

# Oxford Labour

www.OxfordLabour.org.uk

## Welcome to the Oxford & District Labour Party



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Pictured: Sally Copley (our candidate for Oxford West & Abingdon in 2015), Andrew Smith MP (Member of Parliament for Oxford East), Anneliese Dodds MEP (Member of European Parliament for the South East)

Dear member,

We would like to welcome you to the Oxford & District Labour Party. We are an active campaigning local party, with lots to get involved in.

We've just come out of a General Election campaign, which produced good results locally, with Andrew Smith re-elected in Oxford East and Labour improving our share of the vote in Oxford West & Abingdon, but was disappointing for Labour nationally. We continue to work hard all year round to stay in touch with residents and be embedded within the communities we represent.

Andrew Smith has been the member of parliament for Oxford East since 1987 and was re-elected in 2015 with a hugely increased majority. Anneliese Dodds, who lives in Oxford, is a newly elected Member of European Parliament for South East England, since May 2014.

We hope you find the information in this booklet useful. If there are any questions you still need answers to, please don't hesitate to get in touch. I look forward to seeing you soon and working together.

With best wishes,

## **Andrew**

[www.AndrewSmithMP.org.uk](http://www.AndrewSmithMP.org.uk)  
[Andrew.Smith.MP@gmail.com](mailto:Andrew.Smith.MP@gmail.com)

## **Anneliese**

[www.AnnelieseDoddsMEP.org.uk](http://www.AnnelieseDoddsMEP.org.uk)  
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# Oxford Labour

The Oxford Labour Party is made up of members from the Parliamentary constituencies of Oxford East and Oxford West & Abingdon

## What do we stand for?

The Labour Party is fundamentally committed to the values of fairness, social justice and equality. In Oxford and the surrounding region, this means tackling the stark inequality between areas with some of the highest property prices and some of the most deprived wards in the country. Our Labour-run City Council is standing up for all residents, and our councillors from across the region are standing up for local people against attacks on their public services.

## All Member Meetings

We hold lively meetings every month (except for April and August) with guest speakers and political discussion. They are held on the second Friday of each month. Agendas and papers for meetings are sent out by email by our Secretary every month.

All members in both constituencies are welcome to come along, join in, vote on policy matters, talk with Andrew about what is happening in Parliament, and with local Labour councillors about city, county and district council issues. We also discuss any motions from branches, elect delegates to Annual Conference and report on campaigning activity.

Recent meetings have included discussions on: education, foreign policy and international development, Britain in the EU, the policies of the national Labour Party and the policies of our Labour city, county and district councillors.



## Social Events

Aside from meetings the party hosts frequent social events. Recent events have included: drink receptions for new members, including in the Commons; tour of the BMW factory; policy forums with Shadow Ministers and fund-raising dinners with guest speakers including David Miliband, Ed Balls, Alastair Campbell, Glenis Willmott, Emma Reynolds and Gordon Brown.

## Local Branch Meetings

Members also belong to a local branch, which covers a smaller area. These vary in levels of activity – some have regular monthly meetings, others meet more occasionally to select candidates or for social events. To obtain contact details for your branch secretary, please get in touch the Secretary.

## Oxford Labour Women

Oxford Labour has a developing strategy for encouraging women to become active and stand for election to local councils. For example we organise women's canvasses which are sociable as well as purposeful and discussions, including a public meeting on the impact of the coalition government's cuts on women. If you are interested in getting involved please contact our Women's Officer.

# Oxford Labour



## Young Labour & Labour Students

We also have very active youth and student groups who organise a range of campaigning and social events all year round. If you are a student or are aged 27 or under and want more information please contact our Youth & Student Officer.

The Oxford University Labour Club has Twitter @OxUniLabour and Facebook at facebook.com/oxunilabour.

## Campaigning



Oxford Labour is outward-looking, campaigning hard on the issues - local, national and global - which people care about. Keeping in touch with local communities is at the heart of our approach. We think it's important to get out and talk with people, to listen to what they say and get action on the issues which concern them.

Everyone can help with campaigning no matter how old or young. We need help all year round to stuff envelopes, enter data, deliver leaflets, telephone voters or join local Labour MP Andrew Smith, local Councillors and activists calling on local residents and discussing their concerns.

If you get involved, you'll be warmly welcomed. Our members and supporters include people of all backgrounds and ages, committed to building a fairer, better and more environmentally sustainable community.

