Welcome to the Oxford & District Labour Party


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@Oxford_Labour

facebook.com/OxfordLabour
Dear new member,

Welcome to Oxford and District Labour Party.

Whether you were already a member and have just moved to Oxford, or have recently joined our great party, I'm sure you will enjoy being a part of our winning campaigns here in Oxford.

The Labour Party in Oxford has been effective because it has built on the strength of our members. We now lead Oxford City Council, have more Labour county councillors within the city, and at the last general election we won an increased majority in Oxford East and did well in Oxford West and Abingdon too.

That success has been built by active campaigning right across Oxford in a whole variety of areas. Our membership is growing and increasingly diverse as well, which is a real strength for our party.

I hope you are able to get stuck into our campaigns, political discussions and social events, but however you choose to be involved, it's great to have you as an Oxford Labour member!

Yours fraternally,

Anneliese Dodds MP,
Oxford East MP
anneliese.dodds.mp[at]parliament.uk
How your local Labour Party works

Your most immediate point of contact is your **branch** – these are formed along ward boundaries. 11 branches are included in the Oxford & District Labour Party.

Branches meet most months, and any member who lives in the branch can attend meetings, submit and vote on motions. They are each organised by elected branch officers. For details of your branch secretary, contact the Membership Officers.

The next layer up is **Constituency Labour Parties** (CLPs), which track Parliamentary constituencies.

The Oxford & District Labour Party is formed of two CLPs, Oxford East and Oxford West & Abingdon. Together they make up the local party, with all members entitled to attend meetings held in most months. At the annual general meeting in March each year an **executive committee** is elected to run the Oxford & District Party.

How you can get involved

There are many ways of taking part in local party activities.

In branch and all member meetings, we hold political discussions, listen to invited speakers, and hear and question elected representatives.

We run two canvassing sessions a week, where we talk with residents about their concerns and spread Labour’s message.

These sessions are held on Wednesday early evenings and Sunday mornings, with details of each session sent out in a weekly email newsletter. If you’ve never been canvassing before, you’ll receive training to help you get the hang of it.

We also hold a range of other events and activities, from street stalls and demonstrations, to socials and film screenings.

And if there’s something we’re not doing that you think we should do, you’re always welcome to suggest it or to propose it as a motion.

Our activities are advertised in the weekly email newsletter and via the website, Facebook, and Twitter.
Oxford Labour Women (OLW)

OLW works to encourage more women to become active and stand for office, to identify and campaign on issues relating to women, and to develop a supportive and inclusive women's network for Labour women.

To find out more, please contact our Women’s Officer.

Local Government

In Oxford, Labour run the City Council, which has a proud record of maintaining council housing, paying the Oxford Living Wage, and supporting community centres (amongst much else).

The Oxfordshire County Council is currently Conservative-led – which is why we have seen devastating cuts to children’s centres and homelessness support, and privatisations. However, our 14 Labour County councillors fight hard against these policies, and in the next county election we hope to force the Tories out.

Oxford Labour Disability Network

Oxford Labour Disability Network was set up to combat the marginalisation of disabled people and their under-representation in the political process.

If you are interested in finding out more, please contact our Disability Officer.

Young Labour & Labour Students

We also have active Young Labour members and close ties to the two university Labour Clubs.

If you are aged under 27 or are a student and would like to know more, please contact our Youth & Student Officer.
How to find out more and get in touch

To help you get involved and stay up to date with the local party, see the links and contacts below.

Follow your Labour representatives on social media

Anneliese Dodds: MP for Oxford East - Facebook - Twitter
Mary Clarkson: City Councillor for Marston - Twitter
Helen Evans: County Councillor for Iffley Fields & St Mary's - Twitter
Tom Hayes: City Councillor for St Clement's - Facebook - Twitter
David Henwood: City Councillor for Cowley - Twitter
Dan Iley-Williamson: City Councillor for Holywell - Facebook - Twitter
Mark Lygo: City Councillor for Churchill and County Councillor for Marston & Northway - Twitter
Michele Paule: City Councillor for Rose Hill & Iffley - Twitter
John Sanders: County Councillor for Cowley - Twitter
Delia Sinclair: City Councillor for Quarry & Risinghurst - Twitter
Linda Smith: City Councillor for Blackbird Leys - Twitter
Sian Taylor: City Councillor for Northfield Brook - Twitter
Marie Tidball: City Councillor for Hinksey Park - Facebook - Twitter
Emma Turnbull: County Councillor for University Parks - Facebook

