facilities on the implications of the Services Directive.
15. To lobby UK MEPs and MPs to vote to ensure that the Services Directive is not implemented in any form that encourages privatization, de-regulation, contracting out and downwards pressure on worker's rights, pay and terms and conditions.
16. To support any broad based UK campaign against the Services Directive.
17. If the directive is implemented, to support any action taken by workers to oppose its implementation or any significant negative impact upon their terms and conditions of work.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

212. EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Congress recognises the potential damage to the workers of Europe by the implementation of the 'Port Services' Directive and the 'Services' Directive, both hopefully defeated by the time this motion is taken.

That these Directives were ever brought forward by the Commission, displays a total lack of reality and a major failing in the European political process. Congress deplores the waste of resources utilised in the necessary campaigns against these Directives and condemns the European Commission for its abject failure of policy making 'in a vacuum'.

Congress calls upon the General Secretary to initiate a campaign in the UK and European labour movement, to democratise the European Commission.

DOVER FERRIES X23 BRANCH
Southern Region

SOCIAL POLICY CRIMINAL JUSTICE

213. DECRIMINALISATION OF PROSTITUTION

We call on Congress to oppose a 'zero tolerance' approach to prostitution and the criminalisation of sex workers' clients. To improve the situation for all those in the industry and the communities in which they operate, we urge Congress to lobby government for the full and complete decriminalisation of prostitution.

The Home Office's recently announced strategy on prostitution consists mainly of a 'zero tolerance' approach towards street prostitution and kerb crawling; it is based on the government's incorrect perception of prostitution as exploitation and anti-social behaviour. Prostitution is work.

There is a vast body of research that shows that the kind of approach the Home Office is proposing is counterproductive, and actually increases levels of violence and harm. Further criminalisation of commercial sex (either selling or buying), drives the industry further underground and puts workers at risk. These approaches have not been successful in either preventing or abolishing prostitution - they merely move street-based sex work from one place to another. Forced to use more isolated areas, workers are at greater risk of violence and abuse. If clients are criminalised, workers have less opportunity to negotiate safe sex and ensure their own physical safety.

We oppose the notion that women are victimised by their experience of sex work. Policy concerned with coerced sex work should address the offences related to coercion and those who have been coerced – irrespective of gender.

LONDON ENTERTAINMENT & I.U.S.W. BRANCH
London Region

214. FIRST COURSE OF CONDUCT WARNINGS ISSUED BY THE POLICE

Congress, we call upon the CEC to start a campaign immediately to vigorously lobby all members of parliament, to put pressure on the Home Office to alter the way that First Course of Conduct Warnings are issued to our members and the general public. At present no proof of guilt is required at this stage. To alter the fact that once they are issued to anyone they are unable to refuse them at the time they are served, bringing family suffering and in extreme cases causing dismissal, leaving no alternative other than to contest such warnings through a court of law. Only then are the police forced to conduct a thorough investigation to prove any guilt.

HOME OFFICE PROFESSIONAL STAFF BRANCH
London Region

215. STRONGER SENTENCES – DETERENTS FOR YOUNG CRIMINALS AND THUGS

Congress continues to be aware of the increase in crimes committed by young criminals and thugs yet the judiciary are failing in their capacity to adequately deal with these persons.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

SOCIAL POLICY EDUCATION

216. EDUCATION

Congress remains totally opposed to selection within secondary education.

Congress also remains opposed to any legislation which divorces or weakens the link between LEA's and schools.

City Academies, Trust or specialist schools, etc. are nothing more than a back door means of re-introducing selection and introducing privatisation.

Choice is only an option for middle class parents who can play the system or suddenly find they have deep religious convictions when their child reaches the age of 11. The majority of parents from inner city areas or those with children of special educational need will have no choice and be left in sink and failing schools. Furthermore the fragmentation of the education system will inevitably weaken the GMB's bargaining position and our ability to effectively represent our members amongst school support staff.

Congress instructs the CEC to campaign against any legislation which introduces selection through the front or back door, weakens the link between LEA's and schools, creates more City Academies, trust or specialist schools or removes the rights of LEA's to control school admissions policies.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

217. EDUCATION

Congress believes that the Government's proposals to make every secondary school an Independent Trust School is not in the best interest of our young people.

In reality it will give schools a larger say in administration and Trust Schools will be able to get support from businesses and charities.

The plans threaten the whole ethos of comprehensive Education; we believe that the successful schools will cherry pick the brightest pupils.

101 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

218. TRUST SCHOOLS

Conference is deeply concerned that the Labour Government is content to take away the role of Local Education Authorities, then place the running of schools

into the hands of those with self-interest at heart. Conference is aware that trust schools can lead to a selection process that filters out the less-abled and favours the bright pupils. Conference asks that the CEC campaign to repeal Trust Schools status.

16 BLACKBURN BRANCH
Lancashire Region

219. SCHOOLS

This Congress totally opposes any move by the Labour Government to remove overall responsibility for education of our children from the local education authorities.

We believe this move to a free market for admission to school will be detrimental to the education of our children and ultimately lead to a reintroduction of a form of eleven plus selection for school admissions.

162 STOCKPORT BRANCH
Lancashire Region

220. SKILLS SHORTAGE

Congress must address the skills shortage and the effects on the economy.

The Government must address this shortage giving young people the chance to learn a trade by becoming an apprentice.

We must also train older people at Government-financed skill centres, giving them a second chance to learn a trade. This must be a long term strategy to make the country prosper.

NORTH KENT ENGINEERING Z39 BRANCH
Southern Region

221. APPRENTICESHIPS

This Congress urges CEC to pursue the re-introduction of traditional apprentice training schemes and ensure that it is quality training, appropriate to the trade and not delivered by training providers, who are only interested in using it as a profit making exercise

SOLO BRANCH
London Region

222. MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS

Congress calls on the GMB to raise the profile of modern apprenticeships, as many companies are still labouring under the misapprehension that appointing an apprentice is a costly and lengthy process.

NOTTINGHAM TEC BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

223. MODERN APPRENTICES SCHEME

Branch 252 calls on Congress to instruct the CEC to initiate a robust and professional campaign which engages government, business and young people in a public debate in highlighting and addressing the current weaknesses in the Modern Apprenticeship Scheme, with a view to establishing a tripartite structure consisting of employers, unions and government, thus ensuring the development of high quality apprenticeship schemes which give our young people the skills required to ensure the future productive prosperity of our people and economy.

252 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

224. ADULT EDUCATION CHARGES

Congress is concerned that changes in funding from the Learning Skills Council (LSC) will affect the future provision and viability of adult and community education courses. These courses will be at risk because of increased charges, which will bear disproportionately upon pensioners and others on low incomes.

LEICESTER HOMECARE & GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

SOCIAL POLICY GENERAL

225. CIVIL LIBERTIES

This Congress believes:

1. That since the London bombings in July 2005, the Government has understandably felt the need to review existing legislation, to ensure it meets the needs of the increased threat of terrorism.
2. That the Government is currently enacting or had proposed measure including:
 - a ban on various far-right Islamist organisations including Hibz ut-Tahrir.
 - creating an offence of indirect incitement to or glorification of terrorism, further widening the already huge legal net created by the use of 'terrorism' to mean any revolutionary opposition to a foreign government.

- deportation of foreign nationals who advocate terrorism.
- extending the length of time for which a suspect can be detained without trial to 90 days. The Government has also concluded new extradition agreements with Libya and Jordan, states which are notorious for their use of torture against dissidents.

3. That following the 7/7 atrocity in London, the Government has stepped up its drives to introduce more and more repressive legislation.

4. That the Government's defeat in the House of Commons on the last of these issues in November 2005 shows that it is highly vulnerable to pressure, but this should not obscure the fact that the assault on civil liberties is continuing (e.g. the period of detention without trial has been extended, just by less than the Government would like).

5. We should not consider the period of 28 days as a victory.

This Congress resolves:

1. To oppose the Government's attacks on civil liberties on the lines set out above.

2. That GMB should monitor the progress of all the above mentioned bills through Parliaments and to lobby the Government to respect individual civil liberties in these and all future legislation it makes.

3. To take a prominent role in national campaigns against legislation which poses a significant or excessive threat to civil liberties.

4. To promote these campaigns to all regions and support branches in communicating the details to their members.

5. To work with other organizations such as No2ID and Liberty who already campaign against the erosion of civil liberties.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire .Region

226. ONE LAW FOR BOTH RICH AND POOR

Congress asks that there should be one rule of law for *both* the rich *and* poor and it be applied evenly across *all* sections of society.

