

Clear print Agenda

Liberal Democrats

Autumn Conference

16–19 September 2017

Bournemouth

Clear print

This clear print / large text version of the Agenda matches as closely as possible the printed Agenda. Motion line numbers match those in the printed Agenda. Page number cross references are correct within this clear print document. Some information may appear in a different place from its location in the printed Agenda. Complex layouts and graphics have been omitted.

The Agenda and Directory and other conference publications, in PDF, plain text and clear print formats, are available online at www.libdems.org.uk/conference.

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OPEN, TOLERANT AND UNITED

INFORMATION

Welcome to the Liberal Democrat 2017 Conference Agenda.

If you have any questions whilst at conference please ask a conference steward or go to the Information Desk in the main foyer of Bournemouth International Centre.

For features, general conference information, exhibition and fringe, see the separate Directory.

Conference venue

Bournemouth International Centre (BIC),
Exeter Road, Bournemouth, BH2 5BH.

Please note that the BIC is within the secure zone and that access is only possible with a valid conference pass.

Further information, registration and conference publications (including plain text and clear print versions) are available at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference

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Auditorium information

Information concerning the conduct of the main conference sessions is listed on the following pages of this Agenda.

The formal rules of conference are set out in standing orders, which will be available on the Party website and from the Information Desk at conference.

Conference Extra and Conference Daily

Conference Extra shows any changes to auditorium timings shown in this Agenda, amendments to motions, topical issues, emergency motions and questions to reports.

Conference Daily includes last-minute changes to the auditorium timetable; collect your copy from the Information Desk each morning for the latest updates.

Venue

Access to the BIC is possible only with a valid, conference pass worn with the official lanyard. You will be asked to show your pass when you enter the secure area and you are required to wear the pass visibly at all times within the area.

Do allow time for security check queues during key times – particularly after lunch and ahead of popular events.

Be aware that flash photography is frequently used in the auditorium. Please ensure that all mobile phones are on silent before entering the auditorium.

Disabled facilities

- Space for wheelchair users on the ground floor of the auditorium.
- Ramped access to the stage; the chair of the session will ensure wheelchair users are called in plenty of time to access the stage.
- An induction loop system, which can be linked to hearing aids; please ask a member of the stewarding team to direct you to the appropriate seating block.
- Sign language interpretation during all auditorium sessions; a number of

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seats are reserved for attendees using this service, at the front of the auditorium to the left of the stage.

- Reserved seats at the front of the auditorium for those who would benefit from being closer to the stage due to a visual impairment.

If you need assistance at the venue, please contact the Information desk where our dedicated steward will be on hand to help. If you need assistance or information in advance, please contact the Conference Team on conferences@libdems.org.uk

Debates and votes at conference

Debates on policy and business motions are at the heart of federal conference. It is through them that the party sets its policy and future direction. Unlike in other parties, Liberal Democrat members are sovereign, and what they decide really matters.

The structure of debate on policy and business motions:

Proposer of the motion speaks

V

Proposers of any amendments speak in turn

V

Speakers called on all sides of the debate with the chair seeking to ensure balance

V

Interventions taken (if listed on the agenda)

V

Summators of amendments speak in turn

V

The summator of the motion speaks

V

The chair takes votes for and against the amendments and separate votes (if any) in turn

V

A vote will be taken on the motion as a whole

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Interventions: concise (one minute) speeches made from the intervention microphone(s) on the floor of the auditorium, during debates where it is indicated in the Agenda.

Amendments: all motions except emergency motions are open to amendment; amendments accepted will be printed in Conference Daily.

Voting: decisions on most motions and all amendments and separate votes are by simple majority of those voting (2/3 majority for constitutional amendments). To vote, voting members must show their voting badge whilst seated on the ground floor of the auditorium.

Separate votes: a vote to delete or retain the specified words or section. A request for a separate vote may be submitted by any party member: by the start of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled, or by the deadline for emergency motions for debates scheduled for the first day of conference; using the online form at libdems.org.uk/conference_papers, by email to separate.votes@libdems.org.uk, or in writing to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium.

Counted vote: the chair of the session may decide that a vote needs to be counted. Any voting member may request a count from the floor; if fifty voting members stand and show their voting cards, a count will be taken.

Speaking and voting in conference debates

Eligibility to speak and vote

All party members are entitled to speak and vote in conference debates, providing they are:

- attending conference as a party member (and not eg an exhibitor or observer); and
- not registered as a day visitor.

Party members fulfilling these criteria are known as 'voting members'.

Federal Conference Committee may also give permission for other persons to speak (but not vote) in conference debates.

Length of speeches

The length of speeches is shown against each motion in the Agenda.

There are three lights on the speaker's rostrum and visible either side of the stage. 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 allowed time (20 seconds before the end of an intervention). The red light is switched on when all the time is used up, and the speaker must stop immediately.

Applying to speak

To make a speech in a debate you must complete a speaker's card, collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table at the front of the auditorium, an auditorium steward or the Information Desk.

Completing a speaker's card

When completing a speaker's card, remember:

1 Submit your card well in advance. The chair and aide team for the debate will meet well in advance to plan the debate – sometimes the previous day.

2 Fill in your card completely. Complete the two sections on the back of the card as well as the front. These sections are needed for the chair and aide to balance the debate, so they can call people with relevant experience and avoid a string of people making the same point.

3 Make sure it's readable!

Don't fill every square centimetre of the card; don't write illegibly, in very small letters, or in green ink ... The easier you make it for the chair and aide to read the card the more likely you will be called.

Interventions

To speak during interventions, voting members should complete an intervention form, collected from and returned to a steward in the auditorium. Speakers will be chosen by the chair of the session by random ballot.

Other conference sessions

Emergency motions and topical issue discussions

Emergency motions are debated and voted on and make formal party policy like other motions, but refer to a substantial development since the deadline for submission of motions.

Motions selected for debate, and/or for selection by ballot along with the ballot procedure, will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

Topical issue discussions allow members and spokespeople to discuss and comment on a political issue live at the time of conference; they do not make party policy.

The topical issue to be discussed is chosen by officers of the Federal Conference Committee and Federal Policy Committee and will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

Question & answer sessions

Any party member may submit a concise question (maximum 25 words) on the subject of the session, or on any subject for the Leader's Q&A. Questions will be selected by the chair and put by the submitter from the intervention microphones in the auditorium.

Questions may be submitted using the online form:

- at libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions.
- by 13.00 Monday 4 September.

Questions may also be submitted on a form collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium by:

- 12.50 Sunday 17 September.

Reports

The reports of Federal Committees and Parliamentary Parties are printed in the separate reports document.

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Any party member may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on these reports. The chair will select which questions will be asked. Questions to reports of the Parliamentary Parties may relate to any aspect of Liberal Democrat activities in the UK or European Parliaments.

Questions may be submitted using the online form:

- at libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions.
- by 13.00 Monday 4 September.

Questions received by the deadlines above will be printed in Conference Extra.

Questions on events occurring after the deadlines above may be submitted on speaker's cards at the Speakers' Table up until one hour before the start of the relevant session.

Submitting amendments, emergency motions, topical issues and appeals

Amendments and emergency motions

Amendments and emergency motions must be:

- signed by 10 party members; OR
- submitted by one or more of: a local party, state party, regional party in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisation or Federal Party Committee.

Amendments and emergency motions must be submitted by 13.00 Monday 4 September.

Submitters should include:

- For amendments – a short explanation of the intended effect of the amendment.
- For emergency motions – a short explanation of its emergency nature.

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Topical issues

Suggestions for topical issues may be submitted by any party member by:

- 13.00 Monday 4 September.

The title of the issue should be no more than ten words, and should not include an expression of opinion; please include full contact details of the submitter and up to 100 words explanatory background.

Drafting advice

Submitters are encouraged to use our drafting advice service: draft amendments and emergency motions should be submitted by:

- 13.00 Monday 21 August.

