

Agenda and Directory

Liberal Democrat Autumn Conference

13th - 17th September 2008

Bournemouth



Make it Happen

Central to the country's success



London is a capital city we can all be proud of: a financial leader, a cultural centre, a model of diverse, dynamic urbanism.

But its successes – and its problems – do not exist in isolation. Everyone in the UK profits from London's prosperity and, conversely, the issues faced in our capital have a significant impact on the rest of the country.

So, as we work to tackle gun and knife crime, build more affordable housing, and deliver the transport systems people want, it is vital that we work together to build a Greater London – and a Greater Britain.

Introduction

By Duncan Brack

Welcome to the Final Agenda for the autumn 2008 federal conference of the Liberal Democrats.

Conference is the parliament of the party – the chance for the conference representatives elected by local parties to determine the policy and campaigning priorities of the Liberal Democrats.

Unlike the conferences of the other main political parties, what you say and how you vote at conference matters – we are democrats in reality as well as in name.

This year's conference features many opportunities for you to exercise your vote. Most important are the debates on the four policy papers submitted by the Federal Policy Committee: on Europe, on international security and on transport, together with *Make it Happen*, the 'vision and values' paper which will be central to our preparations for the next general election manifesto.

Of course there's a huge range of other things happening at conference – but amongst the fringes, training, networking and gossiping, don't forget to make sure you vote! At the end of the day, democracy is what lies at the heart of our conference.

For conference details and registration online, see www.libdems.org.uk/conference.



Duncan Brack is Chair of Federal Conference Committee

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Copies of this Agenda and Directory and other conference papers are available in electronic formats, including as pdf files.

Email emma.harris@libdems.org.uk, telephone 020 7227 1350

or go to www.libdems.org.uk/conference.



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www.libdems.org.uk



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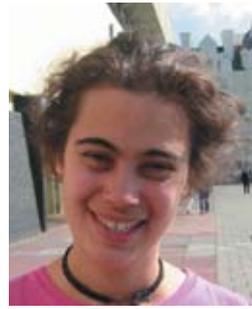
The Federal Conference Committee is here to serve you!

If you need to find any of the members of the FCC throughout the week, you should be able easily to identify them by the larger white background photo pass holder with the turquoise FCC badge inside.

Here are the 2008 members of the Federal Conference Committee.



Duncan Brack, Chair,
directly elected



Ruth Polling, Vice
Chair Communications,
directly elected



Andrew Wiseman,
Vice Chair Finance,
English rep

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Robert Adamson



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co-opted

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Paul Burstow MP, Chief Whip.

Ed Davey MP, CCC Chair (co-opted).

Simon Hughes MP, Party President.

Lord Rennard, Chief Executive.

Making it Happen in Bournemouth

By Nick Clegg MP

I'm delighted to welcome you to Bournemouth for this year's federal conference.

This is an exciting time to be a Liberal Democrat. Our *Make it Happen* document, which we're debating this week, outlines the Liberal Democrat vision for Britain ahead of the next General Election. It sets out how our party is best placed to deliver real change for Britain.

We have a clear and powerful vision backed up by solid and easily identifiable policies. Up and down the country – out with local campaigners or taking questions from all comers at my town hall meetings – I hear the same message.

People are fed up with Labour and want something different – but they aren't taken in by David Cameron. It's our chance to be what they're looking for.

We are meeting that challenge. In the conference hall, the bars, the fringes and the training events at this conference I know that our party is the one that will be full of fresh thinking and new ideas about how best to tackle the problems our country faces.

From fair taxation for struggling families to improving our schools and hospitals; from safeguarding our environment for our children to keeping our streets safe; from protecting civil liberties to securing Britain's place in the changing world; Liberal Democrats are leading the political agenda and debate.

Between now and next year's important elections, for local authorities across much of the country as well as for the

European Parliament, we must all get out on the doorstep and explain to people the difference that Liberal Democrats can make in their area. We are fortunate that our sitting councillors and MEPs give us a strong record of action and achievement to build on.

When voters hear what we are about, it clicks. More and more people across the country are giving us their support, because they know we'll stand up for them. They want real change they can feel every day; we need to show them it's the Liberal Democrats who will make it happen.

We know that if we want Britain to be fairer, we are the only ones who will make it happen. Labour can't. And the Tories won't. We can and we will.

There's no limit to what we can achieve together.



Nick Clegg MP
Leader of the Liberal Democrats



© LD Pics

We know that if we want Britain to be fairer, we are the only ones who will make it happen

Make it Happen

Welcome to Bournemouth

By Annette Brooke MP

I am delighted to welcome this year's conference back to Bournemouth.

It provides a wonderful location for a conference; with perfect weather at all times (well, nearly all the time), glorious sandy beaches, and a night life second to none along the south coast.

Bournemouth comes to life at night and well and truly shakes off its image as a watering place for the elderly. There are a large number of nightclubs to suit all tastes, and many, many licensed bars! There is also a good range of eating places within easy walking distance of the Conference Centre.

I can personally recommend shopping in Bournemouth. There is still a choice of three good department stores, we have all the main chain stores and much more. Ladies will find some interesting individual dress shops in Westbourne.

However, I must confess to being a Poole resident for over 32 years, a Poole councillor for 17 years and now an MP for part of Poole.

Traditionally there has always been a great deal of rivalry between Poole and Bournemouth; with a history going back 760 years it is not surprising that Poole should see Bournemouth as a young Victorian upstart. The beautiful bay which you see from the Conference Centre and perhaps look over from your hotel is actually called Poole Bay.

Bournemouth is proud of being a University Town. The University has an international reputation for a wide range of subjects including forensic science and tourism. Bournemouth also

boasts a Symphony Orchestra with a world-class reputation.

I am sure that you will have a great time in Bournemouth. If time permits, a long walk along the promenade is well worthwhile with perhaps a diversion into the gardens and some of the chimes.

It is a wonderful place for family activities during the day time. These could well include a trip on the Land Train alongside the beach right through from Bournemouth Pier to Boscombe.

For an aerial view you can try a tethered balloon flight from the Lower Gardens which will take you up 500 feet and allow you to experience views for up to 20 miles in all directions. 



Annette Brooke is Liberal Democrat MP for Mid Dorset and North Poole



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Make it Happen

Tackling child poverty

By Martin Narey

The UK is the fifth wealthiest nation on earth, yet it has one of the highest rates of child poverty in the industrialised world.

More than three million of our children live in poverty and, despite commendable progress in reducing this scourge, the Labour Government seem destined to fall well short of their noble 1999 commitment to halve child poverty within a decade.

Child poverty has a profound impact on a child, their family, and the rest of society. It often sets in motion a deepening spiral of social exclusion, creating problems in education, employment, mental and physical health and social interaction.

This is illustrated by the disturbing fact that a child born into deprivation is now more likely to inherit his or her parents' disadvantage than at any time in our recent past.

This important issue was immediately taken up by Nick Clegg on becoming leader of the Liberal Democrats in December 2007. In his acceptance speech he said that he wanted to live in a country where social mobility becomes a reality again, so that no one is condemned by the circumstances of their birth.

I welcomed these remarks and I accepted Nick's subsequent invitation to chair an independent commission looking at the reasons for Britain's

apparently low levels of social mobility and seeking to make policy recommendations that would enable children from disadvantaged backgrounds to fulfil their potential.

The Commission is made up of ten members, each expert in their area, and we have heard from the principal academics in the field.

There is considerable debate about the extent to which social mobility is deteriorating or whether, if measured by social class rather than income, it has deteriorated at all. But what is not in dispute is the extraordinary, economically crazy and morally repugnant inequality in the UK.

I am confident that we shall, by early next year, have been able to identify key policy changes in education, health, employment, housing, and parenting and family life which could make a positive difference.

The challenge is formidable. A child born in disadvantage in the UK falls behind a child born in more comfortable circumstances at 22 months. And then everything which happens in the education process, from that point on, widens that gulf.

Children brought up in poverty are likely to grow up in poverty and bring their children up in poverty. They are less likely to work, will pay less tax and cost society much more in health and criminal justice expenditure.

>



Martin Narey is Chief Executive of Barnardo's

Discuss these issues with Martin Narey and others at 11.25 on Sunday 14th – see pages 22 –23.

The argument about inequality and child poverty is not simply an economic one. Ultimately this is a moral issue.

Make it Happen

Tackling child poverty continued

We can learn a vital lesson from the US, a society even less equal than ours, and where the failure to arrest child poverty now costs the US economy 4 per cent of GDP.

But the argument about inequality and child poverty is not simply an economic one. Ultimately this is a moral issue.

Children born in a number of areas in the south east can expect to live until their mid seventies before they develop a chronic illness which is likely, subsequently, to kill them. By contrast, a child born today in Liverpool, one of our greatest cities – and with cruel irony the European capital of culture – has a healthy life expectancy of only 62 years.

We should be ashamed.

Although our work is nearing its conclusion I still hope that more Liberal Democrat members will take the opportunity to contribute to our work and help to formulate policy in this very important field.

The Commission has its own website www.socialmobilitycommission.org, on which you will find biographies of the commissioners; and submissions can be made through the website, or to: martin@socialmobilitycommission.org.

I hope to hear from you.



Discuss these issues with Martin Narey and others at 11.25 on Sunday 14th – see pages 22 –23.

Creating a Progressive Society

**Lib Dem One Day conference
Saturday 17 January 2009, Central London**

Keynote speech by Nick Clegg MP

The Liberal Democrats are now the only hope for a progressive future in Britain. Labour has failed to correct the grossly unfair society that Conservative governments created. Come to this meeting and help us develop our policies to:

- open up opportunities for all,
- help struggling households,
- and meet Britain's environmental commitments without burdening the poor.

We can build a fair society that offers opportunities for everyone, addresses the stresses that modern families are under and gives young people hope for a better future

This conference, organised by the Federal Policy Committee will bring together Liberal Democrat Party members and outside groups to talk through the policy options and the political opportunities for the party. It will help to broaden the input into the General Election Manifesto, and to strengthen the party's engagement with progressive opinion formers and thinkers.

Places at the last one-day conference were fully booked well in advance. Party members wishing to register their interest in this event should email onedayconference@libdems.org.uk. Registration forms will be sent out after the autumn conference.

Bournemouth 2008 Members' training programme

Free training for party members

An extensive range of training courses is taking place at Federal Conference.

Training courses will take place in the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC) and Connaught Hotel from Saturday to Tuesday.

These courses are open to all party members. Access to training in the BIC requires a conference photo pass and in the Connaught either a conference photo pass or a membership card.

Full details of the training courses are listed in the training brochure available online at www.libdems.org.uk/conference



Make it Happen

Setting out our vision for Britain

By Danny Alexander MP

This is a hugely important conference for the Liberal Democrats. Britain is ready for a change, and this is our opportunity to set out our vision for Britain.

That's why we're debating *Make it Happen* this year. Under Nick Clegg's leadership, it's a radically different approach from the manifesto committee – setting out our vision and values in a completely new way.

This document is going to be at the heart of everything we do as a party, and it's all about putting people first, to make Britain fairer, and deliver the real change they need.

Liberal Democrats understand what makes life difficult for families these days – but what makes us unique is that we'll do something about it. The government and the Conservatives have given up on people. The government's run out of ideas, while the Conservatives say society is broken – and they can't fix it.

That will never be the approach of the Liberal Democrats. Times are difficult, but society is not broken. Now is the time that a strong party with strong ideas can bring people together to change Britain for good.

Under Nick Clegg, and with the most talented parliamentary team in British politics, and great councillors and campaigners all over the country – it's clear that party is us.

In *Make it Happen*, we offer real answers, and real change. There are no mistakes that governments have made that

cannot be set right by the British people if only they are given the chance to do so. That's why the proposals in this document offer people – individuals, families and communities – the power to make a better life for themselves. That's what the Liberal Democrats are all about.

Our aim is to create a fair society, where everyone gets real opportunities and chances in life. We can make that happen by taking power from government and special interests and giving it to people and communities.

Struggling families should be paying less tax – much less. So we'll replace Council Tax and cut tax bills for low- and middle- income families. Every tax cut we propose will put more money in the pockets of struggling families, not millionaires.

This document promises to give people more control in public services, too. And that means letting people take charge of their local health service; funding our schools in a different way so children who need extra help get it; and giving local people a real say in how offenders pay for their crimes, with community justice panels.

There are real answers here on the environment too. We have detailed plans to invest in clean energy instead of nuclear. And use the energy companies' £9bn windfall subsidy to cut



Danny Alexander MP is Chief of Staff to the Leader and Chair of the Manifesto Committee

***Make it Happen* sets out a new approach to politics. Engaging with people, and offering real answers to real problems.**

Make it Happen

Setting out our vision for Britain continued

bills for families by insulating homes and creating social tariffs that encourage people to use less.

And finally, this document promises that we will do politics differently. We need to make politicians listen to people again. That's why we'll introduce fair elections so that every person's vote really counts, and end the influence of

big money in politics with a £25,000 cap on donations.

Make it Happen sets out a new approach to politics. Engaging with people, and offering real answers to real problems. It gives us a powerful sense of direction for the coming months. I look forward to debating it in the conference hall with all of you.



Conference sponsors and advertisers

We wish to express grateful thanks to our sponsors

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Climate Clinic

Climate Clinic is a coalition of the world's leading environment and development organisations, working together to press for action against the greatest threat civilisation has ever faced - catastrophic climate change. Climate Clinic is sponsoring the pre-Rally Drinks Reception on Saturday 13th September in the Windsor Foyer of the BIC. Fringe events are taking place in the Marriott Highcliff and Punshon Church House.



The Independent

The Independent newspaper's mission, to take the broader view, remains as it stood when the paper launched in 1986; beholden to no one political party and economically and socially liberal. Stop by the stand (Windsor Foyer, ground floor of BIC) to pick up your copy of *The Independent*.



The Local Government Association

Sponsors of the Conference Lanyards will be holding various fringe events at Conference (see *Fringe Guide*). LGA Liberal Democrat Group will be on stand P26 in the Solent Hall of BIC.



Microsoft

The Liberal Democrat Internet Café, sponsored by Microsoft. Visit Microsoft on the balcony to access the internet and check your email. There'll also be opportunities to see some of the latest Microsoft technology, play some games and enter a competition to win an Xbox 360 and other software prizes. www.microsoft.com/uk



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Daily Announcements and Advance Notice

Make sure you collect your *Advance Notice* or *Daily Announcements* sheets from the Information Desk as you enter the conference centre each morning.

Check the information, updates and changes they contain, which are vital to your understanding of the day's business.

Make it Happen

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Saturday 13th

10.00 Consultative Sessions –12.30

Education Ages 5–19

Dorchester 2
Marriott Highcliff

Chair: Cllr James Kempton
Rapporteur: Emily Cornborough

Natural Environment

Bryanston Suite
Marriott Highcliff

Chair: Cllr Paul Burall
Rapporteur: James Lloyd

Childcare

Purbeck Suite
Marriott Highcliff

Chair: Susan Kramer MP
Rapporteur: Debbie Enever

Consultative sessions provide a less formal mechanism than the full-scale conference debates for conference representatives and other party members to participate in the party's policy- and decision-making process. Each session examines a particular topic and hears contributions from party members and in some cases outside speakers.

The sessions will be organised by the relevant Policy Working Group or Parliamentary Team. Where appropriate, the conclusions of the sessions will be taken into account by the groups when drawing up their final policy papers. Consultative papers for the Education 5–19 and Natural Environment sessions are included with the Final Agenda mailing.

12.30 Lunch

14.20 Party Business

Chair: Simon Hughes MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)
Aide: Justine McGuinness

F1 Formal Opening of the Federal Conference by Annette Brooke, MP for Dorset Mid & Poole North

F2 Report of the Federal Conference Committee

Mover: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 66 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 13.20 on Saturday 13th September.

Make it Happen

14.40 Policy Motion

Chair: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)
Aide: Catherine Bearder

F3 Giving Citizens a Voice in Parliament

12 conference representatives

Mover: James Graham
Summation: David Boyle

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 a) In the Government's 2007 *Governance of Britain* Green Paper, it proposed to 'improve direct
3 democracy', yet has failed for over a year to produce substantive proposals on how it plans to
4 do this at Parliamentary level.
- 5 b) Liberal Democrat-run councils such as Kingston have led the way in developing more
6 participatory forms of decision-making.
- 7 c) The party outlined a number of proposals for rolling out best practice nationwide in Policy
8 Paper 79, *The Power to be Different* (2007).
- 9 Conference believes that giving the public a greater say in policy-making and a right to petition
10 elected representatives at all levels of government could enhance representative democracy by
11 providing accountability and clearer lines of communication between elected representatives and
12 their constituents.
- 13 Conference also believes that it is imperative that local authorities, communities and civic society
14 have access to the best advice and resources to support the empowerment of individuals and
15 communities. Conference therefore regrets the closure, by the Government, of the International
16 Centre of Excellence for Local e-Democracy, which was set up to provide extensive resources,
17 training and advice for local government.
- 18 Conference therefore calls for:
- 19 1. **A petitioning system fit for the 21st century:** the system for petitioning Parliament should
20 be simplified and it should be possible to submit petitions online; Parliament should develop
21 a system formally to consider petitions submitted to it and take action where appropriate,
22 and any resident or expatriate of the UK or a British Overseas Territory would have a right to
23 petition Parliament in this way.
- 24 2. **People's bills:** whereby the six legislative proposals that received the most petition signatures
25 from registered voters in any given year would be guaranteed a second reading debate in the
26 House of Commons.
- 27 3. **A people's veto:** all Acts of Parliament would be subject to a rule whereby, if one million
28 registered voters petitioned against it within 60 days of the law being passed, a referendum
29 would have to be held on whether or not to repeal it.
- 30 4. **A responsive electoral system:** elect both Houses of Parliament using single transferable
31 vote in multi-member constituencies (STV); unlike other electoral systems, STV gives the voter
32 choice between candidates from a particular party, as well as choice between parties.
- 33 5. **A Constitutional Convention:** an independent convention to review how to improve the

Saturday 13th

34 governance of the UK, including producing a written constitution, as set out in Policy Paper 83
35 *For the People, By the People*; at least 51% of the Convention's membership would be made up
36 of randomly selected members of the electorate, and the government would be required by
37 law to co-operate with the Convention.

38 6. **An e-Democracy Centre:** to initiate and encourage the use of e-Democracy tools by
39 individuals, communities and governments at all levels, funded by central government on a
40 permanent basis

41 Due to the clear need for security when implementing such measures, conference reiterates its call for
42 individual voter registration and resolves that submitting petitions in support of People's Bills and to
43 veto legislation should be subject to the same level of scrutiny as nominating candidates for election.

Applicability: Federal.

Note: there will be a separate vote on calls for 3 (lines 27–29).

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

15.20 Speech

Chair: Cllr Ruth Polling (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

Aide: Catherine Bearder

F4 **Speech by Jenny Willott MP, Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions**

15.40 Policy Motion

Chair: Cllr Gareth Epps

Aide: Cllr James Gurling

F5 **Security and Liberty in a Globalised World (Security Policy Paper)**

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Edward Davey MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Foreign Secretary)

Summation: Dr Julie Smith (Chair, Policy Working Group)

1 Conference believes that Britain, its partners and its allies, face current and future threats that in
2 combination undermine global security, including climate change and increased natural disasters;
3 energy security; access to food and water; infectious disease; population growth and migration;
4 violence within states, including civil wars; tensions between states, particularly over resource
5 depletion; proliferation of all types of armaments including nuclear weapons; organised cross-
6 border crime; terrorism and aggressive ideologies.

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7 Conference believes that liberty must not be sacrificed on the altar of security and regrets the
8 climate of fear that has been fostered by the approach of both Labour and the Conservatives to
9 issues of domestic and international security.

10 Conference believes that liberty, justice and the separation of powers are essential to achieving
11 lasting security and that abandoning liberties, particularly in the face of unconventional threats
12 from criminals and terrorists, will only serve to make Britain both less free and less secure.

13 Conference endorses Policy Paper 86, *Security and Liberty in a Globalised World*, as a statement of Liberal
14 Democrat policy to address these growing and diverse threats to Britain, its partners and allies.

15 Conference in particular believes that:

16 1. Working in cooperation with other states and international bodies is one of the key elements
17 in ensuring Britain's security, and that Britain should therefore seek to work more effectively
18 with its allies in the EU, NATO, the UN, the Commonwealth and other international bodies
19 and respond to radical ideologies with a firm defence of democratic values combined with a
20 willingness to engage in dialogue.

21 2. In order to provide the long-term framework within which democracy can grow and
22 flourish across the world, Britain should promote, in partnership with like-minded states and
23 governments, liberal and democratic values, including the rule of law, limited government,
24 economic development with widely-dispersed ownership, education and civil society.

25 3. The British government should not compromise the underlying principles fundamental to
26 society such as respect for human rights, the liberty of the individual and the rule of law in
27 responding to threats to security; any emergency measures introduced to combat threats as
28 they emerge should be clearly justified and limited in duration and application.

29 4. Rebuilding cohesive communities and reviving local democracy will be an effective defence
30 against the fear and reality of crime, terror and natural disaster, including reversing the
31 decline in local voluntary services and establishing a force of civilian reservists to rebuild local
32 capabilities to cope with emergencies.

33 5. Achieving security for Britain will require action and reform at national, European and
34 international level and that preventing conflict occurring is far preferable to intervention
35 when crises have already emerged; and therefore supports:

36 a) The Responsibility to Protect principle: intervention for humanitarian reasons involving
37 wide international participation under UN authority with reasonable and achievable aims
38 and a clear and realistic exit strategy.

39 b) The development of EU capabilities for conflict prevention, conflict management, and
40 post-conflict reconstruction, both civilian and military.

41 c) A more equitable system for financing EU and NATO operations where all members share
42 the costs of operations.

43 d) Further integration of logistical support and defence procurement as the practical way to
44 maintain effective capabilities without raising defence spending.

45 e) Support for Britain's continued commitment to Afghanistan, with priority to reconstruct
46 viable institutions and the local and national economy.

