



Spring Conference 2016

Friday, 05 February to Sunday, 07 February 2016

Holiday Inn, Cardiff City Centre & School of Management, Cardiff Metropolitan University

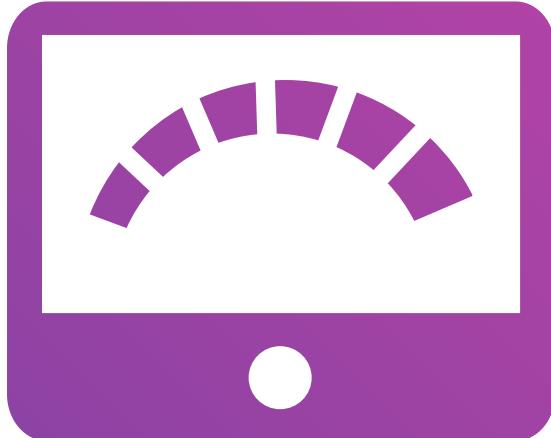




Say hello to a smarter Wales

Every home and microbusiness can get a smart meter from their energy supplier by 2020.

Find out about the rollout and how smart meters can help to develop a smarter future for Wales at smartenergyGB.org



Welcome to Cardiff

Dear Friends,

I welcome you to our final Welsh Liberal Democrat Conference before the Assembly elections in May.

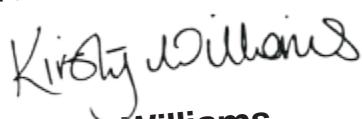
At this conference we will show how we are the only party in Wales with the ambition and fresh ideas to improve our hospitals and schools, while ensuring Wales is pro-enterprise, pro-jobs and open for business.

For over 150 years Welsh liberals have fought for fairness on behalf of our communities. Even now, we continue to punch above our weight, which is why in the Assembly we have secured huge investment in schools, thousands of apprenticeships, and improved access to life-saving NHS treatments. That is a record we can be proud of.

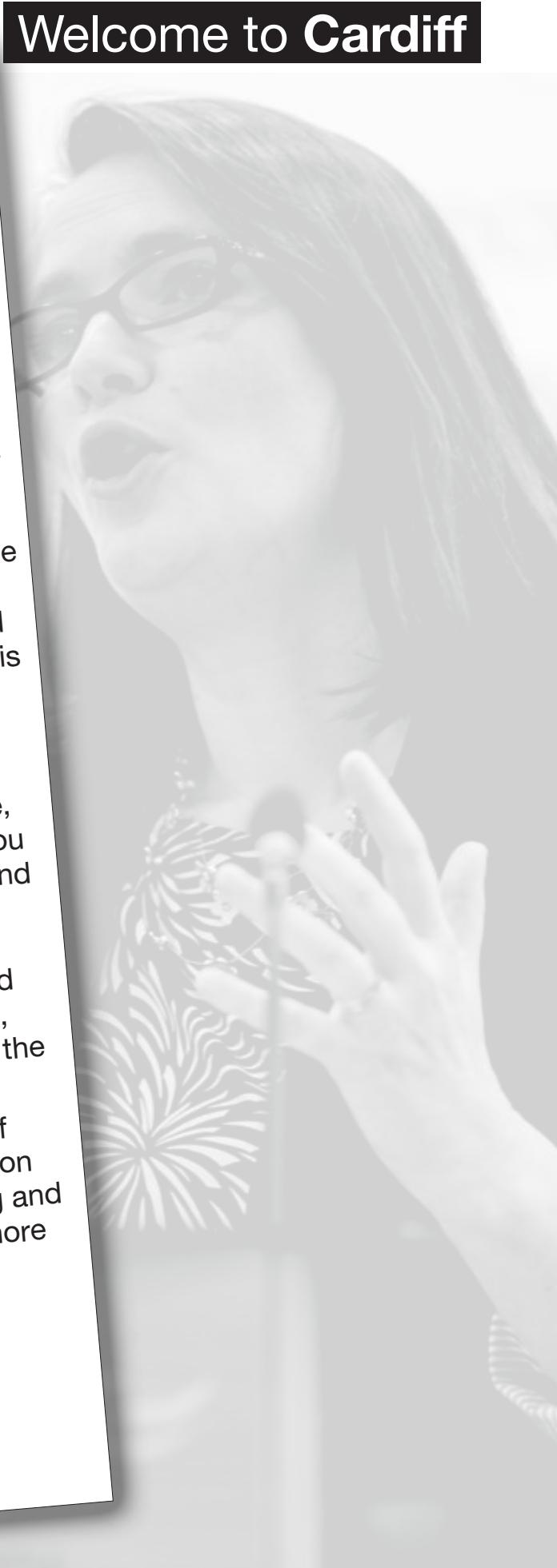
Our party may have the deepest roots in Wales, yet our liberal values embrace the Wales of today. Our vision is of an inclusive, diverse and tolerant Wales. We believe if you have ambition, you should be celebrated and supported. We believe in opportunity, so everyone can have a fair start in life. We believe in standing up for the forgotten and leading on the issues that no-one else will, such as human rights, mental health, and the environment.

We are the only party that combines all of these attributes. We head into this election knowing that our party is united, growing and that our liberal values are needed now more than ever.