Amendments, emergency motions and topical issues should be submitted to the Policy Unit:

- using the online form at
www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions
- or by post to Policy Unit,
8-10 Great George Street,
London SW1P 3AE.

Appeals

Appeals against the non-inclusion of emergency motions or amendments must be signed by the original drafting contact and should be no longer than one side of an A4 sheet; give a contact name and telephone number; include a copy of the motion/amendment to which they relate; and give justification for the appeal and new information Conference Committee was unaware of when it made its decision.

Appeals should be sent to:

- appeals@libdems.org.uk
and submitted by:
- 09.00 Thursday 14 September.

Conference timetable 2018

9–11 March 2018, Southport

Drafting advice deadline (motions): 13.00, Wednesday, 27 December 2017.

Motions deadline: 13.00, Wednesday, 10 January 2018.

Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions): 13.00, Tuesday, 20 February 2018.

Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports: 13.00, Tuesday, 6 March 2018.

15–18/19 September 2018, Brighton

Drafting advice deadline (motions): 13.00, Wednesday, 13 June 2018.

Motions deadline: 13.00, Wednesday, 27 June 2018.

Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions): 13.00, Monday, 20 August 2018.

Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports: 13.00, Monday, 3 September 2018.

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All conference sessions take place in the Auditorium in the Bournemouth International Centre (BIC). A plan of the venue is printed in the Directory and is available as a separate document at www.libdems.org.uk/conference.

Saturday 16 September

09.00 Party business

Chair: Baroness Brinton. Aide: Susan Juned. Hall Aide: Alex Hegenbarth.

**F1 Opening of Conference by Baroness Brinton,
President of the Liberal Democrats**
@salbrinton, #LDconf

09.05 Party business

Chair: Mary Reid. Aide: Victor Chamberlain. Hall Aide: Liz Lynne.

F2 Federal Conference Committee Report

Mover: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 08.50 on Saturday 16 September. See page 7 for further information.

F3 Federal Policy Committee Report

Mover: Duncan Brack (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 08.50 on Saturday 16 September. See page 7 for further information.

09.25 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Nicholas da Costa. Hall Aide: Susan Juned.

F4 Learning to Communicate in English

16 members

Mover: Wera Hobhouse MP

Summation: To be announced

1 Conference notes with concern that:

2 i) England does not have a strategy for the teaching of English for
3 Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), unlike Scotland and Wales.

4 ii) According to the 2011 Census, at least 726,000 people in
5 the UK do not speak English 'well', and this is likely to be an
6 underestimate.

7 iii) Government funding for ESOL has been cut by 60% in real terms
8 between 2009/10 and 2015/16, whilst additional funding for job
9 seekers and ring-fenced funding for community education have
10 both been removed.

11 iv) Consequently, enrolment in state-funded ESOL classes has fallen
12 by 43% over the same period.

13 Conference believes that:

14 a) In order to champion the freedom of individuals and enable
15 them to contribute to their communities, the Government and
16 devolved administrations must have a crucial role in funding
17 ESOL provision.

18 b) Funding for ESOL classes should be allocated with transparency
19 and based on robust evidence.

20 Conference calls on the Government to:

21 1. Establish a national ESOL strategy for England that will include
22 recommendations to improve collaboration between local ESOL
23 providers and to create a national ESOL champion.

- 24 2. Require every local education authority to publish a 'Language
25 Needs Assessment' that must identify the need for ESOL
26 provision in the authority's area, identify target groups and
27 outline how it intends to address this need.
- 28 3. Require local authorities to maintain an 'ESOL hub' website with
29 information about how to access learning opportunities.
- 30 4. Incentivise employers to contribute towards the cost of ESOL
31 classes for their employees.
- 32 5. Work on a cross-party basis and with awarding organisations
33 and ESOL providers to modernise the ESOL Qualifications and
34 Curriculum Framework.
- 35 6. Create 'fast-track' pathways for ESOL learners into employment
36 by promoting partnerships between adult education colleges and
37 businesses in need of language skills, such as export firms.

Applicability: England only.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 8 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 5 – is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

10.10 Consultative session

Chair: To be announced. Aide: To be announced. Hall Aide: To be announced.

F5 Party Strategy Consultation

The Federal Board is tasked with preparing a document outlining the Party's strategy for debate and agreement by Conference. This process had already begun prior to the General Election this June, although it had to be halted once the election was called.

This session is an opportunity for members to feed in to the strategy's drafting group and to ask questions of key members of that group. It is also a forum to allow members to propose radical new approaches which the Party should consider adopting, in all aspects of its work.

A background document has been compiled which can be found at www.libdems.org.uk/party_strategy_2017 alongside an earlier consultation document and an electronic survey to enable all members to participate even if they can't make it to the session.

In addition to this consultation session, members are very welcome to visit the Federal Board Helpdesk by the Information Desk to talk to a member of the Federal Board about the Party's Strategy, or to fill in the survey.

A panel of speakers will introduce the session and give brief responses to the points made.

11.40 Policy motion

Chair: Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Jennie Rigg. Hall Aide: James Gurling.

F6 The Paris Agreement and UK Climate Change Policy

26 members

Mover: Baroness Featherstone

Summation: Duncan Brack

- 1 Conference welcomes the entry into force of the Paris Agreement
- 2 on climate change in November 2016, and its aim of holding the
- 3 increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C, and
- 4 if possible less than 1.5°C, above pre-industrial levels, in order
- 5 significantly to reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.

- 6 Conference recognises that the policies necessary to achieve the

7 UK's contribution to these goals will bring major economic and social
8 benefits, including improved economic competitiveness, growth
9 in jobs, exports and prosperity, higher levels of energy security, a
10 reduction in air pollution and the end of fuel poverty.

11 Conference applauds the increasing number of countries and major
12 international companies which are now implementing their own
13 ambitious climate strategies in the recognition that the transition to
14 a low-carbon economy will create opportunities for growth, jobs and
15 prosperity.

16 Conference condemns President Trump's decision to withdraw the
17 United States from the Paris Agreement, and regrets the Prime
18 Minister's anaemic response, and in particular her failure to sign the
19 joint statement by the leaders of France, Germany and Italy.

20 Conference recognises that the UK is not currently on track to meet
21 its commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions under the
22 2008 Climate Change Act and that in any case the Act's target, of an
23 80 per cent reduction in emissions by 2050, is not itself sufficient to
24 meet the aims of the Paris Agreement.

25 Conference further condemns the Conservative government's
26 repeated delays in publishing its proposals to reduce UK greenhouse
27 gas emissions, which has created uncertainty over the UK's future
28 intentions and significantly delayed new investment in renewable
29 energy.

30 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat aim of reducing UK
31 greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050, and calls for an
32 80 per cent reduction by 2040, with the aim of meeting the Paris
33 Agreement's 1.5°C goal.

34 Conference believes that the fulfilment of these goals will require the

35 implementation of a comprehensive low-carbon industrial strategy,
36 including, among other elements:

- 37 1. Substantial and sustained investment in renewable electricity
38 generation, including restoring government support for solar PV
39 and onshore wind (helping meet climate targets at least cost),
40 investing in tidal power (including proceeding with the Swansea
41 Bay tidal lagoon), and supporting the development of demand
42 management, smart grids, energy storage and interconnectors,
43 to underpin this higher reliance on renewables.
- 44 2. Investment in a major programme of improving energy efficiency
45 in homes, buildings and industry, coupled with support for low-
46 carbon heat technologies, including heat pumps, fuel cells, district
47 heating networks and renewable hydrogen and biogas delivered
48 through the gas network.
- 49 3. Support for low-carbon transport, including promoting electric
50 buses, taxis and cars, installing charging points for electric
51 vehicles and encouraging city-level low-carbon transport
52 strategies, including greater use of public transport, cycling and
53 walking.
- 54 4. A restarted carbon capture and storage programme, aimed in
55 particular at capturing emissions from industrial processes as
56 well as gas-fired power generation.
- 57 5. A major programme of afforestation, measures to increase soil
58 carbon levels and the conservation and restoration of peatland
59 areas.
- 60 6. The closest possible cooperation with the EU on energy and
61 climate policy, including continued membership of the internal
62 energy market.

