



## Constituency Campaign Agreement May 2024

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### Overview

As everyone is aware we have never had a better chance to create a new progressive/left political force in this country. Disillusionment with the main political parties is the highest it has ever been. At the same time if people are not given a fresh radical option we know what is going to happen - they will be manipulated by the radical right into fascistic alternatives.

It is absolutely vital therefore that we get organised and we work together. Assemble has brought together some of the best social movement organisers in the country to give advice and support to 100s of independent campaigns. It is not a conventional political party situation where everything is controlled. Assemble is more like a cooperative agency which gives you the best ways of organising and mobilising.

There are two key strategic objectives of running radical independent campaigns:

1. to win seats and/or create real pressure on Labour where it hurts: by taking their votes
2. build a mass political movement to bring popular pressure on Labour after the election via local election and national and city based popular assemblies.

The agreement below makes clear what Assemble can offer to independent assembly based campaigns:

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### The Agreement.

Assemble will organise online meetings to create an initial group ready and willing to promote a larger face to face meeting to make a collective decision to start up a local constituency campaign. We are in alliance with a range of progressive and left networks who will promote this meeting in your locality to their activists/members and/or memberships. The aim is to get 50-100 people to these meetings and have a minimum of 30 people committed to giving time to the campaign to get it started. This face to face meeting is organised in a specific way to maximise inspiration (we can network you with speakers and people from other campaigns to give testimonies on putting forward candidates). At this meeting a constituency campaign team is formed and/or consolidated to run the campaign.

## **1. To run an assembly-based, citizen-led campaign**

The campaign agrees to run its core campaign based upon using ward assemblies to choose the programme for the candidates and choose a candidate unless the group already has an excellent person chosen by the community to run (documentation on the run of an assembly campaign will be provided so people can see the details). Over and beyond this core structure the campaign will be free to promote a variety of additional activities - and indeed is encouraged to do so.

## **2. To be trained in the following basic areas**

All campaign team members must come to the following four trainings (other training will be provided for teams which they are free to attend):

*How to run an assembly campaign - (2 hours)*

*Induction & Culture - (1.5hours) on creating a respectful and welcoming culture*

*How to run a ward assembly - (1.5 hours)*

*Facilitation - (1.5 hours) on how to run meetings*

## **3. To share data and fundraising**

All data/personal details are shared between the local campaign and Assemble. Money raised as monthly donations in ward assemblies goes to the national Assemble account and 80% of this is then paid into the local campaign account until the election. Payments will be paid weekly. This may change to fortnightly once many campaigns are on the go. The 20% is used to support Assemble to help set up more campaigns so that the movement can gain national publicity which will help more people hear about your campaign and increase your support.

After the election the money will be used to build the movement for system change in the UK (see point 6 below)

## **4. To offer regional mentoring and mutual support**

All local campaigns provide:

→ 1-2 people to run 1 in-person meeting meeting each week.

→ 1-2 people to attend regional skill and knowledge sharing check-in meetings, once a week. These meetings may lead to more sharing and support between campaigns in a region, city or county.

## **5. To receive Assembly support**

Assemble (and allies) will provide a range of training for local campaigns and have a regional support team to help campaigns in their area. It also can platform your campaign on social media.

## 6. To anticipate the further development of a social movement after the election

After the election is over, we pressure the new government. Assemble intends to use its funds to create the following:

- A national demonstration soon after the election bringing movements together on the theme *"You Do Not Represent Us"*.
  - A national House of the People – a permanent citizens assembly – as an alternative to the House of Commons/Lords. Half of those who sit in this House will be selected randomly from those who attend the campaign assemblies, the other half will be selected from the country on the whole, in order to obtain an accurate snapshot of the nation.
  - City and County-based alternative councils which will bring together assemblies to make demands of their councils for radical action.
  - Campaigns for radical independents in the local election in 2025 and in future years.
  - A series of coordinated national demonstrations to demand any social and ecological policies chosen by the House of the People and a political revolutionary demand: that a permanent legally binding citizens assembly – A House of Citizens – replaces the House of Lords.
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### Financial support

Once this agreement is confirmed (an email needs to be sent to Assemble to say the campaign will agree with it), the local campaign will:

- Receive financing from Assemble for a startup launch event for the campaign. Invoices can be sent to Assemble so the new campaign needs no cashflow to get its campaign kickstarted. Assemble can pay up to £2000 of invoices for such an event.
- Once this event has happened Assemble will match fund up to £2000 of regular monthly donations raised in ward assemblies. So if a ward assembly raises say £120 of regular donations then once the first payments have come into the Assemble account (see arrangement in point 3 above) then Assemble will pay £120 into the campaign account. This way you can encourage more people to give monthly donations at these public events - saying "your first payment will be doubled". Assemble may be able to match funds beyond £2000 but this will depend on national fundraising efforts.

Either side can pull out of this agreement at any time without any financial or legal repercussions. It is a good faith relationship.

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