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- 47 6. Climate change, significantly shaped by human activities, is the greatest threat to Britain's
48 long-term security and therefore supports Liberal Democrat proposals to:
- 49 a) Provide UK leadership for an international framework that will enable each country to
50 manage the transition to a low-carbon economy, including working for agreement on a
51 more ambitious set of targets in the negotiations for the second commitment period of
52 the Kyoto Protocol and beyond.
- 53 b) Help developing countries to mitigate and adapt to climate change, including working for
54 the establishment of an International Leapfrog Fund to invest in low-carbon technologies,
55 energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies in developing countries.
- 56 c) Develop a low-carbon economy in the UK and the world including introducing credible
57 and predictable mechanisms for pricing carbon.
- 58 7. Proliferation of weapons, including nuclear weapons, presents a profound threat to security,
59 and therefore, building on previous Liberal Democrat policy, including conference motion *The
60 Future of Britain's Nuclear Deterrent* (March 2007), that Britain should:
- 61 a) Reinvigorate multilateral arms reduction talks, particularly in small arms, putting in place
62 more rigorous monitoring of arms exports and licence applications, ending export credit
63 guarantees and the use of public money to promote arms sales, and reviewing anti-
64 bribery legislation to expose and prevent corruption in arms sales by British and British-
65 based companies.
- 66 b) Support an international ban on landmines and encourage allies to negotiate, ratify and
67 implement a ban on the use of all cluster munitions.
- 68 c) Fulfill its obligation under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to negotiate in good faith
69 towards nuclear disarmament through:
- 70 i) A major reduction of its nuclear arsenal by approximately 50%, retaining no more
71 than 100 warheads, with each Trident submarine carrying no more than 24 warheads
72 when on deterrence patrol.
- 73 ii) Announcing its willingness to renounce the Trident system and any successor by
74 agreement at the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty review.
- 75 d) Place its nuclear deterrent under international inspection and work towards a joint
76 negotiating position with France at the review conference.
- 77 8. Ensuring Britain's commitments are met both by effective strategic action and planning
78 bringing together governmental security, defence, diplomatic, development and international
79 environment decision-making structures supported by the appropriate balance of resources,
80 including by:
- 81 a) Building on Britain's strengths in diplomacy as seen in the work of the Foreign and
82 Commonwealth Office and bodies such as the British Council.
- 83 b) Creating a clear diplomatic and political strategy by which development assistance is
84 managed.
- 85 c) Initiating a Strategic Security and Defence Review that would take in at least a 20-year
86 perspective and include close consultation with the US and the UK's European partners.
- 87 d) Ring-fencing the elements of the MoD budget relating to forces' welfare, particularly to
88 modernisation and maintenance of accommodation; a thorough review of personnel

89 policy should be integral to the investigations and conclusions of the new Strategic
90 Security and Defence Review.

Applicability: Federal, except 4 (lines 29–32) which is England only.

Mover and summation: 20 minutes combined; all other speakers: 5 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See 'interventions' on page 65.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

16.55 Party Business

Chair: Baroness Garden of Frognal
Aide: Cllr Ruth Polling (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F6 Standing Order Amendment: Conference Deadlines

Federal Conference Committee

Mover: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Summation: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

- 1 *In Glossary of Terms:*
- 2 *Under 'Policy motion', delete: 'and pre-manifesto papers.'*
- 3 *'Pre-manifesto paper': delete entire paragraph.*
- 4 *'Topical motion': delete entire paragraph.*
- 5 *Under 'Urgent issue', delete: 'urgent' and insert: 'topical'.*
- 6 *In standing order 1.1 (c), delete: 'and pre-manifesto papers' and: 'and topical motions.'*
- 7 *In standing order 1.1 (e), delete: 'urgent' and insert: 'topical'.*
- 8 *In standing order 1.3 (b), delete: ', topical business motions.'*
- 9 *In standing order 1.3 (c), delete: 'and pre-manifesto papers.'*
- 10 *In standing order 1.3 (d), delete: 'topical policy motions,'.*
- 11 *In standing order 1.3 (e), delete: 'urgent' and insert: 'topical'.*

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12 *In standing order 1.5:*

13 *Delete paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (h) and insert:*

14 (a) The closing date for the receipt of policy motions (including motions accompanying
15 policy papers), business motions, constitutional amendments and amendments to
16 standing orders, which shall be at least eight weeks before the start of conference.

17 (b) The closing date for the receipt of amendments to motions published in the Agenda and
18 emergency motions, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference.

19 *In existing paragraphs (e), (f) and (g), delete: 'Final'.*

20 *In existing paragraph (i), delete: 'urgent' and insert: 'topical'.*

21 *Re-letter existing (e), (f), (g) and (i) as: (c), (d), (e) and (f).*

22 *In standing order 2.1, delete: 'Preliminary and Final Agendas' and insert: 'Agenda'.*

23 *Rename standing order 3 as: 'The Agenda'.*

24 *In standing order 3.1, first sentence, delete: 'a Preliminary' and insert: 'the'.*

25 *In standing order 3.1, second sentence, delete: 'For the autumn conference,'*

26 *In standing order 3.1, at end add: 'Copies of motions not selected shall be available for inspection and*
27 *will be supplied to any conference representative on payment of a copying charge and postage.'*

28 *Delete existing standing order 3.3 and insert:*

29 3.3 Balance between State and Federal policy debates

30 The Committee shall, in drawing up the Agenda, have due regard to the balance of State and
31 Federal policy debates and in particular shall as far as possible organise the agenda so that all
32 matters which relate solely to one or more state parties but not all State Parties or the Federal
33 Party shall be considered at either the beginning or the end of the conference.

34 *Rename standing order 4 as: 'Selection of motions and amendments'.*

35 *In standing order 4.1, delete: 'both the Preliminary and Final' and insert: 'the'.*

36 *Delete standing order 4.4.*

37 *In standing order 4.5 (b), delete: 'urgent' and insert: 'topical'.*

38 *In standing order 4.7, delete: ', save that emergency amendments shall not be taken at spring*
39 *conference'.*

40 *In standing order 4.8, in title and in first sentence, delete: 'urgent' and insert: 'topical'.*

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41 *Delete standing order 4.9.*

42 *Delete standing order 5.*

43 *In standing order 6.1, first sentence, delete: 'a Preliminary' and insert: 'the'.*

44 *In standing order 6.1, delete second sentence: 'The Committee may, if necessary, proceed straight to a*
45 *Final Agenda and set an appropriate deadline for amendments.'*

46 *In standing order 7.1, first sentence, delete: 'or the removal of any motion from the Preliminary*
47 *Agenda'.*

48 *In standing order 7.1, fourth sentence, delete: 'topical or'.*

49 *In standing order 9.1, 9.2 and 9.8, delete: 'Final'.*

50 *In standing order 9.4, in title, delete: 'Urgent' and insert: 'Topical'.*

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

The existing text of standing orders is given on pages 73–80 of this Agenda and Directory. A standing order amendment requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

F7 Constitutional Amendment: Conference Deadlines

Federal Conference Committee

Mover: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

Summation: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

1 *In Article 2.7 (b), last line, delete: 'eight' and insert: 'six'.*

2 *In Article 5.6, first line, delete: 'and topical'.*

The relevant text of the existing Constitution is as follows:

- 2.7 This Constitution may only be altered:
- (a) by a two-thirds majority of representatives present and voting at the Federal Conference;
 - (b) where any such alteration has been submitted in accordance with the Standing Orders of that Conference by the Federal Executive or any other persons or bodies entitled to submit motions or amendments under Article 5.6 and notified to Local Parties at least eight weeks in advance; and
 - (c) in the case of any alteration to the relative powers and functions of the Federal Party and the State Parties or to this paragraph (c), it is passed by the internal procedures of each State Party.

...

5.6 Policy motions and amendments (including emergency and topical motions and amendments) may be submitted for debate by Federal Conference (in accordance with its Standing Orders) by the Federal Policy Committee, members of the Federal Conference, State Parties in accordance with their internal procedures, Regional Parties in England, Local Parties and Specified Associated Organisations. Amendments to motions accompanying policy papers may be submitted in the same way.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68. A constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

F8 Constitutional Amendment: Conference Representatives

Ealing Central and Acton

Mover: Cllr Jon Ball

Summation: David Zerdin

1 *In article 6.1, at end add:*

- 2 (f) Elected Mayors who are members of the Party;
- 3 (g) Elected members of regional assemblies in receipt of the Party's whip; and
- 4 (h) Leaders of council groups of the Party on principal councils.

5 *In article 6.2, delete all and replace by:*

6 6.2 Local Parties shall be represented on the following basis, modified where applicable by article
7 4.3(b):

8	Membership of Local Party	Number of Representatives
9	30 to 50	4
10	51 to 75	5
11	76 to 100	6
12	101 to 150	7
13	151 to 200	8
14	201 to 250	9
15	251 to 300	10
16	301 to 350	11
17	351 to 400	12
18	401 to 450	13

19 together with a further representative for every 100 members (or part thereof) in excess of 450.

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The relevant text of the existing Constitution is as follows:

6.1 The Conference shall consist of:

- (a) representatives of Local Parties (and the Specified Associated Organisations representing youth and/or students as provided by Article 13.8);
- (b) the Parliamentary Parties as defined by Article 9;
- (c) Members of the Scottish Parliament and National Assembly for Wales in receipt of the party's whip;
- (d) three Officers specified in Article 12; and
- (e) prospective parliamentary and European parliamentary candidates who shall continue as members of the Conference until the end of the calendar year in which they stood for election, unless a new prospective candidate is selected for the constituency.

6.2 Local Parties shall be represented on the following basis, modified where applicable by Article 4.3(b):

Membership of Local Party	Number of Representatives
30 to 50	2
51 to 75	3
76 to 100	4
101 to 150	5
151 to 200	6
201 to 250	7
251 to 300	8
301 to 350	9
351 to 400	10
401 to 450	11

together with a further representative for every 100 members (or part thereof) in excess of 450.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68. A constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

17.30 Close of Session

2008 Conference Rally Power to the People - Remaking our Democracy

Saturday 13th September

Hosted by: Tim Farron MP

Keynote speakers: Nick Clegg MP and other prominent figures

5.30 – 6.15pm, Welcome drinks kindly sponsored by Climate Clinic, Windsor Foyer, BIC

6.30 – 7.30pm, The Rally, Tregonwell Hall, BIC



Sunday 14th

09.00 Party Business

Chair: Catherine Bearder
Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F9 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance

Mover: Jo Swinson MP (Chair of the Campaign for Gender Balance)

The deadline for questions to this report is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 66 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 17.30 on Saturday 13th September.

09.15 Policy Discussion

Chair: Cllr James Gurling
Aide: Arnie Gibbons

F10 Urgent Issue

This slot has been reserved for discussion of an important current political issue. Suggestions for issues may be submitted by any conference representative. The deadline for suggestions for urgent issues is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 68 for further information. The topic selected for the discussion will be notified through the Advance Notice and Daily Announcements.

Introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

09.45 Presentation

Chair: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)
Aide: Sal Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F11 Presentation by Liberal Democrat European Parliamentary Party

The presentation will be given by:

Baroness Sarah Ludford MEP (Deputy Leader, LDEPP)
Graham Watson MEP (Leader, Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe)
Fiona Hall MEP (Energy Spokesperson)

10.05 Speech

Make it Happen

Sunday 14th

Chair: Justine McGuinness
Aide: Cllr Chris Maines

F12 Speech by David Laws MP, Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families

10.25 Policy Motion

Chair: Cllr John Commons
Aide: Tessa Munt

F13 Private Finance Initiative Projects

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Dr Vincent Cable MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer)
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 A. There are currently over 500 operational PFI projects in the United Kingdom, with a combined
3 capital value of £44 billion.
- 4 B. The use of PFI has made many hospital and school building programmes possible, which
5 may well otherwise have never been given the go-ahead by the current Labour and previous
6 Conservative governments.
- 7 C. PFI projects have had a degree of success, with a recent survey showing that two-thirds of
8 public sector respondents rated the performance of their service provider as either good or
9 very good.
- 10 Conference, however, notes with concern that:
- 11 i) PFI has been used as a mechanism to keep spending off government accounts and not to
12 provide best value to the taxpayer.
- 13 ii) There have been several high-profile PFI projects which have failed, such as the London
14 Underground–Metronet partnership, which has left the taxpayer shouldering more than £2bn
15 of debt.
- 16 iii) Despite the presence of a private provider the taxpayer in effect continues to underwrite a
17 large proportion of the risks, leading to cases where, for example, councils continue to pay for
18 schools which have been closed.
- 19 iv) There has been massive variance with the cost-effectiveness of PFI contracts with, for example,
20 the cost to the taxpayer of fitting a plug socket varying from £30 to £300.
- 21 Conference calls on the Government to:
- 22 1. Only use private finance when it is shown that this can provide better value for money to the
23 taxpayer than public finance.
- 24 2. Make public financing options more practical by:

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- 25 a) Opening up alternative financing options to local government, the Northern Irish and
26 Welsh assemblies, and the Scottish Parliament, by allowing them to borrow for investment
27 where public sector financing is the best value option, following similar fiscal rules to
28 those already in place for central government.
- 29 b) Allowing public sector bodies to bid on equal terms whenever provision of a public
30 contract is tendered to ensure increased competition and proper comparison of all
31 options.
- 32 c) Improving independent monitoring and evaluation of public sector comparators before
33 projects are undertaken and of outcomes when projects are under way.
- 34 3. Ensure that all aspects of PFI projects are recorded on government accounts.
- 35 4. Ensure that public sector organisations have the necessary skills and are adequately trained to
36 be competent buyers, ensuring that they secure the taxpayer good value for money.
- 37 5. Include an annual value-for-money report of PFI projects within the National Audit Office's
38 remit.

Applicability: Federal or England only, depending on the particular service affected.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

11.05 Speech

Chair: Simon Hughes MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)
Aide: Tessa Munt

F14 Speech by the Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats

The result of the election for the leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats will be announced on 26 August.

11.25 Policy Discussion

Chair: Baroness Barker
Aide: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F15 Social Mobility

Current evidence suggests that social mobility is lower in the UK than in most other western democracies. The very high levels of child poverty are already deeply concerning, but the evidence of falling social mobility is particularly alarming because of the potential for a child's life chances to be determined – much more than in the 1950s or 1960s – by the circumstances of their birth.

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Amongst other issues, the panel will be considering the following key questions:

- Why social mobility in Britain appears to have stalled and to what extent is it now lower than other countries.
- Have significant increases in public spending in recent years made measurable improvements to social mobility or are they likely to do so in the longer term?
- What are the potential benefits to wider British society of improved levels of social mobility?
- What policy changes would improve the ability of people from poor backgrounds to improve their life chances?

This session offers a chance to conference representatives to hear and participate in a panel discussion on these and other relevant questions.

Panellists will include:

- Martin Narey (Chief Executive, Barnardo's; Chair, Social Mobility Commission)
- Jenny Willott MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions)
- Claire Tyler (Chief Executive, Relate)

Presentations by the panellists will be followed by a chance for conference representatives to ask brief questions or make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 11th September. See 'question and answer sessions' on page 66 for further information.

12.40 Lunch

14.20 Policy Motion

Chair: Iain Smith MSP
Aide: Cllr Gareth Epps

F16 Centenary of the Basic State Pension

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Jenny Willott MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Work and Pensions)
Summation: Lord Oakeshott of Seagrove Bay (Lords Spokesperson on Work and Pensions)

- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 A. This year is the 100th anniversary of the decision by the Liberal Government of 1908, led by
 - 3 H. H. Asquith, to introduce the first state pension to guarantee an income for those people
 - 4 too old to work, a bold and progressive policy to deliver financial security for the poorest
 - 5 pensioners.
 - 6 B. In recent years, the state pension system has become overly complex and difficult to
 - 7 understand with the introduction of proportional eligibility based on national insurance
 - 8 contributions, the State Earnings-Related Pension Scheme, the State Second Pension, and the
 - 9 mass means-testing of pensioners.

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10 C. Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Government broke the link between earnings and pensions
11 in 1980, resulting in the diminishing value of pensions in relation to earnings.

12 Conference is concerned that:

- 13 i) Despite recent reforms, in 2018 around 2.6 million or 39% of women over pension age will still
14 not be entitled to the full Basic State Pension compared to just over 400,000 men.
15 ii) Pensioners no longer share in the proceeds of growth in Britain; the value of the Basic State
16 Pension in comparison to average earnings is now lower than thirty years ago.
17 iii) 2.2 million of today's pensioners live in poverty.
18 iv) By 2010 55% of pensioners will be reliant on complex and intrusive means-tested benefits to
19 make ends meet.
20 v) An estimated 7 million people are not saving enough to provide them with an income they
21 would consider sufficient in retirement.

22 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitment to:

- 23 a) Deliver security and dignity in retirement for every citizen.
24 b) Create a simple, coherent pension system which everyone can understand.
25 c) Ensure the pension system is equitable and does not discriminate between men and women.
26 d) Guarantee pensioners a defined income in retirement to make sure they benefit from every
27 penny they save.

28 Conference therefore calls for:

- 29 1. The centenary of the state pension to be marked by the immediate reintroduction of the link
30 between the Basic State Pension and earnings.
31 2. The state to honour its responsibility to keep every pensioner out of poverty by moving
32 towards the introduction of a Citizen's Pension, based on residency not contributions.
33 3. The end of mass means-testing of pensioners, so that every working adult can have the
34 confidence that they will receive the full benefit of additional provision that they make for
35 themselves.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

14.50 Question and Answer Session

Chair: Steve Richards (*The Independent*)

Aide: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F17 Question and Answer Session with Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats

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A chance for conference representatives to put questions, on any topic, to the leader of the Liberal Democrats. Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Sunday 14th September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 11th September. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 66.

15.35 Policy Motion

Chair: Dee Doocey AM (London)
Aide: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

Sunday

F18 Cutting Crime by Catching Criminals

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Brian Paddick

Summation: Chris Huhne MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Home Secretary and Justice Minister)

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 i) There is widespread distrust of crime statistics.
3 ii) Overall crime has fallen, but fear of crime remains high, with knife crime a key reason.
4 iii) Fear has been fed by Labour and Tory competition on punishment.
5 iv) The prison population has never been higher and is the highest in Europe.
6 v) The average Crown Court custodial sentence is up from 22 to 25 months since 1996.
7 vi) Prisons are colleges of crime where 92% of young men on short-term custodial sentences re-
8 offend within two years.
9 vii) The Government's own evidence demonstrates that sentence severity does not deter criminals,
10 but detection does.
11 viii) As few as one in a hundred crimes leads to a conviction in court.
12 ix) There is widespread concern that police authorities lack the authority to stand up to Whitehall
13 in setting local priorities and budgets.
- 14 Conference believes that:
- 15 A. Catching criminals through better policing and improved detection is more effective in cutting
16 crime than posturing on penalties.
17 B. The public should have more information about local crime and detection rates to hold the
18 police to account.
19 C. Elected police authorities should represent local communities in all their diversity, unlike the
20 elected sheriffs proposed by the Tories.
21 D. The effectiveness of police authorities should be recognised by scrapping Whitehall capping
22 of budgets.
23 E. Neighbourhood policing has proved effective in re-establishing community trust, gathering
24 intelligence, and encouraging witnesses to come forward.
25 F. The police are too tied up in red tape, hampered by centralised targets, and demoralised by
26 failure to respect independent pay awards.
27 G. Reoffending is best tackled by making prisoners work or learn to ensure that they are prepared
28 for a life after crime.

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- 29 H. Policing and penal policy should be based on what works, not tabloid headlines.
- 30 Conference therefore calls for:
- 31 1. An extra 10,000 police officers on the streets, paid for by scrapping the ID card scheme, and the
32 use of neighbourhood policing.
- 33 2. An end to centralised targets that distort local police priorities.
- 34 3. Police forces to be accountable to elected authorities, which are able to defend local priorities,
35 set budgets and vary taxes where necessary:
- 36 a) Police authorities should be local councils where the borders are the same as those of
37 police forces.
- 38 b) Where police forces straddle more than one council, two-thirds of the members of police
39 authorities should be directly elected once every four years by the single transferable
40 vote, and one-third of the members should be nominated by councils that are crime and
41 disorder reduction partnerships in the force area.
- 42 c) Police authorities should co-opt extra members such as magistrates and others to ensure
43 diversity, experience and expertise.
- 44 d) Chief Officers to be answerable for their force's performance.
- 45 4. Command units to be aligned with local councils (or two local councils where they are small)
46 to ensure better partnership on crime reduction and disorder measures, an agreed plan, and
47 accountability to local priorities.
- 48 5. Faith to be restored in crime figures by:
- 49 a) Placing them under the supervision of the Office of National Statistics.
50 b) Publishing crime and detection rates at ward level.
- 51 6. A National Crime Reduction Agency to be charged with assessing and reporting on the
52 effectiveness of policing and criminal justice measures.
- 53 7. The spreading of best practice such as hot-spot policing to boost detection rates to the
54 standards of the best police units.
- 55 8. The Government to respect police pay awards from independent arbitration.
- 56 9. A significant reduction in unnecessary police paperwork, better use of voice-recognition
57 technology and hand-held computers.
- 58 10. Greater discretion for Chief Officers in managing their force, in deciding key staff changes and
59 in rewarding key specialisms.
- 60 11. Reform of the prison system so that:
- 61 a) All prisoners have access to education and training as a route into work.

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- 62 b) Prisoners with drug addictions and mental health problems are treated medically in more
63 appropriate accommodation.
- 64 12. A reform of the criminal justice system, with four new elements:
- 65 a) New Community Justice Panels to be set up in every town and city to deal with anti-social
66 behaviour and low-level criminality, so that offenders can pay back the community they
67 have wronged.
- 68 b) National use of restorative justice programmes, in which criminals can face up to what
69 they have done, apologise and agree to make amends to their victims.
- 70 c) Expand the use of specialist courts, notably drugs courts, so that judges can develop
71 expertise in dealing with cases and vary requirements according to the offender's
72 progress on rehabilitation.
- 73 d) A reinforced probation service to ensure that community sentences are enforced.

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 62. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

16.35 Speech

Chair: Baroness Garden of Frognal
Aide: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F19 Speech by Susan Kramer MP, Liberal Democrat Families Spokesperson

16.55 Policy Motion

Chair: Justine McGuinness
Aide: Cllr Gareth Epps

F20 Safe Standing at Football Matches

Chesham & Amersham, Aylesbury
Mover: Peter Jones
Summation: Sharon Bowles MEP

1 Conference notes that:

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- 2 A. Since 1994 all football clubs in the Premiership and the Football League Championship have
3 been required to provide all-seater accommodation.
4 B. Model ground regulations recommended by the Premier and Football Leagues stipulate that
5 standing in seated areas should be forbidden.
6 C. A sizeable minority of supporters who wish to watch football whilst standing continue to
7 stand in seated areas.
8 D. Spectators standing in seated areas can create a number of hazards particularly for those
9 seated around them.

