

PRELIMINARY AGENDA



ANNUAL CONGRESS 2010

Southport Floral Hall & Convention Centre

CONGRESS - SUNDAY 6 JUNE

9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

CONGRESS - MONDAY 7 JUNE

9.30 am - 12.30 pm

SECTION CONFERENCES – MONDAY 7 JUNE

2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

SECTION CONFERENCES – TUESDAY 8 JUNE

9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

CONGRESS – WEDNESDAY 9 JUNE

9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

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)

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 Rule Book. Congress shall conduct its business at the following times:

Congress - Sunday 6 June 2010

9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

Congress - Monday 7 June 2010

9.30 am - 12.30 pm

{	Section Conferences – Monday 7 June 2010 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	}
	Section Conferences – Tuesday 8 June 2010 9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm	

Congress – Wednesday 9 June 2010

9.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2.00 pm - 5.30 pm

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.

3. 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 Rule Book.

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 Rule Book
- 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)

CONGRESS INDEX OF MOTIONS

206.	£25 COLD WINTER FUEL ALLOWANCE
28.	A GMB EDUCATIONAL TRUST
128.	ABOLITION OF THE MONARCHY
90.	ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT BAILOUTS FOR ALL
170.	ACCOUNTABILITY
25.	ADULT EDUCATION FOR GMB MEMBERS
129.	AFFILIATE TO THE ORGANISATION REPUBLIC
136.	AFFILIATION TO UNITE AGAINST FACISM
212.	AFGHANISTAN
57.	AGENCY WORKERS
56.	AGENCY WORKERS REGULATIONS
4.	AMALGAMATION
145.	APPRENTICESHIPS & FUTURE TRAINING FOR ALL
216.	ARMS TRADE
37.	ASBESTOS PLEURAL PLAQUE DISEASE
40.	ASBESTOS REGISTER
36.	ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES
48.	ASPARTAME ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER
197.	BAN CAR CLAMPING
9.	BANJO (<u>BAN</u> <u>J</u> ARGON AND <u>ACR</u> ONYMS)
80.	BANK HOLIDAYS
88.	BANKERS BONUSSES
91.	BANKING CRISIS
176.	BANNED HEART DRUG COSTING JUST £2 PER DAY
3.	BLACK HOLE
61.	BOGUS EMPLOYMENT/CASUALISATION
49.	BREASTLIGHTS
95.	BRITISH INDUSTRIAL BANK
33.	BULLYING DISABLED WORKERS
97.	CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL OWNERSHIP
171.	CANCER SCREENING
194.	CAR SPEED BOXES

202.	CARERS ALLOWANCE
201.	CARERS ALLOWANCE / ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE
150.	CHANGE FROM ANALOGUE TO DIGITAL RADIO
152.	CHAPLAINCY
155.	CHILD DETENTION
92.	CIVIL LIST
62.	CLIENT – CONTRACTORS - DISMISSALS
51.	CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT
5.	COMMUNICATION
6.	COMMUNICATION STRATEGY
2.	CONGRESS VISITORS
19.	CONTRIBUTION RATE
24.	CO-ORDINATION OF UNION SERVICES
215.	CORPORATE TAX DODGING & DEVELOPMENT
85.	CORPORATION TAX
166.	COUNCIL HOUSING PROGRAMME
20.	CREDIT CRUNCH MEMBERSHIP RATES
198.	CYCLE TO WORK SCHEME
183.	DEAF PEOPLE IN HOSPITAL
54.	DEFEND STATE PENSIONS
58.	DELAYED AGENCY WORKERS DIRECTIVE
180.	DEMENTIA DISGRACE
177.	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FUNDING TO SUPPORT NATIONAL DEFIBRILLATION PROGRAMME IN CHILDREN'S HOSPICES
196.	DISABLED PARKING SPACES BEING MIS-USED
32.	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
190.	EAST COAST HIGH SPEED RAIL
191.	EAST COAST MAINLINE
93.	ECONOMIC RECOVERY
84.	ECONOMY TAX AND CUTS
26.	EDUCATION, TRAINING AND SKILLS
125.	ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OUR MEMBERS' INTERESTS
69.	EMPLOYMENT LAW
174.	END NHS PRESCRIPTION CHARGES IN ALL OF THE UK

156.	ENERGY PRICES
116.	ENGINEERING MINISTER
138.	ENGLISH (WELSH/SCOTTISH) DEFENCE LEAGUE
112.	EQUAL PAY
29.	EQUALITY
141.	ERROSION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES
219.	EU COLOMBIA FAIR TRADE AGREEMENT
45.	EXPOSURE TO LEAD AT WORK
149.	EXTENDING ALLOTMENT PROVISION
137.	FAR RIGHT GROUPS
133.	FIGHTING FASCISM
52.	FINAL SALARY PENSIONS
15.	FINANCE CONTRIBUTION RATES
132.	FINANCIAL EQUALITY FOR NEWHAM
204.	FREE DENTAL CHARGES FOR OAPs
175.	FREE PRESCRIPTION CHARGES FOR THE WHOLE UK
187.	FREE TRAVEL
185.	FREEDOM PASSES
108.	FREEDOM TO EXPRESS OUR UNION'S PRIORITIES
77.	FREELANCE WORKERS
158.	FUEL COSTS
178.	FUNDING FOR CARE IN OLD AGE
106.	FUTURE OF THE LABOUR AND TRADE UNION MOVEMENT
214.	GLOBAL MINING
17.	GMB CONTRIBUTIONS
7.	GMB DATA PROTECTION POLICY
12.	GMB RETIRED MEMBERS
27.	GMB ULF PROJECTS REPORT 2008/9
200.	GOVERNMENT TARGET TO TAKE 1,000,000 OFF INCAPACITY BENEFIT AND OTHER BENEFITS GENERATING UNMANAGEABLE NUMBER OF APPEALS AND LONG DELAYS FOR CLAIMANTS, DUE TO ADMINISTRATIVE BACKLOG
89.	GREEDY BANKERS
46.	HEALTH & SAFETY
34.	HEALTH & SAFETY REPS

35.	HEALTH AND SAFETY PROSECUTIONS
159.	HOLIDAYS OUTSIDE OF TERM TIME
167.	HOUSING
217.	HUMAN TRAFFICKING
218.	HUMAN TRAFFICKING
130.	ILLEGAL WAR
23.	INCREASING GMB INCOME
11.	INCREASING MEMBERSHIP
67.	INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY
111.	INEQUALITY
131.	INNER LONDON STATUS TO NEWHAM
99.	INTEREST RATES PRIVATE FINANCE
143.	INTERNET PIRACY
142.	JUSTICE FOR WORKING PEOPLE
101.	LABOUR PARTY
105.	LABOUR PARTY
110.	LABOUR PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO THE WATER INDUSTRY AND ITS LOYAL WORKERS
168.	LACK OF COUNCIL HOUSING
195.	LARGE CHANGE SUPERMARKETS, MONOPOLY ON FUEL
60.	LEGISLATE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS
100.	LOAN SHARKS
207.	LONDON WEIGHTING FOR PENSIONERS
70.	MANUFACTURING
107.	MAXIMISING SUPPORT FOR GMB POLICIES
109.	MAXIMISING SUPPORT FOR GMB POLICIES
210.	MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS
135.	MEMBERSHIP OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY
14.	MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS
199.	MENTAL HEALTH AND WORK
121.	MENTORING FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES
83.	MIGRANT LABOUR RECOGNITION
21.	MILEAGE
123.	MPs' REMUNERATION

186.	NATIONAL BUS PASS RESTRICTIONS
53.	NATIONAL EARNINGS AND THE PENSION STATE
148.	NATIONAL INSURANCE CREDITS FOR STUDENTS
82.	NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE
160.	NATIONALISATION OF THE PRESS
182.	NHS CAR PARKING
179.	NHS FUNDING FOR MEDICAL CARE FOR THOSE DIAGNOSED WITH ALZHEIMERS
75.	PAID BEREAVEMENT LEAVE
209.	PALESTINE
211.	PALESTINE
117.	PARLIAMENTARY AND DEMOCRACY
126.	PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS
38.	PLEURAL PLAQUES
39.	PLEURAL PLAQUES
154.	POST OFFICES
151.	PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT – PRESERVE A.M. RADIO
184.	PRIVACY AND DIGNITY
87.	PRO RATA PAY
181.	PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH TO REDUCE NHS COSTS
18.	PROPORTIONATE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS
162.	PROTECTION OF SUPPLIERS TO THE BIG FOUR SUPERMARKETS
13.	PROTOCOL
79.	PUBLIC BANK HOLIDAYS
94.	PUBLIC SERVICES CUTS
139.	RACISM WITHIN RELIGIOUS CHOICES
115.	RADAR
10.	RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION
72.	REDUNDANCY
71.	REDUNDANCY RIGHTS
113.	REMPLOY
114.	REMPLOY WORKERS (MORE SUPPORT)
22.	RETIRED MEMBERS
98.	RETURN TO MUTUALITY

104.	RETURN TO THE LABOUR MOVEMENT
1.	REVIEW OF CONGRESS
65.	RIGHT TO STRIKE
66.	RIGHT TO STRIKE – SECTION 127
41.	RISK ASSESSMENT FOR NEW AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS IN THE WORKPLACE
140.	SAFEGUARDING LIST & MANDATORY TRAINING
163.	SAVE THE LOCAL PUB
144.	SCHOOLS
172.	SCREENING FOR BOWEL CANCER
124.	SECTION 141 OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT
173.	SOCIAL
203.	SOCIAL
169.	SOCIAL HOUSING 2010
165.	SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR WOOTON-BASSETT
118.	SPONSORED MP'S
220.	SRI LANKA
73.	STATUTORY REDUNDANCY PAY
64.	STRIKE ACTION
147.	STUDENT FINANCE
16.	SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE
81.	SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM WAGE
50.	SUN BEDS
146.	SUPPORT FOR COLLEAGUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION
96.	SUPPORTING BRITISH INDUSTRY
42.	TACKLING WORK RELATED STRESS
78.	TAPED INTERVIEWS AND INVESTIGATIONS
47.	TEMPERATURE EXTREMES
55.	TEMPORARY AND AGENCY WORKERS RIGHTS
134.	THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY
188.	THE COST OF TRAVELLING ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT
213.	THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR CONFRONTATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
127.	THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT
103.	THE GENERAL ELECTION AND THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER

161.	THE MORNING STAR CIRCULATION
63.	THE OUTSOURCING OF LABOUR
122.	THE STORY OF WORK
192.	THIRD RUNWAY AT HEATHROW AIRPORT
59.	TRADE UNION RECOGNITION
120.	TRAINING FOR PROSPECTIVE LABOUR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
189.	TRANSPORT FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT
208.	TUC POLICY & THE BOYCOTTING OF ISRAELI GOODS
86.	UK TAXATION REVIEW
68.	UNFAIR DISMISSAL TIME PERIOD
8.	USE OF IMAGES BY THE GMB
193.	USING MOBILE PHONES WHILST DRIVING
157.	UTILITY CHARGES
102.	WELFARE PROVISIONS
205.	WINTER FUEL PAYMENT
153.	WITHDRAWAL OF CHEQUES
31.	WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT
164.	WOODCRAFT FOLK
44.	WORK RELATED INDUSTRIAL INJURIES
43.	WORK RELATED STRESS
119.	WORKING CLASS LABOUR PARTY CANDIDATES
74.	WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT PARTICULARS
30.	YOUNG MEMBERS
76.	YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT – A FAIR DAY'S PAY

PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

UNION ORGANISATION

CONGRESS

1. REVIEW OF CONGRESS

This Conference will task the CEC to actively research and collate an informed and detailed report to Congress 2011 in order to rationalise Congress remaining an annual 4/5 day, Spring time, seaside event.

In view of our increased activities and membership, and representatives and delegates, Congress will need to consider how both financially and effectively the present Congress arrangements best suit our purpose.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

2. CONGRESS VISITORS

This Conference asks that first time Visitors to Congress be allowed to attend Pre-Congress training so that Visitors have a full understanding of the workings of Congress.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

3. BLACK HOLE

This Conference will remember when Paul Kenny took over as our General Secretary, at his first Congress, the issue came up of black holes. One of the first things that he did was to inform Congress of the progress on actions of all motions passed by the previous Congress.

For the sake of best practice, transparency and efficiency, Congress instructs Sectional Conferences to follow the same procedure to avoid Sectional motions that have been passed, falling into yet more black holes and never being heard of again.

MIDLAND HEALTHCARE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

UNION ORGANISATION GENERAL

4. AMALGAMATION

This Conference accepts that the possibility of enlarging our union by amalgamation with other unions so far has proved to be ill advised. However, Congress believes that amalgamations with such unions as the RMT, NUM and Community should be considered under the right circumstances this could benefit all concerned.

Congress therefore instructs the Central Executive Committee to initiate talks with the aforementioned unions on the possibility of amalgamation.

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

5. COMMUNICATION

This Conference welcomes the increasing activity involving staff, officers and, in particular, activists through the GMB@WORK strategy.

Conference recognises that activity increases awareness and interest in what the GMB is doing and is planning to do and in the spirit of openness and transparency agrees that approved Central Executive Council (CEC) minutes and documents discussed and supported by the CEC should be published on the GMB national website.

Conference also agrees that all Regional Executive Committee and Regional Council minutes should be published on the appropriate GMB regional websites.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

6. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

This Conference notes the very effective use of on-line by the Labour Party using new technologies, like phone banks, twitter, targeted e-mails and websites. We also note the success of the Searchlight anti-BNP campaign using professional expertise, such as the consultancy group, Blue State Digital.

Conference notes that other trade unions in the UK have made greater use of the internet than GMB, for example Unite TV.

Conference notes that new media such as facebook, twitter, e-mail, chat-rooms, blogs, video and other methods are currently not exploited effectively by GMB to communicate between members, or to promote our message to the wider public.

Congress believes that if implemented effectively and professionally, new media can empower the membership, and involve wider layers of membership in union activity. This can improve our commitment to equality as it helps to reach younger members and members with young families.

This conference resolves to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for use of new media, which notes the need for professional resources to develop and maintain an effective on-line communications capability for GMB.

W15 WILTSHIRE & SWINDON BRANCH
Southern Region

7. GMB DATA PROTECTION POLICY

Congress agrees we should have a Data Protection Policy covering all post holders but is concerned the GMB Data Protection Policy drawn up by the Senior Management Team and issued to branches does not have the approval of Congress in accordance to rule:-

Rule 9.2 Business of Congress

- Consider and make decisions on policies affecting the general, industrial, political or social welfare of our members:

Which means this policy does not have authority over lay members.

This policy was drawn up with employees in mind but does not take into account the nature of the work and the resources of activist members in support of fellow members.

Congress therefore calls upon the CEC to consult with branches before bringing before Congress 2011 a revised policy and guidance notes (as appropriate) for approval

H25 HEATHERWOOD & WINDSOR PARK
Southern Region

8. USE OF IMAGES BY THE GMB

This Conference recognises the work of the National Union of Journalists (NUJ) to ensure that photographers are able to earn a decent living from their work. Conference acknowledges that the GMB has, in the past, used photographs by NUJ members without acknowledgement or recompense.

Conference commits to ensuring that GMB and its Regions no longer use images without seeking permission.

NOTTINGHAM NO.1 APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

9. BANJO (BAN JARGON AND ACRONYMS)

This Conference asks all GMB members to support and adopt this campaign (BANJO) in order to reduce the use of all correspondence, whether written or verbal, of jargon and acronyms. We would like all members to take an A4 size laminated sheet with the word BANJO on it, to all meetings they attend. Strategically place this laminate as a reminder to yourself and others in attendance to challenge the use of jargon and acronyms.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

UNION ORGANISATION RECRUITMENT & ORGANISATION

10. RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

This Conference recognises the importance branches need to apply to retain existing members and recruit new members.

Therefore, conference recommends all branches to develop a strategy to enable the recruitment and retention of members.

With the assistance of regional officers, many branches could increase the membership of their branch, and so improve the bargaining position with the employer.

SHEFFIELD 194 BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

11. INCREASING MEMBERSHIP

This Conference calls for the GMB to submit additional funding bids for community projects that will help and increase our membership.

NORFOLK PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

12. GMB RETIRED MEMBERS

This Conference believes that the retired members of our Union are a valuable resource for our members. We therefore instruct the Regional and National Officers to pursue our natural resource of GMB retired members to perform an active service in the GMB. This is to include recruitment and retention of members, and servicing existing members; in particular, in the role of Accompanying Rep.

HULL NO.1 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

13. PROTOCOL

This conference call on the CEC to implement clear procedures/protocols that assist Workplace Organisers working for the same company but in different GMB regions.

This guidance should clarify that no Workplace Organiser attends meetings requested by the company in another GMB region without prior contact/authorisation from the onsite Workplace Organiser/GMB region.

This is even more crucial when the GMB representative is there as a management representative, but relying on the skills the GMB has invested heavily into training them.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

UNION ORGANISATION FINANCE & CONTRIBUTIONS

14. MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

This Conference is asked to consider no increase in membership subscriptions for 2010, due to the credit crunch of the last year and the difficulty members are facing financially, which is costing the Unions to lose a lot of members.

SCUNTHORPE FOOD & ALLIED BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

15. FINANCE CONTRIBUTION RATES

This Conference calls on the GMB to freeze its contribution rates at current levels until October 2011, in recognition of the hardships faced by many of our members in these current times.

LUTON BRANCH
London Region

16. SUBSCRIPTION INCREASE

This Conference we call upon to increase subscriptions by no more than 0.05p on the grounds the recession is not going away and our members are still struggling financially.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

17. GMB CONTRIBUTIONS

This Conference calls upon the Central Executive Committee to investigate the prospect of varying GMB contribution levels in relation to the earnings of members.

The CEC to present its findings and recommendations to the next Congress

DURHAM GENERAL BRANCH
Northern Region

18. PROPORTIONATE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

This Conference accepts some GMB members are low paid workers. Can the CEC look at ways of lowering membership fees for those on National Minimum wage. We appreciate rule change may be required but "starter" band for younger age group should be considered.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

19. CONTRIBUTION RATE

This Conference request that as the Birmingham Region have a promotional rate for members who work less than 10 hours a week, i.e. lunchtime supervisors, cleaners and others on very low hours, we feel that this rate of 80 pence per week should be rolled out to all regions and become part of the official rates that we offer. This will attract more of the lower paid workers into our union.

B49 BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

20. CREDIT CRUNCH MEMBERSHIP RATES

Congress recognises that our core membership has been severely affected by the economic difficulties caused by the credit crunch.

Stark choices have to be made. Do you pay £10 Union subscription or your child's school dinners? Or buy food for a couple of days meals? Or catch a bus to work? That is the stark reality for members losing well paid jobs to see the replacements being low paid or part time or both. The difference between someone working 20 hours and 21 hours could be as little as £4.83 in wages but it doubles the Union fees. It does not make sense.

Congress calls on the CEC to look at 3 bandings preferably based on earnings rather than hours, because it must be better surely to have 100 members paying grade 3, than none because of the cost.

A56 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

21. MILEAGE

This Conference asks that when representatives of the GMB agree to perform duties we are all told that none of us should be at a financial loss.

It is clear that a large amount of us suffer a loss when we undertake official duties when using our cars.

The GMB should raise its mileage rate for all journeys made by lay reps in line with the Inland Revenue rates. Currently £0.40 per mile.

B49 BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

22. RETIRED MEMBERS

This Conference is called upon to re-evaluate the way retired members contributions are collected. With the one off £25 per life payment branches no longer have any real contact with this group of members. Quite often when members die their families do not realise they have this membership and it is becoming increasingly noticed as in the case of this branch where we send a diary and Christmas card to all our retired members, we are informed five or six years down the line by the new occupiers that the member passed away several years ago. Whereas in the past when they had to actually pay their subs you knew they were alive and well.

BRAINTREE & BOCKING BRANCH
London Region

23. INCREASING GMB INCOME

This Conference calls on the GMB to seek additional funding streams via community based social enterprises for example the "Workers Beer Company".

NORFOLK PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

UNION ORGANISATION

UNION BENEFITS

24. CO-ORDINATION OF UNION SERVICES

This Conference congratulates the Union on the development of improved communications with members through the National/Regional magazine and other publicity. We also welcome the development of workplace networks, like the Professional Drivers branch and Asda to help highlight the needs of members in specific trades and industries in the Union.

However, members are aware that advertisements or services of the Union that are featured within the magazine may not be available in all regions of the GMB. This causes confusion and raises expectations with members that cannot be met at a Regional level. We therefore ask the CEC to review the range of services that are available and are advertised nationally to ensure that they are accessible to all members in the Regions equally. Whilst some services at present appear to exist within the Professional Drivers Branch, it may be that they should apply to members in other sections also.

The specific issues are:-

- Access to legal services outside of working hours
- Sick pay or illness insurance for drivers
- Vehicle CCTV discount scheme

We ask that these and other services are examined with recommendations made to the CEC as to how they can be better co-ordinated and made available as National Benefits or Services available to all members.

MANCHESTER CENTRAL D41 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

UNION ORGANISATION

EDUCATION & TRAINING

25. ADULT EDUCATION FOR GMB MEMBERS

This Conference congratulates the Union Learning Projects within the GMB, which have helped 12,000 GMB members in the last year. These projects have enabled members to gain Adult Education and Training from which they were previously excluded or had restricted access to. We urge the GMB to mount a campaign in partnership with other Unions to encourage the Government to continue to allocate resources through the Trade Union Movement for the expansion of Adult Education and Training.

