Exclusive: “what happens if you vote LibDem?” and other new Labour HQ WhatsApp chats

by SKWAWKBOX (SW)

Chats shown in previously-unreleased 'feeder' report list a new string of allegations against right-wing former - and some current - party staff



The revelations of a leaked Labour Party internal report into the behaviour of right-wing former - and a few current - employees at the party's headquarters have infuriated Labour and union members.

The report alleges that staff - including the general secretary and other senior party employees - undermined Labour's 2017 election campaigns and/or obstructed disciplinary processes, or made abusive remarks about other staff and elected officials, including the idea of setting fire to

then-leader Jeremy Corbyn and his team, as well as a man they believed had mental health issues.

But it has largely been ignored by the media.

Now the SKWAWKBOX has obtained an *additional* document that reveals even more of the WhatsApp chats summarised in the leaked report - and that makes further damning allegations, including antisemitic comments and attempts to lose elections in order to remove then-leader Jeremy Corbyn.

The document is a feeder report, of which some parts were included in the full leaked report, but not all. Key additional sections not already released are shown below.

Voting for rival parties

Patrick Heneghan, at the time Labour's *campaign lead*, discussed voting options with Anna Hutchinson - who is still the party's regional director for the north-west.

Hutchinson asked 'What happens if you vote Lib Dem?' and Heneghan advises that anything but a vote for the Conservatives will put Corbyn into Downing Street:

Staff discussed a "coalition of chaos" with Corbyn if they voted "for anyone but Tories":

06/06/2017, 08:01 - Anna Hutchinson: What happens if you vote Lib Dem?
06/06/2017, 08:02 - Patrick Heneghan: I think if you vote for anyone but tories yet corbyn and a coalition of chaos
06/06/2017, 08:02 - Patrick Heneghan: You get
06/06/2017, 08:02 - Patrick Heneghan: Probably true[29]

Do we have to win Copeland, then?

The feeder report showed a conversation between then party director Emilie Oldknow - a hot tip before the leak scandal as Keir Starmer's pick as a new Labour general secretary - and a regional director working on the 2017 Copeland by-election, stating that it suggested a desire not to win it.

As a conversation about the candidate's anti-Corbyn comments leads to the realisation that this would make it harder to use a loss against Jeremy Corbyn, regional director Fiona Stanton says "*So I need to win then... ahhh!*"

Oldknow's response: "*I wouldn't go that far*..."

When the Regional Director Fiona Stanton said the fact that the candidate opposes Corbyn and therefore that her defeat could be blamed on her not being a Corbyn supporter, Stanton said that means she now needs to win the by-election for Labour, suggesting that had not been her intention previously. Oldknow replied saying "I wouldn't go that far", suggesting Oldknow did not want Labour to win the Copeland by-election and was indicating to the Regional Director that she should not try to win. Patrick Heneghan then said that Labour has to try to win and Oldknow corrected herself:

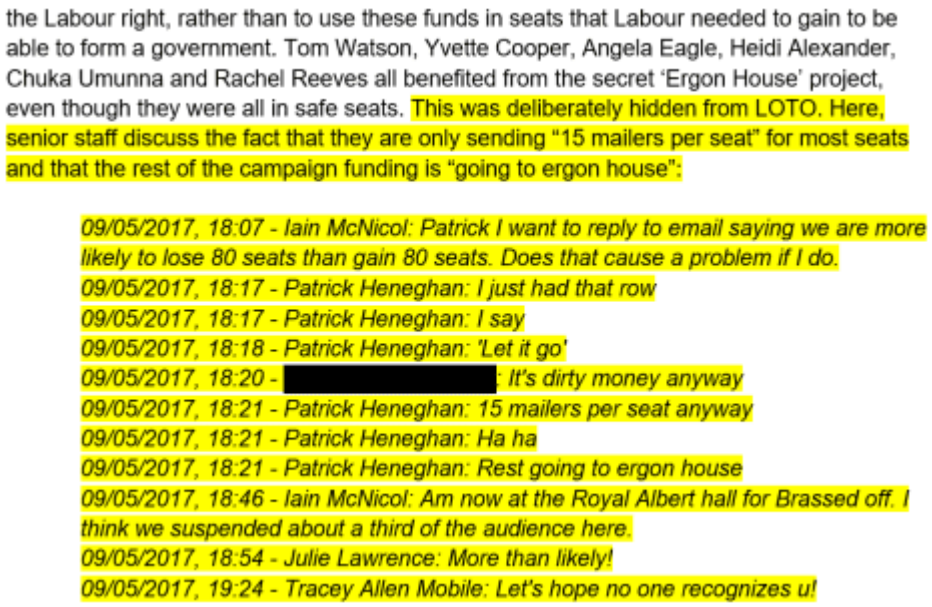
> *19/01/2017, 22:06 - Neil Fleming: The hacks are all over Gillian's anti Corbyn tweets already...*
> *19/01/2017, 22:07 - Emilie Oldknow: Excellent*
> *19/01/2017, 22:08 - Mike Creighton: So now if we lose it will be because she wasn't a disciple.*
> *19/01/2017, 22:11 - Emilie Oldknow: She will come out and blame Corbyn*
> *19/01/2017, 22:13 - Patrick Heneghan: They will blame her*
> *19/01/2017, 22:13 - Fiona Stanton: Well, i specifically told the panel about the tweets. And they said it was fine- showed pol balance to their shortlisting decision!*
> *19/01/2017, 22:13 - Fiona Stanton: So i need to win then... ahhh!*
> *19/01/2017, 22:13 - Emilie Oldknow: And you told Karie*
> *19/01/2017, 22:14 - Emilie Oldknow: I wouldn't go that far...*[10]

I want to say we'll lose 80 seats/secret finance/suspending members is funny

These conversations weren't the only example the report provides. McNicol asks his campaign director whether he can respond to an email during the general election campaign by saying that Labour is "*more likely to lose 80 seats than gain 80*".

The conversation also refers to Heneghan only allocating 15 mailers per seat to most seats, while funnelling the rest to the 'Ergon House' side-project to protect right-wing MPs. That project *is* mentioned in the main leaked report.

And McNicol shows that he found the 'purge' of members during the 2016 leadership election a humorous matter, quipping "*I think we suspended about a third of the audience*" at an Albert Hall event.



the Labour right, rather than to use these funds in seats that Labour needed to gain to be able to form a government. Tom Watson, Yvette Cooper, Angela Eagle, Heidi Alexander, Chuka Umunna and Rachel Reeves all benefited from the secret 'Ergon House' project, even though they were all in safe seats. This was deliberately hidden from LOTO. Here, senior staff discuss the fact that they are only sending "15 mailers per seat" for most seats and that the rest of the campaign funding is "going to ergon house":

09/05/2017, 18:07 - Iain McNicol: Patrick I want to reply to email saying we are more likely to lose 80 seats than gain 80 seats. Does that cause a problem if I do.
09/05/2017, 18:17 - Patrick Heneghan: I just had that row
09/05/2017, 18:17 - Patrick Heneghan: I say
09/05/2017, 18:18 - Patrick Heneghan: 'Let it go'
09/05/2017, 18:20 - [redacted]: It's dirty money anyway
09/05/2017, 18:21 - Patrick Heneghan: 15 mailers per seat anyway
09/05/2017, 18:21 - Patrick Heneghan: Ha ha
09/05/2017, 18:21 - Patrick Heneghan: Rest going to ergon house
09/05/2017, 18:46 - Iain McNicol: Am now at the Royal Albert hall for Brassed off. I think we suspended about a third of the audience here.
09/05/2017, 18:54 - Julie Lawrence: More than likely!
09/05/2017, 19:24 - Tracey Allen Mobile: Let's hope no one recognizes u!

A tough few months

Conversations showing that HQ staff were appalled at Labour's seat gains in 2017 appear in the report that has already been leaked. But more appear in the feeder report, with McNicol warning everyone on the day after the vote that they are in for "*a tough few months*".

Another senior staffer, who will be named this evening when the window for comment expires, lamenting that when she had woken back up she hadn't found it to be a crazy dream that "*We won seats and Corbyn stays?*".