Contacts for your local Labour Party

Oxford East MP: Anneliese Dodds (anneliese.dodds.mp[at]parliament.uk)
City Council Group Leader: Bob Price (cllrpbprice[at]oxford.gov.uk)
County Council Group Leader: Liz Brighouse (liz.brighouse[at]oxfordshire.gov.uk)
Chair: Jane Darke (darkej[at]hotmail.com)
Secretary: Ann Black (annblack50[at]btinternet.com)
Treasurer: Alex Hollingsworth (alex.hollingsworth[at]btinternet.com)
Membership Officers: Jane Stockton (janemstockton[at]gmail.com) & Dan Iley-Williamson (dan.ileywilliamson[at]gmail.com)
Women’s Officer: Sally Copley (salcopley[at]yahoo.co.uk)
LGBT Officer: Tom Hayes (labourred[at]gmail.com)
Ethnic Minorities Officer: Jamila Azad (azadjemila55[at]yahoo.co.uk)
Disability Officer: Marie Tidball (marie.tidball[at]gmail.com)
Youth & Student Officer: Lotte Boumelha (lotteboum[at]aol.com)
Trade Union Liaison Officer: Mark Ladbrooke (mark.ladbrooke[at]gmail.com)
Labour Party jargon buster

The party's structures can seem a bit of a maze. To help you get to grips with it, below is a jargon buster. For further information, click here to see a new members FAQ and here to watch a short video that explains what canvassing is like.

**Branch Labour Party (BLP):** Your local party, bringing together members in several adjacent council wards. Branches may organise their own activities, and they can choose their council candidates, elect delegates to the constituency General Committee, and send motions for discussion at All-Member Meetings.

**Constituency Labour Party (CLP):** Based on the parliamentary constituency. The Oxford & District Labour Party includes members in the Oxford East and Oxford West & Abingdon constituencies, operating as a single party for most purposes. The CLP can send delegates to annual and regional conferences, select their parliamentary candidate, and submit views to the national party, local councillors, and other bodies.

**All-Member Meetings (AMM)s:** Held in most months. All members in the two constituencies are entitled to attend, speak and vote on all policy issues. Affiliated supporters may attend, but cannot vote. Agendas include guest speakers, reports from councillors, the MP and the Executive Committee, and motions from branches and affiliates, which must normally be sent to the secretary ten days in advance.

**General Committee (GC):** Although most decisions at AMMs are made by all members present, votes on the election or nomination of officers, delegates and representatives, and constitutional and financial matters, are restricted to delegates from branches, trade unions and other groups, referred to collectively as the General Committee. Most such decisions are carried out at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), so there will usually be no distinction between delegates and other members.

**Executive Committee (EC):** Comprises the elected CLP officers and representatives from branches, unions and Labour groups. Responsible for practical issues around campaigning, finance and organisation. Accountable to the CLP through the minutes.

**Campaign Committee (CC):** An open group of members actively involved in leading and contributing to local electoral campaigns.

**National Policy Forum (NPF):** About 200 members from all sections of the movement, meeting once or twice a year and deciding Labour’s policy programme. Members elect five members from their region every two years. For day-to-day work the NPF has established policy commissions, which should consider motions from CLPs and others.

**National Executive Committee (NEC):** The NEC has 33 members from all sections of the movement, with six elected directly by members every two years. They are responsible for running the party throughout the year.

**Annual Conference:** The ultimate authority within the party. Composed of delegates from CLPs and unions, conference endorses reports from the NPF and the NEC and debates motions from CLPs and affiliates.

Members can often feel lost among the jargon. To the right are some of the most commonly-used acronyms, but if you are ever unsure about terms used in correspondence, please let us know.

You can find out more at www.oxfordlabour.org.uk/rules or by contacting our Secretary, Ann Black.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AMM</th>
<th>All Member Meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>Executive Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEP</td>
<td>Member of European Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Member of Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLP</td>
<td>Parliamentary Labour Party</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPC</td>
<td>Prospective Labour Party Candidate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VID</td>
<td>Voter Identification or Canvassing</td>
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</tbody>
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