

Newsletter

November 2003

Comprehensive Future

Patron

Fiona Millar

Chair

David Chaytor MP

Secretary

Margaret Tulloch

Treasurer

Malcolm Home

Gen Sec SEA

- **Comprehensive Future** has been very active since we sent you our first newsletter in July.
- Cllr. Clare Martens, Cllr Barbara Keeley and Mike Ions made representations on our behalf to the Education Commission of the National Policy Forum (David Chaytor, Margaret Tulloch and Malcolm Home also saw them in different capacities)
- We met John Edmonds ex-General Secretary of GMB and a member of the National Policy Forum
- We met with Fiona Millar as she left employment in 10 Downing Street and she agreed to become a patron of Comprehensive Future.
- We held our joint Comprehensive Future/SEA fringe meeting at Labour Party Conference at which Charles Clarke MP, the Secretary of State for Education, spoke.
- We met Patrick Diamond of the Downing Street Policy Unit and made a presentation to him which he will forward to the Prime Minister.
- We have made contact with many members of the National Policy Forum urging them to ensure the new policy document contains a recommendation that the next Labour Government abolishes selection by ability and aptitude.

The next National Steering Committee meeting of Comprehensive Future will be:

Mon Nov 17 at 6 pm

RoomP

Portcullis House

Westminster

We must all now be busy:

1. Lobbying anyone we have contact with on the National Policy Forum (see overleaf)
2. Asking MPs to sign the Early Day Motion No 1859: 'Schools Admissions Procedures, Pupil Achievement and Social Exclusion' (text overleaf)
3. Prepare to respond to Tony Blair's consultation on the next election manifesto when it is launched in the next few weeks.
4. Asking our CLP and Council LP groups to pass a resolution supporting the aims of **Comprehensive Future**

Contact Details:

PO Box 44327

London SW20 OWD

mtulloch@poptel.org

020 8947 5758

www.comprehensivefuture.org.uk

Dates

Saturday 15th November 2003

SEA Caroline Benn 2003 Memorial Lecture

2.30 pm Institute of education, 20 Bedford Way, London
Comprehensive Success and Bog-standard Government
Speaker: Prof. Sally Tomlinson Chair: Roy Hattersley

November 28th & 29th

National Policy Forum meet to agree second phase Education Policy Document

National Policy Forum Representatives

Please lobby your National Policy Forum Representatives before November 28th to support the following amendment to the Education & Skills Document : "The next Labour Government will end selection by ability and aptitude for secondary school admissions."