Have a good weekend,



Kirsty Williams
Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats



Contents

Welcome	Page 3
Information	
Conference Venues	Page 5
Travel	Page 6
Security	Page 7
Registration	Page 8
Conference Agenda	
Friday, 05 February	Page 9
Saturday, 06 February	Page 9
Sunday, 07 February	Page 10
Debates, Votes and Speaking	
Information about the Motions	Page 11
Speaking at Conference	Page 12
Order of Debate	Page 13
Voting	Page 13
Procedural Motions	Page 14
Motions	Page 15
Fringe Events	Page 23
Exhibition	Page 24
1-2-1 Advice Sessions	Page 27
Gala Dinner	Page 27

Conference Venues

This year the Conference will once again be taking place across two venues:

Friday, 5 February:

For our external guests and Conference Partners there will be a series of roundtable discussion events during the course of Friday afternoon at the **Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre**, Castle Street, Cardiff, CF10 1XD

For our Party members, the Conference will start on the Friday evening with the Conference Rally followed by a drinks reception for those attending the Gala Dinner which this year is kindly being hosted by the Royal College of Nursing in Wales. All these events will be in the **Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre**, Castle Street, Cardiff, CF10 1XD

Saturday, 6 and Sunday, 7 February:

The main sessions of Conference, including Fringe Meetings and the Exhibition will be at the **Cardiff School of Management**, Cardiff Metropolitan University, Western Avenue Campus, Cardiff, CF5 2YB and then the Saturday evening ‘Rally for Reform’ Reception hosted by the Electoral Reform Society Wales and our social event will be back at the **Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre**.

Access

Both Conference venues are fully accessible to all attendees and are clearly signposted. For security purposes, everyone attending the Conference must be registered and enter through the designated entrance(s) to either venue.

Registration Desk

On **Friday, 5 February** the Registration Desk can be found on the first floor lobby area of the **Holiday Inn** and will be open from 12:00 until 15:00. There is no requirement for Member registration on the Friday evening but you will need to bring proof of Party Membership and/or photographic identification.

On **Saturday and Sunday, 6 & 7 February** the Registration Desk can be found inside the main entrance to the **School of Management**.

Observer ‘Plus’ Lounge

For those external guests to the Conference who have availed themselves of the Observer ‘Plus’ package will find the Observer ‘Plus’ lounge, kindly sponsored by Cardiff Metropolitan University, situated on the ground floor of the School of Management. Standard Observers, may for a fee, upgrade their accreditation to Observer ‘Plus’.

Distribution of Literature / Fundraising

Please be aware that the distribution of literature inside the Conference venues is not permitted without prior written approval of the Chair of Conference Committee unless as an Exhibitor it is distributed from your stand or as a Fringe host within your Fringe venue during designated Fringe sessions. Fundraising, including the selling of raffle tickets is permitted, provided it is done from an exhibition stand or in a fringe meeting.

Smoking

It is illegal to smoke inside either Conference venue. Designated smoking areas are available.

Spring Conference 2016

Cardiff

Information

Cloakroom

There is limited cloakroom facilities for coats at either Conference venue. All coats and baggage are left at the owners risk. The Welsh Liberal Democrats nor either venue accept any responsibility for items left. Large items of luggage will not be permitted inside the Conference Auditorium.

Flash Photography

Conference attendees vulnerable to epilepsy should note that flash photography may be used throughout the weekend.

Lost Property

Any items of lost property should be handed in to, and reclaimed from, the Registration Desk.

Mobile Phones

Please ensure that all mobile phones switched off, or set to silent, before entering the Conference Hall, fringe events and training sessions.

Refreshments

On the Saturday and Sunday of Conference, light refreshments can be purchased from the coffee shop located situated on the ground floor of the School of Management.

Travel

Bus:

The Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre is a 5-10 minutes' walk from Cardiff Central Bus Station.

For the Cardiff School of Management, the **U1, U2, and U3/U4 MetRider** buses travel hourly to Llandaff from the city centre. MetRider buses all stop directly outside the campus.

The **1/2** circular bus route serves the Llandaff campus every 30 minutes from the city centre.

You can also travel on the **24/25**, the **33/33A/33B**, or the **60/62**, stopping at the **Black Lion** bus stop on Cardiff Road, Llandaff, just 10 minutes' walk from the campus. See the Cardiff Bus website (www.cardiffbus.com) for more details.

Train:

Cardiff Central railway station is a 5-10 minutes' walk from the Holiday Inn. The nearest station to the Cardiff School of Management is **Waun-Gron**, which on the City Line and is approximately 20 minutes' walk from the School of Management.

Attendees arriving by train are advised to get a bus from Cardiff Central Railway Station to the School of Management. (see above).

Car:

For the Holiday Inn there is ample parking available across the City and there is limited parking available to hotel residents and non-residents on both Friday and Saturday evenings.

The School of Management and Cardiff Metropolitan University operates pay and display car parking on their Llandaff Campus. The cost at weekends is 50p per day. The car park is at the rear of the campus, adjacent to the School of Management Building.

Security

Whilst the Liberal Democrats are no longer part of the UK Government, we are living in a time of heightened security. Bag and identity checks may be carried out every time a delegate enters a Conference venue. This will be determined by the Chair of the Conference Committee in conjunction with the police, security services and/or other appropriate bodies.

The Conference Committee reminds attendees that compliance with security procedures, including searches when they are in operation, is a condition of Conference Accreditation and may be withdrawn by the Conference Committee if an attendee does not comply with these procedures.

Conference Passes

Conference Passes form part of the security arrangements for the weekend and must be worn throughout the Conference and are non-transferable. This includes for access to fringe events and receptions.

If you have registered in advance for Conference you can collect your Conference Badge from the registration desk upon arrival.

Please bring your registration confirmation letter/e-mail and photographic ID with you in order to collect your Pass. You may not be issued with a Conference Pass if you do not have both of these. If you have not received a confirmation letter/email within two weeks of registering, or by three days before the Conference please contact 029 2031 3400 to confirm that your registration has been received and processed.

If you have not registered in advance for Conference then your Pass will be issued when you register on arrival. For details of how to register on arrival, Please see the Registration section below.

Replacement Passes will be issued at the discretion of the Chair of Conference Committee. There will be a charge of £10 for replacement badges.

Security Searches

At times there may be 'airport-style' security searches in operation at either venue. Everyone attending the Conference at these times will be subject to such searches. These searches may take the form of metal detector archways and/or bag searches.

Large bags and sealed items will not be allowed into the secure area during these periods.

Information Registration

Registration Desk

On **Friday, 5 February** the Registration Desk can be found on the first floor lobby area of the **Holiday Inn**. There is no requirement for Member registration on the Friday evening but you will need to bring proof of Party Membership and/or photographic Identification.

