

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Clearprint

This clear print / large text version of the Conference Agenda matches as closely as possible the text of the published Agenda - update - Conference Extra. 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 published Agenda. Complex layouts and graphics have been omitted.

Welcome to the Liberal Democrat Online Autumn 2021 **Conference Agenda**.

This sixth edition of the *Conference Agenda – Conference Daily Monday* – contains the agenda for the auditorium sessions at conference and information about the conduct of the sessions, plus updates from the Conference Committee. It is available online only.

Conference Daily updates are published on pages headed 'Conference Daily', or on other pages with today's updates indicated by semibold text.

Further updated editions of the **Conference Agenda – Conference Daily** – will be published on the eve of each day of conference, online at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers

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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Conference information

Conference will take place through our virtual conference venue Hopin. Access to all conference events requires a valid conference registration and registered attendees will be emailed details of how to log on to the Hopin platform at the time of registration and again a few days before conference.

This Conference Agenda covers the sessions held in the virtual auditorium at Autumn conference.

General conference information can be found in the Conference Directory, available online from mid August at:
www.libdems.org.uk/conference

If you have any questions prior to or during conference please email:
conferences@libdems.org.uk

If you have any tech queries during the live dates, please go to the tech helpdesk in the exhibition area of the online conference on Hopin (see page 7).

If you wish to communicate with the chair, submit a procedural motion or ask for a separate vote, please use the following link:
www.libdems.org.uk/procedural-motions

If you want to comment about the session you are in, please use the chat function; do not use chat to communicate with the chair of a session. See guidance on page 5.

Hopin: our virtual conference venue

Registered attendees will be emailed details of how to log onto the Hopin platform at the time of their registration. A reminder will be emailed to you a few days prior to the start of the conference.

For the best experience of conference when using a computer or laptop, Google

Conference information

Chrome or Mozilla Firefox web browsers are recommended. To access Hopin via an iOS mobile device, Safari is the best mobile browser to use; and for an Android device, please use Google Chrome.

Ensure you turn off your ad blockers and don't have any other programs open. If something goes wrong, try refreshing your browser!

There is a short video on how Hopin works on our website:

<https://vimeo.com/569337230>

After the conference the auditorium sessions will be available on YouTube.

Hopin navigation

On the Hopin platform, the menu bar appears on the left.

Home

Scroll down to view the agenda, fringe & training events and exhibition stands (one for each entity in the exhibition area).

Auditorium

Watch the debates and speeches. Members can vote on motions via polls (within Hopin).

There will be BSL signers during auditorium sessions.

Fringe & Training

Fringe is available for all to view. Fringe events happen outside auditorium hours.

Training is only for party members to view and is run simultaneously alongside the auditorium sessions.

Conference information

See the Conference Directory for details.

Exhibition

You can enter this area to view the exhibition stands throughout conference, view exhibitors' videos, ask questions in the chat function and connect to their websites. See the Conference Directory for details.

There are also specified live times each day when you can chat with someone live from each organisation.

Networking

Chat with a randomly selected participant and share common interests.

If you wish to contact a particular individual to chat with them or have a live video link, please click on 'people' next to the 'chat' function on the top right and find the person you wish to connect with.

Voting

Only registered members can vote at conference. Voting will be available through Hopin and the polling function in the auditorium.

For the emergency motions ballot, mi-voice voting will be used and registered members will be emailed a link prior to conference to vote in the ballot.

Conference Chat

In each auditorium session there will be a chat feature enabled, which allows attendees to post their views and comments about events in the auditorium.

The chat is public and visible to everybody: bear this in mind when posting. All comments in the chat must be respectful, lawful, and in keeping with the

Conference information

Members' Code of Conduct, accessible here:
www.libdems.org.uk/code-of-conduct

The chat will be moderated, and if your post does not meet the required standards of behaviour, sanctions start with post deletion, and more serious breaches may lead to you having your conference access revoked and/or disciplinary action within the party.

