**Spring Conference 202****1**

**Motion to Ratify an Amendment to the Constitution agreed by the Constitutional Affairs Committee**

**Proposed by:** Constitutional Affairs Committee

**Conference notes that:**

1. A Motion to amend the constitution and introduce a new governance structure to the Welsh Liberal Democrats was passed in the 2019 Spring Conference.
2. The motion passed at the 2019 Spring Conference acknowledged that some discrepancies may appear within the constitution as a result of the challenges of carrying out such a wholesale change and therefore further amendments should be brought forward to resolve any discrepancies.

**Conference further notes that the Constitutional Affairs Committee believed that Section M of the Constitution was confusing and have therefore, under powers given to it within the Constitution, have made the following changes to to Constitution:**

1. Delete the whole of Section M and replace with:

1. Save as is hereinafter provided, this Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members of Conference present and voting at a meeting of the Conference. Motions to amend the Constitution may be proposed by the Constitutional Affairs Committee, the Board, Local Parties, Specified Associated Organisations or by 20 members of the Conference. Notice of motions to amend the Constitution shall be sent to all members of Conference at least one month before the meeting of Conference at which those motions are to be debated.

2. There shall be a standing, Constitutional Affairs Committee which shall have the power to amend the Constitution subject to ratification by Conference at its next meeting (and if necessary by any all-member ballot if the rights of an individual are reduced (Clause M.3 below)) following any changes. Additionally, the Committee shall:

* + 1. ensure that this Constitution is compliant with any UK or Welsh Laws and Legislation covering the governance of Political Parties, such as PPERA.
		2. ensure that this constitution is compliant with the requirements and rules for State Party Constitutions set out in the Federal Constitution.
		3. review proposed amendments to this Constitution to ensure that they are valid amendments and to ensure that the integrity of the Constitution is retained by proposing additional drafting amendments.

3a. Any proposed motion to amend the Constitution whose effect would be to reduce the rights of individual members (including any reduction in the matters for which a ballot of members is required pursuant to this Constitution) shall not be valid unless ratified by two-thirds of the members voting in a ballot.

3b. The outcome of any ballot of the Party’s Membership shall be notified to the Membership no later than four weeks after any result has been declared.

4. Any amendment to this Constitution shall take effect at the end of the meeting of Conference at which the amendment is adopted, or at the date an amendment is made by the Constitutional Affairs Committee (this amendment stays in place until the start of the ratification of the change at the next Conference), or if Clause M3 is invoked, once the result of an all-member ballot has been counted and the result declared by the Returning Officer save that any changes to the composition of a Committee shall not take effect until the next set of elections to that Committee.

**Conference Ratifies this change to the Constitution of the Welsh Liberal Democrats.**