



WE Party Conference

15 – 18 October 2020

Title: Caucuses in the Women's Equality Party

Proposed by: The Women's Equality Party Steering Committee

Proposer: Steering Committee

Type of motion: Policy motion

Motion Text:

1 The Steering Committee wishes to include the representatives of recognised caucuses
2 within the Party as full members of the Steering Committee (SC) and to set the criteria
3 of how a group can become recognised as a caucus. The following two changes to the
4 Constitution would achieve this.

5 The SC *proposes* a change to Article 7.5.12 which sets out who is on the SC through the
6 insertion of a new article at 7.5.12 (iv).

7 1. A new article 7.5.12(iv) that reads: "The elected caucus representatives of recognised
8 WE caucuses within the Party."

9 And the following language to allow recognition by the SC of WE caucuses:

10 2. The addition of the following text to Article 7.5.4. "The SC is responsible in
11 discussion with each caucus for specifying the rights available to it as a WE caucus
12 and for approving its status."

Motion rationale:

13 1. WE are fully supportive of groups of members working together – it is in the DNA of
14 the Party that we are a collaborative force in UK politics. It is inherent in this stance
15 that the formation of groups of members within the Party is something to celebrate.
16 We know that intersectional feminism is key to the fulfilment of our objectives – WE
17 are keen to embrace intersectionality fully and to improve our inclusivity.

18 2. The Steering Committee needs to be able to recognise caucuses to ensure that the
19 inclusive nature of the Party is not in name only, but has a fundamental principle at its
20 heart. Structural inequalities that exist in society can be replicated in the Party. We



21 3. should support those who come together to address these issues to improve our
22 intersectionality and inclusivity. And we should welcome their elected representatives
23 into the SC as full members.

24 4. WE should not put in place requirements for recognition of these groups that
25 suppresses the joy of members finding like-minded people. And for most groups this
26 will be informal. For some, however, their work will be focused on inequalities that the
27 Party has unintentionally replicated. There is, therefore, a need for the SC to develop
28 and set the criteria by which this recognition will take place. In the first instance they
29 will need to represent one of the nine protected characteristics under the Equality Act
30 2010 and be seeking to remove from the Party societal structural inequalities that have
31 been replicated there. In order to ensure that WE begin this work now we are
32 proposing a small change to the Constitution with respect to this in support of
33 recognised caucuses within the Party.