

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

FABIAN SOCIETY

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THE FABIAN SOCIETY

What we stand for
Our priorities
People
Membership
Local Fabian societies

THE FABIAN SOCIETY

TThe Fabian Society is an independent left-leaning think tank and a democratic membership society with over 6,000 members. We influence political and public thinking and provide a space for broad and open-minded debate. We believe that ideas matter, and that change is possible.

We conduct research and undertake major policy inquiries; we publish insight and opinion; we organise conferences and events; and we facilitate member debate and activism right across the UK.

As a think tank we have a reputation for high-quality, politically salient outputs that have a real impact on political and policy debate.

Our staff team in London, Manchester, and Edinburgh work with leading politicians and policy experts to develop and promote new ideas and to influence the climate of political opinion.

We are affiliated to the Labour party and work very closely with Labour politicians, as well as influencing debate across the political spectrum.

We are a membership society and our members are at the heart of everything we do. People become Fabians because they agree with our political values and want to support out work, and to access our content and participate in our events and activities.

Our members set the society's direction through our democratic structures and they shape our programme as contributors and volunteers. Each year hundreds of activities are organised by and for our members by autonomous sections of the society – the Young Fabians, the Fabian Women's Network, the Scottish Fabians, the Welsh Fabians – and by Fabian networks and affiliated local Fabian societies.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

The Fabian Society is a socialist organisation which aims to promote:

- Greater equality of power, wealth and opportunity
- The value of collective action and public service
- An accountable, tolerant and active democracy
- Citizenship, liberty and human rights
- Sustainable development
- Multilateral international cooperation

Fabianism

The Fabian tradition informs how we think and what we do. Our commitment to Fabianism means we support the fight against inequality, the power of collective action and an internationalist outlook. We believe in social progress, evidence, expertise, rationality and long-termism. We advocate gradualist, reformist and democratic means in a journey towards radical ends.

As a society, we celebrate our historic achievements and champion the collectivist institutions built by Fabians. We promote Fabian arguments within politics today and support the political development of people who share our values.

Supporting the Labour party

As a Labour affiliate, we support the party in its efforts to win power across the UK, and to turn political ideas into real improvements in people's lives. Working closely with Fabian MPs and ministers, we act as an independent-minded, critical friend, providing fresh thinking, addressing tough questions facing the party, and presenting viewpoints that can influence the direction it takes

Pluralism and debate

We are a pluralist movement that creates spaces and networks for open debate, to discuss political challenges and advance new thinking. We platform a diversity of opinion, and constructive disagreement is expected and respected. As an organisation we have no collective positions and we do not campaign for particular policies. Everyone who writes or speaks for the Fabians does so in their own name, without committing the society.

Equality and inclusion

We strive to make the British left more diverse, equal and inclusive, and to ensure that the left's ideas can create a more equal and inclusive society. We seek to create equal opportunities for political participation, in our own work and beyond, for people on the left from every background. We seek to platform and support people from communities which are underrepresented in the Fabian Society and public life

OUR PRIORITIES

1. Help the government to deliver in office, and to build a stronger and more equal country
by producing impactful research on the big issues of our time and convening debate about how Labour can deliver the change the country needs.

2. Curate debate and discussion, helping Labour to renew and win again
by facilitating constructive, respectful and non-factional debate on the future of the left, and helping Labour develop the policies and electoral coalition it needs to win again.

3. Grow, engage and develop our membership
by recruiting and retaining members, providing more opportunities for them to get involved in our work, and supporting their development and advancement.

4. Strengthen the Fabian Society's visibility and reputation
by modernising our digital communications, increasing our press, media and broadcast impact, and deepening our relationships with key policymakers and stakeholders.

5. Strengthen our capability to deliver and secure our future sustainability
by strengthening our finances, continuing to strengthen the team, supporting employee performance and wellbeing, and promoting diversity, inclusion and equity.

Our programme examines 4 themes:

POLITICS AND POWER

electoral strategy, political reform, unequal power

PLACE AND PUBLIC SERVICES

housing, devolution and local government, public service reform

ECONOMY, WORK AND SOCIAL SECURITY

tax and spending, economic reform, the future of work, welfare

GREEN AND GLOBAL

climate change, UK in the world, peace and security

Accountability and transparency

The society is committed to accountability, transparency and ethical fundraising. We are led by a democratically elected executive committee consisting of members representing all parts of the society. Elections take place every two years. The executive reports to the society's annual general meeting which takes place in November. The rules and by-laws of the Fabian Society are the society's constitution. Rules are approved by general meetings, by-laws are approved by the executive committee. Autonomous sections of the society and local Fabian societies also have their own constitutions.

The Fabian Society is funded by our members and subscribers; by organisations which award us grants and sponsorships in connection with specific projects; and by sales of publications and event tickets. Our funding relationships are governed by a fundraising policy, approved by our executive committee. In particular, this stipulates that we will not accept funding from companies whose practices are deemed to be unethical; and that we do not carry out lobbying projects.

Independence

The Fabian Society has editorial control over all our publications. Funding partners are invited to comment on draft outputs when they have relevant expertise but are not permitted to determine the contents of what we publish.

The society is entirely independent from the Labour party. Our editorial output is not shaped or controlled by the party in any way

PEOPLE

Executive committee

Cllr Dr Sara Hyde
Chair (until July 2026)
Anneliese Dodds
Co-chair (from August 2026)
Dr Sonia Adesara
Co-chair (from August 2026)
Francesca Reynolds
Vice-chair
Joy Allen
Yusuf Amin
Young Fabians
Johanna Baxter MP
Thom Brooks
Liam Byrne MP
Andy Furlong
Catriona Headley
Scottish Fabians
Mike Hedges MS
Welsh Fabians
Jennifer Hemingway
Local government representative
Kasia Kramer
Young Fabians
Marianna Masters
Fabian Women's Network
Magaret Pinder
Francesca Reynolds
Paul Richards
Honorary treasurer
Sarah Russell MP
Jimmy Sergi
Dr Michael Weatherburn
Local societies representative
Bradley Young
Staff representative

