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| Our ref: :  Your ref: :  When telephoning please ask for: FIONA ROBERTS | UNISONSouthEast  179 Preston Road  Brighton  East Sussex  BN1 6AG | |
| **To: Regional Women’s Network/ Branch Secretaries/Branch Women’s Officer/ Branch Equality Officers/ Chairs and Convenors SOG’s and YM’s**  21st August 2019 |
| *Regional Telephone No. 0845 355 0845*  *Fax:* 01273 544036 | |
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| www.unison.org.uk/southeast | |
| Dear Colleagues  **Event: REGIONAL WOMEN’S COMMITTEE AGM**  **Date: Saturday 19th October 2019.**  **Time: 10.30am to 3.30pm**  **Venue: UNISON, Ranger House, Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4UL**  You are invited to attend the Regional Women’s Committee Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will take place on Saturday 19th October at Ranger House, Guildford. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Creche facilities can be provided for those who request them on the application form attached.  **REGIONAL WOMEN’S COMMITTEE ELECTION - NOMINATIONS**  Nominations are being sought for membership of the regional women’s committee for the year 2020. There are 20 seats on the women’s committee and 4 additional reserved seats for women representatives from the other Self Organised and Young Members Groups.  If you are interested in standing for a seat on the regional women’s committee, you will see that the attached Women’s Committee Constitution allows for women members to ‘self-nominate’. Self-nomination is seen as a key factor to increasing the participation of women members at a local and regional level. However, it will be beneficial to you and your branch if you discuss your nomination to ensure that you have their support which will be vital to supporting you with the work of the regional women’s committee at a local level and will also help to ensure that you have vital links to the women members in your branch to keep them up to date with local, regional and national women’s equality issues.  Being a member of the women’s committee means making a commitment to playing an active role in progressing women’s issues of inequality at a local, regional and national level. For more information about the women’s committee and what’s involved please refer to the attached Regional Women’s Committee Handbook. For all newly elected members of the women’s committee there will be a brief induction session immediately prior to the first committee meeting following the AGM.  **To nominate yourself for a seat on the South East Regional Women’s Committee** please complete the attached form (blue) and return to me by **5pm Friday 4th October 2019.**  Job sharing a seat on the Women’s Committee is welcomed as it can often be instrumental in enabling some women to become involved in UNISON activities. **To ensure the election can proceed democratically, anyone wishing to job share must indicate on the enclosed nomination form (i) that you wish to job share and (ii) the name of the person you wish to job share with. Additionally, you will need to ensure that the person you are job sharing with is willing and has signed the same nomination form.**  **Women’s Committee Constitution:** Any proposed changes to the South East Regional Women’s Committee Constitution (attached) should be submitted to me in writing by **5pm Friday 4th October 2019**.  **ELECTION NOMINATIONS**  Following the election to the Regional Women’s Committee, elections will be held for all **other regional, national and TUC LESE committees** as listed in the attached nomination form (pink).  If you are interested in becoming a member of the regional Labour Link committee, please note that you need to be a member of the Labour party and pay into UNISON Labour Link Fund. If you would like to nominate someone else please ensure that they wish to be nominated before submitting the form. Please refer to the Regional Women’s Handbook or the South East Regional Democracy handbook for more information about the work of regional committees and Labour Link.  Please note that members of the women’s committee are not restricted to nominating members to ‘reserved women’s seats’ and can nominate to both the ‘women’s seats’ and ‘general seat’ on the various service group and regional committees. If you are unsure about this and would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.  Lastly, please find attached an application form to attend the AGM as this helps us to cater efficiently for all attendees, and the UNISON Access Needs form.  **All forms need to be returned me 5pm Friday 4th October 2019.**  Yours sincerely  **Fiona Roberts**  Fiona Roberts  Regional Women’s Officer  **Enc**. AGM Application Form/Regional Women’s Committee Nomination Form (blue)/Regional and National Committee Nomination Form (pink)/Regional Women’s Committee Handbook/Regional Women’s Committee Constitution/2020 Women’s Committee Calendar | |  |