We further ask the GMB to consider as part of the GMB@WORK agenda the role of Union Learning Representatives within the Union Rule Book and structure of the organisation in order to ensure that effective training, communication and support is given to this important role. We want to see wider Adult Education opportunities and Union Learning initiatives integrated within the GMB Educational structures at Regional and National level.

We ask the CEC to consider setting up a working party to look at these issues and to report back to Congress 2011 on how the wider educational needs of members can be better met and the structures of the Union revised to reflect the importance of education and training to GMB members and their families.

MANCHESTER CENTRAL D41 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

26. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND SKILLS

This Conference reaffirms that Union Learning Reps are vital to encourage members to think about training skills and improving their personal lives through education. Therefore funding is important to have well informed and organised ULR project workers or Organisers to support. The branch's need to be involved in this process. The back to basic approach should not mean financial burden is transferred for branch funding, but only in supporting branch member's needs via Branch Education Officers. In the end collective agreement is the way forward, but need skilful motivators for it to be a successful venture.

HARROW GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

27. GMB ULF PROJECTS REPORT 2008/9

This Conference requests the CEC provide detailed information on benefits of ULR's and Project Workers Funding. Total ULRs published as 12,160. We believe some regions have been more successful than others therefore break down of achievements i.e. ESOL – Skills for Life – IT – would be useful in moving to next phase. The regional figures should also indicate to show active and non active ULRs, reasons for drop-outs and to show authenticated validation reps at present. Once we have this information, the GMB can then decide future of learning, funding and project workers. We look to the CEC for direction.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

28. A GMB EDUCATIONAL TRUST

This Conference believes that the model of the London Region's John Cope Educational Trust should be extended throughout the Union to increase opportunities for all members to gain new skills and qualifications to better enable them to cope with the economic downturn which threatens jobs and damages self-esteem.

Congress instructs the CEC to research the viability of such a Union-wide scheme and to canvass regional opinion as to its establishment.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

UNION ORGANISATION EQUALITY & INCLUSION

29. EQUALITY

Congress calls on the CEC to review the process of how the membership of the NEF is recruited. It expects the review to include one member per Region, the Region to decide who it would wish to sit on the NEF and believe that the member should come from the regions REF.

Any person put forward from the region should be prepared to undertake training in all aspects of the remit of the NEF and in cases undertake special training in specific areas regarding the NEF remit.

That all existing members of the NEF continue until the outcome of the CEC report. The timing of that report should be consulted with all regions giving proper time scales so that regions can respond prior to a final report and would then go on to the 2011 Congress. The time scale would have to allow for regions to submit rule change motions and Regions response to the report at the 2011 Congress.

2 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

30. YOUNG MEMBERS

This conference is deeply concerned that despite the recent economic upturn it is still young workers who have been disproportionately affected by the economic crisis.

We further recognise that union membership amongst young people is low and declining and it is not coincidental, that those without trade union protection are amongst those who suffer most in recession.

The GMB has always sought to reach out to, listen to and provide a vote for young workers.

However during these difficult times more must be done.

This conference calls upon the CEC to instigate a comprehensive review of all of our services, work and campaigns to ensure that our appeal to young people is enhanced.

In particular the CEC should look towards new positive action in our representative structures and will ensure an enhanced role for young members.

The CEC should also examine the feasibility of introducing a reduced rate of contributions as a means of attracting young people into membership.

HARTLEPOOL 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

31. WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT

This conference recognises that the recession has had a disproportionately negative impact upon women workers.

As bankers and senior executives have continued to pay themselves outrageous salaries and bonuses, it is women workers, including pregnant and single parents in temporary and agency employment who have been forced to pay the costs of the recession.

Conference calls for specific legislation protection to ensure that employers are placed under a legal duty to ensure that "economic restructuring of enterprises" does not discriminate against women and other key vulnerable group of workers.

NEWCASTLE CITY LA BRANCH
Northern Region

32. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Police need to start taking domestic violence in the home more seriously. Figures show that in some areas, cases of domestic violence aren't dealt with well, and women are left feeling let down by the Police, who they go to for help and support.

The facts are that 2 women a week are killed as a result of domestic violence, and the Police receive a phone call regarding domestic violence every 23 minutes of every day. Also 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will suffer domestic violence at some time in their lives.

SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

33. BULLYING DISABLED WORKERS

Conference notes that studies have demonstrated that a third of disabled workers are currently being bullied at work, and that 22% say that the problem is continuing.

These figures amount to a huge number of staff suffering in silence at the hands of bullies, whilst employers turn a blind eye to the issue.

The GMB calls upon the government to revise the Dignity in the Workplace Bill to include an anti bullying policy to be enforced by employers.

HARTLEPOOL 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT

34. HEALTH & SAFETY REPS

This Conference recognises that the work the Health & Safety do a vital job, so employers should embrace a more partnership friendly culture by joint H&S inspections and solutions. Collective agreement is better than enforcement, so joint H&S notices or initiatives to be welcome, but Reps should be encouraged to meet H&S Executive to seek information and to be well informed as part of the learning culture and preventative measures. Enforcement should be strengthened for uncaring employers who use sweat shop condition and ignore safe working environment for their greed. The recent cold conditions have demonstrated better preventative warm clothing should be provided for outdoor workers in extreme arctic conditions. Therefore under garments and woolly hats should ensure be an essential requirement in some situations to avoid sickness absence.

HARROW GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

35. HEALTH AND SAFETY PROSECUTIONS

Congress calls upon the Government to enact legislation to ensure that directors of companies who have a case against them relating to serious breaches of Health and Safety legislation can escape prosecution by putting their company into insolvency.

BURNLEY AND PENDLE 22 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

36. ASBESTOS RELATED DISEASES

Congress has moved motions in the past urging this Government to treat people suffering from Asbestos related illnesses fairly.

When members are scarred on the outside by industrial substances, such as acid, they are awarded compensation. However, with asbestos related pleural plaques or pleural thickening this does not happen.

Congress urges this Government to reverse the House of Lords ruling and put in place a proper compensation package for pleural plaque sufferers as a matter of extreme urgency.

D127 BURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

37. ASBESTOS PLEURAL PLAQUE DISEASE

This Conference calls upon the Westminster government to follow the lead of the Scottish and Welsh Assemblies and introduce legislation that will reverse the situation brought about by a House of Lords decision to prevent sufferers of asbestos pleural plaque disease receiving the compensation they rightly deserve from the employers and their insurers whose negligence is responsible for their condition.

Z42 SOUTHAMPTON NO. 1 BRANCH
Southern Region

38. PLEURAL PLAQUES

This Congress calls on the government to treat all those diagnosed with pleural plaques the same, not one Law in England and Wales with no compensation and a different Law in Scotland where courts can compensate.

The government is only proposing to compensate those claims up to 2007 excluding anyone who is diagnosed after this date.

Z39 NORTH KENT ENGINEERING BRANCH
Southern Region

39. PLEURAL PLAQUES

This Conference is asking the Westminster Government to do what has been accomplished in Scotland – a complete overturn of the Law Lords 2007 decision on pleural plaques claims – a Bill is required to reinstate the ability for pleural plaques sufferers to claim.

HULL PAINT & ENGINEERING BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

40. ASBESTOS REGISTER

This Conference recognises the good work done by the GMB in all aspects of asbestos campaigning. Therefore this Congress calls upon the CEC to establish if regions have an existing asbestos register and if not, to instruct all regions of GMB to set up an asbestos register for members who have been potentially exposed to asbestos, in conjunction with their regional solicitors.

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

41. RISK ASSESSMENT FOR NEW AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS IN THE WORKPLACE

This Conference acknowledges that there are many risks in the workplace which may affect the health and safety of new and expectant mothers and that of their child. Working conditions generally considered acceptable may no longer be so during pregnancy.

A specific risk assessment must be done soon after the employee has informed her employer in writing that she is pregnant. You will be asked to help with this and it is important that any advice you have received from your doctor or midwife, that could impact on the assessment, is passed onto your employer.

Action One: Temporarily adjust your working conditions and/or hours of work; or if it is not reasonable to do so, or would not avoid the risk, then

Action Two: Offered you suitable alternative work (at the same rate of pay) if available; or if that was not feasible, your employer must have

Action Three: Suspended you from work on paid leave for as long as necessary to protect your health and safety and/or that of your child.

As a law is clear on employer's Care of Duty. The risk assessment should be a simple checklist then any completed matrix system to stop delay.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

42. TACKLING WORK RELATED STRESS

This Conference recognises that work related stress is on the increase; cuts in staffing levels or downsizing being the main factors, and employers demanding more and more from the employee in a shorter timescale, who are already carrying heavier workloads, working longer hours, resulting in having less control over their own lives than ever before.

We, as a Union, and Health & Safety Reps need to recognise the short term symptoms before they develop into a more serious long term ill health condition amongst our members and be able to challenge and raise the awareness with our employer/managers that they have a duty of care in identifying stress and to put control measures in the form of Risk Assessment, to reduce their workload or risk the employee to go off sick or, worst still, the employee to break down completely.

NOTTINGHAM NO.5 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

43. WORK RELATED STRESS

This Conference is concerned that the current economic recession created by greedy bankers and speculators, will in turn affect many working people including our members. The effects will be both short and long term involving for many, loss of job or terms and conditions and a reduction in relative wealth. For many this will in turn lead to work related stress.

In order to address and manage this, we need a campaign, ensuring employers take the problem seriously to eliminate where possible the causes, making the necessary adjustments before it is too late. Allowing workers to recover rather than become unemployed. Encouraging them to involve themselves in sporting and/or other activities as a means of stress management.

The GMB should consider the creation of a GMB Action Group on Work Related Stress to campaign for the creation and implementation of programmes to help sufferers manage and overcome work related stress.

HENDON BRANCH
London Region

44. WORK RELATED INDUSTRIAL INJURIES

This Conference instructs the Central Executive Council to engage with the relevant Government body with the aim of gaining recognition that arthritis can be induced by certain industrial processes, especially vibration. As evidence is growing on the relationship between work and arthritis, we feel now is the time for our members to gain recognition through the Industrial Advisory Council (IAC) for the painful and disabling disease.

GRANGEMOUTH 583 CFTA BRANCH
GMB Scotland

45. EXPOSURE TO LEAD AT WORK

This Conference was appalled to learn from a Hazards magazine report that British workers have one of the highest occupational exposure levels for lead at work. Congress instructs GMB to campaign for the HSE to firstly review, and subsequently lower the levels of lead exposure at work.

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

46. HEALTH & SAFETY

This Conference is concerned that there may be a lack of information regarding the presence of Legionella within certain processes in the workplace.

We therefore call upon the CEC to increase awareness of the potentially life threatening outcomes of this through H&S education.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

47. TEMPERATURE EXTREMES

This conference recognises that workers are protected by the General Provisions of the Health & Safety at Work Act, specific regulations to protect workers against extremes of temperature are grossly inadequate.

Conference calls for a high profile public campaign by the GMB to promote specific regulations to protect workers in extreme temperatures.

NORTH TYNE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

48. ASPARTAME ARTIFICIAL SWEETENER

This Conference is alarmed at the continued use of the artificial sweetener, Aspartame. There are now ninety-two illnesses which can be attributed to Aspartame and it is present in most carbonated soft drinks and in over 6000 other processed foods.

The effects of Aspartame poisoning are not fully manifested until it has been consumed over a lengthy period. There is increasing anxiety that we may begin to see in the near future, a prevalence of such degenerative illnesses as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's in twenty to thirty year olds who have consumed Aspartame over the period of their formative years.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to lobby for a comprehensive investigation of the long-term effects of this artificial sweetener in the hope that we may prevent numerous unnecessary illnesses amongst the younger generation in years to come and save the British taxpayer millions of pounds in health costs.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

49. BREASTLIGHTS

This Conference may or may not be aware that there is a new health and wellbeing product for women to identify any abnormalities in the breast tissue. This is a small handheld machine that shines a harmless red light through the breast tissue which can identify any early signs of change, particularly for women who are outside the routine testing ages. This product called Breastlights has been tested by over twelve hundred women and the response from the studies so far has been extremely favourable and women instinctively find Breastlight easy to use as part of their regular breast awareness routine. This is not a

substitute for regular mammogram screening, but it can spot early signs of change and we call upon the GMB to promote a campaign to make women aware of this product.

MID GLAMORGAN C&T BRANCH
South Western Region

50. SUN BEDS

This Conference notes that a Private Member's Bill is going through the parliamentary stages to ban under eighteens from using sun beds. Legislation has already been introduced in Scotland banning the sale or hire of a sun bed to under eighteens and for sun bed operators to be required to provide users with information about the health risks of sun bed use.

Conference calls upon the CEC to campaign in support of this legislation in the rest of the UK and to send out a clear signal about the health risks to the wider public.

PONTYPRIDD GENERAL BRANCH
South Western Region

51. CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

This Conference believes government should invest in green energy and assist business to set up manufacturing on UK soil. Furthermore, installation of wind turbines should be a priority and local authorities should not easily refuse planning permission for wind turbines and tidal power, water mills and solar power.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY PENSIONS & RETIREMENT

52. FINAL SALARY PENSIONS

This Conference is concerned that a CBI report argues that no new starters should receive a final salary pension by 2012 and that 27% of companies who have final salary pensions will scarp them by 2012.

We are determined to defend our members' pensions and pledge to fight any attacks from employers or Government on our pensions.

BARNESLEY GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

53. NATIONAL EARNINGS AND THE PENSION STATE

The Conference is called upon to bring pressure to bear by whatever means on the Government into reviewing the date (2012) for re-establishing the link between National Earnings and the Pension state.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE RMA BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

54. DEFEND STATE PENSIONS

This Conference notes that the Labour Government and other political parties are considering raising the pension age.

This Conference notes that whilst life expectancies have improved in recent years, life chances still vary around the UK with Scotland fairing worst of the regions. The shortest life expectancy in the UK is found in

Glasgow City, 70.7 years for men and 77.2 years for women. This gives relatively little time to enjoy the benefits of a state pension.

This Conference notes that the highest life expectancy in the UK is to be found in a rich borough of London - Kensington and Chelsea - 84.3 years for males and 88.9 years for females. These pensioners will have more time to draw their pension but perhaps are more privileged than their Glaswegian counterparts, so wouldn't rely on it.

(Figures from ONS 2006-08 as reported by the BBC).

This Conference believes that where a member has worked for up to 50 years, contributing to national insurance, direct taxation and indirect taxation that they should be able to spend their remaining years in dignity.

This Conference believes that an increase in the pension age would be a retrograde step. Our country produces more wealth each year – it is how that wealth is used that is the problem – not the welcome reality that people live longer.

This Conference believes that where an individual wishes to work beyond the current pension age of 65, there should be no impediment to do so. Any decision to work beyond this age must be voluntary and not compulsory.

This Conference resolves to campaign against the right-wing myths and propaganda that promote the idea that there is a pensions “time bomb” and campaign against any increase in the pension age.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

EMPLOYMENT POLICY RIGHTS AT WORK

55. TEMPORARY AND AGENCY WORKERS RIGHTS

This Conference notes the progress made on the transposition of the European Union Temporary and Agency Workers Directive into UK Law.

Congress supports the principles stated in the stated in the EU Directive on Temporary Agency workers (Recital 15) that employment contracts of an indefinite duration are the general form of employment relationship. To support this principle and prevent the exploitation of agency workers it is vital that temporary agency workers receive equal treatment at work.

Congress therefore calls for the speedy implementation of the regulations and the closing of all loopholes which could simply permit avoidance.

We are particularly concerned that agencies and their client employers will attempt to avoid the scope, spirit and intent of the regulations and the directive by fostering bogus self employment or enforcing workforce agreements to opt out.

Moreover, Congress believes that equal treatment should include equal access to facilities, benefits and rights as provided for directly employed workers and should be applied on a term for term basis.

Congress congratulates the role our European Office and the General Secretary in championing the rights of agency workers and calls for the campaign for full and equal treatment to be stepped up, not only in the run up to the General Election, but also beyond to ensure that workers are aware of their rights.

Congress also calls for a proper enforcement framework and an appropriate level of resourcing to back this up.

Finally, Congress pledges to campaign for a labour market in the UK which is fair, just and which provides long-term security of employment to working people.

FALKIRK LM ENGINEERING BRANCH
GMB Scotland

56. AGENCY WORKERS REGULATIONS

This Conference calls upon the Government to give early implementation of the Agency Workers Regulations to give agency workers real protection from exploitation and deliver genuine equal treatment on pay, holiday and hours. Agency workers are especially vulnerable during a recession and the regulations should include anti-avoidance measures to prevent unscrupulous agencies moving temps between jobs within the same workplaces, or rotating them on short-term assignments between different employers. Loopholes which permit the use of bogus self-employment should also be closed.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

57. AGENCY WORKERS

This Conference expresses its continued concern for the position of agency workers and the way in which their status can be used by employers to undermine the terms and conditions of permanent staff.

Conference condemns the UK's governments delay in implementing the Agency Workers Directive which will ensure that agency workers within 12 weeks service will acquire the same employment rights as permanent staff. We call upon the government to abide by the Directive without delay.

DURHAM GENERAL BRANCH
Northern Region

58. DELAYED AGENCY WORKERS DIRECTIVE

This Conference condemns any Government delaying large planks of its employment protection legislation (Agency Workers Directive).

NOTTINGHAM TEC BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

59. TRADE UNION RECOGNITION

This Conference agrees, through the TUC and wider Labour movement to ensure the process for securing Trade Union Recognition is made less bureaucratic, thus ensuring the process is accelerated and more equitable.

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

60. LEGISLATE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS

This Conference believes Collective Bargaining Agreements should be made legislative as a single legal binding document, whether they have been written into employment contracts or not. Congress further

recognises that Collective Bargaining Agreements are negotiated in good faith with all parties, which takes a lot of time and effort but if one party breaches the Agreement, provisions are difficult to enforce and no legal action can be taken.

Congress calls on the Government to review the status of Collective Bargaining Agreements and legislate; to remove powers to exploit Agreements and to simplify the process for future reforms in employment relations bringing the United Kingdom in line with other European Member States.

HOLBORN BRANCH
London Region

61. BOGUS EMPLOYMENT/CASUALISATION

This conference notes that there is clear evidence that many employers are using the current economic circumstances to attack workers pay and conditions. In particular through increased casualisation and bogus self employment.

Workers in casual and bogus self employment are denied basic employment rights, are subject to greater risk and are less likely to be organized.

Conference calls for immediate legislation to ensure that workers are not denied their rights through casualisation and bogus employment.

Conference calls for:

(1) An end to the Construction Industry Scheme (CIS) and all other tax schemes which encourage bogus employments.

(2) Legal action against employers who use bogus employment to deny workers rights.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

62. CLIENT – CONTRACTORS - DISMISSALS

This Conference calls on the Government to investigate and put right contracted employees who are dismissed by the client without any justification and any recourse to an Employment Tribunal.

HULL NO.1 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

63. THE OUTSOURCING OF LABOUR

This Conference condemns the long held Tory practice of outsourcing labour to so called contract employment, whereby definition and practice the employees find themselves discriminated against by what should be their own employers.

This draconian 18th century practice by the land barons inflicts clauses in employment contracts stipulated by the client upon the contractor to the effect that removal through the disciplinary procedure is effected by the agent of the land owner acting to impress the same.

This motion seeks the condemnation of this Congress and action by the GMB to prevent such practices accordingly.

SCUNTHORPE DISTRICT & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

64. STRIKE ACTION

This Conference notes:

1. That militant, organised official action delivered an important victory in Leeds local government when the Council eventually, after 11 hard weeks, was forced to concede the key demands on negotiations for the pay of refuse workers.
2. That unofficial action can result in beneficial outcomes to members where they have decided to pursue it.
3. That unions are still chained by the anti-trade union laws introduced by Thatcher and therefore must take all steps to oppose unofficial action.
4. Recent decisions of the Court of Appeal mean that the application of these laws causes effective official strike action is even more difficult.
5. Congress notes that no improvement to labour conditions was ever handed to the workers without struggle. From the Tolpuddle Martyrs to the MatchGirls, basic union rights were won by workers organising, taking action and demanding change.

This Conference believes:

6. That the GMB should continue to support with the fullest available resource all official strike action and encourage memberships where they are sufficiently well organised to see this as a potential route to resolving their workplace issues.
7. This Conference believes that the right to withhold labour by way of a strike is a fundamental requirement of a fair society.
8. This Conference believes that trade unions become ineffectual without the course of legal strike action being open to them.
9. This Conference believes that whilst each strike may not achieve all of its objectives, much can be gained through the course of a campaign e.g. the Grunwick dispute which gave confidence to Asian women workers to stand up for their rights to union recognition in our predecessor union Apex.”

This Conference resolves:

10. To congratulate the refuse workers of Leeds GMB and the rest of the Leeds Local Government branch on their victory.
11. To campaign against the anti-trade union laws and for a real right to strike in line with ILO standards.
12. To write to every Labour candidate for Parliament and ask them whether they agree with the repeal of the anti-trade union laws and to publish the results at the earliest opportunity.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

65. RIGHT TO STRIKE

This Conference notes with dismay the absence of a protected right to strike in UK law. Conference is mindful of the detriment that anti union laws cause to workers' organisation and struggle. Conference

observes the recent positive decisions of the ECHR regarding trade union rights, and encourages the union to pursue appropriate cases to the ECHR in order to establish the right to strike as a human right.