Please do not use the chat to attempt to communicate with members of the Federal Conference Committee (FCC) or the chairs and aides of debates. To raise a query with the chairs and aides use this link:
www.libdems.org.uk/procedural-motions

Q&A

Please post your questions under the Q&A tab.

Questions to reports should be submitted as described under 'reports' on page 9; in addition, questions may be submitted using the Q&A tab during the session and they may be selected by the chair, but that is not guaranteed.

The chat / Q&A is there to facilitate interactivity in our virtual conference, but it can only do this if everyone in it behaves responsibly and with courtesy and respect towards each other and the moderators.

Conference Extra and Conference Daily

An update to this Conference Agenda incorporating Conference Extra will be published online ahead of conference, and further updates incorporating Conference Daily will be published each day of conference.

They will contain updates to the agenda including information from the Federal Conference Committee (FCC), changes to session timings, amendments, topical issues, emergency motions and questions to reports.

Conference information

You will be able to find Conference Agenda updates online at:
www.libdems.org.uk/a21-agenda

Tech helpdesk

If you have any tech issues during the conference, we have a tech helpdesk located in the exhibition area (first stand) that will be open at the following times:

Friday	17 September	12.00 – 19.00
Saturday	18 September	08.45 – 17.45
Sunday	19 September	08.45 – 17.45
Monday	20 September	09.45 – 14.15

Federal Board and Federal Conference Committee helpdesk

Members of the Federal Board (FB) and the FCC will be available to give advice at their stands in the virtual exhibition at the following times:

Friday	17 September	15.45 – 17.45
Saturday	18 September	12.30 – 14.00 and 15.45 – 17.45
Sunday	19 September	12.30 – 14.00 and 15.45 – 17.45
Monday	20 September	12.30 – 14.00 and 16.45 – 18.30

Conference information

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

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

Amendments: all motions except emergency motions are open to amendment; amendments accepted will be published in the Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

Communications with the chair and aide: At the virtual conference you can contact the chair and aide team using the link:
www.libdems.org.uk/procedural-motions

Please note that this link is solely for formal communication with the chair and the aide on procedural motions and points of order.

Conference information

Voting: decisions on most motions and all amendments and separate votes are by simple majority of those voting. To vote, registered members must use the polls function on Hopin. That is found by selecting the tab in the top right-hand corner when in the virtual auditorium. Vote by selecting the relevant button on the screen.

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. For agenda items on Friday the request must be submitted by the emergency motions deadline and for other days by the start of conference on the previous day, using the link: www.libdems.org.uk/procedural-motions

Counted vote: all votes taking place at this conference will be counted by Hopin and the result will be announced by the chair.

Speaking and voting at conference

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 for example an exhibitor or observer). Party members fulfilling these criteria are known as 'voting members'.

Length of speeches

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

A set of traffic lights will appear on the screen to show the speaker and the audience how long the speaker has left. Green means that the end of the time is at least one minute away. The amber light comes on when there is one minute to go. The red light comes on when time is up and you should stop speaking immediately.

Conference information

Applying to speak

To make a speech in a debate you must submit an electronic speaker's card online at:

www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card

Applications open on Monday 13 September and close at 17.00 on the day BEFORE the debate.

Speakers selected for a debate (plus a couple of reserves) will be sent an email by 21.00 on the day before the debate. If it is your first time speaking at this conference, you will be asked to log into a Debate Test meeting for our technical team to check your sound and vision. You will be required to download the Zoom app (or equivalent) prior to the test – a link will be in the email.

Our technical team will register you before the debate commences. 10 minutes before the start of the debate you will be asked to log out of Hopin and into a Motion meeting, which will have the same title as the agenda item. You will be able to follow the debate while waiting. The chair will ask you to stand by one speech before yours and then call you to speak when required.

Once you have finished speaking you must log out of the Motion meeting and return to Hopin. The email should answer any questions and will give you contact details to seek further help.