When one section of the community are singled out for disproportionate attention by the police and other authorities, then they (not unnaturally) grow to *disrespect* the law, not respect it and the Prime Minister will never have a hope in hell of fostering respect for anyone's rights and responsibilities when it is glaringly

obvious that the law is applied differently across the UK; in one way for rich people and companies and in another way for the poor and benefit claimants.

It is no longer acceptable for the instruments of the state to be applied unevenly across society, for such skewing of the application of the law becomes the bedrock of *disrespect* for the institutions that others hold so dear and also because it fosters a disrespect for the law that is seen not to be applied fairly.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

227. CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

Congress supports a full review of the CSA, but is concerned if not a complete overall of the system takes place then it could leave our members disadvantaged.

It therefore calls on the CEC to work pro-actively and lobby where necessary to create a fairer system for all.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

228. CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY

Congress calls on the Labour Government to abolish the CSA and replace it with a locally enforced Court based system that takes more account of the personal details of both parents. The system should allow both parents to have their say, then the Court's decision to be enforced through the Inland Revenue's PAYE system.

Despite reviews, revamps, restructuring and hundreds of millions spent on computer systems, the Child Support Agency (CSA) is the most failed of all Government Departments.

LOWESTOFT BRANCH
London Region

229. STATUTORY PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

It is the policy of the GMB to campaign for three additional public holiday's, to align the UK with the average number of national holiday's enjoyed in the former fifteen member states of the EU.

Congress instructs the General Secretary and our Labour National Executive members, to campaign with the TUC to create a 'Trafalgar Day' public holiday in October and a public holiday to recognise 'Armistice Day' in November.

The Trafalgar Day holiday would recognise the maritime heritage of Great Britain and a historic victory against European despotism.

The UK is unique amongst the major European nations in not having a public holiday in tribute to the fallen heroes of two world wars and other conflicts. As the war survivors grow old and less in number, we should be permanently reminded of the sacrifices made, by having an annual national day to celebrate the global victory against fascism and other tyranny.

DOVER FERRIES X23 BRANCH
Southern Region

230. OVER-PRICED HOLIDAYS

Congress calls upon the CEC to lobby the government on behalf of parents, members who are being taken advantage of by holiday companies and tour operators. When children break up for half term holidays why should the price of a holiday nearly double the previous weeks and then drop back down when the children go back to school.

This is very noticeable February and October weeks.

C80 DUDLEY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

231. TELEVISION NEWS CHANNELS PRESENTATION

Congress calls for a radical review on the presentation of all network news channels BBC 1, BBC 24, ITV, Sky News.

Major disasters and their kind have priority but the shambolic way these are delivered are beyond belief. Here today, gone tomorrow. This with all the resources at their disposal. Much of a ½ hour or a hour's programme is constantly repetitive and read from news cast. News Presenters over-running the time allocated for local news, hence a five minute slot reduced to 3 minutes.

Since the introduction of e-mails, text, more time is given over to this. Who are the beneficiaries? Not the general public.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

232. ABORTIONS OF UNDER SIXTEEN YEAR OLDS

Congress does not agree with the recent decision in the High Court in January 2006. It therefore instructs the CEC to lobby parliament with the view to changing the law.

This change would allow parents of under sixteen year old children access to their medical history concerning decisions of impending abortions.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

233. GAY ASYLUM SEEKERS

Congress calls upon Government to eradicate discrimination and homophobia against gay asylum seekers.

At present gay people seeking asylum have to prove that they are homosexual, this has to be done to the appeals panel and more often than not they are not believed.

This can result in the individual being deported to their own country such as Uganda, Jamaica or Saudi Arabia where they are beaten, imprisoned or killed.

Congress please support.

177 TYLDESLEY BRANCH
Lancashire Region

234. IMMIGRATION – ASYLUM

Congress condemns this Government for failure to address the immigration-asylum issue.

A recent survey by the National Audit Office is alarming. 250,000 asylum seekers, costing this country of ours £611 million, are still here.

Yes, one may say asylum seekers should be treated fairly but when they constantly abuse the system then they should be instantly deported without further cost to our nation. We hear of cases whereby the individual, having been deported, arrives back in the country using a forged passport.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

235. MOBILE PHONE MASTS

This Congress notes the concern amongst our members and also the general public over the conflicting advice about the safety of mobile telephones. Whilst not wishing to ban mobile phones until definitive health advice is available and in order to protect our members and their families Congress instructs the CEC to use all its political connections to bring about the following safety measures.

1. That local authorities release, where appropriate land is available, land for the siting of mobile phone masts to assist operators to site masts away from dwellings, schools and hospitals.
2. That local authorities create an advisory member forum to have a general responsibility and interface with mobile phone operators. To assess the operation of the regulatory regime and to consider technical research and development and health issues concerning safe citing of mobile phone masts.
3. That all telecommunications sites which are granted approval by local authorities, should be 'targeted sites' for planning purposes to ensure that the equipment installed is in accordance with that shown on the approved plans.
4. That independent checks are made by local authorities to confirm that the actual installation of telecommunications equipment conforms to the original specification supplied.
5. That independent audits are undertaken of emissions and publicised to ensure public confidence that base states do not exceed the current ICNIRP or any future more comprehensive guidelines. This work to be scrutinised by a fully qualified technician employed by or contracted to local authorities.
6. That local authorities produces information booklets about mobile phone technologies, health concerns, citing, design and appearance in their areas. This to be made widely available through all council's normal outlets and websites.
7. That a fully comprehensive and up to date register of mobile phone masts and base stations in local authority areas is maintained and made available to the public, including a readily accessible electronic format and that is availability is publicised.
8. That ward members are consistently informed about the receipt of applications for mobile phone masts for their wards and adjacent areas of neighbouring wards and are provided with an up to date picture of all mobile telecommunication apparatus known to be in the ward on an annual basis.
9. Local authorities directly lobby local members of parliament and through the Local Government Association, the government be lobbied to give local authorities in England and Wales a stronger role in being able to regulate the installation of telecommunications equipment.

10. That as in Scotland and Northern Ireland the government is specifically asked that full planning permission be required for installations of all telecommunications equipment.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

236. SMOKING BAN IN CERTAIN VEHICLES

Congress calls for a total ban in all vehicles where babies, youngsters and young persons under smoking age are conveyed.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

237. JOHN PRESCOTT, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER – COUNCIL TAX

Congress calls for the resignation of John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, due to his failure to pay his Council Tax on time. It's not accepted that someone acting on his behalf failed to pay the said sum. It is the individual's sole responsibility.

Congress is aware a retired clergyman received 28 days in jail for withholding £69.00 of his Council Tax and another person released from jail when her Council Tax was paid for her. Yet here we have John Prescott expecting us to accept his apologies for not paying his Council Tax on time.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

238. LONDON MARATHON – SOUTH COAST HALF MARATHON – PROFESSIONAL RUNNERS EXPENSES SPONSORSHIP

Congress calls for an inquiry as to how much charitable money goes towards professional runners' expenses and to the number of runners refused entry should they be unable to meet the Organisers stated figures of sponsorship.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

**SOCIAL POLICY
HOUSING**

239. DEFEND COUNCIL HOUSING

Congress calls upon the GMB to campaign within the Trades Union and Labour Movement to:

- a) ensure that the fourth option that the Labour Conference supported by a vote of 8-1 in September 2004 along with the commitment then given by the Prime Minister is honoured.
- b) that the GMB campaigns within the Labour and Trades Union Movement, including Defend Council Housing for support that Local Authorities be provided the investment and freedom to commence with a major social housing building programme of affordable homes that are desperately needed.

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

SOCIAL POLICY NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

240.

This Congress resolves to affiliate to the 'keep our NHS public' Campaign.

WILTSHIRE & SWINDON W15 BRANCH
Southern Region

241. SUPPORT SERVICES

Congress deplores the action of hospitals who have removed services from our members for financial gain. The cost of telephones, television and parking is now out of the reach of both patients and their families. Once again we have a two tier system between the have and have not's. We urge the CEC to act on these matters.

HENDON BRANCH
London Region

242. NHS DENTAL TREATMENT

Congress calls for adequate opportunity for all to obtain dental treatment under the National Health Service.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

243. PROVISION OF NATIONAL HEALTH DENTISTRY

Congress

This motion concerns the post code lottery that has resulted because of the de-registration of countless thousands and possibly millions of people from being registered with a National Health Service dentist.

