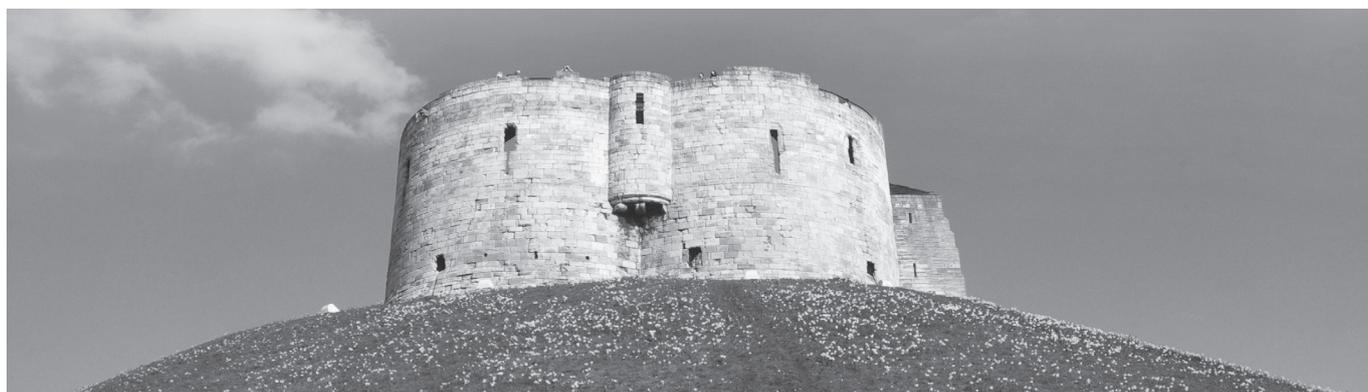


Conference Daily

Spring Conference

Sunday 13th March 2016



Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Sunday 13th March and report back for Saturday 12th March. Please read in conjunction with the *Agenda & Directory*.

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Report back for Saturday 12th March

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Timetable for Sunday 13th March

09.00–09.40	F19	Emergency motion: Towards a Stable and Peaceful Syria	3
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11.05–11.45	F21	Policy motion: A Fairer Deal for Private Renters	5
11.45–13.00	F22	Speech: Tim Farron MP	

If no page number is indicated next to a session or item of business, there are no changes or additional information to that in the Conference Agenda & Directory.

Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated.

Voting members wishing to speak in any of the debates are requested to fill in and submit a speaker's card as soon as possible.

Members seated in the overflow area will not be able to vote unless the chair announces that votes will be counted in that area.

The *Agenda & Directory* and other conference publications, in PDF, plain text and clear print formats, are available online

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers

or ask at the Information Desk in the York Barbican.



Report back for Saturday 12th March

F2	Report: Federal Conference Committee	Approved
F3	Report: Federal Policy Committee	Approved
F4	Policy motion: Liberal Democrat Economic Policy	Passed (Amendment One passed, Amendment Two defeated)
F6	Policy motion: Fracking	Passed (Amendment One defeated)
F7	Policy motion: Regulatory Framework for Cannabis	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F8	Report: Federal Executive	Approved (New Committee Election Regulations approved)
F9	Business motion: Appointment of the Federal Appeals Panel 2016–2020	Appointments confirmed as proposed
F12	Policy motion: Privacy and Security in a Digital Age	Passed
F13	Report: Diversity and Engagement Group	Approved
F14	Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	Approved
F15	Report: Federal Finance and Administration Committee	Approved
F16	Constitutional amendment: Allowing AOs and SAOs to enrol members to the Liberal Democrats	Passed
F17	Constitutional amendment: Representation of Peers on Federal Committees	Defeated
F18	Reports: Parliamentary Party	Received

Left luggage

On Sunday 13th March your hotel should be able to store your luggage for you after checkout.

Alternatively, you will be able to leave your luggage at the Novotel where a charge of £1 per item will apply.

Q&A sessions

Come along to the Q&A session where you can ask questions of our spokespeople.

