

Conference Daily

Monday 17 September 2018

Autumn Conference Brighton



Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Monday 17 September and report back for Sunday 16 September. Please read in conjunction with the *Agenda* and *Directory* and *Conference Extra*.

Timetable and contents

Report back for Sunday 16 September

Timetable for Monday 17 September

09.00–10.00	F23	Policy motion: An Affordable, Secure Home for All	3
10.00–11.00	F24	Policy motion: Europe Motion – Stopping Brexit	4
11.00–11.20	F25	Speech: Gina Miller	
11.20–14.10		Lunch	
14.10–14.55	F26	Policy motion: Taxing Land, Not Investment	
14.55–15.15	F27	Speech: Jane Dodds	6
15.15–16.35	F28	Policy motion: Good Jobs, Better Businesses, Stronger Communities: Proposals for a New Economy that Really Works for Everyone	7
16.35–17.30	F29	Policy motion: Plastic Pollution and UN Sustainable Development Goals	7
17.30–18.00	F30	Business motion: Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy	

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.

Conference Daily and other conference publications, in pdf and plain text format, are available online at

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers

or ask at the Information Desk in the Brighton Centre.

Left luggage

There will be a left luggage facility on Tuesday 18 September, in the Regency Suite of the Hilton. It will be open from 08.00.

No large bags or suitcases will be allowed into the Brighton Centre.

Report back for Sunday 16 September

F13	Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	Approved
F14	Report: Parliamentary Parties	Received
F15	Policy motion: Ending Discrimination in Mental Health Provision	Passed (Amendment One defeated)
F16	Policy motion: A Fair Deal for Everyone: Prosperity and Dignity in Migration	Passed (Amendments One, Two, Three, Four and Five passed)
F20	Policy motion: Britain at the Heart of a Changing World	Passed (Amendment One and Two passed, Amendment Three defeated)
F21	Report: Federal Appeals Panel	Approved
F22	Report: Federal Board	Approved

For the text of motions and amendments, please refer to the Autumn 2018 Conference Agenda and Conference Daily for Sunday 16 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.

Lost property

If you are looking for lost property or if you find something someone else has lost, please go to the Information Desk on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre.

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F23 An Affordable, Secure Home for All

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

1 *After B. (line 6) insert:*

2 C. The commitment of the Liberal Democrats to slow climate change by reducing greenhouse
3 gas emissions.

4 *After VIII. (line 39) insert:*

5 IX. Many people are impoverished by the cost of heating damp or poorly insulated homes, with
6 inefficient fossil fuel and costly heating systems.

7 *After j) (line 72) insert:*

8 k. Taking action to improve domestic heating systems and the thermal properties of housing
9 would have the effect of reducing both poverty and greenhouse gas emissions.

10 l. The problems of fuel poverty and high per capita greenhouse gas emissions tend to be
11 greater in rural areas where mains gas is not available and where heating tends to be by more
12 expensive and more polluting oil fired systems, or in smaller homes by expensive electrical
13 resistive heating.

14 *After 9. (line 103) add:*

15 10. Higher and better enforced thermal standards for new, extended or refurbished housing,
16 including the requirement for renewable energy based heating or generating equipment for
17 properties not connected to the gas grid, and a requirement that social and private rental
18 houses have minimum energy rating of C, to be enforced on re-let or by 2024 if no change of
19 tenant.

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Laura Coyle

Summation: Stewart Edge

1 *After 9. (line 103) add:*

2 10. Amend the Housing Act 1988 so as to increase the notice that landlords must give tenants
3 (after the initial minimum fixed term of 6 months) from 2 months to at least 6 months.

Amendment Two

St Ives

Mover: Andrew George

Summation: Juliet Line

1 *After 6. (line 90) insert:*

2 7. The introduction of a new use class in the Planning "Use Classes Order" for "Non-Permanent



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- 3 Occupancy”, to enable local communities to determine how many, or what proportion of,
- 4 homes may be second/holiday homes and to provide a stronger statutory definition on which
- 5 to apply appropriate tax, entitlement, voter registration and other policy to ensure a fair and
- 6 balanced management of the available local housing resource.

Background Briefing

This motion updates and develops policy on housing. In particular it develops new policy on compulsory acquisition of low amenity land and using council tax and stamp duty surcharges to deal with the problem of ‘buy to leave empty’ properties. Existing policy is set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future*, policy motions *Local Government and Housing* (March 2018), *An End to Homelessness* (2016) and *Building the Affordable Homes We Need* (2015), and policy paper 104, *Decent Homes for All* (2012).

F24 Europe motion: Stopping Brexit

Hall Aide: Cara Jenkinson.

