

# Conference Daily

## Tuesday 18 September 2018

Autumn Conference Brighton



Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Tuesday 18 September and report back for Monday 17 September. Please read in conjunction with the *Agenda* and *Directory* and *Conference Extra*.

## Timetable and contents

### Report back for Monday 17 September

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### Timetable for Tuesday 18 September

09.00–09.20	F31	Business motion: Renewal of Recognition of SAOs	
	F32	Business motion: Recognition of AOs and SAOs	
09.20–10.25	F33A	Emergency motion: Teacher Shortages	3
	F33B	Emergency motion: Reducing Self-Harm	4
10.25–11.30	F34	Policy motion: Promoting a Fairer Distribution of Wealth	5
11.30–12.30	F35	Policy motion: Demand Better: Liberal Democrat Priorities for a Better Britain	6
12.30–12.50	F36	Speech: Willie Rennie MSP	6
12.50–14.10		Lunch	
14.10–15.30	F37	Speech: Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats	

*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.*

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# Report back for Monday 17 September

F23	Policy motion: An Affordable, Secure Home for All	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F24	Policy motion: Europe Motion – Stopping Brexit	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F26	Policy motion: Taxing Land, Not Investment	Passed
F28	Policy motion: Good Jobs, Better Businesses, Stronger Communities: Proposals for a New Economy that Really Works for Everyone	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F29	Policy motion: Plastic Pollution and UN Sustainable Development Goals	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F30	Business motion: Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy	Passed

For the text of motions and amendments, please refer to the Autumn 2018 Conference Agenda and Conference Daily for Monday 17 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.

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# Tuesday 18 September

## F33A Emergency Motion: Teacher Shortages

*Cambridge and 13 members*

Mover: Layla Moran MP (Spokesperson for Education)

Summation: Cllr Lucy Nethsingha

- 1 Conference notes with concern:
  - 2 i) Research by the Education Policy Institute, published on 30th August, which highlights the
  - 3 severe teacher shortages in the 2018-19 academic year.
  - 4 ii) That the report highlights growing class sizes and an increase in the number of subjects being
  - 5 taught by teachers without a relevant degree.
  - 6 iii) That schools are seeing serious numbers of teachers resigning with many teachers only staying
  - 7 in the profession for a few years, and are having difficulty in recruiting enough teachers to fill
  - 8 essential posts.
  - 9 iv) That teachers' pay is falling behind that of other graduate professions.
  - 10 v) That the funding announced by the Government on 24th July for a pay rise for teachers is
  - 11 insufficient, and ignores many of the recommendations of the School Teachers' Review Body.
  - 12 vi) That the Government have rejected calls to allow an equivalent pay rise for staff in Colleges.
  - 13 vii) That the school funding crisis is far from being resolved, with schools £2bn worse off compared
  - 14 with two years ago, and that the Institute for Fiscal Studies recently published an analysis which
  - 15 showed the money per pupil fell by 8% in England and 5% in Wales between 2009/10 and
  - 16 2017/18.
- 17 Conference believes that:
  - 18 a) The teacher shortage crisis has been fuelled by a combination of pay cuts, rising workloads and
  - 19 stress levels.
  - 20 b) Stress levels among teachers are far too high and that it is a contributing factor for many who
  - 21 decide to leave the profession.
  - 22 c) Pressure on school budgets also contributes to pressure on teachers, as headteachers worry
  - 23 about how they will make ends meet, and workloads increase still further due to reductions in
  - 24 support staff.
  - 25 d) The pressure on teachers and growing workloads are largely due to a damaging culture of high-
  - 26 stakes assessments and inspections in our schools.
  - 27 e) More must be done to attract teachers to the education profession from maths, science and
  - 28 other fields where there are particular shortages of teachers.
- 29 Conference calls on the Government to:
  - 30 1. Allocate new money to fund the recommendations of the School Teachers' Review Body in full,
  - 31 using additional funding from the Treasury, rather than from already over-stretched school
  - 32 budgets, as full funding is the only way to ensure that a pay rise (welcome though it is) does
  - 33 not result in redundancies and an increase in stress and workload, thereby increasing the harm
  - 34 done to schools and our education system.
  - 35 2. Provide colleges with additional funding so that they can provide a pay rise to their teaching
  - 36 staff that is equal to the pay rise for school teachers.
  - 37 3. Invest to close the gap in school budgets, meaning that no school receives a real-terms per
  - 38 pupil budget cut in the next year.
  - 39 4. Introduce a clear and properly funded entitlement to genuinely high-quality professional



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- 40 development for all teachers – 25 hours per year by 2020, rising to the OECD average of 50  
41 hours by 2025; this should include specific additional training for teachers who are required to  
42 teach subjects that they are not trained in.
- 43 5. Implement reforms to school inspections and assessments, as set out in policy paper 128, *Every*  
44 *Child Empowered*, to reduce the stress they place on both teachers and pupils.

*Applicability: England only.*

*We are trialling electronic submission of speaker's cards in debate F33A. 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.*

## Background Briefing

This motion updates policy on the teacher shortage crisis in light of recent government announcements on pay rises and new research published by the Education Policy Institute. It builds on existing policy as set out in policy paper 128, *Every Child Empowered* (March 2018).