On **Saturday and Sunday, 6 & 7 February** the Registration Desk can be found inside the main entrance to the **School of Management**.

Registration will be open:

Friday, 05 February: 12:00 – 15:00

Saturday, 06 February: 08:30 – 17:00

Sunday, 07 February: 09:00 – 13:00

Advance Registration

Members are able to register online by visiting www.WelshLibDems.Wales. You can register online up until midday on Thursday, 04 February.

Party Members and Observers can also register by post. You can download the relevant registration forms from the website or request one by calling 029 2031 3400 or emailing conference@welshlibdems.org.uk. You can register in advance by post until Friday, 28 January.

Everyone who registers online will automatically receive a confirmation e-mail. We will also send everyone who registers by post a confirmation email provided an email address has been provided on the registration form. If you have not received your confirmation letter within two weeks of registering, or by three days before the Conference please call 029 2031 3400 or email conference@welshlibdems.org.uk for confirmation that your registration has been received and processed.

You will need your confirmation letter and photographic ID when you collect your Conference Pass. If you do not have your confirmation letter you may not be issued with a Conference Pass unless you have informed us that you have not received the letter.

Registration at Conference

You can register for the Conference on the day. You will need to bring with you the appropriate registration fee and proof of identification. It will save time by filling in a registration form beforehand and making sure that you have the correct fee with you (for Observer accreditation we are able to raise an invoice after the event). The relevant registration form can be downloaded from the Party's website at: www.WelshLibDems.Wales

Conference Agenda

Friday, 05 February

- 18:00 Conference Rally
Brecon Suite, Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre
- 19:00 Pre-Dinner Drinks Reception
Lounge Bar, Holiday Inn, Cardiff Centre
Hosted by Royal College of Nursing Wales
- 19:45 - late Conference Dinner
Junctions Restaurant, Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre
Guest Speaker: **Lynne, The Baroness Featherstone** Former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Equalities and former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development

Saturday, 06 February

- 09:10 Opening of Conference
Eluned Parrott AM
Assembly Member for South Wales Central
- 09:30 Policy Motion
PM1: Policing in Wales
- 10:15 Speech
Aled Roberts AM
Assembly Member for North Wales
- 10:35 Policy Motion:
PM2: A Manifesto for 2016
- 11:55 Speech
Tim Farron MP
Leader of the Liberal Democrats
- 12:30 **Fringe Meetings**
- 13:30 Speech
Kirsty Williams CBE AM
Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats
- 13:55 Policy Motion:
PM3: Mitigating the Impact of Flooding in Wales
- 14:40 Speech
A Police and Crime Commissioner Candidate
- 15:00 **Fringe Meetings**
- 16:00 Speech
William Powell AM
Assembly Member for Mid & West Wales

Conference Agenda

16:20	Policy Motion: PM4: A Good Start in Life for Every Child
	Topical / Emergency Motion <i>The deadline for Topical Motions is noon on Wednesday, 27 January 2015. For an Emergency Motion it is the start of Conference or three hours before the start of the scheduled debate.</i>
17:15	Conference Adjourns
18:00	“Rally for Reform” Callaghan’s, Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre (Entrance via Hotel Reception) A Drinks Reception kindly hosted by the Electoral Reform Society Wales
19:00	“Saturday Night is Social Night” Callaghan’s, Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre (Entrance via Hotel Reception) Saturday evening social event £15 per person, includes curry and a pint (vegetarian and soft drink option available)

Sunday, 07 February

10:00	Policy Motion PM5: Winning in Europe
10:40	Speech Peter Black AM <i>Assembly Member for South Wales West</i>
11:00	2016 Election Briefing Closed, Member-Only Session
12:00	Fringe Meetings
13:00	Policy Motion PM6: Let’s Talk about Sex Topical / Emergency Motion <i>The deadline for Topical Motions is noon on Wednesday, 27 January 2015. For an Emergency Motion it is the start of Conference or three hours before the start of the scheduled debate.</i>
14:00	Close of Conference

Motions, Votes and Speaking at Conference

Motions

Every Motion to be debated at Conference appears in this section in the same order as in the Conference Agenda earlier in the Conference Guide. The time allocated for that the motion to be debated is listed alongside each motion.

Language of Motions

All motions appear in this Guide in both Welsh and English. As all motions were originally submitted in English, if there is a discrepancy between the languages, the English language version shall take precedence.

Amendments to Motions

All motions that appear in this Guide can be amended. Amendments may be submitted by Local Parties, the Welsh Party Committee that has responsibility for the issue raised in the motion, the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group in the National Assembly for Wales or in the UK Parliament, or 20 Welsh Party Members.

The deadline for receipt of Amendments to Motions is 12noon on Wednesday, 27 January 2016. These should be emailed to Policy@welshlibdems.org.uk or submitted in hard copy to the Policy Team at WLDHQ, 38 The Parade, Cardiff, CF24 3AD.

All amendments accepted for debate will be published in the *Conference Announcements* which will be available on the Party website www.WelshLibDems.Wales in the week before Conference and from the Registration Desk at Conference.

Topical Motions

Topical Motions are short (not more than 250 words) policy motions which are based on events which have happened after the deadline for submitting policy motions, ie **30 December 2015**.

Topical Motions may be submitted by Local Parties, the Welsh Party Committee that has responsibility for the issues raised in the motion, the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group in the National Assembly for Wales or in the UK Parliament, or by 20 Welsh Party Members.

The deadline for receipt of Topical Motions is 12noon on Wednesday, 27 January 2016. These should be emailed to Policy@WelshLibDems.org.uk or submitted in hard copy to the Policy Team at WLDHQ, 38 The Parade, Cardiff, CF24 3AD. All Topical Motions accepted for debate will be published in the Conference Announcements which will be available on the Party website www.WelshLibDems.Wales in the week before Conference and from the Registration Desk at Conference.