14 members

Mover: Rt Hon Tom Brake MP (Spokesperson on Exiting the European Union and International Trade)

Summation: Wera Hobhouse MP (Spokesperson on Communities and Local Government)

- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 A. The Conservative Government are making a mess of Brexit and Jeremy Corbyn’s Labour Party
 - 3 are helping them to deliver this destructive Brexit.
 - 4 B. Liberal Democrats campaigned to remain in the EU during the 2016 referendum and have
 - 5 since campaigned for the people to have the final say on the Brexit deal, including the option
 - 6 to remain in the EU.
 - 7 C. The Treasury have stated that a no-deal Brexit could require the UK to borrow £80 billion
 - 8 more by 2033, the Conservative Government have begun releasing the 84 no-deal technical
 - 9 notes, and the UK health sector are stockpiling medicines in case of a no-deal.
 - 10 D. The Chequers plan is unworkable, rejected by both the EU and Conservative European
 - 11 Research Group MPs.
 - 12 E. A conclusive agreement has not yet been reached on many of the issues arising from the
 - 13 Brexit referendum, including Government red lines, and both sides have stated that “nothing
 - 14 is agreed until everything is agreed”.
 - 15 F. Whilst the principle of a Northern Ireland backstop has been agreed, the UK’s plan to
 - 16 temporarily avoid a hard border on the island of Ireland has not been agreed and there is still
 - 17 no agreement on a long-term solution.
 - 18 G. During the transition period, which is due to end in 2020, the UK will remain in the Single
 - 19 Market and Customs Union.
 - 20 H. The draft Withdrawal Agreement stipulated that EU citizens will have to apply for pre-settled
 - 21 or settled status and if they fail to do so will be at risk of deportation; Irish citizens do not have
 - 22 to apply but can if they choose to.
 - 23 I. EU citizens, who are not Irish or Commonwealth citizens, living in the UK are excluded from
 - 24 voting in UK General Elections or referendums and voting rights have been left outside the
 - 25 scope of Brexit negotiations by the EU Commission.
 - 26 J. The 2016 EU referendum gave no clear destination for Brexit, as the terms of the deal were
 - 27 not yet known.



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28 Conference believes that:

- 29 i) There is no deal that could be negotiated through the Article 50 process that could be more
30 beneficial than continued membership of the EU, leaving the EU would therefore be damaging
31 to the UK's fundamental national interests.
- 32 ii) Given the assertion that "nothing is agreed until everything is agreed", the risk of a no-deal
33 remains, which would mean the UK crashes out of the EU without any final Withdrawal
34 Agreement in place.
- 35 iii) The recent shifts in global affairs, including the USA withdrawing from the UNHRC, re-
36 emphasise the vital importance of UK membership of the EU and the values upon which the
37 EU was formed.
- 38 iv) The 2016 referendum and subsequent General Election had a severe impact on EU citizens
39 living in the UK, leaving them in a place of uncertainty; referendums and elections will also
40 disproportionately impact these citizens for decades to come.

41 Conference condemns the Conservative Government's ideological, disastrous approach to Brexit
42 negotiations.

43 Conference urges the Labour Party to work in the national interest and reflect the views of its
44 members by campaigning for the people to have the final say on the Brexit deal and a chance to
45 exit from Brexit, challenging Jeremy Corbyn's position as Leader if he refuses to do so too.

46 Conference further condemns the exclusion of EU citizens' voices from political decisions that have
47 had an unprecedented impact upon their lives.

48 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitment to:

- 49 a) Fight for an "exit from Brexit" referendum to be held once the outcome of the UK-EU
50 negotiations is known, for the public to choose between "the deal" or Britain remaining a full
51 member of the EU.
- 52 b) Campaign for Britain to remain a full and active member of the EU.
- 53 c) Enable all UK citizens living abroad to vote for MPs in separate overseas constituencies, and to
54 participate in UK referendums.
- 55 d) Introduce votes at 16 for all elections and referendums across the UK.

56 Conference calls for:

- 57 1. The Government to release full impact assessments of all options, prior to any meaningful
58 parliamentary vote, thereby demonstrating that there is no Brexit deal on offer that will
59 deliver the promises of the Leave campaign.
- 60 2. The Government to seek to extend Article 50 to avoid a catastrophic no-deal scenario.
- 61 3. The right to full participation in civic life, including the ability to stand for office or vote in UK
62 referendums and General Elections, to be extended to all EU citizens not already entitled to
63 vote as Irish or Commonwealth citizens, who have lived in the UK for five years or longer.
- 64 4. The UK Government to guarantee unilaterally in law, including in a no-deal scenario, the rights
65 of all EU citizens living in the UK, ring-fencing the Withdrawal Agreement's Chapter on citizens'
66 rights.

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

- 1 *In 1. (line 25) after 'EU Commission' insert ';* many UK nationals living outside of the UK were



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2 excluded from participation in the referendum despite the result substantially affecting their lives’.

3 *After I. (line 25) insert:*

4 J. The status of EU citizens regarding their right to stand and vote in local elections is unclear,
5 despite frequent requests for the government to clarify the matter and despite the hard work
6 of councillors who are EU citizens and their valued contribution to civic life.

7 *After J. (line 27) insert:*

8 K. The Electoral Commission’s finding of overspending and illegal operations made by the Leave
9 Campaign, which may lead to criminal prosecution.

