



Brexit

International Policy Commission



Thank you for taking part in the Labour Party's 2019 National Policy Forum Consultation, the Party's process for getting input from our members, supporters and stakeholders on how we shape our policies.

This booklet is one of eight policy documents published by the Labour Party as part of our consultation this year.

Each document contains sets of questions for you to answer. You do not need to answer every question, nor is there any specific way to answer them. We suggest picking the questions most important to you and using them as a guide to write a few lines or paragraphs on what you think about the issues in this area.

At the end of the document you can find a guide on how to send in your ideas to us and other ways to get involved in the consultation.

There are seven other documents that might interest you covering different areas of the Party's policies, you can find them in the consultation pack or online. If you have an idea or issue you would like to talk about that is not covered in this year's consultation, you can submit these to us too via www.policyforum.labour.org.uk

Whether you're a Labour Party member or not, we want to hear your ideas on how the next Labour government should tackle the challenges our country faces, and build a more equal Britain for the many, not the few.

Want to know more about how Labour makes policy?

You can learn more about how Labour makes policy, further details about the 2019 Consultation and find policy events in your area on our website www.policyforum.labour.org.uk

ACCESSIBLE MATERIALS

The Labour Party is an inclusive member-based organisation that prides itself on being accessible to all who share its values. If you would like an accessible version of these documents please email us at policydevelopment@labour.org.uk to discuss how we can best accommodate your requirements.

Brexit

In 2016, the UK voted to leave the European Union. Since then, the Government's disastrous handling of the Brexit negotiations has led to huge and continuing uncertainty.

Labour's primary focus is on protecting jobs and the economy, and we have always been clear that any Brexit deal would have to pass our six tests for us to support it in Parliament. Since the referendum, we have pushed for the UK to build a strong new relationship with the EU including negotiating a customs union to support jobs, particularly those in our manufacturing sector which rely on just-in-time production.

We have also been clear that the option of no-deal is completely unacceptable, and would represent a catastrophic failure by the Government. As we reach a critical stage in the negotiations, it is clear the Prime Minister cannot command support for her deal.

At our party conference in 2018, Labour members agreed, in a motion that passed unanimously:

"... Conference believes Labour MPs must vote against any Tory deal failing to meet these tests in full.

"Conference also believes a no-deal Brexit should be rejected as a viable option and calls upon Labour MPs to vigorously oppose any attempt by this Government to deliver a no-deal outcome ...

"Should Parliament vote down a Tory Brexit deal or the talks end in no-deal, Conference believes this would constitute a loss of confidence in the Government. In these circumstances, the best outcome for the country is an immediate General Election that can sweep the Tories from power.

"If we cannot get a general election Labour must support all options remaining on the table, including campaigning for a public vote ..."

Issues

As Brexit is a fast-moving process, we cannot predict now how events will unfold over the coming weeks and months during which this consultation will place.

The Commission will be meeting regularly to discuss the ongoing situation, with policy commission members able to engage in a dialogue with the relevant Shadow Ministers – ensuring that the policy passed at conference is upheld.

The Commission will also consider the policy submissions sent in by members, and ensure that these views are fed in regularly to the Shadow Ministerial team and the Labour leadership.

The Party will of course be guided by the motion unanimously passed at Party Conference.

For now, the relevant questions for the Commission to consider are:

- 1. How should Labour respond to the Prime Minister's deal in Parliament?**
- 2. What steps can the Party take to continue to follow and build on the Brexit motion passed at Labour Conference?**
- 3. What can the Party do to rule out a 'no deal' outcome?**
- 4. How can we best consult members, supporters and affiliates throughout the coming weeks and months?**
- 5. How can we ensure a strong future relationship with Europe that protects jobs, rights and the economy?**

Labour's six tests:

1. Does it ensure a strong and collaborative future relationship with the EU?
2. Does it deliver the "exact same benefits" as we currently have as members of the Single Market and Customs Union?
3. Does it ensure the fair management of migration in the interests of the economy and communities?
4. Does it defend rights and protections and prevent a race to the bottom?
5. Does it protect national security and our capacity to tackle cross-border crime?
6. Does it deliver for all regions and nations of the UK?

notes

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Thank you for taking the time to read our consultation document.

We want to harness the views, experience and expertise of our members, stakeholders and the wider public. If you would like to respond to any of the issues in this document, there are a number of ways you can get involved:

- 1. Online:** The best and easiest way to send in your ideas and join the discussion is via our online home of policy making:
www.policyforum.labour.org.uk/consultation2019
- 2. By post:** If you have written down your ideas, you can post these to us at:
The Labour Party,
Policy Unit,
Southside,
105 Victoria Street,
London, SW1E 6QT
- 3. At your local party:** You may want to discuss your ideas with other members of your CLP or local branch. You can suggest to your CLP Secretary that a policy discussion is held at a future meeting.
- 4. Regional Policy Forums:** Look out for events hosted by your regional office, local parties and National Policy Forum Representatives.

You can find out more about the 2019 consultation, upcoming events and more details on how Labour makes its policy at

www.policyforum.labour.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter for regular updates during the consultation

[@Labpolicyforum](https://twitter.com/Labpolicyforum)

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Please send your ideas before the consultation period ends, it runs until Sunday 30 June 2019.