Topical Motions may also be amended. The deadline for submitting an amendment to a Topical Motion is 09:15 on Saturday 06 February 2016 (ie the opening of Conference). Amendments should be e-mailed to Policy@WelshLibDems.org.uk or given to the Policy Officer or the Chair of the Conference Committee in hard copy.

Emergency Motions

Emergency Motions are short (not more than 250 words) motions relating to events which have occurred after the deadline for Topical Motions.

Emergency Motions may be submitted by Local Parties, the Welsh Party Committee that has responsibility for the issues raised in the motion, the Welsh Liberal Democrat Group in the National Assembly for Wales or in the UK Parliament, or by 20 Welsh Party Members.

Motions, Votes and Speaking at Conference

The deadline for submitting Emergency Motions depends on when the event to which the motion relates took place. For events that occur before the start of the Conference, the deadline is the start of Conference i.e. 09:15 on Saturday, 06 February. For events that occur during Conference, the deadline is three hours before the slot in the agenda for Emergency Motions.

When submitting an Emergency Motion, the names of the people who will be moving and summatting the motion must be clearly identified. If this does not happen the Conference Committee will not accept the Emergency Motion.

Emergency Motions may not be amended and should, be given to the Policy Officer or the Chair of the Conference Committee in hard copy.

Speaking at Conference

Who can Speak?

Following the decision of Conference to extend voting rights to all Welsh Party Members, any member of the Welsh Party who has paid the appropriate registration fee for the Conference may speak in debates on completion of a Speakers' Card (see below).

Members of the wider Liberal Democrat family who have registered for the Conference or Observers may speak with the permission of the Conference Committee. This request should be submitted to the Chair of the Conference Committee in writing in advance of the relevant debate.

Length of Speeches

In every debate on a motion, 5 minutes will be allowed for Proposers of motions, 4 minutes for Proposers of Amendments and 3 minutes for all other speakers including Summators of both motions and amendments. The Chair may reduce these timings to allow more members to speak in a debate. If they do this they will announce the change during the debate. If you are speaking and the Chair asks you to bring your speech to an end, please finish promptly.

Simultaneous Translation

When simultaneous translation facilities are available, please make the most of the opportunity to address the Conference in Welsh.

Here are some tips for making the most of this service: indicate via the speaker's card if you wish to speak in Welsh; try to speak entirely in Welsh; if changing languages in your speech pause while changing languages to allow the translator time to finish.

How to go about Speaking

Anyone wishing to speak in a debate needs to fill in a Speaker's Card and submit it to the speaker's desk and wait to see if they are called in the debate. A separate card should be filled in for every debate. Speaker's cards are available from the Speaker's Desk and from the stewards team in the auditorium. They can also be collected from the Registration Desk.

Completing Speaker's Cards

There are three key points to remember to maximise your chances of being called:

1. Submit your card well in advance. If you hand your card in late in a popular debate you're virtually guaranteeing you won't be called. The chairing team for the debate always meet well in advance to plan the debate.

Motions, Votes and Speaking at Conference

2. Fill in your card completely The second major mistake potential speakers make is not to fill in their card completely. As well as the information on the front of the card (name, Local Party, for or against the motion, etc), there are two sections on the back, for relevant background (professional or consumer experience, party background etc.) and for a brief outline of what your speech is going to be about. These sections are needed for the chair and aide to balance the debate – to make sure that people with relevant experience are called, and to make sure that they don't call a whole string of people who'll make the same point.
3. Make sure it's readable! Don't take this as an invitation to fill every square centimetre of the card and don't write illegibly, or in very small letters, or in green ink! The easier you make it for the chair to read your card the more likely you are to be called.

Order of Debate for Motions

Motions will generally be considered in the following order:

1. Proposer of the Motion.
2. Proposers of any amendments, speaking in turn.
3. Speakers will then be called on all sides of the debate with the Chair seeking to ensure balance.
4. Summators of the amendments, speaking in turn.
5. The summator of the motion will speak.
6. The Chair will then take any votes on any amendments and/or any separate votes in turn - for and against.
7. A vote will be taken on the motion as a whole - for and against.

Voting

Following the decision of Conference to extend voting rights to all Welsh Party Members, any member of the Welsh Party who has paid the appropriate registration fee for the Conference shall be permitted to vote. Your Conference Pass will have "**PLEIDLEISIO / VOTING**" on the reverse if you are entitled to vote at the Conference.

If you wish to vote during a debate you must be in the Conference Hall by the end of the speech made by the summator of the motion. **No-one** will be allowed to enter the hall once the voting has started.

To vote, you should be seated and hold your Conference Badge in the air, with the "Voting" side facing the Chair. Please follow the instructions of the Chair on when to vote. You may be asked to keep your Conference Badge in the air for a long time to ensure that all the votes can be counted.

Decisions on the motion and amendments are normally by simple majority of those voting. If this differs this will be explained by the Chair before voting takes place.

Motions, Votes and Speaking at Conference

Procedural Motions

Procedural Motions concern the procedure by which Conference operates.

Reference Back: to stop the current debate on a specific Motion and send it to a specified body for more work

Next Business: to stop current agenda item and move to the next item of business on the agenda.

Suspension of

Standing Orders: to lift one or more of the rules governing the operation of Conference for a specified purpose and period of time.

Procedural Motions may be submitted by any Voting Member in writing with a “statement of reason” which should be 75 words or less.

Votes on Procedural Motions will be taken in the same way as for Motions and Amendments, except that there is no cut off point for being in the Conference Hall for the vote on whether to have a mini-debate.

Decisions on Procedural Motions are made by a simple majority of those voting.

Procedural Motions are usually considered in the following way:

1. Any Voting Member can propose a Procedural Motion in writing before the end of a debate on a motion.
2. The Chair reads out the written “statement of reason” in support of the Procedural Motion.
3. A vote will be taken on whether there will be a mini-debate on the Procedural Motion.

