



Conference Pack

Welcome to the first national conference of The People's Assembly Against Austerity. Please read this document carefully.

Date: 15 March 2014

Time: 10am – 5.30pm

Venue: Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3DW

Nearest tubes: Westminster, St. James' Park, Pimlico

To help us save time on the day, please read this pack thoroughly.

In this pack you will find:

1. Welcome pack, including useful information and contact details
2. Conference Arrangements Committee introduction to conference and motions document
3. Motions document

We look forward to seeing you all at conference.

Should you require this document in another format, please let us know. If you have any queries or additional access requirements please email conference@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

In solidarity,

Conference Arrangements Committee

On behalf of The People's Assembly Against Austerity

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For all queries please contact conference@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

1. Timetable

10 - 10:30am	Registration
10:30 – 10.45am	Report from conference arrangements committee and Q & A
10.45 – 11am	Report from National Secretary and Q & A
11 – 11.15am	Report from Finance and Q & A
11.15am – 12.30pm	Motions debate
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1 - 2pm	Lunch
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2 - 3:30pm	Motions debate
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3:30 - 4pm	Break
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4 – 5.15pm	Motions debate
5.15 - 5:30pm	Closing remarks

2. Welcome pack and useful FAQ's

2.1. Registration

Upon arrival please go straight to the registration desk and check-in. You will receive a motions document and voting card at the registration desk.

2.2. Venue, access and transport

Venue: Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street, London, SW1P 3DW

Nearest tubes: Westminster, St. James' Park, Pimlico

Buses: 88, 87, 3, 11, 24, 211, 148, 507, 53, 453, 12, 159

See the Emmanuel Centre website for detailed maps: <http://www.emmanuelcentre.com/>

The Emmanuel Centre is an accessible venue. We are committed to making the conference as accessible as possible and will be working with individuals from the WOW petition and DPAC to ensure this happens. Full access information will be available soon. Should you have

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any specific access needs, please bring them to our attention by emailing conference@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

2.3. Lunch

Lunch bags will be available for £3.00 in the main hall from 12.30pm. Coffee, tea and small snacks will also be available from the Emmanuel cafe downstairs. There are also a number of cafes and pubs either way down the road from the Emmanuel Centre. If you have access requirements, stewards will be available to assist.

2.4. Post conference social

We will be booking a venue for a post conference social near the Emmanuel Centre, please all join us for a chance to chat and discuss in an informal setting.

3. Conference Arrangements Committee

3.1. The committee

The Conference Arrangements Committee is here to facilitate the conference and ensure it runs smoothly, democratically and with as few disruptions as possible.

The Conference Arrangements Committee is a voluntary body that met regularly to organise various things for the conference agreed at the national meeting of Dec 7 2014.

Your Conference Arrangements Committee:

Clare Solomon

Sam Fairbairn

Steve Turner

Jacqui Howard

Andy Bain

Rachel Newton

Lindsey German

Fred LePlat

Anita Halpin

We will be available throughout conference to assist with process and procedure. We are not able to give you guidance on how to vote.

Please come to the desk at the front of the main hall if you have any queries about procedural issues or other conference arrangements.

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An injury to one is an injury to all

For all queries please contact conference@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

3.2. How we arranged the motions

We have grouped motions into main themes determined by the motions that were submitted. We arranged the motions from the broadest topic to the narrowest within each theme, where applicable.

There are three zones with 10 themes and over 90 motions.

If you submitted a motion but do not see it in the motions document please ONLY get in contact with the CAC by emailing conference@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

We hope you agree that the proposed method of debate is a good attempt, and we hope it all goes smoothly so we can focus on content, policy and unity.

3.3. Content of motions

We are recommending that conference reserves most time for three essential areas (or zones) of discussion:

1. **Aims.** We need to agree a statement or charter of our overarching aims.
2. **Structure.** We need to agree a minimum national structure for the PA, including election of a committee.
3. **Future action.** We have now exhausted the programme of marches, actions and strike support agreed at the 22 June founding conference. A new plan of action needs to be agreed.

3.4. Format of motions

Most motions are based on the following format:

1. Conference notes (facts)
2. Conference believes (opinions)
3. Conference resolves (what the motion should do)

3.5. Speaking on the day

Speeches have been allocated on a number of criteria, which we will explain at conference. There are some unallocated speeches which will be decided on the day by drawing a lottery from all those who submitted motions on the topic.

Most speeches will not be allocated to maximise input from those who submitted motions, as well as space for free speeches from delegates. To ensure we get through all the motions, speeches will be limited to the time allocated in the motions document and to the topic at hand.

For all queries please contact conference@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

3.6. Parts and amendments

There will be not 'taking parts', i.e. no accepting or deleting of parts of motions, and no amendments on the day.

3.7. Themes

We have grouped motions into main themes determined by what was submitted. We ordered them going from the broadest topic to the narrowest.

3.8. Election of Steering Committee

We will take nominations for the national steering committee up to the opening of conference. There will be an election for the SC at conference to replace the existing signatories meetings. A list of the existing committee will be circulated ahead of conference. Existing signatories and conference delegations will be able to propose members of the SC.

4. Motions document

See separate document for full motions document