

# NEC report, February 2014

## Bex Bailey

### NEC meeting, 4 February

The NEC met on 4 February to discuss Ray Collins' report on party reforms. I welcomed in particular the proposal to reach out to more people in our communities through the registered supporters network and the proposed changes to the selections process, which I believe would enable more people from a wider variety of backgrounds to stand to be candidates. I also ensured that our young members, supporters and trade unionists would be able to have a vote in our leadership contest and primaries, even if they weren't old enough to be on the electoral registers, as many of our members are younger than 16. With a few changes, we agreed that the document should be sent to the special conference on 1 March for delegates to vote on.

### 3 Seats Challenge, 8 February

We did our second 3 Seats Challenge, this month campaigning in Finchley and Golders Green, Hendon and Harrow East. An amazing 61 activists got involved, giving a combined total of 157 doorstep hours in one day and speaking to lots of voters!

The [next Labour 3 Seats Challenge](#) will be on 8 March in Swindon South, Swindon North and Reading West. Let me know if you want to join us! You can follow what we're doing on Twitter: [@Lab3seats](#).



### Redbridge Young Labour meeting, 7 February

I met with Baljit Panesar (RYL Chair) and Eleanor Brown (RYL Secretary) to discuss future plans for the Young Labour group, including growing its membership and organising campaign sessions in marginal seats. RYL members are doing fantastic work and their recent 'Best Young Labour group' award was well deserved!



### Meeting with Harriet Harman, 12 February

We met with Harriet Harman to give her an update on Young Labour's work and to discuss our plans in the run-up to the general election. It was hugely useful to hear her ideas, as well as to tell her ours. Harriet is a great friend to Young Labour and we really appreciate all the support she gives us.

### Votes at 16 Lobby, 12 February

Thanks to all the young members who attended the lobby of parliament and who supported it on social media! We're really proud of the work that the Labour Party is doing on votes at 16, led by Stephen Twigg, and we'll continue to advocate for it!



### On 20 February I spoke about party reforms at Dulwich and West Norwood's CLP meeting.

I'm always happy to speak at CLP meetings about my NEC work, getting more young people involved, campaigning or policy-making, so just get in touch if you'd like to have me along!

### Special conference delegate briefing, 11 February

I attended the regional briefing for delegates to the conference, along with the other delegates from my CLP.

### Reading West fundraiser, 11 February

It was great to join lots of other members to support our excellent candidate in Reading West, Vicky Groulef, and help her to raise money for her campaign.



### AWS blog post, 14 February

I wrote a blog post on the necessity of all-women shortlists. You can have a read [here](#).



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### Labour Students Conference, 21 February

I went to Bradford for Labour Students' annual conference. It was great to meet lots of new faces and catch up with everyone else! I was very proud that we passed policy on encouraging Labour clubs to ensure they are as diverse as possible and that they have more women, BAME, disabled and LGBT members on their committees. Labour Students also held their annual elections for the 3 national officers, vice chairs, regional reps and international officer on the committee. Huge congratulations go to next year's office: Finn McGoldrick, Grace Skelton and Brad Marshall! Congratulations to everyone else who was elected too! It was especially great to see so many members of my old club, LSE SU Labour and Co-operative Society, elected to the committee!



### Young Labour Conference, 22/23 February

Much of this month was spent preparing for our Young Labour Conference, and it was fantastic to have lots of first-time delegates there! I chaired the sessions with Harriet Harman and Jonny Reynolds, as well as one of the policy debate sessions and the policy workshop on work and business.

We had a by-election for our Young Labour Women's Officer in our women's caucus; congratulations to Beth Miller, who won the election, and thanks to everyone who stood. I'm really looking forward to working with Beth to ensure we have more women participating in Young Labour and standing for election.

Congratulations also to all the fantastic Young Labour groups that won best practice awards at our first ever awards ceremony! So many groups are doing so much hard work and it doesn't go unnoticed!

### Progress article, 28 February

My latest article for Progress, about the next general election being the most personal yet, is now online. You can have a read [here](#) and let me know your views!



A lot has been said about the conference since. A lot of time and work went into making sure it was accessible, welcoming to first-time delegates and fun. It was disappointing to hear from our liberation caucuses about intimidation from some members; this will not be tolerated at any future events. As an organisation we're stronger when we work together and in the run-up to 2015 this is more important than ever. Thanks to everyone who has fed back so far. A full feedback survey will go out to all attendees in the coming days. I'd encourage everyone who attended to fill it out, so that we can help make conference as accessible as possible. We really do appreciate your views on this.

Thanks to everyone who came and I hope to see you at the next one!



### Young Labour groups

As usual, I've been talking to a number of members and CLPs about setting up Young Labour groups, particularly in target seats. If you're interested in setting one up, please get in touch.



### Next national Young Labour & Labour Students campaign days, 8/9 March

We'll be campaigning for Vicky Groulef in Reading West on 8 and 9 March. Please join us to help Vicky win in 2015!



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