Completing a speaker's card

Please remember to:

- I Submit your card no later than 17.00 on the day before the debate. There is no guarantee late cards will be considered.
- I Complete the card fully so that the chair knows all about you and what you want to say, and can balance the debate.

Conference information

Other conference sessions

Emergency motions

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.

There is a slot for emergency motions at F37 on Monday 20 September. Registered members will vote on which of the emergency motions that have been submitted they want to debate. An email will be sent shortly before conference to enable you to vote; the closing time for votes will be 12.00 noon on Saturday 18 September.

Topical issue discussions

The FCC may decide to use part of this slot for topical issue discussions. This will allow members and spokespeople to discuss and comment on a political issue live at the time of conference; they do not make party policy.

Party members may submit suggested topics for a discussion, which will be considered by officers of the FCC and FPC. If a topical issue discussion is selected, it will be published in the relevant Conference Daily update to the Conference Agenda.

Question & answer sessions

Any voting member may submit a concise question (maximum 25 words) on any subject for the Leader's Q&A (F18). Questions will be selected by the chair and the questioner will be able to ask their question via video.

Questions may be submitted by 17.00 on the day before the session using the online form at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions

The chair may also decide to put questions raised in the chat function during the session.

Conference information

Reports

The reports of Federal Committees and Parliamentary Parties are printed in the separate reports document. Any voting member may submit concise questions on these reports. Questions may be submitted by 13.00 on 6 September using the online form at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions

Questions received by the deadline above will be published in the Conference Extra update to the Conference Agenda and are guaranteed a reply, in the session or in writing thereafter. Questions may also be submitted using the same online form until 17.00 on the day before the session, or through the chat function in Hopin during the session, but will only be called if time allows and at the discretion of the chair of the session.

Submitting amendments, emergency motions, topical issues and appeals

Amendments and emergency motions

Amendments and emergency motions must be:

I signed by 10 party members; OR

I submitted by one or more of: a local party, state party, regional party in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisation or Federal Party Committee.

And must be submitted by 13.00 on 6 September online at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions

Submitters should include:

I For amendments – a short explanation of the intended effect of the amendment.

I For emergency motions – a short explanation of its emergency nature.

Conference information

Topical issues

Suggestions for topical issues may be submitted by any party member by 13.00 on 6 September online at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions

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 on 23 August online at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions

Appeals

If you wish to appeal the FCC's decision not to select your emergency motion or amendment, follow these instructions.

The appeal should come from the email address of the original contact for the motion and should be no longer than one side of A4.

It should explain why you are appealing and any new information the FCC was unaware of when it made its decision.

The email should also contain a contact name and telephone number.

Appeals should be emailed by 12.00 noon on 16 September to:
appeals@libdems.org.uk

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Friday 17 September

F5

14.00 Party business

Chair: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC). Aide: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F1 Opening of Conference by Dr Mark Pack, President of the Liberal Democrats

@markpack, #LDConf

14.05 Party business

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F2 Federal Conference Committee Report: questions and accountability

Mover: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

See notes to F3.

F3 Federal Policy Committee Report: questions and accountability

Mover: Cllr Lucy Nethsingha (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee).

The deadline for questions for F2 and F3 is 13.00 on 6 September. Questions selected will be published in the Conference Extra and Friday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda. These questions will be guaranteed an answer, either in the session or in writing thereafter.

Questions may also be submitted online until 17.00 on Thursday 16 September, or through the chat function in Hopin during the session, but they will only be called if time allows and at the discretion of the Chair.

See page 12 for further information.

Friday 17 September

F2

F2 Federal Conference Committee Report: questions and accountability

Q1. Submitted by Cllr Oliver Jones-Lyons

Given the FCC vote was “very tight”, why was there no wider consultation or a conference vote when deciding to get rid of name-blind submissions?

Q2. Submitted by Laurence Cox

FCC’s process for motions is still opaque. Will you:

- 1) Publish all motions on receipt and allow Party members to express their support?
- 2) Publish the reasons for rejection of motions?
- 3) Roll over motions to the next conference where the only reason for rejection is lack of debating time?