Team

Joe Dromey
General secretary
Luke Raikes
Deputy general secretary
Ben Cooper
Research manager and Head of Fabian Housing Centre
Phil Mutero
Finance and operations consultant
Rory O'Brien
External affairs director
Sasjkia Otto
Senior researcher
Eloise Sacares
Senior researcher (until October 2025)
Palma Oxley
Researcher (from November 2025)
Marcus Johns
Senior researcher (from November 2025)
Katherine Sangster
Director, Scottish Fabians (until May 2026)
Francesca Brennan
Director, Scottish Fabians (from May 2026)
Miles Ward
Membership, digital and editorial officer
Iggy Wood
Head of editorial
Bradley Young
Events and operations officer
Jennifer Watson
Communications consultant

Scottish Fabians executive

Chris Carter
Co-chair
Catriona Headley
Co-chair
Cllr Alasdair Bailey
Johanna Baxter MP
Sarah Boyack
Judith Dunn
Maggie McTernan
Daniel Johnson MSP
Albie Mills
Catriona Munro
Conor Savage
Matt Shiels

Welsh Fabians executive

Mike Hedges MS
Chair
Ross Whiting
Secretary
Andy Furlong
Emlyn Pratt
Patience Bentu

Fabian Women's Network executive

Marianna Masters
Chair
Kelly Grehan
Co-vice chair
Anya Sizer
Co-vice chair
Jessica Leung
Secretary
Abena Akuffo-Kelly
Treasurer
Emily Bachelor
Caroline Adams
Dr Liz Hind
Rachel Burgin
Kamal Preet-Kaur
Sasjkia Otto

Young Fabians

Kasia Kramer
Co-chair
Yusuf Amin
Co-chair
Joshua Horsfall
Anticipations Editor
Lucas Irwin
Treasurer
Cai Parry
Vice-chair
Lauren Griffith-Singleton
Women's officer
Melody Stephen
Jane Mitchell
Natasha Binnie
Eva Lake-Towner
Harry Dunn

MEMBERSHIP

Individual	
Standard	3,458
Student	1,182
Retired	1,003
Unemployed	343
Membership plus donation	339
	6,325

Institutional	
Trade Unions	7
Libraries	28
CLPs	8
Local Societies	13
	56

6,381

TOTAL MEMBERS ACROSS THE UK

LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES

BIRMINGHAM AND WEST MIDLANDS
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REPORT ON ACTIVITES

Chair's report
General secretary's report
Young Fabians
Fabian Women's Network
Scottish Fabians
Welsh Fabians / Fabians Cymru
Local Fabian societies

CHAIR'S REPORT

BY ANNELIESE DODDS MP & DR SONIA ADESARA

The past year has been one of considerable political change and challenge. With our government facing difficult economic and political circumstances, the rise of the populist right, and the May local election results reminding us of the scale of the task ahead, the Fabian Society's role has never been more important.





At a time when our movement needs both bold thinking and honest reflection, the Fabians provide an essential space for developing policy, challenging assumptions and debating the future direction of progressive politics. We believe that constructive, comradely debate, grounded in our shared values, is vital to building a stronger Labour movement and a fairer society.

We would like to begin by thanking our former chair, Baroness Dr Sara Hyde for her tireless support to our society over many years. We are thrilled and warmly congratulate her on her appointment to government.

We are hugely grateful to our executive committee for their commitment and contribution over the past year. It is our privilege to take on the role of co-chairs, working with our executive committee to strengthen our policy influence, broaden our membership and ensure that the Fabians remain a welcoming and intellectually vibrant home for debate.

It has been an impressive year for Fabian research, publications and events. Our work has continued to address the big questions facing the country, from the economy and public services to equality, democracy and the future of the Labour movement.

Through our publications, conferences, policy discussions and engagement with policymakers, we have continued to bring together expertise and experience to develop practical ideas for change. The Fabian Review has provided a platform for a wide range of voices and perspectives, while our events have helped members engage directly with politicians and leading thinkers.

We are particularly pleased that the Society has reversed the decline in membership and made progress in strengthening the membership offer. Growing our membership is not simply about numbers: it is about building a stronger community of people who want to contribute to the development of progressive ideas.

The launch of the Fabian Thinking podcast has been an exciting addition, creating new opportunities for members to hear from leading voices, explore emerging policy challenges and participate in the conversation.

We also want to recognise the outstanding contribution of our member-led sections. The Fabian Women's Network and the mentoring programme continues its important work in supporting women's leadership, mentoring and political participation. The Young Fabians bring new perspectives and supports the next generation of progressive thinkers. The Welsh and Scottish Fabians, the local government network and local societies ensure that we remain a truly national organisation and our members from across the country have a political home and place to influence and participate in political debate.

Looking ahead, we want to make the Society more accessible, expand opportunities for members to shape our work and strengthen our contribution to policy development across the Labour movement. Above all, we want the Fabians to remain a place where comradely disagreement is welcomed, bold ideas explored, and people work together in a spirit of shared values.

We are hugely grateful to our incredibly hard working staff team and executive committee and supporters, and most of all our members. Together, we can ensure that the Fabian Society continues to play a distinctive and valuable role in shaping the ideas and policies that will define our future.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

BY JOE DROMEY

It has been a turbulent year for Labour. We owe Keir Starmer a debt of gratitude for taking Labour from a historic defeat to a huge majority. His government, however, struggled in the face of a toxic inheritance and numerous international crises. After catastrophic results in May, we now have a new prime minister, who has brought fresh hope. Yet many challenges lie ahead.

The Fabian Society has a big role to play in helping to navigate these challenges. For over 140 years, we have shaped the future of the left. We aim to provide an open space for debate and discussion. We seek to be an engine of ideas, and of bold but practical policy innovation.

Our research team – led by Luke Raikes – have had a productive year. The Fabian Housing Centre has been a particular highlight. Ben Cooper and Palma Oxley have explored how we can tackle the housing crisis, deliver on the government's ambitious commitments, and ensure a decent home for all. We have also produced some impactful work on employment and skills policy, including improving the apprenticeship system and reforming employment status. Finally, we've done some fascinating work to explore public attitudes, including looking at perceptions of the pensions system.