## F33B Emergency Motion: Reducing Self-Harm

11 members

Mover: Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP

Summation: Tara Copeland

- 1 Conference notes with concern:
- 2 A. The Children's Society's recent report, which found that in a survey of 11,000 children, one in six  
3 self-harmed and that 22% of girls and 9% of boys said they had self-harmed in the last year.
- 4 B. That nearly 110,000 children aged 14 may have self-harmed across the UK during the same  
5 12-month period, including 76,000 girls and 33,000 boys.
- 6 C. That almost half of 14-year-olds who said they had been attracted to people of the same  
7 gender or both genders said they had self-harmed (46%); four in ten of these children had  
8 shown signs of depression (38%) and three in ten had low well-being (30%).
- 9 Conference believes that:
- 10 i) Happiness with family relationships could be the best protection for children because it has the  
11 biggest positive influence on children's overall well-being.
- 12 ii) Schools can play an important part in children's well-being.
- 13 iii) Issues like appearance, gender stereotypes and sexuality should be included in schools when  
14 teaching about relationships and sex educations.
- 15 iv) Early support for vulnerable children and families in the community can help prevent mental  
16 health problems from developing.
- 17 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitment to:
- 18 a) Continuing the roll-out of access and waiting time standards for children, young people and  
19 adults.
- 20 b) Guaranteeing that people will not wait more than six weeks for therapy for depression or  
21 anxiety and that no young person will wait more than two weeks for treatment when they  
22 experience a first episode of psychosis.



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- 23 c) Ensuring that all front-line public service professionals, including in schools and universities,  
24 receive better training in mental health.
- 25 d) Ensuring that LGBT+ inclusive mental health services receive funding and support.
- 26 e) Including in SRE teaching about sexual consent, LGBT+ relationships, and issues surrounding  
27 explicit images and content.
- 28 f) Allocating a fair proportion of all public funding for medical research to be focused on research  
29 into mental ill-health.
- 30 Conference calls for:
- 31 1. Government to make it a requirement for all secondary schools and colleges to offer access to  
32 a counsellor, regularly monitor children's well-being and ensure mental health support is taken  
33 into account as part of school inspections.
- 34 2. The inclusion in teaching about relationships and sex education of issues like appearance,  
35 gender stereotypes and sexuality.
- 36 3. Counsellors and those in mental health provision to be trained in LGBT+ awareness.
- 37 4. Government to ensure all young people can access Children and Young People's Mental Health  
38 Services up to the age of 25, rather than 18 or 16.
- 39 5. Additional funding for Childline to allow it to provide a 24-hour service that can respond to all  
40 children and young people calling with mental health issues.
- 41 6. Government to address the £2bn funding shortfall facing council children's services  
42 departments by 2020.

*Applicability: England only, except 5 (lines 41–42) which is Federal.*

*We are trialling electronic submission of speaker's cards in debate F33B. 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.*

## Background Briefing

This motion substantially updates and develops party policy. In particular it calls for young people to be able to access CAMS up to the age of 25, additional funding for Childline and to address the funding shortfall for children's services departments. It builds on existing policy on mental health as 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).

## F34 Policy motion: Promoting a Fairer Distribution of Wealth

Aide: Chris Maines.

Summation: Lord Fox (Spokesperson on Business, Enterprise and Industrial Strategy)

## Background Briefing

This motion substantially develops and updates policy on taxation of wealth. In particular it develops new policy on taxation of capital gains, abolition of inheritance tax and instead taxing transfers of wealth, reforming the pension tax relief system, and making taxation of residential property fairer. Existing policy is set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future* and policy paper 111, *Fairer Taxes* (2013).



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## F35 Demand Better: Liberal Democrat Priorities for a Better Britain

Aide: Mary Reid. Hall Aide: Susan Juned.

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

- 1 *Delete lines 17–19 and insert:*
- 2 Conference believes that this represents decades of failure by both the Labour and Conservative
- 3 Parties, to break down barriers, to challenge the concentrations of power in society, and to lay the
- 4 foundations for a successful future.
- 5 *In 1. (line 36) after 'race' and insert 'or caste', and after 'religion' insert 'or belief'.*
- 6 *In 3. (line 48) after 'deprived backgrounds' insert 'and those with Special Educational Needs and*
- 7 *Disabilities'.*

### Amendment One

*23 members*

Mover: James Baillie

Summation: Richard Flowers

- 1 *After 5. (line 67) insert:*
- 2 6. Demands a freer society, in which surveillance and other encroachments upon civil liberties
- 3 are curtailed, justice is accessible to all and focused on rehabilitation, and the state does not
- 4 criminalise people for victimless actions; in which the state does not make unjust intrusions
- 5 into people's lives to impose arbitrary lifestyle restrictions or ration service provision; in which
- 6 people can be confident that the government, law enforcement, and corporate entities alike
- 7 are fully and effectively accountable for their actions towards individuals; and in which the
- 8 UK remains a signatory of the European Convention on Human Rights and fully upholds the
- 9 Human Rights Act.

### Background Briefing

This motion and the accompanying Themes policy paper set out the party's values, and its key policy priorities at the present time.

## F36 Speech: Willie Rennie MSP

Chair: Mary Reid. Aide: Jennie Rigg. Hall Aide: James Gurling.





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