63 Conference welcomes the decision of the FPC to produce a full policy
64 paper on energy and climate policy for debate by conference.

Applicability: Federal, except 2, 3, 4 and 5 (lines 44–59) which are England only.

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER F6

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 8 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 5 – is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

12.30 Speech

Chair: Robert Adamson. Aide: Cara Jenkinson. Hall Aide: Jenni Lang.

F7 Layla Moran MP
@laylamoran, #LDconf

12.50 Lunch

14.10 Policy motion

F8 The Impact of Brexit on Public Services

Chair: Baroness Doocey. Aide: James Gurling (Chair of Federal Campaigns & Elections Committee). Hall Aide: Nicholas da Costa.

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Baroness Ludford (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 A. The commitment in both the Conservative and Labour manifestos
- 3 to a hard Brexit, including abandoning membership of the
- 4 European Single Market.

- 5 B. The existing intense pressure on public services as a result of
6 Conservative cuts to funding.
- 7 C. That 5.5% of the total NHS medical workforce in England are non-
8 UK EU nationals including 10% of all doctors, 7% of nurses, and
9 more than 27,000 other staff, and that nearly 100,000 non-UK EU
10 staff work in the social care system.
- 11 D. That more than half of the 10,000 doctors from European
12 Economic Area countries working in the NHS are considering
13 leaving the UK because of the referendum result, and that
14 applications from EU nurses to work in the NHS has fallen by 96%
15 since the vote to leave the EU.
- 16 E. That nearly 5,000 qualified EU teachers are awarded Qualified
17 Teacher Status in the UK every year.
- 18 F. That there are currently 127,000 EU students studying in UK
19 universities, and 17% of academic staff in higher education are EU
20 nationals.
- 21 G. That one of the main sources of funding for UK universities and
22 research centres is the EU's Horizon 2020 programme, accounting
23 for over £1 billion in grants and contracts.

24 Conference further notes with concern the deterioration in the UK's
25 financial position following the Brexit referendum which is increasing
26 prices and will threaten investment in public services in the future,
27 including:

- 28 i) A 15% decline in the exchange rate which increases the cost of
29 overseas purchases such as specialist medical equipment, an
30 increase in inflation to 2.7%, and forecast GDP being 2.4% lower
31 by 2021 than it would have been without Brexit.
- 32 ii) The increase in government borrowing of £15bn a year because
33 of Brexit, exposing public services to the full effects of any future
34 financial shocks.
- 35 iii) The Treasury's long-term analysis which estimated the annual
36 cost to the public finances of a soft Brexit at £20bn, a hard Brexit
37 at £36bn, and 'no deal' at £45bn.

38 Conference believes:

- 39 a) That the free movement of people, expertise, and information is
40 central to the effective functioning of public services.
- 41 b) The vote to leave in 2016 was not a vote for further damage to
42 essential public services.
- 43 c) That the Conservative move towards hard Brexit, supported and
44 enabled by Jeremy Corbyn's Labour Party, will do irreparable
45 damage to the UK's public sector.
- 46 d) That the Conservatives' Immigration Skills Charge – expected
47 to be doubled in the near future – is an unnecessary burden
48 on hard-pressed public services and will endanger the ability of
49 public bodies to hire much-needed workers.
- 50 e) That immigration and immigrants make a significant net
51 contribution to society, and the rhetoric surrounding Brexit and
52 the rights of EU citizens continues to damage the UK's image as
53 an open and tolerant society.

54 Conference calls for:

- 55 1. The Government to unilaterally guarantee the rights of EU
56 nationals in the UK, ending their ongoing uncertainty.
- 57 2. Continuing UK Membership of the Single Market, including the
58 four freedoms of movement of goods, capital, services, and
59 labour to be a priority during Brexit negotiations, in order to
60 minimise the damage to British public services.
- 61 3. Continuing access for British institutions to European
62 programmes for academia and research, including Horizon 2020
63 and Erasmus+.
- 64 4. The Government to publish an urgent assessment of staffing
65 shortfalls in public services, including those in devolved
66 administrations, as a result of its position in Brexit negotiations.

Applicability: Federal.

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER F8

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 8 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 5 – is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

15.25 Speech

Chair: James Holt. Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Cllr Paul Tilsley.

F9 Baroness Brinton, President of the Liberal Democrats
@salbrinton, #LDconf

15.45 Policy motion

Chair: Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Victor Chamberlain. Hall Aide: Jennie Rigg.

F10 Natural Environment Policy

16 members

Mover: Richard Benwell

Summation: Baroness Parminter

- 1 Conference notes with concern:
- 2 A. The poor state of the UK's natural environment – including

- 3 biodiversity, air quality and water quality – and its repercussions
4 for a sustainable economy and for human health and wellbeing.
- 5 B. Growing environmental risks and pressures, including: regulatory
6 risks associated with Brexit, deregulation and austerity; and direct
7 risks from land-use change, climate change, invasive species and
8 development.
- 9 C. The inadequacy of investment in the natural environment to
10 tackle the problem, both in the countryside and in towns and
11 cities, resulting from a failure across government departments
12 to incorporate environmental objectives in decision-making and
13 spending.
- 14 D. That the majority of the UK's environmental law and policy
15 derives from the European Union, as well as many of the
16 institutions that provide expertise and oversight. There would be
17 serious environmental risks if we leave the European Union.

18 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitment to:

- 19 i) The principles of good environmental governance as a
20 benchmark for rational decision-making across government,
21 including: sustainable development; the polluter pays principle;
22 the precautionary principle; and the preventive principle.
- 23 ii) A natural capital approach, focused on net gain in natural wealth
24 for present and future generations, guiding ecologically rational
25 investment and markets that deal efficiently with environmental
26 externalities.
- 27 iii) Access to a thriving natural environment for everyone, across
28 town and countryside, regardless of social, economic or ethnic
29 background, now and in the future.
- 30 iv) A Nature Act, setting legally binding targets, including for:
31 biodiversity, clean air and water.

32 Conference calls on government to:

- 33 1. Set out clear, long-term, measurable environmental objectives
34 that apply across all government departments and in relevant
35 policy areas, including trade negotiations. These objectives
36 should be established as part of a long-term environment plan,
37 with a commitment to legislation in due course.
- 38 2. Make achievement of environmental objectives a guiding
39 principle in major investment decisions, including:
- 40 a) Incorporating green infrastructure in the remit of the National
41 Infrastructure Commission; and strengthening planning
42 rules for delivery of key green infrastructure assets, such
43 as sustainable drainage, zero-carbon homes, and access to
44 quality natural greenspace.
- 45 b) Replacing the Common Agricultural Policy with a sustainable
46 land management policy, which would target public and
47 private money to reward farmers and land managers who
48 invest in natural capital, as well as supporting the sustainable
49 production of high quality food.
- 50 3. Improve public and Parliamentary reporting and accountability
51 for protecting and enhancing our natural environment by:
- 52 a) Annually reporting to both Houses of Parliament on the
53 condition of the UK's natural environment alongside the
54 Budget Statement.
- 55 b) Seeking full cooperation with European Union environmental
56 institutions, such as the European Environment Agency and
57 the European Chemicals Agency.
- 58 c) Developing new requirements for corporate natural capital
59 valuation, accounting and public reporting.
- 60 d) Creating new domestic institutions, including a new Office
61 for Environmental Responsibility, to replace and improve on
62 the access to and delivery of environmental justice currently

- 63 provided by the European Commission and the European
64 Court of Justice.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 8 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 5 – is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

17.00 Party business

Chair: Cllr Paul Tilsley. Aide: Jenni Lang. Hall Aide: Cara Jenkinson.

