

SOCIALIST HEALTH ASSOCIATION LIMITED
Company Number: 13712108160
Registered in England and Wales.
Office City Road, London, England, EC1V 2NX



SHA members in London and South East England join a lobby of the Health Secretary.

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AGENDA

Agenda Central Council Meeting DATE: Monday, 31st March 2025 TIME: 18:30 1. Apologies: Inbar Tamari, Judith Kramer, Vivien Walsh In attendance:		
2. Opening remarks		
3. Obituaries		
4. Previous CC meeting minutes (below)		
5. Officer's updates - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary's report (10 min.) • Treasurer's report (10 minutes) • Chair's report (5 minutes) (below) 		
6. Policy Updates - SHA Position <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS E (15 mins) • International Aid Cuts (5 mins) • Disability and assisted dying legislation (20 mins) 		
7. SHA Cymru / Scotland / English branch updates (15 mins)		
8. Motions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHA Scotland (10 mins) (below) • SHA London branch (10 		

mins) (below)		
8. Policy and working group updates (15 mins)		
9. AOB (5 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGM on constitution - to be announced • Labour conference 		

Topic: SHA - Central Council - Zoom Meeting

Time: Mar 31, 2025 18:30 London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87655693631?pwd=osusuGWvL1pe8aHt6OaXzKkz0jLJxx.1>

Meeting ID: 876 5569 3631

Passcode: 984076

MINUTES - to be agreed

<p>Central Council MINUTES DATE: 4th December 2024 TIME: 18:00 1.APOLOGIES: Mark Ladbrooke, Peter Finn, Brian Gibbons, Steve Fairfax, Eileen Rowbotham, Jatinder Hayre, Pat Schan 2.ATTENDEES: Alison Scouller, Anthony Wedlake, Carmel Cadden, Steve Brown, Coral Brown, Coral Jones, Carmen Williams, Caroline Bedale, Norma Dudley, Rathi Guhadasan, Julius Marstrand, Barry White, Anna Dyer, Barbs Roberts, Maggie Winters, Alex Scott Samuel, Nicholas Csergo, Jo Walton, Kal Ross, Gary Clifford, Mal Choudhury, Esther Giles(later) Lesley Spillard, Judith Kramer, Jamie Penquite-Green</p>		
3. Opening remarks	Chair – Lesley Spillard	
4. Minutes of Previous Meetings (2nd Sept) & (19th Sept) 2024	Agreed	
5. Matters Arising	Matters arising	None that won't be dealt with below.
6. Director Vacancy	Jatinder Hayre was the only candidate and is duly appointed.	
7. Emergency Motion	<p>Agreed to take emergency motion Stop the War in Gaza previously circulated. Presented by RG emphasised focus on health and breaches of international law in the light of the ICC rulings. RG is asking for contributions to put towards her submission to the Home office Carmen sought approval on submission to the foreign affairs committee on Israel. CC supports SHA submission on the NHS 10 year plan.</p>	<p>Discussion. Agreed unopposed. To be sent to all members & branches. Urge them to do all they can to promote it. Deadline 23rd Dec. Agreed. Agreed</p>
8. Reports: Working Groups Branch AGMs	<p>Maternal Health Group – RG looking at the need for a commissioner. Expertise in the group, issues meeting. Adult Social Care – LS and BR with Jo Walton, a lot of work done, hoping that the policy will be ready for the next CC. Constitution Policy group – JK Half way through revising the document, painstaking. AGMs: Wales, Alison Scouller reported, a new treasurer, other officers the same.</p>	

