



Emergency Motion to Labour Conference 2017:

LENGTHY SUSPENSION OF LABOUR PARTY MEMBERS

Conference notes that on 20 September 2017 the Party's national officers failed to respond to a deadline set by Brighton Pavilion CLP for information concerning the suspension of its member, Greg Hadfield.

This member has been suspended since October 2016 but has not been informed of any allegations against him or decisions taken in his case, despite the NEC Disputes Panel having agreed early in 2017 to refer this case to the National Constitutional Committee.

Conference believes that the lengthy suspension of a Party member amounts to the administrative imposition of a sanction without a hearing.

Conference further believes that lengthy suspensions of Party members are unacceptable. Justice delayed is justice denied.

Conference endorses the Chakrabarti Inquiry proposal that "subjects of complaint should normally be informed both of its substance and author at the earliest opportunity" and concurs with the Inquiry's report that it is important for procedures to lay down clear timelines within which a complaint will be dealt with.

Conference deplores the failure of the Party to deal swiftly with cases where members are suspended, and instructs the NEC to ensure that:

1. Brighton Pavilion CLP is given a timetable to conclude the suspension of its member within two months of the close of Conference.
2. The Party's disciplinary procedures are revised to provide for a strict time limit of no more than three months for the suspension of any member, subject to provision for exceptional cases to be determined by the NEC and reported to Conference annually.

Proposed by Brighton Pavilion CLP

[250 words]