F11 Federal Board Report

Mover: Baroness Brinton (President of the Liberal Democrats; Chair, Federal Board)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Conference Daily. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 16.00 on Sunday 17 September. See page 7 for further information.

F12 Campaign for Gender Balance Report

Mover: Candy Piercy (Chair, Campaign for Gender Balance)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 4 September.

Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Conference Daily. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 16.00 on Sunday 17 September. See page 7 for further information.

F13 Membership Subscription

Federal Board

Mover: Peter Dunphy (Chair, Federal Finance & Resources Committee)

Summation: To be announced

1 Conference notes that:

2 a) The Federal Executive is proposing that there be no change to the
3 Minimum, Concessionary, or Liberal Youth subscription rates.

4 b) The Federal Executive is proposing that the recommended rate
5 should be increased by £2 to £72.

6 c) The proposed minimum rate, together with our concessionary
7 rate of £6 for those receiving or entitled to receive state benefits,
8 maintains our position of offering access to the widest possible
9 proportion of society.

10 d) The Federal Board is proposing no change to the Federal Levy at
11 45%.

12 Conference resolves that for the year 2018:

13 1. The recommended subscription rate shall be £72.

14 2. The minimum subscription rate shall be £12.

15 3. The concessionary subscription rate for those in receipt of, or
16 entitled to, state benefits other than child benefit or state pension
17 shall be £6.

18 4. Those paying their subscription through Liberal Youth shall
19 pay a minimum of £6 or, where a new member joins, a
20 special introductory rate of £1 to apply for the first 2 years of
21 membership.

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22 5. Nothing in this motion prevents a State Party from setting
23 a recommended rate or rates of subscription by its internal
24 procedures which is higher than that agreed by the Federal
25 Conference, or from introducing additional concessionary rates.

26 Conference further resolves that for the year 2018 the Federal Levy
27 on membership subscriptions shall be 45%.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 8 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 5 – is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

18.00 Close of session

Sunday 17 September

09.00 Party business

Chair: Victor Chamberlain. Aide: Liz Lynne. Hall Aide: Susan Juned.

F14 Federal Appeals Panel Report

Mover: Alan Masters (Chair, Federal Appeals Panel)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 08.50 on Sunday 17 September. See page 7 for further information.

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09.10 Party business

Chair: Jenni Lang. Aide: Chris Maines. Hall Aide: James Holt.

F15 Report of the Parliamentary Parties

Movers: Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP (Chief Whip, Commons); Lord Newby (Leader, Lords); Catherine Bearder MEP (Europe).

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 4th September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 18.00 on Saturday 16 September. See page 7 for further information.

10.00 Policy motion

Chair: Sarah Boad. Aide: Alex Hegenbarth. Hall Aide: Mary Reid.

F16 Armed Forces Personnel: Recruitment, Retention and Welfare

22 members

Mover: Baroness Smith of Newnham

Summation: Doug Harper

- 1 Conference recognises:
- 2 A. That retaining skilled and experienced personnel in the Armed
- 3 Forces is vitally important to the security of the United Kingdom.
- 4 B. The contribution made by Armed Forces personnel and their
- 5 families, the impact of service life on Armed Forces families and
- 6 the connection between this and retention of skilled, experienced
- 7 personnel.
- 8 C. The Liberal Democrats' record of delivery in government, which
- 9 led to the legal recognition of the Armed Forces Covenant.

10 Conference notes with concern:

- 11 i) Escalating shortfalls in recruitment and retention of Armed Forces
12 personnel, which is insufficient to meet the minimum necessary
13 level laid out in Security and Defence Review 2015.
- 14 ii) Acute shortages in specialist areas, including engineers and
15 analysts, and particularly in the Army and the Royal Air Force.
- 16 iii) Chronic low morale, with 61% describing morale in the Service as
17 'low' in the Armed Forces Continuous Attitude Survey 2017.
- 18 iv) Record levels of voluntary outflow of military personnel.

19 Conference calls for measures to increase the recruitment and
20 retention of military personnel including:

- 21 a) The lifting of the 1% pay cap and better protection of the budget
22 for personnel, community and welfare services, and estates to
23 prevent it being used to plug big-ticket equipment shortfalls.
- 24 b) An urgent review into the recruitment of technical specialists
25 across the forces in order to introduce new initiatives to
26 incentivise careers in the Armed Forces.
- 27 c) Simplification and reform of the Combined Accommodation
28 Assessment System (CAAS) to ensure accommodation charges
29 are consistent, easier to understand and appeal, and assurance
30 that the Future Accommodation Model (FAM) properly fits the
31 needs of personnel and their families.
- 32 d) A re-write of the accommodation maintenance contract to ensure
33 decisions on preventative and additional works are made locally
34 and the end-user experience is at its core; to include giving
35 occupants of military accommodation the same legal rights to
36 repair and maintenance as tenants in the private sector.
- 37 e) Recognition of serving personnel's children in schools admissions
38 process to monitor the impact of having to apply late and/
39 or mid-year due to military postings and to improve and
40 standardise local authority support to military families (eg. help

- 41 when applying from outside the area, applying at short notice,
42 accommodating children with additional needs).
- 43 f) Continued funding for projects providing job training and career
44 support to military spouses.
- 45 g) Significant improvements in the implementation of the Armed
46 Forces Covenant across the public and private sector.
- 47 h) An improvement in the provision of healthcare and other services
48 for Reserve forces personnel deploying on, or at high readiness
49 for, military operations.

50 Conference further calls for provision of better support for veterans
51 including:

- 52 1. The inclusion of veterans on the Census.
- 53 2. A review of the Career Transition Partnership with a view to
54 extending its remit to provide free further or higher education for
55 anyone who have served for at least 12 years.
- 56 3. Better recognition and treatment of mental ill-health for veterans.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 16 September; see page 5.

10.45 Consultative session

Chair: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee). Aide: Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Victor Chamberlain.

F17 Europe Consultation

In the referendum held on 23 June 2016, Britain voted narrowly (52–48) to leave the European Union. The Conservative government have made clear their commitment to implement this decision with a 'hard' Brexit based on as clean a break as possible from the EU. The Labour party remain deeply divided, with commitments to soften the Conservatives' Brexit plans in some areas, but in the main Labour support the Government's overall approach.

The Liberal Democrats have long been an open and internationalist party, and supported Britain's membership of the EU since the inception of its predecessor organisations in the 1950s. We campaigned hard for Britain to remain.

Following the referendum result, we have pointed out that while the referendum result narrowly set out a decision to leave the EU, it did not set out a position on the many questions about what the UK's future relationship with the EU should be. We argued that once the negotiations with the EU were complete, this agreement should be put to the electorate so that they can take the momentous decision on what our future relationship should be.

The relevant section of our manifesto for the June 2017 General Election said:

We passionately believe that Britain's relationship with its neighbours is stronger as part of the European Union...It has led directly to greater prosperity, increased trade, investment and jobs, better security, and a greener environment. Britain is better off in the EU.

...

At the end of negotiations, there will be a decision on the deal... when the terms of our future relationship with the EU have been negotiated, we will put that deal to a vote of the British people in a referendum, with the alternative option of staying in the EU on the ballot paper. We continue to believe that there is no deal as good for

the UK outside the EU as the one it already has as a member. (see www.libdems.org.uk/manifesto for full text)

Following the election result there are signs of some possible changes in Britain's planned approach to the EU exit negotiations, and there is a range of views about what the right approach is, and what position the Liberal Democrats should adopt.

Given the wide variety of opinions about exactly what the right way is to implement our European principles, this session is an opportunity for conference attendees to contribute their views towards the formation of a clear party position on its approach to the Brexit negotiations, drawing support from as widely as possible across the party.