	<p>Liverpool – Alex Scott Samuel reported difficulties in getting new members and officers. Meeting good with contribution of Ian Byrne MP. South West and South East – joint meeting, Mervyn Hyde reported, Speaker Becky Cooper MP.</p> <p>Greater Manchester – Caroline Bedale reported speaker Emma Runswick (BMA) and a representative from the Mental Health strikers who are protesting their service being inadequate for patients.</p> <p>London - Coral Jones reported with a synopsis of their speakers.</p> <p>East of England – Carmen Williams reported on AGM with Sarah Owen MP</p> <p>New Coventry branch was welcomed. AGM to follow, noted ramifications for WMids..</p> <p>Plymouth branch - delayed AGM because of illness noted ramifications for SW England.</p>	Agreed
9. Socialist Societies	<p>BR updated current situation.</p> <p>Discussion of the proposal from the NEC to oversee and monitor the soc socs. Concerns about lack of transparency. LS explained that we don't have the full proposals yet.</p>	Need to understand our rulebook rights and obligations, in some ways our position is similar to Trade Unions who maintain independence.
10. Preparation for AGM	<p>a. Appointment of a Returning Officer</p> <p>b. Electronic voting – election buddy Judith Kramer confirmed that she would not be standing as Secretary again. Encouraged others to come forward.</p>	Gary Clifford agreed
11. Financial Report - Treasurer	<p>Esther Giles talked through the document that had been sent out. Projected budget and figures to month 6. Current underspend on campaigning.</p>	Agreed.
12. Update on current contractors	<p>Johnathan Guy has had to step away. Jamie Penquite-Green providing admin and organising role. At least one further role proposed as discussed at the extra CC meeting 2nd Dec. Gary Clifford proposed someone who could do HR on a contract basis.</p>	Agreed to a contract as the post is proposed to be temporary with one abstention.
13. AOB	None.	

MINUTES AGM 2025 - to be noted

2025 AGM Meeting MINUTES

DATE: 23rd Feb 2025

TIME: 10:00 AM

APOLOGIES:

Paramjit Randhawa, Alison Harris, Carmel Cadden, Mike Young, Mike Roberts, Norma Dudley - more to be added

ATTENDEES: Rebecca Long-Bailey, Richard Blewitt, Dr Tom Dolphin, Judith Kramer, Mark Ladbrooke, Esther Giles, Adrian Scandrett, Alan Hall, Alex Scott-Samuel, Alison Scouller, Angela Young, Anna Dyer, Barb Roberts, Bob Thomson, Brian Gibbons, Carmen Williams, Caroline Bedale, Barry White, Chris Mann, Christine Hay, Coral Jones, Dave Pedder, David Lamb, Derek Marcus, Gary Clifford, Glenda O'Brien, Hazel Brodie, Hugh Patrick, Ian Robertson, Inbar Tamari, Isabella Kelly, Jacqueline Clifford, Rosemary Ross, Gavin Ross, Jo Walton, John Henry, Julius Marstrand, Kal Ross, Lesley Spillard, Lisa Fricker, Liz Peretz, Maggie Winters, Mark Howell, Nicholas Bailey, Nicholas Csergo, Nik Barstow, Pat Quigley, Pat Schan, Peter Finn, Peter Mayer, Peter Talbot, Richard Williams, Russell Cartwright, Sheila Guhadasan, Sheila Slater, Stephanie Lang, Stephen Brown, Hilary Barker, Steve Barker, Teresa Cairns, Terry Harper, Tony Beddow, Tristram Wyatt, Vivien Walsh, Jamie Penquite-Green

1.	Welcome / Introductions / Apologies - Mark Ladbrooke (outgoing Chair)	
2	Election Results: Returning Officer's Report - Gary Clifford	GC provided brief background, offered space for questions - report available https://sochealth.co.uk/sha-agm-2025/
2.	Keynote Speakers Rebecca Long-Bailey MP Richard Blewitt Dr Tom Dolphin (powerpoint presentation here)	Contributions from each speaker - recorded. Questions and comments from members. https://www.youtube.com/@socialisthealthassociation3677
3.	Incoming Chair Remarks Video from Dr Rathi Guhadasan	RG video (see youtube) explaining her absence with work in Sudan, her background and intentions as incoming chair for 2025.
4.	Minutes of AGM 2024	Agreed minutes
5.	Matters Arising	None.
6.	Motions	Motion submitted by SHA Scotland referred to new CC
7.	Secretary's Annual Report - Judith Kramer	JK gave brief remarks regarding

		the written report - meeting thanked JK for her work. She is standing down as Secretary to now organise SHA Manchester
8.	Treasurer's annual report - Esther Giles	EG gave a comprehensive overview of the reports provided to the membership. Thanks to the independent financial examiner, Thomas Fitzgald. Next Directors' meeting will be invited to endorse 2023-2024 accounts. Branch balances now included following late submission. Accounts were approved by poll vote (45 for, 0 against 0 abstentions.) Budget 2025-2026 approved by poll vote (41 for, 0 against 2 abstentions) with the consideration of revision by CC in regards to funding for nations. Steve Brown was appointed with unanimous vote as independent examiner for the 2024/2025 accounts.
	10. KONP Report - Caroline Bedale	CB gave brief report - on joint campaigning work in defence of the NHS.
	11. Any Other Business	Discussion on how to empower and support branches - JPG following up on training with branch secretaries. Paypal use raised - still used by many members actively encourage members to move pay online via sochealth.co.uk/join

