



Resolution Date: 11/03/2014

Resolution Title: The Secret State - Support for the Campaign Opposing Police Surveillance (COPS)

This branch notes:

- 1) The revelations about the nature and extent of secret policing in Britain, showing decades long spying on and interference with political movements, trade unions and campaigns. It has emerged that groups spied upon have included the family of Steven Lawrence, anti racist campaigns, left wing parties, environmental campaigns and trade union activists. At least some union activists who were illegally blacklisted by employers appear to have been spied on by the police who shared information with employers;
- 2) The Campaign Opposing Police Surveillance has been set up by a number of individuals and organisations targeted;
- 3) That those organisations, together with their lawyers, have publicly declared that they have no faith in Operation Herne or any of the up to 16, often secret, internal police reviews. They are not sufficiently transparent, robust or independent to satisfy public concern and do not come close to addressing all of the issues involved. They have called for a public inquiry.

We support the call for an independent public inquiry into all the revelations that undercover policing has been used against protest and political campaigns. Political policing has no place in a democratic society and a mechanism must be found to bring it to a halt.

We resolve to affiliate to COPD with a donation of £50. We resolve to send an appropriately amended version of this resolution to the appropriate body to call of Unite London and southeast region to affiliate.

Paul Kershaw

The campaign website can be found here: <http://campaignopposingpolicesurveillance.wordpress.com/>