Sunday 13th March: 10.00–11.00 Health
In York Barbican, Lendal Room

Fringe update

Sunday 13.30–14.30

Yorkshire & Humber Liberal Democrats

York & North Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner campaign

Drop in before you head home to meet with the York & North Yorkshire Police & Crime Commissioner campaign team to find out how you can get involved in the campaign. James Blanchard (candidate) and Derek Wann (agent).

To begin after the leader's speech.

Sea Horse Hotel, Fawcett Street

Conference timetable Autumn 2016

17th–20th September 2016, Brighton

Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00	Wednesday	15th June 2016
Motions deadline	13.00	Wednesday	29th June 2016
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00	Monday	22nd August 2016
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00	Monday	5th September 2016

Sunday 13th March

Additions and updates to the Agenda for Sunday 13th March.

F19 Emergency Motion: Towards a Stable and Peaceful Syria

11 party members

Mover: Tom Brake MP (Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs)

Summation: Baroness Northover (Spokesperson on International Development)

1 Conference condemns:

2 A. The sustained violent suppression of democratic opposition by the regime of President Assad in Syria
3 and the resulting humanitarian catastrophe.

4 B. The reign of violent, sectarian terror that Daesh is spreading in parts of Syria.

5 Conference notes with concern:

6 i) The targeting of legitimate opposition groups in Syria by the Russian army.

7 ii) The severity of the humanitarian disasters that have been created by the conflict in Syria and the
8 resulting instability across the region.

9 iii) The increasingly sectarian nature of the Syria conflict.

10 iv) The strain that the resulting refugee crises is putting on countries in the region, in particular the strain
11 on Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.

12 v) The lack of safe and legal routes for refugees which is leading to millions attempting dangerous
13 crossings into Europe.

14 vi) The inability of countries across Europe to work towards a cohesive solution to the refugee crisis in
15 our continent, and the resulting rise in anti-refugee rhetoric and violence.

16 vii) Escalating violence between the Turkey and the Kurdish minorities in Turkey and across the region.

17 Conference welcomes:

18 a) The Department for International Development's continued commitment to providing humanitarian aid
19 to all those who are suffering in the region.

20 b) The UK government's hosting of the Syria Donor conference in February 2016 to encourage
21 international partners to help fund support in Syria.

22 Conference believes that a strong EU with Britain at its core will be more effective in helping the Syrian
23 people and in facing down the mischievous policies of certain states intervening in Syria for their own
24 ends, than would be the case if Britain were to leave the EU.

25 Conference calls on the UK government to:

26 1. Play a leading role alongside the European Union in the Geneva III process and the current tentative
27 cessation of hostilities, including ensuring the participation of women in peace talks.

28 2. Support the moderate opposition groups in Syria and where possible protect them from abuses by
29 the Assad Regime and Russia.

30 3. Investigate the creation of humanitarian corridors and no-fly zones over Syria.

31 4. Continue to work closely with our international allies to stop and reverse the spread of Daesh in Syria,
32 Iraq and beyond.

33 5. Increase the number of refugees the UK takes both from the region and from within Europe, and
34 work with the European Union to create safe and legal routes in order to end the dangerous passage
35 of peoples across the Mediterranean.

Sunday 13th March

- 36 6. Maintain its commitment to provide regular updates to the Parliament on the status of military
37 operations in Syria.

Background briefing

This motion substantially develops and updates policy on the crisis in Syria. Existing policy is set out in policy motion *The Arab Awakening* (2011).

F20 Electing Diverse MPs

The FCC wishes to make it clear that it considered this motion and its proposed amendments (including those amendments that were not selected) in the light of the detailed provisions of the Equality Act 2010, the guidance issued under the Act and related equalities legislation.