Iain McNicol said:

> *09/06/2017, 10:32 - Iain McNicol: Thanks for all your help everyone. This is going to be a tough few months.*[41]

Tracey Allen said she was "hiding under the duvet" following the election results:

> *09/06/2017, [redacted] I've just woken back up...it wasn't a crazy dream was it? We won seats and Corbyn stays?*
> ....
> *09/06/2017, 16:29 - Tracey Allen: I feel the same. Hiding under the duvet.*

'Rats' and noses

The report points out a conversations in which conversations took place about a Jewish party activist, which it linked to antisemitism - and highlights another conversation about the nose of Labour's Jewish former leader:

Staff discussed a "Lansman rat" when LOTO's Political Secretary asked to attend the next Conference Arrangement Committee meeting and agree to tell her that "only staff who have to give reports and service the CAC can attend if she asks again". Jon Lansman is one of the most senior Jewish individuals in the party. Depicting Jewish people as rats and vermin has often been a feature in antisemitic propaganda and discourse.

> *27/03/2017, 19:19 - Patrick Heneghan: I'm told Lansman is in Corb's office right now for "crisis talks". Are you hearing anything?*
> *27/03/2017, 19:21 - Julie Lawrence: Katy rang me earlier asking to come to next CAC and processes. Thought I could smell a rat. A Lansman rat.*
> *27/03/2017, 19:32 - Emilie Oldknow: She's asked for all the deadline stuff for conference today*
> *27/03/2017, 19:32 - Emilie Oldknow: And she cannot go to the CAC. It is wholly inappropriate*
> *27/03/2017, 19:35 - Julie Lawrence: I just forwarded her to Anna as CAC sec and didn't agree or tell her anything.*
> *27/03/2017, 19:35 - Emilie Oldknow: It's ok. John has sent it to her*
> *27/03/2017, 19:37 - Julie Lawrence: Only staff who have to give reports and service the CAC attend if she asks again?*
> *27/03/2017, 19:39 - Emilie Oldknow: Yes. Brill x*

John Stolliday, then Director of the Governance and Legal Unit called Ed Miliband "beaker" and "runt of the litter" and, Mike Creighton, then Director of Audit and Risk, admitted to having an anonymous twitter account and suggesting he may have used this to criticise Miliband when he was leader.

> *08/02/2017, 21:43 - Mike Creighton: Responses to this on JC's timeline are brutal.*
>
> *https://twitter.com/jeremycorbyn/status/829436790763315207*
> *08/02/2017, 22:49 - John Stoliday: To be fair every tweet Ed Miliband did for 4 years had 100 responses saying "Fuck off beaker"*
> *08/02/2017, 22:50 - Mike Creighton: They were all from you.*
> *08/02/2017, 22:50 - Mike Creighton: 😅*
> *08/02/2017, 22:51 - Tracey Allen: Please stay on our WhatsApp when u retire Mike. 😂😂*
> *08/02/2017, 22:53 - John Stoliday: I'm not the one with the multiple anonymous twitter accounts... 😉*
>
> *I used to feel sorry for Ed in the way you feel sorry for the runt of the litter.*
> *08/02/2017, 22:55 - Mike Creighton: Multiple? I've only got one anonymous twitter account.*

The Stolliday conversation also shows him claiming to operate an anonymous Twitter account,

while Mike Creighton - one of those who appeared in the infamous Panorama programme

alleging Labour antisemitism - believed Stolliday had 'multiple' anonymous accounts and joked

that Stolliday had been the one tweeting about Ed Miliband's nose. Stolliday denied having multiple accounts.

Briefing hostiles

The report includes a WhatsApp chat from polling day in the 2017 general election that shows senior staff briefing 'lines' to centrist figures who appeared frequently on television opposing and criticising Labour and its policies under Jeremy Corbyn:

> On polling day, rather than getting out the vote as most Labour staff do on polling day, the General Secretary and senior staff were briefing Ayesha Hazarika, Ed Balls and Alastair Campbell about what lines to give on the media that evening:
>
> > *08/06/2017, 18:12 - Julie Lawrence: Are we briefing other labour voices, eg Alastair Campbell, Ayesha who are doing media?*
> > *08/06/2017, 18:16 - Tracey Allen: Ed B yes via Patrick. Alastair - Iain has been spking to direct. Don't know about anyone else*
> > *08/06/2017, 20:13 - Patrick Heneghan: Spoke to Ed and Alastair. All sorted*
> > *08/06/2017, 20:13 - Tracey Allen: Our guru to the stars*[37]