NOTTINGHAM NO.1 APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

66. RIGHT TO STRIKE – SECTION 127

Congress calls on the CEC to mount a campaign to abolish Section 127 which prohibits certain workers in the security Industry from taking industrial action.

Congress believes the right to take strike action is a fundamental human right of all workers, and the existence of 127 severely limits our bargaining power with the employer and causes disillusionment amongst our members.

Congress believes that a campaign to abolish Section 127 would enhance our recruitment appeal amongst members.

GSL1 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

67. INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

This Conference notes the abject failure of an out of date industrial strategy in our movement based on acquiescence and collaboration with employers while simultaneously operating a political strategy based on hiding behind New Labours coat tails.

The industrial strategy of our forefathers based on understanding and controlling the industries that genuine trade unionists worked in was the ultimate objective. The pre-entry closed shop and controlling employment through union controlled employment agencies should be the strategy of our union that will be a basic pre-requisite to this.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to adhere to and pursue this aim at every given opportunity.

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

68. UNFAIR DISMISSAL TIME PERIOD

This Conference believes the unfair dismissal time period to make claims/applications to Employment Tribunals should be made more fairer.

1) Therefore strict time limit of 3 months to make an application should be reviewed and changed to 4 months.

2) 12 months employment period requirement to make unfair dismissal claim be shortened to 6 months only.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH
London Region

69. EMPLOYMENT LAW

This Conference is concerned with the current situation where members are often found to be at fault in disciplinary cases on the employer's satisfaction with a balance of probabilities which in many cases merely confirms their initial assumption, and can often be accepted by Employment Tribunals.

Congress agrees that this can be unfair and that the bar needs to be set higher before member's can be fairly dismissed and that Employment Tribunals look for something more substantial before agreeing it was a fair hearing.

MILTON KEYNES CITY BRANCH
London Region

70. MANUFACTURING

This Conference instructs the CEC to lobby within Parliament for equality of terms and conditions concerning lay off/redundancy, that are more generous and protective towards workers in mainland Europe than the UK.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

71. REDUNDANCY RIGHTS

This conference recognises that workers in the UK are seen by employers as the easiest and cheapest employees to dismiss in an economic recession.

During the recession it has repeatedly been UK workers who have been placed on short time working or made redundant as work in UK plants has moved to other European plants or other parts of the world.

Conference calls the following legal response

- (1) That administrators be placed under a legal obligation to sure the business and jobs before the interests of shareholders and creditors.
- (2) That redundancy payments be increased to match the highest level elsewhere, to ensure that making the workers redundant is not simply seen as the cheapest option.
- (3) That the 2 year qualification period be abolished for Statutory Redundancy Pay.

HARTLEPOOL 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

72. REDUNDANCY

This Conference calls upon the GMB to campaign for improvements in the redundancy minimum statutory payments.

Employers are exploiting the minimum payment and employees after many years of dedicated service are walking away with amounts that are below their earnings and this adds to trauma and upset that redundancy causes to employees and their families.

MOTIL PLASTICS BRANCH
South Western Region

73. STATUTORY REDUNDANCY PAY

This Conference calls on the Government to review present redundancy payment, as they are inadequate in present economic downturn and increase them by 0.5 weeks for each full year of service. The SRP payment is an important source of financial support for people losing their employment as a final benefit.

Below: Present Calculations arrangement;

To calculate the number of weeks pay due, you should use the following amounts:-

0.5 week's pay for each full year of service where age during year is less than 22

1.0 week's pay for each full year of service where age during year is 22 or above, but less than 41.

1.5 weeks' pay for each full year of service where age during year is 41+

To calculate the number of week's redundancy pay, cross reference the person's age and years of service and then multiply that number by the week's salary (maximum weekly salary is £380).

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH

London Region

74. WRITTEN STATEMENT OF CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT PARTICULARS

This Conference notes, despite clear Employment Legislation that stipulates that employer has a duty to give employee a written statement of contract; within two months of you starting work, some employers are not providing one. This may be due to cost cutting or wilful disregard. This seems on the surface a small matter, but cause workers stress and in some instant terms and conditions are amended or changed later without employee consent. Although contract can be applied in legal terms, it causes undue problems if no written statements of particulars are given. Therefore a fixed penalty of £100 should be imposed on employer after two months if no written contract provided increase on sliding scale each month for a 12 month period.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH

London Region

75. PAID BEREAVEMENT LEAVE

This Conference is called upon by the A40 – Asda Distribution branch to ask the GMB to lobby the Government to make paid bereavement leave a statutory right for all workers.

We believe that the minimum entitlement should be in the event of the death of: partner, children, grandparents, brothers and sisters should be two weeks paid bereavement.

And in the event of the death of: mother in law, father in law, grandparents in law, uncles and aunts should be one week paid bereavement.

The branch feels this should be the minimum legal requirement and asks this conference to give this motion 100% backing.

ASDA DISTRIBUTION BRANCH

Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

76. YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT – A FAIR DAY'S PAY

Congress recognises that young people are some of the most vulnerable people in the European labour markets. Five million young people are currently unemployed: this is a rate of 18.3% compared to the overall unemployment rate of 8.2%. We have no way of knowing how many are unpaid but working.

Unpaid internships, temporary agency work and limited working contracts are the reality for young people today. These issues must be addressed at national and European levels.

The number of unpaid internships is increasing, meaning that an individual's financial situation can prevent them from working in an industry. Conference calls on the CEC to fight to create a legal distinction between real internships and cheap labour. The exploitation of interns must be forbidden through European-wide legislation.

B59 BRUSSELS BRANCH

Southern Region

77. FREELANCE WORKERS

This Conference asks the CEC to highlight the practice of non payment of holiday pay to freelancers who work on projects in production companies commissioned by broadcasters. This practice is exploitative and is widely practiced with disregard to employment legislation and should not be tolerated. Freelancers who work contracts must have their employment rights recognised. We call on broadcasters to take a lead and not allow the production companies the commission to continue with this practice.

LONDON CENTRAL GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

78. TAPED INTERVIEWS AND INVESTIGATIONS

This Conference calls for a change in the way our members are treated at interviews and investigations.

We call on conference to start a campaign for management investigations to be taped as a true record to all statements taken to stop any misunderstanding as to what has been taken and written down.

Reason listed below:

Altering of statements by management.

The abuse of members at the investigation and interview.

This way everything disputed at a hearing can be confirmed as a true record.

For far too long management have altered statements and truth of members' statements.

The only people scared of taping will be management.

It will also stop management saying that stewards cause problems at meetings and interviews.

Members of the union have taped incidents and no action has been taken, if no tape would have been on a charge.

It's time we started using the new way of getting to the truth, far too many members have lost employment with management meddling with investigations.

BRADFORD GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

79. PUBLIC BANK HOLIDAYS

This Conference instructs the CEC to lobby the Government to increase the eight existing public bank holidays to the European average of eleven days.

W11 WALSALL NO 4 GAS BRANCH
Birmingham and West Midlands Region

80. BANK HOLIDAYS

This Conference calls upon the TUC to protect and maintain designated bank holidays, i.e. Christmas Day, Boxing Day falling on Saturday and Sunday.

HULL RETAIL & DISTRIBUTION BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

81. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE TO THE MINIMUM WAGE

This Conference calls for a substantial increase to the national minimum wage and for significant improvements we need to stop the discrimination by age and ensure that apprenticeships come into the remit. We need to end the injustices and to prevent a fall in the living standards of low paid workers.

A15 ASDA BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

82. NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

This Conference calls on the Government to abolish the lower rate of minimum wage for under 21s.

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH
London Regio

EMPLOYMENT POLICY

MIGRANT WORKERS

83. MIGRANT LABOUR RECOGNITION

This Conference calls upon the Government to place more responsibility upon recruitment agencies and employers who recruit cheap labour from outside of the UK, with regards to Pay and Conditions and, in particular, when they become unemployed. This needs to be enshrined in law.

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

INDUSTRIAL & ECONOMIC POLICY

THE ECONOMY

84. ECONOMY TAX AND CUTS

This Conference notes:

1. That the Government intends to implement a 1 year super-tax on banker's bonuses of 50% (above £25,000).
2. This Conference notes the TUC's calculation that £25bn is lost in tax avoidance. That businesses and individuals avoid tax by the use of tax havens, shifting incomes around their books and creative accounting.
3. This Conference notes that according to the TUC anti-avoidance measures announced in the 2008 Budget, 2008 Pre-Budget Report (PBR) and 2009 Budget have as of December 2009 raised around £990 million in extra revenues.

This Conference believes:

4. That further revenues can be collected if the Government is serious about challenging this scourge on our fiscal system.
5. This Conference believes that tax avoiders should pay what they owe before any public service is cut or any job lost.

6. The Government response appears to have enabled the finance system to stabilize. However, this stabilization has largely been on the finance sectors terms and the causes of the economic crisis remain entrenched in our economy. The unbridled and unregulated pursuit of profit above all other criteria of need and value threatens a further economic crisis at some point in the future.
7. The stabilization policies have seen a huge flow of real public assets, or insurance, to banks and private capital. In the last 20 years where huge profits have been made by banks, private capital and their servants (i.e. stock brokers) the benefits of these profits has largely been enjoyed by a tiny private minority.
8. When the financial schemes collapsed the resulting debt and costs were in effect nationalized.
9. The main debate appears is not how the people, businesses or institutions that benefitted from the crazy, casino capitalism should be made to as far as possible meet the burden of stabilizing the economy or meeting the costs. Instead, the current debate, in part promoted by this Labour Government, is the extent to which public services will be cut. In essence, ordinary people will be made to pay for the conspicuous consumption of the top 1%.
10. Whilst the super-tax on banker's bonuses is too be welcomed, the reality is that the Labour Government's response has been far too soft on the finance sector.

This Conference resolves.

11. To call for significantly increased resources to be spent on detecting and minimizing tax evasion.
12. To call for tax loopholes and tax avoidance schemes to be closed now and the additional resources to be spent avoiding public spending cuts.
13. That this union should campaign for the above measures at a local, regional and national union level.
14. This Conference resolves to lobby all GMB MP's to raise this matter in Parliament as a matter of urgency by tabling Early Day Motions and writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.
15. This Conference resolves to use this issue in the publicity around disputes to argue for Tax Gap to be closed before any members' terms & conditions are worsened or job lost due to financial constraints.

Figures from TUC December 2009.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

85. CORPORATION TAX

This Conference believes that tax is a key weapon in the fight against poverty. Taxes paid by companies and individuals enable Governments to fund vital public services such as healthcare, education, clean water and electricity and to finance anti-poverty programmes throughout the world. So when multinational corporations fail to pay the tax they owe, it's the poor who pick up the bill.

Yet companies now see tax dodging as a legitimate part of their business operations and the cost to society is enormous.

Developing countries lose an estimated £250 billion every year as a direct result of corporate tax dodging – money which could be used to reach the UN’s Millennium Development Goals several times over.

Tax avoidance and capital flight cost Africa five times what it receives in aid each year.

And its not just developing countries that lose out. Britain also loses an estimated £100 billion a year through tax dodging. That’s enough to double funding for the NHS. Alternatively, the same sum could cover the full state pension, eradicate student fees and enable Britain to reach the UN aid target of 0.7% of gross national income overnight.

One popular way of dodging tax is to register companies in tax havens, locales that allow companies to get away with paying minimal tax, if any. Tax havens also place little or no reporting requirements on companies, allowing them to keep secret the true sums they should be paying in tax. This then denies vital revenue to the countries in which those companies have made their profits.

Another favourite method is trade mispricing, including through the mechanism of transfer pricing. Transfer pricing involves selling items between different parts of a multinational company and deliberately mispricing the sales so as to shift the company’s tax obligations to countries where it will pay less. IN this way companies have ‘charged’ themselves over £4,000 for a ballpoint pen and under £1 for an entire prefabricated building in order to dodge the tax they owe. Transfer pricing abuse costs developing countries around £100 billion a year – twice what they receive in aid.

The UK plays a major role in helping companies for these tax havens and support an army of pinstriped and accountants developed to helping companies dodge tax. But as these individuals rack up ever greater profits for their companies (and cash in their own Christmas bonuses) it is the poor who are left to pay the price.

We believe it’s time to put an end to this corporate tax scandal and justice, like charity, begins at home. The UK is a major part of the global problem of corporate tax dodging. We believe it should be part of the solution.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to take this matter up with all our political, trade union and social contacts to seed a fairer and more just tax system as soon as possible and make a report to the 2011 GMB Congress on progress.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

86. UK TAXATION REVIEW

This Conference agrees there needs to be a root and branch assessment of the UK Taxation system, including non doms tax haven exiles, corporate and multi-nationals operating in the UK to ensure the system is equitable and scrupulously applied.

LUTON BRANCH
London Region

87. PRO RATA PAY

This Conference notes that since the privatisation of public utilities in the 1980s Senior Manager’s pay has increased exponentially in relation to those who work at the sharp end. GMB will campaign, beginning in the public sector and those former state owned enterprises, to establish that no Senior Manager earns more than ten times the wages of the lowest paid workers.

CAMBRIDGE 2 BRANCH
London Region

88. BANKERS BONUSES

This conference considers it an outrage that as the current economic circumstances impacts negatively on the standard of living of every working family bankers, even in nationalised banks, are continuing to pay themselves obscene bonuses.

As members in other public services are well aware the “bonus culture” is a “thing of the past”. Workers in these services now receive remuneration based upon a fair job evaluation scheme.

Conference calls for the same principles to be applied to the Financial Services Sector.

Particularly in those banks now owned by the government, bankers are now effectively civil servants and in those banks not directly owned by the government, or where the government does not have a majority shareholding, it is only the massive injection of tax payers’ money that has saved these institutions.

Given all of the above this conference calls for all bankers and workers in the financial services sector to be remunerated on the basis of a single fair job evaluation scheme, and that the necessary legislations be enacted to introduce and implement such a remuneration scheme.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

89. GREEDY BANKERS

This conference calls on all public monies paid to banks and financial Institutions during the credit crunch to be repaid in full before any bonuses are paid to bank employees.

SHEFFIELD MCP & LIGHT BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

90. ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT BAILOUTS FOR ALL

This Conference recognises the need to bail out banks with public money during the recent collapse of the banking sector and calls upon the Government to extend the same facilities to any company with financial difficulties up to and including nationalisation.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

91. BANKING CRISIS

This Conference calls on the Government to publish clear plans and timetables for the repayment of all public monies used to support the banks and financial Institutions during the credit crisis. All monies repaid should be used to support retention and improvement to public services.

SHEFFIELD MCP & LIGHT BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

92. CIVIL LIST

This conference believes that the path to economic recovery remains through a programme of public work through increased commitment to public services.

However, if the government is concerned about the extent of the National debt and is determined to instigate a programme of “efficiency saving such saving should start with the programme which are least likely to impact upon the most vulnerable in our society and which will not damage the recent fragile recovery.

If the government must find cuts, let them start with a reduction in the “Civil List Budget”.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

93. ECONOMIC RECOVERY

This conference recognises that individual, corporate greed and mismanagement caused the UK’s current economic crisis. We further recognise that it is the poor who have disproportionately suffered the negative impacts of recession.

However, many in the financial sector continue to receive absence pay and bonuses, deny responsibility and unbelievably still extol the virtues of free market economics.

Given that the greedy bankers caused the recession and it’s the poor who have to pay the costs, the time has come for commonsense and economic justice.

The government must steer the economy to growth and stability by stimulating demand. That means greater incomes for the poor, more and better public services and increased public works programmes not less

SUNDERLAND 9 ENG BRANCH
Northern Region

94. PUBLIC SERVICES CUTS

This conference recognises that the Labour Governments action to increase government debt up to 2016, to stimulate demand, was the right response to ensure stability and restore growth.

However if stability and growth is to be maintained this conference rejects any notion that the solution to the economic crisis, and the resulting national debt, can be found in public spending cuts. That reduced public services, public sector pay freezes, attacks on public sector pensions and benefits are the quickest way to a “double dip recession” which would be substantially deeper, sustained and more difficult to reverse than that from which our economy has just emerged.

Conference therefore calls for public spending and services to be safeguarded and that rather than putting economic growth in jeopardy our increased national debt should be repaid over a sustained period and financed through economic growth.

NEWCASTLE CITY LA BRANCH
Northern Region

95. BRITISH INDUSTRIAL BANK

Congress believes that a British Industrial Bank (BIB) should be established to ensure investment and development in British industry.

Over the past three years British taxpayers have been responsible for multi-billion pound bailouts to many of our banking institutions, and the likes of Royal Bank of Scotland, Northern Rock and Lloyd's TSB have effectively been nationalised. However, despite the massive injections of liquidity that saved the banks from collapse, many banks have not passed these funds on to industry. These bail-outs were intended to ensure that lending to businesses did not dry up at a time of recession when such investment is desperately needed.

The public should have some control over the lending operations of these institutions, and our money should be used to support investment rather than provide undeserved bonuses for bankers. By turning a section of one of these effectively nationalised institutions into a publicly owned investment bank, a BIB could help support Britain's manufacturing industries following decades of underinvestment and neglect.

The BIB should not make its profits through speculation against sterling or by channelling British investment abroad. Instead, it should ensure that funds are available to projects which are commercially viable in the medium and long-term, but have been denied investment by private institutions. A BIB would help get Britain back to work at a time of recession and, as a publicly owned financial institution, would provide investment to firms that otherwise would be denied support.

B59 BRUSSELS BRANCH
Southern Region

96. SUPPORTING BRITISH INDUSTRY

The recent buy-outs by international companies of prestigious UK companies, for example, Cadbury and B.T. has once again weakened the UK industrial base and as shown in the past, put the jobs of many of these workforces in danger of being lost.

We call upon this Congress through the CEC to put pressure on the Government to identify and extend the list of companies of strategic importance to the UK, outside of the Defence Companies that are already covered, and put restrictions on the sale of companies to international companies. Other members' countries of the European Union have already extended their restrictions, for example, France's Danone, when this company was being eyed by Pepsi co.

The UK is running out of time to keep any kind of industrial base if the current 'come and buy' policy is not stopped.

X07 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

97. CAMPAIGN FOR SOCIAL OWNERSHIP

This conference notes the success of the interventions in the economy by the Labour Government to cope with the effects of recession and the banking crisis. The banking crisis and world wide recession that followed it has damaged the assumptions that the free-market is more efficient.

Conference believes that public ownership of strategic parts of the economy can promote economic stability and allows the priorities of the economy to be controlled more democratically. We believe that public services should be provided dependent upon social need and not profitability.

Conference notes that there is still a considerable legacy of prejudice and misinformation about public ownership that has been passed down from the Thatcher era.

Conference believes that it is necessary to actively promote the benefits of public ownership, in order to restore confidence in the public sector, and to promote extending the active role of government in directing the economy through nationalisation.

Congress resolves that the GMB should explore the possibility of a joint campaign in collaboration with other like minded Trade Unions to actively promote the principle of Public Ownership.

W15 WILTSHIRE & SWINDON BRANCH
Southern Region

98. RETURN TO MUTUALITY

This Conference agrees that Government should use the tangible assets salvaged from the great banking fiasco to re-establish mutuality to where it was prior to Thatcher's Big Bang with the old fashioned Building Societies among the first victims.

Government could retain a golden share and also assist them in becoming an ideal means of assisting first time buyers.

LUTON BRANCH
London Region

99. INTEREST RATES PRIVATE FINANCE

This Conference is concerned over the uncontrolled interest rates charged by some finance companies. These companies are targeting the low paid and disadvantaged members of our society a large majority who are unable to take advantage of more reasonable loans.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to vigorously campaign with its entire political links and to link with other like minded organisations to bring into being a law to outlaw all unreasonable rates of interest by all financial institutions and to place serious consequences both financial and legal on directors of such companies who abuse their lending rights.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

100. LOAN SHARKS

This Conference is appalled at the conduct of these unscrupulous purveyors of misery on ordinary people who are, through circumstances, desperate for financial support and are easy prey for money lenders who charge exorbitant rates of interest.

Conference, therefore, calls upon government to outlaw this practice and introduce legislation that will place a cap on interest rate charges for regulated money lenders.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

POLITICAL LABOUR PARTY

101. LABOUR PARTY

This Conference reaffirms its support to the Labour Party.

We recognise that only the Labour Party will be able to deliver our purpose to 'work to improve the quality of life and provide new opportunities for all our members and their families and our aim to improve the lives of GMB members and make sure that their achievements lead the way for working people in Britain and across the world'.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
GMB Scotland

102. WELFARE PROVISIONS

This Conference notes that despite the improvements introduced by the Labour Government in reducing unemployment, and in particular long term unemployment, the minimum wage, Family and Pension Tax

credits, investment in nursery education, Sure Start and the like, the divide between the 'haves and the have nots' has never been greater.

With the current economic climate unlikely to improve for some years, it will be the measure of this new government to sustain the current support systems, far less improve them. Labour's long term ambition is to eradicate Child Poverty by 2020. This congress calls for the continuing of all policies and sustained improvements for welfare provisions, to enable the most vulnerable and excluded groups in our communities to integrate and step onto the social mobility ladder.

SCOTTISH PRIMARY CARE NURSING .BRANCH
GMB Scotland

103. THE GENERAL ELECTION AND THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER

Congress recognises that a defeat for Labour at the forthcoming General Election would mean unprecedented hardship for the majority of people of this country.

It recognises that defeat can only be averted by winning back Labour's traditional supporters who are currently disaffected with the New Labour Government's record of privatisation, war and failure to invest in protecting manufacturing industries. They are also disaffected by the greed and arrogance of many current MPs and are declining to vote or turning to minority parties.