Following short introductions from the panel, the session will be open to short contributions from as many party members in the hall as possible. The panel will include Tom Brake MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Brexit) and Sarah Ludford (Vice Chair, FPC and Lords Spokesperson on Brexit). Speaker's cards do not need to be submitted, and members will be invited to speak from mobile microphones.

The session will focus on two main areas:

1. What is the best way of the party achieving its aim of as close a relationship with the European Union as possible? Do you agree with the policy set out in the manifesto?
2. What principles should guide the UK's choices in the exit negotiations? If the government's objective of both securing a separation under Article 50 and a new trade deal with the EU by March 2019 proves unrealistic, what sort of transitional arrangements should we support?

Comments can also be emailed to policy.consultations@libdems.org.uk – please put Europe Consultation in the header.

12.30 Speech

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Chair: Cara Jenkinson. Aide: Nicholas da Costa. Hall Aide: Robert Adamson.

F18 Jo Swinson MP, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats

@joswinson, #LDconf

12.50 Lunch

14.10 Question and answer session

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Cara Jenkinson. Hall Aide: James Holt.

**F19 Question and Answer Session with Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable MP,
Leader of the Liberal Democrats**

Members may put questions, on any topic, to the leader of the Liberal Democrats in a 'Town Hall' style event. Concise questions (maximum 25 words) may be submitted via the website until 13.00 on Monday 4 September or to the Speakers' Table by 12.50 on Sunday 17 September. See page 7.

15.10 Speech

Chair: Susan Juned. Aide: Robert Adamson. Hall Aide: Cllr Paul Tilsley.

F20 Kirsty Williams AM, Cabinet Secretary for Education in Wales

@Kirsty_Williams, #LDconf

15.30 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Maines. Aide: Liz Lynne. Hall Aide: Nicholas da Costa.

F21 Safe Building Standards for all Homes

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Cllr Linda Wade

Summation: Wera Hobhouse MP

1 Conference expresses deep regret at the loss of life, injuries and
2 trauma caused by the fire at Grenfell Tower in Kensington and stands
3 with residents, friends, family members and the local community and
4 organisations in grieving this tragedy.

5 Conference believes that:

6 A. The tragedy is the result of a long-term failure of successive
7 governments over four decades to invest in social housing, in
8 both the quality and number of homes.

9 B. All residents in Britain, be they tenants of private landlords,
10 tenants of public sector landlords, leaseholders or owner
11 occupiers have the right to live in homes that are safe, warm,
12 appropriate to their needs and set in well run, safe, green and
13 clean neighbourhoods.

14 C. The Government should ensure that the public inquiry into the
15 immediate causes of the tragedy is properly resourced and
16 concluded as swiftly as possible subject to sufficient time being
17 given for a thorough examination of the issues.

18 D. Liberal Democrat MPs, Peers and councillors should press for
19 the conclusions of the public inquiry to be implemented rapidly
20 and without equivocation on the publication of its findings or any
21 interim findings.

22 In the meantime, Conference calls for:

23 1. Residents in social or private rented homes to be
24 comprehensively listened to when there are issues of concern

- 25 over the quality of their housing, through clear channels of
26 accountability and a means of redress when action is not taken.
- 27 2. Sufficient funding from central Government to ensure all homes
28 are brought up to safe standards.
- 29 3. All blocks over four stories to have annual fire checks by the Fire
30 Service with mandatory actions on private and public landlords,
31 owners, freehold owners and managing agents stemming from
32 such checks.
- 33 4. All blocks over ten stories to have a fire evacuation drill practices
34 at a time of peak occupancy by the end of June 2018.
- 35 5. Compulsory electrical safety tests in all rented homes in both the
36 social rented and private rented sectors.
- 37 6. A review of the emergency planning procedures for all councils
38 to ensure there is clarity over how incidents will be dealt with
39 and where responsibility lies.
- 40 7. A complete review of the content and implementation of
41 building regulations, including provisions for:
- 42 a) The use of sprinklers and cladding in tower blocks.
43 b) The ability of local councils to check details of development
44 prior to building and during building or renovation.
45 c) The ability to update building regulations as new products,
46 processes and techniques become available.
47 d) The ability of building regulations to be used to enforce
48 changes where necessary in buildings based on updated
49 knowledge of new products, processes and techniques.

Applicability: England.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to

make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 16 September; see page 5.

16.45 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Maines. Aide: Liz Lynne. Hall Aide: Nicholas da Costa.

F22 Centenary of the Balfour Declaration

11 members

Mover: Rt Hon Tom Brake MP

Summation: Jo Swinson MP

1 Conference believes wholeheartedly in the universal liberal principles
2 of human rights, democracy, international law, and the self-
3 determination of peoples.

4 Conference marks the centenary of the Balfour Declaration of 2nd
5 November 1917 in which the British Government expressed its
6 support for:

7 "...the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish
8 people... it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which
9 may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish
10 communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by
11 Jews in any other country."

12 Pursuant to the achievement of the totality of the Balfour
13 Declaration, Conference reaffirms its support for a two-state solution
14 in which Israel and Palestine both exist with secure boundaries
15 recognised in international law with normal relations (including
16 diplomatic, security and trade relations) between them and with
17 their neighbours. Conference calls for those States in the region
18 which have not yet recognised the State of Israel to do so, as the
19 Palestinians did in 1988.

20 Conference condemns all threats and acts of violence and unlawful
21 use of force such as war crimes and crimes against humanity, or
22 extra-judicial killings, whoever the perpetrators or the victims may
23 be, and believes that any such threats and acts will only make a just
24 settlement more difficult to achieve.

25 Conference regrets that as a result of Brexit Britain may lose
26 representation on the Quartet and its influence on the Middle East
27 peace process.

28 Conference believes that progress towards a final settlement
29 will depend on a wider regional settlement and the support of
30 neighbouring states, and calls for further work to develop regional
31 proposals which will carry the support of all sides.

32 Conference notes that both Israel and Palestine have a right to
33 territorial integrity under international law, and that any peace
34 negotiation must allow the two states to negotiate land swaps to
35 replace existing boundaries, namely the pre-1967 borders, with
36 revised boundaries which the parties may agree between themselves
37 on an arm's-length basis.

38 In this regard, Conference notes, in particular:

39 1. The unique position of the Holy City of Jerusalem and its various

- 40 holy sites which are of religious significance to Jews, Christians
41 and Muslims.
- 42 2. The principle that any territorial swaps should be made on a
43 basis that territory ceded by one party to the other should be in
44 exchange for territory of equivalent value.
- 45 Conference believes that, in recognition of the principle of self-
46 determination and the need for completion of the commitments
47 made in the Balfour declaration, the State of Palestine should be
48 recognised and that the time is now right for the British Government
49 to do this; the expectation remains that free and fair elections in
50 Palestinian territories under the control of the Palestinian Authority
51 will take place, to be conducted by the Palestinian Authority and
52 facilitated by the state of Israel.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 16 September; see page 5.

18.00 Close of session

Monday 18 September

09.00 Emergency motion or topical issue

Chair: Duncan Brack (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee). Aide: James Holt.
Hall Aide: Jennie Rigg.

F23 Emergency Motion or Topical Issue

This slot has been reserved for an emergency motion or motions, or discussion of a topical issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Motions selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily. See pages 7 & 8.

Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

Topical issue timing – introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 5.

10.00 Policy motion

Chair: Liz Lynne. Aide: Alex Hegenbarth. Hall Aide: Chris Maines.

F24 Defeating Terrorism, Protecting Liberties

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey MP

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference condemns the appalling terrorist attacks earlier this year
- 2 in Manchester and London.

3 Conference mourns the lives lost and stands in solidarity with all
4 those caught up in and affected by the attacks.

5 Conference applauds the work the police and security services do to
6 keep us safe and the emergency services who run towards danger
7 when outrages occur.

