

MOTION FOR A DAY OF TALKS/EDUCATION ON THE PCSC BILL

Motion agreed at the 11 September 2021 rs21 All Member Assembly

The Police Crime Sentencing and Courts (PCSC) Bill is likely to negatively affect the activities of rs21, other left-wing groups, and a wide range of marginalised groups in society. While the broad areas of impact are well understood among rs21 members, **there are still areas of the bill that are poorly understood and that have not been discussed widely**. It is a wide ranging and extensive bill that is difficult to read and interpret, so this is no surprise. It is likely that this is a predicament shared by the other groups that have already been organising under the 'Kill the Bill' banner.

We therefore propose a day of talks and education (a teach-in/teach-out could be one possible name) on the various elements of the Police Crime Sentencing and Courts Bill, organised by rs21 members, with invited speakers and participants from other interested groups from the Kill the Bill coalition. **The goal of this day of talks and education would be to develop a rigorous understanding of the PCSC Bill among rs21 activists and others so that activism against it is productive and informed.**

We propose that **rs21 members interested in organising this day should form a small working group to carry it through**, as we have done with past day events. The specific structure of the day can be set by the working group, as can be the specific date, time and duration of the event. Decisions about who is invited and which groups are approached for participation can also be delegated, with oversight and input from the SG.. Interested rs21 members could take up these areas of the Bill and work with others to understand and analyse them. This knowledge could then be shared with the event attendees as part of the series of talks, and this would be supplemented by the invited speakers, whose knowledge and understanding may be more focussed and specialised. This format should ensure that the PCSC Bill and how to organise against it can be covered, without an overly didactic approach, and without heavy demands on the time and energy of members.

Support would be required from the SG in two areas:

1. As Covid restrictions have lifted, **it may be possible and/or desirable to organise an in-person meeting with online participation for this event. Support, advice, and opinions on this from the SG would be appreciated**, and from the broader rs21 membership. Funding may also be required for this if an in-person meeting has popular support.
2. **Social media promotion beyond the rs21 networks may be vital for this event**, as it may have a much wider appeal, but would require some funding. This could build positive connections with other groups, and attract potential new members. Social media promotion has been successful in the past for rs21 supported events.

If we vote through this motion, we commit to:

- **Agree that we should work towards a Kill the Bill day event**, either on Zoom or in person;
- **Agree to set up a working group of rs21 members to organise the event**, with overall decision making power over the event with guidance from the SG;
- **Support funding the event, up to an amount considered reasonable by the SG** following research into reasonable costs and our financial position.