If these chats are discovered, we'll say we were hacked

A comment by a former regional director shows, according to the report, that staff were aware that they were behaving inappropriately:

> Staff seemed to be aware that the whatsapp messages they were sending were not appropriate, saying being hacked would be their "excuse" when the time comes.
>
> > *09/11/2016, 19:40 - John Stoliday: Has Iain been hacked?*
> > *09/11/2016, 19:40 - Fiona Stanton: That will be all of our excuses when the time comes*[8]

'***JunkiesforJez***'

A key point in the 2017 general election campaign was the spontaneous chant of 'Oh Jeremy Corbyn' by the crowd at a stadium music event in the north-west, which brought into focus the groundswell of public support for the Labour leader.

But the report says that the show of support made one staffer 'feel ill', while another thought the music fans must all be on drugs:



20/05/2017, 20:08 - Tracey Allen: OMG I think this is what is making me feel ill!!!
20/05/2017, 20:13 - Neil Fleming: Has everyone in the north west gone a bit loopy Anna??
20/05/2017, 20:13 - Simon Jackson: Liverpool innit. Corbyn basically is a Scouser
20/05/2017, 20:19 - Tracey Allen: This is an interesting different angle on things. Wonder if he got any of them to register to vote!!!
https://twitter.com/theJeremyVine/status/866006097815011328
20/05/2017, 20:21 - Emilie Oldknow: OMG. That football stadium 😱
20/05/2017, 20:22 - [redacted]: And here it is... #junkiesforjez

Taxing tax-dodgers is bad...

Senior staff opposed Corbyn and McDonnell's policies of "catching tax dodgers" and "taxing the rich":

> *28/04/2017, 19:18 - Tracey Allen: Jamie is broadcasting theMcD speech live - sorry I wasnt clear*
> *28/04/2017, 19:18 - Julie Lawrence: Ahhhh*
> *28/04/2017, 19:20 - Tracey Allen: Apparently everything is completely shit,everyone is poor and hungry with nowhere to live, they are exploited at work and it will all be solved by catching tax dodgers and taxing the rich*
> *28/04/2017, 19:23 - Julie Lawrence: A lot of things are shit for a lot of people but he and his loonies are not the answer.*

Julie Lawrence, Director of the General Secretary's Office, said Paul Mason was an "idiot" for supporting Labour's plans to make "the rich pay their fair share:

> *05/05/2017, 07:52 - Julie Lawrence: A Labour tax bombshell is a very good idea: the rich should pay their share | Paul Mason*
>
> *http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/may/05/labour-tax-bombshell-election-schools-hospitals-left*
> *05/05/2017, 07:52 - Julie Lawrence: Idiot*

...and protecting the NHS is 'stupid', 'weird' and 'unelectable'

Emilie Oldknow described Debbie Abrahams as "very stupid":

> *06/10/2016, 18:48 - Sarah Mulholland: Also the NEC hate Debbie after her weird mercy mission*
> *06/10/2016, 18:49 - Emilie Oldknow: But it's numbers now*
> *06/10/2016, 18:49 - Julie Lawrence: Remind me?*
> *06/10/2016, 18:49 - Emilie Oldknow: And she is very stupid*
> *06/10/2016, 18:49 - Julie Lawrence: Oh god yes![65]*

Seperately staff criticised "the fucking debbie Abrahams roadshow" and said "all this stuff about protection of the NHS" and suggesting campaigning to save the NHS was "making us unelectable":

> *06/12/2016, 16:58 - Fiona Stanton: The fuckin g debbie Abrahams roadshow*
> *06/12/2016, 16:58 - Tracey Allen: All this stuff about protection of NHS. He's the biggest threat by making us unelectable. Mind u I'm sure Debbie Abrahams roadshow will clinch it for him*
> *06/12/2016, 16:59 - Neil Fleming: Workplace 2020...*
> *06/12/2016, 17:00 - Tracey Allen: Tories must be terrified by his next big campaign day and economic policy discussions. And rural affairs conference will make sure no no go areas for Labour.*

Love Blair, hate Corbyn

Leaked WhatsApp chats included in the report show that HQ staff had conversations about knives in Corbyn's back and naming a conference room after former Labour PM Tony Blair, whom many members feel should be tried for war crimes.