If the request to have a mini-debate is not agreed then the debate at hand shall continue from where it was interrupted. If the request to have a mini-debate is agreed then:

4. The mover of the Procedural Motion may speak.
5. Someone to oppose the Procedural Motion may speak.
6. Other speakers may be called to speak.
7. A vote will be taken on the Procedural Motion

PM1: Policing in Wales

Montgomeryshire Liberal Democrats

Conference welcomes the decision of National Executive Committee to stand candidates in the Police Commissioner elections in May 2016, while reaffirming our policy to abolish Police Commissioners.

Conference notes:

1. That the staff costs of the four Welsh Police Commissioner's Offices totalled £2,816,000 in 2014
2. That despite the Conservative Government's announcement in the current spending review, the pressures on police budgets will continue to increase.
3. That inadequate funding for other public services, particularly mental health, social care and youth services, adds to demands on police resources.

Conference endorses the Liberal Democrat Federal Policy Paper *Doing What Works to Cut Crime*, adopted in 2014. In particular conference welcomes the policies it contains:

- to introduce a new preventative health based approach to tackle the problems caused by drug abuse;
- to increase the accountability of the police;
- to promote the rehabilitation of offenders;
- to tackle the new threats of cyber crime;
- to promote restorative justice which places the victim at the heart of rehabilitation.

Conference believes:

1. That the bedrock for effective public accountability in the Police Service rests in the relationship between neighbourhood policing teams and the communities they serve.
2. Crime policy must be based on evidence of what works.
3. Preventing crime requires close co-operation between the police, other public services and local communities.
4. Effective engagement with minority communities, including black and ethnic minorities, the LGBT community and people with disabilities is vital to ensure that the police service operates for all people without prejudice.

Conference calls for:

1. The Westminster Government to devolve responsibility for policing from the Home Office to the Welsh Assembly to enable the Welsh Government to abolish Police Commissioners.
2. The Welsh government to conduct a wholesale strategic review of the policing in Wales to identify the most appropriate structure for the efficient delivery of command, specialist operational capabilities and back office functions for the Police and the most effective means of democratic accountability at local, regional and national level through elected councillors and assembly members.
3. Conference calls on the two most expensive Police Commissioners in Wales, Dyfed-Powys and Gwent, to cut the staff costs of their offices to no more than £1 per person per year, releasing nearly £250,000 to each to invest in front line policing.

Motions

Conference calls on all four Police and Crime Commissioners:

1. To adopt a presumption in favour of shared back office costs, specialist services and assets, where that will provide better value for money, while retaining the strong links between the police and the communities they serve.
2. To promote as a priority the development of more effective accountability for policing at a neighbourhood level and at local government level.
3. Devolve appropriate decisions downwards to local commanders in consultation with local councillors.
4. To share resources with local authorities to provide effective community safety teams.
5. To tackle failings identified by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in all four forces both in the recruitment of police officers from black and minority ethnic groups and in preparedness for dealing with honour crimes and female genital mutilation.

PM2: Winning in Wales

National Policy Committee

Conference looks forward to this year's elections to the National Assembly, recognising the influential role played by our AMs and determined to win seats across Wales.

[Holding motion' to be supplemented by a full text not later than 28 January.]

PM3: Mitigating the Impact of Flooding in Wales

23 Party Members

Conference notes:

1. The significant high-energy rainfall events that have had a major impact across the North of Wales and England in December 2015.
2. The current trend towards more frequent extreme weather events is consistent with that expected in a warming world.
3. The events in 2015 again exceeded previous recorded levels in many river catchments.
4. That existing guidance in development in the flood plain has been overridden within the planning process.
5. That flood management can only be successfully achieved at a whole catchment level.
6. That short catchment rivers are more prone to catastrophic flooding for which there is little or no time for communities to respond.
7. The significant overlap between areas affected by flooding and the licences granted for shale gas exploration.

Conference believes:

1. That the current modelling of 100 year returns events is no longer appropriate for use as a risk management tool in respect of river flooding.
2. The current planning guidance has failed to prevent inappropriate development in the flood plain.
3. That the current approach to flood prevention is piecemeal and only moves the problem elsewhere in the catchment.

4. That partnership working with the farming, shooting and forestry community is essential to the management of future flood risk.
5. That insurance companies have a duty to promote renovation work that is designed to reduce the impact of subsequent events.
6. That the failure to properly manage surface water runoff in new development has increased the risk of flooding in some areas.
7. The pollution risk presented by shale gas exploration in flood risk areas should be mitigated.
8. That post flooding renovation of properties at risk of flooding should improve the resilience of the property to a repeat event.
9. That natural courses of river and flood plain development should be retained and recreated wherever possible.

Conference calls for:

1. The Welsh Government to replace existing planning guidance with respect to development in the flood plain with a new robust strategy.
2. All future risk modelling be based on a "known record level extent model" for flood management.
3. The Welsh Government to introduce new Planning Design Notes and Building Regulations to improve the resilience of properties identified as being at risk of flooding and reduce the impact of surface water run off.
4. The Welsh Government to develop whole-catchment plans for Welsh rivers designed to reduce the flow rates of water through the catchment.
5. The Government in both Cardiff and Westminster to make grants available to householders in flood risk areas who want to put in place improvements to their properties that improve the resilience of the property to future flood events.
6. The Government in Westminster to work with the insurance industry to produce new renovation guidelines designed to increase the resilience of properties in the face of repeated flood events.
7. Local Authorities to immediately remove all housing allocations on areas identified to be at risk of flooding from their development plans except where planning permission has already been granted and work commenced.
8. The Government in Westminster to introduce a presumption against siting well heads for fracking in areas identified as falling within a flood risk zone.
9. The Welsh Liberal Democrats to actively participate in any review of flood management including making a submission for policy changes based on this debate.
10. The introduction of lowland farm management plans which promote the development of water meadows and the use of lower grade agricultural land for flood control measures.