10 Conference in particular notes that:

- 11 i) Standing in seating areas, and efforts to enforce the ban on it, is a significant cause of conflict
12 between supporters, their clubs and the authorities.
13 ii) Safe standing areas operate safely and successfully at many European grounds, notably in
14 Germany.
15 iii) Where customers have the choice to purchase tickets in either 'sitting' or 'standing' areas,
16 the problem of seated spectators finding their views blocked by people standing is largely
17 eliminated.
18 iv) Outside the top two divisions of English league football safe standing areas are permitted.
19 v) There is no recent evidence to suggest that standing spectators are any less safe at football
20 matches than those who are seated.

21 Conference believes that the introduction of safe standing areas would:

- 22 a) Be extremely popular with supporters, both those who prefer to stand and those who (for
23 whatever reasons including health or disability) prefer to sit.
24 b) Provide choice and promote social inclusion in the national game.
25 c) Positively assist the relationship between supporters and stewards by removing this area of
26 potential conflict.
27 d) Most importantly, be safe.

28 Conference therefore calls upon the Government to:

- 29 1. Replace any regulations requiring spectators to be seated with new regulations clearly setting
30 out standards under which a safe standing area may be licensed.
31 2. Direct the Football Licensing Authority to prepare suitable guidance under which domestic
32 football clubs, working with their supporters, may introduce safe standing areas.

Applicability: England and Wales.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

17.30 Policy Motion

Sunday 14th

Chair: Catherine Bearder
Aide: Arnie Gibbons

F21 Deportation to States which Persecute on the Grounds of Sexuality and Gender Identity

DELGA, Hackney

Mover: Brian Stone
Summation: Adrian Trett

- 1 Conferences notes:
- 2 a) A number of recent cases in which lesbians and gay men have been deported or threatened
3 with deportation to countries, including Iran and Nigeria, where homosexuality is treated as a
4 crime punishable by sentences including the death penalty.
- 5 b) That the British Government has argued it would be acceptable for a lesbian or gay person to
6 be deported to a homophobic state, as long as that individual behaved in a 'discreet' manner.
- 7 c) That the UK is a signatory to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or
8 Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which prohibits torture, and the transfer, return or
9 expulsion of persons to countries where there are substantial grounds for believing that they
10 would be in danger of being subjected to torture.

11 Conference reaffirms the commitment in the preamble to the Liberal Democrat constitution
12 that our responsibility for justice and liberty cannot be confined by national boundaries; we are
13 committed to fight poverty, oppression, hunger, ignorance, disease and aggression wherever they
14 occur and to promote the free movement of ideas, people, goods and services.

15 Conference believes that:

- 16 1. Everyone should be treated equally under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel,
17 Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, regardless of sexual orientation or gender
18 identification.
- 19 2. The suggestion that individuals should behave 'discreetly' to guarantee protection from harm
20 is, in the 21st century, an inappropriate message for the British Government to send to the
21 countries concerned and their people.

22 Conference therefore calls on the Government to halt the deportation of people to countries where
23 their sexual orientation or gender identification may mean that they are threatened with the risk of
24 imprisonment, torture, or even execution.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

18.00 Close of Session

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09.00 Consultative Session

Chair: Cllr Ruth Polling (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aides: Arnie Gibbons and Cllr Chris Maines

F22 Party Reform Commission

This is a consultative session to allow conference representatives to discuss the recommendations of the Party Reform Commission. The session will open with a presentation by the Commission's Chair, Professor Chris Bones.

Any party member may speak in this session; speeches are limited to two minutes each. The session will follow the structure of the report of the Commission, together with an opportunity for members to comment on any issue which in their opinion should also have been included. Party members should indicate clearly which section they wish to speak on, using the normal speaker's cards; members may submit more than one card if they wish to speak on more than one section.

10.45 Policy Motion

Chair: Chris Gurney
Aide: Cllr Jon Ball

F23 Extension of the Remit of the International Criminal Court

North Somerset, North Wiltshire, Westminster

Mover: Dr Brian Mathew
Summation: Jo Hayes

- 1 Conference recalls:
- 2 A. The role played by the International Criminal Court in holding some rogue heads of
- 3 government and their associates to account for persecuting their populations, or sections of
- 4 their population, as in Bosnia.
- 5 B. The place of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in outlining the rights that all humanity
- 6 should expect to be guaranteed by their own and other governments.
- 7 Conference notes with regret that:
- 8 i) A number of countries, including the United States of America, have not signed up to the
- 9 International Criminal Court.
- 10 ii) Not all members of the UN Security Council recognise the ICC, and it thus lacks an effective
- 11 implementation arm to bring rogue leaders to justice with the full weight of the Security
- 12 Council and the United Nations.
- 13 Conference believes that:
- 14 a) If the ICC was given both full UN recognition and an implementation arm, it would be able to
- 15 hold rogue heads of government and their associates to account for the persecution of their
- 16 populations, or sections of their populations, both where this has occurred or is currently

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- 17 occurring; such powers would not only help stop mistreatment of civilian populations, but also
18 help to deter and prevent such mistreatment in the future and deny the use of the excuse of
19 'non -interference in internal affairs'.
20 b) There is a serious need for the peoples of all countries to have such protection from their own
21 governments, as has been demonstrated recently by the suppression of democracy in Burma
22 and Zimbabwe.
23 c) Had full UN recognition and empowerment of the ICC existed in the past, this could have led
24 rogue heads of government and their associates to consider the consequences of their actions
25 for themselves personally.
26 d) The existence of a UN ICC holding such powers will promote peace and security by bringing
27 individuals to justice rather than by necessitating the invasion of whole countries, as
28 exemplified by the debacle in Iraq.

29 Conference calls for the UK Government:

- 30 1. To propose to the United Nations General Assembly a new international role for the ICC, in
31 which it acts on behalf of the UN Security Council to help protect the human rights of all
32 people, by holding currently serving heads of government and their associates to account for
33 their actions, should they persecute their own populations and infringe on their human rights,
34 as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
35 2. To help fund and resource, with other UN nations, the ICC to enable it to carry out its new
36 responsibilities.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

11.15 Speech

Chair: Cllr Marisha Ray
Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F24 Speech by Norman Lamb MP, Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Health

11.35 Policy Motion

Chair: Cllr Sarah Boad
Aide: Cllr James Gurling

F25 Eco-towns

South Cambridgeshire
Mover: Cllr Sebastian Kindersley
Summation: Cllr Tim Stone

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- 1 Conference:
- 2 1. Supports the case for new housing to help meet the needs of developing communities and to
3 enable those for whom house purchase is out of reach to find houses to rent or secure a stake
4 in.
- 5 2. Believes that such housing should where possible be on brownfield land, and closely linked to
6 existing settlements.
- 7 3. Opposes the development of new settlements in the green belt.
- 8 4. Also opposes the development of free-standing eco-towns.
- 9 5. Affirms that new developments should be subject to the local and democratically accountable
10 planning system, not imposed by central government.
- 11 6. Asserts that the focus should be on making already planned and approved developments
12 more environmentally and socially sustainable, rather than on superimposing new settlements
13 in rural areas.
- 14 7. Believes that new housing in all settlements should be built:
- 15 a) Using locally available materials with low embedded energy.
16 b) To high standards of insulation and with the most energy-efficient appliances.
17 c) With full regard to the impact of additional house-building on flood plains and on other
18 housing.
19 d) With consideration to the impact of water demand, and incorporating low water use
20 options and water recycling to the fullest extent possible.
- 21 8. Calls for a master planning process as adopted in some other European countries, with prior
22 agreement of developers, communities and local authorities on sustainability objectives
23 and their application in all stages of the development in ways which respect the needs and
24 aspirations of new and emerging communities, who should be fully involved in the decision-
25 making process.
- 26 9. Further calls for all new developments to be dependent to a much higher level on locally
27 generated and renewable sources of both heat and electricity, with the necessary infrastructure
28 (including district heating) provided for at design stage.

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 62. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

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12.20 Speech

Chair: Lynne Featherstone MP
Aide: Cllr James Gurling

F26 **Speech by Dr Vincent Cable MP, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer**

12.40 Lunch

14.20 Policy Motion

Chair: Sal Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)
Aide: Cllr Gareth Epps

F27 **Broadcasting Court Proceedings**

Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association

Mover: Jonathan Marks QC
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference believes that:
- 2 A. It is a cardinal principle of justice in a civilised society that justice must not only be done but
- 3 must be seen to be done.
- 4 B. Open justice requires that unless there are powerful reasons to the contrary, for example in
- 5 cases relating to the welfare of children, court cases should be heard in public.
- 6 C. The most effective way of ensuring that hearings are genuinely heard in public is by permitting
- 7 television and radio broadcasting of court proceedings, subject to necessary safeguards, in
- 8 addition to press reporting and the admission of members of the public to courtrooms.
- 9 D. Were the broadcasting of court proceedings to be permitted, that would be likely to have the
- 10 beneficial effects of:
 - 11 i) Contributing significantly to public understanding of the system of justice.
 - 12 ii) Better informing the public about individual cases and the reasons for court decisions.
 - 13 iii) Increasing public confidence in the justice system.
 - 14 iv) Improving public scrutiny of the justice system.
 - 15 v) Making courts more accessible to members of the public.
 - 16 vi) Enhancing the performance of advocates and judges.
 - 17 vii) Providing a considerable educational resource for young people and students.
- 18 E. Similar considerations should apply to public enquiries and proceedings before tribunals
- 19 sitting in public.
- 20 Conference notes:

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- 21 I. That Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights provides that: 'In the determination
22 of his civil rights and obligations or of any criminal charge against him, everyone is entitled to
23 a fair and public hearing within a reasonable time by an independent and impartial tribunal
24 established by law.'
- 25 II. The imminence of the establishment of a Supreme Court for the United Kingdom.
- 26 III. The success of the broadcasting of proceedings in Parliament.
- 27 IV. The substantial success of the broadcasting of court proceedings in comparable common law
28 jurisdictions, such as Scotland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United States.
- 29 V. The increase in the number and importance of cases of judicial review, so that review of the
30 actions of the executive by the courts is now an important part of the democratic process.
- 31 VI. The broad welcome given to the principle of broadcasting court proceedings in the
32 consultation exercise conducted by the Department for Constitutional Affairs in 2005.
- 33 VII. That the Justice Secretary appears to have abandoned progress towards broadcasting court
34 proceedings, except, possibly, in respect of the new Supreme Court.
- 35 VIII. That broadcasting of court proceedings, subject to appropriate safeguards, is supported in
36 principle by Justice and the Bar Council.

37 Conference therefore calls upon the Government to:

- 38 1. Introduce and support legislation to repeal Section 41 of the Criminal Justice Act 1925, which
39 has the effect of banning broadcasting of all court proceedings.
- 40 2. Permit television and radio broadcasting of court proceedings held in open court save where
41 the interests of justice require otherwise.
- 42 3. Introduce Rules of Court to ensure that broadcasting does not prejudice the interests of justice,
43 providing in particular:
- 44 a) That broadcasting will not, save in exceptional circumstances, be permitted in family
45 cases, cases involving the welfare of children and cases involving sexual offences.
- 46 b) That pictures or recordings of jurors in criminal cases should not be broadcast.
- 47 c) That judges should have discretion to restrict the broadcasting of witnesses' evidence in
48 appropriate cases.
- 49 d) That judges should be required to forbid broadcasting of evidence or argument where it
50 is established that broadcasting would pose a threat to national security or to the safety
51 of any person or property.
- 52 4. Make similar arrangements for the broadcasting of proceedings in public enquiries and before
53 Tribunals in which proceedings are held in public.
- 54 5. Provide for a review of these arrangements for the broadcasting of court and other
55 proceedings to be held after they have been operating for three years.

Applicability: England and Wales.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

14.50 Policy Motion

Chair: Cllr Alan Sherwell
Aide: Cllr Jon Ball

F28 *Make it Happen* (Vision and Values Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Danny Alexander MP (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference believes that real change is needed in Britain to address the many problems facing
2 ordinary people and families.
- 3 Conference believes that the core purpose of a Liberal Democrat government will be to create a
4 fair society, where everyone gets real opportunities and chances in life, through taking power from
5 Westminster and special interests and giving it to people and communities.
- 6 Conference notes that:
- 7 a) Labour and the Conservatives are so used to being in power every few years, they don't listen
8 to people any more.
- 9 b) Only the Liberal Democrats have the vision and substance to provide real solutions and make
10 change happen. Labour can't. The Conservatives won't.
- 11 Conference resolves that our policy priorities must be:
- 12 1. Delivering big tax cuts for those who are struggling, an end to the unfair Council Tax, and
13 extra investment in the poorest children from their first day at pre-school right through to
14 university.
- 15 2. Investing in clean energy instead of nuclear, and getting people out of their cars and into
16 quality public transport.
- 17 3. Introducing fairer elections in which every vote really counts, and ending the influence of big
18 money in politics.
- 19 4. Standing up for British freedoms, with a Freedom Law to get the government off people's
20 backs, and new privacy protections for our personal data.
- 21 Conference therefore welcomes *Make it Happen* as a statement of the party's vision and values, and
22 the basis for developing both the next General Election Manifesto and campaign messages for the
23 remainder of this Parliament.

Applicability: Federal, except 1, 2 and 4 (lines 12–16 and 19–20) which are in part England only.

Mover and summation: 20 minutes combined; all other speakers: 5 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See 'interventions' on page 65.

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The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 62. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

16.20 Question and Answer Session

Chair: Steve Webb MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs)

Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F29 Question and Answer Session on Environmental Policy

Panellists will include:

- Chris Davies MEP (Environment Spokesperson, European Parliament)
- Dorothy Thornhill (Mayor of Watford)
- Jonathon Porritt CBE (Chair, UK Sustainable Development Commission)

A chance for conference representatives to put questions on any environmental issue, and any aspect of Liberal Democrat policy on environmental issues, to a panel including party spokespeople and outside experts.

Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Monday 15th September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 11th September. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 66.

17.20 Policy Discussion

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball

Aide: Dee Doocey AM (London)

F30 Urgent Issue

This slot has been reserved for discussion of an important current political issue. Suggestions for issues may be submitted by any conference representative. The deadline for suggestions for urgent issues is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 68 for further information. The topic selected for the discussion will be notified through the Advance Notice and Daily Announcements.

Introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

18.00 Close of Session

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09.00 Policy Motion

Chair: Tessa Munt
Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F31 Emergency Motion

The deadline for emergency motions is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 64. Those selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

09.30 Policy Motion

Chair: Arnie Gibbons
Aide: Geoff Payne

F32 A Response to the Housing and Mortgage Crisis

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Dr Vincent Cable MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer)
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 i) House prices have continually fallen since last autumn, with further falls predicted, putting
3 millions of people into negative equity.
- 4 ii) 1 million households spend more than two-thirds of their income on housing according to a
5 recent survey by Shelter.
- 6 iii) The number of repossessions and repossession claims have more than doubled in the last five
7 years, reaching a 15-year high in 2007.
- 8 iv) Under this Government the social housing safety net has dwindled from 4.386 million social
9 homes to rent in England in 1997 to just 3.936 million social homes in 2006 while the number of
10 households on social housing waiting lists has risen almost 70% to 1.67 million and notes that
11 the Local Government Association predicts that this could rise to 2 million households by 2010.
- 12 Conference supports the policies passed in conference motion *Homes for All* in spring 2008 to
13 increase the supply of sustainable social and affordable housing.
- 14 Conference acknowledges:
- 15 a) The current dramatic falls in house prices are the result of an unsustainable bubble that
16 formed in the housing market fuelled by irresponsible lending.
- 17 b) Throughout the period of unsustainable growth in the housing market the Government
18 made no attempt to deal with the housing bubble, or to crack down on irresponsible levels of
19 lending.

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- 20 c) That while it is not the job of government to prevent house prices falling to a more affordable
21 level, it is not in the interest of the economy as a whole if negative equity and repossession
22 leads to large numbers of people becoming homeless and over-indebted.
- 23 Conference therefore calls on the Government to:
- 24 1. Allow councils and Registered Social Landlords to borrow against their assets to buy up unsold
25 properties and sites from building companies in order to replenish the social housing stock, to
26 deal with the current 1.67 million households on social housing waiting lists.
- 27 2. Introduce a statutory Code of Practice for mortgage lenders to ensure that repossession is the
28 only ever the last resort – all borrowers in arrears should be offered:
- 29 a) Free independent financial advice.
30 b) A chance to renegotiate the terms of their mortgage.
31 c) An opportunity to sell equity in their home to a Registered Social Landlord (RSL) and
32 become part-tenants of that landlord, dependent on meeting the requirements of the
33 RSL.
- 34 3. Protect vulnerable homeowners against rogue doorstep companies by regulating the private
35 'sale and leaseback' market as a financial service through the Financial Services Agency.

Applicability: Federal, except 1 (lines 24–26) which is England and Wales.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 62. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

10.15 Speech

Chair: Cllr John Commons
Aide: Geoff Payne

F33 Speech by Chris Huhne MP, Liberal Democrat Shadow Home Secretary and Secretary of State for Justice

10.35 Policy Motion

Chair: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Justine McGuinness

F34 **Fast Track Britain: Building a Transport System for the 21st Century (Transport Policy Paper)**

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Norman Baker MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Transport)

Summation: To be announced

1 Conference is committed to providing a transport system for the UK which meets the twin
2 challenges of reducing the use of carbon and increasing capacity.

3 Conference believes the Liberal Democrats should be the champion of the passenger, through
4 measures such as investing in public transport, providing access to information and creating a
5 robust system of passenger representation.

6 Conference believes that the key principles which should guide transport policy are:

- 7 I. **Choice:** Citizens should be empowered by the transport network and the planning system to
8 choose how often and by which modes they will travel, knowing what effect they will have on
9 the environment.
- 10 II. **Fairness:** All individuals, whether in urban or rural areas, should have equality of opportunity
11 to access transport options and should be charged for using the transport system according to
12 the environmental damage caused by their choices.
- 13 III. **Freedom:** The transport system should enhance the ability for people to make the most
14 of their lives, minimising negative impacts such as lack of access, pollution, and danger to
15 personal safety.
- 16 IV. **Responsibility:** Transport must contribute positively to the UK, allowing all regions to become
17 low-carbon, economically competitive, sustainable communities and contributing to Britain
18 becoming carbon-neutral by 2050. Working together, the nations and regions of the UK can
19 improve vital transport connections across the country.
- 20 V. **Quality:** The transport experience should be comfortable, efficient, reliable, affordable and
21 environmentally sustainable.

22 Conference therefore endorses Policy Paper 85, *Fast Track Britain: Building a Transport System for the*
23 *21st Century*, as a statement of the party's key policies for creating a vision for a modern, viable and
24 accessible transport system. Conference particularly welcomes:

- 25 1. Proposals to build a national rail network fit for the demands of modern Britain, including:
 - 26 a) Commencing a priority programme for high speed rail immediately, to be rolled out over
27 approximately 15 years, increasing the capacity and capabilities in England, Scotland and
28 Wales of the UK rail network.
 - 29 b) Committing to full electrification of the network by 2050.
 - 30 c) Establishing rolling franchises for train operators with regular performance and passenger
31 satisfaction targets, thereby encouraging investment in the rail network and improving
32 standards.
 - 33 d) Introducing a rolling programme of rail expansion schemes in local areas including
34 opening new lines.
- 35 2. Proposals to create a fair and sustainable deal for motorists, including:
 - 36 a) Introducing revenue-neutral motorway and trunk road pricing within ten years by:

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- 37 i) In the first parliament creating viable alternatives to cars and reducing carbon
38 emissions by investing in public transport. This investment would be funded through
39 a national road pricing scheme for lorries (including foreign lorries) and a domestic
40 surcharge to Aviation Duty (excluding lifeline flights). As an interim measure, more
41 steeply graduated Vehicle Excise Duty would be introduced for new cars in order to
42 encourage environmental efficiencies and reduce carbon emissions.
- 43 ii) In the second phase, reducing fuel duty and abolishing VED in order to introduce
44 road pricing on motorways and trunk roads for all vehicles. This would be introduced
45 across the UK after discussions with the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly.
- 46 b) Increasing the graduation of the proposed 'showroom' tax on the purchase of new cars,
47 reducing the cost of low-emission vehicles (bands A and B) by increasing the tax on the
48 highest bands (bands F and G). Under our 'green tax switch' proposals, any additional
49 revenue raised will be used to reduce taxes on income.
- 50 c) Creating an independent car parking regulator, protecting motorists through national
51 standards on issues such as appeals procedures and safety.
- 52 d) Working with the EU to introduce mandatory average vehicle emissions targets and
53 supporting UK research and development into low-carbon technologies.
- 54 3. Proposals to create a sustainable market for aviation, including:
- 55 a) Increasing Aviation Duty on domestic flights, excluding lifeline flights.
- 56 b) Including aviation in the UK and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change emissions
57 inventories, and ensuring that the UK emissions target in the Climate Change Bill includes
58 aviation and shipping.
- 59 4. Proposals to create a viable strategic vision for the UK's future transport system, including:
- 60 a) Setting up a Future Transport Fund to provide an investment stream for improvements
61 to the public transport system. The Fund would invest in the UK-wide high speed rail
62 network and also provide funding for the nations and regions of the UK to direct to their
63 public transport priorities. The investment stream from the fund would be allocated in
64 agreement with the Scottish Parliament and Welsh Assembly, reflecting the sources of
65 income for the fund.
- 66 b) Substantially amending transport planning criteria to more accurately reflect the impact
67 of different transport options on the environment and society.
- 68 c) Creating a Department for the Environment, Energy and Transport to enhance policy
69 coordination.
- 70 5. Proposals to support local communities and localised transport, including:
- 71 a) Enhancing the powers of Integrated Transport Authorities and local authorities to control
72 local bus matters.
- 73 b) Empowering local communities to find innovative solutions to their transport problems,
74 including removing unnecessarily restrictive regulation and providing funding streams
75 for community transport projects.
- 76 c) Ensuring all major public service changes take into account accessibility by transport as
77 part of the planning process.
- 78 d) Introducing a Rural Transport Access Fund to support innovation in all modes of local
79 transport.

