

West Ham Labour Party



Your guide to the Labour Party

Welcome to West Ham Labour Party. We have a proud Labour history in West Ham with the first Labour MP (Keir Hardie). Today, Labour still represents West Ham locally and nationally. We are a vibrant, active and sociable party, holding packed events recently to nominate candidates for leader and London Mayor as well as holding regular socials.

There are many reasons why people choose to be part of the Labour Party and we want to make sure you get the most from your membership. This guide tells you about us and how you can get involved and tries to explain some of the inevitable jargon.

We look forward to meeting you at an event soon but to find out more in the meantime please get in touch with Ellie, our Chair, or Hanif or Julianne, our Vice Chairs (contact details are below) or visit our website westhamlabour.wordpress.com, [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).

Your branch

You are part of a branch (based on the ward boundaries). Your branch meets locally each month, campaigns within the ward and selects and supports three Labour Party members to become Councillors at local elections. Your branch secretary will be in touch soon to welcome you and invite you to events and campaigning sessions - their details are below.

You can check which ward you live in and who your Councillors are on [Newham's website](#). Many wards keep in touch with members by Facebook and Twitter.

Branch secretaries

Canning Town North	Shaban Mohammed	
Canning Town South	Clive Furness	clivefurness@hotmail.com
Custom House	Momodou Sanyang	mlsanyang@yahoo.com
Forest Gate North	Heather Jones	forestgatenorth@gmail.com
Forest Gate South	Mas Patel	mas786_uk@yahoo.co.uk
Green Street West	Hanif Abdulmuhit	hanifabuk@gmail.com
Plaistow North	Tahmina Rahman	tahmina_rahman_1@hotmail.com
Plaistow South	Jill McWilliam	jillmcwilliam@aol.com
Stratford and New Town	Richard Andrews	stratfordwardsecretary@gmail.com
West Ham	John Whitworth	jhnwhitworth@yahoo.co.uk

West Ham Constituency Labour Party

West Ham Constituency Labour Party (CLP) covers all of the areas that Lyn Brown is the Member of Parliament for and is made up of the 10 branches. We have a monthly meeting (called General Committee or GC) which we hope you will come to (7.30pm, on

the fourth Thurs of the month except Aug and Dec). We often have interesting speakers followed by a lively Q&A and an update from Lyn.

The CLP also selects and supports a candidate to run for MP. We reselected Lyn Brown MP who increased her majority in the 2015 general election. We also nominated candidates for leader, deputy leader and London Mayor in very lively meetings.

Each branch chooses members that have voting rights at GC. In turn each year (at the AGM) they elect an Executive Committee (EC) who are responsible for running the CLP - organising fundraising, social events, campaigning and communications.

West Ham CLP Executive Committee members 2014/15

Chair	Ellie Robinson	e.clarkerobinson@gmail.com
Secretary	Alan Griffiths	alangriffiths_per@yahoo.co.uk
Treasurer	Forhad Hussain	forhadhussain@gmail.com
Vice-Chair, membership	Hanif Abdulmuhit	hanifgs@gmail.com
Vice-Chair, campaigns and communications	Julianne Marriott	juliannemarriott@me.com
Women's officer	Seyi Akiwowo	seyi.akiwowo@gmail.com

You should be receiving regular invitations to meetings as well as other information - if that isn't happening please contact Alan or Hanif to check your details. And we're on [Twitter @WestHamLabour](#) and [Facebook WestHamLabour](#)

Labour in Newham

Newham is made up of West Ham and East Ham CLPs. The three Councillors that represent your ward are part of Newham's 60 Councillors. We have a directly elected Labour Mayor, Sir Robin Wales, selected by Labour Party members.

The borough party is governed by the Newham Local Campaign Forum (LCF). It's responsible for our campaigning strategy for council elections, overseeing the selecting of our council candidates and ensuring that our Labour Councillors (the Labour Group) are accountable to members.

Labour in London

You're also a member of the London Labour Party the umbrella for all the CLPs in London. London Labour Party organises a range of events and canvassing sessions.

