



Climate Change Policy Working Group Remit

Liberal Democrats understand that unconstrained growth in greenhouse gas emissions leading to catastrophic climate change is perhaps the greatest threat human society currently faces. There have been worrying recent developments, with the Trump administration committing to withdraw the USA from the Paris Agreement, and global sea ice reaching an all-time low this January. The Conservative government's dismantling of many of the environmental policies of the Coalition period are also a cause for concern domestically.

The FPC is therefore commissioning a policy working group to develop and update our policies on climate change and the transition to a low carbon economy. This will be based on the established Liberal Democrat objective of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by the UK by 2050, and will need to outline the policy instruments to achieve it. It should also show how this can be done in ways that benefits the UK economy and provide the party with popular and distinctive policy proposals. The group will be expected to build on policy paper 109 *Green Growth and Green Jobs* (2013) and the expert report *Vision for Britain: Clean, Green and Carbon Free* commissioned by Baroness Featherstone in 2017. The group is expected to consider and address Liberal Democrat principles on diversity and equalities in developing their proposals.

In the course of its work the group should consider:

- Electricity generation and transmission.
- Heating.
- Energy efficiency, including in particular that of housing.
- Industrial greenhouse gas emissions.
- Decarbonising road transport and promoting a shift to public transport.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from land use and in particular agriculture.
- The scope for negative emission options.
- The institutional arrangements necessary to deliver this ambitious climate strategy, including support for green innovation, finance and international development, the use of taxation and reforms to the machinery of government.

The group will take evidence and consult widely from both within and outside the party. This evidence should inform the group's proposals, which will be presented alongside an analysis of costs and an Equalities Impact Assessment. A policy paper of no longer than 10,000 words should be produced for debate at Autumn Conference 2019. Prior to that a consultative session should be held at Autumn Conference 2018 or Spring Conference 2019, and a draft policy paper should be presented to the Federal Policy Committee by June 2019.