

**CONSTITUTION**  
**of SOCIALISTS FOR INDEPENDENCE**  
**Adopted on: 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

**1. Name**

The name of the Group shall be: Socialists for Independence.

**2. Aims**

The aims of the Group shall be to provide a network for discussion/activity to further the cause of an independent socialist republic for Scotland.

**3. Powers**

In order to achieve its aims the Group may:

- a) Raise money
- b) Open bank accounts
- c) Organise courses and events
- d) Work with other groups and exchange information
- e) Do anything that is lawful which will help it to fulfil its aims
- f) Delegate powers to office bearers as deemed necessary.

**4. Membership**

- a) Membership of the Group shall be open to any person who is interested in helping the Group to achieve its aims and willing to abide by the Code of Conduct of the Group.
- b) Every member shall have one vote at all meetings and the Chair shall also have a casting vote.

**5. Organising Structures of Socialists for Independence**

- a) The strategic activities and overall responsibilities for the work of Socialists for Independence should be overseen by an Executive Committee.
- b) The Executive Officers of the Executive Committee include the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, International Officer, Media and Communications Officer, and Policy Officer.
- c) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for appointing two spokespersons for Socialists for Independence. These two positions will be gender-balanced.
- d) Executive meetings will be chaired on a rotating basis.
- e) The Executive Committee will appoint a Minutes Secretary on a rotating basis to ensure an accurate record of meetings are kept.
- f) The Executive Committee may also contain elected non-executive members of Socialists for Independence up to and including no more than four people.
- g) All officers and members of the Executive Committee will be elected on an annual basis at the Annual General Meeting following an election to which all members will be entitled to vote.
- h) In light of any vacancy on the Executive Committee members may be elected or co-opted onto the Executive Committee at any ordinary meeting, after a two-week notification period to all members of a vacancy.

- i) The quorum for the Executive Committee shall be four members, including two office bearers.
- j) Day-to-day activities and political work will be carried out by three Organising Committees. These will be: the Policy committee, the International committee, and the Media and Communications committee.
- k) Membership of the Organising Committees will be open to all members of Socialists for Independence and should be advertised to members in an appropriate way.
- l) The remit of each committee will be determined by the Executive Committee.

## **6. Duties of the Officers**

- (a) The duties of the Secretary are to:
  - i. Organise regular meetings of the Executive Committee.
  - ii. Prepare the agendas for ordinary meetings in consultation with the other officers.
  - iii. Ensure regular meetings are held of the Executive Committee, ordinary members' meetings, and that the Annual General Meeting takes place within fifteen months of the preceding one.
  - iv. Ensure that an up-to-date membership list is maintained.
  - v. Deal with any correspondence relevant to Socialists for Independence.
  - vi. Any other duties or responsibilities as directed by the Executive Committee.
- (b) The duties of the Treasurer are to:
  - i. Supervise the financial affairs of Socialists for Independence.
  - ii. Report on the current financial status of Socialists for Independence at each ordinary members' meeting.
  - iii. Keep proper accounts that show all monies collected and paid out by Socialists for Independence.
  - iv. Prepare an annual statement for presentation to the General Meeting.
  - v. Any other duties or responsibilities as directed by the Executive Committee.
- (c) The duties of the International Officer are to:
  - i. Organise and convene regular meetings of the International committee.
  - ii. Have overall responsibility for establishing and maintaining contacts with international parties and partners.
  - iii. Regularly attend international meetings, events and conferences on behalf of Socialists for Independence.
  - iv. Write regular reports and keep both members and the Executive Committee informed of the work of the International Committee, including an annual report to the AGM.
  - v. Any other duties or responsibilities as directed by the Executive Committee.
- (d) The duties of the Media and Communications Officer are to:

- i. Organise and convene regular meetings of the Media and Communications committee.
- ii. Have overall responsibility for maintaining social media pages, website and mailing list of Socialists for Independence.
- iii. Have overall responsibility for developing Socialists for Independence's media strategy and organising media campaigns, in line with the broader goals and aims of the group.
- iv. Write regular reports and keep both members and the Executive Committee informed of the work of the Media and Communications committee, including an annual report to the AGM.
- vi. Any other duties or responsibilities as directed by the Executive Committee.

(e) The duties of the Policy Officer are to:

- i. Organise and convene regular meetings of the Policy committee.
- ii. Have overall responsibility for developing strategic policy goals and specific policy outcomes around which Socialists for Independence campaign, and as directed by the Executive Committee and AGM.
- iii. Write regular reports and keep both members and the Executive Committee informed of the work of the Policy committee, including an annual report to the AGM.
- vii. Any other duties or responsibilities as directed by the Executive Committee.

## **7. Finance**

- a) Any money obtained by the Group shall be used only for furthering the aims of the Group.
- b) Any bank accounts opened for the Group shall be in the name of the Group
- c) Any cheques issued shall be signed by either the treasurer or an authorised signatory and authorised by one other office bearer in writing
- d) An audit of accounts and funds, incomes and expenditures held, received or made in the name of Socialists for Independence shall be made once a year and presented at the Annual General Meeting. For each occasion a person shall be appointed to this task at a members' meeting.
- e) The Group financial year shall be the 1st April to 31st March.

## **8. Dissolution**

On dissolution of the Group following a Special General Meeting held expressly for that purpose, or following the failure to hold any Group meeting within a twelve-month period, any remaining funds will be transferred to another group with the same or similar aims.