They also reacted with despair to members asking for Blair - who regularly appeared on TV or in print discouraging voters from supporting Labour - but believed that Corbyn should have been expelled 'years ago':

Tracey Allen said that "when the knives are being pulled out of JC's back" they should re-name the main Southside meeting room "the Blair room", and that they would have a grand opening and invite Blair, "shirts optional". They said the "jez room" would be the "cupboard".

> *08/02/2017, 12:25 - Tracey Allen: Can't our new big meeting room be the Blair room. We can rename it when the knives are being pulled out of JCs back. Et tu Brutus*
> *08/02/2017, 12:26 - Julie Lawrence: Yes!!* 💔💔🔪
> *08/02/2017, 12:39 - Tracey Allen: With grand opening and invite to him to come. Shirts optional.*
> *08/02/2017, 12:50 - John Stoliday: That was Paddy and my big idea for the boardroom we had in Brewer's green following the expansion - we wanted to rename it the Blair Room just before the election and get loads of publicity. Spencer vetoed it.*
> *08/02/2017, 12:51 - Patrick Heneghan: We could name rooms after former leaders*
> *08/02/2017, 12:51 - Patrick Heneghan: Which would be the jez room??*
> *08/02/2017, 12:52 - Tracey Allen: Cupboard*

Senior staff's refusal to supend Simon Danczuk, who was accused of sexual harassment, and Keith Vaz, who was under police investigation, contrasted with their attitude to Corbyn, saying they wish they had expelled Corbyn years ago:

> *24/02/2017, 09:39 - Anna Hutchinson: I got an email the other day from a member asking for Blair to be expelled.*
> *24/02/2017, 09:40 - Claire-Frances Fuller: We should have expelled Corbyn years ago.*
> *24/02/2017, 09:40 - Emilie Oldknow: I would love to know the person who signs off that expulsion letter...*
> *24/02/2017, 09:41 - Tracey Allen: There are pile in our inbox asking same for Mandelson*
> *24/02/2017, 09:46 - Anna Hutchinson: I'm going back to bed* 😢
> *24/02/2017, 09:47 - Patrick Heneghan: Pretend it's not real....*

Let's get Corbyn blamed for Danczuk

Simon Danczuk was suspended and ultimately deselected as Labour MP for Rochdale after being caughting 'sexting' a 17-year-old girl. According to chats in the feeder report, HQ staff discussed making sure Corbyn's office 'get the blame' - and the need to 'knock out' a local Momentum candidate.

Emilie Oldknow said that she was "*trying to delay selection*" to allow as much time as possible for "*issues*" to develop - and says they will need to act "*by stealth*":

The NEC disagreed with Emilie Oldknow, however, and voted to not endorse Danczuk. Senior staff discussed their concern that his removal could mean that a left-wing candidate was selected in his place, such as LOTO Political Secretary Katy Clark, who they appear to call "the wicked witch of the west". Tracey Allen said they had to make sure LOTO got the blame for Danczuk and for the selection. Oldknow said she was trying to delay the selection to allow the longest possible time and that she would try to stitch up the panel, but that Karie Murphy would "see straight through that".

