

David Miliband bringing Labour together leading Labour to power

So you've decided to hold a house meeting for David...

In advance, you should organise the event

- 1) Decide on a venue (preferably your own home if it can fit the people you want to invite).
- 2) Think of the people you want to invite
 - First start with the local Labour Party members who you know are active in your local area, this may include local councilors, the constituency MP and other activists.
 - Then think about other people in your community that could make change locally. For example, friends, neighbours, the school head-teacher, faith leaders in your area. Try to invite people who already have a following of others.
 - Remember, they don't have to be members of the Party at the moment
- 3) Invite them. It's probably easiest to give them a call. Invitations are best when made personally so if you won't see them face-to-face, just pick up the phone. Here is an example of how to frame your House Meeting and this may be useful for sending out emails;

"David Miliband in his campaign for Labour leadership has launched the Movement for Change. This is an exciting initiative to rebuild the Labour Party from the grassroots and go back to the Labour traditions of organising within the local community.

I'm hosting a House Meeting as part of David's leadership campaign to bring people together in the community to discuss how we can be part of the Movement for Change at a local level. It will be a chance to share stories, build relationships and discuss what we would like to change in this area and how we can help make David leader of the Labour Party to take this forward.

I hope you can come. The details are: Time, Date, Venue

It will be a really exciting opportunity to talk about our community and how we can help David Miliband's Movement for Change being put into practice locally as well as practical steps for Labour supporters, Labour members and David's leadership campaign."

In advance, prepare for the meeting

4) Research:

- Consider who is coming for your House Meeting – why have they come and how could they help?
 - If the majority are Labour Party members and already David supporters consider what practical things you can do to get him elected as leader
 - If the majority are not yet Labour Party members or David supporters think about what local community issues will unite them in the Movement for Change and will help galvanise their support for David and potential to join the Party
- Consider the reasons why you think David Miliband is the right person to be leader of the Labour Party and why you want to be part of his Movement for Change
- Consider the things you would like to change in your local area and why – it's really important to think about personal stories that illustrate your frustrations. Make sure you ask other people to share their stories too.
- Have a look at which MPs have nominated David's leadership: <http://labourlist.org/david-milibands-plp-support---running-totals> or http://www2.labour.org.uk/leadership-candidates/1/David_Miliband
- Check David's website for updates on David's leadership campaign www.davidmiliband.net
- Print off some Labour party membership forms at the ready, whether on the computer at <https://secure2.labour.org.uk/join/> or print off the PDF from <https://secure2.labour.org.uk/uploads/cefa64b2-9328-7e14-4524-8cef6b9ef6df.pdf>

5) Inform David's leadership team (on team@davidmiliband.net) that the House Group Meeting is taking place.

- David and his high-profile supporters are trying to phone into as many House Meetings as possible over the leadership campaign. This is entirely optional but if you would like a chance to get a call in from David or one of his high-profile supporters then make sure you register your House Meeting.
- Of course we won't be able to call into every meeting but you still have the downloaded video of David himself

6) The video of David's introduction to open your House Meeting is located here:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5uiBDO_8VI4

7) Last, but by no means least, prepare food and drink for your House Meeting - perhaps ask some of the guests to bring or contribute something to the evening. No one can resist a delicious spread of food!

Event day

OK, you're pretty well prepared now, so you just have to wait until the big day itself.

1) Remind your guests the day before – try and build accountability into the relationship. If someone confirms then they should be there and you need to let people know you are disappointed if they don't turn up... even if it's just your mates!

Time	What you should be doing
5.30pm	<p>Get in from work, give the place a quick vacuum and general tidy (or not, if you're not that type).</p> <p>Put the oven on and get the nibbles in. If there are drinks, get them chilling.</p> <p>Pick some music.</p> <p>Get Labour party membership forms at the ready, whether on the computer at https://secure2.labour.org.uk/join/ or print off the PDF from https://secure2.labour.org.uk/uploads/cefa64b2-9328-7e14-4524-8cef6b9ef6df.pdf</p> <p>Get online and get the DM video ready at www.davidmiliband.net</p>
7.00pm	<p>People are arriving, take their coats, get them a drink, all that good stuff. More importantly, get them to fill in the sign-in sheet (below/link).</p>
7.30pm	<p>Rounds/Introductions</p> <p>Don't forget that during your House Group you may get a phonecall from either David himself or one of his high-profile supporters – you will be informed beforehand if this is going to happen so make sure you factor this in.</p> <p>Not everyone will know each other, and even if they do people still appreciate finding out more about each other.</p> <p>Get everyone in the room to introduce themselves and answer these questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Name? - What groups are you a member of? - Who brought you into politics? OR Why did you join the Labour Party?
7.50pm	<p>Show David's leadership House Party video:</p> <p>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5uiBDO_8VI4</p>
8.00pm	<p>As host you may need to start the conversation and share your stories first. If you have already had conversations with people in the group draw on the stories you've heard them share before.</p> <p>Consider the following questions:</p> <p>1) What one thing do you most want to change in our local community and</p>

