



## **Statement in relation to the Labour Party leadership election**

official press release from York & District Trades Union Council (TUC)

22.8.2016 – for immediate release

To: Media Correspondents and Associates

---

Following a delegate meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016, York & District TUC are supporting the candidature of Jeremy Corbyn in the upcoming contest for the leadership of the Labour Party. Corbyn was elected last year with a huge mandate from Labour Party members - the largest mandate of any leader in the history of British politics. In addition, the Labour Party has almost tripled in size to become the largest political party in Europe. We believe this shift has been the result of widespread dissatisfaction with the Thatcherite monetarist economic policies of successive Governments over the last 35 years. The enthusiasm for Corbyn's brand of "people politics" has taken the country by storm; Jeremy Corbyn and John McDonnell's 10-point plan for the regeneration of the British economy, which include a 500 billion investment in the economy via a National Investment Bank, proposals to build one million new homes in Labour's first term with rent controls and secure tenancies, strengthened employment rights and an end to zero hour contracts, is ambitious but based on sound economics of investment and a return to the public ownership of key utilities which for years have been bled dry by private companies. The Conservatives' ideological madness of brutal cuts and austerity instead of badly-needed investment, which has been imposed by Right-wing Governments right across Europe, has proven to be an absolute disaster for all but the super-rich, stifling growth and driving down living standards for millions. As part of this, the bleeding of money and resources from publicly owned utilities by private companies and huge corporate interests – particularly within the National Health Service, and the allowance of the pernicious hand of big business in utilities owned by the general public, has resulted in an ever-widening gap between rich and poor, and abject misery for millions of ordinary people. Labour has won every by-election and every mayoral election since Corbyn became leader – with some of these elections seeing a swing to Labour of over 10%. Contrary to what the pollsters would have us believe, these socialist policies have huge support among the public, and especially within the labour and trade union movement. We believe Jeremy Corbyn and the excellent new team around him have reinvigorated the Labour Party with policies consistent with those of the trade union movement, and as a result, have taken the decision to offer our full support to him in his bid to retain the leadership of the Labour Party.

---

### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

This is an official press release from York & District Trades Union Council (TUC), however the views expressed are not necessarily those of individual delegates. Interviews with York & District TUC can be arranged by contacting the President or Secretary.

### **CONTACTS:**

Leigh Wilks (President) Tel: 07903 371852 email [president@yorktuc.org.uk](mailto:president@yorktuc.org.uk)

Danny Myers (Secretary) Tel: 07870 933287 email [secretary@yorktuc.org.uk](mailto:secretary@yorktuc.org.uk)

Office address: c/o TSSA, 51-53 Nunnery Lane, York YO23 1AH.