



## Network News Update

# Greetings Equity ~~Everywhere~~ DIGITAL

### THE FIRST PDF NEWS UPDATE OF 2020.

Hello OLB Members, Caron L here. (on the right) Committee Chair, Online Branch Moderator, Stage Manager and Social Media Geek!










The branch committee has been working tirelessly behind the scenes, meeting fortnightly on alternate Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ultimately, WE (all of us, not just the committee) are the online branch, not the technology. The branch is for members without a branch, for democratic voting at least – so we need a functioning branch. Your democratic vote is aligned to the online branch, I hope you will agree with the committee, it's vital we maintain and practice that freedom.

So much has been learnt from the Online Branch project so far... We now know what works and what doesn't with the technical side of the branch. Aside from finding a solution to the money pit conundrum we are working with staff to establish a robust moderation framework along with strong and rigorous accountability protocols.

Let's not forget that our President, Maureen Beattie, and Vice President, Julia Carson Sims have thrown their hats into this ring too. It's worth remembering that without enabling the practice of the freedom to vote on union matters none of the Committee has the capacity to vote, as this is our sole branch too.

Your Committee.

						
<b>Caron R</b>	<b>Helen</b>	<b>Jason</b>	<b>Julia</b>	<b>Lee</b>	<b>Maureen</b>	<b>Terry</b>

## WHY are we UPDATING you NOW? WHAT IS THIS VOTE?

In its broadest term, the vote is the capacity to make collective decisions. What collective decision do we need to make? Every year Equity holds a conference attended by Council and representatives from all committees and every branch. There are also representatives chosen at regional AGMs across the country.

Committees, Branches and the Regions send representatives (usually two) to collectively represent the interests of ALL members. Under the rules of the union, we can send TWO representatives from the OLB committee. We can also propose a motion for debate (and action). The motion has to be formed and approved by members of the branch, within the rules.

Here is a list of last year's motions passed at the conference and what actions are being taken by Equity to carry them out and by whom. [bit.ly/EquityARC2019-motions-update](https://bit.ly/EquityARC2019-motions-update). It is through the proposal of motions to the ARC (Annual Representative Conference) that union policy is developed and campaigns are formulated.

We do not have to send a motion but it would be remiss of the committee if we did not inform you of your right to as paid up members of the union... And give you the opportunity to do so.

So take a [look at the document of passed motions from 2019](#) and if you have a motion or an idea for making a change to the union you'd like to have considered. What do you do? You have until FRIDAY 21st FEBRUARY to email me - [moderator@equityonlinebranch.co.uk](mailto:moderator@equityonlinebranch.co.uk) or visit the online branch. [More about writing ARC motions here](#)

This is the Online Branch public page on the Equity website where you can find the login and opt-in details <https://www.equity.org.uk/online-branch/> You can also find the staff contact to help with access issues.

A live stream Q&A will be on Facebook LIVE Thur 20th Feb - [bit.ly/pcmp0201](https://bit.ly/pcmp0201)

## GETTING a MOTION TO ARC - NEXT NEWS UPDATE - Tuesday 25th February

**Voting period 10 Days in PURPLE marked with V | MEETING's of the OLB Committee MARKED 'M'**

Date	Activity	Date	Activity	Date	Activity
TH 13	OLBC Meeting	MO 24		FR 06 <b>V</b>	
FR 14		TU 25 <b>M</b>	News Update 02	SA 07	
SA 15		WE 26		SU 08	
SU 16		TH 27 <b>V</b>	Livestream 02	MO 09	
MO 17		FR 28 <b>V</b>	Midlands Area AGM	TU 10	News Update 04
TU 18	News Update 01	SA 29 <b>V</b>		WE 11	
WE 19		SU 01 <b>V</b>		TH 12 <b>M</b>	Livestream 04
TH 20	<a href="#">Livestream 01</a>	MO 02 <b>V</b>		FR 20	
FR 21	<b>Any Motions - LIVE</b>	TU 03 <b>V</b>	News Update 03	SA 21	
SA 22		WE 04 <b>V</b>		SU 22	
SU 23		TH 05 <b>V</b>	Livestream 03		