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- 80 e) Introducing a cycling 'Gold Standard' award for rail and bus stations that meet acceptable
81 facility standards.
- 82 f) Using the planning system to reduce the need to travel, designing in low-travel, low-
83 carbon living to all new developments.
- 84 g) Ensuring that volunteer drivers are not disadvantaged by Treasury regulations concerning
85 the mileage they can charge before tax.
- 86 6. Proposals to encourage more sustainable methods of moving freight, including:
- 87 a) Ensuring good rail paths on key strategic freight corridors.
- 88 b) Facilitating the maximum use of inland and coastal waterways, including reinvigorating
89 the Waterborne Freight Facilities Grant.
- 90 c) Encouraging research and development into low-carbon technologies for freight
91 vehicles.

Amendment One

Leeds West

Mover: Mick Taylor

Summation: Ruth Coleman

1 *Delete 1 c) (lines 30–32) and insert:*

- 2 c) Ending current train operating franchises at the end of their current term, with a reformed
3 Network Rail taking over the franchises as they fall vacant.

Amendment Two

Women Liberal Democrats

Mover: To be announced

Summation: To be announced

1 *After 5 c) (line 77), insert:*

- 2 d) Improving the safety of local transport for women and vulnerable individuals by requiring all
3 Local Transport Authorities and local councils with responsibility for transport services to:
- 4 i) Undertake an audit of public spaces and transport networks with a view to designing
5 and modifying them with the safety of women and vulnerable individuals specifically in
6 mind.
- 7 ii) Ensure the availability of emergency telephones at transport stations and stops.
- 8 iii) Review the position and design of bus stops to ensure they are visible and well lit.
- 9 iv) Pilot schemes which allow women and vulnerable individuals off the bus between stops
10 at night.

Applicability: Federal except:

1 b), 2 a) ii), 2 b), 2 c) and 6 b) (lines 29, 43–45, 46–51 and 88–89) which are England and Wales only;

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1 d), 2 a) i), 4 b), 5 a), 5 b), 5 d), 5 e) and 5 f) (lines 33–34, 37–42, 66–67, 71–75 and 78–83) and Amendment Two, which are England only;

1 c) and 6 a) (lines 30–32 and 87) and Amendment One which are Federal, except when referring to railway lines which are exclusively based in Wales or Scotland (i.e. not cross-border services), when they will be England only;

4 c) (lines 68–69) which is Federal, but does not change the current division of devolved responsibilities on the environment, energy and transport; and

5 c) (lines 76–77) which is Federal, England and Wales, or England only, depending on the public service in question.

Mover and summation: 20 minutes combined; all other speakers: 5 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See 'interventions' on page 65.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

Tuesday

12.05 Party Business

Chair: Cllr Chris Maines
Aide: Sal Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F35 Party Awards

The Harriet Smith Awards
The President's Awards
The Penhaligon Awards
The Patsy Calton Award
The Albert Ingham Award

12.20 Speech

Chair: Cllr Chris Maines
Aide: Sal Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F36 Speech by Simon Hughes MP, President of the Liberal Democrats

12.40 Lunch

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14.20 Party Business

Chair: Tessa Munt
Aide: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F37 Report of the Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Sal Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

14.30 Policy Motion

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Baroness Garden of Frognal

F38 *Shaping Our World Through a Strong Europe (Europe Policy Paper)*

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Sir Colin Budd (Chair, Policy Working Group)
Summation: Edward Davey MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Foreign Secretary)

- 1 Conference believes that:
- 2 I. The EU has achieved a great deal in the last 50 years and continues to do much to increase
3 prosperity and promote freedom and democracy.
- 4 II. The EU needs to do more to put its own house in order to focus better on its core objectives
5 and realise its full potential.
- 6 III. The EU provides the best available platform from which to respond to the challenges and
7 exploit the opportunities of globalisation: the UK is far more secure within the EU.
- 8 IV. Labour and the Conservatives have taken a half-hearted approach to the UK's relationship
9 with Europe, refusing to provide political leadership and undermining the UK's standing and
10 influence within the EU.
- 11 Conference is committed to providing the sort of constructive engagement in Europe that is
12 essential to protect and promote the UK's national interest, protect its citizens and further its
13 influence in the world.
- 14 Conference therefore believes that the key principles which should guide Europe policy are:
- 15 A. Internationalism: the UK is stronger, more secure and influential on the global stage working
16 with and through the EU.
- 17 B. The rule of law: the UK is better able to protect its citizens at home and abroad by working
18 with and through the EU on issues such as cross-border crime, terrorism, rights in court and
19 smuggling of arms or drugs.
- 20 C. Democracy and Human Rights: the EU is a powerful force for the spread of democratic
21 institutions, defending and promoting human rights; it works to protect democracy and
22 human rights within the existing Union and to promote and enhance them both in aspirant
23 member states and throughout the world.
- 24 D. Protecting the environment: the UK is able to do more to effect positive change for the

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25 environment by working with and through the EU, offering a powerful platform to lead the
26 fight against climate change.
27 E. Security, stability and prosperity: the EU is a major source of security, stability and prosperity in
28 our continent and therefore for the British people; the UK has a strong interest in building on
29 this success.

30 Conference therefore endorses Policy Paper 87, *Shaping Our World Through a Strong Europe*, as a
31 statement of the party's key policies for creating a vision for the UK's European future. Conference
32 particularly welcomes the proposals to:

33 1. Reform and strengthen common policies in order to bring about real change within the
34 European Union, through whatever institutional framework is in place.

35 2. Provide vigorous support for the Agenda for Economic Reform, and for the completion of the
36 Single Market, including:

- 37 a) Implementing the Services Directive and other internal market directives.
- 38 b) Eliminating obstacles to cross-border economic activity.
- 39 c) Continuing efforts to tackle tax fraud.
- 40 d) More effective application of public procurement rules, using light regulation and mutual
41 recognition where possible.
- 42 e) Agreeing a code of best practice for Sovereign Wealth Fund investments.
- 43 f) More efficient use of EU Research and Development support.

44 3. Ensure a continuing focus of support on those regions, particularly in Central and Eastern
45 Europe, that are economically well behind the rest of the EU.

46 4. Provide more accountability in budget-setting within the EU, including:

- 47 a) Linking the budget-setting cycles with the political cycles of the Commission and the
48 European Parliament.
- 49 b) Giving local and regional authorities more say in the design of regional policy.

50 5. Push forward the subsidiarity agenda, including:

- 51 a) Continuing with the process of regulatory reform, making every effort to use sunset
52 clauses, withdrawing unnecessary legislation, and ensuring that resources are focused on
53 core functions.
- 54 b) Extending the role of the European Parliament in scrutinising the use of delegated
55 powers and the implementation of EU law by the member states.

56 6. Ensure that the 2008/9 EU budget is restructured and better supports the EU's core activities,
57 including reducing the volume and share of the budget expended on the Common
58 Agricultural Policy.

59 7. Ensure greater cooperation in the area of Freedom, Security and Justice, including:

- 60 a) Strong UK backing for measures to tackle terrorism, fight international crime and achieve
61 better justice for UK citizens within the EU.
- 62 b) Agreement at EU level on a set of minimum procedural safeguards when EU citizens

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- 63 appear before a court in any member state, such as access to lawyers, legal aid, interpreters
64 and proper recording of interviews.
- 65 c) The creation of minimum standards in EU asylum and immigration policy.
66 d) Pursuing safeguards and privacy guarantees on the sharing of information and databases
67 by EU bodies and member state agencies.
- 68 8. Take a more positive role in leading action at EU level to tackle climate change and ensure
69 reliable energy supplies including:
- 70 a) Increasing the EU's target for reducing carbon emissions to 30% by 2020.
71 b) Ensuring that EU policies play a greater role in building a low-carbon economy.
72 c) Ensuring that there is an EU framework to tackle climate change, which assists national
73 governments in introducing strong and effective measures.
74 d) Promoting clean, low-carbon energy technologies, including supporting the EU target for
75 20% of Europe's energy to come from renewable sources by 2020 and speeding up the
76 development of carbon capture and storage.
77 e) Strong measures to promote energy efficiency and energy saving.
78 f) Developing a common EU energy policy, including the completion of an open and
79 competitive European energy market, with a requirement for the supply and distribution
80 of energy to be separated and working for a competitive global gas market.
- 81 9. Reform agricultural and fisheries policy within the EU, including:
- 82 a) Creating of a new Sustainable Land Use and Rural Development policy, to replace the
83 current Common Agricultural Policy.
84 b) Transferring 30% of agricultural expenditure into a rural development budget (with a
85 focus on environment measures).
86 c) Bringing forward the date for ending export subsidies from 2013 to 2010 – Intervention
87 Boards should be abolished at the same time.
88 d) Providing full support for sustainability criteria for biofuels, ensuring that no biofuels
89 come from land cleared of natural habitats or fail to save 50% more carbon emissions in
90 comparison to conventional fuels.
91 e) Extensive devolution of responsibility and power to regional management bodies, which
92 include representatives of fishermen and marine scientists.
- 93 10. Call for an 'ambitious, balanced and comprehensive agreement on the Doha Development
94 Round' of world trade negotiations.
- 95 11. Provide for enlargement of the EU for countries willing and able to meet the requirements of
96 membership, and provide support to those neighbouring states not on a trajectory to join the
97 EU.
- 98 12. Give leadership from the UK on improved EU defence co-operation including on procurement,
99 as well as encouraging more EU countries to participate in deployment and, if the Lisbon Treaty
100 enters into force, through the new Structured Co-operation arrangements which have the
101 potential to enable those EU countries willing and able to do so to participate in deployments
102 which would facilitate more effective EU responses.

Applicability: Federal.

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Mover and summation: 20 minutes combined; all other speakers: 5 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See 'interventions' on page 65.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 62. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

16.00 Question and Answer Session

Chair: Lord Newby (Lords Treasury Spokesperson)
Aide: Cllr Jon Ball

F39 Question and Answer Session on the Economy

Panellists will include:

- Dr Vincent Cable MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer)
- Jeremy Browne MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury)
- Professor Paul Ekins (Professor of Energy and Environment Policy, King's College London)
- Liam Halligan (Economics Columnist, *Sunday Telegraph*)

A chance for conference reps to put questions on any economic issue, and any aspect of Liberal Democrat policy on economic issues, to a panel including party spokespeople and outside experts. Questions relating to policies on Britain's current economic situation, including the rising cost of living, and on the inter-relationship of economic and environmental policies, will be particularly welcome.

Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Tuesday 16th September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 11th September. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 66.

17.00 Party Business

Chair: Cec Tallack
Aide: Geoff Payne

F40 Report of the Federal Executive

Mover: Simon Hughes MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)

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The deadline for questions to this report is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 66 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 16.00 on Tuesday 16th September.

F41 Report of the Federal Finance and Administration Committee

Mover: Duncan Greenland (Chair, Federal Finance and Administration Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 66 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 16.15 on Tuesday 16th September.

17.30 Party Business

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball

Aide: Cllr Ruth Polling (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F42 Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy

Federal Executive

Mover: To be announced

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 i) The Federal Executive is proposing that there be no change in the minimum, concessionary or
- 3 Youth and Student SAO and Freshers Fair subscription rates; the FE believes, however, that the
- 4 recommended subscription should rise in line with inflation from £48 to £50.
- 5 ii) The Federal Executive is proposing an increase in the Federal levy, so that more of the increased
- 6 income from subscriptions can be spent in the areas most in need of support in the 2009 local
- 7 elections.
- 8 iii) By raising the Federal Levy on membership renewal subscriptions from 42% to 44% additional
- 9 funding of approximately £50,000 will be available for the key council contests and most
- 10 marginal wards.
- 11 iv) English regional parties will not see their income reduced as a result of the proposed change
- 12 in levy even though the extra income will be redistributed to key council contests and most
- 13 marginal wards under the G8 process.
- 14 Conference resolves that for the year 2009:
- 15 1. Membership Subscription
- 16 a) The recommended subscription rate shall be £50.
- 17 b) The minimum subscription rate shall remain unchanged at £10.
- 18 c) The concessionary subscription rate for those in receipt of (or entitled to) state benefits
- 19 other than child benefit or state pension shall remain unchanged at £6.
- 20 d) The subscription for members paying through the Youth and Student SAO shall remain

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21 unchanged at £6 or, where a new member joins at a Freshers Fair event, the special
22 introductory rate will remain unchanged at £1.
23 e) Nothing in this motion prevents a State Party from setting a recommended rate or rates
24 of subscription by its internal procedures which is/are higher than that agreed by the
25 Federal Conference.

26 2. Federal Levy

27 The Federal Levy on new members shall be 0% of the subscription paid and the Federal Levy
28 on renewal subscriptions shall be 44%.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 62. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

18.00 Close of Session

Conference timetable 2009

Spring Conference: Friday 6th – Sunday 8th March

Deadline:	Wednesday
constitutional amendments /	19th Nov. 2008
amendments to standing orders	
Conference Committee	Saturday
	29th Nov. 2008
Deadline:	Wednesday
draft motions for drafting advice	17th Dec. 2008
Deadline:	Wednesday
policy and business motions	7th Jan. 2009
Conference Committee	Sunday
	18th Jan. 2009
Deadline: amendments /	Tuesday
emergency motions /	3rd March 2009
questions to reports	

Autumn Conference: Saturday 19th – Thursday 23rd September

Deadline:	Wednesday
drafting advice	13th May 2009
Deadline: motions, constitutional	Wednesday
amendments etc	27th May 2009
Conference Committee	Saturday
	5th June 2009
Deadline:	Wednesday
topical motions / amendments	15th July 2009
Conference Committee	Saturday
	25th July 2009
Deadline:	Tuesday
emergency motions	15th Sept. 2009

Note: some of these dates will change if conference passes the proposed standing order and constitutional amendments under items F6 and F7

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09.00 Policy Motion

Chair: Roy Thomson
Aide: Tessa Munt

F43 Emergency Motion

The deadline for emergency motions is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 64. Those selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

09.30 Policy Motion

Chair: Geoff Payne
Aide: Dee Doocey AM (London)

F44 Equality and Fairness in Mental Health Provision

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Norman Lamb MP (Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Health)
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that, despite funding for mental health services increasing by more than £1.5
- 2 billion since 1999, those experiencing mental health problems continue to suffer unacceptable
- 3 discrimination in terms of access to services and treatment.

- 4 In particular, conference notes that:
 - 5 i) Mental health has been estimated to cost the UK economy £48 billion every year in loss of
 - 6 output and cost of treatment.
 - 7 ii) Currently there is inequity in treatment between patients with physical health needs and
 - 8 those with mental health needs.
 - 9 iii) As a consequence of existing funding arrangements (waiting time targets and 'payment by
 - 10 results'), mental health trusts have suffered real term cuts in funding, resulting in services for
 - 11 some of the most vulnerable people being cut back.
 - 12 iv) There are high proportions of depression and anxiety disorder sufferers who are not in contact
 - 13 with services, whilst many children and adolescents with conduct disorders and eating
 - 14 disorders remain undiagnosed and untreated.
 - 15 v) There is a severe shortage of psychological therapists and family-oriented programmes which
 - 16 is compromising treatment and resulting in NICE guidelines on treatment not being met.
 - 17 vi) As a result of this, drugs are often unnecessarily prescribed to individuals who need therapeutic
 - 18 treatment, as therapy is not available.
 - 19 vii) Conditions in many inpatient mental health wards are completely unacceptable.
 - 20 viii) When people with mental health needs suffer physical health conditions, outcomes

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- 21 are significantly worse than the average, producing dramatically shortened average life
22 expectancy for this group.
- 23 ix) Many people suffering from mental health problems languish in prison without appropriate,
24 effective treatment.
- 25 x) There are over a million people on incapacity benefit as a result of mental health needs who
26 could be supported back into appropriate work but currently do not get access to therapies.
- 27 xi) Mixed-sex wards and mixed wards of adults and young people under 18 still exist in mental
28 health hospitals, despite the risks to vulnerable patients.

29 Conference believes that the fundamental principles which the National Health Service must
30 embrace and apply in the treatment of mental health needs are:

- 31 a) Equality: those with mental health needs should receive equal treatment from the NHS to
32 those with physical needs.
- 33 b) Fairness: everyone should be entitled to a 'core package' of care.
- 34 c) Empowerment: individuals should be enabled to take control back over their own lives as far
35 as possible.
- 36 d) Quality: individuals should be able to access high quality, appropriate treatment, delivered by
37 highly trained professionals.

38 Conference condemns the existing discrimination within the NHS. Conference therefore calls for
39 the following, to be funded within existing overall NHS budgets:

- 40 1. The introduction, in accordance with Policy Paper 84, *Empowerment, Fairness and Quality in*
41 *Health Care* (2008), of an equal entitlement to treatment for all NHS patients; mental health
42 service users would be entitled to treatment within 13 weeks by 2012, failing which they
43 would be guaranteed access to treatment paid for privately by the NHS.
- 44 2. Personal care budgets to be granted to those patients who are able to make informed
45 choices.
- 46 3. The introduction of the patient contract for those with mental health needs, as laid out in
47 Policy Paper 84, *Empowerment, Fairness and Quality in Health Care*.
- 48 4. Independent Patient Advocates, providing information, guidance and support to both mental
49 health patients and carers.
- 50 5. The ending of mixed sex wards in mental health units.
- 51 6. An absolute prohibition on anyone below the age of 18 being placed on an adult mental
52 health ward.
- 53 7. Extra investment in clinician and practitioner capacity to ensure high-quality and effective
54 services for both individuals and families.
- 55 8. Additional investment in mental health infrastructure in order to ensure appropriate and
56 modern facilities for all patients.
- 57 9. The provision of extra capacity in mental health intensive care and forensic units to divert
58 people in need of treatment away from prison and to assist those already in prison.
- 59 10. The application of the mental health guarantee standard to mentally ill prisoners.
- 60 11. The wider costs to the individual and the economy of mental health to be taken into
61 consideration by NICE when deciding whether to licence new treatments, including mental
62 health therapies.
- 63 12. The introduction of effective financial incentives for Job Centre Plus and the NHS to ensure the
64 provision of treatment assisting those on incapacity benefit back into appropriate work.
- 65 13. Employment support providers to be given the right to commission services outside the NHS
66 if an individual experiences long delays in accessing mental health treatment.

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Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 12.00, Tuesday 9th September, to the Policy Projects Team, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 64. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Advance Notice sheet.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

10.15 Party Business

Chair: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

Aide: Sal Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F45 Reports and Q & A Session: Parliamentary Parties of the Liberal Democrats

Commons: Paul Burstow MP (Chief Whip) and Lorely Burt (Chair of Parliamentary Party)

Lords: Lord McNally (Leader) and Lord Shutt (Chief Whip)

Europe: Andrew Duff MEP (Leader) and Sharon Bowles MEP (Chief Whip)

Federal Conference Committee is piloting a new format for questions to the three parliamentary parties. Each of the three reports will be moved briefly, and voted on at the end of the session, but the bulk of the session will be used to allow conference representatives to put questions on any aspect of Liberal Democrat activities in the UK or European Parliaments to the panel.

Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Tuesday 16th September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 11th September. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 66.

11.00 Party Business

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

Aide: Baroness Garden of Frognal

F46 Presentation by the Liberal Democrat Group on Newcastle City Council

The presentation will be given by:

- Cllr John Shipley OBE (Leader of the Council)
- Cllr Wendy Taylor (Portfolio holder for Environment, Sustainability and Transport)
- Cllr Greg Stone
- Cllr Griff Kane

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11.20 Policy Motion

Chair: Cllr James Gurling
Aide: Catherine Bearder

F47 Respect, Consent and Personal Data

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Baroness Walmsley
Summation: Lord Razzall

1 Conference notes:

2 A. The collection of personal data by central government and the police forces on an
3 unprecedented scale, including:

- 4 i) Large e-Governance projects (such as the Spine NHS central database and ContactPoint).
5 ii) The National DNA Database (NDNAD), the largest such database in the world, and the
6 National Fingerprint Database.
7 iii) The implementation of the identity cards scheme.
8 iv) The use of closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras.

9 B. The demonstrable failure of the Government to keep these data securely, and in particular the
10 loss of computer disks with sensitive data concerning 25 million child benefit claimants by HM
11 Revenue and Customs in 2007.

12 C. The enforcement difficulties faced by the Information Commissioner's Office in terms of:

- 13 i) The powers available to ensure compliance with the Data Protection Act.
14 ii) The financial resources available.

15 D. Those held on the NDNAD in perpetuity include:

- 16 i) Those arrested on suspicion of (not convicted or charged with) a criminal offence which
17 may be as minor as dropping litter.
18 ii) Over 300,000 children, including records for those under 10 years of age.
19 iii) Disproportionate numbers of children from black and other ethnic minorities.

20 Therefore, conference confirms:

- 21 I. Its belief in the primacy of the right to privacy and informational self-autonomy, and the
22 pivotal relationship between that right and the freedom and liberty of the individual.
23 II. That while every step must be taken to detect crime and bring criminals to justice, in doing
24 so the state must have sufficient regard for the individual right to privacy; any infringement
25 of that right must be objectively justified and demonstrably proportionate to the benefits
26 accrued to society at large.
27 III. Its belief in the importance of the proportionate, responsible and secure use of new
28 technologies, including centralised databases, for the effective management of public services,
29 the fight against crime and research in the public interest.

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- 30 IV. Its confidence in the Information Commissioner's Office as the critical component for the
31 maintenance and enforcement of such a regime.
- 32 Conference therefore calls for:
- 33 1. Implementing the principle of consent: fully informing data subjects of any option to opt out
34 of government databases and making participation rather than obligation the bedrock of
35 future e-Government projects; this would include giving the right of those not convicted of
36 any crime (except a violent or sexual offence) to have their data removed from the NDNAD.
- 37 2. Implementing the principle of respect: strengthening the Data Protection Act to ensure
38 compliance with good data protection practice, including but not limited to:
- 39 a) Extensive civil penalties for serious breaches of data security.
40 b) Enhanced criminal offences for the negligent and reckless abuse of personal information.
41 c) The power to conduct spot checks on private companies, as well as public bodies.
42 d) Extending the definition of 'personal data' under the Act.
- 43 3. The provision of adequate funding for the Information Commissioner for the better
44 maintenance of these two principles by abolishing the flat-rate charge currently levied against
45 all data controllers irrespective of their size, profits and the amount of data held.
- 46 4. The immediate removal from the NDNAD of all DNA samples taken from children under 16, bar
47 those convicted of either a violent or sexual offence.
- 48 5. The immediate amendment of legislation so as to provide that no profiles of children under
49 the age of 16 may be stored on the NDNAD unless they have been convicted of a violent or
50 sexual offence.

