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Monday 11 November 2019

Dear Member

**Annual General Meeting, Saturday 30 November 2019, 16.00 - 17.00**

Main Conference Room, Hilton Doubletree, One Piccadilly Place, 1 Auburn Street,  
Manchester, M1 3DG

As a valued ERS member, we would like to invite you to attend our Annual General Meeting called by the Society's Council on 30 November in the Main Conference Room at the Hilton Doubletree Manchester Piccadilly.

Please find enclosed the Agenda which includes full details of the meeting.

If you are able to attend, please let us know in advance so that we can prepare the security arrangements and paperwork for you at the meeting. You can either email Stuart on [stuart.thomas@electoral-reform.org.uk](mailto:stuart.thomas@electoral-reform.org.uk), call us on 020 3743 6066 or write to us at The News Building, 3 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9SG (to arrive before Thursday 28 November please).

If you are unable to attend in person, please find a proxy form for voting on the Special and Ordinary Resolutions proposed at the end of this mailing. In order for your vote to be counted, please complete and return this form to the address shown, or send by email to [stuart.thomas@electoral-reform.org.uk](mailto:stuart.thomas@electoral-reform.org.uk) to arrive no later than Thursday 28 November at 4pm.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to seeing some of you on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darren Hughes".

Darren Hughes  
Chief Executive

## AGM Agenda

15.45	<b>Registration</b>
16.00	<b>Annual General Meeting opens and welcome from the Chair</b>
16.05	<b>Minutes of the previous AGM on 01 December 2018, EGM on 10 July 2019 and Matters Arising</b>
16.10	<b>Receiving and adopting the Financial Statements for the year to 31 Dec 2018 (Andrea Marcelli, Treasurer and Jane Marshall from BHP Chartered Accountants in attendance)</b>  Hard copies of the Minutes of the 2018 AGM and the 2018 Financial Statements will be available at the meeting. There are also copies of both documents available on our website.
16.15	<b>Appointment of Auditors</b>  The Council recommends that BHP Chartered Accountants be reappointed as the Society's auditors for 2019-20
16.20	<b>Special Resolutions:</b> <b>Special Resolution 1</b> <b>Special Resolution 2</b>  These Special resolutions require a 75% majority to pass.  <b>Ordinary Resolutions:</b>  <b>Ordinary Resolution 1</b> <b>Ordinary Resolution 2</b>  These Ordinary resolutions require a 50% majority to pass.
16.50	<b>Results of Special Resolutions 1 &amp; 2 and Ordinary Resolutions 1 &amp; 2</b>
17.00	<b>Close of meeting</b>

## Special Resolutions for debate

The following Special Resolutions have been proposed by members of the Society. In order to pass, a Special Resolution requires the support of at least 75% of votes cast by those entitled to vote, either in person or by appointment of proxy, at a general meeting.

### List of Special Resolutions

- 1 **PR Top Priority**
- 2 **Invalid Council Election**

## **Statement by the Council on Special Resolution 1 (PR Top Priority)**

**The majority position of council is to recommend members VOTE AGAINST this resolution.**

Council are proud of the ERS campaigns, which help build networks to support our ultimate goal of PR via the single transferable vote. These campaigns help us build networks of allies, an impressive media presence and open doors for us with those who are not initially interested in electoral reform. They strengthen and enhance our campaign for STV and do not detract from it.

The Society already reports annually on the work it has conducted each year at the supporters and members conference event held prior to the AGM. We will advise the next council to consider how communication between conferences can be improved.

For example engaging in a conversation with the Welsh Assembly about assembly size, opened the door for us to campaign to replace the current AMS voting system with STV. Sadly this motion passing would mean that we may not be able to achieve breakthroughs like this in the future. The majority of council are not supportive of such a rigid requirement being binding on all future strategy development and campaigning.