Through our events and conferences, we have provided a space for members to explore innovative ideas. We introduced Fabian Thinking, a new online event series providing members across the country with the opportunity to hear from and engage with leading thinkers across the movement.



Another new addition was the Festival of Ideas, a fresh approach to our events at Labour party conference in Liverpool, developed by Rory O'Brien. This 'conference within a conference' format included dozens of events, from roundtables and panel events, through to in-conversation discussions and lively receptions. Our 2025 programme was our largest yet, with 2026 being bigger still!

We also held two summits – which explored how the government can deliver on their central priorities – focused on housing and tech. And our New Year conference brought together 500 members to hear from senior speakers including Ed Miliband, Lucy Powell, Sir Sadiq Khan and Wes Streeting.

Our editorial work provides a space for leading thinkers to explore the big issues of our time. Over the last year we've released edited collections looking at our relationship with Europe, the cost of living crisis, and the national care service. In Fabian Review, we've explored how Labour can win deliver for women, how we can understand social class in the 2020s, how we fix the NHS, and how we navigate the politics of the climate emergency. My thanks to Iggy Wood and Miles Ward for their excellent work.

The Fabian Society is – first and foremost – a membership organisation. We are a collection of people who believe that ideas matter, and that change is possible. We have been working hard to grow our membership, and to engage more effectively with members. We are delighted to see that, after five years of decline, our membership is growing again, with membership up by nearly 200 since April. Thank you to Brad Young and Miles for their work on this.

This year, we've seen revived activity in our local societies, driven by the fantastic work of Michael Weatherburn. Young Fabians has provided a platform for young members to get involved, led by the brilliant Kasia Kramer and Yusuf Amin. And the Fabian Women's Network has done hugely important work under Marianna Masters. I'm particularly proud of the work of the Fabian Women's Network mentoring programme, and the Young Fabian policy fellowship, for supporting people to get involved in politics and policy development.

After a deficit in the previous year, we delivered a healthy surplus in 2025/26, enabling us to build our reserves and our financial resilience.

I wanted to say a huge thank you to Baroness Sara Hyde, who stood down as chair following her appointment as a whip. Sara contributed an enormous amount over many years, first as chair of Fabian Women's Network, and then as chair of the Fabian Society. She was a fantastic and inspirational person to work with.

I'd also like to congratulate and thank our brilliant new co-chairs Dr Sonia Adesara, and Dame Anneliese Dodds MP, as well as our vice-chair Francesca Reynolds. I would also like to extend my thanks to all of the members of the executive committee who have helped shape our work.

I'm so grateful to the fantastic Fabian Society staff team, for their hard work, commitment and creativity. We were sorry to see Katherine Sangster leave, but delighted to see her elected. We're really pleased to welcome Francesca Brennan to take forward the work of Scottish Fabians. We're also very pleased to welcome Eleanor Graham and Jennifer Watson to the team.

Finally, massive thanks to our 6,000 plus members across the country. Your support, your energy and your ideas are vital to all that we do. Thank you.

YOUNG FABIANS

BY KASIA KRAMER & YUSUF AMIN - YOUNG FABIANS CO-CHAIRS

Events, Ideas and Engagement





Our Anticipations pamphlet has continued as a quarterly publication exploring fresh ideas. Our editions have covered health policy, growth and abundance, international affairs and a special women's-only edition co-edited by our women's officer alongside the editor of Anticipations.

This year we re-launched Young Fabian campaign days, running canvassing sessions across the country, from Edinburgh to London, Norwich and Egham. We also hosted phonebanking sessions in Labour HQ in support of Angeliki Stogia in the Gorton and Denton byelection.

For many of our Young Fabians, these sessions were their first experience of canvassing, and we were so proud to have prompted activists to make the case for Labour on the doorstep, as well as in the policy arena!

This year we launched an event series titled "21st Century Socialism - States of the Left", where we invited prominent Labour thinkers from across the party to share their philosophical and political perspectives. We Kicked off with Lord John Spellar, director of Labour First, and also welcomed Baroness Shama Tatler and the director of Progress Adam Langelben. A key highlight was an evening in parliament with Lord Neil Kinnock.

This year, the Young Fabians boat party was incredibly successful, generating a small profit as well as an increased attendance.

We were also proud to have put on two events at the Labour party conference in Liverpool. Accompanying the latest edition of Anticipations, we hosted a panel titled "Creating an Abundant Britain for the Next Generation" which focused on growth. This was chaired by a member of the Young Fabians executive, a member of the YF Defence and Technology Network executive, Adam Allnutt Chair of Young Fabians 2019-20, Cllr Carli Harper Leader of Norwich City Council Labour Group and Deidre Costigan MP.

Our second panel titled "Our Minds, Our Future - Young People and Mental Health" was chaired by our YF co-chairs, Kasia Kramer and Yusuf Amin, and featured Baroness Luciana Berger, Madelaine O'Brien, vice-chair of Young Labour, and Jemima Olchawski, executive director of Mind.

We were especially pleased to host one event outside of the secure zone at the Bluecoat and one in the secure zone, inside the TYI Strategy Pavilion. Both events were productive discussions, and we were proud to prioritise platforming Young Fabians members alongside parliamentarians.

Parliamentarians

We have been delighted to continue the tradition of the Young Fabians relationship with parliamentarians. We have been privileged to welcome Steve Race MP, Baron John Spellar, Baroness Shama Tatler, minister of state Kanishka Narayan MP, Dr Beccy Cooper MP, Natasha Irons MP, Baron Neil Kinnock, Deidre Costigan MP and Baroness Luciana Berger to our events, among others.

Training, Fellowship and Inclusion

We are proud to have continued the YF Policy Fellowship this year, increasing the cohort to 15 fellows amidst a record wave of applications and significantly increased engagement.