> *1/05/2017, 14:12 - Emilie Oldknow: Nec withdrew endorsement from Danczuk*
> *01/05/2017, 14:12 - Emilie Oldknow: Gonna get Katy for sure now*
> *01/05/2017, 14:13 - Julie Lawrence: Have we decided the NEC panel?*
> *01/05/2017, 14:14 - Iain McNicol: Unite cwu etc etc.*
> *01/05/2017, 14:15 - Julie Lawrence: Will look so bad for JC but there you go.*
> *01/05/2017, 14:17 - Tracey Allen: Must make sure they get the blame for SD and for the selection. It is going to be bedlam up there if Katy gets it....they will have to knock out local momentum man as well as some good local candidates with excellent track records*
> *01/05/2017, 14:18 - Emilie Oldknow: I'm trying to delay selection to allow longest time*
> *01/05/2017, 14:18 - Emilie Oldknow: For issues*
> *01/05/2017, 14:18 - Emilie Oldknow: I think we should put forward Keith, Cath and Andy*
> *01/05/2017, 14:19 - Emilie Oldknow: But Karie will see straight through that*
> *01/05/2017, 14:26 - Iain McNicol: She will.*
> *01/05/2017, 14:27 - Tracey Allen: Shouldnt we let them have the selex panel - to make sure they get blame?*
> *01/05/2017, 14:27 - Iain McNicol: She is keen for a unite which is Diana Holland.*
> *01/05/2017, 15:24 - Emilie Oldknow: Julie - what's turnout for NEC on Weds?*
> *01/05/2017, 15:57 - Julie Lawrence: I'll need to check. On 2nd floor at the moment.*
> *01/05/2017, 16:02 - Emilie Oldknow: We need to talk about a plan for NEC on Weds to stop the wicked witch of the west*
> *01/05/2017, 16:08 - Julie Lawrence: We've got an Nec pre brief with Stollers, SJ etc at 3pm tomorrow. Is that too late? I'm getting the list now from Hannah on confirmed attendance so far and then we can get on and ensure ours are there (in person or call)*
> *01/05/2017, 16:13 - Emilie Oldknow: Perhaps we can all get 15 mins today/tomorrow am to go through? We will have to do some work by stealth to try to stop her*

General Secretary loving that 'fuck off' attitude

According to the new report, then-general secretary Iain McNicol was delighted with the attitude of Labour's campaign director when he said Corbyn 'can fuck off'.

McNicol, who was criticised in 2017 for the number of holidays he took during election campaigns, also proposed that he should have another one:

When Patrick Heneghan said Jeremy Corbyn "can fuck off", Iain McNicol said "Love Patrick's attitude:

> *13/04/2017, 11:54 - Tracey Allen: I can now send docs on Whatsapp so here is JC letter in case any of you on holiday are not on your email*
> *13/04/2017, 11:54 - Tracey Allen: <Media omitted>*
> *13/04/2017, 11:56 - Iain McNicol: Just read it. Getting the excuses in before the result. Patrick do we have any comparisons with the other 2 big mayoral campaigns?*
> *13/04/2017, 11:58 - Tracey Allen: Patrick is on it so am sure a draft response will be in your inbox pdq!!*
> *13/04/2017, 12:10 - Patrick Heneghan: He can fuck off*
> *13/04/2017, 12:10 - Patrick Heneghan: Losses will be at his door*
> *13/04/2017, 12:11 - Julie Lawrence: Iain should ask - again - for urgent one to one.*
> *13/04/2017, 12:25 - Patrick Heneghan: Have added it and sent draft now*
> *13/04/2017, 12:31 - Iain McNicol: Brill*
> *13/04/2017, 12:31 - Iain McNicol: Love Patrick's attitude. I should go on holiday again*

'*Bored*' *during a general election campaign*

The new report alleges that staff's expressions of boredom during the 2017 general election campaign showed 'that they were not working hard for a Labour victory':

A month into the general election campaign, staff in Iain McNicol's office said they were "bored", suggesting they were not working hard for a Labour victory:

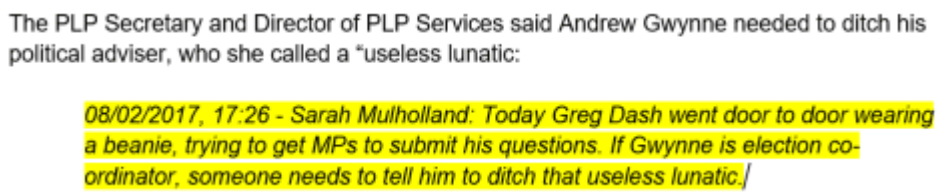
> *11/05/2017, 11:00 - Tracey Allen: Julie and I are so bored we have come up with a digital moneyspinner idea that is as bonkers as us. What about a 2 week advent calendar with 'Xmas Day' being polling day. Has to have choccie treats 🤣😂*
> *11/05/2017, 11:00 - Claire-Frances Fuller: Would it be a digital chocolate or a real one?*
> *11/05/2017, 11:06 - Tracey Allen: I don't hold with virtual foodstuff!*
> *11/05/2017, 11:09 - Claire-Frances Fuller: 😂*

A few days later Tracey Allen said she was drinking mimosas at midday:

> *14/05/2017, 12:17 - Tracey Allen: Wee*
> *14/05/2017, 12:18 - Tracey Allen: Oops. Meant to say we're with you Patrick*
> *14/05/2017, 12:19 - Tracey Allen: Sorry but drinking Mimosas with my candidate on her birthday. I'm going to be great on the doors at lunchtime...🧭*

'*Get rid of that useless lunatic*' *colleague*

Staff discussed with contempt an employee of Labour MP Andrew Gwynne and his attempts to persuade MPs to submit relevant questions - and used a mental health smear in deciding that 'someone needs to tell him to ditch that useless lunatic':


The PLP Secretary and Director of PLP Services said Andrew Gwynne needed to ditch his political adviser, who she called a "useless lunatic:

08/02/2017, 17:26 - Sarah Mulholland: Today Greg Dash went door to door wearing a beanie, trying to get MPs to submit his questions. If Gwynne is election co-ordinator, someone needs to tell him to ditch that useless lunatic.

Proscribing Momentum and 'we didn't purge enough' Labour members

The report says that HQ staff had a lengthy chat pining for left-wing group Momentum to be 'proscribed' - and offering the opinion that the 2016 purge of left-wing Labour members 'didn't go far enough'.

Emilie Oldknow, meanwhile, is shown saying she wants to avoid something that will mean "*Then I will have to do some work*":

Proscribing Momentum and purging the left:

The Director of the Governance and Legal Unit and the Director of Audit and Risk and other staff discussed proscribing Momentum, so that membership of Momentum would be "incompatible with membership of the party". Tracey Allen said the "'purge' didn't go far enough for me". John Stolliday said he was replying to Emilie Oldknow's email in a "formal way" on the Party's email system but that it was going into his "file" on Momentum, and Oldknow thanks him, and Stolliday says Momentum "can all fuck off". Oldknow separately asked him to "keep all this stuff" on Momentum, saying they need someone in the Governance and Legal Unit to "keep a big log of it all", Stolliday says he already has a file, to which Oldknow says "mwah ha ha ha ha".

This suggests that if Oldknow were to become General Secretary, she could proscribe Momentum and expel every Momentum member from the party.

Oldknow also suggests she did not do much work in her role as Director of Governance, Membership and Party Services, saying "No chance. Then I would have to do some work".

> *17/10/2016, 17:30 - Simon Jackson: Out if interest I was looking at this article which lansman wrote a few years back which seems to cover similar ground but from a different perspective: http://www.leftfutures.org/2012/02/call-for-labour-inquiry-into-the-organisation-activities-of-party-within-a-party-progress/*
> *17/10/2016, 17:43 - John Stoliday: There's plenty of evidence to make a case that Momentum should not be eligible for affiliation and therefore membership incompatible with membership of the party. Problem is the political cover to do anything about it*
> *17/10/2016, 18:49 - Mike Creighton: Of course they are a party within a party. The only difference between Momentum and Militant is the lack of a 'Newspaper for Socialism and Youth'. Having said that, if you could arrange to have them proscribed whilst I am still on holiday that would be much appreciated. (The problem with birdwatching holidays is sometimes the little bastards use their wings to fuck off somewhere else - which why I'm looking at this instead!!).*
> *18/10/2016, 08:49 - Tracey Allen: Absolutely. Is there nothing we can do. Seems so called 'purge' didn't go far enough to me!*
>
> *24/10/2016, 12:04 - John Stoliday: Emilie - I'm replying to your Momentum email in a formal way but it is also going into my secret file*
> *24/10/2016, 12:07 - Tracey Allen: <Media omitted>*
> *24/10/2016, 12:15 - Emilie Oldknow: Thank you Stollers*
>
> *07/12/2016, 19:52 - John Stoliday: Trotskyists, stalinists and the rest have no place in a centrist social Democratic Party like ours. I wish Momentum would bloody become a party so they can all fuck off*
>
> *18/10/2016, 20:29 - John Stoliday: https://jillsmomentumblog.wordpress.com/2016/10/17/steering17oct/*
> *18/10/2016, 20:30 - John Stoliday: Party within a party*
> *18/10/2016, 20:32 - Emilie Oldknow: John - can you keep all this stuff? We need someone in Governance to start keep a big log of it all*
> *18/10/2016, 20:33 - John Stoliday: Yes. I have a file I've already started.*
> *18/10/2016, 20:34 - Emilie Oldknow: Mwah ha ha ha ha*
> *18/10/2016, 22:01 - John Stoliday: <Media omitted>*
> *18/10/2016, 22:02 - Emilie Oldknow: No chance. Then I would have to do some work* 😠
> *18/10/2016, 22:03 - John Stoliday: Hahaha*