Additionally the explanatory note makes reference to ERS being able to afford a major campaign. The Council urges caution to this way of thinking. While it is correct that we have established a significant capital fund, we have also invested that money carefully to ensure a sustainable annual income for the Society. As strongly expressed at by members at the 2018 AGM and instructed by the membership at the EGM in 2019 this money has been carefully invested and the majority cannot be easily removed from this investment. The fund should not be thought of being available to be allocated by motions in this way.

ERS has not received any communication from Unlock Democracy or Make Votes Count to indicate they are not getting the guidance they need from the ERS and we have a strong collaborative relationship with both.

For these reasons the majority of Council recommend members **vote AGAINST this motion.**

## Special Resolution 1: PR Top Priority

### This meeting resolves that:

1. the Electoral Reform Society shall now give top priority to achieving the Society's primary object of Proportional Representation by Single Transferable Vote for all public elections in the UK before pursuing secondary objects and
2. that object shall now be given prominence on the Society's website and
3. Council shall report annually to all members on action taken and progress made towards achieving that object.

*Proposed by Anthony Tuffin*

### Explanatory Paper by Anthony Tuffin:

- This is supported by the Rt Rev **Colin Buchanan** (former ERS President and retired Bishop), **Keith Best** (former ERS Chair and former Conservative MP) and **Michael Meadowcroft** (former ERS Chair and former Liberal MP)
- At the general election, a party could win an overall majority in the Commons with less than 30% of the votes in the country. *Never has there been a better time to campaign for PR.*
- **PR by STV is written into the ERS's constitution as its main aim.**
- The Brexit debate is a fiasco whichever side you are on. FPTP elections can't solve the problem and list PR elections wouldn't help much. Only STV would let Labour and Conservative voters support their usual parties *and* elect a proportionate number of Remain and Leave MPs. *So, there has never been a better time to campaign for STV.*
- The ERS has more funds (about £45m) than ever before. *So, the ERS has never been so able to afford a major campaign, and still hold a capital reserve.*
- It seems from its website and publications, that the ERS spends time campaigning on secondary issues. However worthy, *they can wait until we have achieved our main aim.*
- Although this resolution will restore PR to the top of the ERS's priorities, it won't prevent the Society from commenting on other issues, such as voter ID, as and when they are in the news.
- Unlock Democracy and, even more so, Make Votes Count both want PR, but they are not getting the guidance they need from the ERS about STV.
- When I asked the Society recently for leaflets or booklets, I was told it didn't have any on PR, let alone STV!
- We should leave Council to decide exactly how to campaign, but I suggest after consulting its many and varied members for suggestions.
- As this is a Special Resolution, it is binding if it is passed, but it needs 75% of the votes cast to be passed, so **every vote will be important.**

**Please vote for this resolution to achieve the ERS's main aim.**

*To make sure your vote counts, please appoint the Chair of the meeting (not me in case I can't go) as your proxy, but **make sure you mandate the Chair to vote FOR the resolution.***

Please contact me – [tuffin@waitrose.com](mailto:tuffin@waitrose.com) or 01243 604 715 – if you have any questions or comments.

**Anthony Tuffin** (Former ERS Treasurer and former ERS Campaigns Committee Chair)

## Statement by the Council on Special Resolution 2 (Invalid Council Election)

**ERS Council urges you to VOTE AGAINST this Special Resolution.**

The Council's articles and Bylaws make it clear that matters regarding the conduct of the elections are to be determined by the returning officer and the elections panel and that their decision is final. The matters raised in this motion have been dealt with correctly in this way and the Council is supportive of both the correct application of our rules and the decisions taken, having reviewed the actions taken council does not feel there is any justification for re-running the election.

**We therefore strongly urge members to vote AGAINST this Special Resolution.**

There is no basis in fact for some of the claims made within the motion and supporting statement. For example, the proposer asserts that many members did not receive ballot papers; **ballot papers for the election were posted to all members**. The proposer states that no letters were sent by the Society to members paying by Standing Order about their membership expiring under this payment method. In fact, in response to accountancy advice from our audit firm, the Society wrote to all members paying by Standing Order a total of 4 times, issuing multiple notice that their membership would lapse, and followed this up with personal phone calls to members where we were able.

