

# Emergency Motion 1

## Abortion law and prosecutions

### Conference notes:

- i. The dramatic rise of women facing prosecution under archaic abortion laws in England and Wales.
- ii. Diana Johnson MP tabled an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill on the 20th Feb 2024 which would end prosecutions of women under current abortion law.
- iii. Dr Ranee Thakar, RCOG president, stated that current law means that women experiencing unexplained pregnancy loss “may be vulnerable to criminal investigation, and health professionals placed under unacceptable and unwarranted scrutiny”.

### Conference also notes:

- a) Decriminalisation is the most effective solution to address the current restrictions.
- b) The advancements in medicine, such as the availability of abortion pills, have made abortion safer and more accessible.

### Conference believes:

1. The justice system is failing women.
2. Abortion is health care and has no place in criminal law.
3. Healthcare professionals should be allowed to exercise their clinical judgement without fear of prosecution.

### Conference resolves

- A) To back Diana Johnson MP amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to stop any further prosecutions.
- B) To urge affiliates to write to MPs in support of decriminalisation of abortion,
- C) To promote the Abortion Rights campaign and affiliate accordingly.

*Mover: GMB*

# Emergency Motion 2

## A Just Transition for Steel and for Women

Conference notes the devastating announcement by Tata Steel UK, of plans to close blast furnaces at Port Talbot impacting more than 3,000 jobs and risking the future of British steelmaking.

Conference recognises that steelworks often directly provide well-paying jobs with workplace support that allows many women and single parents to continue employment alongside caring responsibilities they may have. Steelworks also play a vital role in the local economies where they are based – supporting jobs in local shops, cafes, cleaning and wider contract services – and with women disproportionately represented in many of these wider areas they are sadly at the forefront of those job losses local communities are facing.

Conference stands in solidarity with women working in and around the steel industry at this time and recognises the uncertainty and stress that many families and households will be feeling about their jobs, local communities, and the future of their industry.

Conference calls on the Women's Committee to:

- i. Send a message of solidarity to women working in steelmaking communities
- ii. Support the UK steel industry and campaign to secure a just and fair transition for the workforce at Port Talbot and across Tata Steel UK.

*Mover: Community*