

## Policy motion - Righting wrongs: Restoring the Rights of the Windrush Generation

More than ten party members

**Mover** Pauline Pearce

**Summation** Roderick Lynch

### **Conference deploras**

- \* The official 'hostile environment' immigration policy of the Conservative Government, embedding institutional racism at the Home Office, which has resulted in mass breaches by the UK Government of the British Nationality Act 1948 and the Commonwealth Immigrants Act 1962 and the deportation of retirement-age citizens with rights to live in the UK under the Immigration Act 1971
- \* The application of aggregate immigration and deportation targets - with staff bonuses for deportations - which, encourage Home Office officials and contractors to make decisions contrary to domestic and international law, UK regulations and published official guidance; even in cases where it was known that their claims to reside were valid.
- \* The government's pursuit of exemptions for the Home Office from transparency legislation such as GDPR (EU) 2016/679 and the UK Freedom of Information Act 2000, in order to conceal the extent of harm resultant from the 'hostile environment' policy,
- \* The policy of forcing the NHS, landlords and the DVLC to act as quasi immigration police, resultant from the Home Office's inability to manage immigration effectively

### **Conference notes**

- \* The failure of the Home Office to establish and implement a rules-based legal, fair and just immigration system, leading to a targets driven approach and gimmicks like 'go home vans'
- \* The negative effect of the government's 'hostile environment' immigration policies on the economy and public services including increasing the shortage of technical skills in industry and the shortage of skills in the NHS

### **Conference believes**

- \* The programme of mass deportation of the Windrush generation, and the destruction of relevant data to facilitate the programme, arose because the individuals, well established in British society, were the more easily located and victimised by administrators and contractors
- \* That the blame for recent shameful Home Office approach to the Windrush generation lies in the policy of the Home Office minister in office from 12th May 2010 to July 13th 2016

### **Conference calls for**

- \* A public enquiry into the policies and implementation of immigration policy undertaken by the UK government 1997 to 2018 with powers to compel the Home Office, Cabinet Office and other UK institutions to reveal all relevant information
- \* A return to a fair and just rules based immigration system which is transparent and predictable, and the removal of immigration policy implementation from the Home Office, including 'quasi-judicial' individual decisions, and their transfer to an agency represented in Cabinet by the Minister of Justice
- \* Righting wrongs perpetrated by the Home Office in each individual case, including the full restoration of rights to indefinite leave to remain, access to housing, healthcare, welfare, and employment, plus the return of those wrongly deported, and a new task force to apply justice, with access to legal aid where needed; to include the release of such individuals currently wrongly detained and wrongly facing deportation
- \* The establishment of a system of compensation for all the victims of the Home Office's unjust policies in line with recommendations of Martin Forde QC, appointed by the Ministry of Justice