Applicability: England and Wales.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 68.

For the procedure for submitting a request for a separate vote, see page 67.

11.50 Party Business

Chair: Simon Hughes MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)
Aide: Duncan Brack (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F48 Speech by the Leader of the Liberal Democrats, Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP

12.50 Close of Conference (approx.)

The exhibition

The exhibition is located in the **Windsor Foyer** and **Solent Hall** on the ground floor of the **Bournemouth International Centre (BIC)**, and the **Bourne Lounge** on the first floor of the **BIC** (see *conference venue plan* on **page 61**).

Exhibition opening times:

Saturday	13th September	13.00 – 17.30
Sunday	14th September	08.30 – 17.45
Monday	15th September	08.30 – 18.30
Tuesday	16th September	08.30 – 18.30
Wednesday	17th September	08.30 – 13.30

Best stand competition

Help select the best stand and win a bottle of champagne.

Each year we run a competition to find the best exhibition stand in each of three categories: best party stand, best commercial/charity stand, and stand that communicates its message most effectively.

You can help choose the winners by nominating stands and giving the reasons for your choice. Your entry will go into a draw for a bottle of champagne. Get an entry form from the Information Desk or from your conference bag.

Exhibitors listed by stand number

Windsor Foyer: *The Independent*

Bourne Lounge:

Health Zone Health Hotel

Solent Hall:

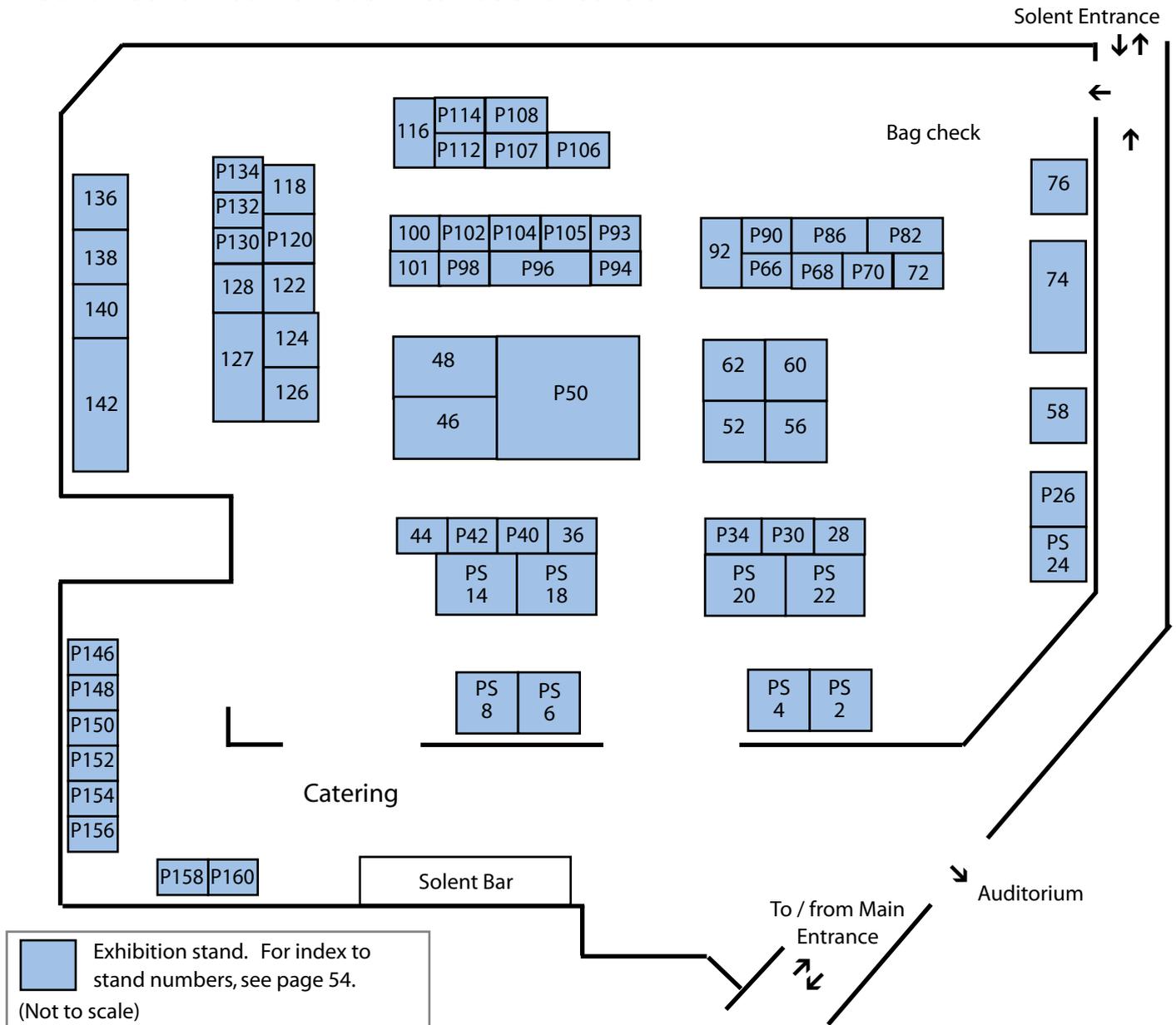
- PS2 Park Communications
- PS4 Ordnance Survey
- PS6 Electoral Commission
- PS8 Hampshire County Council
- PS14 pteg
- PS18 RNIB
- PS20 Big Lottery Fund
- PS22 The Equality and Human Rights Commission
- PS24 Association of Teachers and Lecturers
- P26 Local Government Association (Liberal Democrat Group)
- 28 British Humanist Association
- P30 CentreForum
- P34 Liberal Youth
- 36 Standards Board for England
- P40 Parliamentary Candidates Association (PCA)
- P42 CHARD Group (1992)
- 44 ITIS Holdings plc
- 46 Govnet Communications
- 48 Electrical Safety Council
- P50 Liberal Democrat Image
- 52 Manchester Partnership
- 56 Countryside Alliance
- 58 eaga plc
- 60 Riso UK Ltd
- 62 Newsquest Media Group
- P68 Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine
- 70 *Total Politics*
- 72 Electoral Reform
- 74 BBC
- 76 Digital UK
- P82 English Liberal Democrats State Party
- P86 Liberal Democrat European Group / ELDR

- P90 Liberal International British Group
- P92 *Liberator*
- P93 ALDES – Engineers & Scientists
- P94 Liberal Democrat History Group
- P96 Green Liberal Democrats
- P98 ALTER
- P100 Liberal Democrat Friends of Israel
- P101 Liberal Democrat Christmas Draw
- P104 Liberal Democrat Education Association
- P105 DAGGER
- P106 Campaign for Gender Balance
- P107 Ethnic Minority Liberal Democrats
- 108 Citizens Advice
- P109 Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association
- P114 DELGA
- 116 Federation of Small Businesses
- 118 Bournemouth Visitor Information Bureau
- P120 Liberal Democrat Humanist & Secularist Group
- 122 RNIB Transcription Unit
- 124 Trades Union Congress
- 126 National Union of Teachers
- P127 ALDC
- 128 Prater Raines Web Sites
- P132 Association of Liberal Democrat Trade Unionists
- P134 LibDemFORUM21
- 136 West Midlands Local Government Association
- 138 Waterstones Bookshop
- 140 Harmsworth Printing Limited
- 142 Royal Mail Group
- P146 South Central & South East Regions
- P148 Agents & Organisers Association
- P150 Liberal Democrat Christian Forum
- P154 / 156 EARS
- P158 Women Liberal Democrats
- P160 Liberal Democrat Disability Association

Plan of exhibition

Solent Hall

Ground floor of Bournemouth International Centre



Exhibition

Stewarding at conference



The stewards team consists of around 70 volunteers who carry out numerous tasks, from security to helping in the auditorium, working with VIPs, guests and party staff.

If you want to see another side of conference, or if this is your first time and you're a little unsure of what to expect, then the stewards team may be for you, and it can be a rewarding experience. We offer a daily allowance, help with accommodation costs and free registration. You can help for a few hours a day or the whole week.

Why not give it a go? To find out more contact Adrian Beavis, Acting Chief Steward, adrianbeavis@talktalk.net or call the Conference Office and leave a message.

Make it Happen

Directory of exhibitors

Stand P148

Agents & Organisers Association



We support Liberal Democrat agents and organisers with training and information services. We publish the popular *Agent's Manual*. Accreditation after our training helps agents demonstrate their status within the party.

Stand P127

ALDC



The Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors is at the cutting edge of campaigning and provides essential support to all activists and councillors. We produce an extensive range of publications on campaigning and local government issues and provide support and training.

Stand P93

ALDES – Engineers & Scientists



ALDES is building a network of engineers, scientists and medics to support the party's policy making in technical matters and ensure the voice of engineers and scientists is heard.

Stand P98

ALTER



ALTER, the party's economic special interest group with a focus on sustainable tax. Discover more about the next generation 'Green Switch' here.

Stand P132

Association of Liberal Democrat Trade Unionists

ALDTU aims to promote trade union interest within the party and Liberal Democrat policies within the trade union movement.

Stand PS24

Association of Teachers and Lecturers



ATL, the education union, represents education professionals throughout their career. We use our members' experiences to influence policy across the UK, and work with government and employers to improve pay, conditions and career development. www.alt.org.uk

Stand 74

BBC



Visit our stand to see live broadcasts. Find out about our democracy portal plans, see demonstration of the proposed BBC local video and try exciting new ways of using iPlayer.

Stand PS20

Big Lottery Fund



Big Lottery Fund is soon to launch a consultation on its strategic plan. Visit our stand to find out more, what we have funded and how your comment benefits.



Stand 118

Bournemouth Visitor Information Bureau

Stand 28

British Humanist Association



The British Humanist Association is the national charity supporting and representing non-religious people seeing to live good lives based on reason, experience and shared human values.

Stand P106

Campaign for Gender Balance



For everyone who wants to see more Liberal Democrat women in Parliament. Thinking of standing? Or can you help women get the skills they need? Come and let us know.

Stand P30

CentreForum



The CentreForum is an independent, free-thinking forum for new ideas and progressive debate.

Stand P42

CHARD Group (1992)

The party organisation that welcomes dialogue and agreement with other parties, newsletters, quizzes.

Stand 108

Citizens Advice



The Citizens Advice service helps to resolve people's legal, money and other problems through free information and advice. It also uses the evidence obtained from clients' problems to campaign for change. Come along to find out more.

Stand 56

Countryside Alliance



The Countryside Alliance works for everyone who loves the countryside. Through campaigning, lobbying, publicity and education, we influence legislation and public policy which impacts on the countryside and rural people.

Directory of exhibitors continued

Stand P105

DAGGER

The Democrats Action Group for gaining electoral reform – pursues party policy by promoting the single transferable vote in multi-member constituencies, seeking also to reach the wider public.

Stand P114

DELGA – Lib Dems for LGBT Equality

Learn about lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender asylum issues. Join the party's LGBT equality campaign group and find out about our new LGBT candidates network. And local gay scene info.



Stand 76

Digital UK

Digital UK is the not-for-profit company responsible for leading the UK's switch to digital television between 2008 and 2012. Our role is to communicate switchover to the public and manage the upgrade of the TV transmitter network. To find out when your area switches over and how we can support you and your constituents, please pay a visit at Conference. Email: david.mortimer@digitaluk.co.uk.



Stand 58

eaga plc

Co-owned by its 4,500 people, eaga works with Government and the private sector to deliver solutions that address climate change. We manage national energy efficiency programmes and deliver initiatives including the Digital Switchover Help Scheme.



Stand P154 / 156

EARS

EARS, HandS and Casework Manager, the complete solution. EARS for campaigning and elections, HandS for membership and supporters, Casework Manager for casework. Try them all on our stand. Training available.



Stand PS6

Electoral Commission

The Electoral Commission is an independent body. Our aim is integrity and public confidence in the democratic process. We regulate party and election finance and make sure elections are well-run.



Stand 72

Electoral Reform

The Electoral Reform Society is campaigning to change the way we choose our politicians. We believe that a fair voting system will improve our democracy, by helping to ensure that the range of representatives we elect more closely reflects the balance of views across society. Fairness, accountability and a real choice for voters should not be compromised.



Stand 48

Electrical Safety Council

The Electrical Safety Council is an independent charity whose mission is to reduce deaths and injuries caused by electrical accidents at home and at work.



Stand P82

English Liberal Democrats State Party

Information on running your local party. Support for current and potential officers and executive members. In conjunction with workshops all week in the Westbourne Suite in the BIC. Free resources CD available.

Stand PS22

Equality and Human Rights Commission

The Commission champions equality and human right for all, working to eliminate discrimination, reduce inequality. Protect human rights and to build good relations, ensuring that everyone has a fair chance to participate in society.



Stand P107

Ethnic Minority Liberal Democrats

EMLD exists to develop the education, participation and representation of ethnic minorities within the party.



Stand 116

Federation of Small Businesses

FSB – lobbying on behalf of small businesses. Visit us at Stand 116 and find out how working with small businesses can improve your local economy.



Stand 46

Govnet Communications

Govnet Communications publish government and public sector magazines, which are written by MPs for MPs and are circulated to MPs, Lords and senior policy-makers. Govnet also produce a range of events from flagship conferences to bespoke seminars and information-led briefings.



Directory of exhibitors continued

Stand P96

Green Liberal Democrats

The Green Campaign Group of the Liberal Democrats. For more information, see our website: www.greenlibdems.org.uk.

Stand PS8

Hampshire County Council



Hampshire CC has launched a commission of inquiry into personalisation. The commission includes national and local experts and will report in the autumn. Learn about the commission's findings to date.

Stand 140

Harmsworth Printing Limited



HPL provide newspaper printing services to publishers of national and regional newspapers, including *Liberal Democrat News* and papers for many local councillors. Please visit our stand for a quotation.

Windsor Foyer

The Independent



The *Independent* newspaper's mission, to take the broader view, remains as it stood when the paper was launched in 1986; beholden to no one political party and economically and socially liberal.

Stand 44

ITIS Holdings plc

ITIS is a world market leader in traffic information services providing real time traffic data. We work with government, transport agencies and local authorities to monitor travel times and congestion.



Stand P134

LibDemFORUM21

LibDemFORUM21 is dedicated to the count traditional way of life now being threatened by change, globalisation and urban dominance.



Stand 150

Liberal Democrat Christian Forum

Open to Liberal Democrats of all denominations. We hold fringe meetings and services during Party Conferences, attend Regional Conferences and publish a newsletter. Meet us at our stand.



Stand P101

Liberal Democrat Christmas Draw

Don't falter for lack of funds. Talk to the draw team on Stand 101.

Stand P160

Liberal Democrat Disability Association

We want to help you win the votes of disabled people. Lib Dems take seriously ALL aspects of diversity and equality. Add your voice – join LDDA!

Stand P104

Liberal Democrat Education Association

Publications and Information available. Visit our stand to exchange and share ideas concerning education issues with members, who will be on hand to provide information about the LDEA.

Stand P86

Liberal Democrat European Group / ELDR

The party organisation dedicated to promoting the European Project, supporting our MEPs and helping members to campaign on European issues. www.ldeg.org.

Stand P100

Liberal Democrat Friends of Israel

All welcome to visit our stand and fringe event: 18.15-19.30 Monday 15th BIC, Tregonwell Bar.



Stand P68

Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine

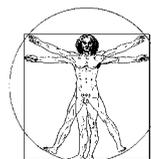
LDFP advocates a peace settlement for Israel and Palestine that is in line with international and humanitarian law. Learn more at our stand.



Stand P94

Liberal Democrat History Group

We promote the discussion and research of historical topics relating to the Liberal Democrats and its predecessor parties. Subscribe to the *Journal of Liberal History*. Buy the *Dictionary of Liberal Thought*. The past illuminates the future. www.liberalhistory.org.uk.



Stand P120

Liberal Democrat Humanist & Secularist Group

The organisation for Liberal Democrats who think that humanism and secularism need a louder voice within the party and across the UK. Join our meetings here in Brighton.

Stand P50

Liberal Democrat Image

Visit Liberal Democrat Image at the centre of the Solent Hall.



Let us know what you need for today's modern campaigns and stock up on your party merchandise.

Make it Happen

Directory of exhibitors continued

Stand P109

Liberal Democrats Lawyers Association

Liberal Democrats Lawyers Association is the link between the party and those in, or interested in, the justice system and justice for all. New members welcome.
www.libdemlawyers.org.uk

Stand P90

Liberal International British Group



Member of the World Federation of Liberal Political Parties, Liberal International. Rich programme: meetings, diplomats' reception, study trips etc. Promotes international affairs in the party. www.libg.org.uk

Stand P34

Liberal Youth



Pick up campaign ideas, learn about our activities and also how you can support us and how we can support you.
www.liberalyouth.org

Stand P92

Liberator

Since first published in 1970, *Liberator* has provided a platform for Liberals to discuss and read ideas and enjoy light thrown into dark corners of their party. Come and subscribe.

Stand P26

Local Government Association (Liberal Democrat Group)



LGA Liberal Democrats represents all Lib Dem councillors in England and Wales. Specialist information, detailed research, support for leaders and portfolio holders are just everyday gruel for us.

Stand 52

Manchester Partnership



Demonstrating the strong partnership culture embedded within the city region, organisations from Manchester will be exhibiting together on the Manchester stand – AGMA, GM Chamber of Commerce, Manchester City Council, Manchester Enterprises, Manchester: Knowledge Capital, Marketing Manchester and MIDAS.

Stand 62

Newsquest Media Group



Newsquest is one of the largest regional newspaper printers in the UK. Offering superb quality at competitive prices for both newspaper and glassy print formats. Visit us for full details.

Stand 126

National Union of Teachers



The NUT campaigns for free, high-quality education delivered through good local schools as the best means for students and young people to develop their abilities and full potential.

Stand PS4

Ordnance Survey



Ordnance Survey is Britain's National Mapping Agency, providing the framework of intelligent geographic information across government in key policy areas.

Stand PS2

Park Communications



Park Communications providing fast, reliable, high quality printing exclusively for the Liberal Democrats. For enquiries please contact r.fingland@parkcom.co.uk

Stand P40

Parliamentary Candidates Association (PCA)



Find out more about the Parliamentary Candidates Association and how it can help you with your campaigning. Whether you are a new member or a familiar face, come along and visit the stand.

Stand PS14

pteg



pteg represents England's six publicly accountable Passenger Transport Executives. PTEs are the driving force behind the development of public transport networks which serve more than 13 million people.

Promote your organisation at conference

You can promote your organisation, event or message to thousands of conference-goers: take advertising space in the *Advance Notice* and *Daily Announcements* sheets, issued to all attendees each day at conference; or in the conference *Agenda and Directory* and *Fringe Guide* for future conferences.

For information, contact Carol Caruana: before or after Bournemouth on 020 7227 1323 or email carol.caruana@libdems.org.uk; or at Bournemouth via a conference steward or via the Information Desk.

Directory of Exhibitors continued

Stand No. 128

Prater Raines Web Sites

The leading supplier of Lib Dem sites. Instant site set-up. Site surgeries for current and potential users. User training and site demonstrations. Bespoke site development proposals and quotations.

Stand 60

Riso UK Ltd

Canvassing and party materials at lowest costs to support party objectives.



Stand 142

Royal Mail Group

The stand will have an ATM available for cash withdrawals and a fully serviced Post Office counter providing stamps, postal services, pensions and benefits, and a daily mail collection.

Stand PS18

RNIB

Old-fashioned

fun! 'Lobby' bean-bag at key decision makers, find out how they could end the exclusion of visually impaired people from employment, social care, education and benefits. Daily champagne draw. helen.dearman@rnib.org.uk.



Stand 122

RNIB

Transcription

Unit

Royal National Institute of Blind People's Transcription Unit are providing information, advice and a free on-site transcription service for conference or exhibition materials into large print, audio or braille.



Stand P146

South Central & South East Regions

Start the South East European Campaign with a bang in Bournemouth. Visit the stand for information, publications, auction, raffle and much more.

Stand 36

Standards Board for England

The Standards Board for England is an authoritative strategic regulator providing local councils with guidance and practical support on issues of member conduct and good governance. The Standards Board promotes high ethical standards among members, makes sure there is a consistent approach to standards across the country and investigates cases it is inappropriate for authorities to deal with themselves.



Stand 70

Total Politics

Total Politics is a politically neutral magazine; our aim is to be unremittingly positive about the political process, bringing you informative and insightful features and commentary from the political world.



Stand 122

Trades Union Congress

The TUC is the voice of Britain at work with 64 unions representing almost 6.5 million working people from all walks of life. We work in partnership with all political parties.



Stand 138 Bookshop

Waterstones

Waterstone's in Bournemouth has been providing a friendly service and passion for bookselling for the past twenty years.



Stand 136

West Midlands

West

Midlands Local Government Association

West Midlands Local Government Association – working successfully in partnership to improve the lives of everyone in the West Midlands, delivering improvements that make our region a great place to live, visit, work and study.



Stand P158

Women Liberal Democrats

WLD is a lively and energetic organisation providing support for all women within the party, influencing policy and campaigning on women's issues. WLD are committed to women's equality.