This Congress demands serious action and quickly from the Government to return the right of everyone in this country to receive decent dentistry on the NHS and free at the point of delivery, rather than the mess which our Government is responsible for having instigated.

SCUNTHORPE DISTRICT & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

244. AGE DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH

Congress is concerned at the report from the National Institute for Clinical Excellence which is proposing new guidelines for doctors, suggesting treatment should be related.

Congress believes that all medical treatment should be based upon clinical need, and we call upon the CEC to vigorously oppose such proposals.

LEICESTER HOMECARE & GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

245. POSTCODE LOTTERY

Congress agrees to mount a campaign against this government policy in regards to allowing a postcode lottery throughout the UK, including Northern Ireland in relation to all new cancer drug treatments.

B43 BIRMINGHAM CITY GENERAL BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

246. BREAST CANCER TREATMENT

Congress agrees to call upon the CEC to lobby the Government to ensure that Breast Cancer sufferers receive the best possible treatment in the fight against this life threatening disease.

54 DARWEN BRANCH
Lancashire Region

SOCIAL POLICY TRANSPORT

247. RAIL SAFETY

Congress supports the rail and fire unions' campaign to retain the 'Section 12' regulations. These essential fire safety regulations for sub-surface stations were introduced after the tragic 1987 King's Cross fire which claimed 31 lives.

The Government planned to allow these regulations to be repealed and replaced by a less specific Fire Safety Order. The rail and fire unions' campaign has already forced the Government to allow the 'Section 12' regulations to continue in operation for at least six months after the introduction of the new order. However, Ministers have indicated that the new Order will itself be delayed. This could leave the existing regulations in place until April 2007.

While welcoming this delay, Congress urges the Government to think again about the wisdom of abolishing specific fire safety measures in relation to sub-surface stations: they have helped to ensure that no lives have been lost due to fire in stations since the tragedy of 1987.

LONDON NORTH WEST BRANCH
London Region

248. AIRCRAFT TURN AROUND TIMES

Congress calls upon the Department of Trade and Industry and the Civil Aviation Authority to condemn the twenty five minute turn around on Boeing 737 800 series operated by Ryanair at London Stansted Airport.

STANSTED AIRPORT BRANCH
London Region

SOCIAL POLICY WELFARE & SERVICES

249. CARE SECTOR FUNDING

Congress calls on the GMB to mount an active campaign to ensure that Government funding allocated to Local Authorities for residential and nursing beds is ring-fenced to ensure it reaches its intended target and is not spent elsewhere.

MIDLAND HEALTHCARE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

250. RETURN ALL PERSONAL AND SOCIAL CARE FOR THE ELDERLY TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Congress calls upon the GMB to mount a campaign involving the Labour and Trade Union Movement to return all personal / social care for the elderly to Local Authorities as the present system is failing our elderly and local communities.

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

251. CARE HOMES

This Congress recognises that the current financial regulations for the elderly who are admitted to care homes is totally unacceptable and urge that the government introduce a policy of free care for the elderly.

162 STOCKPORT BRANCH
Lancashire Region

252. SUPPORTING PEOPLE

Congress calls on the GMB at National level to lobby the Government to, at the very least, maintain the present level of funding given to the "SUPPORTING PEOPLE" program.

The present program has been a success, with more resources having been given to supporting the care sector. This program should not be allowed to suffer and become yet another short term Government initiative from the office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

LOWESTOFT BRANCH
London Region

253. PENSIONERS FREE BUS TRAVEL

Congress urges all GMB sponsored MP's and the present Labour Government to issue free bus travel passes for all pensioners nationwide.

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

254. TRAVEL CONCESSIONS

Congress welcomes the travel concessions in place for our senior citizens but now calls for free travel passes to be introduced.

141 PRESTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

255. FREE TV LICENCES

Congress calls upon the GMB to campaign for free TV licences for all retired persons aged 65 or over.

The provision of free TV licences to over 65's will save retired people £131.50, which can be put towards their ordinary living costs. It is widely recognised that the general situation with pensions, both private and public have not kept pace with the overall cost of living for pensioners in recent years. The granting of free TV licences would ensure that people are able to enjoy what has become an essential means of communication and information for the retired. It is

interesting to note that the national accounts will in future have to show the TV licence fee as a "tax" as not all of the licence fee contributions are given over to the BBC for broadcasting purposes. The increased cost of watching Sky, especially if people want the football and film packages, means an individual has to pay an average of £40.00 per month. This is well beyond the means of many retired people, therefore granting a free licence to retired people of 65 and over, will enable them to watch the BBC, ITV and free to air channels without fear of cost.

D41 MANCHESTER CENTRAL BRANCH
Lancashire Region

256. ZERO ENERGY BILLS FOR THE ELDERLY

This Congress asks that pensioners be facilitated by Central and Local Government with the means to *super* insulate their homes by whatever means possible, whilst also using renewable energy in the form of photo-voltaic solar panels so that they may generate electricity over and above that which they need so that the surplus can be sold back into the national grid.

This is with the objective of, as far as possible, cancelling energy bills for the elderly in the first instance to later extend this to other areas of social housing.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

257. INCAPACITY BENEFIT

This Congress is appalled at the recent announcement that this government is yet again attacking the vulnerable members in our society with their proposed changes to the Incapacity Benefit Scheme.

101 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

258. REDUCED EARNINGS ALLOWANCE (REA)

Congress calls for a campaign to be mounted persuade the government to reinstate the regulations applied to REA, which were changed by the previous Conservative administration.

These regulations were changed to reduce REA payments by 75% when the claimant reached retirement age when previously being paid the full rate for life.

The Conservatives, also attacked the disabled by introducing the 14% rule which stopped any benefit being paid for any injury or disease resulting in disablement of less than 14%.

They claimed at the time, this was to give greater benefits to the more severely disabled and in any case the less severely disabled would be able to claim REA if they had at least 1% disablement for life.

A year later they systematically abolished REA entitlement for any injury of disease sustained after October 1990.

In opposition the Labour Party front bench gave assurance that they would receive these attacks on the disabled when in power.

Since their election to Government in 1997, to their eternal shame, they have done nothing to restore these benefits, which are mainly claimed by manual skilled workers who are forced to claim incapacity benefit, job seeker allowance or take even lower paid employment.

SUNDERLAND NO 10 BRANCH
Northern Region

259. ABOLITION OF THE SOCIAL FUND

This Congress asks that Social Fund loans from the Department of Works and Pensions; be they Crisis Loans or Budgeting loans, be abolished in favour of grants and/or that other deductions not be made until the claimant is off benefit; effectively ring-fencing subsistence levels of benefit.

NOTTS VOX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

260. TAX CREDIT

Congress we call upon you to mount a campaign to pressure central Government where people on tax credits are being put in a vulnerable position and where tax credits are supposed to help people on low pay.

People should not be made to pay overpayments when it is not their mistake.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

INTERNATIONAL

261. UK INVOLVEMENT IN CONFLICTS ABROAD

Congress instructs the present Labour Government not to become involved in any future conflicts abroad in support of the United States or any other power. The present involvement in Iraq was avoidable and has resulted in the death of many UK service personnel.

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

262. VENEZUELA

Congress welcomes the social achievements of the Chavez government in Venezuela, especially in the areas of health, education, job training and land distribution, in an effort to reverse the poverty that so many have endured for so long. We applaud the use of oil revenues to benefit working people and the poor of Venezuela and the assistance that Chavez is offering to neighbouring countries by providing an alternative to the US's neo-liberal policies which have only brought privatisation and poverty to the rest of Latin America.

Congress deplores the attempts of the US Administration to intervene in the internal affairs of Venezuela – including the Washington backed coup against Chavez in 2002, US involvement in the lockout in the oil industry and the direct funding, (through the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and USAID) of opposition groups in Venezuela; a policy reminiscent of the US tactics used in the 1970's against the Allende government in Chile and the 1980's against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

Congress is deeply concerned that in the coming year, in the run-up to the December 2006 presidential elections in Venezuela, the US administration will redouble its attempts to subvert the democratically elected government using all the means at their disposal, including military attacks if necessary, to undermine and destroy it.

Congress recognises that there is an urgent need to build solidarity with the people of Venezuela, as witnessed by the unanimous vote at last year's TUC, where Conference voted to welcome the social achievements of the Chavez government in Venezuela and to condemn US intervention.