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Secretary Report 29 March 2025

Returning Officers report on website and list of centrally elected CC members

<https://sochealth.co.uk/sha-agm-2025/>

Minutes from AGM drafted with links to speeches on youtube. Thanks to Jamie and Kal - video work in progress.

Company House Directors updated and micro accounts

<https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/13712108>

Notification of single alternative inspection location (SAIL) Secretary's home address.

Some of these issues are complex. We are requesting quotes services of company secretary / payroll management.

HMRC Helpline contacted. Corp Tax Form CT800 submitted by post Treasurer's report for more detail. Electronic codes subsequently arrived.

Data Protection Registration Cert renewed (may need minor amendment). Data Protection Agreement drafted for branch secretaries - propose to extend access to 2 branch officers. See below for the approval of the CC.

Training on the use of Action Network (our membership system) is being prepared by Jamie. This involves her undertaking additional on line training and producing materials tailored for branch secretaries.. The (up to) 2 branch officers will need to do some basic training and sign up to Data Protection Agreement to access Action Network training and systems. Delivery of services - currently we are using a contract for service - not an employment contract - this is used to pay for services from a fraction of one worker. The person is willing to switch to an employment contract and we hope to recruit another admin / organiser probably in London.

Birmingham branch nominees contacted some concern about branch rename. Aim to get branch up and functioning ASAP and represented on CC.

Physician Associate postcard agreed by officers plus £100 donation DiU - KONP.

SOSNHS meeting attended - by secretary. Group strategy discussion due in April - London Possibly June 7th demo Central London - Welfare not Warfare.

<https://99-percent.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/NHS-report-2-v5.pdf>

26th March Reeves' Spring Statement preparation of a response.

Initial discussion on production of a pamphlet on the SHA / SMA history of internationalism with Mads Wainman. Possible launch at Labour Conference.

SHA Directors are planning a strategy meeting probably late April in Manchester will review how the SHA can organise most effectively to defend public services.

Labour Conference Sun 28 Sept – Wed 01 Oct 2025 Liverpool - initial assessment of fringe events - one (relatively expensive) event within the conference area and others outside.

Discussing collaboration with SEA

Social Media work - have strongly supported the "Welfare not Warfare" position.

LABOUR PARTY SOCIALIST SOCIETIES

Note Barbs report from SocSoc meeting (previously circulated). There has been a request for re-affiliation to the semi-official Socialist Society group.

Nominations for Socialist Society representative on Labour's NEC currently being sought.

DATA SHARING - for ratification

DATA SHARING AGREEMENT between the SHA and branches in England, Scotland and Wales

Background

This document outlines key aspects of data sharing between SHA central office and SHA branches.

SHA branches need geographically relevant membership data in order to be able to communicate with their members.

SHA centre

The Administrator and the national secretary are jointly data controllers for the SHA. The Action Network database / campaign tool holds the membership data which consists of name, contact details, address and date of birth and more personal information such as the member's expertise, whether they are a member of their local Constituency Labour Party, and union affiliation. The membership status and means of payment may also be available - but not specific details of individuals bank account or other means of payment. The controller's obligations and rights are as in accordance with the list set out in [Article 28\(3\)](#) of the UK GDPR. The Administrator has authorisation and a written contract authorising the person's controller role, reviewed annually by the Chair.

The SHA administrator, under the direction of the national treasurer will have access to financial details to enable payment of dues, donations and refunds.

The only times membership data will be downloaded from this system is to load it into secure balloting systems and to hold encrypted lists of shareholders as required by Companies House. This latter list will be kept at the premises indicated in our Companies House registration for the period required by law then destroyed.

The SHA data controllers will share a relevant geographically limited subset of this information with SHA branches in England Scotland and Wales.