Q3. Submitted by Suzanne Fletcher

When the agenda is published could the PDF be sent out to those who ask for it? Some members have difficulty in following the weblinks.

F3 Federal Policy Committee Report: questions and accountability

Q1. Submitted by Adam Robertson

How do the Federal Policy Committee propose to attract those who feel ‘left behind’ because of circumstances out of their control to vote for us, without coming across as ‘noblesse oblige’ towards them?

Q2. Submitted by Adam Robertson

The FPC are looking at the long-term aim of the UK rejoining the European Union understandably. However, have they considered the following:

Friday 17 September

F2

- 1) Has the FPC done a deep discourse onto the very reason why people voted to Leave, the EU, in the first place? Have we done focus groups such in coastal areas such as Lowestoft, Sunderland and Grimsby?
- 2) The UK will be considered as a new applicant under the 'Copenhagen Criteria'. This includes adhering to the aims of 'political, economic and monetary union'. Would the FPC considering looking at the tests set out by Gordon Brown in the late 1990's before us joining the Euro?

Secondly, there will be Remainers, who voted for the 'Status Quo', who liked the semi-detached relationship. Therefore, making the Referendum more likely to be weighted such as 60/40 towards Leave, how do the FPC going to convince these people in the long-term?

Friday 17 September

F4

14.30 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC). Aides: John Bridges and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F4 Ban Conversion Therapy

12 members

Mover: Adrian Hyyrylainen-Trett.

Summation: Em Dean.

1 Conference notes with concern that:

- 2 i) Conversion therapy, an abhorrent and harmful practice which seeks
3 to suppress or change a sexual orientation and/or gender identity, or
4 to induce or compel a person to do so, is still practiced throughout
5 the UK.
- 6 ii) Despite repeated commitments, government has not proposed any
7 legislation or other action to end conversion therapy.
- 8 iii) According to a 2017 Government survey of LGBT+ people, nearly
9 1 in 13 LGBT+ people have been offered, or compelled to receive,
10 conversion therapy, rising to 1 in 7 among transgender people, with
11 transgender men being the most at-risk.
- 12 iv) According to that same survey, 51% of conversion therapy practices
13 are conducted by faith organisations, with a further 19% being
14 conducted by healthcare and medical professionals.
- 15 v) According to the annual review by ILGA-Europe, the UK is no longer
16 the leading country for LGBT+ rights in Europe, and has been steadily
17 declining in the rankings since 2015.
- 18 vi) The ongoing pathologisation and social exclusion of LGBT+ people
19 puts pressure on LGBT+ people to conceal or conform their
20 orientation and/or identity, which further exposes LGBT+ people to
21 predatory practices, such as conversion therapy.

Friday 17 September

F4

22 Conference reaffirms:

- 23 A. That Liberal Democrats champion the autonomy of the individual,
24 the fostering of diversity, and the right to privacy, including the right
25 to medical autonomy. These principles are crucial to the protection
26 of LGBT+ orientations and identities.
- 27 B. Our commitment to ensure that the withdrawal of medical
28 conversion therapy by NHS England is effectively extended to
29 transgender, non-binary, and intersex people.
- 30 C. Our alignment with the position of NHS England, NHS Scotland,
31 Public Health Wales, and other leading health, social care, and aid
32 organisations, as noted in the Memorandum of Understanding
33 on Conversion Therapy (2017), that conversion therapy has “no
34 medical or therapeutic value” and that a conversion therapy ban
35 is not intended to exclude LGBT+ people from accessing “qualified
36 and appropriate” therapists and support. Practices which seek to
37 affirm or support an LGBT+ orientation or identity are not conversion
38 therapy.