THE HEALTH ZONE

Come to the Health Zone in the Bourne Lounge (BIC first floor) and enjoy free health testing, including:

Free retina photo

courtesy of the Eye Health Alliance

Free medical check and Telehealth demo

courtesy of Telehealth Solutions

Free exercise and postural health check

courtesy of the MS Society

Free healthy heart and lifestyle check

courtesy of the Medical Technology Group

Free contraceptive advice

courtesy of Bayer Schering Pharma

The Health Zone is organised by the Health Hotel. For more information, please see www.healthhotel.org.uk

THE HEALTH HOTEL

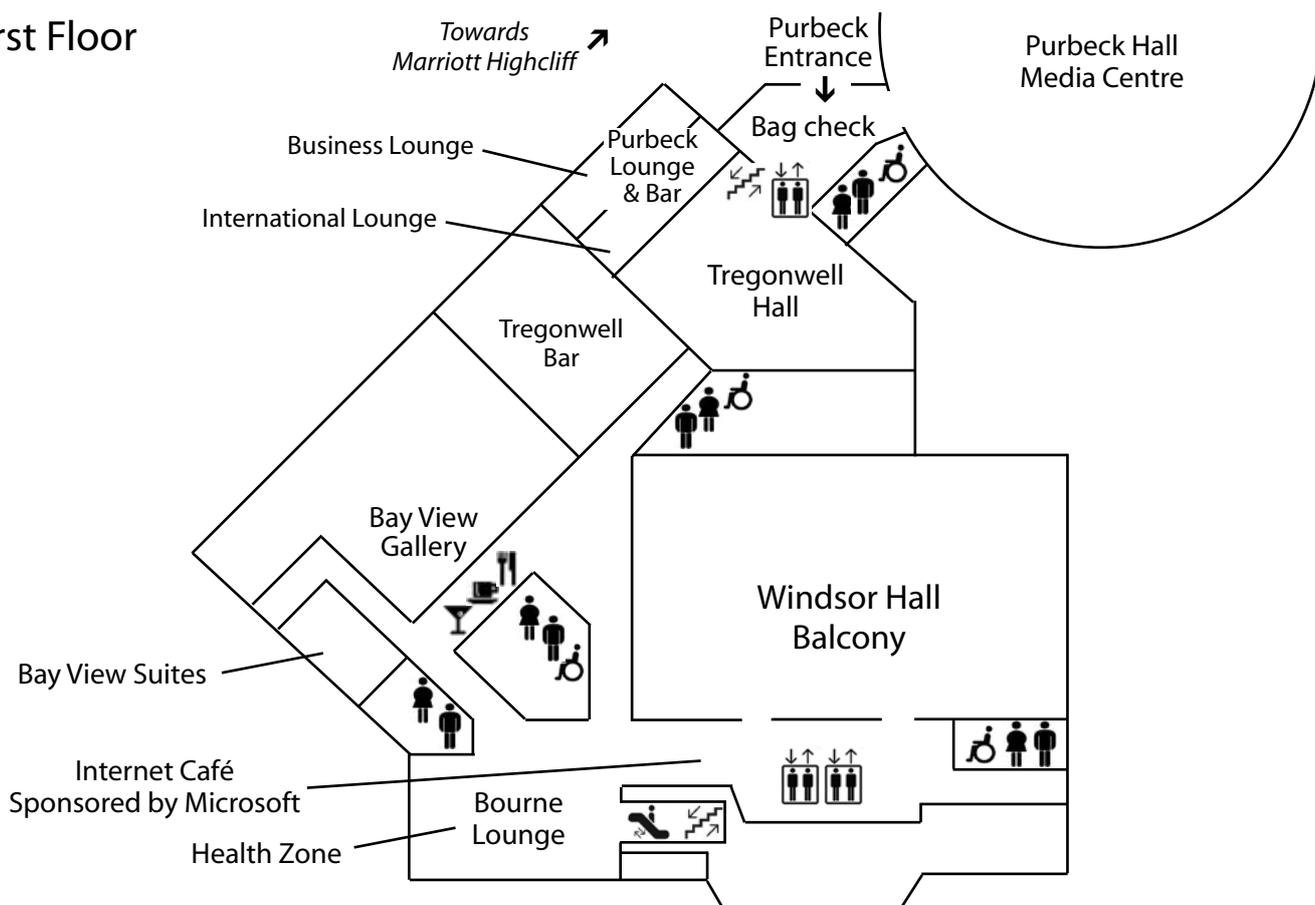
All the big health debates under one roof

Make it Happen

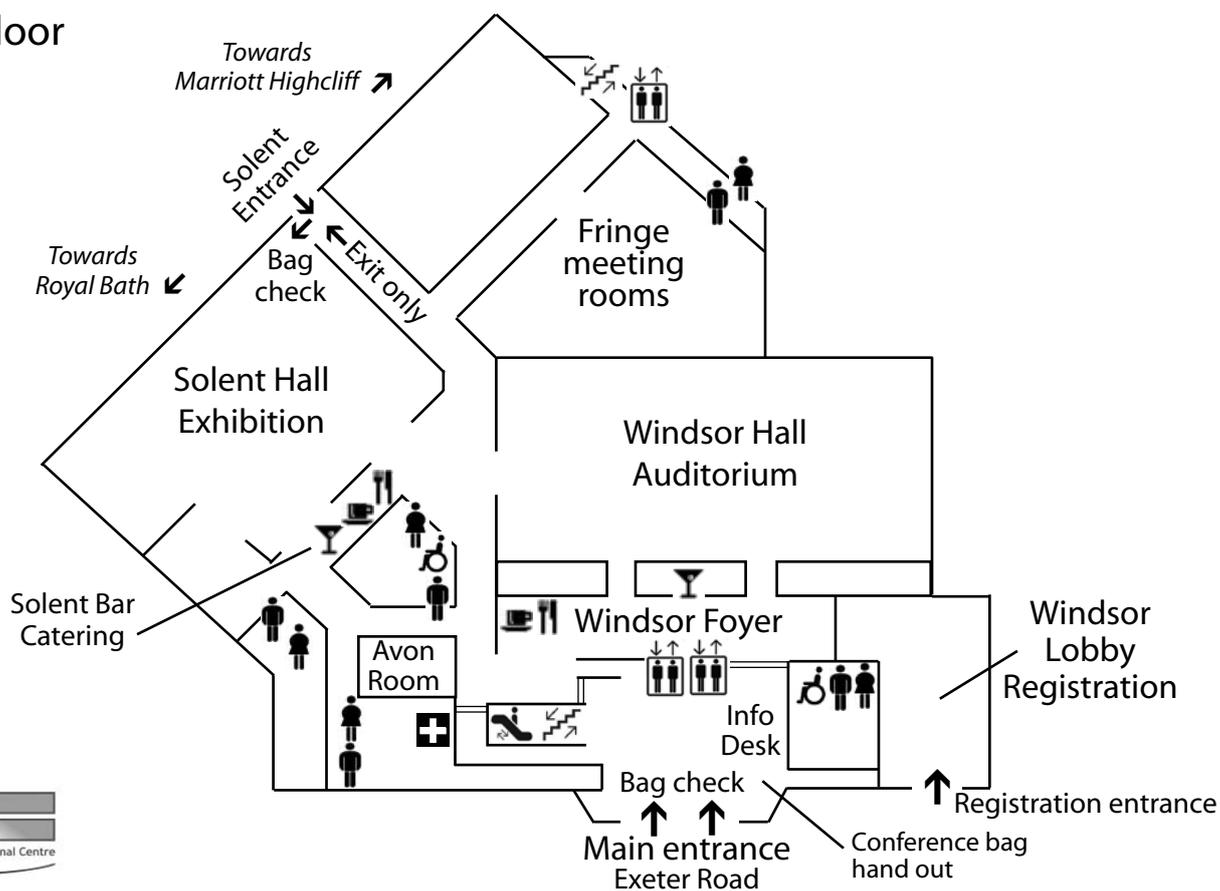
Conference venue plan

Plan of Bournemouth International Centre

First Floor



Ground Floor



Information



Make it Happen

Conference information

Everything you need to know about this year's autumn conference is listed below in alphabetical order. If you have any questions, please ask a conference steward or go to the conference Information Desk in the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC) foyer.

Access

Access to all areas of the **Bournemouth International Centre (BIC)** is possible **only with a valid, visible conference photo pass worn with the official lanyard**. You will be asked to show your pass when you enter the **BIC** or the **Marriott Highcliff** hotel and you are required to wear the pass with the lanyard visible at all times within these buildings.

If you are attending a training or fringe session in the Connaught, the Wessex, the Westcliff Brasserie, the Hermitage, the Royal Exeter or the Royal Bath hotel, you may be asked to show a valid conference photo pass or Party membership card.

Please allow time for security check queues at the BIC and Marriott Highcliff during key times – particularly after lunch and ahead of popular events.

Accommodation

Bedrooms in the conference hotel, the Marriott Highcliff, are now fully booked.

If you have not yet booked your accommodation, contact:

The BIC Bureau Accommodation Service on 01202 451722 or via the link on the Lib Dem website at: <http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference/accommodation.html>

Amendments to motions

Motions **F18, F25, F28, F32, F38, F42, and F44** are still open to amendment.

Amendments must be signed by 10 voting representatives, or submitted by local parties, State Parties, Regional Parties in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisations or Federal Party Committees.

The deadline for amendments is 12.00 Tuesday 9th September; they should be sent to the Policy Projects Team, preferably by email to motions@libdems.org.uk, or by post to 4 Cowley Street, London SW1P 3NB.



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A standard form is included with the Final Agenda mailing; if posting, please use this or a photocopy. Those submitting amendments are encouraged to include a short explanation of the intended effect of the amendment.

All amendments accepted for debate will be detailed in Saturday's *Advance Notice* sheet.

Appeals

Appeals against non-acceptance of motions should:

- be typed clearly on one side of an A4 sheet;
- give a contact name and telephone number;
- include a copy of the original motion to which they relate; and
- specify the justification for the appeal and provide new information of which the Conference Committee was unaware when it made its original decision.

Appeals must be signed by 10 voting representatives, or submitted by local parties, State Parties, Regional Parties in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisations or Federal Party Committees.

The deadline for appeals is **12.00 Tuesday 9th September**; they should be sent to the Policy Projects Team, preferably by email to motions@libdems.org.uk, or post to 4 Cowley Street, London SW1P 3NB.

Applicability of motions

The Federal Conference makes policy for the Federal Party. However, the English Party has 'passed up' responsibility for policy-making to the Federal Party in all areas and the Welsh Party for some areas. The applicability of each motion is shown in the Agenda.

Conference information continued

Banking facilities

The Royal Mail Group are kindly providing a free ATM for the convenience of conference attendees, next to their stand, **Stand 142**, in the **Solent Hall** of the **BIC**. There is also an HSBC cash machine immediately outside the front entrance of the BIC on Exeter Road.

Car parks

See parking under *transport and travel* on **page 72**

Cloakroom

Under no circumstances will any large bags or suitcases be allowed into the BIC.

There is a cloakroom in the **Windsor Foyer** on the ground floor of the **BIC**. A charge per item applies.

On the last morning of conference, Wednesday 17th September, your hotel should be able to store your luggage for you after checkout. Alternatively, suitcases may be deposited at the **Royal Exeter** hotel and must be collected by no later than 17.00. There will be a small luggage charge for non-residents of the Royal Exeter hotel, which the hotel will donate to a children's charity.

Conference bags

Your biodegradable, environmentally friendly conference bag will be available for collection in the **Windsor Foyer** of the **BIC** on production of your photo pass covering letter which, if you register **before 1st August**, you will receive before conference.

Consultative sessions

Consultative sessions take place on Saturday 13th September between 10.00 and 12.30 in the **Marriott Highcliff**. See **page 10** for details.

Crèche

The crèche is located in the **Marriott Highcliff** and will be open at the following times:

Saturday	13th September	13.00 – 18.00
Sunday	14th September	08.30 – 18.30
Monday	15th September	08.30 – 18.30
Tuesday	16th September	08.30 – 18.30
Wednesday	17th September	08.30 – 13.30 *

* Please note the closing time of the crèche on Wednesday 17th September is 13.30 (not 16.30 as

printed in the *Preliminary Agenda*) due to the earlier finishing time of the conference.

Lunch must be ordered and paid for daily. There will be a registration fee of £25 per child. For unwaged parents the fee is £10 per child. This covers the whole week from Saturday until the end of conference.

The Children Act 1991 strictly controls the ratio of staff to children in crèches, so the crèche staff are not allowed to accept children who are not pre-registered. (The deadline for this conference is Friday 15th August).

If you would like to receive information on the crèche for future conferences, please call the Conference Office on 020 7227 1350 and ask to be put on our mailing list. Forms are also available for download from the party website: www.libdems.org.uk.

Daily Announcements and Advance Notice

An *Advance Notice* sheet will be published on Saturday. This will contain amendments to motions, urgent issues, emergency motions for debate or the ballot and questions to reports selected by the Conference Committee.

A *Daily Announcements* sheet will be published each day, Sunday to Wednesday, and will be available at the start of the morning session from the **Information Desk**. It will include last-minute changes to the order of business, movers, emergency motions etc.

Make sure you collect your *Advance Notice* and *Daily Announcements* sheets as the information they contain will always be vital to understanding the day's business.

Day visitors - party members

See under *registration* on **page 67**.

Disabled access and parking

Please see *access and facilities for disabled people* on **page 70**.

Conference registration

Please note that the conference registration area is in the **Windsor Lobby** on the ground floor of the **BIC**, access to the right of the main entrance on Exeter Road at the front of the Centre.

If you need to register, collect your photo pass or query your registration, please go to the Windsor Lobby.

Conference information continued

Distribution of literature

Distribution of literature **will not be allowed** inside the BIC. Literature may be distributed outside the main entrance, subject to the discretion of the Chief Steward, the BIC management and the Police. Exhibitors may only distribute material, sell raffle tickets etc., directly from their stands. Gangways, stairways, entrances and catering areas must not be used for this purpose.

Flyposting is prohibited inside the BIC.

Documents for conference

If you registered **before 1st August**, conference documentation will be enclosed in the Final Agenda mailing in mid-August. If you register during August or September or on-site (see *registration* on **page 66**), your papers will be available for collection in the **Windsor Foyer** on the ground floor of the **BIC** on production of your documentation voucher.

Extra copies of the *Agenda and Directory* and *Fringe Guide* are available for sale from the **Information Desk** in the **Windsor Foyer** of the **BIC** for £5.00 each. You can also purchase a complete pack of policy papers from the **Information Desk** for £25.00.

Emergency motions

There are two slots at **F31** and **F43** reserved for emergency motion debates as described in standing orders: i.e. debates with a vote which make formal party policy like any other policy motion, but which refer to a development since the **9th July** deadline for motions.

Emergency motions must be signed by 10 voting representatives, or submitted by local parties, State Parties, Regional Parties in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisations or Federal Party Committees.

The deadline for emergency motions is **12.00 Tuesday 9th September**; they should be sent to the Policy Projects Team, preferably by email to **motions@libdems.org.uk**, or by post to 4 Cowley Street, London SW1P 3NB. A standard form is included in the Final Agenda mailing; if posting, please use this or a photocopy.

Emergency motions may be the subject of priority ballots among representatives. Ballot papers and the ballot box will be available at the **Speakers' Table** in the **Auditorium** of the **BIC**. The poll will be held, if

necessary, between 09.30 and 13.00 on Sunday 14th September. In the event that there is a simple choice between two motions, a vote will be held in the **Auditorium at 11.05 on Sunday 14th September**.

All emergency motions accepted for debate will be detailed in Saturday's *Advance Notice* sheet.

Exhibition

The exhibition is located in the **Windsor Foyer** and **Solent Hall** on the ground floor of the **BIC**, and the **Bourne Lounge** on the first floor of the **BIC**. See **pages 54–60** for opening times and exhibitor details.

First Aid

The First Aid suite is located in the **Windsor Foyer coffee bar** on the ground floor of the **BIC**.

Flash photography

Representatives vulnerable to epilepsy should note that flash photography is frequently used in the conference Auditorium.

Fringe

For details of fringe meetings, see the separate *Fringe Guide*.

The official fringe meeting venues are the **BIC, Marriott Highcliff, Westcliff Brasserie, Connaught, Wessex, Royal Exeter, Hermitage** and **Royal Bath** hotels. See the map on **page 30** of the *Fringe Guide* for locations of these and other fringe venues. A valid conference photo pass is necessary for access to the BIC and Marriott Highcliff. For access to fringe events at the other hotels, you may be asked by a steward to show a photo pass or party membership card.



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Conference information continued

HQ fringe events:

Rally

Saturday, 13th September, 18.30 – 19.30
Tregonwell Hall, BIC

Glee Club

Tuesday, 16th September, 21.45 – late
DeVere Suite, Royal Bath Hotel

Information Desk

The **Information Desk** is located in the **Windsor Foyer** on the ground floor of the **BIC**. Members of the Conference Team can answer your questions, and there is a photocopier service available.

Telephone: 01202 586090
email: conferenceinformation@libdems.org.uk

The Information Desk is open at the following times:

Saturday	13th September	13.00 – 17.30
Sunday	14th September	08.30 – 18.30
Monday	15th September	08.30 – 18.30
Tuesday	16th September	08.30 – 18.30
Wednesday	17th September	08.30 – 13.30

Internet access

The **Liberal Democrat Internet Café**, sponsored by Microsoft, will be located on the **Bourne Balcony** on the first floor of the **BIC**.

Visit Microsoft to access the internet and check your email. There'll also be opportunities to see some of the latest Microsoft technology, play some games and enter a competition to win an Xbox 360 and other software prizes. www.microsoft.com/uk

A wireless internet system is available in the BIC. The system is operated by IFB Ltd and internet connection is available to rent from IFB Ltd. Connection can either be made immediately onsite by viewing their website www.wifb.net and making payment with a credit or debit card at the time or by pre-arrangement by calling 0845 270 2101 for Sales or 0845 270 2100 for support.

Paperless conference

To try to make conference more environmentally friendly, you can choose a paperless option to receive online versions of consultation and policy papers rather than hard copy – tick the paperless registration box when you next register.

Interventions

There will be interventions during debates **F5, F28, F34** and **F38**. This procedure offers representatives the opportunity to make concise (one-minute) speeches from the floor during the debate.

Eligibility to make an intervention is the same as for those wishing to make a speech (see *speaking at conference* on **page 68**).

There are two microphones in the body of the Auditorium facing the platform. Those wishing to speak during interventions should sit in the designated seats and complete the form handed to them by the steward overseeing those seats. Three lights will be visible on either side of the platform: the green light is switched on at the start of the intervention; the amber light will show 20 seconds before the end of the intervention; the red light will come on at the end of one minute and the intervention must stop immediately.

Lost passes

A replacement fee of £25.00 applies and photo passes are reissued at the discretion of the Chief Steward.

Lost property

All items of lost property should be handed in to, and reclaimed from, the **Information Desk** in the **Windsor Foyer** on the ground floor of the **BIC**.

Mobile phones and pagers

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are switched off before entering the Auditorium.

Newspapers

The Independent will be distributed free of charge at the **entrance to the BIC**.

Photo passes

All conference photo passes are mailed prior to conference if registration details are received before 15th August. We will endeavour to mail out photo passes for registrations received after 15th August. If you have not received your pass, please come to the **Registration Desk** in the **Windsor Lobby** on the ground floor of the **BIC** (access to the right of the main entrance on Exeter Road at the front of the Centre).

Conference information continued

Photo passes are grouped by colour. All categories within a group will have a separate identifying code, but will have the same coloured pass, as follows:

Voting	Yellow
Non-voting	Yellow
Day Visitor	Lime Green
Weekend	Lime Green
Weekday	Lime Green
Parliamentarians	Purple
Party Officers	Purple
Observers	Pink
Diplomats	Pink
Exhibitors	Pink
Contractors	Pink
Fringe	Grey
Media	Lilac
Staff	Green
FCC	Orange
Stewards	Black
Conference Office	Black

Postal and telephone facilities

Royal Mail Group's stand, **Stand 142**, in the **Solent Hall** on the ground floor of the **BIC**, offers a range of Post Office® services including a postbox with a daily collection Monday 15th to Wednesday 17th September.

There is a pay phone located in the **Windsor Foyer** on the ground floor of the **BIC**.

Press Office

The Press Office is located in the **Tregonwell Hall Seminar Suite** of the **BIC** (first floor). The Press Office telephone number is 01202 586088. It is open at the following times:

Saturday	13th September	10.00 – 18.30
Sunday	14th September	08.30 – 19.30
Monday	15th September	08.30 – 19.30
Tuesday	16th September	08.30 – 19.30
Wednesday	17th September	08.30 – 15.00

Question and answer sessions

This year's conference features four Q & A sessions, with the party leader (F17); on environment (F29); on

economy (F39); and on the Parliamentary reports (F45). Any elected representative may submit a concise question (maximum 25 words) to any of these sessions and, if selected by the chair of the session, will be asked to put the question from one of the intervention mikes in the **Auditorium** in the **BIC**.

The deadline for the receipt of questions is shortly before each session. A form for submitting questions should be collected from and returned to the **Speakers' Table** in the **Auditorium**.

Questions to reports

Any elected representative can submit a question to any of the reports of the Federal Committees, included in the separate reports document.

The deadline for receipt of questions is **12.00 Tuesday 9th September**; they should be sent to the Policy Projects Team, preferably by email to **questions@libdems.org.uk**, or post to 4 Cowley Street, London SW1P 3NB. A standard form is included in the Final Agenda mailing; if posting, please use this or a photocopy. Questions to reports will be detailed in Saturday's *Advance Notice* sheet.

Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the **Speakers' Table** in the **Auditorium** of the **BIC**, on speaker's cards up until one hour before the start of the session.

Recycling facilities

Recycling facilities for paper and plastic will be provided in the BIC. Please make use of the collection bins.

Refreshments

Hot and cold meals and alcoholic drinks are available in the **Solent Hall** on the ground floor and the **Bay View Gallery** on the first floor of the **BIC** (from 13.00 on Saturday). Cold snacks, soft drinks, tea and coffee will be on sale in the **Windsor Foyer coffee bar**.

Introduction to Conference

Anyone unfamiliar with conference is welcome to come and join this session aimed at helping you to get the most out of your conference week.

Location: Tregonwell Bar, BIC

Time: 17.30–18.15

Date: Saturday 13th September

Make it Happen

Conference information continued

Registration

The **registration area** is located in the **Windsor Lobby** on the ground floor of the **BIC**, access to the right of the main entrance on Exeter Road at the front of the Centre.

Please complete the relevant registration form which is available at the **Registration Desk** in the **Windsor Lobby**. You do not need to bring a photograph, as one will be taken at registration.

You can register on-site at the following times:

Saturday	13th September	09.00 – 18.30
Sunday	14th September	08.30 – 18.15
Monday	15th September	08.30 – 18.15
Tuesday	16th September	08.30 – 18.15
Wednesday	17th September	08.30 – 11.30

Tip: save time on-site by downloading and completing a registration form before you arrive from www.libdems.org.uk/conference.

Party members: full registration

All party members are entitled to attend all sessions of the conference once registered. **Only elected representatives may vote.** Non-voting members who have paid the full registration fee are eligible to submit a speaker's card.

Cost: £117 for whole of conference; claimants: £32.

To register on-site as a voting, substitute, or non-voting member, you will need to bring:

- Party membership card
- Proof of personal identity
- Completed registration form (available on-site or download from www.libdems.org.uk)
- Proof of claimant status if appropriate

Tip: you can register online at www.libdems.org.uk right up to midnight 31st August.