To this end Congress resolves to:

- Affiliate to and work with the Venezuela Information Centre, which campaigns to defend Venezuela's right to national sovereignty and self-determination.
- Support the defence of Venezuelan national sovereignty.
- Oppose US intervention in Venezuela's internal affairs including the threat of military intervention and to lobby the British government to use its influence to prevent any such intervention or aggression.

182 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

263. TORTURE

Conference is outraged that this Government has and is allowing the United States to use British airports to ferry suspects to torture chambers in European countries.

Conference demands that this barbaric practice is exposed to the general public and insists that the Government withdraw permission to the United States to use our airports and airspace that helps foster this vile practice.

16 BLACKBURN BRANCH
Lancashire Region

264. STOP THE WAR

This Congress notes with regret the failure to pay the donations to the Stop the War Coalition agreed at Congresses 2003 and 2005. This Congress agrees to pay these (£5000 and £2000) donations forthwith. This Congress notes the failure of the troops to bring peace, stability or improve the lives of Iraqis. This Congress notes the growing opposition in both the US and Iraq to the foreign military presence in Iraq. This Congress resolves to re-affiliate to the Stop the War Coalition and to campaign to bring home the troops.

HOLBORN 1 BRANCH
London Region

265. STOP THE WAR

Conference is appalled at the way Islam has been targeted as the "enemy within" by many politicians and commentators.

Muslims are part of our society and cannot be allowed to be branded as terrorists for the rest of their lives.

We therefore implore Conference to demand that the CEC lobby this government to withdraw our troops from Iraq at the earliest opportunity and calls on the GMB to affiliate to the "Stop the War Coalition".

266. THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES – MOUNTING DEBT

Congress entreats the present Labour Government to instigate, among the G8 countries, the removal of all existing third world debt. This will enable these countries to start anew and make serious attempts to stand on their own in the future world market

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

267. CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY

Congress, it is an unfortunate truth that, after a year of the “Make Poverty History” campaign, more than 1.2 billion people still live on less than \$1 a day. It is also undeniable that the perpetuation of global poverty has been in a large part due to the increasing role of the multinational corporation. By influencing politicians and even Government, companies often fuel conflict for their own ends. By driving down wages and working conditions in order to maximise profits the multinationals have created a race to the bottom where the poor always lose.

Therefore this union must lobby UK Government to state its support for a binding framework of corporate accountability to regulate the activities of multinational companies.

LONDON STORES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

268. CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY

It is an unfortunate truth that after a year of the Make Poverty History campaign, more than 1.2 billion people still live on less than \$1 a day. It is also undeniable that the perpetuation of global poverty has been in large part due to the increasing role of the multinational corporation. By influencing politicians and even governments, companies often fuel conflict for their own ends. By driving down wages and working conditions in order to maximise profits, the multinationals have created a race to the bottom where the poor always lose.

In the UK for example, bosses at supermarket giant Asda, part of the US-owned Wal-Mart empire planned a series of anti-union and cost-cutting schemes. Asda management have stated that they do not want collective bargaining on issues such as pay and conditions. Tesco, which controls 30% of the grocery market in the UK with profits announced in 2005 of more than £2 billion, is supplied goods from South Africa by workers who work long hours for poverty wages. In one area, workers went without pay for four months, and twenty women and children were forced to share one double bed on a rota basis.

Caterpillar is the largest UK employer in the earth moving and construction industry, and is known on the high street for its range of rugged boots and fashion accessories. As a company, Caterpillar claims to maintain “a strong focus on social responsibility”, while its Code of Worldwide Business Conduct boasts “high ethical standards”. Yet Caterpillar’s armoured bulldozers have been responsible for the destruction of thousands of Palestinian homes, schools, wells and olive groves. They have also been used in the construction of the Separation Wall that Israel has built on Palestinian land and which has been ruled illegal by the International Court of Justice.

To answer their critics, some of the major multinational corporations have signed up to the voluntary process that has become known as corporate social responsibility (CSR). At best, this has been ineffectual and at worst, CSR has served as a mask behind which corporation hide unpopular policies. Too often, multinationals have successfully used CSR to block genuine corporate regulation.

Whereas in the UK there exists a legal framework that restricts what companies can do, globally no such regulation exists. If corporate power is to be harnessed so that globalisation stands a chance of benefiting more than just the few, the establishment of such a *global* regulatory framework is essential.

Over the next year, the UK government will be making the biggest changes to UK Company Law in decades, by taking the Company Law Reform Bill through Parliament. This presents a great opportunity to make company law more appropriate for the 21st century and ensure that business is accountable for its impacts on both the human and the natural environment. However, as it stands the Bill is fundamentally flawed because there remains insufficient compulsion on Company Directors to take responsibility for their Company’s actions.

This conference believes that companies **must** be made accountable for their actions around the world

This resolution calls upon this [conference]

- 🌐 to lobby the UK government to state its support for a binding framework of corporate accountability to regulate the activities of multinational companies
- 🌐 To lobby our union-sponsored MPs to support the amendments to the Company Law Reform Bill called for by War on Want and the CORE coalition.
- 🌐 To offer solidarity to sister trade unions around the world whose members are working in the supply chain producing goods for such multinational companies

- 🌐 To support Fairtrade which at least guarantees the producers a fair price for their goods.
- 🌐 To build partnerships with other campaigning organisations such as War on Want

LFEP A X98 BRANCH
Southern Region

269. CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY/FAIRTRADE

This Congress calls upon the GMB to support the work of War on Want by:

- Lobbying the UK Government to state its support for a binding framework of corporate accountability to regulate the activities of multi-national companies.
- Lobbying our sponsored MPs to support the amendments to the Company Law Reform Bill called for by War on Want and the CORE coalition.
- To offer solidarity to sister trade unions around the world whose members are working in the supply chain producing goods for such multi-national companies.
- To support Fairtrade, which at least guarantees the producers a fair price for their goods.
- To build partnerships with other campaigning organisations such as War on Want.

L.B. GREENWICH L16 BRANCH
Southern Region

270. COMPANY LAW REFORM BILL

Congress,

It is an unfortunate truth that after a year of the Make Poverty History campaign, more than 1.2bn people still live on less than \$1 a day. It is also undeniable that the perpetuation of global poverty has been in large part due to the increasing role of the multinational corporation. By influencing politicians and even governments, companies often fuel conflict for their own ends. By driving down wages and working conditions in order to maximize profits, the multinationals have created a race to the bottom where the poor always lose.

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area, workers went without pay for four months and 20 women and children were forced to share 1 double bed on a rota basis.

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To answer their critics, some of the major multinational corporations have signed up to the voluntary process that has become known as corporate social responsibility (CSR). At best, this has been ineffectual and at worst, CSR has served as a mask behind which corporations hide unpopular policies. Too often, multinationals have successfully used CSR to block genuine corporate regulation.

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Over the next year, the UK government will be making the biggest changes to UK Company Law in decades, by taking the Company Law Reform Bill through Parliament.. This presents a great opportunity to make company law more appropriate for the 21st century and ensure that business is accountable for its impacts on both the human and the natural environment. However, as it stands the Bill is fundamentally flawed because there remains insufficient compulsion on Company Directors to take responsibility for their Company`s actions.

This conference believes that companies **must** be made accountable for their actions around the world.

Therefore Congress calls upon the CEC to:

- ❖ Lobby the UK government to state its support for a binding framework of corporate accountability to regulate the activities of multinational companies
- ❖ To lobby our union-sponsored MPs to support the amendments to the Company Law Reform Bill called for by War on Want and the CORE coalition
- ❖ To offer solidarity to sister trade unions around the world, whose members are working in the supply chain producing goods for such multinational companies

- ❖ To support Fairtrade which at least guarantees the producers a fair price for their goods
- ❖ To build partnerships with other campaigning organizations such as War on Want

PLYMOUTH P20 BRANCH
Southern Region

271. A GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST FORCED LABOUR

Congress calls on worldwide action to end this evil where it is estimated that 12.3million people across the globe are trapped in forced labour.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

272. AIDS - FREE DRUGS

Congress urges the present Labour Government to initiate, among the G8 nations, for the provision of free drugs to the aids crisis which is reaching epidemic levels in Africa and Asia.