Congress, therefore, resolves that the Union will campaign for support for the demands of the People's Charter adopted at TUC Congress earlier this year, and will lobby all prospective Labour Parliamentary candidates to support its demands:-

- A fair economy for a fairer Britain
- More and better jobs
- Decent homes for all
- Save and improve our services
- For fairness and justice
- A better future starts now

It is only by changes in policy to support the majority of the population of the country that Labour has any chance of winning the next General Election.

ROCHDALE 148 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

104. RETURN TO THE LABOUR MOVEMENT

This Conference agrees that the GMB should launch a campaign along with other trade unions to recreate the levels of co-operation and respect that previously existed between the Trade Unions and the Labour Party at both local and national level often under the heading of the Labour Movement.

This seems to have been lost in recent years to the detriment of us all.

ISLINGTON 1 & HARINGEY BRANCH
London Region

105. LABOUR PARTY

This Conference calls upon the Trade Unions to convene a two-day Conference to debate the failure of the Trade Union Movement to persuade this Labour Government to return to true Labour values.

The Trade Union Movement in Britain needs to recognise that it has lost its political wing to those politicians, in the Labour Party and this Labour Government, who have a different agenda than that of the Labour Movement.

All Trade Unions should organise and bring into being, a Peoples' Labour Party that will end the privatisation of the utilities, the NHS, Social Care Services and Local Authorities services, also to repeal anti trade union legislation etc.

The Trade Union Movement must work towards having MPs in Westminster and MEPs in Brussels who will represent the working people of Britain, placing those people before the current vested interests that govern the UK and Europe.

MILTON KEYNES CITY BRANCH
London Region

106. FUTURE OF THE LABOUR AND TRADE UNION MOVEMENT

This Conference notes that:

- The GMB has, over the years, passed a large number of excellent policy resolutions, and as such, our union's policies are fundamentally correct and in the interests of our members and the working class;
- Many sister unions also hold policy positions which coincide with ours on the energy industries, council housing, taxation, employment rights, trade union freedoms, etc.
- As a major affiliate of the Labour Party, the GMB has representatives on the Labour Party National Executive, National Policy Forum, Annual Conference, and other bodies.

Congress further notes that:

- Despite this, the Labour Government of the past thirteen years has implemented few of these policies; indeed it has opposed many of them, despite receiving the vast majority of Labour Party funding from the aforementioned unions;
- As a result, the Labour Party has suffered a massive fall in popularity since 1997, has alienated much of its core vote, leading to a crisis in working class political representation and the return of a rejuvenated Conservative Party looking to make union members pay for the crisis of capitalism caused by their friends in the City.
- However, attempts to try and implement socialist or trade union orientated policies through alternative left-wing political parties has met with mixed, and ultimately limited, success over the past two decades.

Therefore, Congress resolves that the GMB should convene a Special Conference and invite other trade unions, in order to address the democratic deficit which exists between the trade unions and the Labour Party, and to discuss how the situation may best be remedied collectively.

This Conference should be organised with a few pre-conditions as possible, in order to encourage as wide a participation as possible, but with its starting point that a continuation of the status quo is neither possible nor desirable. Our members deserve better.

GMB SOLO BRANCH
London Region

107. MAXIMISING SUPPORT FOR GMB POLICIES

This Conference resolves to take every opportunity to seek the support of the Labour movement on key issues, for example, manufacturing, pensions and the economy as a whole.

Congress is concerned that our Union should seek the widest possible support for our policies at the TUC and Labour Party Conferences.

The Labour Conference is presented with wide ranging documents from the NPF on a take-it-or-leave-it basis. This means that popular individual policies may be excluded (and unpopular ones are included), this may be against the wishes of party members (and the voting population).

Congress therefore believes that in the year when the Labour Conference is considering the final stage documents from the NPF, each of Labour's affiliates and CLPs should be able to submit an amendment to the final stage document material. Such amendments would then be subject to compositing for debate and voting at conference in accordance with recommendations from the CAC.

Congress believes this simple reform would enhance the precision of Labour Party policy making, and would help to ensure that our Union policies would have the chance to win wider support in the interests of our members.

182 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

108. FREEDOM TO EXPRESS OUR UNION'S PRIORITIES

This Conference calls upon the CEC to value its rights to seek the support of the labour movement as a whole on matters of vital concern to our members, such as the Economy, Manufacturing, Public Services, Remploy and Pensions.

The CEC reaffirms, in particular, its belief that, when we put forward our priority concerns at the Labour Party Conference, they should not simply be aired and then referred to the National Policy Forum without the Labour Conference being allowed to demonstrate whether or not it supports us.

The CEC continues to believe that the Party Conference should have the right not just to hear motions, but also, to express its support by voting on them in a normal democratic manner.

The CEC, therefore, welcomes Labour's commitment to take a vote at the start of its 2010 Conference to decide whether the Conference should have the right to vote on motions of contemporary concern, to be implemented immediately at the 2010 Conference itself.

Our own 2009 Congress, however, took the view that such motions should not, as formerly, be restricted to those on topics involving a specific "contemporary" incident occurring in the few weeks immediately prior to the Conference.

The CEC, therefore, calls on our representatives to campaign in favour of those constitutional amendments, already submitted by a number of constituency parties to the Labour Conference agenda, which would allow our Union and others to choose freely what motions we may wish to submit without having to worry that they may be ruled out-of-order on the grounds that they do not meet the very restrictive previous criteria for being deemed "contemporary."

The CEC calls on our representatives to campaign for such amendments to be given priority in order to ensure that our members are not denied their legitimate right to be heard on any matter which our Union may choose to put forward.

SUNDERLAND 1 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

109. MAXIMISING SUPPORT FOR GMB POLICIES

This Conference calls upon the CEC to take every opportunity to seek the support of the labour movement on key issues, for example Manufacturing Industry, Pensions and the Economy as a whole.

The CEC is concerned, in particular, that our union should be able to seek the widest possible support for our policies not just at the Trades Union Congress but, also, at the Labour Party Conference.

The Labour Conference is, at the moment, regularly presented with very lengthy and wide-ranging documents from the National Policy Forum and asked to vote for or against such documents in their entirety on a crude take-it-or-leave-it basis. This process means that popular individual policies may be excluded (and unpopular ones included), though this may not be what most members (and voters) may wish.

The CEC, therefore, believes that, in the year when the Labour Conference is considering the final stage documents from the National Policy Forum, each of Labour's affiliates and constituency parties should be able to submit an amendment to the material set out in the final-stage documents. Such amendments would then be subject to compositing for debate and voting at the Conference in accordance with recommendations from the Conference Arrangements Committee.

The CEC believes that this simple reform would significantly enhance the precision of Labour Party policy-making and would help to ensure that the policies of our Union have the chance to win wider support in the interests of our members.

SUNDERLAND 1 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

110. LABOUR PARTY'S COMMITMENT TO THE WATER INDUSTRY AND ITS LOYAL WORKERS

This Conference notes that during a Labour Party Conference the London region GMB proposed a motion that, 'the water industry and its workers should be returned back to the public sector where it rightfully belongs'

This motion was accepted unanimously by the delegates at the conference. This motion is **still outstanding** today after two more successful Labour Party elections to Government. How can our supporters be expected to follow a pathway of false promises?

A proposal from this branch, 'N65 Water and Reclamation' approximately some five years ago was taken to conference by the Birmingham and West Midlands Region. This proposal was that the above motion was still outstanding. The member of the conference acknowledged the proposal and those members who at the time were elected to attend the Labour Party conference took the proposal forward with them. **Yet, another reminder for their outstanding commitment.**

We are now entering into a third Election phase and this matter has still not been resolved with the Water Industry becoming in a state of disrepair with many redundancies being threatened. This is happening due to the control of the Industry by numerous companies that do not have the background knowledge or understanding of the supply and treatment of water to take the Industry back to the position and service it was giving prior to **privatisation** and into the twenty-first century.

Therefore N65 Water Reclamation propose that this matter be taken to the next Labour Party Conference where we assume the answers can be found to the reasons behind the delay of this crucial transformation from the private sector to its rightful public sector ownership. We **are not prepared** to accept feeble excuses any more. Words are an insufficient comfort to our members who are facing redundancy and wage reductions. For these members and their families as well as the GMB as a whole, actions are the only form of acceptance.

If the Labour Party **fail** to respond with positive action regarding this outstanding **motion** we recommend that the GMB as proud supporters of the Labour Party be recompensed or that the substantial amount of funding that the party receives should be withdrawn.

Never before has a branch felt so strongly and had so much support from its members that at this time.

THE TIME FOR CHANGE HAS COME!!!

N65 NORTHAMPTON WATER AND RECLAMATION BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

111. INEQUALITY

This conference reaffirms its commitment to the principles of reducing inequality in particular the gap between the rich and the poor.

Despite 13 years of Labour Government, during which the general level of income and prosperity has risen considerable, the gap between the richest and the poorest 10% of the population is wider today than in 1997.

The notion that wealth generated at the top, will “trickle” down to benefit the poor, has been conclusively proven to be untrue.

We are today less equal than at any time in British modern history.

Conference calls upon the CEC to ensure that the GMB’s future support for the Labour party is based upon a firm and unanimous commitment to pursue policies based upon reducing instead of increasing inequality.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

112. EQUAL PAY

Congress calls on the CEC to lobby the Government, Labour or Conservative to fully fund the equal pay bill so that our women members can get what they deserve and should have been paid years ago, and not have to fight for what is their right.

2 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

113. REMPLOY

This Conference we call upon to raise a vote of no confidence in the Remploy board and call on the Ministers of disabled people to sack the Remploy board. We need a board that will promote disabled people, a board that will promote Remploy, that will promote public procurement and that have the capabilities in the business world to support disabled people and find them work to do when they come to work and they are treated like a human being and not a overhead cost to the business.

We really need to tell this Government how we really feel on how Remploy have been treated by a Labour Government. Some of us have been that disillusioned and disgusted that we have ended up leaving the Labour Party.

We need the current board sacking and a correct board put in place, one that will work with the trade unions.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

114. REMPLOY WORKERS (MORE SUPPORT)

This Conference calls on the CEC to lobby the Government to provide more sheltered employment in the form of Remploy factories for workers with disabilities. It also calls for more support for those disabled workers who are unable to find employment until jobs can be provided in Remploy factories.

ALFRETON NO.1 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

115. RADAR

This Conference opposes and condemns the recently announced survey into sheltered employment to be conducted by RADAR as unnecessary. Congress is aware that the so called disabled charity RADAR is one of six charities who in 2008 not only supported the Remploy management in their despicable decision to close twenty eight factories but who oppose all and any supported employment for severely disabled people. Their attitude was made clear in a full page article in a national newspaper the day before Remploy announced their closure plans – coincidence, I don't think!

This organisation given it's publicly stated views on supported employment is incapable of delivering an unbiased report, this report will only confirm it's prejudiced views in regard to supported employment and as such this survey is already discredited and unacceptable.

We therefore ask Congress to support this motion.

SPRINGBURN REMPLOY 176 CFTA BRANCH
GMB Scotland

116. ENGINEERING MINISTER

This Conference calls on the Government to reverse its decision not to create a Chief Engineering Advisor, or a Minister for Engineering, or any new Government to create one, which has been strongly advocated by the House of Commons Select Science and Technology Committee.

NOTTINGHAM TEC BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

117. PARLIAMENTARY AND DEMOCRACY

This conference recognises that good government depends upon trust between the elected and the electorate, upon a democracy that ensures that those in parliament are truly representative and accountable to the electorate.

The recent MPs' expenses scandal has clearly demonstrated that our system of democracy does not work, that the essential bond of trust between represented and representatives has been shattered.

In response our parliamentary system must be regenerated and trust re established.

This conference believes that essential to this renewal must be the creation of a system of democracy which sweeps away government by a remote and out of touch "political elite" and its replacement with a system which ensures government for the people by the people.

The British Labour Party was established to ensure just such a system of democracy. To serve representation in parliament of working people by working people.

This conference calls upon the GMB to work with other trade unions and others to re-establish this principle.

To ensure the selection of Labour Party Parliamentary Candidates from the same backgrounds and experiences as our members.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

118. SPONSORED MP'S

This Conference calls upon the GMB nationally and regionally only to support MP's who support us. We should only sponsor MP's that support and promote GMB policy and its members and for the GMB not to pay any money to any MP unless they can justify why they need it.

We ask that, nationally or at the Regional Committee, we consider each sponsored MP's request for funding and decide according to their support of GMB and our activities.

Any MP it is found is not supportive or promoting our policy should have funding withdraw.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

119. WORKING CLASS LABOUR PARTY CANDIDATES

This Conference agrees there is a pressing need to increase the number of working class parliamentary candidates both men and women in the Labour Party including some in winnable seats in order that the needs, aspirations and views of the vast majority of the electorate are heard.

Congress further agrees that the GMB vigorously pursues this policy.

HOME COUNTIES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

120. TRAINING FOR PROSPECTIVE LABOUR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

This Conference agrees that the Trade Unions, through the TUC, recruit and provide training for prospective Labour Members of Parliament, ensuring ordinary people and their needs and the needs of the country are better represented in the Parliamentary Labour Party, Parliament, and Europe.

GOOLE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

121. MENTORING FOR PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

This Conference recognises the impact that GMB members have had as elected politicians at local, regional and national levels.

Conference also recognises that the aims and objectives of the GMB and those of the wider Trade Union movement can be best be served by the election of our members as local, regional and national representatives on behalf of the Labour Party.

In order to encourage our activists to consider standing for election in the future, this Conference calls on the Union, both on a regional and a national basis, to create a mentoring scheme that will provide training and support to those of our members who wish to stand for election on behalf of the Labour Party.

CARDIFF & DISTRICT APEX BRANCH
South Western Region

122. THE STORY OF WORK

This Conference notes that during the current election campaign it is surprising how quickly many working people have forgotten the lessons of the recent past. In many cases the Tories are singing from the same

hymn sheet they used in the last 70s, 80s and early 90s reducing investment, reducing taxes for the wealthy, attacking the Terms and Conditions including pensions of ordinary working people which led to unemployment levels of 4½ million during the Thatcher/Major years together with the decimation of many communities and the famous statement “There is no such thing as society” We still find some working people saying “It is worth giving them a chance”.

In order to counter this we would encourage members who stood shoulder to shoulder and struggled against this in the past to write the stories of struggles and their victories so that they could be brought together as a form of working class history along the lines of an easy to read “Story of Work” ensuring that the experiences of the recent past can be passed on to tomorrow’s members.

HENDON BRANCH
London Region

POLITICAL DEMOCRACY & CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

123. MPs’ REMUNERATION

Conference recognises that public confidence in our democratic institutions have been terminally damaged by the MPs’ expenses scandal.

Further conference is not convinced by the argument put forward by some Parliamentarians that the only reason why MPs’ allowances were so generous and unregulated was because the salary of MPs was not adequate.

Conference believes that members of Parliament should be adequately rewarded for their work and that there should not be a return to the bad old days when only the rich could afford to serve in Parliament.

To ensure fair reward for MPs this conference believes that a system of remuneration should be introduced that ensures that no individual is discouraged from holding public office and which attracts those with experience and competence.

To this end conference calls for a remuneration system similar to that union applies to GMB Shop Stewards released by their employer to represent members.

Therefore MP’s should be paid on the basis of the job/career that they have temporarily given up in order to represent their loss.

By this means no individual will be discouraged from public office and the tax payer will get exactly what we are paying for.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

124. SECTION 141 OF THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT

Under Section 141 of the Mental Health Act, an MP automatically loses his/her seat in Parliament if detained under the Mental Health Act for a period of 6 months or more.

If one compares this with an MP who is suffering from a physical illness, there are no provisions to remove them from their seat, even if the illness is very debilitating, and substantially affects the person's ability to perform their duties as an MP.

A person can lack mental capacity and be detained under the Mental Capacity Act, but to not lose his/her seat as a result.

The type of illness, and whether the MP has been detained under the Mental Health Act, should not be the main concern, as it should focus on the effect the particular health problem has on the person's ability to perform their duties as an MP.

SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

125. ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OUR MEMBERS' INTERESTS

This Conference calls upon the CEC to put pressure in some sections of the media for some kind of unspecified "change" in the voting system for House of Commons elections. Those calling for change, however, remain unable or unwilling to agree or clarify which alternative system they favour. The truth is that all the main alternatives to first-past-the-post, the system consistently supported by the GMB, have serious democratic defects.

Proportional Representation, for example, would almost certainly lead to continuous government by coalitions, greatly enhancing the chances that the balance of power in Britain would be controlled by minority and/or racist parties. The use of Proportional Representation in the elections for the European Parliament shows clearly how this system enables parties of the far right to gain a platform from which to propagate their hate-filled and divisive message.

The alternative vote system, on the other hand, would not necessarily increase proportionality at all. It would, however, regularly and unfairly allow the positive first preferences of many voters to be overturned by the second and lower preferences of other votes, whether liberal or racist.

What such alternative systems have in common is that they would increase the prospects of coalition governments, for which nobody had actually voted, formed on the basis of unpredictable post-election haggling without reference to the electorate.

The prospect of winning a proper majority government, committed to the needs of our members, would be seriously reduced, if not abolished, by the introduction of such systems.

Conference, therefore, resolves that the GMB should not be diverted from our real campaigning priorities by irrelevant and unhelpful calls for electoral reform for the House of Commons.

Conference reaffirms previous GMB policy of first-past-the-post for House of Commons elections.

SUNDERLAND 1 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

126. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

Congress is mindful of the need to restore confidence in Parliament and to engage the populous in the election process. To achieve this it is necessary to encourage voters to participate wherever possible, by making their votes count, without compromising the process.

However, there is a big problem and discouragement under the present system. Unless you are in a marginal constituency, you will have little chance of changing the incumbent party and their chosen MP to

represent you. There may be many more of you who do not agree with them and their policies but prefer what candidates of other different parties have on offer, thus want a change.

Gordon Brown is proposing to change the voting system, after the next election, to allow for an alternative vote. He is doing this to make the system more democratic and accountable to the electorate, something to be applauded. This should encourage voters to vote, as they would feel their votes count and improve the turn out at elections.

Congress therefore welcomes this proposal.

H25 HEATHERWOOD & WINDSOR PARK
Southern Region

127. THE ENGLISH PARLIAMENT

This Conference calls upon the CEC to approach Government with a view to the creation of an English parliament, which is equal in every respect to the Welsh Assembly, the Scottish Parliament and Stormont.

The delivery of equality of opportunity in financial distribution of tax payers' money and all areas coming from central Government would be beneficial to all.

SCUNTHORPE DISTRICT & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

128. ABOLITION OF THE MONARCHY

This Conference calls on the GMB to campaign for the abolition of the Monarchy

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH
London Region

129. AFFILIATE TO THE ORGANISATION REPUBLIC

This Conference agrees to affiliate to and support the organisation republic which spearheads the campaign for an elected head of state.

GMB SOLO BRANCH
London Region

130. ILLEGAL WAR

Congress is concerned that the nation has been led into war on spurious information.

Congress calls upon the Government to enact legislation to secure impeachment of any Government Minister who knowingly uses information from a dubious source and justifies that information to take us to war.

BLACKBURN 16 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

131. INNER LONDON STATUS TO NEWHAM

This Conference asks that the CEC campaign for the government to grant Inner London Status to Newham to bring equality with its neighbouring boroughs such as Hackney and Tower Hamlets.

PLAISTOW BRANCH
London Region

132. FINANCIAL EQUALITY FOR NEWHAM

This Conference requests that the CEC make it a policy to campaign on financial equality for Newham when compared with Inner London boroughs.

PLAISTOW BRANCH
London Region

POLITICAL RACISM & FASCISM

133. FIGHTING FASCISM

This Conference notes:

1. The rise in the electoral credence of the fascist British National Party, with two MEP's being elected last year. They now plan to elect two MP's at the General Election in the constituencies of Barking & Dagenham and Stoke-on-Trent.
2. This Conference notes the increased confidence of racist organisations such as English Defence League, who are likely spurred on by the BNP electoral success.
3. This Conference notes the fascists' opposition to equality, trade union rights and democracy.
4. This Conference believes that racism and fascism should be challenged at every turn and this involves trades unions such as our own giving as much support as is possible.
5. This Conference believes that in times of economic severity, many feel let down by mainstream politics but should be encouraged away from support of the far-right.
6. This Conference believes that there is no place for the BNP/EDL in our unions, workplaces, schools, communities, let alone our democratically elected chambers.
7. This Conference resolves to continue making the argument that the far-right does not hold the answers to economic or social problems.
8. This Conference resolves to continue to keep the GMB central to anti-fascist campaigns across the country, providing the necessary resource and support.
9. This Conference resolves to encourage all members to get actively involved in their local Hope not Hate, Unite against Fascism or other group which campaigns against the BNP.
10. This Conference resolves to run a myth busting campaign which exposes the truth about the far-right and debunks racism which blames multicultural Britain for problems which stem from the economy.

LEEDS GENERAL BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

134. THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY

This conference recognises that the British National Party is a racist and homophobic organization, based upon principles of inequality and prejudice.

We further recognise that membership of the BNP is incompatible with the principles and ethos of public services which is based upon delivering on the basis of needs and fairness.

Conference therefore instructs the CEC to support any campaign or action which will promote legislation to ensure that all public sector employment is regulated to ensure that BNP members are banned.

