

**Welsh Liberal
Democrats**



**Democratiaid
Rhyddfrydol Cymru**

MOTION AGREED AT AUTUMN CONFERENCE 2018

Protecting Rural Wales Post-Brexit

Conference notes:

- A. With concern and disappointment the current negotiations between the United Kingdom and the European Union.
- B. The Welsh Labour Government's consultation entitled " Brexit and our land."
- C. Many rural and coastal communities are still suffering the consequences of severe flooding in recent years; they lack both the support to recover and the funding for new flood protection.

Conference believes:

- i. That the consultation document from the Welsh Labour Government which was published in July is premature while the shape of the United Kingdom's departure from the European Union is unknown.
- ii. The proposed measures of environmental support are complex and will be complicated to implement and monitor.
- iii. That financial modelling and pilot schemes will be required over a 10-year transition period.

Conference calls on Welsh Government to:

- 1. Create a farm funding system that increasingly rewards environmental stewardship and maintains an aspect of direct support.
- 2. Make carbon reductions through the improvement of our environment and landscape a core principle of the new system.
- 3. Work for a UK-wide system built on those principles that takes into account the evolving CAP to ensure that Welsh farmers are not put at a disadvantage.
- 4. Ensure the voices of farmers are properly heard and considered within the new framework.
- 5. Press the UK Government to ensure Welsh farmers do not receive a penny less in funding after Brexit as promised.
- 6. Lobby the UK Government to provide funding to Wales for agriculture on the basis of need and not through the Barnett Formula.

7. Require new developments on areas at risk of flooding to include flood-prevention measures and incentivize flood-protection for existing at-threat properties.