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

273. ZIMBABWE

We call upon the CEC to express deep concern at both the desperate political and economic situation in Zimbabwe and utterly condemn the most recent repressions committed by the Zanu – PF regime led by President Robert Mugabe. We were particularly disturbed by the shocking abuses reported in 2005 during the so-called "drive out rubbish" campaign to evict hundreds of destitute squatters from Harare. Zimbabwean workers have been forced to take to the streets in protest at government policies, which have led to a dramatic deterioration of living standards and widespread hunger. The response is often a violent backlash in which courageous activists have been subjected to the most brutal and degrading treatment.

January 2006 has seen the most recent police raids on the offices of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions and the arrest of its leading officials.

The long-suffering people of Zimbabwe deserve better alternatives than continuing repression and possible famine. We call on the GMB and the Labour movement to campaign alongside our International affiliates such as COSATU of South Africa in showing solidarity by applying full pressure to defeat President Mugabe and restore full and free democratic rights and prosperity to Zimbabwe.

113 MANCHESTER BRANCH
Lancashire Region

274. HURRICANE KATRINA – PRESIDENT GEORGE BUSH – MICHAEL BROWN HEAD OF THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Congress is appalled to learn of the failure of President George Bush – Michael Brown Head of the FEMA Administration to assist Hurricane Katrina victims initially in their hour of need.

GUILDFORD G38 BRANCH
Southern Region

275. MOROCCAN INVASION OF WESTERN SAHARA

This year marks the 30-year anniversary of the occupation of Western Sahara by Morocco. In violation of United Nation resolutions, Western Sahara remains the last colony in Africa.

In 1975 Morocco invaded, occupied and imposed its repressive rule in Western Sahara, undermining Saharawi aspirations for independence, dividing a nation and forcing almost 200,000 Saharawi people to live in exile, mostly in tents in southwest Algeria near the border with Western Sahara. Tens of thousands more remain in the Occupied Territories of Western Sahara, under military occupation, unable to advocate independence for their country or show their flag. 500 people are still 'disappeared' and there are over 30 political prisoners in Moroccan jails. The response of the Moroccan authorities to the widespread and growing numbers of peaceful Saharawi demonstrations has been to savagely beat, rape, torture, imprison, abduct and disappear scores upon scores of participants.

In spite of the political repression, the refugees, many of them women, have built schools, hospitals and developed democratic structures of governance in these camps.

Although the United Nations negotiated a ceasefire in 1991, promising to organise a referendum for the self-determination of the Saharawi people, the referendum has still not been held, and Morocco continues to resist the latest referendum proposal.

The European Union has recently signed a Fisheries Agreement with Morocco which will allow European ships to fish in the Occupied waters of Western Sahara.

The Saharawi in the camps are denied even the most basic right – the right to work – while workers in the Occupied Territory are denied representation by independent unions. For this reason, trade unions across Europe have provided one of the central elements in the solidarity campaign for Saharawi rights over the last 30 years.

In 2006, Sandblast, a cultural event aimed at raising awareness of the Saharawi plight through a series of seminars, lectures and workshops, will take place in various venues across the UK. For the first time British audiences will have the chance to experience Saharawi music, dance, theatre, poetry, art and photography at first hand.

This conference believes that:

- 🌐 The UN Security Council has consistently failed in its responsibility to Western Sahara, believing that good relations with Morocco are more important than international law.
- 🌐 The 30-year anniversary of the Occupation is an excellent time to re-energise campaigning on Western Sahara.
- 🌐 The EU Fisheries Agreement is illegal, and will certainly encourage Morocco in its obstruction of the referendum process.

This conference demands that the NEC (or appropriate body):

- 🌐 Joins War on Want, Western Sahara Campaign, Sandblast, FBU, Unison, Amicus and the CWU in their “30 Years is Enough” campaign on Western Sahara – including distributing leaflets in the union, publicising the campaign in the journal and inviting a speaker to address conference.
- 🌐 Participates in the TUC delegation to the Western Sahara in 2006.
- 🌐 Lobbies the UK government, through letters and meetings, to raise concerns on Western Sahara.
- 🌐 Lobbies the European Commission and Parliament to amend the Fisheries Agreement to explicitly exclude Saharawi waters from the Treaty.
- 🌐 Raises the issue at the TUC, the appropriate global union federations and the wider international trade union movement.
- 🌐 Actively supports and publicises the Sandblast project.

LFEPA X98 BRANCH
Southern Region

276. MIDDLE EAST

This congress calls on Hamas to renounce their campaign of terrorism and accept that Israel has a right to exist in peace and security. With the recent unilateral Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, it appears that a significant step towards peace has been taken. Hamas should recognise that peace is necessary for stability in the Middle East. With this in mind, we

ask all those who have campaigned vigorously for the Palestinian cause to focus on the changes that Hamas need to make to allow for the creation of a Palestinian state.

HOUNSLOW BRANCH
London Region

CONGRESS 2006 RULE AMENDMENTS

(Line numbering refers to rules as printed in GMB Rule Book)

RULE 8 CONGRESS OF THE UNION

1 The supreme authority of the Union shall be vested in the Congress (Ordinary or Special) composed of delegates from the Regions of the Union (in these Rules referred to as Regions). The Ordinary Congress shall be held every year on dates to be determined by the Central Executive Council, which shall have full power to settle all matters financial and otherwise appertaining to the Ordinary Congress. A Special Congress may, however, be held at such time as the Central Executive Council shall determine, and the Central Executive Council shall have full power to settle all matters financial and otherwise, appertaining to such Special Congress.

RA277

Line 4: Delete "every year"

Insert:

"in 2007 and thereafter in alternative years"

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

RA278

Line 4: Delete "in alternate years"

Insert:

"annually"

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

RULE 8 CONGRESS OF THE UNION

2 One delegate who shall be a fully financial member shall be elected in each Region for every complete 2,000 financial members, as stated in the previous September quarter's balance sheet.

3 Each Branch of a Region may nominate one delegate to represent the Region at the Congress. Such nominations shall be sent to the Regional Office not later than 31st December. The Regional Secretary shall then have lists printed and issued during the third week of the following January, setting forth the name and Branch of each candidate. Those candidates, according to the number required, who receive the largest number of votes, shall be considered elected.

RA279

Clause 2: Delete: "One delegate who shall be a fully financial member shall be elected in each Region for every complete 2,000 financial members, as stated in the previous September quarters balance sheet"

Insert:

"One delegate who shall be a fully financial member shall be elected in each Region for every complete 1,000 financial members, as stated in the previous September quarters balance sheet".

Clause 3: Delete: "Each Branch of a Region may nominate one delegate to represent the Region at the Congress. Such nominations shall be sent to the Regional office not later than 31st December. The Regional Secretary shall then have lists printed and issued during the third week of the following January, setting forth the name and Branch of each candidate. Those candidates, according to the number required, who receive the largest number of votes, shall be considered elected".

Insert:

"Each Branch of a Region may nominate one delegate per 1,000 to represent the Region at the Congress. Such nominations shall be sent to the Regional office not later than 31st December. The Regional Secretary shall then have lists printed and issued during the third week of the following January, setting forth the name and Branch of each candidate. Those candidates, according to the number required, who receive the largest number of votes, shall be considered elected".

NORTH TYNE ENGINEERING
Northern Region

RULE 8 CONGRESS OF THE UNION

RA280

Insert new clause 6:

"To allow six Organisers, elected by all Organisers, to speak but not vote at all GMB Congresses".

LONG EATON CFTA BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RULE 9 BUSINESS OF THE CONGRESS

3 The Congress by a majority vote shall have power to rescind, alter and add to any of these rules. Consideration of amendments to

rules shall be restricted to the Ordinary Congress held in 2006 and thereafter to every third Ordinary Congress. The Central Executive Council shall, nevertheless, have power to submit to any Congress (Ordinary or Special) amendments to rules.

RA281

Line 3: Delete “2006”
Insert:
“2009”

Line 4: Delete “every third Ordinary Congress”
Insert:
“every second Ordinary Congress”

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Branch

Rule 10 CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

RA282

Insert new Clause 20:
“The CEC shall create a National Forum for LGBT members to advise the CEC on matters relating to LGBT members, and to act as a contact and support for LGBT members of the GMB.

There shall be one LGBT representative of such a Forum from each of the GMB Regions.”

177 TYLDESLEY BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RA283

Insert new Clause:
“20 The Central Executive Council shall create a National forum for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) members to advise the Central Executive on matters relating to LGBT members, and to act as a contact and support for LGBT members of the GMB. There shall be one LGBT representative of such a forum from each of the GMB Regions.”

