

National Young Members conference
Friday 24 November – Sunday 26
November 2023



NOMINATIONS

The deadline for self nominations for all elections is 5.00pm on Friday 10 November 2023. The nomination form is available here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/H3TNyqUnGL>

Any young member in UNISON can nominate themselves for any of the below positions if they meet the criteria. The election will be by ballot of delegates to Young Members conference.

We are seeking nominations for:

- I. Two delegates to 2024 Service Group conferences (at least one woman)
 - Higher Education – 1 February – Milton Keynes
 - Community – 8-9 March – Chester
 - Health – 8-10 April – Brighton
 - Local Government – 16-17 June – Brighton
 - Water, Environment and Transport – 16 June – Brighton
 - Energy – 17 June – Brighton
 - Police and Justice – 10-11 October – Llandudno

- II. Two delegates to 2024 Self-Organised Group conferences (at least one woman)
 - Black Members – 19-21 January – Brighton
 - Women Members – 15-17 February – Brighton
 - Disabled Members – 26-28 October – Brighton
 - LGBT+ Members – 15-17 November – to be confirmed

- III. Delegates to attend Labour Link Forum and Labour Party Conference (two, at least one woman – nominee must be a member of the Labour Party, and pay into UNISON's affiliated political fund) *Date and venue to be confirmed*

- IV. Six representatives for the Standing Orders Committee for the National Young Members Conference 2024, Friday 29 November - Sunday 1 December 2024 (at least three women)

- V. Two delegates to the TUC Congress 2024 (attending as part of the UNISON delegation)

- VI. Twelve delegates to TUC Young Workers Conference 2024 (at least six women). To be held at Congress House, Central London in early April.

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Candidates for any of the above elections may submit a supporting statement of up to **300 words**.

The statement must include the name of the candidate, their branch and membership number and the position for which they are being nominated. Any statements received will be circulated with the ballot papers.

Please note that for ALL the above elections, where valid nominations have been received by the deadline in the nomination pack AND that meet the representation requirement i.e. only two nominations, with at least one being a woman, those members are automatically elected and no election will be needed.

Where an election is needed, this will take place at conference, and further information will be provided to all delegates on the first day of conference. The results of ballots will be notified to delegates after conference.

All nomination papers should be completed online by 5.00pm on Friday 10 November 2023. The nomination form is available here:

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Conferences - What to expect

The National Young Members Forum sends two representatives to all Service Group Conferences, Self-Organised Group conferences and Labour Link Forum.

In 2022 the National Young Members Forum agreed to elect to these positions at the National Young Members Conference. The election will take place by a ballot of delegates at the conference. In line with UNISON policy on proportionality at least one representative must be a woman.

Any young member who meets the criteria can stand for one of the below positions (you do not need to be a delegate to Young Members Conference or a member of the National Young Members Forum).

At conferences, a representative of the National Young Members Forum can speak on behalf of the Forum. There's plenty of support available from the National Young Members Forum and the Young Members Conference Standing Orders Committee, and the UNISON staff who work with these committees. Delegates will be briefed on policy, and offered help writing and preparing speeches.

Being a delegate to a conference can be a really good way of getting to know UNISON and learn more about its work, as well as to represent the perspective of UNISON's young workers.

Delegate Role

Delegates to Service Group or Self-Organised Group Conferences

1. Be a member of the relevant Service Group (so to attend Local Government conference you need to work in Local Government, for example).
OR
Be a member of the relevant self-organised group: Black members, disabled members, LGBT+ members, women members.
2. Speak at the Service Group/Self-Organised Group Conference on motions or amendments submitted by the National Young Members Forum;
3. Speak on other business on behalf of the National Young Members Forum;
4. Attend all formal sessions of conference;
5. Participate in discussions with other self-organised groups and National Young Members Forum representatives on conference equalities business;
6. Liaise with the National Officer for Young Members on activity and participation at conference.
7. Submit a report on their participation in the conference to the National Officer for inclusion in the NYMC annual report.

Representative to TUC Congress 2024

1. To represent UNISON at the TUC Congress 2024 as part of its delegation;

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2. To represent the views/policies of the National Young Members Conference to the delegation;
3. To speak to relevant motions as determined by the delegation leader.

Representatives to Labour Link Forum and Labour Party Conference 2024

You must be a member of the Labour Party with at least 12 months' membership of the Party, AND paying into UNISON's Affiliated Political Fund (Labour Link) to be eligible to be a candidate in these elections.

The Labour Link Forum is an annual gathering of representatives of UNISON members who contribute to the APF fund and who are also members of the Labour Party (for a minimum of 12 months from the date of the Conference).

This event discusses motions submitted by regions and it has workshop discussions on policy proposals. This event sets the agenda for UNISON's work with the Labour Party for the forthcoming twelve months.

The date and venue for the Labour Link Forum and Labour Party Conference next year are to be confirmed, but they are normally held in July and September.

Arrangements for each conference

Accommodation, daily subsistence, travelling, and the cost of accessible services are met by the national union. Members' access requirements are met by advance notification to the UNISON Conference Department (Trades Union Congress /Labour Party Conference team for those conferences). Local hotels and the Conference Centre are audited for disabled people's access and delegates are consulted and given advice from national office about the most suitable hotel accommodation, this is based on the representatives' access requirements.

Standing Orders Committee seats

The Standing Orders Committee (SOC) is independent of the National Young Members' Forum. It aims to ensure the smooth running of Conference business in accordance with UNISON rules and the National Young Members' Standing Orders.

The SOC compiles the preliminary and final agendas by considering all the motions and amendments submitted. The SOC also decides the order of business for Conference to debate.

Representatives hold office from the end of the Conference at which they are elected until the end of the next Conference.

Representatives will be required to attend 3 weekday meetings between July and December to discuss Conference business. Training will also be provided. The dates

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of meetings/training sessions will be set as far in advance as possible. Committee members' expenses are met by national funds.

At Conference itself, the SOC meets every day.

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