10 *In iv) (line 39) after ‘living in the UK’ insert ‘and UK citizens living in the EU’.*

11 *In 3. (line 62) after ‘UK referendums’ insert ‘, Local Elections’.*

12 *After 4. (line 66) insert:*

13 5. The UK Government to engage with the European Commission and the member states to
14 grandfather the rights of UK citizens, their families and their dependents living and/or in
15 the remaining member states of the European Union, including access to health care and
16 disability support, as well as to uprating of pensions.

Amendment one

11 members

Mover: Sarah Brown

Summation: Alisdair McGregor

1 *Delete 2. (line 60) and insert:*

2 2. The Government to seek to extend Article 50 if required to legislate for a referendum on the
3 deal, or to provide enough negotiating time to avoid a catastrophic no-deal scenario, and if
4 such extension is not agreed to withdraw the Article 50 notification.

Applicability: Federal.

We are trialling electronic submission of speaker’s cards in debate F24. To submit a card online, go to <https://www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card>. Electronic submissions are open the start of the debate. Cards can also be submitted in person as usual before and during the debate.

Background Briefing

This motion updates policy on Brexit in light of recent developments, in particular the publication of the ‘Chequers plan’. It also creates new policy on the political rights of EU citizens in the UK. Existing policy is set out in policy motions *Exit from Brexit* (March 2018) and *Opposing Brexit* (2017).

F27 Speech: Jane Dodds

Aide: Jon Ball.



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F28 Good Jobs, Better Businesses, Stronger Communities: Proposals for a New Economy that Really Works for Everyone

Amendment One

17 members

Mover: James Baillie

Summation: George Potter

1 *After iv) (line 42) insert:*

- 2 v) Stakeholdership, including that of workers, customers, and society at large, being a primary
3 concern in the constitution and profit allocation of businesses within a social market economy;
4 and a recognition that current models of business that treat capital-holding shareholders as
5 the only people with a stake in a business are fundamentally outdated and inadequate for the
6 21st century.

7 *After 2. g) (line 95) insert:*

- 8 h) Building routes to secure funding for and thus incentivise starting new charitable and
9 cooperative enterprises, in particular supporting the provision of low interest startup
10 loans for such businesses.

Amendment Two

Canterbury & Coastal

Mover: Michael Dixey

Summation: Neasa MacErlean

1 *In 1. b) (line 57) after 'training levy,' insert 'a plan to develop the workforce for high tech*

2 *manufacturing industries needed to rebalance the economy'.*

Background Briefing

This motion and the accompanying policy paper substantially develop and update policy on the Liberal Democrat approach to the economic challenges of the 21st Century. In particular they create new policy on industrial strategy, reform of the training levy, a new Citizen's Wealth fund, promotion of new forms of enterprise, and the creation of a new Worker Protection Enforcement Authority. Existing policy is set out in 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future*, policy paper 110, *Learning for Life* (2013), policy paper 108, *A Balanced Working Life* (2013), policy paper 105, *Sustainable Prosperity and Jobs* (2012), and policy paper 92, *Thriving in a Globalised World* (2009).

F29 Plastic Pollution and UN Sustainable Development goals

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

1 *In F. iv) (line 48) delete 'this'.*



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Amendment One

21 members

Mover: Duncan Brack

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *After G. (line 51) insert:*
- 2 Conference further calls on the government to initiate negotiations within the UN for a legally
- 3 binding international treaty on plastics, including phased reductions in the production, consumption
- 4 and trade of virgin feedstock, thus encouraging reuse and recycling, and a financial mechanism
- 5 providing aid and capacity-building assistance to developing countries.

Amendment Two

Winchester

Mover: Emma Levell

Summation: Lynda Murphy

- 1 *After iv) (line 9) insert:*
- 2 (v) Believes that Local Authorities should be key players in reducing plastic usage.
- 3 *In F. iii) (line 46) after 'statutory target' insert 'and provide financial incentives to such groups starting*
- 4 *community-wide initiatives including, but not limited to, waste-free shops and cafes'.*
- 5 *After F. iii) (line 46) insert:*
- 6 (iv) Introduce a nationwide standard for the disposal and recycling of key plastics.
- 7 (v) Ensure the widespread availability of free drinking water taps.

Background Briefing

This motion creates new policy. Existing policy on packaging waste is set out in policy motion *Good Food Shouldn't Cost the Earth* (2012) and policy paper 93, *Our Natural Heritage* (2009).

F30 Business motion: Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy

Summation: Peter Dunphy

Robert Adamson

Conference Committee is sad to learn of the recent passing of its former member, Robert Adamson. Robert was a long-standing member of both FCC and the FPC and contributed an enormous amount to both, particularly on issues relating to conference access. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Fringe Tuesday Lunchtime 13.00–14.00

North West, North East, Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Parties

Powerhouse or # Northern Fail

Robin Miller-Stott, Senior Strategy Officer Transport for the North; Mark Hunter former MP, Cheadle. As well as its relevance to the North of England, this is an opportunity for members from elsewhere to benchmark what is happening in their part of the country in terms of transport infrastructure strategy as a driver for economic development.

Hilton, Churchill