WESTMINSTER TUPS BRANCH
London Region

RULE 12 PRESIDENT

1 The President shall be elected in 2005 and at every fourth Ordinary Congress thereafter from amongst the members of Congress elected in accordance with Rule 8.2, and from the members of the Central Executive Council. S/he shall hold office for four years; shall preside at the Congress succeeding that at which s/he is elected and shall be eligible for nomination and re-election at the expiration of his/her term of office. During his/her term of office s/he shall preside at all meetings of the Central Executive Council and such other Union meetings as the Central Executive Council may direct. S/he shall be responsible for the proper conduct of the business of all such meetings; shall sign the Minutes and in conjunction with the General Secretary and Treasurer, endeavour to secure the observance of these Rules by all concerned. S/he shall attend the Trades Union Congress and Labour Party Conference, and such other conferences as may be deemed expedient.

RA284

Lines 1&2: Delete: "2005 and at every fourth Ordinary Congress"

Insert:

"2009 and at each alternate Congress"

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

Rule 13 VICE-PRESIDENT

1 The Vice-President shall be elected in 2005 and by every fourth Ordinary Congress thereafter from amongst the members of the Central Executive Council and shall hold office for four years. If, between one Ordinary Congress and another a new Central Executive Council requires to be elected and the Vice-President is not a member thereof, a new Vice-President shall be elected at the first meeting from amongst its own number. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside at meetings of the Central Executive Council and be responsible for the proper conduct of the business.

RA285

Line 1&2: Delete: "2005 and by every fourth Ordinary Congress"

Insert:

"2009 and at each alternate Congress"

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

RULE 14 GENERAL SECRETARY AND TREASURER

2 The Central Executive Council shall, if circumstances so warrant, in case of either a vacancy or a suspension, appoint an elected official to act as General Secretary and Treasurer pro tem, until a new General Secretary and Treasurer is elected, or a suspended General Secretary and Treasurer is restored to office. An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to a vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary.

RA286

Lines 5-8: Delete "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RA287

Lines 5-8: Delete "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

HOME COUNTIES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

RA288

Lines 5-8: Delete "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be

eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

RA289

Lines 5,6,7,8: Delete "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LUTON BRANCH
London Region

RA290

Lines 5,6,7,8: Delete "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LB WANDSWORTH L26 BRANCH
Southern Region

RA291

Lines 5-9: Delete "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

RA292

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LONDON REGIONAL COMMITTEE
London Region

RA293

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

STANSTED AIRPORT BRANCH
London Region

RA294

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

SILVERTOWN SUGAR WORKERS BRANCH
London Region

RA295

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

BARKING BRANCH
London Region

RA296

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

PLAISTOW BRANCH
London Region

RA297

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

SOUTHEND CFTA BRANCH
London Region

RA298

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

BARKING AND DAGENHAM BRANCH
London Region

RA299

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

RA300

Lines 6,7,8: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

REGIONAL COMMITTEE
Midland & East Coast Region

RA301

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

HEATHERWOOD & WINDSOR PARK H25 BRANCH
Southern Region

RA302

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

REGIONAL COMMITTEE
South Western Region

RA303

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

BRISTOL & DISTRICT WATER BRANCH
South Western Region

RA304

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

RA305

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

CARDIFF & DISTRICT BRANCH
South Western Region

RA306

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

MAESTEG 2 BRANCH
South Western Region

RA307

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

PENTWYN APEX BRANCH
South Western Region

RA308

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

REVLON BRANCH
South Western Region

RA309

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

PRYSMAIN CABLES ABERDARE BRANCH
South Western Region

RA310

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

TORFAEN BRANCH
South Western Region

RA311

Lines 6,7,8: Delete " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

WESSEX WATER BRANCH
South Western Region

RA312

Line 6,7,8: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

YORKSHIRE & NORTH DERBYSHIRE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA313

Lines 6,7,8: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LEEDS EDUCATION BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA314

Lines 6,7,8: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LEEDS CIVIC BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA315

Lines 6,7,8: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

YORKSHIRE NO. 1 BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA316

Lines 6,7,8: Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary"

Insert:

"unless already a member of the Central Executive Council."

5 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

RA317

Lines 6,7,8: Delete: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

Insert:

"but will be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

RA318

Line 8: Insert:

"the elected official who carries out his duties as required of him / her in the temporary office as General Secretary and Treasurer successfully shall be eligible for Nomination as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary"

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

RA319

Lines 6,7,8,9: Delete all from Executive council: " and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as general secretary and treasurer or as deputy general secretary."

Insert:

"Acting general secretary to be allowed to stand for general secretary and treasurer and deputy general secretary."

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

RULE 14A DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY

3 The Central Executive Council shall, if circumstances so warrant, in case of either a vacancy or suspension, appoint an elected official to act as Deputy General Secretary pro tem, until a new Deputy General Secretary is elected, or a suspended Deputy General Secretary is restored to office. An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to a vote on the Central Executive Council, and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer.

RA320

Lines 4-7: Delete: "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RA321

Lines 4-7: Delete: "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

RA322

Lines 4-7: Delete: "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

SOUTHEND BRANCH
London Region

RA323

Lines 4-7: Delete: "An elected official who holds such temporary office shall not be entitled thereby to vote on the Central Executive Council and shall not be

eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

HOME COUNTIES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

RA324

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

LONDON REGIONAL COMMITTEE
London Region

RA325

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

BARKING BRANCH
London Region

RA326

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

BARKING & DAGENHAM BRANCH
London Region

RA327

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

PLAISTOW BRANCH
London Region

RA328

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

SILVERTOWN SUGAR WORKERS BRANCH
London Region

RA329

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

STANSTED AIRPORT BRANCH
London Region

RA330

Line 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

SOUTHEND CFTA BRANCH
London Region

RA331

Lines 6&7: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

REGIONAL COMMITTEE
Midland & East Coast Region

RA332

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

REGIONAL COMMITTEE
South Western Region

RA333

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

BRISTOL & DISTRICT WATER BRANCH
South Western Region

RA334

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

RA335

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

CARDIFF & DISTRICT BRANCH
South Western Region

RA336

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer".

MAESTEG 2 BRANCH
South Western Region

RA337

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

PENTWYN APEX BRANCH
South Western Region

RA338

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

PRYSMIAN CABLES ABERDARE BRANCH
South Western Region

RA339

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

REVLON BRANCH
South Western Region

RA340

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

TORFAEN BRANCH
South Western Region

RA341

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

WESSEX WATER BRANCH
South Western Region

RA342

Line 6&7: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

YORKSHIRE & NORTH DERBYSHIRE REGIONAL COMMITTEE
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA343

Lines 6&7: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LEEDS EDUCATION BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA344

Lines 6&7: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

LEEDS CIVIC BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA345

Lines 6&7: After "Central Executive Council" Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer or as Deputy General Secretary."

YORKSHIRE NO. 1 BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

RA346

Lines 6&7: Delete: "And shall not be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

Insert:

"But will be eligible for nomination and election as Deputy General Secretary or as General Secretary and Treasurer."

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

RA347

Lines 6&7: Delete: "and shall not be eligible for nomination and election as General Secretary and Treasurer"

Insert:

"unless already a member of the Central Executive Council."

5 BRANCH
Liverpool, North Wales & Irish Region

RULE 17C REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL OFFICERS

C3: "Appointments of Regional Industrial Officers shall be open to any Organiser from any Region or Section of the Union".

RA348

Delete: "Appointments of Regional Industrial Officers shall be open to any Organiser from any Region of Section of the Union"

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RULE 17D REGIONAL SECRETARY

D1 Notwithstanding anything in Rule 17D3, appointment of Regional Secretary shall be made by the Regional Committee on a vacancy arising. Such appointments and the procedure for such appointments shall be subject to the approval of the Central Executive Council.

D2 Appointments to Regional Secretary shall be open to any National Official, Regional Industrial Officer or Organiser of any Region or Section of the Union.

RA349

Clause 1: Delete

Insert:

“The appointment of a Regional Secretary should be by a vote of the membership within the Region and not by the Regional Committee or a block vote of the branches.”