NEWCASTLE CITY LA BRANCH
Northern Region

135. MEMBERSHIP OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL PARTY

This Conference agrees that membership of the British National Party is incompatible with membership of GMB and calls on the CEC to prepare a suitable alteration to the Rule book to incorporate this and bring

forward proposals to the next Rule Amendment Congress to enable the expulsion from the union of anyone who is found to be a member of the BNP.

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH
London Region

136. AFFILIATION TO UNITE AGAINST FACISM

This Conference notes:

1. The election of two members of the fascist British National Party to the European Parliament marks a turning point in British politics. This is the biggest electoral breakthrough for a fascist party in the UK. Their election threatens to normalise the presence of the BNP in politics.
2. That the BNP is dedicated to an all-white Britain, the destruction of trade unions and the elimination of basic democratic rights. They mobilise on the basis of racism, seeking to divide society. Its politics of hate and division threaten the freedoms and safety of those they would see annihilated – Jews, black people, trade unionists, Muslims and all ethnic minorities, LGBT people, disabled people and anybody who stands for a democratic society.
3. The fascists will use their electoral foothold to push their bigotry in the media and whip up race hatred on our streets.

This union believes:

1. That racism divides workers and has no place within the trade union movement.
2. At a time of deepening recession the BNP's policy of hatred and division offers no solution.
3. Trade union organisations that have expelled fascists from membership are to be congratulated.
4. That, as a matter of urgency, we must unite together to build the broadest possible opposition to the BNP.

This union resolves:

1. To affiliate to Unite against Fascism
2. To call on the union nationally to campaign for the removal of BNP members in public services.
3. To circulate Unite against Fascism leaflets and other materials and to co-operate with other trades unions and organisations in providing resources and support.

G36 SECURITY
Southern Region

137. FAR RIGHT GROUPS

This Conference notes with deep concern the emergence of the so called English Defence League. Conference welcomes the opposition to EDL rallies in towns and cities across the UK. Conference recognises the necessity to resist the growth of the far right from within the communities that they seek to divide.

This Conference calls on Branches to support such local anti fascist activities in whatever way possible, including, but not limited to, financial support.

NOTTINGHAM NO.1 APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

138. ENGLISH (WELSH/SCOTTISH) DEFENCE LEAGUE

This Conference notes with concern the activities of the English Defence League (EDL), which is trying to spread fear, violence and hatred amongst Muslims and Asian people in general; further notes that, in the

light of previous EDL demonstrations, any proposed demonstration is likely to threaten race relations and community cohesion especially in regions that have in the past been blighted by riots caused by racist interventions; and calls on this Congress to come together with other anti-racist organisations in opposition to this new racist social movement.

Further, any GMB member found to be a member of this racist organisation should be expelled from our union as membership is not compatible with the principles of the Trade Union Movement.

HOLBORN BRANCH
London Region

139. RACISM WITHIN RELIGIOUS CHOICES

This Conference could bring to light that racism is not new to people who live in Scotland and Ireland!! Most persons who practice a catholic religion have been restricted to being accepted in certain employments throughout Scotland for over a Century, but it's seldom discussed in political terms or trade union platforms, the UK seem only to make a issue of the white v muslim communities, when other types of discrimination are being swept under the proverbial carpet. We therefore ask congress to support this issue.

FAIRFIELD BRANCH
GMB Scotland

SOCIAL POLICY JUSTICE

140. SAFEGUARDING LIST & MANDATORY TRAINING

This Conference is concerned over the current working of the Safeguarding list and asks the CEC to campaign for the following:-

- i) A review of the current situation
- ii) The production of clear and explicit guidance as to what/who is covered
- iii) The training be mandatory for all staff working with vulnerable children and adults in safeguarding issues.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

141. ERROSION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES

This Conference is alarmed at the steady erosion of civil liberties which has taken place over the last decade and believes that the time has come for the trade union movement to take a stand in resisting the creep of Executive Power.

Congress is specifically concerned by the measure buried in the Coroners and Justice Bill (November 2009) which gives the Lord Chancellor absolute discretion to order a secret inquiry in place of a public inquest. Inquests which might expose the negligence of Government or a public body, or embarrass Ministers or foreign allies, could be censored. This is an abuse of power which **must** be resisted.

Congress is also alarmed by the practice of the police adding peoples' genetic profiles to their DNA database when they are arrested. The fact that those subsequently found innocent will not have their personal profiles removed from the database until **six years** after their arrest is a blatant assault in their civil rights.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC and General Secretary to campaign against these abuses and call for the repeal of these measures. There should be no compromise; we must regain full public scrutiny of **all** inquest proceedings, and an arrested citizen's DNA profile must be destroyed as soon as his/her innocence is established.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

142. JUSTICE FOR WORKING PEOPLE

This Conference calls on the UK Government to make no further changes to the provision of Legal Aid for working people in England and Wales.

CARDIFF & DISTRICT APEX BRANCH
South Western Region

143. INTERNET PIRACY

This Conference recognises that the creative industries contribute approximately 8% to the gross domestic production of the UK economy and provides employment for 1.8 million workers.

Conference further recognises that illegal downloading of digital material is now a major threat to employment.

It has been estimated that over 100 million films have been illegally downloaded from the internet and over 1 billion tracks.

Conference believes that internet service providers cannot be allowed to ignore their responsibilities when over 800,000 jobs maybe in jeopardy.

Internet service providers should be placed under a legal obligation to take stronger action against the illegal distribution of content over their networks.

Such action should include sending warning notices to offenders and disconnection for users who repeatedly ignore such warnings.

NORTH TYNE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

SOCIAL POLICY

EDUCATION

144. SCHOOLS

Congress calls on the CEC to lobby the Government on the way they fund education. To change to process of funding a school not on the backs of children but as a building, fit for purpose and in a well maintained condition.

Funding all the staff needed to teach our children and keep them safe. This would stop the year on year rounds of awareness meeting with regard to school budgets.

The school ends up making larger classes as budgets cut staff to teach and support the children. Over the last ten years there has been a reduction in children coming into education due to the lowering birth rate, this has affected the number in classes and cut staff.

The indication is the birth rate is going up and Congress believes the Government should be protecting schools for the future and not running them down.

2 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

145. APPRENTICESHIPS & FUTURE TRAINING FOR ALL

This Conference recognises the need in manufacturing for companies to have a skilled and flexible workforce. However, what we mean by 'skilled and flexible' is difficult to what bosses mean.

To us, it means workers receiving full and proper training with the opportunity of improving and furthering their training, skills and education. All too often, companies use flexibility in the workplace to dilute skills. Training is kept to a minimum and opportunities to enhance skills and learning non-existent. This leads to reduced quality of maintenance and output. More importantly, it impacts on health and safety, with reduced standards of skills leading to increased risk of accidents.

Conference calls on both the Government and individual employers to increase funding for apprenticeships and further training for employees. It calls for all employees to have the right to paid time off for further education and training.

Use and increase skills for workers in industry to take Britain back to being the workshop of the world. Don't dilute skills and make Britain the sweatshop of the world.

PARKGATE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

146. SUPPORT FOR COLLEAGUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

This conference notes with alarm the funding cuts in higher education in the UK. We would urgently request pressure from the GMB on politicians to support higher education as it plays a vital role in the UK providing as it does a force for social change, economic growth and cultural diversity. The sector will struggle to maintain quality with the levels of cuts it is facing; future students will not be willing to 'pay more for less' with dire consequences for the long term economy, culture and society of the UK. We urge the GMB to lobby for continued government investment into higher education.'

R23 ROEHAMPTON UNIVERSITY
Southern Region

147. STUDENT FINANCE

This conference notes that many students from less well off families have spent their entire first term at university without any means to support themselves – some have had to give up their courses and return home, whilst other families have been forced into debt through sending their children money with which to feed themselves. The appalling mess that has been made of the first year students' finance will next year be extended to second years as well when the same company takes over the provision of their loans and grants, so the misery is only set to get worse.

Conference believes that equality of access to education is vital. At this time we are losing equality within education and will be failing our young people if we do not do our utmost to ensure that everyone has the equal opportunities that are their right.

This conference resolves that GMB will campaign strongly for the government to sort out the chaos surrounding student finance.

W15 WILTSHIRE & SWINDON BRANCH
Southern Region

148. NATIONAL INSURANCE CREDITS FOR STUDENTS

This GMB Conference believes people who choose to go back into adult education at a later stage of their working life should be supported by the system not discriminated against. Some people may get financial help from one or another source including NI credits whilst on sick leave, others who are supported by a partner, and not in receipt of benefits, get nothing. Not only do they have to be reliant on their partner's income, but they have no national insurance contributions being made during this time which impacts on their lives in the future. They may not be entitled to sickness or unemployment benefit when returning to work. Although it is their choice to back into studying and accept that while they are studying they will not be financially well off, they are usually unaware of the implications of not making contributions towards NI which will also affect government pension.

Some people return to education because of previous failures within the system and should not be penalised further for this. People returning to education after having worked should have their national insurance credited during the time in which they are studying. We urge the CEC to raise this matter in the Labour Party, and address the anomaly by way of legislation.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

SOCIAL POLICY GENERAL

149. EXTENDING ALLOTMENT PROVISION

This Conference supports the idea of the use of derelict and neglected public land for extending allotment provision throughout the country.

There is currently a huge waiting list for allotments, which not only promote physical exercise and healthier eating habits, but are a positive contribution to the fight against climate change. When we grow more of our own food, we reduce our carbon footprint by lessening our reliance on motor transport to bring goods to food stores over long distances and by reducing the need for packaging.

Congress therefore instructs the Union to advocate and support such an extension of provision.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

150. CHANGE FROM ANALOGUE TO DIGITAL RADIO

The Government have stated that it is their intention that existing analogue national and regional radio stations will cease to broadcast on analogue wave length (FM and MW) by 2015 when digital radio is available across 90% of the UK. Although digital radio can provide many more local channels, not all national and regional radio stations will be able to be heard on digital.

This congress believes this is wrong as many people will not be able to afford new radio receivers, the average household has four radios and all will have to be replaced. Many existing radio stations will no longer be able to be received outside their local areas, nor will national BBC stations be able to be received outside the UK without internet access.

Congress urges the CEC to campaign to keep BBC national and local radio stations on analogue (FM and MW) transmission after 2015.

C60 CROYDON BRANCH
Southern Region

151. PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT – PRESERVE A.M. RADIO

This Conference calls upon the CEC to campaign to preserve the radio broadcasting tradition that has existed in this country for almost 90 years. The current Government strategy of encouraging the public to abandon their radio sets to the landfill site in favour of digital audio broadcasting (DAB) is short-sighted and against every sensible environmental practice.

Throwing care of future generations to the wind by replacing that which we already have, with something that is of very questionable environmental merit, gives every GMB member the opportunity to preserve for the future generation something worthy that will soon reach its centenary.

SCUNTHORPE DISTRICT & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

152. CHAPLAINCY

This Conference accepts the vital role that the Chaplaincy Service provides for our members in their hour of need be it in hospital, prison, youth detention or on remand, a service that enables many to deal with their problems and integrate back into society. Congress notes with alarm the possible but back of the Chaplaincy Service due to the proposed funding cuts. We don't have to remind ourselves of the value of these multi-faith departments who provide a much welcome and needed pastoral service offering a friendly shoulder to those who need it, twenty four hours a day. Many people cannot discuss certain subjects with staff or even their own families.

Congress calls on the CEC to take this matter up with the Government in order to ensure that cuts are not enacted in this provision.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

153. WITHDRAWAL OF CHEQUES

This congress is concerned that the banks are proposing to withdraw written cheques from 2016.

The cheque is very often the only way the people on low incomes can transfer money, pay for goods online or in catalogues.

It is also one of the most common ways of making gift payments to relatives such as grandchildren living in other parts of the country.

This congress calls on the CEC to campaign to keep the written cheque as a method of transferring money and paying bills.

C60 CROYDON BRANCH
Southern Region

154. POST OFFICES

This Conference calls on the CEC to keep the pressure on in saving our post offices from closure.

Conference says that Post Offices are an important commodity.

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

155. CHILD DETENTION

This Conference notes with concern that around 2,000 children are detained each year in immigration detention centres, some for periods of several months. Congress also notes that a number of respected bodies have called for an immediate end to the forced imprisonment of children, saying the practice is unjustified, causing massive distress and anxiety, and psychiatric problems. Those calling for an end to the practice are Save the Children, The Children's Commissioner and the Royal Colleges of Federations, General Practice and Psychiatry.

Congress further notes that some EU and Commonwealth countries have successfully introduced solutions rather than secure detention, for families who have exhausted their asylum claims.

Congress says these children have committed no crime. The children of asylum seekers are the only children who may be detained without time limit. The UK is the only European country where this happens. The above practice amounts to child abuse and brings shame on our Nation.

Therefore, Congress calls upon the CEC to lobby Government to end the practice of holding children in immigration detention centres.

182 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

156. ENERGY PRICES

This Conference condemns the excessive and extortionate price rises by energy utility companies who achieve excessive profits at the expense of our members' terms and conditions and the most vulnerable in our society.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

157. UTILITY CHARGES

This Conference demands that the GMB lobby the Government to end the practice of charging higher rates for pre-paid or key customers.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

158. FUEL COSTS

The recent bad weather and the demand for domestic heating fuels has seen the pattern emerging once again, of fuel companies increasing costs. When temperatures decrease, prices increase, and when temperatures increase the costs decrease.

Pressure of power and gas companies reached peaks as customers tried their best to heat their homes. In Northern Ireland, the average price for 900 litres of oil rose by around £25 in the period 30 December 2009 – 25 January 2010.

We call on this conference to deplore this practise and urge the CEC to call on the Government to look at a method, for example, fuel champion to ensure cash strapped consumers and people vulnerable to fuel poverty, get an open and transparent fair pricing policy.

X07 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

159. HOLIDAYS OUTSIDE OF TERM TIME

This Conference notes that thousands of other GMB members are continually subjected to unfair treatment in regards to pro-rata pay and pensions. The GMB are addressing this through the new negotiating body.

Being subjected to low pay and terms and conditions is not enough, we are then subjected to unscrupulous holiday companies that double or even triple prices during school breaks forcing parents to take children out of school during term time resulting in them facing fines of £50 per parent, per child.

If we are honest, who can blame them?

Support us in asking the politicians we support, to make these holiday companies justify the scandalous high prices they charge hardworking people who choose to pursue a career in education.

W10 WALSALL EDUCATION & GENERAL BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

160. NATIONALISATION OF THE PRESS

This Conference believes that a press and media that challenges those holding or aspiring to hold authority and power, airs a wide range of views and encourages thinking and debate is vital to the democratic process.

However, in Britain, as ownership of the press has narrowed so a plurality of views being published has become more restricted. Attacks on the Labour and Trade Union Movement have become more vitriolic, whilst support for the Conservative Party, especially its right wing elements has become more vociferous. The time to redress this imbalance is long overdue.

Clearly private ownership of the press restricts genuine debate. For fair access to the press for all, we therefore, call for the nationalisation of the press, with guarantee of the right of reply and fair representation of all views, except for fascists.

PARKGATE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

161. THE MORNING STAR CIRCULATION

The Morning Star must try to publicise themselves more and get onto the shelves of the newsagents, so people can find out more about what's happening in the Union world.

In Scarborough, not a single newsagent sells The Morning Star, and if you want to read all the latest news and keep up to date with all that's happening within the Trade Union movement, you have to personally order a copy.

If The Morning Star could get some sort of contract, maybe on a sale or return for somewhere like W H Smiths, which has stores in most towns and cities, this could go some way to getting the news out to so many more people.

SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

162. PROTECTION OF SUPPLIERS TO THE BIG FOUR SUPERMARKETS

This Conference calls upon the GMB to actively campaign to protect the interests of the suppliers of the big four supermarkets, as they are being squeezed out of business by the unrealistic demands put upon them by the supermarkets for profit margins.

HULL RETAIL & DISTRIBUTION BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

163. SAVE THE LOCAL PUB

This Conference calls on the CEC to lobby Government to re-open the mergers and monopolies commission report into tied public houses.

GRIMSBY FOOD & LEISURE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

164. WOODCRAFT FOLK

This Conference recognises the positive role played by the Woodcraft Folk, a long-standing educational movement for children and young people based on the principles of equality, peace, social justice and co-operation. These ideals are particularly important at this time of rising youth unemployment, war and the racism of the far right.

Through local weekly meetings involving games, drama, crafts, singing and dancing, and through outdoor activities, the Woodcraft Folk empowers young people, helping them to develop their ideas, share experiences, explore opportunities and make life-long friends.

Its activities which include participation in the Tolpuddle Martyrs Festivals (including last year's event in London) prove that the Woodcraft Folk deserves the support of the GMB. Conference therefore agrees to affiliate nationally to the Woodcraft Folk, to contribute financially to its work, and to circulate information and encourage members at regional and local level to get involved.

HOLBORN BRANCH
London Region

165. SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR WOOTON-BASSETT

This Conference instructs the CEC to lobby Government to give special recognition to Wooton-Bassett in Wiltshire. This is to be recognition for the unwavering commitment shown by this community to honouring our fallen troops. The community line the Main Street continuously, for every coffin that passes through their small town, no matter how many times this occurs and in all weather conditions. This surely deserves recognition.

CAMDEN APEX BRANCH
London Region

SOCIAL POLICY HOUSING

166. COUNCIL HOUSING PROGRAMME

This Conference congratulates the Labour Government's decision to build four thousand more council houses.

We would apologise for any misunderstanding but when calling for a massive council house rebuilding programme last year we did mean the other thirty one London Boroughs and the rest of the country.

GMB SOLO BRANCH
London Region

167. HOUSING

Conference recognises that despite the fact that the current economic crisis was initially created by a house prices boom which has been followed by a dramatic decline in prices, the underlying position in the UK is one of a chronic under supply of decent affordable housing.

Conference welcomes recent government announcements that local authorities can build council houses, albeit limited in scope

The GMB calls upon the government to recognise that all previous housing crisis have been resolved by local authority building programmes and that the only solution to the current crisis is to again allow local authorities the freedom and resources to do what they do best, build quality affordable housing.

Conference calls for the reversal of all legislation and regulation that restricts local authority housing and for the government to fund a regeneration programme lead by a local authority home building programme.

NORTH TYNESIDE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

168. LACK OF COUNCIL HOUSING

This Conference calls upon this Government to make local councils accountable when houses are vacant while young people and vulnerable families are placed on waiting lists.

Affordable council housing needs to be built to kick start our economy and provide decent homes for young people and vulnerable families, but councils also need to take stock of the amount of properties lying empty and the unnecessary delays between properties becoming empty to being occupied.

T10 TAMWORTH BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

169. SOCIAL HOUSING 2010

This Conference accepts that although we as a union are opposed social housing outsourcing by local authorities, but most local authorities have now outsourced their housing stock and Congress is appalled by the lack of emergency provision provided for serious emergencies experienced by tenants. Councils still have the responsibility of providing accommodation without any housing stock in the most part and must therefore accept the vital role as a duty of making certain that all its social landlords have in place a procedure that will make the provision of emergency accommodation for its tenants.

There have been several cases when late at night a major disaster has occurred which were not in any way the fault of the tenants who may have young children and are expected to remain in dangerous accommodation or spend the night on the street.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to seek legislation from Government to make this provision a statutory requirement. To campaign with the TUC and other Trade Unions through their links with local authorities to make this provision as part of their requirement with housing bodies prior to any legislation.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

SOCIAL POLICY

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

170. ACCOUNTABILITY

This Conference is concerned that the NHS is under pressure as never before. The long term prospects for year on year increases in funding are bleak under the current economic clouds. The numbers depending on the NHS are greater than ever before. This Congress demands greater accountability and transparency in how and why the money is being spent and for whom. There needs to be much more debate around the criteria for receiving treatment and at what point does the money dry up. More emphasis needs to be made regarding preventative treatments and the monitoring of long term treatments for chronic diseases.

Medication waste is a huge ongoing burden, and despite concerted efforts by pharmacists and GP practices to improve this, the problem continues. More responsibility must be placed on the medical professions to review the effectiveness of medicines and on the public to ensure that they understand the cost and the expected effects of their treatments and the length of time the treatment will be prescribed for.

In Scotland the SNP government has chosen to follow the Welsh policy of free prescriptions for all, a long standing ambition of GMB. However, there is no more cash coming into the system to sustain the investment. This will inevitably have drastic consequences on the other choices on offer for people who have conditions requiring treatments of other kinds.

SCOTTISH PRIMARY CARE NURSING BRANCH
GMB Scotland

171. CANCER SCREENING

This Conference calls upon the Government to ensure that the best possible cancer screening programmes are available to adults who might benefit from them regardless of where they live in the UK and targeted action to be taken to improve the numbers of people attending screening for breast, cervical and bowel cancer.

The GMB want to ensure that they are providing the best possible screening programmes through adequate funding, staffing and measuring success. Also finding new ways to campaign and encourage those who aren't taking part in screening to participate.

PONTYPRIDD GENERAL BRANCH
South Western Region

172. SCREENING FOR BOWEL CANCER

This Conference recognises the advances in the treatment and detection of bowel cancer. It supports the increased spending on the detection of bowel cancer by the Labour Government, making testing available for those at risk via GP's.

However, testing through biopsy kits is limited. The best way of early detection is through colonoscopies. We call for increased resources to allow those at risk of bowel cancer, either through age of family history, to have a periodic colonoscopy.

