

Politics is too important to leave to the politicians.

AFFILIATED SUPPORTER Frequently Asked Questions



My message to members is that politics is too important to leave just to the politicians. GMB members have the right to vote in the contest to choose the next leader of the Labour Party. It's free and as easy as filling in a form. We want them to: **Have a voice. Get a vote. Fill it in.**

Paul Kenner

General Secretary, GMB

What GMB is asking you to do.

The rules about how trade union members have a say in Labour Party elections have changed. In order to have a vote you and your members need to sign up to become an official 'Labour Party affiliated supporter'. We're asking you to sign up and to ask your members to do the same.

Why we're doing it

It is the long term plan to ask GMB members to become affiliated supporters but with Labour leadership, deputy leadership and London Mayoral selections already underway, if GMB members would like to use their right to have a say in the contests, they have to sign up now.

In previous contests GMB members would have been sent a ballot paper automatically. This time they need to register in order to have a say.

What does it entail?

Signing a form or signing up online. That's it.

GMB already pays a political levy for our affiliated members, so there is no cost to becoming a supporter. The only action required is for a member to sign a form (or sign up online) saying they agree with the aims of the Labour Party and giving us permission to pass their details to them.

GMB make a note of who has signed up, then let the Party know the member wants to be an affiliated supporter. The Labour Party will check that the member is on the electoral roll and issue a ballot paper.

What's the timescale?

Members can register to be an affiliated supporter at anytime but to vote in the Labour leadership contests they must be registered with Labour by August 12th.

Anything else we need to know?

There will be spot checks on affiliated supporters to make sure that they are genuine. That's why we need to make sure members sign the forms themselves and are also registered to vote. Members may be contacted by email to verify they exist!

Including the name of their employer and a GMB membership number on forms where possible will help us to more quickly identify members who want to affiliate - your help with that is much appreciated!

How do we do it?

Order sign up forms by emailing:
hilary.perrin@gmb.org.uk

Download a printable form here:
www.gmb.org.uk/our_voice

Go to the unionstogether website and sign up:
www.unionstogether.org.uk/our_voice

Return all completed sign up forms to:

Marian Healy, GMB, 22 Stephenson Way, London, NW1 2HD

GMB

GMB@WORK