This year we again have the opportunity to elect representatives to the Constituency Section of the National Executive Committee. CLPs are recommended to nominate six candidates from the centre and left of the Labour Party - who will stand up for the rights of grass-roots Party members. These six candidates have been put forward by Party pressure groups associated with the Centre Left Grassroots Alliance (CLGA). CLPD believes the six being recommended would make the most effective team and represent a spread of the Party's regions.

To secure a place in the ballot, candidates need nominations from their own CLP and at least two form constituencies in other Labour Party regions. Each CLP can make up to six nominations - the closing date is 30th March 2012

**Ann Black**

In twelve years on the NEC and the National Policy Forum I have taken members’ views to the highest level, consulted widely and reported back faithfully. My record is at www.labourblogs.com/pudlblog/annblack. I have talked with thousands of members from every region and nation, from Tory shires, northern strongholds, key marginals, Scotland and Wales, all facing different challenges. The Tories and their right-wing media friends are setting the unemployments against the working poor, public service against private industry, Britain against the rest of Europe. Their cuts are hardest on women, the young, the ill, the unemployed against the working poor, public service and any chance of economic recovery. Labour needs to provide a clear alternative, based on equality and social justice. This means making the break with failed ‘New Labour’ policies that the present leadership has promised but not yet delivered, as well as strengthening party democracy and accountability. If elected, I would make the case for such an approach. I would highlight the experience of Wales, where Labour remains in office after reforming market-based policies. I would provide regular consistent feedback to members and party units.

**Peter Willman**

Since 1981 I have uniquely served on all four of our Party’s National committees. In the face of the government’s vicious attacks Labour needs to defend and speak up for our diverse communities. This means stressing investment to create jobs and to build affordable homes and not listening to the drivel prophets of austerity. Cancelling Trident, tackling tax avoidance evasion and economic growth would sort out the deficit. We need to resist timidly and be bold. An effective NEC is a vital link between the regions, party and parliamentary leadership. It should play a strategic role in confronting the challenges ahead. My record proves I have the necessary energy, enthusiasm and commitment to play a full part in the NEC’s fight back.

**Darren Williams**

With Con-Dem policies jeopardising our welfare state, public services and any chance of economic recovery, Labour needs to provide a clear alternative, based on equality and social justice. This means making the break with failed ‘New Labour’ policies that the present leadership has promised but not yet delivered, as well as strengthening party democracy and accountability. If elected, I would make the case for such an approach. I would highlight the experience of Wales, where Labour remains in office after reforming market-based policies. I would provide regular consistent feedback to members and party units.

**Ken Livingstone**

I am seeking re-election because I believe my experience of public office and campaigning against the Tories strengthens Labour’s team. With Ed Miliband as Leader the party has made significant progress, however we still face considerable challenges. The Tories are slowing the economy and making people worse off, when the priority should be to restore growth. In London Boris Johnson champions peace, social justice and public ownership, particularly of the NHS and other public services. The Tory-led coalition’s deficit reduction strategy is unfair, disproportionately hitting those on low incomes. We need to save public sector jobs. I encourage more involvement of party members. As CLP women’s officers I have organised meetings on getting more women to stand for office. I believe I am accountable as I report back. I reach out to the local community; being involved in local campaigns such as opposing closure of local Hospital A&E. I am also an active member of Unite the Union.

**Kate Osamor**

I support core Labour values of peace, social justice and public ownership, particularly of the NHS and other public services. The Tory-led coalition’s deficit reduction strategy is unfair, disproportionately hitting those on low incomes. We need to save public sector jobs. I encourage more involvement of party members. As CLP women’s officers I have organised meetings on getting more women to stand for office. I believe I am accountable as I report back. I reach out to the local community; being involved in local campaigns such as opposing closure of local Hospital A&E. I am also an active member of Unite the Union.

**Christine Shawcroft**

I have represented members on the NEC for 13 years, I opposed the stitch-ups of Ken Livingstone and Rhodri Morgan, spoke up against the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, warned about the ‘targets’ culture imposed on public services (shortly before Estelle Morris had to resign), opposed ruinous PFI schemes (which even the Tories admit were financial disasters) and campaigned against the overturning of democratically selected candidates all over the country. My reward for having been right about all these issues was to be treated like a pariah on the NEC. Luckily, I’m not easily intimidated. I am a strong, independent voice on the NEC, doing my best to raise the concerns of rank and file members. I can’t be cajoled into going along with dodgy decisions and I try and hold the leadership to account. I will carry on fighting for greater democracy in the party, and a policy making process which reflects our ideals.

**For further information contact the Campaign for Labour Party Democracy (CLPD)**

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