PARKGATE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

173. SOCIAL

This Conference calls on the Government to introduce screening for cervical cancer for women under the age 25. We as a Trade Union believe prevention is the way forward, so we urge the relevant Body to introduce this procedure without delay.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

174. END NHS PRESCRIPTION CHARGES IN ALL OF THE UK

This conference notes that Prescription Charges have already been abolished in Wales and are being phased out in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Conference believes that it makes no sense for a shrinking number of people in only one of the four countries comprising the UK to have to continue paying the charges whilst they are abolished for everybody else. So long as prescription charges remain in place then it cannot be said that treatment in the NHS is free at the point of use.

Conference resolves that GMB will campaign for an end to prescription charges in all of the UK.

W15 WILTSHIRE & SWINDON BRANCH
Southern Region

175. FREE PRESCRIPTION CHARGES FOR THE WHOLE UK

This Conference calls on the CEC to lobby the Government to bring Northern Ireland and England into line with Wales and Scotland so that prescription are free for all UK residents.

GRIMSBY FOOD & LEISURE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

176. BANNED HEART DRUG COSTING JUST £2 PER DAY

This Conference calls upon the NHS to make the heart drug Dronedarone available free of charge to sufferers of Atrial Fibrillation, a type of abnormal heartbeat affecting more than one million sufferers in Britain.

T10 TAMWORTH BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

177. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FUNDING TO SUPPORT NATIONAL DEFIBRILLATION PROGRAMME IN CHILDREN'S HOSPICES

This Conference states that every year 75,000 people die from cardiac arrest outside of hospital. The National Statistics show that recovery from cardiac arrest is just 5 percent. With the introduction of community AED's (portable simple to use defibrillator) statistics of survival go up from 5 percent to 50 percent. If a community defibrillator can be used within one minute of cardiac arrest this goes up by 90 percent. For every one minute delay, chances of survival are reduced by 10 percent.

The National Defibrillation Programme has successfully provided free equipment and training to many workplaces in the community, including some Nursing Homes, extending duty of care not just to resident but to staff and visitors.

The programme has not reached our children's hospices. The modern paediatric Hospice no longer tends to just the dying child but reaches out to incorporate respite care to children with disabilities and conditions where survival may we take them into adult years. Life saving emergency equipment such as an AED should be an essential part of resuscitation equipment. As children's hospices do not receive the level of government funding that adult hospice's enjoy, we ask Congress to support this motion to provide such equipment and training, for our struggling children's hospices.

W75 WORCESTER BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

178. FUNDING FOR CARE IN OLD AGE

This Conference requires Central Government to fund the cost of all old age care totally through National Health Service funding.

DETENTION CENTRE STAFF BRANCH
London Region

179. NHS FUNDING FOR MEDICAL CARE FOR THOSE DIAGNOSED WITH ALZHEIMERS

This Conference states although there is a provision for **social** care to be funded for those with Alzheimer's there is no automatic provision for **medical** care. It is highly unusual for Alzheimer's' patients to receive

this level of care although so many clearly are in need of this. This financial and emotional burden almost always falls on close relatives resulting in anxiety and financial pressure.

All sufferers of Alzheimer's should be given this level of care.

Congress, we ask that GMB progress this on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves and also to support their families.

W75 WORCESTER COMMUNITY BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

180. DEMENTIA DISGRACE

This Conference calls upon the Labour Government to honour its commitment to making Alzheimer's a national priority. This term of Labour Government has time and time again failed in its promises and commitments – 'repeal of all anti trade union laws' to name one.

HULL PAINT & ENGINEERING BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

181. PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH TO REDUCE NHS COSTS

This Conference calls for the GMB to campaign for a culture change in eating and drinking habits and lifestyle to alleviate demand on the NHS. Health Service resources are becoming increasingly overstretched by avoidable illness and alcohol fuelled accidents. The increase in obesity, alcoholism, diabetes and heart disease is as serious a public health issue in the 21st century, as clean water and a functioning sewage system were to the Victorians in the 19th century.

NORFOLK PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

182. NHS CAR PARKING

This Conference urges the Government to move to a position where the cessation of hospital car parking charges for its most valued commodity, that being the million plus dedicated members of staff it employs, many of whom are union members and pay a political levy via their trade union contributions.

As in Scotland and Wales, this should be the catalyst for free parking for staff and visitors alike. Car park charges are used as a resource for employing contractors to provide security, this is one Trust excuse, there are countless others.

We urge your support for this motion.

T28 TORBAY
Southern Region

183. DEAF PEOPLE IN HOSPITAL

Generally there is no provision for British Sign Language interpreters in hospitals, unless they are booked in advance of an appointment. This means that when a deaf person is rushed into hospital, the staff have no means of communicating with the deaf patient.

This is totally unacceptable in our modern society, and we believe that pressure should be put on the Government to send all Doctors and Nurses on sign language courses.

SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

184. PRIVACY AND DIGNITY

This Conference says to the Department of Health their new policy on standards set out for privacy and dignity causes additional stress to patients by not allowing their relatives to be present in the Day Patient Unit within hospitals.

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

SOCIAL POLICY TRANSPORT

185. FREEDOM PASSES

This Conference calls on the GMB to campaign for the retention of Freedom Passes which have proved to be a major success in allowing older people the freedom to travel throughout the country. Congress calls on all sections of the GMB to defend any attacks that seek to reduce the current provisions of the Freedom Passes.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

186. NATIONAL BUS PASS RESTRICTIONS

This Conference calls upon this union to make sure local councils throughout the country do not put restrictions on the national bus pass.

ADSA SOUTH BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

187. FREE TRAVEL

This Conference calls upon the GMB to lobby the Government to extend the free travel on busses to have this extended nationally onto trains to make more use of the free travel.

BRIGHTSIDE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

188. THE COST OF TRAVELLING ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT

This Conference is called upon to lobby the government regarding the vast differences occurred by travelling on public transport. From Ipswich to Sudbury, Suffolk which is approximately 23 miles, costs £3.80 one way, but from Sudbury to Lavenham in Suffolk a distance of approximately 4½ miles the cost is £3.20. Surely there should be a set price per mile to make the costs fairer.

BRAINTREE & BOCKING BRANCH
London Region

189. TRANSPORT FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

This Conference calls for the GMB to campaign to end privatisation of rail and bus services, by converting them into social enterprises, to be operated solely for public benefit and not for private profit.

NORFOLK PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

190. EAST COAST HIGH SPEED RAIL

This conference believes that the development of a high speed rail link on the East Coast Mainline is essential for the economic prosperity of the Northern Region.

Conference is concerned that recent announcements, in particular by Railtrack, that the preferred option would be the West Coast Mainline only would be economically and socially unacceptable.

Conference calls upon the CEC to campaign to ensure that the government accepts the economic arguments and decides to provide high speed rail on both the East & West Coast Mainlines.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

191. EAST COAST MAINLINE

This conference welcomes the decision to take the East Coast Mainline franchise back into public hands for the second time. This follows National Express failed management of this strategically vital route.

This conference believes that the repeated failures of private operators demonstrates that the privatisation “model” does not work and that all franchises should be brought back into public ownership. This being the only way to ensure the necessary investment in our rail infrastructure.

Conference further demands that National Express should not be simply allowed to renege on its contractual obligation to pay the government £1.4B, by 2014 and that all necessary legal action should be taken against the company.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

192. THIRD RUNWAY AT HEATHROW AIRPORT

This Conference notes that:

The government’s plans to build a third runway at Heathrow are in direct conflict with the Climate Change Act with ambitions targets to cut UK CO2 emissions by 80% by 2050. Aviation is one of the UK’s fastest growing sources of CO2 emissions – scientists at the University of Manchester’s Tyndall Centre predict that by 2030 aviation could account for two-thirds of the UK’s total emissions.

If the plans go ahead the number of flights is expected to increase from 480,000 to over 600,000 per year.

Expansion will create more noise and pollution for local residents. Air pollution levels in London are already up to four times the legal limit and reducing life expectancy; there are more than 1000 premature deaths a year in London because of poor air quality. The Environment Agency says expansion at Heathrow will result in increased morbidity and mortality impacts, and the EU Environment Commissioner has said that if the expansion of Heathrow goes ahead, the UK will breach EU legal limits on nitrogen dioxide that become legally binding in 2010.

These problems are already seriously affecting people living in Hounslow, Cranford and Feltham in particular. Surrounding suburbs and wide areas of London, including Clapham Junction, will be affected by the increase and changing pattern of flights with no respite from noise and pollution.

Noise and pollution from Heathrow Airport is already detrimentally affecting local schools. If a third runway were built, one school would be demolished, another would be over-flown and low level and a third would be sandwiched between the present northern runway and the take-off track of the third runway. The education of 100,000 pupils across 114 schools in West London will be severely impacted by the proposed new flight paths.

Over a third of flights using Heathrow are short haul. Investment in high speed rail as an alternative to a third runway would create larger numbers of real extra jobs in rail and related industries and boost employment in manufacturing, construction and engineering nationwide. In contrast, recent studies show that the alleged economic benefits of Heathrow expansion are unlikely to materialise and based on unreliable statistics.

GMB together with unions UNITE, and the TUC and 100 companies including BAe, Imperial Tobacco, the London Stock Exchange, Rio Tinto and Rothschilds backed the "Future Heathrow" sponsored advertising supporting plans for a third runway. GMB continues to support the Heathrow expansion plans, welcoming the government's decision in January 2009 to go ahead. Many GMB members will be unhappy at their union's policy that is in stark conflict with environmental concerns at local, national and global levels.

We call upon this Conference to:

Increase awareness within the union of the issues raised by the Heathrow expansion plans in the wider context of climate change and green jobs.

Reverse GMB national policy of supporting Heathrow expansion

Join the campaign for a sustainable alternative that will have genuine economic and social benefits across the whole of the UK.

GMB@PCS BRANCH
London Region

193. USING MOBILE PHONES WHILST DRIVING

This Conference recognises the widespread abuse of the use of mobile phones whilst driving, and calls upon the Government to increase penalties for the use of mobile phones whilst driving to parity with those in force for drugs and alcohol related offences.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

194. CAR SPEED BOXES

This Conference recognises that car speed boxes could be a better way to stop the car from driving over the speed limit should be a requirement. It should be made law that when you buy new cars you are offered one of these boxes to be fitted to your car at cost price, which should be at a low affordable cost i.e. £199. This would save so many lives on the roads, make car insurance cheaper for any one that has a box fitted. This could be an alternative to speed cameras. Congress therefore believes that the GMB should suggest this idea to various safety and government advisor committees.

LONDON HOTELS & CATERING BRANCH
London Region

195. LARGE CHANGE SUPERMARKETS, MONOPOLY ON FUEL

This Conference is called upon to lobby the powers that be to restrict the large supermarket chains charging what they want for fuel up and down the country i.e. in a large town a supermarket's fuel can be 6 pence or more a litre cheaper than in a small town where it has less competition. There should be a blanket cost across the country.

BRAINTREE & BOCKING BRANCH
London Region

196. DISABLED PARKING SPACES BEING MIS-USED

This Conference takes the Government to task over the mis-use of disabled parking places, and should make mis-use an offence liable for a fine to users who do not display a disabled parking blue badge.

LINCOLN TEC GENERAL & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

197. BAN CAR CLAMPING

This Conference calls upon the Government to ban car clamping in England. The attempt to regulate has not worked; the immobilisation of private property is unnecessary and does nothing for land owners, it merely lines the pockets of enforcement companies. No-one in this land should be punished by anyone, other than when justly imposed by the courts.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

198. CYCLE TO WORK SCHEME

This conference recognises that the cycle to work scheme whereby employees can purchase a cycle and or cycle accessories and safety equipment and that the cost is fully tax deductible is an enormous success.

The scheme must be operated through the employer and is by means of salary sacrifice.

Conference calls upon the CEC to introduce guidance to GMB negotiators to raise “cycle to work” in the bargaining agenda.

As a first move conference calls upon the CEC to introduce the scheme for GMB employees.

NORTH TYNE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

SOCIAL POLICY WELFARE RIGHTS & SERVICES

199. MENTAL HEALTH AND WORK

The Government, last October, introduced Employment Support Allowance to replace Incapacity Benefit for new claimants. With this new allowance comes a new test called the Work Capability Assessment, which assesses a person’s ability to work.

As the new assessment focuses mainly on physical capabilities, people who suffer with mental health problems are failing to qualify for the allowance, as their conditions can vary from day to day. These people who need the help and support being on Employment Support Allowance can provide are being denied this. A review of the new allowance needs to take place, to make sure it is a fair and equal system for all, including people who suffer with their mental health.

SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

200. GOVERNMENT TARGET TO TAKE 1,000,000 OFF INCAPACITY BENEFIT AND OTHER BENEFITS GENERATING UNMANAGEABLE NUMBER OF APPEALS AND LONG DELAYS FOR CLAIMANTS, DUE TO ADMINISTRATIVE BACKLOG

This Conference recognises that great distress and unreasonable hardship is being caused to unprecedented numbers of people who are having to appeal decisions made to take them off Incapacity Benefit and Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit. The Government has set a target which has opened up the system to abuse in order to reduce the number of claimants. This is evidenced by the unmanageable number of Appeals generated that, through sheer volume, are not being heard in a timely manner.

LINCOLN TEC GENERAL & APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

201. CARERS ALLOWANCE / ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE

Carers Allowance is currently not enough to support the person one is caring for, and as this is often a 24 hours job, the allowance needs to be considerably more.

These people do a great job of looking after their loved ones every day and deserve more money to be able to live comfortably with the person they care for.

SCARBOROUGH & NORTH YORKS COMMUNITY BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

202. CARERS ALLOWANCE

This Conference demands that those in receipt of Carers Allowance retain the allowance when reaching state pension age and continue until such time as that person is no longer a Carer; and not as present where Carers allowance ends upon retirement.

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

203. SOCIAL

This Conference calls upon the Government to bring about an increase to the limit of personal wealth allowance an individual has before having to contribute towards their care when taken into a care home. This conference believes the current level is not realistic.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

204. FREE DENTAL CHARGES FOR OAPs

This Conference agrees to mount a campaign to secure legislation which allows people in receipt of a state pension to benefit from free dental treatment.

GRIMSBY GMB APEX & GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

205. WINTER FUEL PAYMENT

This Conference believes that it is disgraceful that winter after winter many elderly people die unnecessary in this country from the effects of cold wet winters. That while some concessions of a minor nature are made to elderly people to help with their winter fuel bills, it no way compensates for the extra cost the old and vulnerable have to pay to heat their homes during the winter months.

The Government could take simple but effective action to help alleviate the sufferance of elderly people by moving the qualifying age of eighty years for the four hundred pound winter fuel payment to seventy years.

Congress agrees that the Union will lobby the Government to have such a change introduced.

B41 BIRMINGHAM RUBBER BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

206. £25 COLD WINTER FUEL ALLOWANCE

This Conference calls on the CEC to seek changes on how the cold Winter £25 Allowance is paid.

Conference says it should be paid to all persons from the age of 60 years, same as the £250 allowance is paid and to include disabled persons.

EAST DEREHAM BRANCH
London Region

207. LONDON WEIGHTING FOR PENSIONERS

This Conference instructs the CEC to campaign for the government to include London Weighting for pensioners' residing in London who are in receipt of State Pensions.

PLAISTOW BRANCH
London Region

INTERNATIONAL

208. TUC POLICY & THE BOYCOTTING OF ISRAELI GOODS

This Conference welcomes the passing of Motion 76 (*Palestine*) at the Trades Union Congress with its commitment to develop an effective boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign with the Palestine Solidarity Campaign, and to promote justice for the Palestinian people and the establishment of a viable Palestinian state.

The Palestinian people, like all other peoples, have a right to resist occupation and oppression, but we should encourage them as far as possible not to resort to indiscriminate acts of retaliatory violence by offering meaningful and effective support. A boycott campaign will put down a marker that Britain means what it says when it condemns Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian land and its establishment and expansion of illegal settlements. This union is affiliated to the PSC and the very least we should be doing is encouraging GMB members not to buy Israeli products as long as these illegal activities continue.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to give every assistance to the TUC leadership in carrying out the wishes of TUC Congress 2009 in respect of Motion 76 and to support internal GMB initiatives in the spirit of the trade union movement's commitment embodied in that motion.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

209. PALESTINE

This Conference condemns the Government of Israel's January Offensive in Gaza, leading it to 1,450 deaths and 5,000 injuries.

Congress further condemns the ongoing blockade which contravenes international law. Congress calls on the CEC to continue building solidarity with the Palestinian Federation of Trade Unions.

Congress calls upon the CEC to:-

- Lobby the British Government to make representations to the international community to secure support for a negotiated settlement based on justice for the Palestinians.
- Build solidarity with the Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions.

Congress calls upon the CEC to pressure Government to:

- a) Condemn the Israeli aggression and end the blockade on Gaza.
- b) End all arms trading with Israel.
- c) Impose a ban on importing goods produced in the illegal settlements in the occupied territories.
- d) Support moves to suspend the EU-Israel association agreement.

Congress calls upon the CEC to urge Branches to affiliate to the Palestine Solidarity Campaign. Also, Congress urges the CEC to work with the PSC to encourage all trade unionists to boycott Israeli goods, especially products that have been produced in the illegal settlements.

182 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

210. MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS

This Conference urges the CEC to actively support the M.A.P (Medical Aid for Palestinians) Campaign.

The prime purpose of this campaign is to overcome the blockade of essential supplies of medical, educational and building materials so urgently required to repair the damage inflicted on Gaza by Operation Cast Lead.

This blockade continues to have devastating effects on the daily lives of the 1.5 million Palestinian inhabitants of Gaza.

This branch stresses that this campaign is designed to achieve its end by diplomatic means.

HOME COUNTIES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

211. PALESTINE

This Conference recognises the appalling way of life suffered by the Palestinian people in their own homeland and agrees to send 2 national secretaries or 2 national officers of the union to take a fact finding trip to Palestine before 2011 where a full report of the trip can be given.

BARNESLEY GMB BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

212. AFGHANISTAN

This Conference calls for the immediate withdrawal of British Troops from Afghanistan.

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH
London Region

213. THE DANGER OF NUCLEAR CONFRONTATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

This Conference is disturbed by the threat of the global spread of nuclear weapons and is particularly concerned by the dangers implicit in their extension to the cauldron of current Middle East conflicts.

Congress notes with alarm the nuclear rhetoric of the Iranian leadership, while being aware of its strategic reasons for the pursuit of nuclear technology and, possibly, weaponry. As a result of its nuclear programme developed over the last fifty years with the (initial) assistance of France, Israel possesses a considerable stockpile of nuclear warheads. These are undeclared and the facilities which produced them unacknowledged by every Israeli Government during this time; but their existence is beyond doubt and they furnish the reasoning behind Iran's ambitions for parity.

Congress therefore instructs the CEC to lobby the British Government to use all of its diplomatic and political influence to persuade Israel to join Iran in signing the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to support the simultaneous inspection of both countries' nuclear facilities under the auspices of the United Nations.

NORWICH GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

214. GLOBAL MINING

This Conference notes that the global mining industry is enjoying an unprecedented boom period, with many companies posting record profits as a result of soaring commodity prices. The UK is doing particularly well: the three largest mining companies in the world are all British, while London provides much of the finance for the industry as well as hosting a major share of global metals trading. The British Government has regularly championed the cause of British mining companies across the world.

Many developing countries, on the other hand, have experienced the negative side of mining. Armed groups have often enriched themselves through mineral extraction, doing deals with companies and using the revenues to fuel civil wars. Human rights violations have occurred where security forces paid to protect mining assets have attacked local communities and anti-mining activists. There is now an established pattern in country after country where local people have been forced off their land by mining projects and those protesting have been intimidated, beaten or shot.

Congress believes that the UK Government must acknowledge the harm being done to local communities in developing countries as a result of British mining companies' activities. Relying on voluntary codes of conduct and self-regulation to police the extractives industry has been shown to be ineffective, and the Government must now take action to make mining companies accountable both nationally and globally.

Congress calls on the UK Government to introduce new rights of redress in the UK and to support binding standards for corporate accountability at the international level. Only through such action will we be able to tackle corporate complicity and human rights abuses.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

215. CORPORATE TAX DODGING & DEVELOPMENT

This Conference believes that UK companies should publicly acknowledge that they have a social responsibility to pay their fair share of tax, not only here in the UK but also in the developing world.

Conference therefore calls upon the Executive to support **WAR ON WANT's** tax justice campaign and demand that our government:

*reaffirms its key goal of eliminating poverty in the UK and in developing countries.

LONDON STORES GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

216. ARMS TRADE

This Conference notes with concern that high street banks are using our money to fund companies that sell arms used against civilians in wars across the world, including conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. They are financing an industry that sells arms to countries committing human rights abuses such as Israel, Colombia and Saudi Arabia. Money from our savings and current accounts is being used to fund companies that produce pernicious weapons like depleted uranium and cluster bombs.

As a result of the financial crisis there are now unprecedented calls for regulation of the banking sector.

Congress instructs the CEC use its entire political links to call on the Government to ensure that all banks are made to publish the full details of their loans, holdings and other banking services to the arms trade. The Government must also introduce regulation which prevents high street banks from supporting the arms trade.

W50 WELLINGTON BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

217. HUMAN TRAFFICKING

This conference is discussed by evidence that demonstrated that despite the efforts of the government the trafficking of men, women and children into Europe and this country is still on the increase.

Traffickers take advantage of the poorest and most vulnerable in our society.

Conference calls upon the GMB to campaign with similar organisations to

- (1) Increase awareness of the issues related to human trafficking particularly with relation to sexual exploitation.
- (2) Support research to establish the full extent of trafficking into the UK and the economic impact of such trafficking.
- (3) Support campaigns to ensure the strongest possible legal sanctions against those responsible for human trafficking.