Motions

PM4: A Good Start in Life for Every Child

Welsh Liberal Democrat Group in the National Assembly for Wales

Conference welcomes that:

1. In 2014, the Welsh Liberal Democrats secured £4.6million to introduce the Early Years Pupil Premium for three and four-year-olds, to help ensure every child gets the care and attention they need when they are very young.
2. In government in Westminster, Liberal Democrats:
 - a. led the introduction of shared parental leave, giving working parents in Wales greater flexibility with childcare arrangements and recognising the importance of time parents spend with their child;
 - b. fought for the introduction of tax-free childcare which will save working parents up to £2000 on childcare costs per year for each child under 12; and
 - c. prioritised investment in early years education and childcare, by increasing the free entitlement in England for all three and four year olds to 15 hours per week and extending this to the most disadvantaged 40% of 2 year olds.

Conference notes that:

1. The current system of childcare and free early years education in Wales is far less effective than in England, with inconsistent provision across the country, high costs and a lack of flexibility to adapt to parents' work circumstances.
2. The current provision of free childcare and early years education in Wales is less generous than in England, with only 10 hours per week for three and four year olds and 12.5 hours for children aged two in Flying Start areas.
3. The Liberal Democrat 2015 Manifesto committed to an increase to 20 hours' free childcare a week for all parents with children aged from two to four-years, and all working parents from the end of paid parental leave (nine months) to two years.
4. The Sutton Trust highlights that while early years provision has significant potential to narrow the attainment gap and improve developmental outcomes for children, good quality provision is essential to meet these aims.

Conference believes that:

1. Every child deserves a great start in life.
2. Wales must have a comprehensive system of early years support focused on the needs of children and their families in order to help every child to achieve their potential.
3. High quality early years education is vital in determining a child's life chances, especially in improving life chances for children from disadvantaged backgrounds.
4. Accessible and affordable childcare is an important means of enabling parents to return to work if they wish and can help improve a child's social skills and reduce child poverty.

Conference calls for:

1. An increase in the Early Years Pupil Deprivation Grant each year to reach £1000 per child by the end of the next Assembly.
2. The extension of free childcare provision to working parents from the end of paid parental leave and increased provision of free childcare and early years education for children from age two to four, with greater flexibility to adapt to work circumstances.

3. The introduction of a new Qualified Early Years Teacher qualification and increased promotion of Apprenticeships in Early Years and Childcare, to help enhance the specialist skills of the workforce and ensure high quality in provision.

PM5: Winning in Europe

National Policy Committee

Conference recognises that the creation of the European Union has led to peace, prosperity, democracy and security for the peoples of Europe.

Conference believes that winning a decisive victory for '*Remain a member of the European Union*' in the referendum on the UK's membership is essential because our position as one of the EU's largest member states gives us:

1. greater political and economic influence in the world;
2. free access to our principal export market – the world's largest single market of over 500 million consumers – together with a major role in shaping its rules;
3. the ability to tackle more effectively shared problems, such as climate change, declining biodiversity, unsustainable fishing, and cross-border crime; and
4. a wide range of future opportunities as the EU continues to develop, focusing on those actions which are most effective if undertaken at the EU level.

Conference draws attention to especially important aspects for Wales:

1. At least 150,000 jobs in Welsh firms depend on exporting to the EU and more than 50,000 jobs are in firms from other Member States located in Wales, so all are linked to the Single Market, as are many in global firms based in Wales.
2. Wales is a net beneficiary from the EU Budget, receiving more in EU grants – from structural funds, regular payments to Welsh farmers and fishing industry, and grants to Welsh universities and students – than its taxpayers contribute to the EU budget, with the financial value of increased trade among the additional benefits.
3. UK withdrawal from the EU could lead to Scotland withdrawing from the UK and so unbalance the Union.

Conference emphasises that our party has always combined its recognition of the essential role of EU membership with a constant drive to make EU institutions and decision-making more democratic, effective, efficient and transparent, which places us in a strong position to present a clear and convincing case to voters.

Conference calls upon all Liberal Democrats to play an active role in our Party's own campaigning and in the wider *STRONGER IN* campaign.

Conference urges the other major parties in Wales to join with us in a coordinated effort within the *STRONGER IN* campaign, involving members of all parties, businesses, trade unions, civil society organisations and other groups.

Conference hopes that the campaign will achieve much wider public recognition that:

1. the EU provides our best hope for building a more peaceful world, constructed on firm foundations of shared democracy, human rights and openness;
2. the EU continues to reform, intensifying its focus on job creation through sustainable economic growth, boosting trade, and getting rid of unnecessary regulations – an agenda which demands that the UK continues to play a leading role;

Motions

3. EU research programmes are crucial to the success of British universities and UK science, promoting innovation and competitiveness in the UK economy and laying the foundations for faster advances in medicine, low-carbon energy, new materials, food security and other fields of cutting-edge science; and enabling speedier development into viable products with real commercial potential;
4. the EU and our membership provides the UK with the best chance of tackling climate change and biodiversity loss, while creating green jobs in potentially world-leading industries, especially through the development of low-carbon and energy-saving technologies;
5. EU membership – and the large scale of the EU single market – gives the UK a voice in setting environmental, consumer safety, animal welfare and other standards which govern European trade and are often adopted globally, enabling expanded and more sustainable worldwide trade;
6. EU membership guarantees a wide range of workplace, consumer and citizens' rights, including free movement, employment rights and other protections enjoyed by an estimated 2 million British citizens living in other EU countries, as well as those in the UK;
7. EU membership enables UK law enforcement agencies to work collaboratively across borders and so respond to the growing threat of organised crime in areas such as human trafficking, drugs and other smuggling, counterfeit products, wildlife trafficking and money laundering;
8. our young people are increasingly benefiting from the opportunities EU membership gives of academic learning and industrial training in other EU countries, enriching their lives and capacities, and enlarging Europe's great pool of shared knowledge;
9. the UK's participation in the EU's extensive international development programmes and humanitarian assistance budgets represents a recognition of our common humanity, as well as our global inter-dependence.

Conference wholeheartedly declares its ambition for Britain to stop glancing at the exit door and fulfil the leading role in our continent which our size, history and strengths offer to us.