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Registration: first-time attendees

As an incentive to encourage new conference-goers, a special rate of £60 for full registration is now available to party members attending Bournemouth as their first Liberal Democrat conference. This is not cumulative with any other discount and the special rate is subject to confirmation of first-timer status.

Day visitors - party members

Any party member may attend conference as a day visitor. Day visitors are not allowed to speak (except in consultative sessions) or vote at conference.

Cost: £35; claimants: £19

Proof of current party membership, and of claimant status if appropriate, is required.

Security and safety

All security measures are taken in consultation with the police and the BIC management.

Conference photo passes must be worn **visibly at all times** within the BIC and the Marriott Highcliff hotel. Anyone found in the secure area without a valid pass will be escorted from the building.

All bags will be searched at the main entrance to the BIC. Under no circumstances will any large bags or suitcases be allowed into the Centre. Any bag left unattended will be brought to the attention of the police and may be removed and/or destroyed.

Separate votes

Requests for separate votes may be submitted in writing by voting representatives to the **Speakers' Table** in the **Auditorium** of the **BIC** at any time up to the commencement of closing speeches. But they will have a higher chance of being accepted if they are submitted by the commencement of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled, or, for debates scheduled for the first day of conference, by **12.00 noon, Tuesday 9th September**, to the Policy Projects Team, preferably by email to motions@libdems.org.uk, or by post to 4 Cowley Street, London SW1P 3NB.

Smoking

All areas of the BIC are non-smoking.

Information

Conference information continued

Speaking at conference

Only four categories of people are entitled to speak in a debate at conference:

- Elected voting representatives (or substitutes) who have paid their full registration fee for the conference (i.e. not day visitors).
- Non-voting members who have paid their registration fee for the full, weekend or weekday conference (i.e. not day visitors).
- Persons who are ex-officio representatives (e.g. Parliamentary Spokespersons).
- Persons who have been given permission to speak by the Conference Committee.

No other person may be called to speak in debates.

Anyone who is entitled and wishes to speak must complete a speaker's card to speak in the debate. Cards can be obtained from the steward overseeing the block of seats in the **Auditorium** in which you are sitting, or from the **Information Desk** from Saturday morning. You must complete all sections of the card legibly.

Hand the completed card to a steward in the Auditorium before the beginning of the morning or afternoon in which the relevant debate occurs. If this is not possible, hand it in well in advance of the debate.

Lengths of speeches

Lengths of speeches for each debate are shown after each motion. These times may be changed by Conference Committee or by the Chair of the session.

The speaker's rostrum in the Auditorium has three lights. The green light is switched on at the beginning of the speech. The amber light is switched on 60 seconds before the end of the speech. The red light is switched on when all the time is used up, and speeches must stop immediately. Duplicate lights will be visible to the audience on either side of the stage.

See also *interventions* on **page 65**.

Stewards

The security team includes volunteer stewards who act under the direction of the Chief Steward, with advice from the local police, whose decision is final in any dispute regarding security.

Training events

Only party members may attend training events. For entry to training events in the BIC you must show a valid conference photo pass. For entry to training events in the Connaught or other fringe hotels, a valid conference photo pass or party membership card must be shown.

Transport and travel

For information on transport around and to Bournemouth, see **page 72**.

Urgent issues

The slots at **F10** and **F30** have been reserved for an urgent issue discussion. Unlike other debates at Conference, this discussion will not make party policy, but is intended to allow conference representatives and spokespeople an opportunity to discuss and comment on a political issue live at the time of Conference, but where it might be premature to move to formal policy-making.

Suggestions for urgent issues may be submitted by any conference representative, and should be emailed to **urgentissues@libdems.org.uk** by **12.00 on Tuesday 9th September**.

The title of the issue should be no more than ten words, and should not include an expression of opinion. For example, 'The Chaos on the Railways' would be acceptable, 'The Chaos on the Railways can be solved by Renationalisation' would not. Emails should include full contact details of the submitter and may include up to 100 words explanatory background.

The urgent issue to be discussed is chosen by officers of the Federal Conference Committee and Federal Policy Committee. The person submitting an issue chosen for one of these slots will be expected to speak for five minutes to introduce the discussion. The relevant Parliamentary spokesperson will be invited to respond. At the end of the debate, a representative of the Federal Policy Committee will sum up the main points and suggest any further actions.



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Conference information continued

All urgent issues accepted for discussion will be detailed in Saturday's *Advance Notice* sheet.

Venues

The main conference venue:

The Bournemouth International Centre (BIC)
Exeter Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5BH
Tel: 01202 456400

The main conference sessions will take place in the **Auditorium** in the **Windsor Hall** of the **BIC**. See *conference venue plan* on **page 61**.

Conference and fringe hotels:

Marriott Highcliff Hotel
St. Michaels Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5DU
Tel: 01202 557702

De Vere Royal Bath Hotel
Bath Road, Bournemouth, BH1 2EW
Tel: 01202 557702

The Hermitage Hotel
Exeter Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5AH
Tel: 01202 557363

The Royal Exeter Hotel
Exeter Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5AG
Tel: 01202 438000

Westcliff Brasserie
105 St Michael's Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5DU
Tel: 01202 315716

The Connaught Hotel
West Hill Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5PH
Tel: 01202 298020

The Wessex Hotel
11-13 West Cliff Rd, Bournemouth, BH2 5EU
Tel: 01202 551911



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For locations of venues, see the *map of Bournemouth town centre* on **page 30** of the *Fringe Guide*.

Voting status and voting / non-voting photo passes

You will only be able to register as a voting representative if the party's Membership Department:

- 1) has already received in writing notification from the Returning Officer of your local party that you have been elected as a voting representative*; or
- 2) has already received in writing notification from the Returning Officer of your local party that you are a substitute elected by your local party executive after a voting representative has indicated to them that s/he is unable to attend*; or
- 3) receives at the **Membership Desk** at conference (in the **Windsor Lobby** on the ground floor of the **BIC**) written notification from the Returning Officer of your local party that you have been elected as a voting representative or as a substitute.

* For a voting photo pass to be sent out before conference this information must be received by 10th August. Otherwise you will be sent a non-voting pass.

If you have received a non-voting photo pass and believe you are an elected voting representative, you need to get an officer of your local party to inform Membership Services (see below) in writing of the elected representatives of your local party. Your voting status cannot be changed over the phone.

If you have received a non-voting photo pass but are attending conference as a substitute voting representative, you need to get an officer of your local party to write to Membership Services with the name, address and membership number of the representative you are substituting for, as well as your own full details before **12.00, Friday 5th September**, and bring a copy of this letter to the **Membership Desk** at conference.

You may then collect the appropriate pass from the **Membership Desk** in the **Windsor Lobby** on the ground floor of the **BIC** (access to the right of the main entrance on Exeter Road at the front of the Centre).

Write to: Membership Services, 4 Cowley Street, London, SW1P 3NB or email to membership@libdems.org.uk

Website

For conference details online, please see www.libdems.org.uk/conference.



Access and facilities for disabled people

All areas of the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC) and rooms in the Marriott Highcliff, Westcliff Brasserie, Connaught, Wessex, Royal Exeter, Hermitage and Royal Bath hotels that we will be using for fringe meetings are fully accessible by wheelchair.

Bournemouth

Visitor Information Centre: 0845 051 1700

Disability Wessex have a wide range of information and advice for visitors to Bournemouth with disabilities. They can be contacted at:

The Ground Floor, Unit 5, Stratfield Saye,
20-22 Wellington Road, Bournemouth BH8 8JN
Tel: 01202 589999
Text phone number 01202 293940
www.disabilitywessex.org.uk

The Bournemouth International Centre (BIC)

Access to the BIC is via the main entrance on Exeter Road. There are lifts in the Windsor Foyer by the main entrance and at the rear of the building which give access to the first floor.

In the **Auditorium** (Windsor Hall) the seating area will mostly be on the flat. An infra-red hearing system is in operation in the Windsor Hall (Auditorium), Solent and Tregonwell Halls and all ancillary rooms in the BIC. Headphones and necklets are free to hire from the BIC. Sign language interpretation will be provided during all conference sessions in conjunction with the Sign Language Centre.

There are disabled toilets on the ground and first floors of the BIC.



Services for the blind and visually impaired

The Conference Agenda and Directory, Fringe Guide, Training Schedule and policy and consultation papers are all available in electronic formats, including as pdf files.

Please contact Emma Harris at the Conference Office, tel: 020 7227 1350, email: emma.harris@libdems.org.uk, by Friday 22nd August.

Conference and fringe hotels

The Marriott Highcliff: Wheelchair access is via the car park entrance at the rear of the hotel. There are disabled toilet facilities and lifts in the hotel lobby.

The Connaught: Wheelchair access is via the main entrance at the front of the hotel. All the fringe rooms are on the ground floor and can be reached either via the hotel or via their own external wheelchair accessible entrances. There are lifts and disabled toilets in the lobby.

The Hermitage: Wheelchair access is via the main entrance at the front of the hotel. The fringe room is on the ground floor and is accessible through the hotel lobby. There are lifts and disabled toilets in the lobby.

The Royal Bath: Wheelchair access is via the De Vere Suite or temporary ramps at the main entrance, both on Bath Road; most of the fringe rooms are accessed via the De Vere Suite Entrance. There is a lift to all floors and a disabled toilet on the ground floor.

The Royal Exeter: Wheelchair access is via the front entrance. The fringe rooms are on the ground and lower ground floors. There is a lift just off the main lobby to access them. The disabled toilet is on the lower ground floor.

The Wessex: Wheelchair access is via a ramped entrance at the rear of the hotel through the car park. There is a lift to the disabled toilet and fringe rooms on the ground floor.

Access and facilities for disabled people cont.

Wheelchair users attending conference

In an effort to encourage participation at conference and in recognition of the significant extra costs that are incurred, we are operating a financial assistance scheme for wheelchair users at conference. This scheme aims to offset the extra cost of staying in a specially adapted disabled-friendly room in a larger hotel and to bring it in line with the cost of staying in a cheaper bed and breakfast establishment.

For more information and an application form for Spring 2009, go to www.libdems.org.uk/conference/access

The Westcliff Brasserie: Wheelchair access is via the main entrance at the front of the building on St Michaels Road. All the meeting rooms and the disabled toilet are on the ground floor.

Buses

See buses under *transport and travel* on **page 72**.

Car parking

For information on disabled parking in Bournemouth, call 01202 454809 or email parkingshop@bournemouth.gov.uk or go to: www.bournemouth.gov.uk/Residents/roads/parking/Disabled_Parking.asp

For information on parking at the BIC, see parking under *transport and travel* on **page 72**.

Rail

Bournemouth Railway Station has level access to the ticket office, a subway between platforms and a fully accessible toilet. The station provides four disabled parking spaces. If assistance is required at Bournemouth station please contact the Assisted Travel telephone line on 0845 605 0440 at least 24 hours prior to travel so help can be tailored to individual needs and assistance given at each stage of the journey both on South West Trains' and other train operators' services.

For further information on train services see under *transport and travel* on **page 72**.

Taxis

See taxi services under *transport and travel* on **page 72**.

Electric scooters and minibus shuttle

The seafront and areas around and between the BIC and the hotels is very hilly. There are a limited number of electric scooters available for hire for the duration of the conference. These are available on a first-come first-served basis and must be booked in advance **by 31st August**. For further information, please contact sian.jenkins@libdems.org.uk.

There will be a wheelchair-accessible minibus shuttle service operating from the front of the BIC to the fringe hotels at the top of Priory Road during the lunch and early evening fringe breaks.

The free of charge seafront land train (which is not wheelchair-accessible) will be operating between the rear of the BIC to the Marriott Highcliff hotel each day.

Other requirements

If you have any specific requirements that are not mentioned, here please contact Emma Harris, email emma.harris@libdems.org.uk before 22nd August, and she will endeavour to assist if it is at all possible.

Information and assistance at conference

Anyone who requires assistance should approach a conference steward or one of the staff at the BIC or hotel.

Robert Littlehales is the disabled access steward at conference. You can contact him both in advance of and during conference on 07712 667702 or at rlittlehales@aol.com, or ask for him at the **Speakers' Table** in the **Auditorium** of the **BIC**.



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Information

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Transport and travel

For a map of Bournemouth town centre, please see **page 30** of the separate *Fringe Guide*.

Air

Bournemouth International Airport is 10 minutes from the town centre via the A338 (Wessex Way). Thomson Fly, Ryanair and Easyjet fly to and from numerous European locations; visit their websites for further information.

Bus and coach

From London: there is a National Express coach service to Bournemouth which leaves from London Victoria.

For local bus services, contact Wilts and Dorset Buses:

tel 01202 673555 or www.wdbus.co.uk

or Yellow Buses:

tel 01202 636060 or www.yellowbuses.co.uk

Car

From London: take the M25, then the M3, M27 and A31 to Ringwood. From Ringwood, follow the A338 (Wessex Way), to the Bournemouth West Roundabout.

From the North and West: head for the A31 / A338 junction (Ashley Heath) outside Ringwood, then take the A338 (Wessex Way) to Bournemouth and follow directions to the Bournemouth West Roundabout.

From the Bournemouth West Roundabout: take the first exit and follow the brown signs to the BIC. The BIC multi-storey car park is off the roundabout at the bottom of Priory Road.

Reduce congestion and pollution by using public transport or car-sharing where possible. For the Liberal Democrats Conference car-share scheme, see www.libdems.org/conference.



© Bournemouth Tourism

Parking

For information on parking at the BIC and fees, call 0844 576 3000 or go to:

www.bic.co.uk/aboutus/bic/parking.asp

where you can also find information about parking in Bournemouth.

For disabled parking, see car parking under *access and facilities for disabled people* on **page 70**.

Taxi services

The following companies provide a 24 hour local taxi service with wheelchair accessible cars (advisable to pre-book wheelchair accessible cars):

Star Radio Cars	01202 391919
United Taxis	01202 556677 (wheelchair accessible vehicles can only be booked on the day)
Warrens Taxis	01202 767676

Journeys from the train station to the BIC cost approximately £5.

Train

Bournemouth is served by two trains an hour from London Waterloo, taking around two hours; see www.southwesttrains.co.uk for information. There are mainline rail links from Scotland and the North to Bournemouth; see www.crosscountrytrains.co.uk.

Bournemouth Station is a 10-minute taxi ride from the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC).

Trains can be booked through the party's affinity scheme at www.libdems.org/conference.



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Make it Happen

Standing orders for Federal Conference

Glossary of terms

Business motion

A proposal to conduct the affairs of the Party in a particular way or to express an opinion on the way affairs have been conducted.

Business amendment

A proposal to change a business motion. *Any such proposal should be significant, should be within the scope of the original motion and must not be a direct negative.*

Committee

Throughout these standing orders, Committee means the Federal Conference Committee unless otherwise qualified.

Constitutional amendment

A proposal to change the constitution of the Party.

Secondary constitutional amendment

An amendment to a constitutional amendment. *This must not introduce new material.*

Consultative session

A meeting where selected areas of policy or strategy are considered in greater depth than is possible in full debates.

Day visitor

Someone who has paid the appropriate day visitor fee. Day visitors are not entitled to speak or vote in full sessions of conference.

Elected representative

A person elected by a local party or an SAO to represent them at conference. This term does not include substitutes appointed to replace an elected representative at a particular meeting of conference. It does include elected representatives who have not registered for a particular meeting of conference.

Emergency motion

A proposal which relates to a *specific recent development which occurred after the deadline for submission of amendments.*

Emergency motions must be brief.

Emergency amendment

An amendment to a motion which relates to a specific event which occurred after the deadline for the submission of amendments. ***It must be brief and uncontentious.***

Full session

Any part of the conference agenda during which debates, urgent issue discussions or discussion of business, including formal reports, takes place. This specifically excludes formal speeches such as those by the Leader or Party Officers.

Non-voting member

A party member who has paid the appropriate registration fee, but, because they are not an elected representative, is not entitled to vote at conference. A non-voting member is, however, entitled to submit a speaker's card for any item on which voting members may submit a speaker's card.

Point of order

A suggestion to the chair of a debate that the conduct of the debate, as laid down in the standing orders, has not been followed correctly.

Policy motion

A proposal to adopt a new policy or reaffirm an existing one. This includes motions accompanying policy papers and pre-manifesto papers.

Policy amendment

A proposal to change a policy motion. *Any proposal should be of significant importance, should be within the scope of the original motion and must not be a direct negative.*

Policy paper

A paper prepared by the Federal Policy Committee and submitted to conference for debate under the terms of Article 5.4 of the Federal Party constitution.

Pre-manifesto paper

A paper prepared by the Federal Policy Committee in the year before a Westminster or European Parliamentary election as an indication of the themes and policies likely to be included in the manifesto, and submitted to conference for debate. A pre-manifesto paper will not contain substantive new development of policy.

Procedural motion

A proposal that the conduct of a debate should be changed in a specific way. Procedural motions are:

Move to next business

A proposal that the conference should cease to consider an item of business and immediately move to the next item on the agenda.

Reference back

A proposal to refer a motion or amendment to a named body of the Party for further consideration.

Request for a count

A request to the chair that a specific vote be counted and recorded rather than decided on the chair's assessment of a show of voting cards.

Separate vote

A request to the chair of a debate that a part or parts of a motion or amendment should be voted on separately.

Suspension of standing orders

A proposal to relax specific standing orders for a stated purpose.

Special conference

An additional meeting of the conference requisitioned by the Federal Executive, Federal Policy Committee, conference itself or 200 conference representatives under the provisions of Article 6.6 of the Federal constitution.

Standing orders continued

Standing orders amendment

A proposal to change these standing orders.

Secondary standing orders amendment

An amendment to a standing orders amendment. ***This must not introduce new material.***

Topical motion

A motion which would otherwise qualify as a policy or a business motion, but is either about an event which occurs after the deadline for submission of motions but before the deadline for submission of amendments or on a topic announced by the Committee in the Preliminary or Final Agenda as meriting a topical motion.

Topical Motions (except for those announced in the Final Agenda but not published until the meeting of the conference)

may have amendments submitted to them in the same way as policy or business motions. *Any such amendment should be of significant importance, should be within the scope of the original motion and must not be a direct negative.*

Urgent issue discussion

A discussion on a policy issue of significant and topical relevance, conducted without a vote.

Voting member

A person who is entitled to vote at conference. This term includes substitutes replacing conference representatives for a particular meeting of conference. It does not include conference representatives who have not paid any registration fee that may be in force nor does it include day visitors or observers who are not conference representatives.

Standing orders

1. The conference agenda

1.1 What is on the agenda

The agenda for each meeting of conference, other than a special conference, shall include time for:

- One or more consultative sessions; save that the Committee may decide not to hold any consultative sessions at a spring conference.
- A business session or sessions for the consideration of reports from the Parliamentary Party in the House of Commons, the Parliamentary Party in the House of Lords, the Parliamentary Party in the European Parliament, the Federal Executive, the Federal Finance and Administration Committee, the Federal Policy Committee and the Federal Conference Committee together with, when appropriate, reports from any other body the Committee considers appropriate, accounts, the annual report, business motions, constitutional amendments and standing order amendments.
- Policy motions (including motions accompanying policy papers and pre-manifesto papers) and topical motions.
- Emergency motions.
- Urgent issue discussions.
- Any other business which the Committee thinks appropriate.

The time to be allocated to each type of business and the order of that business shall be decided by the Committee provided that conference may decide not to take any particular item on the agenda.

1.2 Conference or council of state parties

In addition, time before or after any meeting may be agreed with the relevant state party for a meeting of the conference or council of that party.

1.3 Right to submit agenda items

- Reports to conference may be submitted only by the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b).

- Business motions (including amendments, topical business motions and emergency business motions and amendments), constitutional amendments and secondary constitutional amendments, standing order amendments and secondary standing order amendments may be submitted by the Federal Executive, Federal Policy committee, state parties, regional parties in England, local parties, Specified Associated Organisations and 10 conference representatives. Business motions, standing order amendments and secondary standing order amendments may also be submitted by the Federal Conference Committee.
- Motions accompanying policy papers and pre-manifesto papers may only be submitted by the Federal Policy Committee.
- Policy motions (including amendments, topical policy motions, emergency policy motions and amendments) may be submitted by the Federal Policy Committee, state parties, regional parties in England, local parties, Specified Associated Organisations and 10 conference representatives.
- Proposals for urgent issue discussions may be submitted by any voting member.

1.4 How motions and amendments are submitted

All motions and amendments must be submitted to the Committee. They must be typed clearly and accompanied by the name, address and telephone number(s) of a person authorised to agree to their being composited or redrafted. Motions submitted by conference representatives must be accompanied by all their signatures, names and addresses.

1.5 The deadlines by which motions, amendments, reports and questions to reports must be submitted

The Committee shall specify:

- The closing date for the receipt of constitutional amendments and amendments to standing orders and policy motions accompanying policy papers. This shall be at least 15 weeks

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Standing orders continued

before the start of conference.

- b) The closing date for the receipt of policy and business motions. For the autumn conference, this shall be at least 15 weeks before the start of conference. For the spring conference, this shall be at least 8 weeks before the start of conference.
- c) The due date for the publication of the Preliminary Agenda.
- d) The closing date for receipt of amendments to the items published in the Preliminary Agenda and for the receipt of topical motions (autumn conference only) and policy motions accompanying pre-manifesto papers. This shall be at least 8 weeks before the start of conference.
- (e) The closing date for the submission of written reports from the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b), which will be set so as to enable their distribution with the Final Agenda. Any supplementary report submitted later than this deadline may only be tabled at conference with the permission of the Committee.
- f) The closing date for the submission of questions to any of the reports listed in the Final Agenda, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference.
- g) Notwithstanding 1.5(e), questions may always be submitted to any of the reports listed in the Final Agenda arising from events occurring after the deadline specified in 1.5(e). The deadline for these questions shall be one hour before the start of the business session at which the report is due to be considered.
- h) The closing date for the submission of emergency motions and amendments and amendments to topical motions and policy motions accompanying pre-manifesto papers published in the Final Agenda, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference.
- i) The closing date for proposals for urgent issue discussions, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference.

1.6 Notification of deadlines

All dates specified under standing order 1.5 shall be notified to conference representatives and bodies entitled to submit motions. Publication in the party newspaper may be treated as notice for this purpose.

1.7 Later deadlines in special circumstances

In special circumstances the Committee may specify later dates than those indicated above. In particular, where developments which, in the opinion of the Committee, are of great importance have taken place after the closing date for emergency motions and questions to reports, the Committee may make time available for an additional emergency motion or for a statement to be made on behalf of the Party or for additional questions to be submitted to reports.