	<p>why (share a story to illustrate the thing which currently frustrates you)</p> <p>2. What most affects you and your family in this area and why?</p> <p>3. What frustrates you about the Labour Party and why? How can we change that during and after David's leadership campaign?</p> <p>4. What can you do to get David elected over the coming months?</p> <p>If there are stories that unite people in the room make sure you ask what people have done so far to address the issue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If they have tried something and it has worked get them to share the story - If they have tried something and it has not worked, ask why? - If they haven't done anything then ask why? And then consider together if this is something you can make change on together?
8.40pm	<p>Once everyone has shared a story and you've found some common ground that unites people in the room start thinking about some next steps. Move from the section where everyone has been sharing stories to some practical solutions and next steps by reading or taking from the following paragraph:</p> <p>"I hope you have enjoyed this evening - it's been really interesting hearing your stories tonight and it just shows the need for us to organise in our local community. Whatever our different perspectives on the issues discussed tonight, one thing is clear – that we can achieve more together than we can on our own.</p> <p>Our communities need change and we know that our country needs change and sometimes it's tempting to leave that to national politicians. Actually what I've realized is that we need local leaders to make change and we need a national leader for the Labour Party and the country who will work with us to make that happen.</p> <p>The Movement for Change is going to be a long process for the Labour Party but, if it is going to be successful, it has to begin with us electing David Miliband as leader. But we must make the Movement for Change a reality in our area by taking action on local issues that matter to us.</p> <p>There are three things that I think we need to do. Firstly, we need to make sure that we are members of the Labour Party and that we encourage our friends and others to join so that they too can be part of this process. Secondly, we need to ensure that we encourage new and old members to use their vote to support David Miliband and this Movement for Change. Finally, we need to take responsibility to find other leaders to join us in bringing change to this community."</p>

8.45	<p>What are the most practical next steps for your group?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take practical steps to get David elected leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - each sign 10 people up to the website - if most people are already members, organise the supporting nomination for your CLP - fundraising for the campaign 2. Recruit other David supporters to be members of the Labour Party 3. Hold more conversations and House Meetings as part of David's Leadership campaign and the Movement for Change 4. Take local action on a shared community issue as part of David's Movement for Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - become a Future Leader by attending a Movement for Change training session - prioritise a winnable issue in the community that you can make change on and brainstorm solutions - find other people you know affected by this - consider who has the ability to make change on this local issue and work out how you and people in the community can get into relationship with them <p>Asking people to commit...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ask each person at the House Meeting to commit to finding an agreed number of people who could help with David's campaign and the community issues raised in the meeting – such as Labour Party members, trade union members and others in the community - Ask each person at the House Meeting to host their own House Meeting <p>Turnout: Take actual numbers from people and write them down – it's much easier to hold someone to account on a number they have committed. Also, go back and check that people have done what they committed to.</p>
9.00	<p>Finish the meeting with a thank you for the commitments people have made and then fill in the Pledge Form together to record your agreements and the issues you have highlighted in your community.</p> <p>Get those who have become David supporters to spread the word about his leadership campaign and find Future Leaders to be part of his Movement for Change</p>

After the event

- 1) We are looking for 1000 Future Leaders and there is a whole series of Movement for Change training where you can learn more about rebuilding the Labour Party, community organising and holding effective House Meetings – if you want to be part of this then check out the website for more details.
- 2) Send photos/videos of the event to David's web team: team@davidmiliband.net
- 2) Perhaps write a blogpost about how your event went on David's website
- 3) Send donations to the campaign by following this link: www.davidmiliband.net/donate
- 4) Think about organising another house meeting – and encourage people who came to yours to host one of their own. Hold them to account on the pledges they've made at the meeting.
- 5) Fill in the evaluation form and return it to David's leadership team.