Oxford Labour is one of the best campaigning organisations in the country and has won a range of regional and national awards, including: Best Practice Award for Doorstep Campaigning, Best Campaigning Party and South East CLP of the Year.

Campaigning is a great way to meet other members and activists, and we usually go for a drink and a bite to eat afterwards!



To find out how you can get involved please contact our Campaigning Organiser. The next set of elections in Oxford are the City Council elections in May 2016.

# Oxford Labour

## Key contacts

**Co-chair: Emma Bausch** (eablib@gmail.com)

**Co-chair: Jane Darke** (darkej@hotmail.com)

**Secretary: Ann Black** (AnnBlack50@btinternet.com)

**Membership Officer: Luke Akehurst** (akehurstluke@gmail.com)

**Women's Officer: Sally Copley** (salcopley@yahoo.co.uk)

**Ethnic Minorities Officer: Jamila Azad** (AzadJemila55@yahoo.co.uk)

**LGBT Officer: Tom Hayes** (laboured@gmail.com)

**Youth & Student Officer: Greg Holyoke** (gregoryh28@googlemail.com)

**Campaign Organiser: Tom Adams** (info@OxfordLabour.org.uk)

## Directions to the Oxford Labour Campaign Centre by car or bike:

Take the Watlington Road from the BMW roundabout. Turn left into Transport Way just past Lidl Supermarket.

Bishops Mews is on the right directly behind the Church Mission Society.

The Campaign Centre's car park is the second entrance on the right as you go down Transport Way.

## Directions to the Oxford Labour Campaign Centre by bus:

Take the No 5 or No 1 to Blackbird Leys.

Get off at the first stop in Pegasus Road.

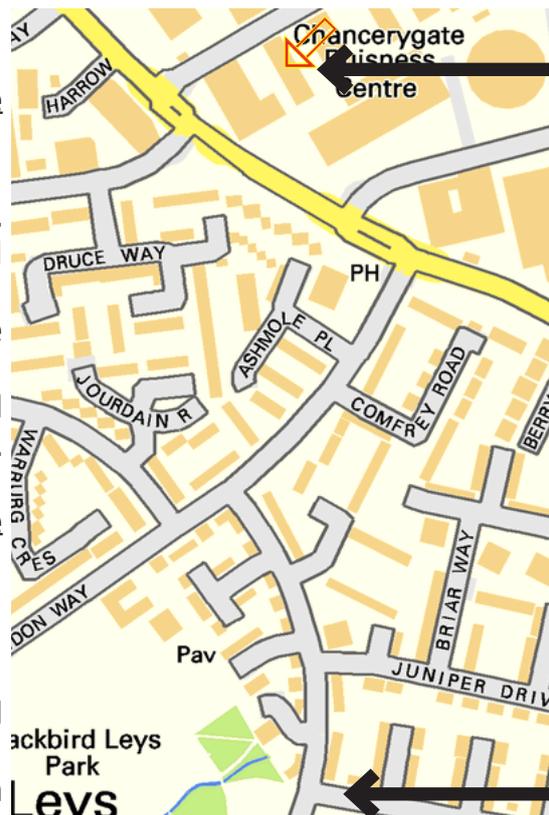
Walk back to the junction with Cuddesdon Way and turn right.

At the junction of Cuddesdon Way and Watlington Road, turn left.

You will see Lidl Supermarket, and - immediately before it on the right - Transport Way.

Go down Transport Way and Bishops Mews is on the right directly behind the Church Mission Society.

The entrance to the Campaign Centre is the second entrance on the right as you go down Transport Way.



Campaign Centre

Bus stop

# Oxford Labour

Party structures can seem a bit of a maze, but there is a common goal: ensuring that the party is open and democratic, and maintains contact between members and with the people. New ideas are vital if the party is to grow and develop, and we welcome your views and experiences. From your local branch to the national conference, the aim is to give members a voice in local and national policy, and in campaigning to elect Labour representatives at every level.

**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](http://www.oxfordlabour.org.uk/rules) or by contacting our Secretary Ann Black.

AMM	All Member Meeting
EC	Executive Committee
MEP	Member of European Parliament
MP	Member of Parliament
PLP	Parliamentary Labour Party
PPC	Prospective Parliamentary Candidate
VID	Voter Identification or Canvassing