From time to time the SHA centrally may collect information via systems such as Zoom to facilitate voting at meetings. We may also collect data electronically and process electronically to speed the production of minutes. This information will be destroyed within one month.

SHA website blogs also permit user registration. This system will be used solely for that purpose. The SHA may record speakers at our meetings and, with their permission, share on sites such as youtube.

Directors

The seven directors of the SHA will have access to a membership data should they request it. They are required to follow the same rules as our branch secretaries.

Branch responsibilities

The membership data will be used to keep in touch with members, to advertise relevant events to them and to notify of elections and meetings.

Prior to access the Branch Secretary and any nominated officer must agree to familiarise themselves and abide by Data Protection rules. You may find it useful to review the following video: <https://measuredcollective.com/lesson/intro/>

The branches will keep this data secure on our national membership system (Action Network) at all times. Branches are responsible for working with the central administration to ensure that membership data are up-to-date. The data will be backed up centrally in order to be able to reinstate the system.

The elected secretary of the branch is entitled to have access to this data, but branches cannot share with any other organisation or individuals. If required, access to the data can be facilitated for one fellow branch officer.

The membership data is kept up to date by central office which receives the payments. Central office will facilitate access and training to duly elected branch secretaries and substitute officers with the proviso they undertake GDPR training and sign up to this agreement.

Membership data has been collected with the purpose of providing a service to our members to promote the constitutional aims and objectives of the SHA. It must be used solely for this purpose.

Data protection duties of the secretary or substitute officer

The secretary processing the data is subject to a duty of confidence. The secretary will help the controller respond to requests from individuals to exercise their rights; and submit to audits and inspections. The secretary will assist the controller in meeting its UK GDPR obligations regarding the security of processing, the notification of personal data breaches and Data Protection Impact Assessments.

Branch secretaries or substitute officers may not download membership lists to store them outside our systems. When the officers of the branch change, eg following an AGM, the SHA centrally must be informed within 24 hours so permissions on the system can be amended.

Contact via admin@sochealth.co.uk

Training

All Directors, branch secretaries and substitute officer require GDPR training and annual top up sessions before being given access to our membership systems.

Review

The process will be reviewed annually to make sure that the information remains accurate and up to date, and to examine how the agreement is working.

Agreement for Branch Secretaries, nominated officers and Directors.

*I agree to abide by the **DATA SHARING AGREEMENT** between the SHA and branches in **England, Scotland and Wales***

Within the last year I have read and familiarised myself with the requirements set out in the Information Commissioners Office document

<https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/guide-to-data-protection/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation-gdpr-1-1.pdf>

Name _____

Role _____ Date _____

TREASURER'S REPORT

 Treasurer's Report to CC March 2025

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Report to Central Council Meeting 2025

Huge thanks and acknowledgement to Mark Ladbrooke, our outgoing Chair. His work as Secretary in the past month has been invaluable.

Progress

This month has largely been a month of transition, focused on getting up to date on officers' business and reaching out to current and potential partners. We have also seen huge policy announcements, including the slashing of the international aid budget to fund military spending, the abolition of NHS England and welfare cuts which are set to target the disabled community and drive a further 250,000 people into poverty by the end of this Parliamentary term, 50,000 of them children (that is on top of the 1.6 million impacted by the 2 child benefit cap). Less widely reported was the House of Commons rejection of the House of Lords' amendment to exempt hospice care charities from National Insurance contributions. Across the country, communities are battling service and hospital closures and many of our members are involved in those campaigns.

- Events

- o We participated in the SOS NHS demonstration outside "Wes Streeting in conversation with Pippa Crerar, Guardian". This was a good opportunity to network with partner organisations and connect with event attendees, many of whom were sympathetic to our position on the NHS. Many thanks to Vice Chair Barbara Roberts who attended on our behalf.

