



COMPASS CONSTITUTION

As amended at AGM 21 June 2014

1. Name

1.1 The name of the organisation is 'Compass'.

2. Objects & values

2.1. Compass is committed to help build a Good Society; one in which there is far greater social, political and economic equality; where democracy is deepened at every level of the state, our workplaces and communities; where the sustainability of the planet is made an urgent priority and we recognise our interconnected fate across all nations; a society where the market is made to work as the servant of society. Compass wants to see a transformed Labour Party working with other parties, organisations and individuals in pursuit of this goal of the Good Society.

2.2. In support of this objective Compass shall have power to carry out any lawful activity whatsoever.

3. Membership

3.1. Membership shall be open to any individual who supports the objects and values of Compass set out in clause 2.1

3.2. The Management Committee may refuse membership to any person if they consider it in the interests of Compass to do so.

3.3. A member's membership shall end if they fail to pay their subscription by a date set by the Management Committee.

3.4. The Management Committee may end the membership of any person if they consider it in the interests of Compass to do so, provided that they state their reasons

and allow the person concerned to make representations to them before making a final decision.

4. General Meetings

4.1. The Management Committee shall call an annual general meeting of members at least once in each calendar year, and may call additional general meetings.

4.2. Members shall each have one vote at a general meeting

4.3. . Members shall be able to vote by postal or electronic proxy on all substantive matters voted on at a general meeting.

4.4. The following powers are reserved to the members in a general meeting:

4.4.1. The amendment of this constitution.

4.4.2. The merger or dissolution of Compass.

4.5. General meetings shall be governed by standing orders approved by the Management Committee.

4.6 A general meeting may resolve that there shall be an immediate election for the management committee. If it does so, the Management Committee shall arrange for an election to take place within three months of the date of the resolution. Subsequent elections shall take place in every second year thereafter.

5. Management Committee

5.1. Compass shall be managed by a Management Committee.

5.2. Eight members of the Management Committee shall be elected by and from all members of Compass. Not fewer than three of those elected shall be women and no fewer than three shall be men.

5.3. One member of the Management Committee shall be elected by and from members resident in Scotland

5.4. One member of the Management Committee shall be elected by and from members resident in Wales.

5.5. The Compass Parliamentary Spokesperson shall be a member of the Management Committee and shall be elected by all members from among Members of the UK House of Commons who are members of Compass.

5.6. The Chair of Compass Youth shall be a member of the Management Committee ex officio.

5.7. The election of Management Committee members shall take place, subject to clause 4.6, in 2014 and every second year thereafter. It shall be conducted as a single transferable vote election in each category. The election shall be conducted by a ballot issued to all members at their registered addresses. Electronic means may be used for distribution and voting. The Management Committee shall approve the detailed arrangements for the election.

5.8. Where a Management Committee position is not filled at the biennial election, or falls vacant during the year, the Management Committee may at its discretion hold a by-election, co-opt an additional member or leave the position vacant.

5.9. The Management Committee may co-opt up to four further members of the Management Committee, who shall serve for a period of two years. Members may be co-opted on more than one occasion. The Management Committee shall have regard to the need to secure a reasonable gender/ethnic balance on the Management Committee when making co-options.

5.10. Only members of Compass may be members of the Management Committee.

5.11. The Management Committee may exercise all powers and duties of Compass, other than those reserved by this constitution to the members in a general meeting. The Management Committee shall exercise its powers in a manner consistent with any decision of members in a general meeting.

5.12. The Management Committee may delegate any of its powers and duties to one of its members, or to a sub-committee of two or more of its members.

5.13. The Management Committee shall, at its first meeting after the annual election of the Management Committee, elect a chair, vice-chair, secretary and treasurer from among its members. The Management Committee may from time to time elect such other officers as it may decide.

5.14. The General Secretary of Compass shall be entitled to attend and speak at meetings of the Management Committee, but will have no voting rights. No paid employee may be a member of the Management Committee.

5.15. The Management Committee shall regulate its own conduct, whether by adopting standing orders or otherwise.

5.16. The Management Committee may approve the creation of groups of

Compass members. The constitutions of such groups shall be subject to the approval of the Management Committee. Such groups may be dissolved by the Management Committee, and any surplus funds shall become the property of Compass.

5.17. The Management Committee may hold ballots on party political issues of those individual Compass members who are, or who are eligible to be, individual members of the political party in question.

6. Finance

6.1. Members and associates shall pay a minimum annual subscription set by the Management Committee.

6.2. The Management Committee, normally acting through the Treasurer, shall ensure that proper controls are maintained over the funds of Compass, that proper accounting records are kept and that annual accounts giving a true and fair view of its financial affairs are submitted to a general meeting.

6.3. No distribution of any surplus shall be made to members of Compass.

7. Amendment

7.1 This constitution may be amended by a resolution of a general meeting carried with twice as many votes cast in favour as are cast against. This clause, clause 6.3 and clause 8 may not be amended.

8. Merger and dissolution

8.1. Compass may be merged with another organisation with similar objects, or dissolved, by a resolution of a general meeting carried with twice as many votes cast in favour as are cast against.

8.2. On dissolution of Compass, its assets shall not be distributed to its members, but shall be distributed to one or more organisations with compatible objects specified in the dissolution resolution. If this is not done for any reason any assets shall be given to the Labour Party.