Clause 2: Delete

Insert:

“The appointment of a Regional Secretary should be open to any member of the Union with the required qualification of the Union”

243 MANCHESTER NO.1 BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RA350

Clause D2: Delete: “Appointments to Regional Secretary shall be open to any National Official, Regional Industrial Officer or Organiser of any Region or Section of the Union”

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RULE 17G ORGANISER ELECTION PROCEDURE

G2 Under the delegated powers vested in the Central Executive Council by Rule 17A2, Regions shall arrange for Organisers (other than those officials elected prior to week ending 5th January 1985 under the Rules of the GMW Section of GMBATU then in force appointed as Organisers, and Organisers who were formerly Area Secretaries, Senior Area Organisers or Area Organisers of the Association) to be subject to election at such time within five years of appointment as shall be determined by the Regional Secretary and Regional Committee, subject to approval by the Central Executive Council.

RA351

Lines 6&7: Delete: “to be subject to election at such time within five years of appointment”

Insert:

“to be appointed after a three month trial period, as shall be determined by the Regional Secretary and Regional Committee, subject to approval by the Central Executive Council.”

HULL RETAIL & DISTRIBUTION BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RULE 18 QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE AND DEFINITION OF OFFICERS

3 The third qualification for any member seeking election to the Central Executive Council under Rule 11 shall be that at the date of nomination and election s/he is a member of his/her Regional Council. This qualification shall not apply to any member seeking election to the post of General Secretary and Treasurer or Deputy General Secretary.

RA 352

Clause 3: Delete

Insert:

“Every member, in line with paragraph 1 can be nominated to stand for election to this Central Executive Council.”

NORTH KENT.ENG.Z37 BRANCH
Southern Region

RA 353

Clause 3: Delete: “The third qualification for any member seeking election to the Central Executive Council under Rule 11 shall be that at the date of nomination and election s/he is a member of his/her Regional Council. This qualification shall not apply to any member seeking election to the post of General Secretary and Treasurer or Deputy General Secretary”.

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RULE 18 QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE AND DEFINITION OF OFFICERS

6 No person who has, or who in the preceding five years has had, a written contract of employment with the Union, or who is in receipt of a pension from the Union shall be eligible for election as a delegate to Congress (Rule 8); as a delegate to a Regional Council (Rule 20 or Rule 21); or as a delegate to a National or Regional Delegate Conference (Rule 68) or Section Conference.

RA 354

Clause 6: Delete: "No person who has, or who in the preceding five years has had, a written contract of employment with the Union, or who is in receipt of a pension from the Union shall be eligible for election as a delegate to Congress (Rule 8); as a delegate to a Regional Council (Rule 20 or Rule 21); or as a delegate to a National or Regional Delegate Conference (Rule 68) or Section Conference".

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RULE 20 REGIONS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

5 Nominations shall be sent by the Branches to the Regional Secretary not later than 28th February in the year when the elections are due, and an election shall take place in accordance with the election procedure prescribed by Rule 17G.

RA 355

Insert:

full stop after "elections are due".

Delete: the remainder of the paragraph

Insert:

"The elections shall take place by secret postal ballot sent to members' homes. A period of not less than 21 days will be allowed for the conducting of ballot. All financial members in the Region at 31 January will be entitled to participate in the elections. The election results will be counted by the Regional Auditors and the results announced to branches within 7 days of the close of ballot."

D41 MANCHESTER CENTRAL BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RULE 20 REGIONS AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

RA356

Insert New Clause 14:

"The Regional Council shall create a forum for the LGBT members at Regional Council/Committee as matters relating to LGBT members and to act as a contact and support for LGBT members of the GMB in the Region. Each Region shall be able to send one LGBT representative to the GMB National Forum."

177 TYLDESLEY BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RA357

Insert New Clause

“14 The Regional Council shall create a forum for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) members at Regional level to advise the Regional Executive on matters relating to LGBT members, and to act as a contact and support for LGBT members of the GMB in the Region. Each Region shall be able to send one LGBT representative to the GMB National Forum.”

WESTMINSTER TUPS BRANCH
London Region

RULE 21 RESERVED SEATS ON REGIONAL COUNCILS

RA358

Insert: New Clause 5:

“One Regional Council Delegate shall be elected to a seat on the Regional Council from the LGBT Forum.”

177 TYLDESLEY BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RA359

Insert: New Clause:

“5 One Regional Delegate shall be elected to a seat on the Regional Council from the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender forum.”

WESTMINSTER TUPS BRANCH
London Region

RULE 30 AUDIT

2 The accounts of the Union shall be examined by three members of the Union, elected every three years according to the procedures of the appropriate Rules for the nomination and election of Officials.

RA360

Line 2: Delete: “three”

Insert:
“four ”

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RA361

Line 2: Delete: "three years"

Insert

"four years "

MIDLAND HEALTHCARE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RA362

Line 2: Delete: "every three years"

Insert:

"every four years".

8 ASHTON BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RULE 35 COMMISSION QUARTERAGE PAYMENTS TO BRANCHES

1 A Branch shall receive a commission quarterage which shall consist of quarterly payments made by the Region to the Branch of 7 1/2 per cent of all check-off contributions attributable to the Branch. This 7 1/2 per cent being reduced by the deduction of any employer check-off administration charges. Where an employer's check-off charge is in excess of 2 1/2 per cent the deduction from 7 1/2 per cent shall be limited to 2 1/2 per cent, thus providing the Branch with a minimum commission quarterage payment of 5 per cent for such members.

2 A Branch shall dispense within the quarter the whole of its commission quarterage receipts, or return the balance of such commission quarterage to Regional Office, alternatively the Branch shall establish a Commission Fund to which the commission quarterage income shall be credited.

3 Commission quarterage transactions and Commission Fund transactions shall be summarised each quarter on the Branch quarterly report and be audited by the Branch Auditors.

4 Commission quarterage/Commission Funds shall not be used to pay benefits or payments, provided for by Union Rules; they shall not be used to finance activities which are intended to circumvent policies of the Union determined from time to time by Congress and they shall not be used for expenditure on any political object or purpose. Provided that such Funds may be used to pay honoraria to such Branch Officials as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the Branch.

5 A Branch that establishes a Commission Fund shall not include with that Fund income contributed under the following clause.

6 Subject to the permission of Regional Committees, Branches may be permitted to establish, by way of a levy of members, a fund to provide for the payment of loss of earnings to negotiating Shop Stewards not at present provided for, The granting of this permission will be subject to each Branch concerned submitting a quarterly report of income and expenses which has been the subject of audit by Branch Auditors.

7 In determining the amount dispensed by a branch under this rule before the return of the balance to Regional Office or the credit of the balance to a Commission Fund, subject to the approval of the Regional Committee a Branch may hold in suspense an amount from the allocation of monies available for payments to check-off stewards for expenditure on recruitment and organisation and the amount so held in suspense may be expended at any time within the Union's accounting period ending in the following December at which time any unexpended balance shall be returned to Regional Office or credited to a Commission Fund.

Auditors, and be subject to any conditions that Regional Committee may require

RA 363

Delete: all of Rule 35 (Clause 1-7) in favour of new Rule 36

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RULE 36 BRANCH ALLOCATION

1 Rule 35 shall not apply to APEX Partnership Branches, nor to such other Branches as may be specified by Congress.

2 The Region shall allocate to each such Branch a quarterly payment equal to 10% of the contributions of the members of that Branch.

3 The Branch shall establish a Branch Fund to which the allocation shall be credited.

4 Branch Fund transactions shall be summarised each quarter on the branch quarterly report and be audited by the Branch Auditors.

5 Branch Funds shall not be used to pay benefits or payments provided for by Union Rules; they shall not be used to finance activities which are intended to circumvent policies of the Union determined from time to time by Congress and they shall not be used for expenditure on any political object or purpose. Provided that

such Funds may be used to pay honoraria to such Branch Officials as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the Branch.

RA364

Clause 1: Delete

Clause 2: Delete the word 'such' to read:

"2 The Region shall allocate to each Branch a quarterly payment equal to 10% of the contributions of the members of that Branch."

Re-number Clauses

Insert: New Clause 5. Rule to read:

- "1 The Region shall allocate to each Branch a quarterly payment equal to 10% of the contributions of the members of that Branch.
- 2 The Branch shall establish a Branch Fund to which the allocation shall be credited.
- 3 Branch Fund transactions shall be summarized each quarter on the Branch quarterly report and be audited by the Branch Auditors.
- 4 Branch Funds shall not be used to pay benefits or payments provided for by Union Rules; they shall not be used to finance activities which are intended to circumvent policies of the Union determined from time to time by Congress and they shall not be used for expenditure on any political object or purpose. Provided that such Funds may be used to pay honoraria to such Branch Officials as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the Branch.
- 5 All such payments shall be properly vouched and audited by the Branch Auditors, and Branch funds shall be subject to any conditions that the CEC or Regional Committee may require."