8 Liberal Democrats believe that in the modern world, the security
9 threats we face are complex, challenging and diverse; a strong
10 and effective response to the threat of terrorism, which will both
11 discourage others from wanting to harm us, and provide strong
12 mechanisms against people who do, must be based on:

- 13 i) Supporting local communities where there is a risk of
14 radicalisation leading to terrorist acts, to take an effective lead in
15 tackling violent extremism.
- 16 ii) Supporting, expanding, and properly funding strong community
17 policing which works at a local level with communities to tackle all
18 types of crime, including violent extremism.
- 19 iii) Ensuring the intelligence and security services have the powers
20 necessary to investigate and bring to justice those who have
21 committed or are likely to commit terrorist acts, and resource
22 them sufficiently so they are able to monitor known suspects,
23 particularly those who have returned from fighting abroad.
- 24 iv) The central principle that indiscriminate, mass surveillance by
25 the government without judicial oversight is contrary to our
26 fundamental values, vulnerable to abuse, and there is no strong
27 evidential basis that it is an effective means of intelligence
28 gathering.
- 29 v) A system that works across borders and with partners,
30 recognising that terrorism and violent extremism does not
31 respect national borders – this includes our work with our
32 European partners via organisations such as Europol and using

33 tools such as the European Arrest Warrant, which must not be
34 weakened or undermined as part of the Brexit negotiations.

35 Conference rejects the Government's plans to:

- 36 a) Regulate the internet via 'blunt instrument' techniques which are
37 unlikely to make our children safer online, and will damage the
38 UK's digital and creative industries, whilst also curtailing hard won
39 civil liberties.
- 40 b) Introduce internet connection records, effectively a mass
41 surveillance tool to collect and store every web page visited by
42 UK-based internet users for 12 months.
- 43 c) Strengthen the 'Prevent' strategy which has clearly failed and
44 alienated the very communities it seeks to engage.
- 45 d) Continue to cut budgets for local police forces.
- 46 e) Weaken or ban encryption which is vital to all our individual
47 security online and our critical infrastructure. Any attempts to
48 weaken encryption would leave us vulnerable to criminals and
49 hostile state and non-state actors.
- 50 f) Withhold intelligence from our European allies as a bargaining
51 chip in their extreme Brexit negotiations.

52 Conference calls on the Government to:

- 53 1. Scrap the Prevent Strategy, and replace it with a new programme
54 called 'Engage' – an inclusive community engagement strategy
55 that would support communities to lead in developing their own
56 approach to tackling the dangers of violent extremism.
- 57 2. Scrap legislation allowing for the collection of internet connection
58 records instead focusing on the legitimate investigation and
59 surveillance of suspects and those involved in criminal activity.
- 60 3. Invest in community policing understanding that it is local
61 communities who are the best source of intelligence.
- 62 4. Introduce a Digital Bill of Rights to protect our rights online and

- 63 enhance data protection in accordance with the EU General Data
64 Protection Regulation.
- 65 5. Ensure that the Commission on Counter-Extremism announced
66 in the Queen's Speech is independent, expert-led and brings
67 together a multitude of voices.
- 68 6. Maintain Britain's membership of key EU crime-fighting tools such
69 as Europol, European Arrest Warrant, SIS II and Prum.

Applicability: Federal, except 3 (lines 60–61) which is England and Wales.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 17 September; see page 5.

11.00 Speech

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Robert Adamson.

F25 Tim Farron MP, Former Leader of the Liberal Democrats
@timfarron, #LDconf

11.20 Lunch

14.10 Policy motion

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee) Aide: Jennie Rigg. Hall Aide: Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F26 Employment in the 21st Century

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Baroness Kramer

Summation: To be announced

1 Conference notes:

2 i) That in the modern economy, alternative forms of employment
3 such as self-employment, zero-hours contracts and agency/
4 temporary work have expanded significantly.

5 ii) That some of this is associated with the growth of the 'gig
6 economy', characterised by the prevalence of short-term
7 contracts and freelance work as opposed to permanent jobs, but
8 that traditional companies also make use of these arrangements.

9 iii) That the autonomy and flexibility enabled by these arrangements
10 is often valued by both businesses and individuals and can
11 underpin innovative new business models.

12 iv) That self-employment often acts as a springboard to more
13 ambitious forms of entrepreneurship, and that according to
14 surveys the self-employed and zero-hours contractors get as
15 much if not more job satisfaction than employees.

16 v) The ambiguity raised by some modern work, particularly in
17 the gig economy, that properly fits neither the definition of
18 employment or self-employment.

19 vi) The legitimate concerns that these arrangements have raised
20 around job insecurity, weakened employment rights and low pay.

21 vii) That the recent introduction of tribunal fees poses a barrier to
22 workers challenging their employers on their employment rights
23 and/or status.

24 viii) That the current tax and employment law framework incentivises
25 so-called 'bogus self-employment', where employers categorise
26 staff as self-employed to avoid paying national insurance and
27 granting workplace benefits.

28 Conference recognises:

- 29 a) The important work undertaken by the Taylor Review on
30 modern employment practices, and broadly endorses its
31 recommendations to increase the quantity of 'good work'.
32 b) Existing Liberal Democrat manifesto commitments to address
33 these issues, including: (for those on zero-hours contracts)
34 introducing formal rights to request a fixed contract; bringing
35 together employment enforcement agencies, and scrapping
36 employment tribunal fees; strengthening worker participation in
37 company decision-making.
38 c) Action taken by the Liberal Democrats in government to ban
39 exclusivity clauses in zero-hours contracts, enabling those on
40 such contracts to seek additional work.

41 Conference calls for:

- 42 1. The introduction of a new 'dependent contractor' employment
43 status in between employment and self-employment, as
44 recommended by the Taylor Review, to better reflect the diversity
45 of modern employment.
46 2. Updating the current legal definitions of 'employment' and 'self-
47 employment' to ensure that these too are adapted to the 21st
48 century economy and modern technology.
49 3. Alongside updated legislation, new legal tests to determine the
50 employment status of workers, based on factors such as the
51 degree of employer control or thresholds (in terms of hours or
52 income) above or below which employment status changes.
53 4. Increased public support for new forms of unionisation and

- 54 worker cooperatives adapted to the transient and dispersed
55 nature of non-traditional employment.
- 56 5. Greater enforcement by HMRC and employment tribunals of
57 employment rights, and credible penalties for organisations that
58 engage in abusive and deceptive employment practices.
- 59 6. Reversing the burden of proof in tribunal hearings on
60 employment status, so that the employer must prove the
61 individual is not eligible for the employment status/rights he or
62 she is claiming, rather than the other way around, though with
63 exemptions for businesses below a certain size.
- 64 7. The development of financial products – including pensions,
65 mortgages and insurance – tailored to the needs of those in
66 non-traditional forms of employment, in partnership with leading
67 providers.
- 68 8. Reform of Universal Credit to be more supportive of the self-
69 employed, by extending the ‘Minimum Income Floor’ exemption
70 period from 12 to 24 months to give businesses more time to
71 establish themselves, and by making UC more sensitive to the
72 fluctuating incomes of the self-employed.
- 73 Conference calls on FPC to further develop these ideas in its planned
74 policy paper on the 21st century economy.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September;

see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 17 September; see page 5.

15.10 Speech

Chair: Liz Lynne. Aide: Chris Maine. Hall Aide: Victor Chamberlain.

F27 Willie Rennie MSP, Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats @willie_rennie, #LDconf

15.30 Policy motion

Chair: Alex Hegenbarth. Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: James Gurling (Chair, Federal Campaigns & Elections Committee).

F28 Encouraging Companies to be Responsible Corporate Citizens

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Mike Tuffrey (Co-Chair, 21st Century Economy Working Group)

Summation: Baroness Bowles

- 1 Conference believes better corporate governance is the intangible
- 2 infrastructure that business needs to grow.