39 Conference calls for:

- 40 1. The banning of conversion practices in all forms – this should include
41 the following:
- 42 a) A criminal ban on all forms of conversion therapy; including
43 those claiming to be psychiatric, psychological, therapeutic, or
44 consultative; or a religious practice such as a prayer or exorcism;
45 or any other medical, scientific, or cultural activity seeking to
46 suppress or change a person’s sexual orientation or gender
47 identity.
- 48 b) A criminal ban on referrals, transportation of minors overseas,
49 and advertising and promotion, for any of the above.
- 50 c) No exemption for religious and faith-based organisations for
51 any of the above.

Friday 17 September

F4

- 52 2. A campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of conversion
53 therapy among vulnerable people and in social environments where
54 conversion therapy is most likely to be promoted.
- 55 3. Our elected representatives to work to ensure that all LGBT+ people
56 are able to live in freedom, authenticity, and safety.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 12 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 9 – is 13.00 on 6 September. Those selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Friday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

Background briefing

This motion creates new policy with regards to conversion therapy.

Friday 17 September

F5

15.15 Speech

Chair: Bex Scott.

F5 Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP, Spokesperson for Home Affairs and Political and Constitutional Reform

@amcarmichaelmp, #LDConf

15.30 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Maines. Aides: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC) and Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC).

F6 Boosting Small Businesses and Jobs in the Post-Pandemic Economy

12 members

Mover: Sarah Olney MP (Spokesperson for Business and Trade).

Summation: Lord Purvis (Lords Spokesperson for Trade).

1 Conference believes that:

- 2 I. The economic recovery from Covid-19 starts with small business:
3 small businesses are the backbone of our economy, the heart of our
4 local communities, and they create the jobs we all rely on.
- 5 II. Everyone should have access to good, decent-paying jobs.
- 6 III. To cope with the unpredictable nature of the pandemic, people and
7 businesses need certainty and long-term support – not last-minute
8 announcements and knee-jerk reactions.
- 9 IV. We must rebuild a post-pandemic economy that is fair, creates new
10 opportunities for people and tackles the climate emergency.

11 Conference notes with concern that:

Friday 17 September

F6

- 12 a) The UK's economy is 4% smaller than before the pandemic, and
13 according to the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), it won't reach
14 its pre-covid size until the end of 2022.
- 15 b) 1.6 million people are out of a job, and there are 553,000 fewer
16 people on payroll than pre-pandemic; according to the OBR, by the
17 end of the year another 600,000 people will lose their job.
- 18 c) Unemployment is disproportionately impacting the young and
19 people from ethnic minorities, as people aged 16-24 are the likeliest
20 to be out of a job, and young black people experienced the highest
21 unemployment rate in 2020, reaching 42%.
- 22 d) The Government is failing to create new jobs, with the failed Kickstart
23 Scheme having thus far placed just 16,500 people in new roles out of
24 a target of 250,000.
- 25 e) Failing to support employment threatens the UK's economic recovery
26 and takes away peoples' opportunities.
- 27 f) Small businesses have suffered during the pandemic, taking on more
28 than £104 billion in debt to stay afloat.
- 29 g) The pandemic has damaged the UK's town centres and high streets,
30 taking a toll on entrepreneurship opportunities, local services,
31 local employment opportunities and face-to-face contact for those
32 experiencing loneliness.
- 33 h) Small businesses are in a rent-arrears crisis, with unpaid commercial
34 rent estimated at £6 billion, affecting the hospitality and retail
35 sectors the worst.
- 36 i) The Government has threatened a wave of small business
37 closures and job losses, by refusing to accompany the month-long
38 continuation of trading restrictions with an extension of the full
39 furlough scheme and the business rates holiday.
- 40 j) The Federation of Small Businesses has warned that at least 250,000
41 businesses could close by the end of the year, while the number of
42 companies in financial distress has risen at the fastest pace in seven
43 years.
- 44 k) Compounding the struggles of small business in the pandemic is the
45 Government's terrible EU trade deal, which has led to a 25% drop in

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- 46 trade with Europe compared to 2019, and a staff shortage crisis that
47 has brought many businesses to their knees.
- 48 l) The Government has ignored the three million people excluded from
49 all Covid-19 support schemes.