Looking Ahead

In December, our term will end with our AGM, and we are excited to pass the baton to the next Young Fabians executive. We are proud to have reinvigorated campaigning, political debate and policy development. We leave the Young Fabians in a strong position, with a growing and engaged membership, and we look forward to seeing the new executive build on these foundations and take the organisation from strength to strength - as the future of the left!

FABIAN WOMEN'S NETWORK

BY MARIANNA MASTERS, FABIAN WOMEN'S NETWORK CHAIR

This year has been one of growing influence, visibility and impact for the Fabian Women's Network (FWN).

A significant milestone this year has been the continued success of the Fabian Women's Network Mentoring, Political and Public Life Education Programme. After 15 years, many mentees from earlier cohorts are now at the peak of their careers. These include the second woman president of the Riba in its 192-year history, the youngest peer, members of the senior leadership team of the TUC, a member of the NEC, 12 charity CEOs including the CEO of Gingerbread, a fellow of The King's Foundation, a former refugee who became mayor of Reading, the director of EASST, two special advisers, a parliamentary private secretary to cabinet members and our third chair of the Fabian Society.

FWN members were prominently featured in the Spring 2026 edition of Fabian Review, Winning Women, which explored women's equality, leadership and public policy. The edition included contributions on health inequalities, economic equality and gender-based budgeting, helping bring women's experiences and priorities into wider policy debate.

A highlight of the year was our successful fundraising dinner in July, supported by Dawn Butler MP, Anneliese Dodds MP and Sarah Smith MP. The event brought together supporters from across the Labour movement, generated funds for our future work and demonstrated the strength of the FWN community.



FWN has also continued to inform wider Labour movement discussions on women's participation and leadership.

At the Labour party conference, FWN delivered an ambitious and well-attended programme. We were delighted to partner with Labour Women's Network to host the first-ever Fabian Women and Labour Women's Network Feminist Disco. We also organised two successful fringe events on violence against women and girls, and childcare and economic equality.

FWN has also continued its commitment to championing diversity and inclusion. Our Black History Month celebration in parliament brought together Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Dawn Butler MP and Abena Oppong-Asare MP, to celebrate Black women's leadership and honour the contributions of Black communities across the Labour movement. As many organisations continue to grapple with representation and inclusion, creating visible spaces for Black women's voices and experiences remains central to FWN's mission.

Together, these achievements demonstrate FWN's continued role in developing women leaders, championing inclusion and strengthening women's participation in politics, public life and policymaking.

Finally, we are particularly grateful to the Fabian Society staff team and Joe Dromey for his consistent support of the FWN. This has been invaluable in ensuring that FWN remains a vibrant, influential and welcoming community for women across the Labour movement.

SCOTTISH FABIANS

BY CATRIONA HEADLEY & CHRIS CARTER

Scottish Fabians have had an impactful year, in spite of a challenging electoral landscape for the progressive politics of the left. Building from a dynamic presence at Labour party conference 2025, the Scottish Fabians hosted events linked with the Scottish Labour leadership contest in 2026, alongside a range of social gatherings and membership opportunities across the year. Fortunately, the Scottish Fabians are in a strong position to play a key part in the renewal of politics and policy over the next year and beyond.

This year, we continued to work closely with Fabian Women's Network, both growing the number of Fabian women mentees in Scotland and establishing an annual Edinburgh gathering of Fabian women from across the UK.

Our Scottish Fabians summer garden party was a social highlight where minister of state Michael Shanks provided an excellent keynote speech. Plans are underway for further social opportunities across Scotland in 2027.

Our substantive calendar of events was reflective of the Scottish parliament elections. This was demonstrated by a comprehensive Scottish presence at conference in 2025 and the production of an important report by Ben Cooper on the Scottish housing emergency.

Following the May elections, Scottish Fabians convened a high-profile and reflective summit analysing the Scottish parliament election results.





This event, held in partnership with True North Advisors and the University of Edinburgh business school, drew experts from media, business and parliament to collate findings on the election within weeks of the result.

Summer 2026 brought a Scottish Labour leadership contest, and the Scottish Fabians responded with the publication of articles from candidates, as well as a well-attended online hustings event. Michael Marra MSP was confirmed as leader in September, and we welcomed him to the Bluecoat in Liverpool for Labour party conference, as part of our Festival of Ideas 2026. Our flagship Scottish Fabians conference event was supported by significant levels of participation, particularly from Scottish Labour MPs and MSPs in several fringe panels.

One ray of electoral light from the Scottish parliament elections was the swearing-in of our outgoing director of Scottish Fabians as MSP for Edinburgh and Lothians East Region.

Katherine Sangster's sound leadership and effective delivery during her nine years with the Scottish Fabians demonstrate that our loss is her constituents' gain, and we wish Katherine every success in her new role.

New director Francesca Brennan joined us in August, bringing experience and networks that make her well placed to position Scottish Fabians at the heart of political renewal.

WELSH FABIANS | FABIANS CYMRU

BY MIKE HEDGES MS, FABIANS CYMRU CHAIR

The Welsh Fabian executive has met twice this year. It decided to produce a pamphlet on the way forward for Welsh Labour, and has commissioned a series of articles on the environment, transport, economy, education, housing, and health.

There is also a plan for an online meeting available to all Labour party members to discuss the 2026 election and the lessons that can be learnt from it.

It was identified that most articles had been written by Senedd members. While these were valuable, there was need to commission articles from non-Senedd members this year.

A request has been made to all Welsh Fabian members and Welsh Senedd members for articles to be published on the blog.

Articles published on the Welsh blog covered a range of topics, including Mark Drakeford's following the May elections, further education and Neets, improving the Welsh economy, Fabian case for Welsh renewal, the first supplementary budget, the meaning of the Senedd election result, tactical voting, rail, animal welfare enforcement, Swansea University and economic regeneration, Welsh local government budget, the Co-operative party, Welsh economy, infrastructure, taxation, local government funding, funding formula for Wales, 21st century schools and renewable energy.



Contributors included Andy Furlong (executive member), former Senedd members Lee Waters, Jenny Rathbone, Joyce Watson, Carolyn Thomas and current Senedd member Mike Hedges MS.