PM6: Let's Talk About Sex

Cardiff & the Vale Liberal Democrats, IR Cymru and 17 Members

Conference notes that:

1. Basic sex education is currently offered from age 11 in Welsh schools, and parents or legal guardians can exclude their children from any part of it.
2. Access to sexual health clinics in Wales is poor, particularly in rural areas, due to location, restricted opening hours or a lack of capacity.
3. Some sexual health clinics in England offer same-day testing/results services, while no similar provision exists in Wales.
4. There are strict confidentiality practices surrounding sexual health clinics, and the sharing of patient records with GPs and other health professionals.
5. Research by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health found a correlation between teenage pregnancy rates and increased deprivation in Wales.
6. Free HIV home testing kits, provided by the Terrence Higgins Trust and funded by the NHS, are available in England; while no similar provision exists in Wales.
7. Stigma and misinformation surrounding the true nature of HIV and its effects is still widespread.
8. Clinical trials of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) medication have shown significant success in preventing the transmission and contraction of HIV.
9. The Welsh Government recently decided to extend human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination to men who have sex with men (MSM) through sexual health clinics.

Conference believes that:

1. Every child in Wales should receive good quality sex and relationships education (SRE), which is vital in improving sexual health, eradicating stigma and ending sexual violence.
2. The issues of consent, sexuality and gender identity are not dealt with by the current SRE curriculum in enough depth, nor early enough in a child's education.
3. Every person in Wales should have easy access to timely, non-judgemental sexual health and family planning services, regardless of personal characteristics or circumstances.
4. The severe restrictions placed on sharing patient records between sexual health clinics and other parts of the NHS can be problematic, and in some cases can harm patient care.
5. A proactive, rather than reactive, approach to sexual health is more likely to decrease rates of STIs.
6. Persistently higher HIV diagnosis rates among MSM and the continued stigmatisation of people who are HIV-positive mark a failure of public health policy, and that the mistakes made in dealing with HIV must be learned from.
7. In order to fully protect MSM from HPV and its associated cancers, boys should be vaccinated against it on the same basis as their female peers.

Conference calls for:

1. The creation of a stronger and more inclusive SRE curriculum in Wales which properly deals with issues of gender identity, sexuality, consent and healthy relationships at the earliest appropriate age.
2. The removal of a parent's or legal guardian's right to exclude their child from any part of SRE in any school in Wales.

Motions

3. Local authorities to set aside specific funds allowing schools to invite expert speakers from specialist third sector bodies, ensuring that no school is hampered by a lack of knowledge of SRE issues among its teaching staff.
4. Wales' HPV vaccination programme to be extended to cover all adolescent boys on the same basis as their female peers.
5. A pilot programme offering STI testing at the same time as other regular health checks, upon admittance to hospital, in pharmacies, GPs' surgeries and other community locations across Wales.
6. An increase in the availability and efficiency of sexual health and family planning services, particularly in deprived and rural areas, by:
 - a. extending opening hours of existing clinics;
 - b. establishing new clinics where demand exists; and
 - c. offering same-day results services where possible.
7. Businesses to offer STI testing as part of occupational health events.
8. A review into the confidentiality of patient records in Welsh sexual health clinics to ensure that health professionals who need patient records are able to access them, while maintaining a patient's right to opt out of such sharing.
9. NHS Wales to fund HIV home-testing kits similar to existing provision in England.
10. A public health information campaign explaining the true nature of HIV and its transmission, diagnosis and treatment, in order to reduce the stigma attached to the virus and reduce transmission rates.
11. PrEP to be made available by the AWMSG to those at high risk of contracting HIV.

Fringe Events

Fringes are events run on the ‘fringes’ of the Conference. They take place during breaks between debate sessions in the Conference Hall, and before or after the Conference each day.

They are usually hosted by organisations such as charities, businesses and third-sector groups. Although sometimes internal Party organisations or groups of Party members will set about organising a fringe.

Fringes usually take the form of a meeting or a presentation with a few speeches at the start followed by questions from the floor. The format however does vary - some take the form of a round table discussion where everyone can contribute to the debate, or in some cases they might be an informal drinks reception.

Refreshments are usually provided at fringes. This will vary from a buffet in most cases, to a full sit-down meal, or just drinks such as a glass of wine or tea and coffee.

The Fringes in this Conference Guide take place at the Cardiff School of Management unless otherwise specified in the listing. The listings on the next few pages will tell you which room each one is in, which organisation is hosting it and the theme of the fringe.

In most cases everyone with a valid Conference Badge, whether they are a Party member or not, can attend a fringe. Occasionally there will be fringes which are for Party members or invited guests only - if this is the case it will be clearly shown in the relevant listing.

If you have an idea for a fringe and would like to organise one for a future conference please contact Ian.Walton@WelshLibDems.org.uk

Saturday: 12:30 to 13:30

Harvard 1: (1st Floor)



Federation of Small Businesses in Wales

A Better Way for Wales: Building our economy on the SME foundation

A panel, featuring Shadow Minister for Business, Enterprise, Transport and Europe Eluned Parrott, will discuss the contents of the FSB Wales business manifesto for the next Welsh Government, and the role of smaller businesses in creating a more prosperous future for communities across Wales.

Harvard 2: (2nd Floor)



Cardiff University

Local Government in Wales: where next?

Dr James Downe, Director of the Centre for Local & Regional Government Research at Cardiff Business School outlines the problems with the local government reorganisation process and raises questions for how Welsh local government could work in the future.

Chaired by Dr Rodney Berman OBE and with contributions from Peter Black AM. Further speakers to be confirmed. Buffet lunch provided. All welcome.

Adamsdown: (Ground Floor)

Health and Social Care Manifesto Market Place

Come to the Conference manifesto “Market” to meet health and social care stakeholder organisations and pick up key messages to support you in the run up to the 2016 Assembly Election.

Opening remarks from Kirsty Williams AM. Light refreshments available.