50 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitments to:

- 51 A. Develop a long-term economic strategy, setting out how the UK will
52 invest in new industries, jobs and training, that will create a fairer,
53 greener, more regionally balanced economy after the pandemic.
- 54 B. Establish dedicated support schemes for the worst-affected sectors,
55 such as hospitality, tourism, charities and the creative industries.
- 56 C. Ensure that a large proportion of new jobs created are green jobs,
57 encouraging innovation in industry to adapt to a green economy,
58 carry out an audit of the skills which will be required, and ensure
59 those who are unemployed due to Covid-19 are helped to reskill to
60 fill them.
- 61 D. Expand higher vocational training such as foundation degrees,
62 Higher National Diplomas, Higher National Certificates and
63 Higher Apprenticeships, including by transforming the broken
64 Apprenticeship Levy into a wider 'Skills and Training Levy'.
- 65 E. Fix the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme by extending it to
66 cover the self-employed people who are currently excluded.
- 67 F. The closest possible alignment between the UK and the EU towards
68 customs union, single market and freedom of movement, including
69 minimising tariff and non-tariff trade barriers and the non-lowering
70 of environmental, food and animal welfare standards.

71 Conference further calls on the Government to:

- 72 1. Extend the fully government-backed version of the Coronavirus Job
73 Retention Scheme, and the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme,
74 at least until the end of 2021.
- 75 2. Provide financial assistance to small businesses that experienced

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- 76 loss of revenue due to Coronavirus restrictions on their trading
77 capacity or ability to stay open.
- 78 3. Give all small businesses a cash injection and empower them to
79 create new jobs, by quadrupling the annual Employment Allowance
80 to £16,000 for two years, allowing them to pay zero employers'
81 National Insurance Contributions on their first five employees – and
82 consult on whether to increase the Employment Allowance long-
83 term.
- 84 4. Avert a wave of insolvencies and job losses by implementing
85 innovative debt restructuring solutions for viable small businesses
86 struggling due to coronavirus.
- 87 5. Maintain the 5% reduced rate of VAT for hospitality and tourism until
88 the end of the 2021–22 financial year.
- 89 6. Give struggling businesses in the retail, hospitality and live events
90 sectors relief on their deferred VAT payments, so that cash is
91 available as working capital as they open back up.
- 92 7. Fix the broken Kickstart scheme and develop a strategy to tackle
93 unemployment among young people from a black and ethnic
94 minority background.
- 95 8. Support small businesses struggling to trade with Europe by:
96 a) Doing more to listen to their concerns and seek technical
97 solutions.
- 98 b) Significantly increasing the £20 million SME Brexit Support Fund
99 and broadening its eligibility criteria.
- 100 c) Ensuring that all information SMEs need on UK-EU trade is
101 readily available in a single platform.
- 102 d) Appointing a new Minister for SME Trade, tasked with
103 implementing the above measures and boosting small business
104 trade.

Applicability: Federal.

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

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For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 12 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 9 – is 13.00 on 6 September. Those selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Friday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

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F6 Boosting Small Businesses and Jobs in the Post-Pandemic Economy

Mover: Cllr Paula Widdowson.

Summation: Cllr Bridget Smith.

Amendment One

ALDC

Mover: to be announced.

Summation: to be announced.

- 1 After F. (line 70), insert:
- 2 G. Conference recognises the crucial role local government can play in
- 3 supporting businesses in their area during the pandemic and helping
- 4 them re-build such as the 294 businesses saved from closure by
- 5 the City of York's micro-grant scheme in 2020. Conference calls on
- 6 central government to ensure local councils to have a leading role
- 7 in Local Enterprise Partnerships as part of their work in supporting
- 8 local economies.

Background briefing

This motion updates and develops economic policy, specifically dealing with how to recover from the economic impact of COVID-19 on small businesses and jobs.