- 3 Conference further believes it is important to:

- 4 i) Promote the success of major enterprises, encourage
- 5 sustainability and enhance the prosperity of the nation as whole
- 6 by encouraging a long-term approach to investment, innovation,
- 7 training and productivity.

- 8 ii) Give more people a real stake in the economy at a time when
9 many feel left behind or at the mercy of forces beyond their
10 control.
11 iii) Restore public trust in the behaviour of large corporations and
12 their senior management, following recent corporate scandals,
13 and provide justice when there has been egregious failure in
14 corporate behaviour.

15 Conference affirms that reforming the UK's corporate governance
16 framework can help achieve these outcomes, based on the three
17 principles of Transparency, Accountability and Diversity.

18 Conference notes existing Liberal Democrat policy to:

- 19 a) Encourage a greater diversity of types of business, including
20 mutuals, co-operatives, social enterprises, community-interest
21 companies and more employee ownership.
22 b) Increase transparency over major shareholdings in the biggest
23 companies by lowering the declaration threshold to 1%.
24 c) Require public and binding votes of board members on executive
25 pay policies and specific awards and require the publication of
26 data on people paid less than the real Living Wage and the ratio
27 between top and median pay.

28 Conference resolves to:

- 29 1. Encourage greater diversity on boards among all under-
30 represented groups, notably including BAME communities and
31 people with disabilities, building on the success in increasing the
32 number of women by Liberal Democrats when in government,
33 and extend reporting of diversity ratios in management and of
34 pay gaps in large corporations.
35 2. Promote employee representation on boards, including through
36 German style two-tier board structures, on unitary boards with

- 37 the same legal duties and responsibilities as other directors, or
38 via formal consultative mechanisms.
- 39 3. Require large corporations to establish stakeholder advisory
40 panels, covering the interests of employees, customers,
41 communities and the natural environment, with designated
42 non-executive directors overseeing their input to the board's
43 deliberations under its 'inclusive' duties (Section 172 of the
44 Companies Act) and with enhanced reporting of actions taken.
- 45 4. Rebalance the Companies Act 2006 to a genuine obligation on
46 directors to consider the long-term interests of the company
47 and of its employees, suppliers, customers, the community and
48 the environment; broaden the scope to include the company's
49 extended value chain where it exercises control or significant
50 influence; and include a duty of care for the common good.
- 51 5. Promote greater development of a new 'inclusive' model of
52 company purpose, similar to benefit corporations in other
53 countries, which permits placing the interests of wider
54 stakeholders on a par with the interests of shareholders.
- 55 6. Allow shareholders to designate some or all of their holdings
56 as a 'stewardship stake', with enhanced voting power and the
57 right to be consulted, in return for a minimum lock-in before the
58 shares can be sold.
- 59 7. Encourage institutional and large shareholders to exercise their
60 stewardship functions more broadly by voting at company
61 AGMs, including on executive pay, with mandatory disclosure of
62 voting records and rationale.
- 63 8. Support moves to give more control to individual savers over
64 their pension fund investments whether in Self-Invested
65 Personal Pensions or managed funds, with the right to vote
66 retained by the beneficial owner not the nominee, and by
67 encouraging asset owner initiatives such as the Association of
68 Member Nominated Trustees' Red Line Voting on environmental,
69 social and corporate governance issues.
- 70 9. Consult on extending corporate governance provisions from

71 publicly listed companies to other large companies held privately
72 or by overseas parent companies, based on adherence to
73 the underlying principles of good governance rather than a
74 prescriptive set of requirements and disclosures.

75 10. Establish an explicit 'public interest' test when considering
76 approvals for takeovers of large or strategically significant
77 companies by overseas-based owners.

78 11. Require verification of public declarations of the beneficial
79 owners of companies registered in the United Kingdom, its
80 overseas territories and crown dependencies, to ensure this
81 defence against money laundering and tax abuse is robust, and
82 enhance disclosure of the beneficial ownership of real estate
83 including by overseas companies owning property in the UK.

84 12. Strengthen the law on criminal responsibility for harm arising from
85 a blameworthy corporate failure, so companies pay an effective
86 penalty, and the need to establish intent or the guilt of a senior
87 executive is abolished.

88 Conference calls on FPC to further develop these ideas in its planned
89 policy paper on the 21st century economy.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 6 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 17 September; see page 5.

16.30 Consultative session

Chair: Sarah Olney. Aide: Cllr Paul Tilsley. Hall Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

F29 Manifesto Feedback Consultation

The party's manifesto for this year's general election, and its accompanying costing, are available at www.libdems.org.uk/manifesto. After the election was called, the Federal Policy Committee agreed the text of the manifesto at speed. Although it was of course based on existing party policy, inevitably the FPC was unable to conduct the same kind of consultation within the party that it would normally expect to carry out.

This session is your chance to tell the FPC what you thought of the manifesto. Were its main messages the right ones, or should they have been different? Which particular policies worked well with the voters in your area, and which worked badly? What issues were often raised by voters which were not covered adequately, or at all, in the manifesto? Did we get our proposals for additional taxation and public spending, and the balance between them, right?

Party members will be called from the floor to make concise comments (you do not need to submit speaker's cards). The session will be split into five sections:

- 1 Main messages and manifesto introduction and chapter 1 (Europe).
- 2 Manifesto chapters 2 (health), 3 (education) and 6 (families and communities).
- 3 Manifesto chapters 4 (economy) and 5 (environment).
- 4 Manifesto chapters 7 (rights, justice and equalities), 8 (international) and 9 (political and constitutional reform).

MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER F29

5 Manifesto costings.

A panel of speakers will introduce the session and give brief responses to the points made. The panel will include Dick Newby (Chair, Manifesto Group); Duncan Brack (Vice Chair, FPC); James Gurling (Chair, Federal Campaigns and Elections Committee) and Sarah Ludford (Vice Chair, FPC).

Comments can also be emailed to policy.consultations@libdems.org.uk – please put Manifesto Feedback in the header.

18.00 Close of session

Tuesday 19 September

09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Jennie Rigg. Aide: Victor Chamberlain. Hall Aide: Zoë O’Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

F30 European Atomic Energy Community

12 members

Mover: Catherine Bearder MEP

Summation: Layla Moran MP

- 1 Conference notes with concern:
- 2 i) The UK Government’s commitment to withdraw from the
- 3 European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) Treaty without
- 4 a mandate to do so, and the impact this will have on scientific
- 5 development, nuclear safety and the UK’s electricity generation.
- 6 ii) The Government’s ideological opposition to the role of the

- 7 European Court of Justice as the court of arbitration as the reason
8 for their withdrawal from EURATOM.
- 9 iii) The negative effects that exit from EURATOM would have on the
10 safety of UK nuclear industry and healthcare provision, including
11 the management of radioactive waste, the movement of nuclear
12 materials and the UK's influence in the continued progress of
13 nuclear expertise globally.
- 14 iv) The implications on the UK's ability to promote scientific
15 innovation and industrial competitiveness, particularly in the
16 development of future fusion power plants.
- 17 v) The UK's high reliance on nuclear power for electricity generation
18 and the impact of withdrawing from EURATOM on operational
19 costs, the maintenance on reactors and movement of nuclear
20 materials.

21 Conference reaffirms:

- 22 a) The Liberal Democrat commitment to maintaining a close
23 relationship with our European partners in the areas of scientific
24 research and nuclear regulation and development.
- 25 b) The Liberal Democrat 2017 Manifesto pledge to remain within the
26 EURATOM Treaty.
- 27 c) The most effective way to ensure that the UK's position as a world
28 leader in nuclear energy and security is to remain within the
29 EURATOM Treaty.

30 Conference calls for:

- 31 1. The UK Government to remain a full member of the EURATOM
32 Treaty and to re-join the current renegotiations of the EURATOM
33 Treaty.
- 34 2. Liberal Democrat Parliamentarians to press Labour
35 Parliamentarians to join with them to uphold their manifesto
36 commitment to remain a member of EURATOM and hold the
37 Government to account on their plans to withdraw.

