



SETTING UP A LOCAL CND GROUP: LONDON CND GUIDE

1. FIRST STEPS

The first key step is to get in touch with us! If we know you're keen to make things happen in your area, we can support you with resources and advice. Email us: info@londoncnd.org

FINDING A CORE GROUP

You'll need to find a couple of activists near you who are keen to get things moving. If no-one you know is interested, here are a couple of places to start:

- Us! We'll know people in your area who are members of CND. Email us at info@londoncnd.org or phone 0207 607 2303.
- Local political parties, trade union groups, or other activist groups such as Stop the War or Campaign Against the Arms Trade.

You only need two or three committed people to start holding events and reaching a wider network!

ORGANISING RESPONSIBILITIES

Between you, your group might want to start thinking about who is responsible for what. For example, one person might want to take charge of money and finances, and someone might want to take responsibility for organising your meetings and taking minutes, etc.

It's worth meeting a couple of times as a small group to think about your priorities and to plan ahead.



2. HOLDING YOUR FIRST PUBLIC MEETING

Depending on your capacity as a group, there are a few different ways to hold a first meeting to engage members of the public.

A SOCIAL EVENT

A social event can be a nice low-pressure way to meet local people interested in getting involved in CND. You could do a coffee morning in a spacious cafe, or an evening in a pub. Make sure the venue is wheelchair accessible if possible. You should arrive early and make sure you're visible to people arriving who may not recognise you.

A SIT-DOWN MEETING

For something small-scale but a bit more serious, you might want to just hold a meeting in one of your members' houses to get a few more people along, have a discussion, and see how many people are interested in being more involved. You might want to start by asking people why they care about nuclear disarmament, whether they've been involved with the peace movement before, and what kind of activities they're interested in doing going forwards.



A SPEAKER EVENT

This takes a little more organising, but is worth it as good speakers will draw people to the event and encourage them to get more involved. An easy format for this kind of event is to have a 30-minute talk, followed by a 20-30 minute Q&A session, and then time afterwards for drinks, snacks and mingling.

A church hall or community centre would be a good venue for this kind of event - some will hire out the space for free, others for a small charge. If you have to pay for the venue, you could ask for donations on the door to cover the cost.

Speaker suggestions:

- A local anti-Trident MP
- A representative from CND
- A politician from an anti-nuclear party such as the Greens
- A well-known activist

If you want help finding a speaker for your event, email info@londoncnd.org or phone us on 0207 607 2302 and we'll help you arrange one.

PUBLICISING YOUR EVENT

Once you've planned your event, let us know it's happening so that we can publicise it.

If you use facebook or twitter, they are a great way to reach a bigger audience - especially if you are in any local community groups on facebook. Similarly, use your email lists to tell people about your event.

If you're holding a speaker event, you could advertise it in your local paper. It's worth beginning to plan plenty of time in advance, so you have time to advertise it in publications that are printed monthly, for example.



3. AT YOUR EVENT AND NEXT STEPS

At your event, make sure to get contact details from everyone there. If you use email, email addresses are usually the most efficient way of contacting multiple people at once. It's a good idea to have a follow-up meeting planned - even if it's just at someone's house in an evening - so that if people are keen, you can tell them then and there when you will next be meeting.

You could aim to have a meeting every two weeks, mixing socials and business meetings. Every few months, try to hold a public meeting with a speaker, or some kind of action.

Keep in touch with London Region CND:



@LondonRegionCND



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londoncnd.org