NORTH TYNESIDE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

218. HUMAN TRAFFICKING

This conference is disgusted by evidence that demonstrated that despite the efforts of the government the trafficking of men, women and children into Europe and this country is still on the increase.

Traffickers take advantage of the poorest and most vulnerable in our society.

Conference calls upon the CEC to campaign with similar organisations to

- (1) Increase awareness of the issues related to human trafficking particularly with relation to sexual exploitation.
- (2) Support research to establish the full extent of trafficking into the UK and the economic impact of such trafficking.
- (3) Support campaigns to ensure the strongest possible legal sanctions against those responsible for human trafficking.

HARTLEPOOL 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

219. EU COLOMBIA FAIR TRADE AGREEMENT

Congress is dismayed that Colombia remains the most dangerous place in the world to be a trade unionist. Over 60% of all trade unionists killed in the world last year were killed in Colombia. In 95% of cases the perpetrators enjoy complete impunity – a green light for the killings to continue

In this environment of ongoing fear, intimidation and continuing human rights abuses, the EU is seeking to conclude a new Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Colombia. The conclusion of this FTA is made all the more shocking considering that similar agreements between Colombia and the United States, Canada and the Norway have been held up due to human rights and labour rights concerns. By giving the Green light to the EU-Colombia FTA, the EU will send a clear signal that human rights and core labour rights count for nothing when it comes to free trade, in total contravention of the EU's own stated values and stated aim to mainstream human rights and promotion of core labour standards throughout its external policy

By denying Colombia progress on the FTA, the European Union holds a powerful tool to promote positive change, but on the contrary the situation is so bad that concluding the current trade deal with Colombia would only be interpreted as endorsing human rights and labour rights abuses.

Congress calls on the CEC to campaign against the proposed free trade agreement with Colombia, and to seek through direct contact with MEPs and EU Governments, who must give this deal their final approval, that progress on this agreement be suspended.

B59 BRUSSELS BRANCH
Southern Region

220. SRI LANKA

This conference condemns the actions of the Sri Lankan government for its treatment of refugees in government run “welfare camps”.

As witnessed by the General Secretary of the UNITED NATIONS, there are 409, 000 displaced civilians, with 60,000 children who are imprisoned in these camps with little or no shelter, insufficient food, water or sanitation.

Conference calls for the CEC to support Amnesty’s campaign to “Unlock the Camps” and to support any action to improve access to the camps by journalists, politicians and aid workers.

SOUTH SHIELDS 2 BRANCH
Northern Region

COMMERCIAL SERVICES SECTION CONFERENCE - INDEX OF MOTIONS

CS4.	A SOCIALLY OWNED WATER INDUSTRY
CS12.	CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY
CS8.	DOMESTIC ENERGY SERVICE COMPANIES
CS15.	ENERGY SUB SECTION FORUM
CS9.	GAS INDUSTRY
CS10.	GAS INDUSTRY
CS11.	GAS INDUSTRY PENSION
CS2.	LICENSING OF TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES
CS5.	MINIMUM STANDARDS IN THE PRIVATE SECURITY INDUSTRY
CS13.	NUCLEAR ENERGY
CS14.	RENEWABLE ENERGY
CS1.	SICK PAY
CS3.	THE PUBLIC CARRIAGE OFFICE
CS6.	THIRD PARTY PRESSURE
CS7.	TUPE REGULATION AND RESTRUCTURING PROCESS

COMMERCIAL SERVICES SECTION

MOTIONS

CS1. SICK PAY

This Conference calls to abolish the three days waiting period to qualify for sick pay. We believe that our members should be paid from day one. This causes considerable financial hardship to our members.

A15 ASDA BRANCH
Birmingham and West Midlands Region

CS2. LICENSING OF TAXI AND PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLES

This Conference is appalled by the chaotic licensing regimes for the Hackney Carriage, Private Hire and Chauffeur industries nationwide.

Currently the operations of these authorities are ambiguous and irrational presenting severe dangers to the public.

Ninety hours a week working weeks allowed by an authority (Chelmsford) coupled with a vehicle test that fails to test the brakes of vehicles in any recognised way is, we suspect, repeated frequently across the nation.

It should be borne in mind that these vehicles and drivers are contracted to Essex County Council for use on special needs school runs contracts – what a disgrace – how many other authorities are guilty of such obscene behaviour?

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

CS3. THE PUBLIC CARRIAGE OFFICE

This Conference demands that every conceivable political facility from within the union be concentrated upon obtaining a full scale public enquiry into every aspect of the public carriage offices operation and its management.

We have noted and frequently expressed our disgust at this organisation's sycophantic and we believe corrupt maladministration of its responsibilities.

It is our belief that the negligence of this organisation is putting the public at severe risk within the area of their responsibility.

GMB PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS BRANCH
London Region

CS4. A SOCIALLY OWNED WATER INDUSTRY

This Conference condemns the threat of transfer of the Thames Water call centre in Swindon to India. This is one of the consequences of the privatisation of the industry with the acquisition of Thames Water by an international investment company, loading Thames Water with massive debts.

This Conference considers that water, as one of the essentials of life, should not be treated as a commodity, but as a socially necessary public service.

We determine to campaign for an end to the privatised water industry. To help to build such a campaign the GMB should produce a well-researched pamphlet which argues the case for a socially owned water industry in which "efficiency" is measured by the quality of the service provided and not driven by the profit motive.

W15 WILTSHIRE & SWINDON BRANCH
Southern Region

CS5. MINIMUM STANDARDS IN THE PRIVATE SECURITY INDUSTRY

This Conference notes that the private security industry fulfils one of the most vital functions within our society today. Never before in our history has security been so important. However despite that the industry is still one of the worst for the provision of respectable terms and conditions for its' workers who are treated with near-contempt. Despite the introduction of SIA Licensing the industry is still populated by fly-by-night companies and gangsters to the detriment of those respectable companies who strive to raise standards and respect for the industry.

Congress calls upon the CEC to pursue government-imposed minimum standards for the industry along the lines of the Irish model introduced through legislation in that country in 2006. This ensures a minimum standard for wages, overtime rates, working hours and rest breaks, non-contributory sick pay scheme, and personal attack benefit.

SCOTTISH SECURITY & AVIATION BRANCH
GMB Scotland

CS6. THIRD PARTY PRESSURE

This Conference resolves that in this time when much work is contracted out by clients to either agencies or contracting companies, particularly within the security industry, that the government should strengthen the clauses whereby a worker is removed from site due to pressure from the client upon the contracting company.

There are many instances where the reasons for removal from site at client request would not be sufficient under employment law to dismiss. Yet, especially in the present economic climate and with a zero hour contract this is in effect what happens to the worker when they leave the site of their employment.

We feel that the reasons for a worker to be requested to leave a site by the client should at least be as strong as those required for dismissal, for gross misconduct otherwise they could be dealt with by the disciplinary procedure of the contracting company.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH
London Region

CS7. TUPE REGULATION AND RESTRUCTURING PROCESS

This Conference is deeply concerned that some Security Companies are undermining TUPE undertaking prior to transfer or immediately after on client's request in agreeing or participating in restructuring process thus undermining protected employment rights.

TUPE at the best of time is a complex process, but if restructuring is introduced into the mix, rights are undermined or erased.

Therefore unless its insolvency, TUPE acquired and contractual agreement should be protected and immediate reference to an Employment Tribunal if no agreement.

GMB LONDON SECURITY BRANCH
London Region

CS8. DOMESTIC ENERGY SERVICE COMPANIES

This Conference calls on the GMB to campaign for Government to use fiscal mechanisms to change energy companies into domestic energy service companies, so that energy upgrades, insulation works, renewable energy generation projects in domestic properties to include replacement of inefficient old white goods can be paid out of the savings from reduced energy consumption as per already exists in industry and commerce.

NORFOLK PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

CS9. GAS INDUSTRY

Congress calls on the CEC to support and call on the Government to set up a Parliamentary enquiry into the undermining of modern Trade Unions acting within the law, by international companies operating in Britain in the energy sector.

173 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

CS10. GAS INDUSTRY

Congress calls on the Government to review the role of the Regulator in the gas industry as they do not appear to work in the public interest, but more for Thread Needle Street (Wall Street).

173 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

CS11. GAS INDUSTRY PENSION

This Conference condemns the interference from OFGEM in the Gas Pension Schemes and instructs the CEC to campaign both industrially and politically to prevent any future price review of the Gas Industry reducing the employers contributions or changing the current funding arrangements for each scheme.

P29 SOUTH COAST GAS & UTILITY
Southern Region

CS12. CLEAN COAL TECHNOLOGY

This conference recognises that the UK faces an imminent energy crisis.

As old nuclear power stations and old coal fired stations reach the end of their working lives, new nuclear stations and clean technology station are urgently needed to fill the gap.

Government should, therefore, press ahead without further delay and start a building programme of new power stations with a mix of nuclear and clean coal

NORTH TYNE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

CS13. NUCLEAR ENERGY

This Conference calls on the Government to halt its proposal to expand its nuclear capacity in order to produce energy and instead invest in green alternatives. Conference recognises the impact this may have on staff in the industry and calls for any affected by this to receive suitable retraining for alternative employment with no detriment to current terms and conditions of employment.

NORTH WEST LONDON BRANCH
London Region

CS14. RENEWABLE ENERGY

This conference recognises that even if new nuclear power stations and new clean coal technology power plants are commissioned there would still be a shortfall in supply.

Conference applauds the government's aspiration to increase power productions from renewable energy technologies. However under current arrangement it is now clear that the government's aim of increasing renewables to produce 20% of the electricity by 2020 will not be met.

In particular the "not in my back yard" (NIMBY) protests that have resulted in the majority of wind farm planning applications being refused is unacceptable.

Conference calls for a fundamental updating of the planning process to ensure that the needs of the National Energy Strategy is paramount in the consideration of all wind farm and all other renewable energy planning applications.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENGINEERING BRANCH
NORTHERN Region

CS15. ENERGY SUB SECTION FORUM

This Conference agrees and supports the creation of an Energy sub section forum within the Commercial Services section on the basis of a conference every two years of GMB regional representatives employed within gas, nuclear general and processing, conventional electricity generation, distribution and associated shared services, coal and renewable generation technologies.

This sub section forum would help raise the profile of the GMB as a major partner within the Energy Industries and so aid recruitment and retention of our membership

In addition this conference agrees and supports the creation of a working party comprising senior GMB working representatives from the associated energy industries that will meet on the basis of twice per year to assist and support the National Secretary and National Officer in the tactical and strategic view to be taken by our Union in promoting the GMB as a major trade union within Energy in the United Kingdom.

HUNTERSTON BRANCH
GMB Scotland

PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

MANUFACTURING SECTION CONFERENCE – INDEX OF MOTIONS

MF6.	APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY
MF4.	BUILDING INDUSTRY
MF5.	CONTRACT WORKERS
MF12.	DEFEND CORUS WORKERS' TERMS & CONDITIONS
MF2.	EMPLOYMENT FOREIGN LABOUR
MF1.	ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING
MF3.	EUROPEAN WORKS COUNCIL
MF7.	MANUFACTURING
MF9.	MANUFACTURING
MF10.	MANUFACTURING BASE
MF8.	MANUFACTURING DECLINE
MF13.	MOD CONTRACTS FOR UK SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY
MF11.	OUTSOURCING OF MANUFACTURING JOBS
MF14.	WARSHIP BUILDING

MANUFACTURING SECTION MOTIONS

MF1. ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING

This Conference believes that the Gibson Report on the UK Engineering Construction Industry demonstrates a need to improve the availability of skilled labour within the UK, to meet the needs of the Engineering Construction Industry and in particular the Power Generation Construction Sector for the near future.

Congress calls upon the UK government to introduce a training audit, renew the current practices of the ECITB and to introduce measures to ensure that all contractor employers, wherever their base, are required to make the same contribution to the Construction Industry training levy.

Congress believes that the potential training opportunities for young people in this industry are substantial and calls upon the UK government to ensure that these are brought to fruition within the timescale necessary to meet the requirements known to exist to fill the needs of the industry in the near future.

Z42 SOUTHAMPTON NO. 1 BRANCH
Southern Region

MF2. EMPLOYMENT FOREIGN LABOUR

This Conference urges the CEC to do everything in their power, within the law to ensure local labour is employed in our shipbuilding and ship repair yards before foreign labour.

SOUTH SHIELDS 1 TCS BRANCH
Northern Region

MF3. EUROPEAN WORKS COUNCIL

This Conference calls on British trade union movement to work with EU Food workers Federation EFFAT to press Bakkovar to get up independence EWC not a company business orientated GEF. It's very important that company is transparent and works with trade unions to make a real difference not just a hub for company installation agreements. Therefore call on GMB National Officer to contact the company with a view of GMB representation on real European Works Councils.

HARROW GENERAL BRANCH
London Region

MF4. BUILDING INDUSTRY

This Conference notes that next to the financial services industry, the building industry is the most corrupt and exploitative in Britain.

Congress notes:

- * Systematic price fixing on contracts is rife and is costing the public and private sector billions.
- * The cynical exploitation of bogus self-employed labour employed through disreputable agencies with unscrupulous gang masters is rife in the industry, even on prestigious sites like the Olympics.
- * The exposure of a blacklist being operated that has ruined the lives of building workers who have been involved in their unions is a disgrace with major building firms implicated.
- * There are more deaths and injuries due to poor health and safety practices in this industry than any other on shore industry.

Congress therefore resolves to:

That the GMB will campaign to:

- ~ To pressurise the authorities to taking the strongest action against those found guilty of price fixing in the industry
- ~ Ban bogus self-employment promoting PAYE with genuine self-employment being tolerated in exceptional circumstances.
- ~ Join with those in the industry fighting to end the blacklist and to help those who have been victim of it because of their trade union activities.
- ~ Raise the level of health and safety standards in the industry including pressurising the government to fund more HSE inspectors.

GMB SOLO BRANCH
London Region

MF5. CONTRACT WORKERS

This Conference calls for legislation to be enacted on sites where the prime contractor agrees to the employment of local labour that this agreement also applies to sub-contractors.

NORTH TYNE MANUFACTURING BRANCH
Northern Region

MF6. APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

This Conference condemns the lack of genuine apprenticeships in the construction industry.

Rebuilding the economy on firm foundations requires a skilled, motivated and properly paid workforce. Every young person should have the option of pursuing a skills based manual worker career.

Congress therefore calls on the union leadership to promote and support those employers who genuinely support apprenticeships with genuine on the job training.

GMB SOLO BRANCH
London Region

MF7. MANUFACTURING

This conference recognises the important contribution to the UK economy made by our manufacturing industries and in particular the role that the sector plays in providing high quality employment.

Whilst recognising the need to ensure for competition it is clear that for more can be done to ensure that UK taxpayers pounds are spent on procuring UK produced products and securing UK employment.

To this end conference calls for a legal duty to be introduced to ensure that all public bodies and procurement protocols fully assess the social impact on all procurement decisions.

Only following a full cost, benefit analysis of the impact of decision upon the interests of the UK economy should any decision be made to spend UK taxpayers' money on non UK companies and products.

This conference notes the £ billions in aid that has been provided by taxpayers to bail out the financial services sector and documents that the government provides exactly the same level of support to manufacturing to save jobs, revitalise our economy's investment in new infrastructure.

In pursuing the above policies, the government should aim also to support the UHS manufacturing sector through the creation of one million new “green jobs” through work on renewable energy projects and products”, cleaner sustainable public transport, affordable greener homes.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENGINEERING BRANCH
Northern Region

MF8. MANUFACTURING DECLINE

This Conference is saddened and alarmed at the rate of job losses within the Manufacturing Industry.

Conference calls upon the Government to implement urgent measures to stop the decline of Manufacturing Companies.

The GMB should strongly continue to campaign for a Government Manufacturing Strategy that would reverse the decline.

HENGOED ENGINEERING BRANCH
South Western Region

MF9. MANUFACTURING

This Conference deplores the lack of commitment towards manufacturing during the recession. It therefore instructs the Government to inject more impetus in protecting jobs within the UK.

This needs to be done as a matter of urgency to stop the further decline.

R35 ROCESTER JCB BRANCH
Birmingham & West Midlands Region

MF10. MANUFACTURING BASE

This Congress, the GMB, must continue to campaign to maintain our manufacturing base as the economic crisis has shown an economy based on financial services has caused the economy to go into melt down which is leading to savage attacks on our members’ wages and conditions.

The banks have shown us how they have been motivated by greed, making working people pay for their reckless lending which has brought about this recession.

Z39 NORTH KENT ENGINEERING BRANCH
Southern Region

MF11. OUTSOURCING OF MANUFACTURING JOBS

This Conference deplores the continual transference of UK manufacturing jobs to overseas low wage economies.

Conference agrees to lobby for any government help in the form of tax breaks or grants to be withdrawn from UK companies who export jobs.

DURHAM GENERAL BRANCH
Northern Region

MF12. DEFEND CORUS WORKERS’ TERMS & CONDITIONS

This Conference notes that Tata prides itself on taking its corporate social responsibility seriously. The Tata board should remind its management at Corus of this. Whilst accepting the company’s reasons behind the recent job losses and cuts in wages, there is no excuse for the further attacks on Corus

employees' terms and conditions. Corus have attempted to deny payment of bonuses due and to close the final pension scheme to new starters (usually a prelude to closure of pension schemes). Whilst bonuses have been paid and the pension scheme left alone, this does not mean Corus have given up.

Conference thanks the GMB for defending its members at Corus and calls for continued support to defend jobs, wages, conditions and the pension scheme for existing and future Corus workers.

PARKGATE BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

MF13. MOD CONTRACTS FOR UK SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

This Conference believes that MOD Shipbuilding contracts already placed should be honoured and calls upon the UK government to give guarantees that cutbacks in government spending as a result of the ongoing financial crisis, brought about by irresponsible conduct by financiers and bankers, will not affect the current programme of defence contracts already placed in British shipbuilding yards, thus protecting what remains of the shipbuilding industry, jobs in the present and for the future and training opportunities in real jobs for young people.

Z42 SOUTHAMPTON NO. 1 BRANCH
Southern Region

MF14. WARSHIP BUILDING

This Conference requests CEC to politically campaign for a continuous flow of work through the UK warship building yards in order to maintain the continuity of employment for workers thereby avoiding the loss of skills in consequence of gaps in the workload, leading to redundancy and disillusionment.

SUNDERLAND 9 ENG BRANCH
Northern Region

PAGE LEFT INTENTIONALLY BLANK

PUBLIC SERVICES SECTION CONFERENCE – INDEX OF MOTIONS

PS30.	0844 TELEPHONE NUMBERS
PS9.	AFFILIATION TO ANTI ACADEMIES ALLIANCE
PS29.	AGENDA FOR CHANGE
PS6.	BANKING CRISIS / PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS
PS21.	CARE STAFF
PS35.	COMMUNICATIONS TETRA RADIO SYSTEM
PS36.	COMMUNICATIONS TETRA RADIO SYSTEMS
PS24.	CONTRACTORS – THIRD PARTY SOME OTHER SUBSTANTIAL REASON – DISMISSAL
PS28.	CORE FUNDING FOR POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO'S)
PS17.	DEFEND PUBLIC SERVICES
PS10.	EDUCATION
PS38.	EQUAL PAY DISCRIMINATION
PS32.	FUNDING FOR FURTHER AND ADULT EDUCATION
PS1.	ISA STANDARD FOR SOCIAL CARE WORKERS
PS25.	LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGET CUTS
PS23.	LOCAL AUTHORITY EMPLOYERS MOVE AWAY FROM THE NATIONAL NEGOTIATING BODY
PS8.	LOCAL AUTHORITY WORKERS
PS13.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONS
PS14.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEMES
PS15.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEMES
PS19.	LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIVATISATION

PS20.	MONITORING MOTIONS PASSED
PS37.	PAY AND GRADING
PS39.	PAY AND GRADING IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES
PS4.	PAY GAP
PS12.	PENSIONS
PS11.	PENSIONS FOR FIRST AND SECOND GENERATION LOCAL AUTHORITY WORKERS
PS18.	PRIVATISATION
PS26.	PROPER MONITORING OF OUTSOURCED LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTS
PS22.	PROTECT OUR NHS
PS34.	PUBLIC SECTOR ALLIANCE
PS33.	PUBLIC SECTOR CUTS
PS5.	PUBLIC SECTOR PAY
PS7.	PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS
PS31.	PUBLIC SERVICES – SCRAPPAGE SCHEME
PS16.	SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF
PS3.	SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF NEGOTIATING BODY
PS27.	SICKNESS ABSENCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
PS2.	SOCIAL CARE PERSONALISATION BUDGETS

PUBLIC SERVICES SECTION MOTIONS

PS1. ISA STANDARD FOR SOCIAL CARE WORKERS

This Conference recognises the Government is introducing a requirement for all care workers working with vulnerable adults and children to have a valid ISA assessment. Whilst the majority of local authorities have stated they will pay the cost in order for their workers to have this statutory assessment, some are looking to require any new employees to have acquired and paid for this themselves. Clearly this has implications in the private sector providers.

As these workgroups are predominately low paid part time workers we ask Conference to campaign for the emphasis to be placed on the employer (both private, voluntary and public sector) to ensure their staff are properly qualified and that the employer foots the bill – not the employee!