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland and East Coast Region

RULE 37 BRANCHES

7 All Branch Officers, and the Branch Committee, but not whole-time Branch Secretaries, District Officers, or Branch Administrative Officers, shall be elected at the last meeting in June every four years. Nominations may be made at any of the three meeting nights preceding the General Meeting, and shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the meeting room. If no nominations (or insufficient number of nominations) are received for Branch Officers or Branch Committee at any of the three meeting nights preceding the General Meeting, nominations may be made at the General Meeting. If, however, sufficient prior nominations have been received in accordance with Rule, no nominations can be accepted for that particular office at the General Meeting.

RA365

Lines 1-2: Delete: "but not whole-time Branch Secretaries"

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland and East Coast Region

RA366

Insert: Line 11

"No nominations may be received for any position by supervisory or managerial members, unless the Branch is solely for these members."

NOTTINGHAM TEC BRANCH
Midland and East Coast Region

RULE 37 BRANCHES

14 The Regional Secretary shall have power to close any Branch or merge any Branches for any reason which s/he deems good and sufficient, or where, in his/her judgement, it is considered advisable to do so.

RA367

Clause 14: Insert:

"Branches forward to Region minutes of their meetings, with names of officials attending, a minimum of one meeting per quarter.

If branches do not operate within the rules, then they cease to function and be merged with the nearest working Branch, or organised by the Region."

CAMBORNE C21 BRANCH
Southern Region

RULE 37 BRANCHES

21 Meetings of Branch members shall be confined to the members of the Branch concerned and no member of a Branch shall be entitled or permitted to attend or take part in the business of meetings of another Branch except with the knowledge and approval of the Regional Secretary. Any member violating this provision will be liable to be dealt with by the Regional Committee in accordance with the powers conferred by these Rules upon Regional Committees.

RA368

Lines 2,3,4: After: “no member of a Branch shall be entitled or permitted to attend or take part in the business or meetings of another Branch except

Insert:

“where there is a common aim Branches are allowed /permitted to take part in the business of another Branch. The common aim to be notified in accordance with the rule or”

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

RULE 39 BRANCH SECRETARY

RA369

Insert New Clause

“The post of Branch Secretary can only be held by Branch members/activists and excludes Union employees from holding the post.”

286 BRANCH
*Liverpool, North Wales & Irish
Region*

RULE 46 DISPUTES

3 Save where the Central Executive Council in its absolute and unfettered discretion decides otherwise, no cessation of work shall take place unless a vote shall have been taken of the members belonging to the Branch or body immediately concerned, and two thirds of such members who vote shall have voted in favour of the adoption of such a course, and then only with the express sanction of the Central Executive Council or the Regional Committee, as the case may be. Every member affected shall have an opportunity of recording his/her vote for and against a cessation of work. In no case shall members be entitled to strike benefit if they enter upon a strike without the sanction of the Central Executive Council. The Central Executive Council shall have power to refer a dispute to arbitration. Members receiving strike benefit shall sign the Vacant Book once every day between the hours of 9.00am and 11.00am or such other hours as may be decided upon.

RA370

Line 4: Delete: “two thirds”

Insert:
“fifty percent plus one”

ANWICK & MID LINCS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RULE 49A RETIRED LIFE MEMBERS

4 A retired life member shall not be eligible for any benefits of the Union save the following:

- (a) Legal Assistance under Rule 27, provided that a Regional Committee may in its absolute discretion require the retired life member during the period of such assistance to pay Grade 1 or Grade 2 contributions depending on his/her Grade at the day immediately prior to the date of payment of the lump sum under this rule**

RA371

Clause 4A: Delete: “Provided that a Regional Committee may in its absolute discretion require the retired life member during the period of such assistance to pay grade 1 or grade 2 contributions depending on his/her grade at the day immediately prior to the date of payment of the lump sum under this Rule.”

Insert:

”Provided that a member is of state retirement age and has been a member of the Union for 10 years and is a fully paid up life member then he/she shall not be required to pay any contributions while the Union is pursuing a legal claim on their behalf.”

5 BARROW BRANCH
Lancashire Region

RULE 51 STRIKE BENEFIT

2 No member shall receive benefit until s/he has been out on strike three clear days, whether continuous or aggregated, within a period of two months, when s/he shall be entitled to three clear days' benefit. Days shall be aggregated only within the same dispute, and the ruling of the Central Executive Council thereon shall be final and binding.

RA372

Clause 2: Delete: “No member shall receive benefit until s/he has been out on strike three clear days, whether continuous or aggregated, within a period of two months, when s/he shall be entitled to three clear days' benefit. Days shall be aggregated only within the same dispute, and the ruling of the Central Executive Council thereon shall be final and binding.”

Insert:

“All members shall receive benefit from day one of commencement of being ‘out on strike’ whether continuous or aggregated. Days shall be aggregated only within the same dispute, and the ruling of the Central Executive Council thereon shall be final and binding.”

GRIMSBY FOOD & LEISURE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RULE 56 FUNERAL BENEFIT

1 On the death of a full financial Grade 1 or Grade 2 member who has paid 53 consecutive Grade 1 or 53 consecutive Grade 2 contributions and who has had 12 months' continuous membership, the Regional Secretary shall, on the production of the requisite certificate (except in cases of death at sea), pay the nominee, widow, widower or member of the family of the Deceased who shall satisfy the Regional Secretary that s/he has become responsible for funeral expenses, in accordance with the following scales of benefit:-

Completed Years of Membership	Grade 1 Members (Full Scale)	Grade 2 Members (Full Scale)
	£	£
1	34.00	17.00
2	45.00	21.00
3	56.00	25.00
4	67.00	29.00
5	77.00	33.00
6	87.00	38.00
7	97.00	43.00
8	108.00	48.00
9	119.00	53.00
10	130.00	58.00

New entrants who are 50 years of age and over, or lapsed members rejoining at 50 years of age or over, shall be entitled only to 50 per cent of benefit provided in this clause. Payment of funeral benefit will not be considered unless a claim is submitted within 12 months from the date of death.

2 In cases of death at sea no funeral benefit shall be paid unless satisfactory evidence of such death has been furnished to the Central Executive Council.

3 All arrears to be deducted from the funeral payment.

4 The Branch Secretary shall keep a book in which the members shall nominate in writing the person to whom the funeral allowance

shall be paid on their decease. Any member may revoke such nomination by sending notice to that effect, duly signed by him/herself, and it shall be the duty of the Branch Secretary in such case to see the nomination revoked. For revoking a nomination 1p shall be paid.

5 This benefit shall not be payable when a claim for Fatal Accident Benefit is admitted under Rule 59.

RA373

Clause 1: Lines 8-24: Delete:

“COMPLETED YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP	GRADE 1 MEMBERS (FULL SCALE)	GRADE 2 MEMBERS (FULL SCALE)
	£	£
1	34	17
2	45	21
3	56	25
4	67	29
5	77	33
6	87	38
7	97	43
8	108	48
9	119	53
10	130	58

Non entrants who are 50 years of age or over, or lapsed members rejoining at 50 years of age or over, shall be entitled to only 50% of benefit provided in this clause.”

Insert:

“Grade 1 members £500
Grade 2 members £250”

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

RA374

Lines 12-21: Delete:

“34.00	17.00
45.00	21.00
56.00	56.00

67.00	25.00
77.00	29.00
87.00	33.00
97.00	38.00
108.00	48.00
119.00	53.00
130.00	58.00”

Insert:

“45.00	20.00
55.00	25.00
65.00	30.00
85.00	35.00
105.00	50.00
125.00	60.00
145.00	70.00
165.00	80.00
185.00	90.00
200.00	100.00”

PLYMOUTH P20 BRANCH
Southern Region

RA375

Clause 1: Line 4: Delete: “(except in cases of death at sea)”

Clause 1: Delete: all entries in Benefits Table

Insert:

“Completed Years Of Membership	Grade 1 Members (Full Scale)	Grade 2 Members (Full Scale)
1	£50.00	£25.00
2	£250.00	£125.00

Amounts to be increased yearly in line with RPI figure.”

Clause 2: Delete: “In cases of death at sea no funeral benefit shall be paid unless satisfactory evidence of such death has been furnished to the Central Executive Council.”

ASHFIELD GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

RA376

Completely rewrite Rule

GREENWICH AMBULANCE G33 BRANCH
Southern Region