The Federal Conference Committee has accepted the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In I. (line 3), after 'religion' insert 'or belief', and after 'sex' insert ', gender identity'.*
- 2 *After VII. (line 24), insert:*
- 3 VIII. The proportion of Liberal Democrat councillors who are female has stayed flat at around one third for
4 25 years.
- 5 *After C. (line 96), insert:*
- 6 D. Working in conjunction with ALDC, the 2020 Candidate Diversity Task Force shall undertake a project
7 to encourage a more diverse local government base including identifying any barriers which exist for
8 currently under-represented groups. It will also consider good practice from council groups across the
9 country that more accurately reflect the diversity of their communities.
- 10 *After 6. (line 130), add:*
- 11 7. Ask ALDC to submit recommendations within twelve months to the three State Parties on measures
12 that should be taken to ensure gender balance and diversity across both council groups and amongst
13 selected council candidates.

Amendment One

East Midlands

Mover: Rebecca Thomas

Summation: Adam Wain

- 1 *In 1. (line 98), delete 'for an all-women shortlist or an all-disabled shortlist, or' and insert 'to'.*
- 2 *In 1. (line 100), delete 'other'.*
- 3 *Delete 4. and 5. (lines 115–124).*
- 4 *In 6. (line 125), delete 'In addition to the one seat identified in 5. above,'.*
- 5 *In 6. (lines 127–128), delete 'without returning a Liberal Democrat MP'.*

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Amendment Two

12 party members

Mover: Ruwan Uduwera-Perera

Summation: Sarah Noble

- 1 *In B. (line 69), after 'co-ordinate' insert 'and monitor'.*
- 2 *After C. (line 96), insert:*
- 3 D. Campaign to amend the Equality Act 2010 to remove the restrictions on shortlists for candidate
- 4 selections for people from under-represented groups.
- 5 *In 3. (line 114), after 'Great Britain' insert 'and set out to each Local Party the options they can take to*
- 6 *improve diversity, including the use of 'banding' when shortlisting, and the potential to reserve places on*
- 7 *shortlists for people from under-represented groups within the terms of Section 104 of the Equalities Act.*
- 8 *State Parties should report on the implementation of each of these measures'.*

Footnote: The final part of this amendment refers to positive action measures permitted by the Equalities Act 2010, including the ability to shortlist candidates from under-represented groups ahead of other candidates on a tied score.

F21 A Fairer Deal for Private Renters

Hall Aide: Baroness Sheehan

There will be separate votes to delete 1. (lines 27–28) and to delete 4. (lines 32–34).

Background briefing

This motion develops and updates policy on the private rented sector, in particular on mandatory licensing of landlords. Existing policy is set out in the General Election Manifesto, *Stronger Economy. Fairer Society. Opportunity for Everyone* (2015), policy motion *Protecting Private Tenants* (2014) and policy paper 104, *Decent Homes for All* (2012).

Conference Appeal

York 2016

Your gift will help to safeguard the future of the party, helping us to win more seats and gain more influence as we continue to rebuild and grow. Most importantly, your gift will be helping to protect the fundamental values that we all believe in; a fair and open society based on liberty, equality and community in which no one shall be enslaved by poverty, ignorance or conformity.

I would like to donate (cash/cheque):

£1000	<input type="checkbox"/>	£100	<input type="checkbox"/>	£25	<input type="checkbox"/>
£500	<input type="checkbox"/>	£75	<input type="checkbox"/>	£10	<input type="checkbox"/>
£250	<input type="checkbox"/>	£50	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other £	_____

Or please debit my credit/debit card

Card No.

Start Date Expiry Date

Security Code Issue No.

Signature Date

Name

Address

Postcode

Email.....Telephone.....

Membership Number

If you are making a donation of more than £500 or more you must fill in your name and address details or we will not be able to accept your donation (Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000). Thank you.

Leaving a Legacy

"A gift in your will to the Liberal Democrats is a lasting expression of your values and is your stake in the fight for liberty, equality and justice."

Sal Brinton

If you would like more information about leaving a legacy please tick this box

Liberty Network

The Liberty Network is a group of our most passionate and generous supporters, investing in the future of the Liberal Democrats.

If you would like more information about joining the Liberty Network please tick this box