The motion mistakenly states that the Byelaws only permit serial numbers to be printed on ballot papers. The Byelaws in fact state that: *"The ballot papers shall be marked with serial numbers. Other aspects of the design of the ballot paper shall be as recommended by the Elections Supervisor."*

The format of the candidate statement is also referenced; this year's format was in direct response to feedback from members who found the unformatted statements of previous years off-putting, unwieldy and difficult to navigate. **Members asked us this year to create consistency, to make it easier for voters to meaningfully consider the large number of statements and to vote**. The online voting platform was also designed to make it easier for voters.

The motion is also incorrect about the conduct of the count stating that candidates were unable to attend the count under the process defined in the Byelaws, which again, is untrue. In fact, two candidates attended the count, which was conducted in full accordance with the rules.

The motion highlights that the declaration of identity and double envelope required by our rules were omitted. Whilst an identity check was made by checking the bar codes on the ballot papers against the electoral register, and whilst we, the Council, along with the Elections Panel are satisfied that these checks as effective as a declarations would have been, unfortunately the envelope and declaration are directly stipulated in the bye laws, so whilst there was no concern over the validity of the ballot a technical breach had occurred. **The Elections Panel therefore took external advice on this issue and consulted John Turner, Former Chief Executive of the Association of Electoral Administrators.**

It was decided to accept all online votes (two thirds of all votes were cast online), re-issue ballot papers with the declaration and second envelope to those who had not voted either online or by post, return completed ballot papers to those who had voted on paper and ask they complete the declaration and return them and extend the voting period by three weeks.

In the final week before the deadline, those members who had completed their ballot paper initially but not returned it with a declaration were contact by phone (where possible) and email. 92% of all ballot papers were returned, with paper ballots accounting for one third of the total votes cast and turnout this election being higher than in previous years.

The Council supports the elections panel decision and believes that this corrective action was appropriate in the circumstances and that the team went to every effort to correct the technical error that occurred. We believe that the Society has acted in good faith and has prioritised the needs and requests of members.

The current Council will strongly recommend a comprehensive review of the Society's Articles and Byelaws to the incoming Council to ensure that they are modernised, clear and consistent and to help ensure that similar technical breaches are avoided in the future.

**We do not believe that re-running the entire election on the basis of a technical breach would be in the best interests of the Society, or its members. We therefore strongly urge you to vote AGAINST this Special Resolution.**

## **Special Resolution 2: Invalid Council Election**

**This meeting resolves that in respect of the Council elections held in 2019:**

- 1. The breaches of the Articles and Byelaws in respect of the nominations process shall be regarded as not substantial and the nominations shall be allowed to stand, save that all candidates shall within seven days be given notice of such intention and if any candidate objects within seven days of such notice the nominations process shall be re-run.**
- 2. The breaches of the Articles and Byelaws related to the running of the ballot are substantial and the process shall be re-run as soon as practically possible using a corrected process, in particular:**
  - a. Prior to the issue of ballots an audit of membership shall be conducted to determine whether memberships cancelled in the last 12 months on the grounds of non-payment of fees had been subject to notice in accordance with the Articles and memberships incorrectly terminated shall be reinstated.**
  - b. The re-run ballot process shall comply with the Articles and Byelaws.**
- 3. The present Council shall remain in office until the new Council is appointed on declaration of the result of the re-run election and shall limit its activities to those matters necessary for maintenance of good order and the status quo, including the continuance of campaigning in accordance with the Society's objects.**

*Proposed by Mike Burdett*

## **Special Resolution 2: Invalid Council Election - Explanatory Paper by Mike Burdett:**

The Society broke its Byelaws in its recent Council election. Having served as Chairman of Electoral Reform Services Ltd (ERSL) for more than 12 years, I have some knowledge of such matters and believe the conduct of the election renders the result invalid and open to legal challenge. In an STV election; with 12 to be elected by a relatively small electorate, a few preferences either way can determine the result and this increases the probability of a challenge being successful. When the Society has recently received £45m this election above all must be 100% legitimate.