CLP East Midlands Region : Claire Forest, Helen Skinner, Gary Ransford, Ann Syrett & Jane Heggie
Eastern Region : Kerry McCarthy, Daniel Zeichner, Beth Kelly, James Valentine & Donna Smith
Greater London Region : Florence Beetlestone, Nicky Gavron, Mane-Louise Nolan, Peter Walker & E. Reeves
North East Region : Sue Stirling, Chris Jukes, Sarah Armstrong, Elizabeth Muggleton & Kevin Graham
North West Region : Azhar Ali, Sue Murphy, Ann Coomer, Emily Lomax & Jonny Reynolds
Scottish Labour Party : Derek Munn, Joanne Milligan, Gordon Banks, Pauline Bryan & Gemma Doyle
South East Region : Simon Burgess, Matt Cain, Deborah Gardiner, Anne Snelgrove & Olivia Bailey
South West Region : Libby Lisgo, Brenda Weston, Keith Evans, Julie Snelling & Chris Sherwood
Wales Labour Party : Hamish Sandison, Ann Morgan, Wendy Morgan, Rhiannon Passmore & Hannah Blyth
West Midlands Region : Sandra Samuels, Wamar Bhatti, Ann Lucas, Susan Woodward & Alex Belardine
Yorkshire Region : Diana Jeuda, Martha Hanson, George McManus, Jamie Hanley & Henri Murison
Association of Labour Councillors : Lesley Hinds, Carole Turner, Pauleen Lane & Jane Roberts
Local Government Association : Toby Harris, Celia Cameron, Harry Jones & Joan Taylor
Regions:
East Midlands : Glenis Willmot & Alan Rhodes
Greater London : Maggie Cosin & Peter Willsman
North West : Debbie Brannan & Brian Dawson
South East : Duncan Enright & Christine Wilde
Wales : Stella Matthews & Terry Thomas
Yorkshire : Judith Blake & Peter Box
Eastern Region : Peter Medhurst & Tania Rogers
North East : Jane Brown & Tracey Stainton
Scottish Labour : Karie Murphy & Margaret Duffy
South West : Andy Frampton & Mary Southcott
West Midlands : Jayne Innes & Gerard Coyne
Socialist Societies : Jacky Peacock (Labour Housing) Bill Thomas (NULSC) & Helen Gordon (Poale Zion)
Trade Unions :
AEEU : Derek Simpson, Danny Carrigan & Bob Shannon
BFAWU : Merlita Bryan
CWU : Jeannie Drake & Billy Hayes
FBU : Michael Lawson
GMB : Paul Kenny, Mandy Knight, Catherine Sutherland
GPMU : Tony Dubbins
ISTC : Joe Mann
KFAT : Rita Hunt
MSF : Roger Lyons & Lucy Anderson
ASLEF : Mick Rix
NLBD : Doris Henderson
RMT : John Tilley
TSSA : Harriet Yeo
TGWU : Bill Morris, Val Bum & Ray Collins
UCATT : George Brumwell
UNISON : Dave Prentis, Dave Anderson, Ne.tta Murray & Norma Stephenson
USDAW : Marge Carey & Frank Murphy
Black Socialist Society : Jeannette Arnold, Irma Critchlow, Gloria Mills & Jim Thakoordin
Co-operative Party : Brenda Forster & Jim Lee
European PLP : Richard Howitt, Claude Moraes, Mary Honeyball, Neena Gill, Linda McAvan & Brian Simpson
NEC : Nancy Coull, Shahid Malik, Margaret Wall, Diana Holland, Helen Jackson, Gary Titley, Mike Griffiths, Dianne Hayter, Mick Cash, Sally Powell, Michael Cashman, Blair McDougall. Steve Pickering, Mark Seddon, Cath Speight, Mary Turner, Jimmy Elsby, Tony Robinson, Christine Shawcroft, Ann Black, John Keggie, Jeremy Beecham, John Gibbins, Maggie Jones, Ruth Turner, John Hannett, & Dennis Skinner.
PLP : Vera Baird, Anne Begg, Anne Campbell, Parmjit Dhanda, Lawrie Quinn, Mike Gapes, Linda Gilroy, Jim Knight, Dari Taylor, Alf Dubs, Joyce Gould.
Labour Students : Adam Hug

Early Day Motion no. 1859: 'School Admission Procedures, Pupil Achievement and Social Exclusion'

That this House welcomes the launch of Comprehensive Future, the campaign to modernise secondary school admission procedures; welcomes the Government's revised Code of Practice on School Admissions; further welcomes the publication of the Audit Commission/ Ofsted Report 'The Influence of School Place Planning and Social Inclusion'; notes the criticism of current admission procedures contained both in the June 2002 report from the Council of Tribunals and in the July 2002 report issued by the Schools Adjudicator; further notes the evidence of abuse of current procedures documented in research recently published by the London School of Economics; regrets that more children in England now face overt and covert selective admission procedures to secondary school than in 1997; recognises the impracticality of the 1998 Grammar School Ballot Regulations ; further regrets the denial of parental choice intrinsic to admission systems in which schools select children; is aware of the growing body of evidence linking selective systems of secondary education to lower overall levels of pupil achievement and higher levels of social exclusion ; and calls on the Government to (a) request her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools to conduct an enquiry into the relationship between selective admission procedures, pupil achievement and post-16 participation rates and (b) request the Social Exclusion Unit to conduct a parallel enquiry into the relationship between- the structures of secondary education and levels of social exclusion.