It builds on previous policy in the policy motion Supporting Business, Workers and the Self-Employed during the COVID-19 Pandemic (March 2021), the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019) and policy paper 133, Good Jobs, Better Businesses, Stronger Communities: Proposals for a new economy that really works for everyone (2018).

Friday 17 September consultation session

Federal Policy Committee Work Programme on Europe

Consultation session, Friday 17 September, 16.20–17.30

The spring 2021 conference instructed the FPC to ‘carry out a programme of work, including consulting widely within the party, to determine the best possible future framework for the UK–EU relationship across all policy areas, with the aims of: (a) demonstrating the benefits to UK citizens and businesses of a much closer relationship compared to the government’s inadequate measures; (b) recommending roadmaps for the UK to rejoin the Customs Union, Single Market and other EU agencies and programmes as appropriate; and (c) maximising public support for eventual UK membership of the EU.’

The FPC has appointed a small group, chaired by Duncan Brack and including representatives of the parliamentary party, the Federal International Relations Committee and the Liberal Democrat European Group, to implement the conference instruction. We have decided to approach our task through a series of conference motions and papers rather than one big one. Since we cannot realistically cover every possible relevant topic through conference motions, we are also encouraging our parliamentary spokespeople to put forward proposals for closer and stronger relationships with the EU in their spokespersonship areas.

This consultation session is designed to give conference participants a chance to tell us what they think are the priority policy areas we should address, what the possible solutions within each area are, and the messages the party should use in promoting closer cooperation between the UK and EU. This is our initial list of key topics –

Cultural, artistic and educational ties

We thought this was a good topic to begin with, so the FPC has submitted motion F44, to be debated on Monday afternoon. The motion calls, among other things, for the UK to rejoin the Erasmus Plus scheme, to establish a European cultural fund and to improve the Youth Mobility Scheme.

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Trade

The key topic is obviously the trading relationship between the UK and EU. For next year's spring conference we are planning a motion on Single Market and Customs Union membership. This is such a complex area, covering, among other things, freedom of movement, social, health and environmental standards and the Northern Ireland Protocol, that we'll be accompanying it with a short paper, to be published alongside the conference agenda. There is no doubt about the party's commitment to rejoining the Single Market and Customs Union – that was made clear at spring conference this year – but there are many issues to consider about the practicalities, the phasing and the impacts. Among other things, this should provide at least partial solutions to the recent supply-chain problems, including shortages of HGV drivers and staff in the transport, farming, food and catering and care sectors.

Climate change and energy

The FPC's policy paper on carbon pricing (F12, to be debated on Saturday morning) includes the proposal to link the UK Emissions Trading Scheme with the EU ETS, thus increasing the effectiveness of emissions trading; and rejoining the EU ETS would be a requirement of UK entry to the EU in any case. Other potential areas for cooperation include working together with the EU in international climate negotiations; meeting emissions reduction targets jointly with the EU (in the same way as EEA countries do); and promoting greater interconnection with EU energy networks.

Natural environment

Potential areas for collaboration include re-adopting EU standards in areas such as pollution control, water, air, chemicals, biodiversity, waste, genetically modified organisms and environmental impact assessment (most of this would be required under Single Market membership in any case, but this approach could be adopted in advance); working with the EU on its new measures to require businesses to protect the environment, and human and labour rights, in their supply chains; and working together with the EU in international biodiversity negotiations.

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Rights of EU citizens in the UK and UK citizens in the EU

This topic covers guaranteeing EU citizens' rights in law, including physical proof of settled status; automatic upgrading for those with pre-settled status; strengthening the Independent Monitoring Authority; and reiterating our commitment to the European Social Charter. We could also urge the UK government to ensure that EU member state governments are upholding the rights of UK citizens.

Crime

Issues under this heading include police and security cooperation, including access to the Schengen Information System (information-sharing for security and border management); rejoining Europol and Eurojust and the European Arrest Warrant; and arrangements for the reciprocal nature of judgements, for example under the Lugano Convention, which clarifies which national courts have jurisdiction in cross-border civil and commercial disputes and ensures that judgments taken in such disputes can be enforced across borders.