Article 27.1 states that candidates are elected “... by a ballot of the members, conducted in accordance with the Byelaws ...” Article 15.1 states that, “... Byelaws which relate to the election of Council Members and the Elections Panel may only be altered by the Society in general meeting.”

The following are the Byelaw breaches in the election:

1. Byelaw 2.1.9 (f) includes detailed instructions for postal ballot packs. They stipulate that the packs must include a declaration of identity to be signed and returned in a reply envelope together with the completed ballot, which should be in a separate sealed envelope. The declaration of identity and double envelope were omitted. Byelaw 2.1.11 includes the provision that any ballot received without a signed declaration of identity shall be declared invalid.
2. The Society has sought to overcome the above breach by improvising a process to return postal votes with declarations of identity to some members, to issue new ballot packs to others, and to regard online votes as remaining valid. Under Article 15.1 the Elections Panel has no power to do that and therefore the process is less compliant with the Byelaws, not more so. If this is allowed to stand members will have voted under three different voting regimes with no choice of which they wish to use. Members who miss the new requirement to re-submit their original ballot with a declaration of identity (eg if they are on holiday) will lose their vote.
3. Some members did not receive ballot papers. This has been attributed to the Society's request that members switch from paying by Standing Order to Direct Debit. Article 31.2.4 states membership will be cancelled “if any subscription ... is not paid on the due date and remains unpaid seven days after notice served on the member by the Society ...” No such notice was given and I do not know how many members have been disenfranchised.
4. Ballot papers were distributed with the members' online PIN and a bar code printed on it, whereas the Byelaws permit only a serial number. The additional data has rendered the supposedly secret ballot traceable back to the member and this must have been used to return ballot papers to members under the process in item 2 above.
5. Candidates were required to complete their candidate's statement according to a prescriptive format in breach of Byelaws 2.1.7 (b) and (c). This can disadvantage candidates capable of presenting their case better than others and reduce members' ability to compare candidates by the quality of their statements.
6. The online and written ballot papers had different formats in that 20 words from the Candidates' statements were included in the online version of the ballot paper, but not the printed. The Byelaws define a single format and variations should only be to the extent necessary to render the paper in the different medium.
7. Byelaw 2.1.12 provides for candidates to attend the count and check the declarations of identity. This will require another new process and not the one defined in the Byelaws, to be provided by UK Engage, who we are told are responsible for the errors.
8. In conducting this election the Returning Officer and Elections Panel have failed to follow the Byelaws. The Society has attempted to downplay the errors by describing them as a “technical mistake” and blaming UK Engage, when it is they who are responsible. These are material facts that members could take into account when casting their ballots in the extended time period, those who had already voted online could not and are thereby disadvantaged.

A resolution to accept the result of the flawed election would have no force in law. The election has been conducted in breach of the Articles and Byelaws and is open to legal challenge. Even if members thought the breaches were immaterial, a court could find otherwise. Such a challenge could render the Society impotent and damage its reputation. The only safe solution is to re-run the election and it is a pity the decision was not taken to do so in mid-September when the matter was first raised.

As this is a Special Resolution, it is binding if it is passed by 75% of the votes cast, so every vote will be important. To make sure your vote counts, please appoint the Chair of the meeting (not me in case I can't go) as your proxy, but make sure you mandate the Chair to vote FOR the resolution.

## **Ordinary Resolutions for debate**

The following Ordinary Resolutions have been proposed by members of the Society. In order to pass, an Ordinary Resolution requires the support of at least 50% of votes cast by those entitled to vote, either in person or by appointment of proxy, at a general meeting.

