



NOTIFICATION OF COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Notification is hereby given of elections to the Compass Management Committee and Compass Youth Organising Committee for 2013/2014

The Compass Committees

This is a key chance for you as a member to have your say on the organisation's future. Compass has a passionate commitment to democracy as part of our vision of a good society so we have annual elections to decide who serves on our committees. Compass also has a passionate commitment to equality and so we have a quota to ensure that at least three men and three women will be elected to the Management Committee and on the Compass Youth Committee at least five women and five men will be elected.

What can you expect?

The committees meet approximately four times per year – but also as and when necessary. The format of meetings is decided by the committee but last year the Management Committee met four times and each meeting was 3 hours long. The meetings take place in central London (we are looking into ways of making the meetings more accessible- at the moment some members Skype into meetings) and travel expenses can be arranged. Being on the committee is an excellent way to ensure we can have an even greater impact but it is important that you can truly commit to the role. The main function of the committee is to help steer Compass by helping with our strategies and visions. There are also various other ways to help Compass including speaking at events, assisting or leading projects, helping write statements, being a media spokesperson and helping at our AGM and Compass Conference. We also have a subcommittee which deals with the day-to-day management of Compass for example helping with the accounts.

Please bear in mind the following when considering whether or not to stand: we are looking for individuals willing to commit time and energy to Compass and Compass Youth to help build the organisation and further our aims and objectives. Membership of both the Committees is voluntary and unpaid – so we are realistic about people's ability to contribute – but the objective is a desire and willingness to help Compass change our world.

The elections:

Compass must reflect the identities of all its members and the wider society it seeks to shape. In this election members will get to vote using the Single Transferable Vote (STV) numbering system in which you number your ballot in order of preference against as many names as you like. Please do keep in mind our quota based on gender equality.

Election Schedule:

| Period | Stage in the process | Key date |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| | Open nominations | August 2nd 2013 |
| 4 weeks | Close nominations | 6pm August 28 th 2013 |
| | Ballot papers sent out | August 30 th 2013 |
| 4 weeks | Voting closes | 6pm September 27 th 2013 |
| | Results announced | October 2nd 2013 |
| | First Management Committee Meeting 3-6pm in London | October 14 th 2013 |

Committee Composition

Management Committee Specifics

- The Compass Management Committee will be made up of 11 elected members using STV. Eight committee members will be made up of UK-wide representatives, at least 3 elected shall be women and at least 3 shall be men and elected by the entire membership.
- The Compass Youth Chair is automatically elected onto the MC
- One committee member shall reside in Scotland and elected only by Compass members residing in Scotland, and one member shall reside in Wales and elected only by Compass members residing in Wales.
- One member shall be the Parliamentary representative and will be elected by all members – but only MPs who are members of Compass may nominate themselves to stand for this position on the committee.

Compass Youth Committee Specifics

- The Compass Youth Organising Committee will be made up of 12 elected members using STV. Twelve committee members will be made up of UK-wide representatives, at least 5 elected shall be women and at least 5 shall be men and elected by the entire membership.
- Only fully paid-up members of Compass shall be members of the committees.
- You must be 30 years of age or younger to be on the CY Committee.

Nominations (self-nominating for one position only)

- Nominations are self-nominating.
- You may only self-nominate yourself for **one** of the elected positions. For the Management Committee if you are a Welsh/Scottish member you are able to stand for one of the eight positions that will be elected on a UK-wide basis, but you may not stand for both the Scottish/Welsh representative and one of the UK-wide representatives. Equally anyone standing for the Parliamentary representative position may not also nominate themselves for either one of the eight UK-wide positions, or one of the Scottish/Welsh positions – i.e. you can only nominate for one position on the Committee. If you are aged 30 or under you can stand for both the Compass Management Committee and the Compass Youth Organising Committee.
- Self-nominations for the Parliamentary representative can only be from MPs who are members of Compass.
- All members of Compass in compliance with the above (on the date this election is announced) may self-nominate themselves for the Committees, however anyone that joins Compass after this election is announced will not be entitled to nominate themselves for the committees.

If you wish to stand, you need to:

1. Produce a statement no longer than 150 words as to why you'd like to be elected to the committee
2. Nominate yourself via email or post using the exact statement below:

"I XXXXX XXXXX hereby nominate myself to stand for the Compass Management Committee/Compass Youth Organising Committee (delete as appropriate). I understand that by nominating myself I will be committing myself to stand for a full one-year term, to working to achieve the aims and objectives of Compass as set out in the constitution. I agree to abide by the rules governing this election and the rules set out in the Compass constitution."*

Signed XXXXXXXXXX Date XX/XX/XX

*Nominations sent by post should be signed. If you nominate yourself by email this will constitute a signed nomination.

Please send all nominations to elections@compassonline.org.uk or 'Elections' Compass, Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London, SE1 7SJ. Please state which position you are standing for – you can only stand for one position. A receipt will be issued to confirm your nomination has been received. Please also note you must be less than 30 years old to nominate yourself to be on the Compass Youth Organising Committee.

Nominations must be received no later than 6pm August 28th 2013.

Failure to comply with these rules may result in your nomination being declined.

Election / Voting

- The election will consist of an all-member STV election in each category.
- To be eligible to vote in the forthcoming ballots you must be a member of Compass by the close of nominations at **6pm August 28th 2013**. Anyone that becomes a fully paid-up member of Compass after this date will not be eligible to vote in these elections.
- Votes will be accepted by email sent to elections@compassonline.org.uk and by post to the Compass national office (see address below). All votes will be verified and a receipt will be issued. Only one vote will be accepted per eligible member.
- **Votes must be received no later than 6pm September 27th 2013.**
- All members will be issued with a list of all the candidates and their statements, along with candidate contact details (if given).
- Members that are not contactable by email will be sent all election notices including this one, ballot papers and the results by post. Please note that it is expensive and time consuming for us to print and post ballots so if you do have an email address which you haven't notified us of please let us know at info@compassonline.org.uk

Vote count / announcement

- All votes will be officially verified by a representative from the Electoral Reform Society (ERS).
- The votes will be counted immediately after the vote closes at 6pm on Friday 27th September 2013.
- Any Compass member will be allowed access to witness the counting of votes. If you'd like to come to the count please notify the National Coordinator before the count.
- The full results will be announced to the Compass membership by email and put on the Compass website.

Email: elections@compassonline.org.uk

Post: 'Elections', Compass, Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London, SE1 7SJ

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