

A guide to AGM language and terms



Branch delegation

Your branch can choose to send up to 5 people to the AGM to vote on behalf of the members within that branch (see delegate for more information).

Calling notice

This is sent out to officially invite young activists to the AGM, notifying them of the date and time and of the deadlines for motions, nominations and delegations.

Contested positions

If we receive more than one nomination for a position, e.g. 2 nominations for Chair, then the position is contested. We will then require members to vote in a ballot to choose who will fill that position.

Delegate

A member who is elected to represent their colleagues either in a meeting or at an event, e.g. at Young Members Conference 2021. In this case, they attend the AGM and can vote in the elections for positions on the Forum as well as things like approval of the budget and action plans for the Forum.

Election address

A statement providing reasons why a person should be nominated to a particular position, used only when a position is contested (see contested position).

Internal/External bodies

This refers to the other committees and bodies within UNISON's wider structure, such as the Finance Committee.

Motion

A formal proposal put to a committee or decision-making body. E.g. a motion regarding young members having their own conference was submitted to the National Delegates Conference 2019. The motion was passed, meaning young members will now have their own national conference each year.

Nominations

This is the process whereby you put yourself forward for one of the vacant positions on the Forum. You can self-nominate or be nominated by your branch if you'd prefer. You can be nominated for as many positions as you like.

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SOG - Self-Organised Group

Self Organised Group. These groups meet nationally and locally to help UNISON understand equality and meet equality aims. There is a group for Black, Women, Disabled and LGBT+.

The Young Members' Forum and Retired Members Committee look at many of the same equality issues but are classified as standing committees, not SOGs.

Visitor

A young member who attends the AGM but doesn't have voting rights.

Young Members constitution

The rules under which the Young Members' Forum is governed and should operate in accordance to.