Mike Hedges MS has published a pamphlet on animal welfare on the Fabian blog.
The national Fabian AGM was held in in Cardiff, and was addressed by Mark Drakeford MS, who was then cabinet member for Finance; Mike Hedges MS, the chair of the Welsh Fabians and Shav Taj, who was secretary of the Wales TUC and is now a Senedd member.

A Fabian society event was organised at the national Labour party conference 2026 with Welsh Labour leader Ken Skates.

LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES

BY DR MICHEAL WEATHERBURN, LOCAL FABIAN SOCIETIES REPRESENTATIVE

I was happily elected to the role of local societies convenor in autumn 2025, holding an impromptu meeting of around 12 organisers at Fabian new year conference.

Local societies have long played a central role in the Fabian Society. They provide a space for members to get together across the country, to hear from fantastic speakers, and to discuss politics and policy.

Since then, the local societies have been gaining momentum, with Central London Fabians forming a particularly strong link with the London School of Economics, who hold 1,000 boxes of the Fabian archive, and who hosted a joint Fabians-LSE at the LSE in June 2026. In July 2026, eight local societies attended an archive workshop at the LSE, studying the primary historical materials from their local areas (local society history is not covered much by most histories of the Fabians, so this is 'new history'). A Fabian historical walk starting at the LSE and ending at Petty France took place in September 2026. My resulting LSE essay on Fabian history and historiography is available online.

Looking forward, we will continue to cultivate local societies across the country, with interest in the East Midlands, Newham, Cambridge, and more. Over summer, I finalised version one of the Local Fabian Society 'starter/booster pack', with tips on how to set up and run local societies based on 10+ years of experience.



Two specific projects are worth noting: Central London Fabians will be involved in the LSE's upcoming gallery feature of the Fabian window, and their own 'Socialism in Space' workshop series, scheduled from September 2026 to March 2027, with outputs under development.

On 4 November 2026, we held a local societies symposium and then went for tea at the House of Lords hosted by Baroness Hayter. The symposium provided an opportunity to gather input from local societies for the Fabian 2026-29 strategy and the local society starter pack, which is nearing completion.

We aim to meet in person again at Fabian New Year conference 2027. We are also still hoping to resurrect the all-members local societies House of Lords tea, which used to take place in summer.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Publications
Jenny Jeger Prize
Events

PUBLICATIONS

July 2025

Fabian Review: Crossroads

Pressing Issues: Making the media work for democracy
Iggy Wood

August 2025

Repair, Reuse Recycle: Making the circular economy in England work at scale
Eloise Sacares

Levying Up: How to make the growth and skills levy work
Joe Dromey & Sasjkia Otto

September 2025

Ill-prepared: Strengthening sick pay for the self-employed
Eloise Sacares & Luke Raikes

Nye's Lost Legacy: Towards a national occupational health service to keep people well in work
Sasjkia Otto

Promising Development: The future of aid in an uncertain world
Iggy Wood & Gideon Coolin

October 2025

Fabian Review: Damned Liberals

Rural Futures: The British Countryside and its potential
Iggy Wood, Ben Cooper, Eloise Sacares, Miles Ward

Taxing Questions: How Labour can raise the revenue we need
Joe Dromey & Iggy wood

November 2025

Forward Planning: A vision of ageing at home
Ben Cooper

No Time To Lose: Six ways to tackle gender inequality
Georgie Nel, Iggy Wood, Miles Ward

December 2025

Fabian Review: Health Kick

Beyond Numbers: Building great places to live
Iggy Wood, Ben Cooper, Miles Ward

Social Democracy Now: Why communitarianism provides the roadmap the left needs today
Ed Wallis

January 2026

Testing Times: Covid 19 and devolution in Europe
Ed Turner, Luke Raikes, Iggy Wood

March 2026

Anatomy of Success: Digitising the NHS by 3025
Sasjkia Otto

Adopt, Innovate, Transform: How civil servants can help deliver a smarter state using AI
Sasjkia Otto & Aoife Donaghy

Housing the Future: How Scotland can build again
Ben Cooper

Pressing Reset: Our Future with Europe
Iggy Wood, Joe Dromey, Matthew Harries, Miles Ward

Fabian Review: Winning Women

April 2026

Uneven Ground: How to rebuild Labour's electoral coalition
James Prentice

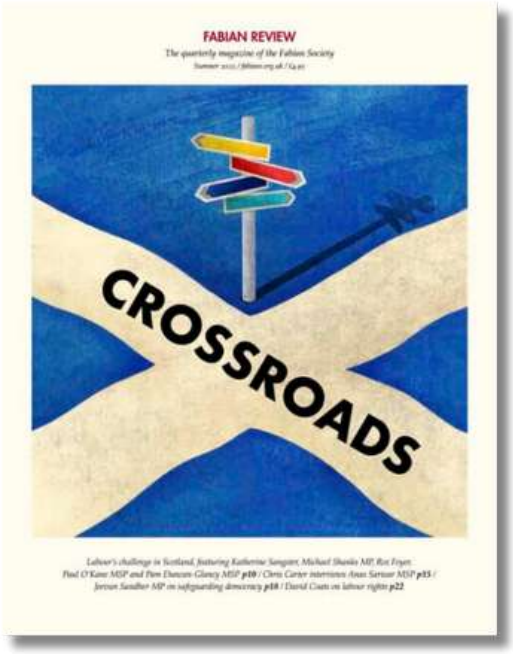
Common Endeavour: Building a Stronger Britain
Iggy Wood