### List of Ordinary Resolutions

- 1 Mobilising support for electoral reform with the Labour movement**
- 2 Invalid Council Election**



**Statement by the Council on Ordinary Resolution 1  
(Mobilising support for electoral reform within the Labour movement)**

**The majority of the council recommend voting AGAINST**

ERS strategy for influencing Labour is based on robust advice, intelligence gathering and detailed polling. In light of this a majority of council feel that our current strategy of alliance building is the most effective way to establish support for STV within Labour and the Trade Union movement and would be more effective than the strategy proposed in the motion. As such the majority of Council advise members to vote against this motion.

Politics for the Many is a campaign established by the ERS and guided by a voluntary steering group of active senior trade unionists with the objective of helping unions develop policy on constitutional reform. Attempting to direct it in the fashion prescribed by this motion could be damaging to it and its standing within the Labour and Trade Union movements.

We are following a careful long-term strategy for trade union influencing and want to keep that campaign separate from any short-term tactics for a 2019 snap election.

Working to establish trust and build allies within this movement on issues of shared ground is key and this motion will make that nearly impossible. Direct confrontation with those within the movement who are opposed to PR will alienate those who are yet to be convinced and so will be counter productive and damage our long-term goals.

The Society only captures data on our members' party affiliation when they volunteer it, not as a requirement of membership. This would mean we were technically unable to comply with some actions stipulated within this motion.

The majority view of Council is that members should **Vote Against** this motion.

## Ordinary Resolution 1: Mobilising support for electoral reform within the Labour movement

This meeting resolves to call for the Electoral Reform Society and its Politics for the Many campaign to contact all members and supporters who are also members of the Labour Party and/or an affiliated trade union in order to:

- Share with them a model motion for tabling at a meeting of their Labour and/or trade union branch that explicitly calls for the Labour Party and/or their trade union to adopt a policy of opposing First Past the Post and supporting moves to introduce a new voting system for general elections.
- Actively and enthusiastically encourage them to table such motions as a crucial means of shifting affiliated unions' and the Labour Party's policies towards greater openness to, and support for, a proportional voting system.

And, resolves to call for this action be taken immediately, and within ten working days of the passage of this resolution at the most, to enable members of trade unions to meet the fast approaching deadlines for submitting motions to their 2020 trade union conferences.

*Proposed by Joe Sousek*

### Explanatory Paper by Joe Sousek:

**With the current political chaos and constitutional crisis, the UK may soon have the best opportunity it has ever had to finally reform the voting system for general elections.** In the next general election, and if not one soon after, there is a real possibility we may see a hung parliament in which the balance of power is held by parties committed to electoral reform. In such circumstances, these parties could pressure the Conservatives and particularly Labour to commit to electoral reform.

**Anything we can do now to make Labour more amenable to electoral reform increases the likelihood that the next hung parliament will lead to genuine progress on this issue.** The more pressure Labour now comes under from its own members and affiliates, the more likely it is to make a concession that may subsequently prove crucial. The primary means that Labour and union members have to influence policy is to table motions for discussion at their local branches which, if passed, are then sent to governing councils or, preferably, to policy-making conferences.

The Electoral Reform Society is rightly working within the Labour Party and affiliated trade unions, including through its Politics for the Many (PFTM) campaign. As part of this work, ERS / PFTM is providing model motions (available at: <https://politicsforthemany.co.uk/motions/>) to supporters who are Labour and/or union members for them to put to their local branches.

**However, the motions that ERS / PFTM are promoting to these supporters do not directly criticise First Past the Post nor call for reform of the voting system.** Instead, the motions focus on the abolition of the House of Lords, creation of a fairly-elected senate, and the establishment of a Constitutional Convention. **This resolution to the ERS AGM calls for all such motions will include a specific call for reform of the electoral system, and for the new or amended model motion to be promoted to all relevant supporters without delay.**

There is huge support within the Labour Party membership for electoral reform. Speakers from the *Labour Campaign for Electoral Reform* and *Make Votes Matter* have attended over 185 local Labour and union meetings since 2017, and typically find overwhelming support. 77 Constituency Labour Parties - well over 10% - have already actively called for PR in the last couple of years. Two affiliated unions already support PR, two oppose it, while the rest have no policy. One opposing trade union (GMB) was forced to agree to a review of its policy under pressure from its members this summer.

