

# Conference Daily

## Sunday 16 September 2018

Autumn Conference Brighton



Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Sunday 16 September and report back for Saturday 15 September. Please read in conjunction with the **Agenda** and **Directory** and **Conference Extra**.

## Timetable and contents

### Report back for Saturday 15 September

### Timetable for Sunday 16 September

09.00–10.00	F13	Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	3
	F14	Report: Parliamentary Parties	
10.00–11.00	F15	Policy motion: Ending Discrimination in Mental Health Provision	3
11.00–12.30	F16	Policy motion: A Fair Deal for Everyone: Prosperity and Dignity in Migration	4
12.30–12.50	F17	Speech: Jo Swinson MP	
12.50–14.10		Lunch	
14.10–15.10	F18	Q&A session: Rt Hon Vince Cable MP	
15.10–15.30	F19	Speech: Baroness Brinton	
15.30–16.45	F20	Policy motion: Britain at the Heart of a Changing World	8
16.45–18.00	F21	Report: Federal Appeals Panel	9
	F22	Report: Federal Board	9
18.15–19.15		Consultative session: FPDC Supporters' Scheme	9

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

*Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated. Members wishing to speak are requested to submit a speaker's card as soon as possible.*

*All conference sessions take place in the Auditorium in the Brighton Centre except the consultative session at 18.15 that will take place in the Hilton, Oxford.*

**Conference Daily** and other conference publications, in PDF and plain text formats, are available online at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_papers](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers) or ask at the Information Desk in the Brighton Centre.



# Report back for Saturday 15 September

F2	Report: Federal Conference Committee	Approved
F3	Report: Federal Policy Committee	Approved
F4	Policy motion: Improving Animal Welfare	Passed
F5	Policy motion: Righting Wrongs: Restoring the Rights of the Windrush Generation	Passed
F6	Policy motion: Establishing Real Freedom of Choice	Passed (lines 34-41 and 52-56 retained)
F8	Policy motion: Power for People and Communities	Passed (Amendment Two passed, Amendment One defeated)
F10	Business motion: After Alderdice – Delivering Race Equality in the Liberal Democrats	Passed
F11	Business motion: Reforming our Party's Disciplinary Processes	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F12	Constitutional amendment: Reforming our Party's Disciplinary Processes	Passed

For the text of motions and amendments, please refer to the Autumn 2018 Conference Agenda and Conference Daily for Saturday 15 September 2018.

## FB and FCC Helpdesk

The Federal Board and Federal Conference Committee helpdesk will be located on the First Floor at the top of the stairs towards the East Bar.

## SCOTTISH LIBERAL DEMOCRATS MEMBERS RECEPTION

Sheila Ritchie, Scottish Party Convener invites all Liberal Democrats from Scotland to an informal reception in **the Snug of the Brighton Harbour Hotel bar**.

This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends, make new friends and to network with Liberal Democrats from across Scotland.

**When:** 1pm-2pm on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> of September

**Where:** The Snug at the Brighton Harbour Hotel bar, BN1 1NA

*Cash bar and finger food provided*

**Scottish**   
Liberal Democrats



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## F13 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance

### Q1. Submitted by: Theo Butt Philip

What, if any, targets are the CGB currently working to in terms of numbers/proportion of women candidates approved/selected?

### Q2. Submitted by: Theo Butt Philip

Other than waiting until after the next General Election and counting the number/proportion of female MPs, how is the CGB measuring its own success?

## F15 Ending Discrimination in Mental Health Provision

Mover: Henry Jones

*The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:*

- 1 *After line 38 insert:*
- 2 Conference welcomes the establishment of the Wessely Review into the Mental Health Act and the
- 3 opportunity it provides to reform mental health law.
- 4 *In lines 39–40, delete 'the Mental Health Act' and insert 'mental health law'.*

### Amendment One

*Kingston Borough*

Mover: Abbie Llewelyn

Summation: Jimmy Kent

- 1 *Delete b) (lines 29–31) and insert:*
- 2 b) A person should not be forced to receive treatment unless they lack the capacity to make that
- 3 decision, or their refusal to receive treatment poses a serious risk of harm to themselves or to
- 4 others.
- 5 *In d) (line 33), after 'capacity' insert 'or a medical assessment of risk,'.*
- 6 *Delete 1. and 2. (lines 41–49) and insert:*
- 7 1. The 'mental disorder' test for involuntary detention and treatment is replaced with a test
- 8 which combines an assessment of capacity and of whether the individual concerned poses a
- 9 serious risk of harm to themselves or others, so that people cannot be involuntarily detained
- 10 without good, medical reason.