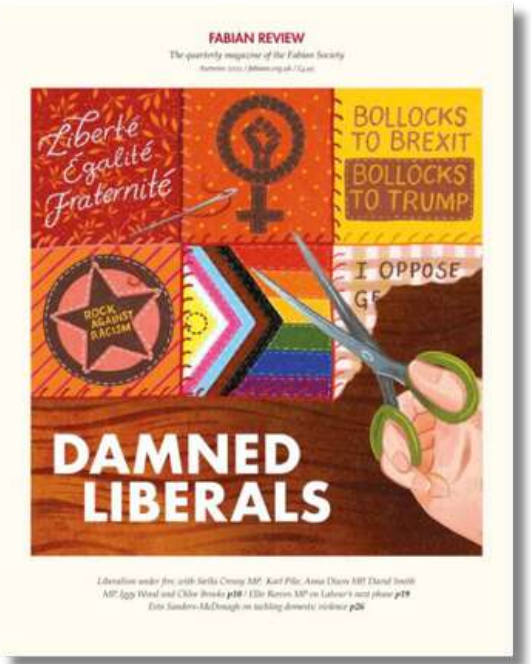
May 2026

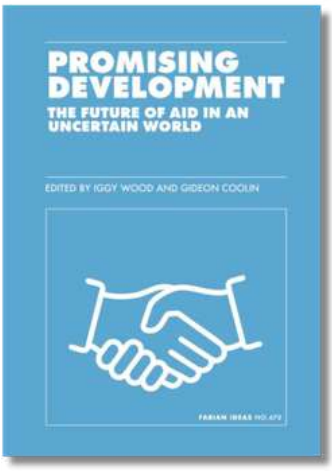
Building Skills: Tackling the built environment skills crisis
Joe Dromey & Sasjkia Otto

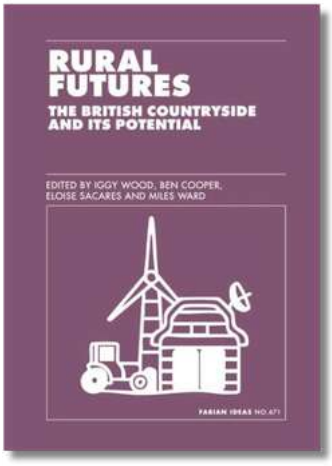
June 2026

The People's Pools: A Labour plan to build Lidos
Greg Rosen

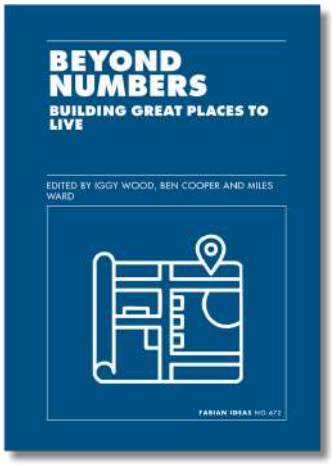

FABIAN REVIEW
CROSSROADS


FABIAN REVIEW
Liberté Égalité Fraternité
BOLLOCKS TO BREXIT
BOLLOCKS TO TRUMP
I OPPOSE
ROCK AGAINST RACISM
DAMNED LIBERALS

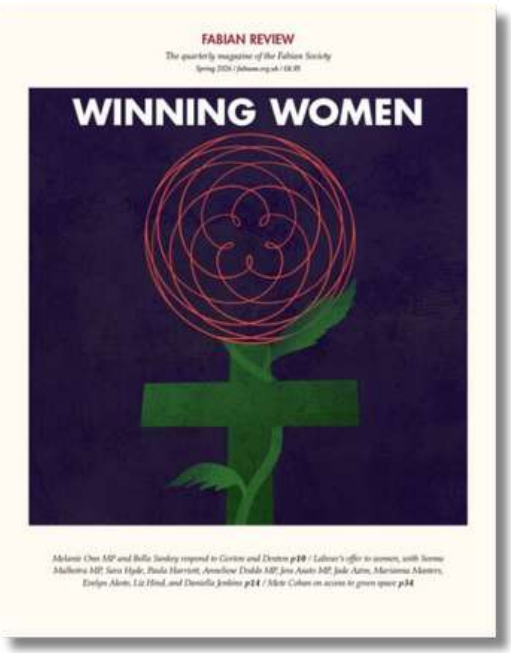

PROMISING DEVELOPMENT
THE FUTURE OF AID IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD
EDITED BY IGGY WOOD AND GIDEON COGLIN


RURAL FUTURES
THE BRITISH COUNTRYSIDE AND ITS POTENTIAL
EDITED BY IGGY WOOD, BEN COOPER, ELOISE SACARES AND MILES WARD


PRESSING RESET
OUR FUTURE WITH THE EU
EDITED BY IGGY WOOD, MATTHEW HARRIES, JOE DROMEY AND MILES WARD


BEYOND NUMBERS
BUILDING GREAT PLACES TO LIVE
EDITED BY IGGY WOOD, BEN COOPER AND MILES WARD


FABIAN REVIEW
HANCOCK
HUNT
NHS
HEALTH KICK


FABIAN REVIEW
WINNING WOMEN

THE JENNY JEGER PRIZE

The Jenny Jeger prize for writing was established to commemorate Jenny Jeger, chair of the society in 1984. The winners for 2025-26

2025-26
Full-length report

Greg Rosen
The People's Pools: A Labour plan to build Lido's

Shorter writing

Anna Dixon MP
Further Faster Featured in Care to Share: building the National Care Service [Fabian Ideas 674]

Younger writer

Eloise Sacares
Repair, Reuse, Recycle August 2025

EVENTS

July 2025

'Only Halfway: A rights-based approach to ending violence against women in the UK' launch
with Jess Asato MP, Sarah Russell MP, and Baroness Dr Sara Hyde

Fabian Society Summer Reception
with Rachel Reeves MP

Housing Mission Summit
with Matthew Pennycook MP, Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Florence Eshalomi MP, Antonia Bance MP, Mike Reader MP, Chris Hinchliff MP, Joe Powell MP, Tom Copley

August 2025

'Levying Up: How to make the growth and skills levy work' launch
with Lauren Edwards MP

September 2025

Labour Party Conference
with Wes Streeting MP, Bridget Phillipson MP, Douglas Alexander MP, Lucy Powell MP, Matthew Pennycook MP, Michael Shanks MP, Nick Thomas-Symonds MP, Stephen Doughty MP, Sir Stephen Timms MP, Alison McGovern MP, Torsten Bell MP, Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Kirsty McNeill MP, Karin Smyth MP, Seema Malhotra MP, Martin McCluskey MP, Angela Eagle MP, Anneliese Dodds MP, Liam Byrne MP, Dawn Butler MP, Lord Falconer, Oliver Coppard, Mete Coban, Joanne McCartney, Tom Copley, Sarah Russell MP, Dr Jeevun Sandher MP, Chris Murray MP, Mike Reader MP, Jackie Baillie MSP, Phil Brickell MP, Sarah Edwards MP, Martin Rhodes MP, Sarah Smith MP, Bill Esterson MP, Barry Gardiner MP, John Whitby MP, Darren Paffey MP, Alex Sobel MP, Lizzi Collinge MP, Catherine Atkinson MP, Kevin McKenna MP, Alice Macdonald MP, Melanie Ward MP, Rachel Blake MP, Rachel Taylor MP.