There is a golden opportunity to move Labour and unions' policies on electoral reform. When it comes to engaging with the Labour movement, this is no time for ERS to be silent on its primary objective. ERS must do its bit and ask all its Labour-affiliated supporters to push the party and their unions to support a change of the voting system.

## **Statement by the Council on Ordinary Resolution 2 (Invalid Council Election)**

**The ERS Council urges you to vote AGAINST this Ordinary Resolution.**

The majority of ERS Council does not agree that there were a “number of breaches” of the Articles and Byelaws in the conduct of this election and we have set out our position on this in our statement on the special resolution entitled ‘invalid election’.

The technical breach of the Byelaws which did occur was immediately and thoroughly addressed through corrective action in liaison with the Elections Panel, John Turner (Former Chief Executive of the Association of Electoral Administrators), and legal advisers. We believe that this was done in good faith, we have no concern over the validity of the ballot or the election result.

The Council will recommend to the incoming council that a comprehensive review of the technical breach that occurred is conducted as well as a thorough review of rules to help to ensure that a similar situation does not occur again in the future. The Council is already fully committed to ensuring that future elections will be conducted strictly in accordance with the Articles and Byelaws, as is its legal duty as Company Directors, which we take very seriously.

The Council has never sought to hide the Election Panel’s reports from members and it will be available to all members on request, subject to redaction of any confidential information.

We therefore urge you to vote AGAINST this Ordinary Resolution.

## **Ordinary Resolution 2: Invalid Council Election**

**This meeting resolves that in respect of the Council elections held in 2019:**

- 1. The members regret that there were a number of breaches of the Articles and Byelaws in the conduct of this election.**
- 2. The members express their desire that future elections will be conducted strictly in accordance with the Articles and Byelaws.**
- 3. Members request that a copy of The Election Panel's report to Council be made available to all members, subject to redaction of any confidential information.**

*Proposed by Mike Burdett*

## Ordinary Resolution 2 Invalid Council Election: Explanatory Paper by Mike Burdett:

The Society's Articles and Byelaws contain detailed provisions for the conduct of Council elections and they have not been complied with in the recent election. Having served as Chairman of Electoral Reform Services Ltd (ERSL) for more than twelve years, I have some knowledge of such matters and believe the conduct of the election was deeply flawed. The result is open to legal challenge, especially in the case of an STV election, with twelve candidates to be elected by a relatively small electorate, where a few preferences either way can determine who is elected and who is not. Article 27.1 states that candidates are elected "... by a ballot of the members, conducted in accordance with the Byelaws, ..." Article 15.1 states that, "... any Byelaws which relate to the election of Council Members and the Elections Panel may only be altered by the Society in general meeting." The following are the flaws in the election:

1. Byelaw 2.1.9 (f) includes detailed instructions for postal ballot packs. They stipulate that the packs must include a declaration of identity to be signed and returned in a reply envelope together with the completed ballot, which should be in a separate sealed envelope. The declaration of identity and double envelope were omitted. Byelaw 2.1.11 includes the provision that any ballot received without a signed declaration of identity shall be declared invalid. Therefore all postal ballots are invalid.
2. The Society has sought to overcome the above breach by improvising a process to return postal votes with declarations of identity to some members, to issue new ballot packs to others, and to regard online votes as remaining valid. Under Article 15.1 the Elections Panel has no power to do that and therefore the process is less compliant with the Byelaws, not more so. Members will have voted under three different voting regimes with no choice of which they wish to use.
3. Some members did not receive ballot papers. This has been attributed to the Society's request that members switch from paying by Standing Order to Direct Debit. Article 31.2.4 states membership will be cancelled "*if any subscription ... is not paid on the due date and remains unpaid seven days after notice served on the member by the Society ....*" No such notice was given and I do not know how many members have been disenfranchised.
4. Ballot papers were distributed with the members' online PIN and a bar code printed on it, whereas the Byelaws permit only a serial number. The additional data has rendered the supposedly secret ballot traceable back to the member and this must have been used to return ballot papers to members under the process in item 2 above.
5. Candidates were required to complete their candidate's statement according to a prescriptive format in breach of Byelaws 2.1.7 (b) and (c). This can disadvantage candidates capable of presenting their case better than others and reduce members' ability to compare candidates by the quality of their statements.
6. The online and written ballot papers had different formats in that 20 words from the Candidates' statements were included in the online version of the ballot paper, but not the printed. The Byelaws define a single format and variations should only be to the extent necessary to render the paper in the different medium.
7. Byelaw 2.1.12 provides for candidates to attend the count and check the declarations of identity. This will require another new process and not the one defined in the Byelaws, to be provided by UK Engage, who we are told are responsible for the errors.
8. In conducting this election the Returning Officer and Elections Panel have failed to follow the Byelaws. The Society has attempted to downplay the errors by describing them as a "technical mistake" and blaming UK Engage, when it is they who are responsible. These are material facts that members could take into account when casting their ballots in the extended time period, those who had already voted online could not and are thereby disadvantaged.

A resolution to accept the result of the flawed election would have no force in law. The election has been conducted in breach of the Articles and Byelaws and is open to legal challenge. Even if members thought the breaches were immaterial, a court could find otherwise. Such a challenge could render the Society impotent and damage its reputation. At the very least members should express their desire that future elections be conducted in accordance with the Articles and Byelaws.

To make sure your vote counts, please appoint the Chair of the meeting (not me in case I can't go) as your proxy, but make sure you mandate the Chair to vote FOR the resolution.

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BEEN LEFT BLANK

## APPOINTMENT OF PROXY: RESOLUTIONS

Whether or not you are planning to attend the Annual General Meeting, you are invited to vote in the following ballot on the resolutions proposed.

**From:**

Name.....  
.....

Address  
.....  
.....

**I hereby appoint the Chair of the Meeting, unless another person is named below, as my proxy to attend and vote for me at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 30 November 2019 and at any adjournment of that meeting.**

Signature .....

Date.....

If you do not want the Chair of the Meeting to act as your proxy, please give the name and address of your proxy, who must be a Society member in good standing, below (**do not enter your own name and address**):

Name of proxy:  
.....  
.....

Address of proxy:  
.....  
.....

If no name is given above, it will be assumed that the Chair of the Meeting is your proxy.

### **Voting instructions to your proxy:**

You may instruct your proxy how to vote on the Resolutions by marking 'X' in the appropriate box overleaf. **If your proxy is the Chair of the Meeting, your vote will ONLY be used where you have indicated you wish it to be used with an 'X'.** You are therefore advised to complete the table overleaf as fully as possible.

**If your proxy is a member other than the Chair of the Meeting,** your vote will be used as indicated overleaf. Additionally, however, if you have not indicated how you wish your proxy to vote, your proxy will be free to vote, or to abstain, as he or she thinks fit.

# Resolutions

## Special Resolutions

FOR      AGAINST      ABSTAIN

Special Resolution 1  
(PR Top Priority)

Special Resolution 2  
(Invalid Council Election)

## Ordinary Resolutions

FOR      AGAINST      ABSTAIN

Ordinary Resolution 1  
(Mobilising support for electoral reform within the  
Labour Movement)

Ordinary Resolution 2  
(Invalid Council Election)

## Return of this form:

This page should be detached from the rest of this document and returned to the Society for the attention of:

Stuart Thomas  
Electoral Reform Society  
The News Building  
3 London Bridge Street  
London  
SE1 9SG

Or by email to [stuart.thomas@electoral-reform.org.uk](mailto:stuart.thomas@electoral-reform.org.uk)

to arrive **not later than 16.00 on Thursday 28 November 2019.**

Proxy forms received after this time will not be accepted.