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER F30

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Monday 18 September; see page 5.

09.40 Emergency motion or topical issue discussion

Chair: Chris Maines. Aide: James Holt. Hall Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

F31 Emergency Motion or Topical Issue

This slot has been reserved for an emergency motion or motions, or discussion of a topical issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Monday 4 September. Motions selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily. See pages 7 & 8.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

Topical issue timing – introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 5.

11.10 Policy motion

Chair: Mary Reid. Aide: Cllr Paul Tilsley. Hall Aide: Jenni Lang.

F32 Protecting Small Businesses

34 members

Mover: Daisy Cooper

Summation: Kelly-Marie Blundell

1 Conference notes with concern that business rates increases which
2 came into effect on April 2017 have:

3 I. Disproportionately impacted some small businesses and have the
4 potential to irreversibly damage the character of our high streets,
5 in particular pubs that account for around 0.5% of total turnover
6 but pay 2.8% of the total rates bill.

7 II. Created an extra financial burden for local community
8 organisations where the local authority does not offer
9 discretionary relief.

10 III. The potential to create huge tax inequality between small
11 businesses (such as pubs) and giant multinationals (such as
12 supermarkets).

13 Conference further notes with concern that:

14 A. The business rates consultation in 2016 lasted only four weeks
15 rather than the three month consultation period recommended
16 by the Cabinet Office.

17 B. There was no regional impact assessment carried out which
18 would have highlighted some key flaws from the start.

19 C. The previous Conservative-only Government scrapped the
20 Business Rates review commissioned by the Liberal Democrats in
21 coalition in March 2015.

22 Conference further notes with concern that the Government's
23 Discretionary Business Rates Relief Scheme of £3.6bn (announced in
24 the Budget on 8 March 2017) to compensate businesses who will lose
25 the most from the change:

- 26 i) Was only announced following the threat of legal challenge
- 27 from 13 business groups, including the Confederation of British
- 28 Industry (CBI) and the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB).
- 29 ii) Has simply been taken from other companies that were led to
- 30 believe they had gained from the original changes.
- 31 iii) Is only a temporary measure meaning that some businesses still
- 32 have to pay an increase of more than £600 a year going forward.

33 Conference believes that:

- 34 a) Small businesses are a vital community asset and need support
- 35 and fair treatment in order to thrive.
- 36 b) Business rates on the current basis are a broken system that are
- 37 unfit for the 21st century.

38 Conference calls for a fundamental review of the Business Rate
39 system including consideration of Site Value Rating as set out in the
40 2017 General Election Manifesto.

41 Conference further calls on the Government to adopt the following
42 interim measures without delay pending a proper review:

- 43 1. A new 'Pub Cap' limiting increases in rates bills to 12.5% on
- 44 Public Houses, restaurants, hotels and cafes, as already exists in
- 45 Scotland, to be extended to England.
- 46 2. Giving local authorities the ability to pilot site value rating (SVR).

Applicability: England.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any

amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Monday 18 September; see page 5.

11.50 Speech

Chair: Liz Lynne. Aide: Robert Adamson. Hall Aide: Victor Chamberlain.

F33 Norman Lamb MP

@normanlamb, #LDconf

12.10 Policy motion

Chair: Nicholas da Costa. Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee). Hall Aide: Chris Maines.

F34 Gun and Knife Crime

Southwark

Mover: To be announced

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes with concern that:
- 2 i) That knife crime is rising – the Office for National Statistics
- 3 reported a 13–14% increase in gun and knife crime in 2016.
- 4 ii) According to the Guardian project 'Beyond the Blade', 21 children
- 5 and teenagers have been killed in knife attacks this year, with a

- 6 disproportionate number concentrated in London.
- 7 iii) The scale of knife attacks is largely hidden given the focus on
8 deaths alone with less attention being paid to those who are
9 injured as a result of knife crime.
- 10 iv) Whilst the Metropolitan police's 'Operation Sceptre' initiative to
11 crack down on knife crime is welcome, it does not look at the
12 reasons why young people carry knives.

13 Conference believes that:

- 14 a) The number of people, and particularly young people, who are
15 now victims and at risk of knife and gun crime is of growing
16 concern and must be responded to more urgently and effectively.
- 17 b) Gun and knife crime must be a priority concern of central and
18 local government, the police and communities nationwide.
- 19 c) The roots of gun and knife crime are complex, with socio-
20 economic factors as well as simple criminality playing a role,
21 which means broader social problems must also be addressed.
- 22 d) As with many types of crime, the most effective approaches
23 involve working with a number of people and agencies and with
24 many diverse communities.
- 25 e) A return to overly-broad stop and search techniques risks
26 damaging community relations and threatens the likelihood of
27 successful intelligence-led interventions.

28 Conference calls for

- 29 1. Individuals and groups to work more closely together with police,
30 churches, mosques and other faith groups, particularly to engage
31 with 16–25 year olds.
- 32 2. The promotion and proper funding of community led
33 approaches, working with charities such as Redthread and GAV
34 (Growing Against Violence).
- 35 3. The establishment of mentoring schemes and conflict prevention

- 36 and mediation training for all students before they leave full-time
37 education.
- 38 4. Regular amnesties to provide a safe time to turn over guns and
39 knives.
- 40 5. Additional funding of local police forces to restore community
41 policing which is the best source of intelligence that could be
42 used to target stop and search more accurately.

Applicability: England and Wales.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 5.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 4 September; see page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Monday 18 September; see page 5.

12.50 Lunch

14.10 Speech

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

F35 Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats

@vincecable, #LDconf

15.30 Close of conference

The Federal Party

Officers of the Federal Party

Leader Vince Cable MP
President Baroness Brinton
Chair of FFRC Peter Dunphy
Treasurer Lord German
Vice President Liz Leffman
(England)
Vice President Sheila Thomson
(Scotland)
Vice President Carole O'Toole
(Wales)
Chief Executive Tim Gordon

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 representatives, local, regional and state parties, specified associated organisations and Federal committees, and taking decisions on venues, registration rates and other organisational matters. It works within a budget set by the FFRC.

The FCC has 22 voting members: the Party President; the Chief Whip; three state party representatives; one representative from the FB, two from the FPC, one from the FCEC and one from the FPDC; and fifteen directly elected members. It elects its own chair, who must be one of the directly elected representatives

Federal Policy Committee

The FPC is responsible for researching and developing policy and overseeing the Federal Party's policy-making process, including 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.

FEDERAL PARTY

The FPC has 29 voting members: The Party Leader and six other Parliamentarians; the Party President; two councillors; three state party representatives; one representative of the Federal Communications and Elections Committee; and fifteen members directly elected by conference representatives. It must be chaired by the Leader.

Federal Board

The FB is responsible for directing, co-ordinating and overseeing the implementation of the Party's strategy and the work of the Federal Party. The Federal Board also has responsibility, at least once per Parliament, for preparing a document outlining the Party's Strategy, for submission for debate and agreement by Conference.

The FB has 35 voting members: the Party President (who chairs it); the Leader and three other Parliamentarians; the chairs of the three state parties; the chairs of each of the Federal Committees including a vice-chair of the Federal Policy Committee; a councillor; a Young Liberals representative; three state party representatives; and 15 directly elected members.

Federal Finance and Resources Committee

The FFRC is responsible for planning and administering the budget and finances of the Federal Party, overseeing its administration and ensuring its compliance with the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, as well as overseeing the Party's risk management operations and its Risk Register.

The FFRC has 14 voting members: the Registered Treasurer and Chair; the three Registered Treasurers of the state parties; five other members (elected by the FB); Party Treasurer; the Party President; one representative of the Parliamentary Office of the Liberal Democrats; the Chief Executive; and one member of Federal staff.