*We are trialling electronic submission of speaker's cards in debate F15. To submit a card online, go to [www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card](http://www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card). Electronic submissions are open until one hour before the start of the debate. Cards can also be submitted in person as usual before and during the debate.*



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## Background Briefing

This motion creates new policy on detention and involuntary treatment of people with mental health problems. Existing policy on mental health is set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future* and policy motions *NHS at 70* (March 2018), *The Crisis in Health and Social Care* (2017) and *Addressing Underprovision in Mental Health* (2012).

## F16 A Fair Deal for Everyone: Prosperity and Dignity in Migration

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

- 1 *In line 2, after 'world' delete ',' and insert '-'*.
- 2 *In i) (line 44) after 'target' insert ',' and after 'policy' insert 'and using civil society as border guards'*.
- 3 *In 2. a) (line 75) after 'rules and' insert ', for a time-limited period of not more than two years and*  
4 *subject to individual assessment,'*.
- 5 *In 5. c) (lines 114–116) after 'fairness and justice,' insert 'doing away with the culture of disbelief,'*  
6 *and after 'reunification applications' insert 'and those who fled because of their religious or non-*  
7 *religious beliefs, or who are at risk if returned because they have since converted to another faith*  
8 *or belief'.*
- 9 *In 6. a) (line 118) delete 'the' and insert 'accountable'*.

## Amendment one

*Stockton, Wigan and Leigh & Makerfield*

Mover: Suzanne Fletcher

Summation: Dr Ruvi Zielgler

- 1 *After D. (line 34) insert:*
- 2 E. Compromising, through their harsh and ineffective management of the asylum system, the  
3 UK's moral and legal obligation to help those seeking sanctuary from persecution and conflict.
- 4 *Delete iv) (lines 53–56) and insert:*
- 5 iv) A new policy for irregular migrants of "detention as last resort", using community alternatives  
6 to detention such as more case-work in the community, thus allowing the closure of eight  
7 of the UK's ten immigration detention centres; using the estimated £100m per year saved to  
8 invest in an accountable Border Force and to reduce fees for visa and nationality applications  
9 to the cost of administration.
- 10 *In 1. c) (line 71) after 'Support' insert 'the Schools for Sanctuary programme and'.*
- 11 *Before 5. a) (line 106) insert:*
- 12 a) Retain, alongside refugee status, humanitarian protection status, and reiterate our  
13 commitment to the principle of non-refoulement as applied in international and  
14 European human rights law.



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15 *After 5. c) (line 116) insert:*

- 16 d) Ensure an effective review and arbitration process to allow any decision apparently taken  
17 outside the rules to be rectified before reaching appeal.
- 18 e) Improve the appeals process by transferring the cost from the Ministry of Justice to the  
19 new dedicated unit for asylum applications, thereby incentivising getting it 'right first  
20 time'.
- 21 f) Endorse The Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill and support restoring the arrangements  
22 for legal aid for seekers of sanctuary that existed before The Legal Aid, Sentencing and  
23 Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012.
- 24 g) Offer safe and legal routes to the UK for at least 10,000 refugees each year by expanding  
25 the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, both to help a greater number of  
26 people from that region and to cover other conflict zones such as Myanmar.
- 27 h) Provide an effective mechanism to implement in full Section 67 of the Immigration Act  
28 2016 that commits the UK to welcoming unaccompanied refugee children, this scheme to  
29 be expanded to welcome 10,000 such children over a period of 10 years.

30 *Delete 6. b) (lines 122–124) and insert:*

- 31 b) Ensure vulnerable people, such as pregnant women and those who have mental health  
32 problems or been subject to torture, are not detained, that no one is detained more than  
33 72 hours without judicial oversight, and that no one is detained longer than 28 days in  
34 any circumstances.

35 *After 6. c) (line 126) insert:*

- 36 d) Ensure that victims of trafficking are supported so that they can give evidence against  
37 their traffickers and never be returned against their will to their country of origin where  
38 their traffickers would have access to them all over again.