October 2025

Labour Deputy Leadership election hustings
with Bridget Phillipson MP, and Lucy Powell MP

November 2025

Annual General Meeting - Cardiff
with Mark Drakeford MS, and Mike Hedges MS

'Promising Development: The future of aid in an uncertain world' launch
with Dame Anneliese Dodds MP, Dr Jeevun Sandher MP, and David Miliband

January 2026

New Year Conference
with Lucy Powell MP, Wes Streeting MP, Ed Miliband MP, Sir Sadiq Khan, Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Matthew Pennycook MP, Sarah Sackman MP, Lucy Rigby MP, Alison McGovern MP, Sir Stephen Timms MP, and Seema Malhotra MP

February 2026

The future of social democracy in Europe
lecture by Chancellor Olaf Scholz

LGA Labour Conference - Coventry
with Cllr Bella Sankey, Cllr Liam Robinson, and Cllr John Cotton

March 2026

'Anatomy of success: Digitising the NHS by 2035' launch
with Sarah Russell MP, and Alex McIntyre MP

'Adapt, Innovate, Transform: How civil servants can help deliver a smarter state using AI' launch
with Dave Penman

April 2026

Tech Summit
with Lucy Rigby KC MP, Dame Anneleise Dodds MP, Sarah Russell MP, and PCC Joy Allen

'Pressing Reset: Our future with Europe' launch
with Lord Alf Dubbs, Dame Anneliese Dodds MP, Liam Byrne MP, and Stella Creasy MP

May 2026

Scottish Fabians – Elections 2026 – Looking back and looking forward
With Mel Ward MP, Chris Murray MP, Kath Sangster MSP, David Green MSP, Paul Sweeney MSP, Sarah Boyack

June 2026

LSE and the Fabian Society: 130 years of partnership
with Baroness Glenys Thornton

'Fabian Thinking' and 'In Conversation' episodes

Dame Anneliese Dodds MP
Mayor Steve Rotheram
Tom Baldwin
Baroness Dianna Hayter
Baroness Margaret Curran
Mete Coban MBE
Morgan Jones
Liam Byrne MP
Baroness Ayesha Hazarika
Dr Patrick English
Tom McTague
Lord David Blunkett
Dame Emily Thornberry MP
Naz Shah MP


FABIAN SOCIETY
JOIN
DAY


FABIAN
SOCIETY


SCAN
ALL
EVENTS


WELSH
FABIANS


RENEWING
BRITAIN






FABIAN
SOCIETY



FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasurer's report
Auditor's statement
Balance sheet
Income and expenditure
Financial transparency
Membership income

TREASURER'S REPORT

BY PAUL RICHARDS

As the honorary treasurer, I am delighted to present these accounts to the Fabian membership. The Society's strong and sustainable position reflects the hard work of the staff team, especially Phil Mutero and Joe Dromey. The headline is that our finances are robust, and we have strengthened our reserves.



These encouraging results are down to energetic fundraising and sponsorship activities, prudent management of costs, and success in stemming the decline in membership. We have strong financial controls in place - with our accounts receiving a full and unqualified audit opinion - and we are ensuring full compliance with our regulatory duties under the Political Parties, Elections, and Referendums Act.

Membership subs remain the most significant source of funding, as well the bedrock of our lively democratic culture. And I am sure we can do more than slow the rate of decline and actually increase the number of members over the next twelve months. The implementation of the membership recruitment strategy, coupled with all of our individual efforts to recruit new members, will further boost our finances.

One of the very earliest references to the Fabians in parliament was in May 1890, when Hugo Charteris, 11th Earl of Wemyss, told the House of Lords that "this Society does not look to revolution to make its ways prevail, but trusts to Fabian tactics, to silent influences, and the potent action of legislation".

Despite the Conservative peer's bemusement at the Fabian Society's tactics, his definition was a fair one. We have rejected revolution in favour of persuasion, permeation, and gradualism for 142 years. We can be proud of our record of influence over the policies that have shaped modern Britain. But our organising principle is that better days lie ahead. The Fabian Society will continue to push for greater social justice, equality, and individual liberty, and argue for the social democratic policies to deliver economic growth and social solidarity.

These lofty ideals must be matched by practical action, an engaged membership, and sound finances. This years' financial report shows that the strength of our ideas is matched by the soundness of our organisation.

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

By Knox Cropper LLP, chartered accountants, statutory auditors. 65/68 Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 2AD

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Fabian Society (the 'Society') for the year ended 30 June 2026 which comprise the Income and Expenditure account and Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102. The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Society's affairs as at 30 June 2026 and of its surplus for the year then ended;

- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

BALANCE SHEET

		2026		2025
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		1,164,858		1,176,091
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors and Prepayments		241,116	186,876	
Bank and Cash		235,011	80,055	
		476,117	**266,931**	
CREDITORS-AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR				
Creditors and Accruals		(262,833)	(175,691)	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		213,833		91,240
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,378,202		1,267,331
CREDITORS-AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR				(4,407)
NET ASSETS		**1,378,202**		**1,262,924**
General Fund		1,346,765		1,228,725
Restricted Funds		31,437		34,199
TOTAL FUNDS		**1,378,202**		**1,262,924**