Members pick and support Labour's candidate for London Mayor. Sadiq Khan is our candidate for the 2016 election and you can find out more at www.sadiq.london

Members also pick our Assembly Members (AM) of the Greater London Authority (GLA). Our AM (City and East) is Labour's John Biggs. We also pick and support Labour's candidates to run for London's MEPs - you can find out who ours are and more about their work at www.eurolabour.org.uk.

The National Labour Party

The Labour Party is governed by the National Executive Party (NEC) which oversees the direction of the party and policy making. Members vote for the CLP representatives on the NEC. Members of the NEC are also part of the much larger National Policy Forum (NPF) which brings together members from the Labour regions and affiliate organisations (more about them later).

The policies they agree are debated at Labour Party Conference. Each CLP can choose a member to represent them in debates and votes at conference. But every Labour member is warmly invited to Conference. It's a great way to meet other members, hear the Leader's speech and attend meetings and debates.

You also have access to a **members only** part of the website for info about events.

Labour affiliated Trade Unions and socialist societies

Many Labour members are also members of trade unions. Affiliated unions, listed **here**, are represented at all levels in the Labour Party - they send delegates to CLPs, have a role in selecting people to stand for MP and are represented on the NEC, NPF and at conference. If you're a member of one you can sign up for emails from **Unions Together**. Union members who pay the "political levy" (a small part of their subscription paid into a political fund) can also vote to choose Labour's leader.

That right is also open to members of Labour's socialist societies and affiliated organisations that you can find more about **here**. Two of the biggest are:

The Co-operative Party: our sister party and political wing of the co-operative movement. You can join **online** or contact our local secretary, Dianne Walls, diannewalls1@hotmail.com to be added to the Newham Co-Op mailing list.

The Fabian Society is the Labour Party's internal think tank and a founding organisation of the Labour Party. We have a local Newham Fabian Society, the Secretary is Tahmina Rahman, tahmina_rahman_1@hotmail.com.

There are lots of other organisations which aren't formally affiliated but with overlapping membership:

Progress has a lively blog, a monthly magazine, holds regular events from phone canvassing to a political education weekend. **Compass** has a big annual conference, publishes pamphlets and runs campaigns supporting policy ideas rather than people and runs regular events. Newham's group is run by Christopher Owens owenseaster@gmail.com.

Other organisations exist to promote equality (some are not affiliated):

Labour Women's Network (LWN) trains and support the next generation of women in public office and to become MPs, councillors and party officers.

BAME Labour seeks to empower ethnic minority members and campaigns for greater representation of ethnic minority communities in public life.

LGBT Labour campaigns for full legal and social equality for lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people with a formidable reputation for doorstep campaign work and great social events.

Labour Students stand up for students within the Labour Party's structure. You can join at college or university or centrally.

Young Labour support and train young election candidates and hold social events for 14 to 16 year olds. There's a London and Newham group both on facebook.

There are many more including "Labour Friends of..." (football/forces/India and many more) or groups for specific policies including **SERA** (environment) or **Campaign for International Development**.

Blogs

Labour-supporting blogs, including **Left Foot Forward**, **Labour List** and **Labour Uncut**, are good sources of information and debate about Labour politics.

Campaign

We talk to voters all year round by knocking on doors, telephone canvassing, attending events, running street stalls and delivering leaflets - but we need to do even more in the run up to the London Mayor election. Please come and join us. You'll get regular updates about where we and when. West Ham also has a proud tradition of helping other areas across the country in by-elections and local elections.

Donate

West Ham Labour Party raises locally about £15,000 for election campaigns (Parliamentary, Council, London Assembly and Europe) over a 4/5 year cycle. If you can help please make a direct donation, join our 100 Club, or contribute monthly to our Campaign Fund by getting in touch with the Treasurer.

You can also help by paying your membership by direct debit, paying a regular donation on top of your membership fee (every pound makes a difference), coming along to fundraising events and swapping to our **Member Services**.

Recruit

Most people join the Labour Party for a very simple reason - somebody asked them to! Is there someone you can ask to join?

Represent

The Labour Party is always looking for brilliant representatives at all levels to make Labour's case. Come and join us locally to find out more.

Thank you again for joining and we look forward to meeting you soon.

This document drew a lot on one created by Bermondsey and Old Southwark CLP who we'd like to thank.