## Amendment Two

*27 members*

Mover: Richard Flowers

Summation: Holly Matthies

- 1 *In II. (lines 16–19) delete 'partly by ... as racist' and insert 'by introducing better, fairer policies and*  
2 *rebuilding people's trust in the system, and that this requires us to propose workable solutions*  
3 *to the very real social, infrastructure, and financial problems caused by economic change,*  
4 *government indifference, and underfunding, which are currently being widely blamed on*  
5 *immigration and on immigrants'.*

## Amendment Three

*15 members*

Mover: James Baillie

Summation: April Preston

1 *Delete 2. a) (lines 74–76) and insert:*

- 2 a) For spouse and legal partner settlements, end the crude and arbitrary practice of the



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- 3 state splitting up families on grounds of income and permit families to stay together  
4 without any form of means testing or prohibition on seeking support from the state.

## Amendment Four

*Hammersmith & Fulham*

Mover: Irina Von Wiese

Summation: Jessie Venegas

1 *After 7. c) (line 135) add:*

- 2 8. To enable all eligible UK residents to acquire British citizenship and participate fully in our  
3 democratic system, including the right to vote:
- 4 a) Request the Home Office to conduct and publish an independent audit of the total  
5 administrative cost of naturalisation of a foreign-born citizen.  
6 b) Significantly reduce and align the fees for naturalisation with the cost of processing  
7 applications.

## Amendment Five

*LBGT+ Liberal Democrats*

Mover: Iain Donaldson

Summation: Jack Gilbert

1 *After line 8 insert:*

- 2 Conference notes with concern: the number of LBGT+ asylum claims failing at first stage due in  
3 part to less than adequate legal advice in the preparation of the initial claims; the large number  
4 of legal practices advertising immigration specialism with no expertise in relation to sexual  
5 orientation or gender identity grounds.

6 *After D. (line 34) insert:*

- 7 E. Failing to offer asylum to people fleeing countries where their sexual orientation or gender  
8 identification means that they risk domestic abuse, honour-based violence, imprisonment,  
9 torture or execution, and worse still removing people at risk of persecution to such countries.  
10 F. The system is riddled with humiliating, unfairly intrusive elements that Conservative Ministers  
11 continue to defend despite the evidence being they are not necessary; for LBGT+ applicants,  
12 there is a culture of disbelief about their sexuality, requiring applicants to make public  
13 social media postings of a personal sexual nature, screen capture dating apps, and produce  
14 submissions by sexual partners; there is also evidence that highly traumatised individuals,  
15 including survivors of child sexual abuse, have been refused due to suppressed emotional  
16 responses, with no reference to any of the extensive knowledge base in the area.

17 *After v) (line 61) insert:*

- 18 vi) The government to offer asylum to people fleeing countries where their sexual orientation  
19 or gender identification means that they risk family-based hate-related domestic abuse,  
20 honour-based violence, imprisonment, torture or execution, and stop removing people at risk



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- 21 of any of these to such countries.
- 22 vii) Eradication of the presumption of disbelief about the sexuality or gender identity of LGBT+
- 23 applicants, specifically ending the practice in which officials appear to habitually state that an
- 24 applicant is not LGBT+ merely to justify an initial refusal, or refuse an LGBT+ applicant on the
- 25 basis that they could be discreet.
- 26 *After 5. c) (line 116) insert:*
- 27 d) The extension of the definition of a refugee in Article 1 of the Geneva Convention to
- 28 include persecution or oppression on the grounds of "sex, sexuality or gender", and in
- 29 the meantime to extend the Liberal Democrats definition of refugee in this way for all our
- 30 policies.

## Background Briefing

This motion and the accompanying policy paper substantially update and develop policy on immigration, identity and refugees. In particular they create policy on the abolition of the net migration target and the 'hostile environment', transfer of policy-making on work permits and student visas to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Department of Education respectively, a new right to work for seekers of sanctuary, and detention as a last resort for irregular migrants.

They build on existing policy set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future*, policy paper 116, *Making Migration Work for Britain* (2014), and policy motions *Learning to Communicate in English*

## South East Region stand (H16) at the Brighton Centre

### ***Get to know Brighton the Lib Dem way ... deliver some leaflets!!***

Please come to the our stand (H16) on the first floor where Brighton & Hove Liberal Democrats will give you a bundle of leaflets, a map and a warm welcome. No more than an hour of your time needed.

