

LABOUR LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN for JEREMY CORBYN:

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Jeremy Corbyn announces plan to extend democracy across Britain

Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the Labour Party, has announced a raft of major reforms which will extend democracy across Britain. The policies will address the growing democratic deficit – in politics, in communities, in the economy and in the Labour Party itself.

The policy announcement comes as Labour members begin to receive their ballots in the election for Labour leader.

The four landmark policies are:

Democracy in the country – a radical overhaul of the British constitution

Democracy in the community – giving people power over services and budgeting in their area

Democracy in the economy – empowering workers, communities and service users

Democracy in the party – ensuring that the diversity and growth of membership is represented.

Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the Labour Party, launching his four campaign pledges to extend democracy across Britain, said:

"I am determined to democratise our country from the ground up, and give people a real say in their communities and workplaces.

"We need to break open the closed circle of Westminster and Whitehall, and of the boardrooms too.

"Decisions in Britain are overwhelmingly taken from the top down. And that's crucial to why our country is run in the interests of a privileged few.

"That has to change – so that the country works in the interests of the millions, and not just the millionaires.

"I believe in the wisdom of ordinary citizens. That's why we are launching proposals to extend democracy in every part of public life: in national politics, communities, the economy and the workplace – and in our own party.

"Labour under my leadership will listen to ideas from the bottom up – and take radical action to transform and rebuild our country so that no one and no community is left behind. We need nothing less than a democratic revolution in our politics, communities and workplaces."

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Notes to editors

For more information please email <press@jeremyforlabour.com> or call the press pool phone on 07801 899601

Pledged to 'extend democracy across Britain'.

EXTEND DEMOCRACY ACROSS BRITAIN

- **Democracy in the country:** We will support radical devolution of power to local councils, regions and nations, in consultation with party members and local people; replace the House of Lords with an elected second chamber; end the 'revolving door' corporate grip on politics and the civil service; and create a new role for citizens' assemblies in shaping political accountability for the future.

- **Democracy in the community:** We will give people a real say in their local communities, through democratic participation in budgeting, online democracy and control of local services; full transparency in public decision-making and contracts with private companies; and a citizens' right to challenge the outsourcing and privatisation of local services through referendums.
- **Democracy in the economy:** We will give employees a real say in the organisations they work for, and the boardrooms that control them; introduce new collective and individual rights at work, including sectoral union bargaining rights, and mandatory collective bargaining for companies with 250 or more employees; require the election of employee representatives to executive remuneration committees; act to ensure women's equality in the workplace; and create a democratically controlled regional investment bank in every region.
- **Democracy in the party:** We will work to make the Labour party a truly democratic and pluralist organization, rooted in our communities and workplaces, in which members and affiliated organisations have real control, including through a sovereign conference; empower its working class, women, black, disabled, young and LGBT members, and ensure the diversity of the population is reflected in every section of our party; strengthen the women's, BAME and youth conferences with a clear policy-making role; create a charter of rights for party members; and support moves to widen representation on the national executive to reflect the huge increase in party membership.