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES
South Western Region

PS2. SOCIAL CARE PERSONALISATION BUDGETS

This Conference highlight's Government's promotion of 'personalised budgets' to enable service users more choice in procuring their social care. Whilst we see this as a good thing to enable more people more freedom to 'purchase' their care package we must also be aware of the impact this may have upon our members working in both the private and public social care sector.

If service users are able to purchase their care from unregistered carers then this will potentially have the ability to 'drive down' terms and conditions for our members who work within a recognised care organisation, who have achieved appropriate training and reached the appropriate qualification level required to undertake good quality care work.

Conference is fully aware of the Government's Green paper on 'Shaping the Future for the Care Sector' and the GMB's response to this paper.

Conference calls upon the CEC to consider how the GMB can focus upon ensuring there is a recognised standard for care provision which includes those service users who have their own personalised budget and how we can ensure these workers are organised within the GMB.

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

PS3. SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF NEGOTIATING BODY

This Conference calls on the national secretary and our members of the School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB) to look at what is left of the original remit they were tasked with and if it has no powers left then they should walk away.

This Body has to be an independent Body that takes our support staff out of the local government's control and it has, as we have been promising our members, to give them national terms and conditions, the same as teaching staff have.

We should not be letting the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) or any other Body tell us it is not in our remit, if as a Body you cannot deliver national terms and conditions and mandatory pay awards, then it is not fit for purpose and the GMB should refuse to be part of a Body that has no teeth left.

LEEDS SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

PS4. PAY GAP

Conference acknowledges that the current application of a flat rate across the board percentage pay rises is grossly unfair, unjust and perpetuates obscene differentials in income between the workforces.

Conference is extremely concerned that over the past number of years, local authorities along with other sector pay awards has seen the same percentage rise for the overwhelming majority of employees, resulting in an ever increasing pay gap between low paid front line staff and management.

Conference understands and agrees that there can be no justification in the continuation of a system which perpetuates inequality and compounds a widening pay gap year on year.

Conference endorses and supports negotiations which seek to address the pay gap based upon the premise of wage compression, for example:

- A flat rate increase per annum of say £500 or more for all staff designations.
- Or a meaningful graduated % pay increase depending on what scale you are on which will be beneficial to low paid workers, by narrowing the pay gap and lessening the differentials of income between high and low earners.

252 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

PS5. PUBLIC SECTOR PAY

This Conference believes the current economic crisis was caused by the irresponsibility of senior bankers, hedge fund managers and other senior financial sector directors, yet it is public sector workers who are being forced to pay for this irresponsibility through offers of 0% pay rise and talk by all political parties of pay freezes. This Congress calls for the defence of public sector pay and will campaign for real improvements in our members' pay packets.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

PS6. BANKING CRISIS / PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS

This conference is concerned that two years after the biggest banking crisis since the Second World War, the government has had to not only bail out the banks, but borrow an unprecedented amount of money, putting UK borrowing at an all time record.

However, the bankers are still receiving million pound bonuses while Public Sector workers will be losing their jobs and having their pay frozen. Public Sector workers do their best for the good of their communities and the UK as a whole and should not be blamed or penalised for the damage done by the reckless bankers.

Congress calls on the CEC to support Public Sector workers.

C60 CROYDON BRANCH
Southern Region

PS7. PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS

This Conference condemns the 'scapegoating' of public sector workers by all political parties as a response to the economic recession which was caused by private sector greed and mismanagement.

LEICESTERSHIRE 2000 BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

PS8. LOCAL AUTHORITY WORKERS

This Conference calls on the CEC to make sure that the Local Authority employees like carers, school cleaners, dinner ladies, refuse workers, street sweepers and other employees who work behind the scenes in the town hall buildings are not forgotten.

Whenever the Government, TV or newspapers refer to the 'Public Sector', it is always referring to the NHS, police or fire services, never our Local Authority workers.

This motion does not disregard the importance of the NHS, police and fire services, but wants the public to understand that there are other areas which plays a part in providing local services that are on par with them in the Public Services.

We therefore call on this conference to ensure that every means of publicity pushed out from National and Regions, re-iterates the work done by our Local Authority workers.

2 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

PS9. AFFILIATION TO ANTI ACADEMIES ALLIANCE

In 2006 and 2007 motions were passed at Congress condemning the academies programme. Since 2007 another 154 academies have been opened. Academies have not been proven to raise standards.

Once upon a time private industries were required to part with £2 million in order to own one or more of our schools and the accompanying land. Now Government are giving them away for free. The Tories will put "rocket boosters" under the programme creating hundreds more including primary academies and trusts.

Privatisation and deregulation of our schools threatens the pay and conditions of our members.

Congress condemns both in practice and principle any private control within our education system.

Conference welcomes the role of the Anti Academies Alliance. They have created a movement in which all of the education unions, including GMB, are able to work together.

The aforementioned GMB policies agreed to campaign against the privatisation of our schools. Now let us put our money where our mouth is. Conference asks that the GMB affiliate to the Anti Academies Alliance and provide support to campaigning at local and national level.

B50 SUSSEX BRANCH
Southern Region

PS10. EDUCATION

This Conference condemns the provision of education through academies and trust schools and calls on Congress to re-affirm its opposition to them.

While acknowledging that we recruit and organise within them, this conference wants the GMB to affiliate to the Anti Academy Alliance and through joint work with other unions, actively oppose the setting up of academies/trusts in local and national campaigns, in order to prevent the increasing privatisation of schools.

L17 L.B.LEWISHAM BRANCH
Southern Region

PS11. PENSIONS FOR FIRST AND SECOND GENERATION LOCAL AUTHORITY WORKERS

This Conference is concerned that there seems to be an increase in first and second generation outsourced local authority workers being the subject to 'closed Admitted Body Status' LGPS scheme. Thereby ensuring there is a continuance of a two tier workforce.

There are examples of external contractors taking over a contract and allowing staff in the pension scheme (generally first generation transferred staff) into an ABS scheme, leaving the rest of the staff to go into a stakeholder scheme. Because they were employed post transfer, many workers were not allowed/aware or decided against entering into the company scheme, leaving them disadvantaged when the contract is awarded to another contractor.

If this is allowed to continue then eventually the Local Government Pension Scheme will become overloaded with ex workers claiming their pensions with very few members of the scheme contributing!

Conference urges the Union to support a campaign to promote the benefits of encouraging contractors to opt for Admitted Body Status. The myth busting Pensions Briefing is excellent – we ask Conference to consider something on similar lines for Admitted Body Status.

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES
South Western Region

PS12. PENSIONS

This Conference abhors any further actions by Government or any other Government for further disrupt, dilute or meddle with either NHS pensions or Public Service pensions.

BARNSELY HEALTH BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

PS13. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSIONS

This Conference is against any proposals to reduce or to close the Local Government Final Salary Pension Scheme, and calls on the CEC and the GMB Pensions Department to actively engage with the Government, regardless of which Party is in power, to dismiss the myths that the LGPS scheme is unsustainable.

ASHFIELD GENERAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

PS14. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEMES

This Conference remains totally opposed to threats to the LGPS and resolves to campaign to retain a final salary pension scheme within local government.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

PS15. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEMES

We call on Congress to defend our Public Sector Workers Pension Scheme in the face of unprecedented attacks.

The defence of our members Final Salary Schemes is paramount in the face of the Tory Propaganda of organisations like the Tax Payer Alliance. That only highlights Chief Executive Settlements to falsely give the impression that thousands of our low paid members are enjoying gold plated futures.

Average payouts for many are only £3,000 a year.

The LGPS is an intrinsic part of our Terms and Conditions and we should vigorously oppose any Government that wishes to change them.

MANCHESTER 115 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

PS16. SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF

This Conference calls on the national secretary and the School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB) to put a stop to the practice of only paying Higher Level Teaching Assistants (HLTA's) their HLTA pay as and when they are taking a class. The rest of their time is paid as a Teaching Assistant.

This stops any prospect of a clear progression for Teaching Assistants and keeps them on the same grade with a temporary contract for a few hours Higher Level Teaching Assistant or an as hoc one with a few hours here and there.

There is no real professional development while ever Teaching Assistants are not allowed the opportunity to progress through the four TA levels.

This practice would not be allowed in the teaching profession. So why do our hidden professionals have to put up with a practice that stops their career development. Head teachers are the only ones to benefit from this practice as they have a cheap pool of supply teachers to call on as and when they need them.

LEEDS SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

PS17. DEFEND PUBLIC SERVICES

This Conference re-affirms its opposition to the Privatisation of our Public Services as a result of the current financial situation facing Local Government in the UK.

Congress notes that the Accounts Commission reported in the last quarter of 2009 that Councils would not be able to make the savings needed year on year by efficiencies alone. Suggesting that Councils would require to look into their Service Delivery Model, considering Partnerships with the Private Sector.

Congress, services transferring to the Private Sector would do nothing to enhance the quality and delivery of services our communities depend upon.

Shareholder Value would take priority over the level of quality of service and impact on the terms and conditions of workers as they drive down operating costs at the expense of the key Services.

Therefore we are calling on Congress to support a vigorous campaign to defend our Public Services.

SCOTTISH STAFF BRANCH
GMB Scotland

PS18. PRIVATISATION

This Conference notes that the privatisation of public services and assets has only served to lower standards of service to the public, decrease jobs, pay and conditions of workers and has contributed to greater disparities of wealth in the UK.

Conference agrees to continue to oppose privatisation in whatever form it takes and if necessary to advocate industrial action to protect jobs and services.

DURHAM GENERAL BRANCH
Northern Region

PS19. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRIVATISATION

Congress calls on the CEC to impress on whatever Government that they should support keeping jobs in house and not look to out source as an easy option to save money, as it does not.

Outsourcing does not save money, it only puts services at risk.

2 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

PS20. MONITORING MOTIONS PASSED

This Conference asks the Public Service National Committee to monitor motions passed at Sectional Conferences and to endeavour for them to be agreed upon as quickly as possible.

MIDLAND HEALTHCARE BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

PS21. CARE STAFF

This Conference asks the relevant Public Service National Officers to do all in their power to improve pay and terms and conditions of Carers providing care for vulnerable people in the private sector. Minimum wage is not fair pay for care!

ESSEX PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
London Region

PS22. PROTECT OUR NHS

The Conference calls on the Government to protect our NHS from the unprecedented financial savings pressures being implemented across the Public Services as a whole. The NHS needs responsible redevelopment, not catastrophic cuts. Front line facilities and services must be exempt from cuts of any kind. The Labour Government has returned the NHS to the pinnacle of excellence in world health care, which must continue. Health is the most important service available to every member and uniquely has no equality issues. Front line health care must remain and continue to be provided by the State for the people.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

PS23. LOCAL AUTHORITY EMPLOYERS MOVE AWAY FROM THE NATIONAL NEGOTIATING BODY

This Conference recognises in many areas of the Union local authorities are trying to undermine the JNC Local Authority Negotiating Body by trying to attack the Green Book terms and conditions. This is done against the back drop of public sector workers having been protected against the swinging cuts experienced by their private sector colleagues. These mainly Tory and Liberal Democrat local authorities

are pushing to promote local bargaining in order to save jobs. The reality is they are diluting our members terms and conditions before either outsourcing (getting them fit for the 'competitive market') or terminating their employment.

Conference therefore calls upon the Union to regionally/nationally monitor what is happening across local authorities and name and shame those authorities who are trying to undermine the national negotiating body.

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

PS24. CONTRACTORS – THIRD PARTY SOME OTHER SUBSTANTIAL REASON – DISMISSAL

This Conference calls upon the Union to condemn the ever growing practice to dismiss our members who work in the private sector providing a service for a client and finding themselves dismissed through 'third party some other substantial reason'. As it currently stands our members can work for a client, say, as a cleaner for twenty six years in a school, the Head and/or the caretaker can change and for some reason as they take a dislike to that person (even though they are carrying out their work correctly and to the required standard) they can request to the contractor that worker is removed from site.

If there is no alternative work for that person to be redeployed into they are dismissed. This is happening all too frequently.

Conference would therefore ask the Union to raise the profile of these cases to shame the client and the contractor, to expose the loophole in the law that allows both the client and the contractor to treat honest, loyal staff in this way.

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

PS25. LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGET CUTS

This Conference is alarmed that Public Services are being targeted by the Government as a response to the recession created by the "banksters". Many local authorities have already made stringent cuts to the workforce and there is no 'fat' in the structure but already have a 'lean' and mostly demoralised workforce. Our members have being asked to deliver the same level of service with a vastly reduced workforce. GMB members are sick to death of the same old platitudes of 'vacancy management' when someone leaves they are not replaced – this has been happening in many local council's for a very long time. When staff become tired, stressed and exhausted they are then put on sickness absence sanctions which ultimately can lead to their dismissal – without any package!

Committed and loyal staff are finding themselves the subject of redeployment and having to accept two or three grade reductions in their salaries and demotion in order to stay in paid employment.

Now some Tory led councils in the South Western Region have come up with the idea of imposing a pay freeze alongside removal of essential car user allowance, a freeze on the annual incremental pay award and an increase on qualifying period for occupational sick pay. This is all done under the threat of 'if you don't agree then staff will lose their jobs'. This very same authority is also putting out large sections of the workforce into the private and third sector. The rationale for this is to reduce the number of staff they have to manage therefore they will reduce their corporate overheads – this is exactly what the GMB stated would happen under 'Best Value' local authorities becoming a procurement service and not a provider of services!

Conference therefore calls upon the Union to fight against these increasing cuts to our local authority services and raise awareness with the public about the impact this will have upon all our direct (and indirect) services local council's provide.

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

PS26. PROPER MONITORING OF OUTSOURCED LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTS

This Conference is concerned that despite the enhanced TUPE regulations protecting public service contracts, external contractors continue to try and dilute our members' terms and conditions.

There is a duty and responsibility on the 'client' (local authority) to monitor the contract and ensure the contractor is compliant and not in breach of the TUPE++ regulations. However, increasingly more contractors seek to undermine our members' terms and conditions by stealth. In the South Western Region we have recently identified one contractor who has breached the pay and grading structure staff transferred over on. Instead of receiving an annual increment (as stated in their terms and conditions) some of the workforce received this whilst others did not. New staff were not put on the same grading structure (even though they did not receive enhanced sick pay or annual leave entitlement in order to compensate for this) therefore it was not until the contractor lost the contract the GMB was able to identify these inconsistencies when given the TUPE transfer list.

The Union is now threatening the contractor with illegal deduction of earnings but it should not have had to be identified by the GMB – the responsibility is with the client – the Local Authority! There is enough staff to check to see if the grass is cut within a centimeter of the specification but they fail to uphold employees terms and conditions.

Sadly, this will become even more common in the future as profit margins become tighter and less 'wiggle' room is available to contractors to make their profits from 'cash cows' (local council's) who are becoming leaner by the second!

Positive action is taking place at national level relating to public sector contractors but would ask Conference to set up a national register of contractors across the regions to assist local workplace reps in identifying the worst culprits. This information will assist when council's go out to retender.

BRISTOL PUBLIC SERVICES BRANCH
South Western Region

PS27. SICKNESS ABSENCES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

This Conference calls on the Union to enter into negotiations with all the Police Forces to ensure there is a more supportive Sickness Policy and Procedures within the Police Forces, to ensure that staff who are ill obtain the appropriate help and support. Currently, Police Forces are using the Bradford scoring system for sickness absences. Conference, this is a huge issue for our members who are ill. GMB Representatives are involved in representations for members who have been subjected to disciplinary action for genuine sickness absences. This issue is causing much distress for our members, especially for members who undergoing investigations to determine the root cause of a medical problem. Subsequently, this has resulted in our members struggling into work because of fear of disciplinary action against them. Conference believes that support should be given to members who are ill, not disciplinary action. Therefore, we call on Conference to lobby Government to ensure a more appropriate Sickness Absence Policy is in place to ensure that our members do not have to struggle into work when they are genuinely ill.

SOUTH WALES POLICE BRANCH
South Western Region

PS28. CORE FUNDING FOR POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS (PCSO'S)

This Conference calls on the Union to lobby Government to ensure core funding is in place for Police Community Support Officers. PCSO'S have proved to be a remarkable support for our communities. We have seen a drastic decrease in anti social behaviour due to the work of PCSO's. We now have a presence of PCSO's policing our streets, which has resulted in England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland becoming a safer place. PCSO's complement our Police Officers and they are a much more cost effective community resource to resolve anti social behaviours. However, although the Government is aware of the excellent work that PCSO's do, they have not committed to putting in place core funding revenue. GMB Members who are employed as PCSO's do not know if their funding will continue after March 2011. Conference, we call on you today to sign up to the campaign to lobby Government to ensure core funding revenue is in place to ensure PCSO's are not the thing of the past. Conference, campaign and lobby to keep our streets safe.

SOUTH WALES POLICE BRANCH
South Western Region

PS29. AGENDA FOR CHANGE

This Conference calls on the GMB to ensure that the Tripartite Agreement in relation to Agenda for Change is adhered to and all our brothers and sisters who work for privatised services are awarded the benefits of this national agreement.

BARNSELY HEALTH BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

PS30. 0844 TELEPHONE NUMBERS

This Conference commits to push Government to force all public sector to change all public service telephone numbers from 0844 numbers, especially health care providers, including GPs. The current system, where adopted, disproportionately disadvantages those on low incomes and the elderly.

NOTTINGHAM NO.1 APEX BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

PS31. PUBLIC SERVICES – SCRAPPAGE SCHEME

This Conference calls upon the Government to provide a 'scrappage scheme' for all Public Services front line equipment. All essential front line equipment condemned as unserviceable will be replaced under a match funded incentive scheme, enabling services to be maintained, and removing any excuses by service providers for outsource services.

MANSFIELD CENTRAL BRANCH
Midland & East Coast Region

PS32. FUNDING FOR FURTHER AND ADULT EDUCATION

This Conference expresses grave concern at the proposed reduction in government expenditure on adult learning for 2010/2011. Under plans announced in late 2009, the sector will be expected to find £240m of "efficiency savings" through reductions of between 3% and 10% in funding rates for Adult Learner Responsiveness, Train to Gain and Apprenticeships.

From experience we know that "efficiency savings" usually means cuts in the terms and conditions of our members and rises in fees for our students.

After years of under investment in adult education, these further cuts will impact disastrously on the skills base of the population at this crucial time. They will also affect staff across the Further Education sector,

especially support staff whose jobs are often deemed more “expendable” by college management and they will impact on the poorest and most vulnerable in society, as courses are cancelled or fees increased, meaning that adult learning could soon become the preserve of the privileged few.

GMB calls for budget protection for all post-16 learning, financial support for adults who wish to learn and the staff who enable them to do so, and public sector budgets which do not force ordinary people to pay the price for economic problems not of our making.

GMB FURTHER & ADULT EDUCATION BRANCH
London Region

PS33. PUBLIC SECTOR CUTS

This Conference will campaign to defend the public sector which provides vital services for all members of the community but which now faces unprecedented attacks in the aftermath of a financial crisis caused by the irresponsibility of the financial services industry.

ISLINGTON APEX BRANCH
London Region

PS34. PUBLIC SECTOR ALLIANCE

Conference recognises that which ever Government is in power, Public Sector workers will be expected to bear the brunt of the economic crisis created by the greed of banks and other financial institutions.

Conference rejects any motion of a pay freeze, artificial pay ceiling or attacks on terms and conditions, including pensions. We resolve to resist all attempt to impose such policies.

Conference believes that the only effective way to resist these attacks is by uniting with other like minded Public Sector Unions. Accordingly we call for the establishment of a Public Sector alliance.

Conference calls upon the CEC to raise the issue within the TUC and, if necessary, consider sponsoring a conference to establish a Public Sector alliance in order to defend Public Sector jobs, pay and conditions and Public Services in the face of the oncoming onslaught.

5 BRANCH
North West and Irish Region

PS35. COMMUNICATIONS TETRA RADIO SYSTEM

Conference, London Ambulance Health Branch has great concerns regarding the introduction of Tetra Radios within the Ambulance Service.

These radios raise great health concerns (radiation) amongst crews out on the roads.

To date the London Ambulance Service has not completed by risk assessment. The branch are asking for a temporary national ban until more tests and results have been proven, and risk assessments can be assessed.

LONDON AMBULANCE HEALTH BRANCH
London Region

PS36. COMMUNICATIONS TETRA RADIO SYSTEMS

This Conference has great concerns regarding the introduction of Tetra Radios within the Ambulance Service.

These radios raise great health concerns (radiation) amongst crews out on the roads.

To date the London Ambulance Service has not completed any risk assessment.

This Conference is asking for a temporary National ban until more tests and results have been proven, and risk assessments can be assessed.

G33 GREENWICH AMBULANCE BRANCH
Southern Region

PS37. PAY AND GRADING

This Conference calls to campaign against local authorities using pay and grading as an excuse to cut wages and conditions under the guise of equal pay.

This legislation was passed to protect and enhance low paid employees and not to sort out poor management of public funds.

Level up not down!

LEEDS CIVIC BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

PS38. EQUAL PAY DISCRIMINATION

This Conference we call upon to campaign against local authorities using pay and grading as an excuse to cut wages, hours and conditions under the disguise of equal pay.

This was a law brought in to cover low paid women and to protect their pay and not to be used to sort our bad management of public funds within local authorities.

LEEDS LOCAL GOVT STAFF BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

PS39. PAY AND GRADING IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES

This conference we call upon you to campaign against local authorities using pay and grading as an excuse to cut wages, hours and conditions of service under the disguise of equal pay.

Equal pay was brought in to mainly benefit lower paid female workers and to protect their pay and conditions and not to sort out poor management of local authority funds.

LEEDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF BRANCH
Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

