**Spring Conference 2021**

**A new deal for Welsh Business**

**Proposed by:** Carmarthenshire Liberal Democrats,

**Conference notes:**

1. The devastating impact of the pandemic on small businesses, microbusinesses, and self-employed people across Wales.
2. Announcements by the Welsh Government on 19 February and the Westminster Government on 22 February on the roadmap for the end of Covid restrictions.
3. The growing evidence that the burdens imposed by the new trading arrangements faced by Welsh business pose a serious threat to the long-term prospects of economic recovery as well as the future of Welsh ports, in particular media reports in February that the industry believes that only one port is now viable in Pembrokeshire.

**Conference calls for a new deal for Welsh businesses to promote post-Covid recovery and calls for the following principles to be incorporated in the Senedd election manifesto:**

1. Working to remove barriers to trade;
2. Saving the high street;
3. Putting in place a proper post-Covid recovery plan;
4. Providing a level playing field for smaller business;
5. Supporting businesses to take advantage of the digital revolution.

**Conference further:**

1. Demands that the Welsh Government campaigns for and works towards our becoming part of the Single Market and Customs Union in the renegotiation of the Trade and Co-Operation Agreement with the EU, scheduled to take place in 2025, or at any opportunity that may arise before that.
2. Calls on the Welsh Government to provide a clear route map for businesses so that they can plan for safe reopening in the coming months; and to ensure that support for business remains in place as businesses begin the process of recovery.
3. Calls on the Welsh Government to set up an Economic Recovery Council, grounded in real experience and including voices of small businesses across Wales.