"*Down with youths!*"

As HQ staff discuss their - the Labour right's 'working majority' on the Scottish Labour

Executive Committee, the possibility is raised that Scottish youth members might spoil the show

- leading to the cry "Down with youths!!!", which was apparently so good it was made twice:

03/02/2017, 10:30 - John Stoliday: Did Jo Baxter get on?
03/02/2017, 10:36 - Claire-Frances Fuller: Yes Jo got on.
03/02/2017, 10:36 - Emilie Oldknow: Yes
03/02/2017, 10:37 - Julie Lawrence: That's good.
03/02/2017, 10:37 - Emilie Oldknow: Workable majority on SEC but will dep
the directly elected youth spot
03/02/2017, 10:37 - Emilie Oldknow: Eeeek
03/02/2017, 10:38 - [redacted] Down with youths! Down with yo
03/02/2017, 10:50 - Mike Creighton: Except the young at heart.

The redacted person will be named after deadline to comment expires
Down with member democracy

The report highlights a discussion about enlisting right-wing unions to block a move by

members to speed up the implementation of motions and rule changes approved by the party's

sovereign annual conference:

Emilie Oldknow asked Iain to "make some calls" to ensure "unions say no" to Jon Lansman's proposal to remove the "contemporary" criteria which was used by the Party to rule out policy motions at Conference and changing the rules to allow CLP rule changes to be brought to Conference the same year, prevented rule changes from being brought back a year after they had been submitted, rather than HQ delaying them for one year:

22/09/2017, 14:40 - Simon Jackson: Are we aware Lansman is still planning to push the CLP rule changes on removing 'contemporary' and removing the one year rule change lag to a vote on Tuesday?
22/09/2017, 14:59 - Emilie Oldknow: I have been made aware
22/09/2017, 15:00 - Emilie Oldknow: <Media omitted>
22/09/2017, 15:00 - Emilie Oldknow: Iain -- other unions need to say no to this. Deal at NEC was everything in to party reform
22/09/2017, 15:00 - Emilie Oldknow: Can you make some calls?

Pensioners falling down stairs is funny - '*I only gave him a little shove*'

According to the report, staff quipped about Unite general secretary Len McCluskey falling down stairs - with one joking that she '*only gave him a little push*'.

McCluskey was almost 67 at the time:

During the General Election, senior staff took pleasure in Len McCluskey falling down the stairs coming out of the Clause V meeting, with Tracey Allen saying "I only gave him a little shove":

11/05/2017, 16:26 - Julie Lawrence: Heard McCluskey fell down the steps in front of press.
11/05/2017, 16:26 - Patrick Heneghan: Shame
11/05/2017, 16:27 - Tracey Allen: Whoops a daisy. (I only have him a little shove)

The SKWAWKBOX contacted Iain McNicol, Emilie Oldknow, Patrick Heneghan, John Stolliday, Mike Creighton and Anna Hutchinson for comment. Hutchinson, still employed as Labour's regional director for north-west England, declined and no answer was received from the others.

The SKWAWKBOX attempted, but was unable, to locate contact details for others mentioned.

One person's name has been redacted pending the expiry of a deadline to comment.

SKWAWKBOX view:

The UK's media might be largely ignoring the scandal - described by some as the biggest in Labour's history - but members of the party and of affiliated unions are in uproar.

Keir Starmer's investigation - which centres primarily around the 'circumstances' of the report's creation and leaking - is not even close to adequate.

Without prejudice as to their guilt, those mentioned in the report must be suspended from any office or membership they still hold - and barred from taking up any new positions - until a full independent investigation is completed and any appropriate action can be taken.

The Unison union, in accordance with the wishes of its lay and NEC members, must do the same.

Those who worked hard for a Labour victory deserve that at the least - but neither Starmer nor Unison boss Dave Prentis have yet shown the inclination.