



Those living outside the UK are facing the greatest uncertainty of modern times, and I see it as one of the main responsibilities of the LICC to provide support to our members and beyond.

One small example of the kind of initiative the LICC should be taking can be seen in the establishment of the [British Migrants In Europe](#), Facebook page. I was instrumental in setting up the page along with other members of LI in the Rheinland just before Christmas. The page currently has almost 300 followers and provides daily news articles from sources which can be trusted. Along with posting videos we recently linked to a live stream of the EU forum on citizens' rights and access to services. Feedback suggests our followers find such resources both informative and reassuring.

The majority of those 300 BMIE followers are not Labour Party members, but reaching out to those outside the party is going to be an absolute priority for the LICC in the near future. With votes for life likely to be brought into law in the next year, we will be part of a constituency of around 5,000,000 potential voters. A constituency comparable to the whole of Scotland! We need to get organised now!

With over 3,200 members around the world, Labour International has an extraordinary amount of talent at its disposal. We need to tap into that talent by way of bottom up democracy to create a fountain of skills which can help build our membership, solidify our support and mobilise millions of votes in the next and future General Elections.

I want us to encourage members everywhere to set up local groups, formally (as branches) or informally where numbers are few on the ground. Meetings can be held face to face or via ever popular social media or webcon hosting sites where distance makes travel to meetings unrealistic. To provide a stepping stone between these groups and the LICC, I propose that we co-opt a network of around 20 regional co-ordinators onto the LICC as a matter of urgency following the election.

Transparency and openness has to be a further priority for the incoming LICC, and making the accounts available for the membership will be one of the first tasks I shall undertake if I am elected. Whatever the financial resource available to the LICC amounts to, the membership has a fundamental right to see how that resource is being spent. Financial clarity is a must. With a background in financial controlling, along with several years' experience as a branch treasurer in the Civil and Public Servants Association in the 1990s, I am well placed to help provide such clarity.

If I am elected, I will work tirelessly to help create an active, supportive and open LI in the democratic socialist tradition of our great party, which I have supported since my teens and which I rejoined following the election of Jeremy Corbyn in 2015.

I am standing as a member of the Momentum, Grass Roots slate (<https://grassrootslicc.org>) and encourage you to also vote for Jenny Semahimbo, Colin O'Driscoll, Rowan Shaw and Jonathan Clyne. Please also consider voting for incumbent LI secretary Lorraine Hardy.

**David Rothery**

Phone	0049 1769 9007074
E-Mail	<a href="mailto:fartownrothers@yahoo.co.uk">fartownrothers@yahoo.co.uk</a>
Google hangouts	Face to face on Google hangouts using the above e-mail address