2. Consultative Sessions

2.1 The subjects for consultative sessions

The subjects for debate at consultative sessions shall be chosen by the Committee on the advice of the Federal Policy

Committee and, where appropriate, the Federal Executive, and published in the Preliminary and Final Agendas. Two or more such sessions may be held simultaneously.

2.2 Speaking at consultative sessions

Any member of the Party may be called to speak at a consultative session and, with the approval of the chair, non-members with relevant expertise may also be called.

2.3 Voting at consultative sessions

At the discretion of the chair a vote by show of hands may be taken to indicate the weight of opinion among members present on any issue that has been debated.

3. The Preliminary Agenda

3.1 The shortlisting of motions

The Committee shall draw up a Preliminary Agenda and shall decide which of the motions duly submitted shall be included in it. For the autumn conference, the Committee may allocate time for one or more policy or business motions to be selected by ballot.

3.2 Motions for the amendment of the constitution or standing orders

Save as detailed below in standing order 4.3, all proposed amendments to the constitution or standing orders must be either selected for debate or included in a ballot to allow conference representatives to determine an order of priority for allocating time.

3.3 Circulation of the Preliminary Agenda

The Preliminary Agenda, including the text of all motions selected for debate or included in a ballot, shall be circulated to those entitled to submit motions. Copies of motions not selected shall be available for inspection and will be supplied to any conference representative on payment of a copying charge and postage.

4. Selection of motions and amendments for both the Preliminary and Final Agendas

4.1 Compositing or otherwise altering motions

In drawing up both the Preliminary and Final Agenda the Committee shall seek to reflect the range of views in the Party as indicated by the motions and amendments submitted. The Committee may:

- a) Treat any severable part of a motion or amendment as a separate motion or amendment.
- b) Redraft a motion or amendment so as to improve expression, remove inaccuracy or superfluity or take account of new developments.
- c) Composite similar motions or amendments.

4.2 Selection of amendments

The Committee shall decide which of the amendments duly submitted to each motion shall be selected. No amendment shall be selected if, in the opinion of the Committee, it is insubstantial, outside the scope of the motion, or tantamount to a direct negative of the motion.

Standing orders continued

4.3 Motions for the amendment of the constitution or standing orders

The Committee may refuse to select a motion for amendment of the constitution or standing orders if, in their opinion, it is:

- a) Similar in effect to another motion which has been selected for debate or ballot at the same meeting of conference.
- b) Similar in effect to a motion that has been rejected at either of the last two meetings of conference.
- c) In the case of amendments to the constitution, incomplete in that it leaves unamended some other part of the constitution which contradicts the meaning of the amendment.
- d) In the case of amendments to standing orders, incomplete in that it leaves unamended some other part of standing orders which contradicts the meaning of the amendment.
- e) Ambiguous.

4.4 Topical motions

The Committee may include any topical motion on the agenda. The Committee may announce, in the Preliminary and/or Final Agenda, that it has reserved time for a topical motion on a particular subject and invite submissions on that subject by the dates for the submission of topical motions and emergency motions, respectively, as specified in standing order 1.5 prior to the start of conference.

4.5 Emergency motions

The Committee may reject an emergency motion if:

- a) It is similar in effect to another motion that has been selected for debate or ballot.
- b) It is similar in effect to a subject chosen for an urgent issue discussion.
- c) It is unclear as to its meaning or intent or, in the opinion of the Committee, too poorly drafted to provide a sensible basis for debate.
- d) It falls outside the definition of emergency motions.

No amendment shall be taken to any motion selected under this standing order.

4.6 Ballots for emergency motions

All emergency motions, except those rejected under standing order 4.5, must be placed either on the agenda for debate or in a ballot for selection by conference. The Committee may hold separate ballots to select which of a range of emergency policy motions and which of a range of emergency business motions to debate. If one or more ballots is held the Committee shall circulate the text of all balloted motions to the representatives attending conference as soon as practicable and shall specify a closing time for the ballot. Following the counting of any ballots the Committee shall decide how many motions shall be debated in the time available.

4.7 Emergency amendments

The Committee shall have complete discretion whether to select emergency amendments for debate, save that emergency amendments shall not be taken at spring conference.

4.8 Urgent issue discussions

The choice of subjects for urgent issue discussions shall be made by the Officers of the Committee in consultation with

the Officers of the Federal Policy Committee. In choosing the subjects, the Officers shall have regard to the significance and topicality of the subjects proposed and whether they are likely to provoke a lively discussion.

4.9 Holding motions

A policy or business motion which contains no substantive text at the time of its submission (a 'holding motion') may be submitted by the Federal Executive or Federal Policy Committee for consideration by the Committee. This includes policy motions intended to accompany policy papers yet to be published. The Committee may accept no more than two such motions from each committee on to the agenda for any autumn conference, and one such motion from each committee for any spring conference. In unusual circumstances, such as the conference immediately following a general election, the Committee shall have discretion to accept a higher number of holding motions. A full account of the reasons for the submission of all holding motions shall be included in the report to conference of the relevant committee.

5. The Final Agenda

5.1 Drawing up the Final Agenda

The Committee may, in drawing up the Final Agenda:

- a) Transfer any constitutional or standing order amendment from the ballot to the agenda for debate.
 - b) Remove a motion which was on the Preliminary Agenda.
- The Final Agenda shall be circulated to voting conference members as soon as practicable.

5.2 Balance between State and Federal policy debates

The Committee shall, in drawing up the Final Agenda, have due regard to the balance of State and Federal policy debates and in particular shall as far as possible organise the agenda so that all matters which relate to one or more state parties but not all State Parties or the Federal Party shall be considered at either the beginning or the end of the conference.

6. Special meetings

6.1 Timetabling of special meetings

The Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the requisitioning of a special meeting of the conference, fix a date for the meeting, draw up a Preliminary Agenda and, if appropriate, specify a date for the submission of amendments. The Committee may, if necessary, proceed straight to a Final Agenda and set an appropriate deadline for amendments. The meeting shall deal only with the business stated in the notice of requisition save that the Committee may allow time for emergency motions and for business which is formal or, in its opinion, uncontroversial.

6.2 Preferred timescales for special meetings

In setting dates for the submission of motions and amendments and giving notice thereof and of the conference itself the Committee shall endeavour to follow the timescales laid down elsewhere in these standing orders but, where this is not practicable, the Committee shall set such dates as it sees fit.

Standing orders continued

7. Appeals

7.1 Appeals against rejection of motions

The Committee shall provide written reasoning to the nominee of the proposers for the rejection of any motion or amendment or the removal of any motion from the Preliminary Agenda. The proposers may appeal, in writing, to the next meeting of the Committee. Any such appeal shall provide reasons why, in the opinion of the proposers, the expressed reasons for rejection are not valid. If the appeal is allowed, the motion or amendment shall be treated as a topical or emergency motion or amendment according to the stage of the agenda-setting process at which the appeal has been allowed.

7.2 Appeals against exclusion from conference

Any person excluded from conference by a decision of the Chief Steward shall have the right of appeal to the Committee at the next of its regular meetings. The exclusion shall remain in force pending the appeal. If the person who is excluded is a voting member of conference, their local party or SAO shall be contacted immediately and invited to appoint a substitute for the remainder of the conference.

8. The chair

8.1 Who chairs conference

The President, if present, shall normally take the chair at the formal opening and closing of conference and when the Party Leader is making a formal speech from the platform. At all other sessions the chair shall be appointed by the Committee. Normally no person shall chair more than one session at any meeting.

8.2 The chair's aide

The Committee may appoint an aide or aides to assist the chair of each session.

9. Conduct of debate

9.1 Variation in the order of business

The Committee may propose to the conference a variation in the order of business as set out in the Final Agenda. Such variation shall be put to the vote and shall take effect if approved by a majority of those voting.

9.2 Withdrawal of motions and amendments

Once the Committee has included a motion or amendment, or part of a motion or amendment, in the Final Agenda, it may not be withdrawn except by leave of conference.

9.3 The order of debate

The Committee shall direct the order of debate. Generally, however, a motion will be moved and immediately thereafter the amendments and options will be moved in the order directed by the Committee. There will then be a general debate. The movers of amendments and options (or their nominees) shall have the right of reply in the same order, after which the mover of the motion (or the mover's nominee) shall have the right of reply. Votes shall then be taken on the amendments and options in the order in which they have been moved and, finally, on the substantive motion. The Committee may direct that part

of any motion or amendment or groups or amendments may be the subject of a separate debate.

9.4 Urgent issue discussions

The Committee shall direct the order of the discussion. Normally the proposer of the subject shall speak first, and a representative of the Federal Policy Committee shall speak last.

9.5 Who may speak

Only voting or non-voting members may speak at a full session of conference, save that other persons may speak in the following circumstances:

- As a member of the Federal Policy Committee representing that committee in a policy debate.
- As a member of the Federal Conference Committee representing that committee in debates on standing orders and matters of conference procedure.
- As a member of the Federal Executive representing that committee on matters of party business.
- If called by the chair of the session, after the Committee has given permission. Such permission shall only be given exceptionally.

Additionally the Committee may invite any person to address the conference as a guest.

9.6 The special rights of the Federal Committees

Provided that the Federal Policy Committee is not proposing the motion or any of the amendments to be taken in a debate on a policy motion or on motions relating to the policy-making processes of the Party it shall have the right to nominate a person to report its views on the subject before the conference. The Federal Executive shall have similar rights on business motions or motions to amend the constitution, as shall the Federal Conference Committee on motions relating to the proceeding and procedures of the conference and to amend standing orders. Such a person shall be called to speak for the same length of time as the person replying on behalf of the mover of the motion.

9.7 The selection of speakers

Voting and non-voting members wishing to speak in any debate shall submit a speaker's card, prior to the commencement of the debate in which they wish to speak, stating whether they wish to speak for or against an amendment, the motion or part of the motion. The chair shall be responsible for the choice of the speakers and shall attempt to provide a balanced debate between the different viewpoints in the conference, but may announce a departure from this rule if there is an overwhelming preponderance of members wishing to speak on the same side. The chair shall have the discretion to accept speakers' cards after the start of the debate. Save as provided for in these standing orders, no person may speak more than once in any debate.

9.8 The length of speeches

The Committee shall set out in the Final Agenda time limits for speeches.

9.9 Where to speak from

All speeches shall be made from the rostrum, save that

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speeches by the President or Leader of the Party, except when participating in debate, or by a guest invited by the Committee, or on the occasion of the opening or the closing of the meeting, may be made from the platform.

10. Voting at conference

10.1 The method of voting

Voting cards shall be issued at each meeting to voting members. (The Committee may direct that voting on any issue be by ballot.) Subject thereto all votes at full sessions shall be taken by show of voting cards.

10.2 Counting of votes

A vote by show of voting cards shall be counted:

- a) If the Committee has so directed.
- b) If the chair so directs.
- c) As the result of a procedural motion under standing order 12.5 below.

A recount will only be held if the chair is not satisfied that the first count was accurate.

10.3 Separate votes

A separate vote may be taken on a part of a motion or amendment:

- a) On the direction of the Committee.
- b) At the discretion of the chair.
- c) As a result of a procedural motion under standing order 12.4 below.

11. Points of order

11.1 Making a point of order

Any voting member may rise on a point of order which shall be taken immediately except that, during a vote, no point of order shall be taken that does not refer to the conduct of the vote. The chair's decision on all points of order shall be final.

12. Procedural motions

12.1 Next business

- a) A voting member may, during any full conference session, submit, in writing, a request that conference move to next business, giving the reasons to do so. The submission shall not exceed 75 words.
- b) The chair may either take the request immediately upon receipt, or at the end of any speech currently being made. If more than one request is received the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken in respect to any motion or report.
- c) When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to consider the request to move to next business. If conference decides, by a simple majority of those voting, to do so, the person who made the request may speak. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes. If conference decides not to debate the proposal, it falls.
- d) The proposal shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item

shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

12.2 Reference back (moved by a representative)

- a) A voting member, who has not already spoken in the debate, may, at any time before the chair has asked the first speaker in reply to stand by, submit, in writing, a request to refer back the motion under debate. The submission shall state to whom the motion is to be referred and shall include a statement of the reasons, including reasons why voting against the motion would not achieve a similar result, not exceeding 75 words.
- b) The chair may take the request to refer back at whatever stage of the debate they consider appropriate. If more than one request is received, the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken with respect to any motion.
- c) When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to consider the request to refer. If conference decides, by a simple majority of those voting, to do so, the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes. If conference decides not to debate the reference back, it falls.
- d) The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.
- e) If the substantive motion is referred to the Federal Executive, the Federal Policy Committee or the Federal Conference Committee that body shall, in its report to the next meeting of the conference, state what action it has taken on the reference.

12.3 Reference back (moved by the Federal Policy Committee)

- a) The Federal Policy Committee may, at any time before the beginning of the debate on a motion, submit, in writing, a request to refer that motion to the next meeting of the conference. The chair shall announce the existence of such a request at the start of the debate.
- b) The chair may take the request to refer back at whatever stage of the debate they consider appropriate. A nominee of the Federal Policy Committee will speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair shall have discretion whether to allow other speakers on the request.
- c) The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item

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shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

- d) If passed, the Federal Policy Committee shall, before the next meeting of the conference, circulate its reasons for acting under this section and its comments on the motion and any amendments thereto accepted for debate.

12.4 Separate vote

A voting member of conference may request that the chair take a separate vote on a part of a motion or amendment provided that such a request is in writing and received by the commencement of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled. If the debate is scheduled for the first day of conference, the request must be received in writing by the same deadline as that for emergency motions. The Committee shall have complete discretion whether to take a separate vote. In exceptional circumstances, the Chair of the debate shall have discretion to accept a request for a separate vote if it is received in writing after this deadline.

12.5 Counted vote

Any voting member may ask for a counted vote, which shall be taken if the request is supported by 50 members rising in their places and showing their voting cards.

12.6 Suspension of standing orders

- a) A voting conference member may, during any full conference session, move a motion for the suspension of standing orders. The mover shall submit the motion together with a written statement of its purpose, not exceeding 75 words, to the chair, who shall read them to the meeting. The chair may either take the request immediately upon receipt, or at the end of the speech currently being made.
- b) No motion to suspend standing orders may suspend any requirement of the constitution, nor any part of these standing orders which govern:
 - i) The rights of, or timetable for, submission of motions and amendments.
 - ii) Consultative sessions.
 - iii) Procedural motions for next business or suspension of standing orders.
- c) No motion to suspend standing orders to introduce a motion or amendment on to the agenda can be taken unless the motion or amendment has been submitted to the Committee in accordance with the published timetable and, where a right of appeal against non-selection exists, the right has been exercised.
- d) The chair shall read the statement of purpose and, if the suspension is allowable in the terms of this standing order, ask the conference whether it wishes to debate the request for suspension. If the conference decides not to debate the request, it falls. If the conference decides, by a majority of those present and voting, to hear the request the mover may speak and a representative of the Committee may reply. The chair shall have the discretion to allow other speakers. All speeches on the motion to suspend standing orders will be limited to two minutes.
- e) A motion to suspend standing orders shall only be carried if

supported by at least two-thirds of the conference members voting. If the procedural motion is carried all standing orders shall remain in force except only for the purposes set out in the motion.

12.7 No procedural motions during votes

No procedural motion can be moved during a vote.

13. Reports

13.1 Which reports are tabled

The business session or sessions of the conference must include consideration of reports from the bodies listed in standing order 1.1(b).

13.2 Submission and selection of questions

A voting member may submit questions to any report tabled for consideration, by the deadlines set under standing orders 1.5 (e) and (f). The Committee shall publish in advance of the report session all the questions submitted under standing order 1.5 (e) which are in order, compositing similar questions where appropriate.

13.3 Whether questions are in order or not

A question shall be ruled out of order if it asks the body submitting the report about issues which are outside its duties and responsibilities. If the question could be answered by another body reporting to the same conference, the Committee may transfer the question to that body.

13.4 How questions and supplementary questions are put and answered

After the report is moved, the mover, or their nominee, shall answer the questions in turn. After each question has been answered, the voting member who submitted the question will be given the opportunity to put a supplementary question, speaking for a maximum of two minutes, and the mover, or their nominee, will be given an opportunity to respond. The chair shall determine the time given to the mover in moving the report and replying to questions. The chair shall also determine how many of the published questions, and how many of the questions submitted under standing order 1.5 (f), can be taken. After the conference the Committee shall publish the answers to all questions submitted under standing orders 1.5 (e) and (f) which are in order, and to all supplementary questions asked.

13.5 Approval or rejection of reports from Federal Party committees or sub-committees

Any report tabled by a Federal Party committee or sub-committee must be submitted for approval by the conference and must be voted upon accordingly. A voting member may move the rejection of any part of the report or of the report as a whole. A voting member wishing to move a rejection shall submit a speaker's card prior to the commencement of the consideration of the report, stating the section(s) which they wish to have rejected. All moves to reject a report must be debated (except that the chair shall have discretion to choose between moves to reject the same part of the report), at the conclusion of the question session. The person who made the request shall speak and the mover of the report, or their

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nominee, shall reply. The chair may allow other speakers, and shall determine the time given to all speakers.

13.6 Receipt of reports from other bodies

Any report tabled by a body other than a Federal Party committee or sub-committee must be submitted for receipt by the conference and must be voted upon accordingly. A voting member may move not to receive the report, by submitting a speaker's card prior to the commencement of the consideration of the report. A move not to receive a report must be debated (except that the chair shall have discretion to choose between more than one move not to receive the same report), at the conclusion of the question session. The person who made the request shall speak and the mover of the report, or their nominee, shall reply. The chair may allow other speakers, and shall determine the time given to all speakers.

14. Amendment of standing orders

14.1 Amendment of standing orders

These standing orders may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members of conference voting on a motion duly submitted and selected in accordance with standing orders. Subject to any amendment they shall remain in force from meeting to meeting.

15. The Chair and Vice Chairs of the Committee

15.1 Chair and Vice Chairs

At its first meeting after a new election the Committee shall elect a Chair, who must be a member of the Committee directly elected by conference, and at least one Vice Chair, who must be a member of the Committee either directly elected by conference or elected by one of the State Parties.

The Federal Party

Officers of the Federal Party

Leader	Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP
President	Simon Hughes MP
Chair of FFAC	Cllr Duncan Greenland
Treasurer	Lord Clement-Jones
Vice President (England)	Brian Orrell
Vice President (Scotland)	Audrey Findlay
Vice President (Wales)	Lembit Öpik MP
Chief Executive	Lord Rennard

Federal Executive

The FE is responsible for directing, co-ordinating and implementing the work of the Federal Party, including overall strategy, campaigning, organisation and staffing. The Federal Finance and Administration Committee and the Campaigns and Communications Committee both report to the FE.

The FE has 29 voting members: the Party President (who chairs it) and three Vice Presidents; the Leader and two other MPs; one peer; one MEP; two councillors; three state party reps; and fifteen members directly elected by conference reps.

Federal Finance and Administration Committee

The FFAC is responsible for planning and administering the budget and finances of the Federal Party, directing its administration and ensuring its compliance with the provisions of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. It is responsible to the FE, but also reports directly to the Federal Conference.

The FFAC has 14 voting members: the Chair (Cllr Duncan Greenland), Party Treasurer and five other members (elected by the FE); the Party President; three state party reps; and the

Chief Executive and two other members of Federal (HQ and Parliamentary) staff.

Federal Policy Committee

The FPC is responsible for researching and developing policy and overseeing the Federal Party's policy-making process. This includes producing policy papers for debate at conference, and drawing up (in consultation with the relevant parliamentary party) the Federal election manifestos for Westminster and European elections.

The FPC has 29 voting members: the Party Leader and four other MPs; the Party President; one peer; one MEP; three councillors; three state party reps; and fifteen members directly elected by conference reps. It must be chaired by one of the five MP members, and is currently chaired by the Leader.

Federal Conference Committee

The FCC is responsible for organising the two Federal conferences each year. This includes choosing the agenda from the policy and business motions submitted by conference reps, local, regional and state parties, specified associated organisations and Federal committees, and taking decisions on topics such as venues, registration rates and other administrative and organisational matters. It works within a budget set by the FFAC.

The FCC has 21 voting members: the Party President; the Chief Whip; three state party reps; two reps from the FE and two from the FPC; and twelve members directly elected by conference reps. It elects its own chair, who must be one of the directly elected or state party reps.

The members of the FCC are shown on page 2.

Make it Happen

Time to Recycle

At *Coca-Cola* Great Britain we're working to be greener. Our vision is that our packaging is not seen as waste but as a valuable resource that can be used again and again.

In 2007 we redesigned our iconic glass bottle, reducing its weight by 20%. We've made our cans and plastic bottles lighter too and are increasing our use of recycled materials. Thanks to a new partnership with closed loop recycling, for the first time ever, we will be able to use recycled plastic which has been reprocessed here in the UK.

We're now recycling over 90% of our own factory waste and through innovative partnerships are helping people make recycling a part of their daily lives. Our 'talent from trash' programme encouraged football fans to recycle and our Recycling Zone programme, in partnership with wrap and recoup, is helping more people to recycle when they're out and about.

"We are trying to run our business in a way that protects and preserves our environment, which limits the environmental impact we have and increases the benefits we bring. We have a responsibility to use the power of our brands to inspire positive living by our consumers."

- Sanjay Guha, President of Coca-Cola Great Britain, May 2008.

To ask the Coca-Cola Great Britain Team a question visit

WWW.LETSGETTOGETHER.CO.UK



British artists helped us celebrate Recycle Week creating 'Coke' can sculptures of Big Ben and other national landmarks, inspiring people to recycle just one more thing.



Coca-Cola Great Britain

Trumpeting local government's achievements ...



**Come and celebrate local
government successes including
25 years of the Liberal
Democrats leading South
Somerset District Council, at
the LGA Annual Reception**

Monday 15th September, 10pm to late
Dorchester Suite I
Highcliff Marriott Hotel



Local Government Association

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECEPTION IS HOSTED
BY THE LGA IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE IDeA, 4Ps,
LACORS, LGE AND THE ASSOCIATION OF
LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCILLORS

THE EVENING IS SPONSORED BY THE MERSEY GATEWAY



THE LGA LIB DEM GROUP HAVE A CONFERENCE STAND
- number 26 SOLENT ROOM