- Published content this month

- o "The State of Women's Health" – Dr Rathi Guhadasan,

- <https://labourhub.org.uk/2025/03/09/the-state-of-womens-health/>

- o "Physician Associates – Campaign Material" – Dr Alex Scott-Samuel

- <https://sochealth.co.uk/2025/03/13/physician-associates-campaign-material/>

- o "The End of NHS England" – Mark Ladbrooke

- <https://sochealth.co.uk/2025/03/14/end-of-nhs-england/>

- o "Socialist Health Association react to the abolition of NHS England" – Esther Giles

- <https://labouroutlook.org/2025/03/17/socialist-health-association-statement-on-the-abolition-of-nhs-england/>

- o "Fiscal rules or a political choice – Dr Rathi Guhadasan

- <https://sochealth.co.uk/2025/03/26/fiscal-rules-or-a-political-choice/> , republished

- <https://labouroutlook.org/2025/03/27/fiscal-rules-or-a-political-choice-socialist-health-association-on-spring-statement/>

Huge thanks to everyone who works on content for us. We are keen to expand our pool of content producers and to capture regional news as well as national – please get in touch!

Q2 plans

- Restructuring comms work
- Staff contracts and recruitment
- Public meetings (online / in person)
- SHA branch / Cymru / Scotland outreach
- Planning for Durham Miners Gala (Lesley)
- Planning for Labour conference, including fringe events.

MOTIONS - for voting

Motion - SHA Scotland campaign funding

The Socialist Health Association (SHA) was founded in 1930 to campaign for a National Health Service. SHA Scotland is a campaigning organisation which promotes health and well-being and the eradication of inequalities through the application of socialist principles to society and government. This motion seeks to ensure that SHA Scotland is appropriately funded to undertake such campaigning activities.

Under the current SHA governance structure, 100% of annual members fees are paid to SHA UK. However, SHA Scotland receives no funding in return for undertaking the campaigning work that underpins our primary organisational objective. Many SHA Scotland members find themselves questioning what value for money they get in return for their membership subscription fee when it appears that almost the entirety of this fee is spent on UK-wide administration and campaigning activities outside Scotland focussed on health in England. Health and Social Care is devolved to the Scottish Parliament and it is imperative that SHA Scotland can undertake local campaigns based on Scottish health issues. Furthermore, the lack of funding provides a disincentive to recruit and engage more members in Scotland, as none of the funding from this recruitment has been devolved.

SHA UK provides SHA Scotland with membership administration services and pays the annual affiliation and conference fee to the Scottish Labour Party. In the financial year 2023/24, SHA UK set aside £16,000 from the organisational financial reserves to undertake campaigning activity related to the NHS 75th birthday. Not a single penny of this funding was spent in Scotland. Due to the hard work and dedication of individual SHA Scotland members, our organisation achieves a great deal with no budget. Our website is a regularly visited resource on health issues, our newsletter, Healthier Scotland, is widely disseminated and read, and we have positive relationships with the Shadow Health Team. We have published reports and papers on key health issues in Scotland, organised events and worked with other campaigning organisations on health issues. Based on this track record, SHA Scotland could make a much greater impact if it received a fair share of the membership funding to support our campaigning work.

This AGM therefore calls on SHA UK to devolve a meaningful proportion of the income generated from SHA Scotland membership fees to SHA Scotland to be spent directly on campaigns.

SHA Scotland

Motion - London branch

SHA London motion: Anti Protest legislation and human rights. 250 words.

In January 2024, the UN special rapporteur on environmental defenders described the anti-protest laws in the UK as 'draconian'

The Conservative Government's Police, Crime, Sentencing & Courts ("Policing") Act came into effect in April 2022. In 2023, the Government introduced the Public Order Act 2023.

In May 2024, the High Court ruled these Acts are unlawful. The legislation allows police to impose conditions on any protest causing 'more than minor' disturbance to the community. The police decide what 'more than a minor disruption' is and the definition of 'community' can be far reaching. Anti-terror legislation has also been used to criminalise peaceful environmental and anti-war protesters.

The pro-Palestinian demonstration in central London on 18th January 2025 was subjected to heavy-handed policing to intimidate and decapitate the pro -Palestine movement. 77 peaceful protestors were arrested.

This contrasted sharply with protests on 11th December 2024 and 10th Feb 2025 by farmers, who blocked Whitehall with hundreds of tractors. Videos showed emergency ambulances unable to get past. There were no arrests made, and the police facilitated the demonstrations.

Trade Union ability to organize is severely curtailed by anti -TU laws. The Policing Act and Public Order Act can further restrict the ability to organize pickets and strikes and hinder mobilization.

We call on the Labour government to rescind the 2022 and 2023 Acts, and ensure that political dissent, freedom of expression and trade union rights are not under threat in the UK.