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2026	2025
INCOME	**£**	**£**
Individual Members	328,577	337,090
Institutional Affiliations and Subscriptions	4,235	4,735
Donations and Legacies	64,751	164,719
Publication Sales	1,569	600
Conference and Events	395,449	287,850
Publication Sponsorships and Advertisements	62,467	47,454
Research Projects	402,685	342,337
Rents	18,668	22,468
Bank Interest, Royalties and Miscellaneous	642	3,202
Total Income	**1,279,043**	**1,210,455**
EXPENDITURE		
Research Projects	67,592	67,205
Staff Costs	608,386	782,560
Printing and Distribution	121,790	106,903
Conference and Events	106,178	99,533
Promotion	5,797	8,385
Affiliation Fees	6,768	6,463
Postage, Phone and Fax	2,219	1,868
Depreciation	26,125	20,926
Office Costs	20,276	15,866
Stationery and Copying	8,934	7,025
Legal and Professional	97,779	36,439
Irrecoverable VAT	2,364	5,764
Premises Costs	53,058	71,630
Bad Debts	-	-
Information Systems	36,499	36,360
Total Expenditure	**1,163,765**	**1,266,927**
Surplus/(Deficit) Before Tax and Transfers	**115,278**	**(56,472)**
Transfers from Reserves	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) before taxation	115,278	(56,472)
Corporation Tax	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	**115,278**	**(56,472)**

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY

Income associated with specific research, editorial and events projects totalled £860,601 in 2025/26 and came from a wide range of companies, trade unions, non-profit organisations and trusts. These funders are declared alongside the specific events and publications they support and a list for 2025/26 is provided below.

FUNDER	AMOUNT £	CONFIRMED FUNDING
AgeUK	15,000	Public attitudes of pensions research
Alex Ferry Foundation	12,000	Strengthening employment rights research
Association of Colleges	5,000	Construction skills research
Association of Colleges	20,000	Labour party conference
Association for Public Service Excellence	15,000	Accountability in mayoral strategic authorities research
Asthma and Lung UK/HAC	10,625	Labour party conference event
Aviva	1,000	Pensions futures research
Betterworld Foundation	16,667	UK/EU Relations & Living standards pamphlets
Betterworld Foundation	12,000	Public attitudes press & media research
British Medical Association	5,313	Labour party conference event
Centre for Ageing Better	12,000	Housing in an ageing society research
Centre for Ageing Better	15,285	Labour party conference event
CIPD	1,400	Growth and skills levy research
CIPD	5,000	Labour party conference event
City of London Corporation	21,500	Labour party conference event
Community the Union	18,000	Teacher retention research
Community the Union	10,000	Self Employment research
Community Wind Power	7,000	Labour party conference event
Corporate Justice Coalition	2,000	Labour party conference event
Corporate Justice Coalition	7,800	Labour party conference event
CPRE	15,000	Labour party conference event
CPRE	4,500	Rural Policy edited collection
CPRE	1,600	Housing Summit
Dartmouth Street Trust	23,000	Public attitudes of pensions research
Dartmouth Street Trust	8,400	Employment research
Early Education & Childcare Coalition	2,000	Opportunity Summit
Electrical Contractors Association (ECA)	7,000	Construction skills research
EDF	8,000	Housing Summit
Edge Foundation	4,167	Pre-apprenticeship research
Ester Consultancy	4,000	Labour party conference
FDA Trade Union	25,500	AI in the civil service research
FES London	8,500	Labour party conference event
FES London	8,300	Lecture from Olaf Scholz
Global Banking School	12,500	Labour party conference event
GovernanceAI	7,500	Tech Summit
G15 Group	6,650	New Year conference

FUNDER	AMOUNT £	CONFIRMED FUNDING
Hallam Land Management	12,500	Labour party conference event
HCL Tech	30,000	AI in the NHS research and event
Hill Group	6,250	First time buyers research
Independent Age	10,625	Labour party conference event
Island Green Power	3,000	Common Endeavour pamphlet
Joint Industry Board	5,000	Construction skills event
JRF	38,800	Renters rights research
JRF	25,000	Employment status research
JRF	12,000	National Care Service edited collection
JRF	8,500	Labour party conference event
JTL Training	7,000	Construction skills research
Labour for a New Democracy	2,000	Labour party conference event
Lloyds Banking Group	25,000	Labour party conference event
Lord Willie Haughey	20,000	Tackling Scottish housing emergency
LPDF	20,000	Quick Wins housing research
Multiverse	4,000	Tech Summit
Nationwide Foundation	12,500	Labour party conference event
NHBC	6,000	Construction skills event
National Homes Quality Board	42,000	Supporting first time buyers research
Optum	15,000	Labour party conference event
PEXA	5,000	Housing Summit
Prospect Union	10,000	Self employment research
Prospect Union	2,000	Tech Summit
Renters Reform Coalition	2,000	Housing Summit
Reset Tech	5,000	Tech Summit
Royal College of Nursing	5,313	Labour party conference event
Save the Children	4,000	International development edited collection
Shoosmiths LLP	3,000	Reform of s106 & community infrastructure levy
Solar Energy UK	12,500	Labour party conference event
The Trussell Trust	8,500	Labour party conference event
Taylor Wimpey	15,000	Fabian Housing Centre
Transparency International UK	12,500	Labour party conference event
True North Advisors	12,000	Labour party conference event
Trust for London	30,000	Public attitudes immigration research
Turn2Us	10,625	Labour party conference event
TUC	667	Public attitudes of pensions research
UK Private Captial	7,500	Tech Summit
UNISON	2,115	Health and work research
Viatris	15,000	Labour party conference event
Youth Futures Foundation	10,000	Pre-apprenticeships research

MEMBERSHIP INCOME

Our membership income comes from subscriptions and supplementary donations from members, associate members, affiliates and institutional subscribers. In 2025/26 this amounted to £332,812. As of 30 June 2026, we had 6,381 members, affiliates and subscribers.

The Fabian Society would like to thank all of its members and donors who make our work possible.



ISBN 978-0-7163-4072-0