

NOTING

That following the LASPO Act 2013 and other Tory cuts, legal aid in civil and family cases has been drastically reduced AND

That in consequence many of the poorest and most vulnerable members of our society are deprived of access to justice through our courts and tribunals AND

That vital social benefits such as the National Health Service (NHS) are available especially to those who are most in need of such benefits AND

That by contrast access to justice in our courts and tribunals is often unavailable to those who need it most.

RECOMMENDS

That Labour should establish a National Legal Service (NLS) which would frame and regulate the provision of public funds for civil and family cases utilising the private, public and community sectors AND

That the NLS would put the interests of people with legal problems first – in the same way that the NHS puts the interests of people with health problems first AND

That Labour should ensure that the NLS is adequately resourced to ensure civil and family legal aid is available at the point of need AND

That Labour should acknowledge the resulting economic and social benefits of a fair and properly funded justice system.