Fringe Events / Exhibition

Canton:
(Ground Floor)



Countryside Alliance

The Great Outdoors - Is it need or is it greed?

Access to the countryside has many benefits and can improve people's health and well-being both mentally and physically. Is there already adequate provision? Do we need more or do we simply need to make better use of what we have?

Saturday: 15:00 to 16:00

Harvard 1:
(1st Floor)

**The
Electoral
Commission**

The Electoral Commission

National Assembly for Wales Elections 2016: Electoral Commission Briefing for Candidates and Agents

This briefing session will include details regarding nominations, the regulated period, campaign spending and donations, post poll reporting and time for questions and answers.

Refreshments will be provided.

The Exhibition

The Conference Exhibition is made up of stands organised by public, private and third sector organisations and internal party groups.

The Exhibition can be found in the Atrium Cafe area of Cardiff School of Management and will be open between 09:00 and 16:30 on Saturday, 06 February and between 09:00 and 14:00 on Sunday, 07 February.

Everyone with a valid Conference Badge can visit the exhibition.

If you would like to exhibit at a future Conference, please contact
Ian.Walton@WelshLibDems.org.uk

Exhibitors

ALDC



ALDC is the party's organisation for councillors and for campaigners. We are here for activists, agents, candidates, campaigners and parliamentarians.

We offer support, advice, training and resources. Our members get campaign packs, ideas, a website and access to our template file library. Come and meet us at the stall.

ASDA



Asda is one of the UK's leading retailers, employing 10,000 colleagues across 44 sites in Wales, including Asda stores, standalone petrol filling stations and a distribution centre in Chepstow. Asda proudly supports numerous Welsh suppliers and sells a wide range of specialist Welsh produce through its dedicated local sourcing hub.

Spring Conference 2016

Cardiff

The Exhibition

Cancer Research UK



Cancer Research UK funds scientists, doctors and nurses to help beat cancer sooner. We are fighting over 200 cancers. In Wales we spend £4 million a year on clinical trials and the Cardiff Cancer Research UK Centre - a collaboration of partners working together to understand how cancer develops, and how more effective targeted therapies can be developed in the future.

Colleges Wales



ColegauCymru / CollegesWales and the National Training Federation for Wales (NTfW) are working together to raise the profile of post-16 education and skills.

In total, they represent all of Wales' further education colleges, as well as over 100 organisations that are involved in the delivery of learning in the workplace.

Community Pharmacy Wales



Federation of Small Businesses in Wales



The Federation of Small Businesses is the UK's leading business organisation with around 200,000 members, more than 10,000 of whom are in Wales. It exists to protect and promote the interests of the UK's Real-Life Entrepreneurs who run their own business.

More information is available at www.fsb.wales

IR Cymru



IR Cymru is the youth branch of the Liberal Democrats here in Wales.

We play an important role in making sure young voices are represented within the Welsh party.

Macmillan Cancer Support



In Wales Macmillan provides practical, emotional and financial help to people affected by cancer. We communicate their views and campaign on their behalf to Assembly Members and the Welsh Government. Our work is funded through events such as the World's Biggest Coffee Morning, and by local fundraising events across Wales.

NASUWT Cymru



NASUWT Cymru, the largest union representing teachers and headteachers in Wales and throughout the UK, has a network of activists and provides an unrivalled level of support for its members.

Spring Conference 2016

Cardiff

The Exhibition

Save the Children



We are campaigning for all children in Wales to be reading well at the age of 11, by 2025. Children living in poverty are most at risk of falling behind. Together, we must do more. Visit us to learn more and sign up to the Read On. Get On. Campaign.

<http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/reading/wales>

Sustrans Cymru



Sustrans Cymru is a leading charity enabling people to travel by foot, bike or public transport for more of the journeys we make every day. We work with families, communities, policy-makers and partner organisations so that people are able to choose healthier, cleaner, cheaper journeys, with better places and spaces to move through and live in.

Tenovus Cancer Care



Tenovus Cancer Care is Wales' leading cancer charity, funding research and supporting thousands of cancer patients and their loved ones each year. To find out more about how we are improving the future for people affected by cancer in Wales, pop over to our stand.

Wales Council for Voluntary Action



WCVA represents, campaigns for, supports and develops voluntary organisations, community action and volunteering in Wales. Together with a range of specialist agencies, county voluntary councils, volunteer centres and other development agencies, we provide a support structure for the third sector in Wales.

1-2-1 Advice Sessions / Gala Dinner

The training provided at Conference covers a wide range of skills and knowledge.

This year, with the Welsh General Election looming, is no exception. This year we are once again operating surgery style advice sessions in key areas such as NationBuilder and Connect. ALDC and the Compliance Team from LDHQ who also be available to help with any questions you may have on PPERA or National Expense returns for the Welsh General Election.

These sessions are intended to be one-to-one sessions but if you have a couple of members of your local team who need to discuss a particular area of concern, this is not a problem.

Registering for a 1-2-1 Advice Session

We will be operating a bookings system for these surgeries. Bookings can be made at the Conference Registration Desk at the Cardiff School of Management on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you have any feedback about training at Conference, or feel that there is a skills gap within the Party that needs covering at Conference, please let us know by emailing Conference@WelshLibDems.org.uk

Gala Dinner

Pre-Dinner Drinks



Coleg Nyrsio Brenhinol
Cymru
Royal College of Nursing
Wales

Hosted by the Royal College of Nursing in Wales

Friday, 05 February 19:00

Lounge Bar
Holiday Inn Cardiff Centre,
Cardiff, CF10 1XD

Gala Dinner

Guest Speaker:

**Lynne,
Baroness Featherstone**
Friday, 05 February 19:30

Junctions Restaurant
Holiday Inn, Cardiff Centre
Castle Street, Cardiff, CF10 1XD

The Conference Dinner is your chance to socialise with Party members, and friends old and new.

Tickets must be purchased in advance as the Conference Dinner is usually very popular.

If you would like a ticket please contact 029 2031 3400.

Spring
Cardiff



Notes