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### **Join our Pro-EU demo at 4.15pm today starting at the Angel of Peace statue, Hove, BN3 2WN**

In conjunction with other pro-EU groups in the city we will march from the Angel of Peace statue on Hove seafront to the Brighton Centre to display our support for the EU.

The theme is a "Carnival of Rights", celebrating all that the UK has gained from its membership of the European Union.

*Dress in bright colours, particularly blue and yellow; bring placards and EU flags; and wear your biggest smiles! If you need to borrow a prop, just ask at stand H16.*

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### **Brighton & Hove Lib Dem Women in Science Fringe meeting, 1pm Tuesday 18th September, Hilton Metropole**

We are organising a fringe meeting at The Ambassador Room at the Metropole hotel on Tuesday 18th September at 1pm with our education spokesperson **Layla Moran MP**. The theme is 'Women in Science' and if you have views on this subject please come along and express them!



**Brighton & Hove Liberal Democrats**

**A LIBERAL VOICE FOR A LIBERAL CITY**



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(2017), *Local Communities Welcoming Refugees* (2016) and *Deportation to States Which Persecute on the Grounds of Sexuality and Gender* (2008).

## F20 Britain at the Heart of a Changing World

*The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:*

- 1 *In 1. d) (line 35) after 'world' insert 'as well as individuals who are persecuted for their religion or*
- 2 *belief'.*
  
- 3 *In 2. c) (line 54) delete 'co-ordinate' and insert 'co-ordination'.*
  
- 4 *In 6. c) (lines 123) after 'Requiring' insert 'UK-registered NGOs,' and after 'NGOs and' insert 'UN*
- 5 *agencies in receipt of UK funding and'.*
  
- 6 *In 3. c) (line 78) delete 'or' and insert 'and'.*

### Amendment One

*10 members*

Mover: Elizabeth Payne

Summation: Jonathan Brown

- 1 *After line 16 insert:*
  
- 2 Conference reaffirms support for Liberal Democrat achievements in government, particularly
- 3 legislating for 0.7% of GNI to be spent on aid, and deplores attempts by the current government
- 4 to undermine this legacy by re-focusing aid away from alleviating extreme poverty and towards
- 5 promoting UK trade and investment and attempts to reduce migration.

### Amendment Two

*Liberal Democrats in Europe*

Mover: Robert Harrison

Summation: Dave Chadwick

- 1 *In line 12 after 'people,' insert 'individual liberties'.*

### Amendment Three

*32 members*

Mover: Matt McLaren

Summation: Ruby Chow

- 1 *After 4. b) (line 87) insert:*
  
- 2 c) Continuing to promote free trade across the world, in particular between developed and
- 3 developing nations, recognising the benefits this brings to all nations involved.



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## Background Briefing

This motion and the accompanying policy paper substantially update and develop policy on international affairs. In particular they adopt five strategic priorities linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals to focus the UK's efforts to improve the world in which we all live.

They build on existing policy set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future*, policy paper 97, *Accountability to the Poor* (2010), policy paper 86, *Security and Liberty in a Globalised World* (2008), and policy paper 74, *Britain's Global Responsibilities* (2006).

## F21 Report of the Federal Appeals Panel

### Q1. Submitted by: Simon Pike

Can you explain why your ruling on section 1.7 of the English Party constitution has not been reflected in the published version of that constitution on the Lib Dem website?

## F22 Report of the Federal Board

### Q1. Submitted by: Jennie Rigg

LGBT+LDs have been asking FB for enrolling body status for several years. Can you outline a method/timescale by which we could do this?

### Q2. Submitted by: Theo Butt Philip

Does the FB believe it's meeting the requirement placed upon it by conference to ensure the CGB is adequately funded to carry out its functions?

### Q3. Submitted by: Theo Butt Philip

Does the FB believe that the federal, state, regional and local parties are implementing the spirit of the recommendations of the Electing Diverse MPs Motion?

## Consultative session

### FPDC Supporters' Scheme

18.15–19.15.

Hilton, Oxford.

Chair: Miranda Roberts.

*Please note change of venue to the Hilton, Oxford, on the first floor.*

*This consultative session has been rescheduled from Saturday 15 September.*

