

Resolution Date: 10th November 2015

Resolution Title: Unite support for Jeremy Corbyn & Momentum

This Unite branch welcomes the outstanding election of Jeremy Corbyn as the new Labour Leader with 59.5% of the vote on a platform of anti-austerity, and a bold new vision of a fair and just society for working people.

We congratulate Unite Executive Council for the decision to endorse Jeremy Corbyn and to recommend support for him by Unite members. We also congratulate the work of the Unite Political Department for the tremendous effort they put in to sign up more than 100,000 Unite affiliated supporters, more than half of the total number of affiliated supporters signed up by all affiliated unions. There is no doubt that Unite's Political Strategy to engage with and win back the Labour Party for working class values has been hugely important in achieving this success.

However we know that Jeremy's election was not welcomed by the majority of the Labour PLP and those elements within the Labour Party who support New Labour neo-liberal economics etc. His leadership and the policies he represents will receive unremitting criticism and ridicule in almost all the mainstream media.

We therefore call on Unite Executive Council to ensure that this great union does everything it can to mobilise and unite the growing movement of support behind Jeremy Corbyn's leadership, including the huge army of young people who were enthused to support his campaign, as well as the increased number of Unite members who became engaged in politics. Unite has the responsibility to play a key role in building a mass movement in support of Jeremy Corbyn around a clear anti austerity message.

We recommend

- 1) That Unite works with other unions and campaigns to call a conference to support Jeremy Corbyn programme. This can help build the mass movement and act as a counterbalance to attempts to destabilise the new leadership from within the PLP.
 - 2) That Unite calls a conference in support of councils resisting cuts and provides support for councils prepared to campaign on needs based budgets.
 - 3) That Unite works in alliance with other organisations e.g. CLPD to consider support for Rule Changes to democratise the Labour Party and give policy making and control back to the membership, including making MPs more accountable to their CLP
 - 4) We support Momentum as the new movement aimed at building a mass movement outside of Parliament (e.g. anti-austerity and for Trade Union rights) to back Jeremy Corbyn to become Prime Minister and involving Labour Party members and all those supporting Jeremy Corbyn. That Unite works to oppose factional expulsions, suspensions and which hunts by the right wing including the suspension of Andrew Fisher. Unite should also support the readmission of councillors who have been disciplined for opposing cuts.
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