

# Peter Willsman

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Dear Secretary

## Conference Arrangements Committee (Constituency Section) – Election 2013

I have been privileged to have been nominated for the above position by my CLP, Oxford East, and am writing to your constituency to seek a supporting nomination. The closing date for nominations is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. The election is by all the CLP delegates at Annual Conference in Brighton at the end of September.

I served as the constituency rep. on the Conference Arrangements Committee (CAC) from 1981 to 1994 and for over 25 years I have been sending to every CLP my annually updated 12 page Guide to Annual Conference. Since 1994 I have also served on the NEC, National Constitutional Committee and National Policy Forum. I am very proud to be the only party member ever to have been elected to all four of our Party's national committees. I would welcome the opportunity to use this experience to benefit and assist CLPs and their Conference delegates, especially the many new delegates.

Our Rule Book states that Annual Conference is the Party's sovereign body. The Conference is an important showpiece for the Party, but it must also be the main forum for debate and decisions. At last year's Conference as little as 18% of Conference time was allocated to the proposing of resolutions and debating them. CLP delegates complain that they are often reduced to little more than spectators at their own Conference. The CAC also needs to be more flexible in its approach to contemporary motions and rule change proposals.

An effective and engaged conference, with CLP and union delegates coming together to give direction to the Party and its Parliamentary leadership, would help to invigorate the party at all levels. Ed Miliband is committed to rebuilding an active and involved party. An enhanced role at Conference for CLPs and their delegates would be an important step in this direction. This is my motivation for standing.

I am always available to give help and advice to CLPs and party members – I am only a phone call away. I am also very happy to visit CLPs - I have spoken at meetings in every region.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Yours in comradeship

*Peter Willsman*

Membership No A071448 (Oxford East CLP)

### My Labour and Co-op Movement experience:

#### At national level

NEC: 1998-1999 and July 2005 - 2010  
Conference Arrangements Cttee 1981-1994  
National Constitutional Cttee 1995-1998  
National Policy Forum 1998-1999 and 2002 - 2010  
National Research Officer NUPE/UNISON 1979-1994

#### At regional and local level

London Region Board 2002-2005  
GC of CLP 1975-2013  
Ward Secretary 1994-2010  
ILEA Councillor 1986-1990  
Branch Secretary APEX/GMB 1980-1998  
Co-op Group (CWS) Area Cttee/Party Council 1988-2010

Having served on our Party's national committees since 1981, I would like to thank members and CLPs for their support over the years.