Science

Key aspects include alignment and co-operation as far as possible with EU science programmes such as Horizon Europe; participation in satellite systems including Galileo, EGNOS (the pan-European satellite navigation system) and Copernicus (the EU's Earth observation programme); participation in Euratom; and measures to improve access for EU nationals to UK academic institutions.

Health

Topics include workforce issues such as recognition of professional qualifications, scrapping the Immigration Health Surcharge, improving visa routes; agreement on health insurance cards (EHIC/GHIC) with EEA member states; cooperation with the European Medicines Agency; and the possibility of joint pandemic preparedness exercises between UK and EU in the future.

Foreign affairs, security and development

This heading covers a wide range of issues, including cooperation over security challenges such as those posed by Russia or China; the impacts and possible

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strategies towards unstable regions such as Afghanistan or the Middle East; and cooperation over development challenges, including Covid vaccination and climate finance. Other possibilities include coordinated use of 'Magnitsky sanctions' targeted on individuals responsible for human rights violations or corruption; and the creation of a shared forum for European states to address foreign and defence policy issues.

The FPC is cooperating with the Liberal Democrat European Group to organise a conference on the future of Europe on Saturday 30 October, preceded by regional events throughout October. This will give party members another chance to contribute their thoughts on the evolving Liberal Democrat strategy on the UK-EU relationship. For more information see <https://ld.org/en/>.

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F7

16.15 Auditorium break

Please see the Conference Directory for our fringe and exhibition programme.

18.45 Policy motion

Chair: Duncan Brack. Aides: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F7 Towards a Fair Global Corporation Tax System

12 members

Mover: Christine Jardine MP (Spokesperson for the Treasury).

Summation: to be confirmed.

- 1 Conference celebrates the historic agreement at the G7, championed
- 2 by the Biden administration, to create an international corporation tax
- 3 system, aiming to tackle tax avoidance by large multinationals.

- 4 Conference believes that:
 - 5 i) The G7 agreement is a long overdue step towards making the
 - 6 international economy fairer and ensuring that some of the largest
 - 7 and most profitable corporations in the world pay their fair share of
 - 8 tax.
 - 9 ii) The agreement's benefits can be maximised through improvements
 - 10 that will address certain weaknesses.
 - 11 iii) Business tax shouldn't be punitive or stifle innovation, but large
 - 12 profitable corporations operating in the UK should pay their fair
 - 13 share of tax.
 - 14 iv) Multinational corporations and tech giants should contribute to the
 - 15 economic rebuilding from Coronavirus.

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16 Conference notes that:

- 17 I. Under 'pillar one' of the agreement, all multinational companies
18 making profit margins over 10% will have 20% of their global profits
19 beyond that threshold reallocated on the basis of where their
20 customers are, to be taxed in those countries at the local corporation
21 tax rate.
- 22 II. Under 'pillar two', multinationals must pay a minimum corporation
23 tax of 15%, and if the rate in a jurisdiction is less than 15%, then the
24 difference between the effective rate in that jurisdiction and 15% will
25 be taxed in the country where the company is headquartered.
- 26 III. As part of the deal, the UK Government agreed to withdraw the
27 Digital Services Tax (DST), which is levied at 2% of the revenues
28 of search engines, social media services and online marketplaces
29 operating in the UK.
- 30 IV. The G7 deal is subject to further negotiations via the G20, and
31 ratification by national legislatures.

32 Conference notes with concern that:

- 33 A. The UK Government failed to back the Biden administration's original
34 proposal for a global minimum rate of 21%, instead pushing for it to
35 be lowered to 15% – despite having raised UK corporation tax to 25%
36 (effective in 2023).
- 37 B. According to the think tank IPPR, the UK exchequer would have
38 gained an additional £6.8 billion a year under a minimum rate of
39 21%.
- 40 C. The UK Government has not published an analysis of how much it
41 expects to raise from this proposed system, and hasn't disclosed
42 when it will withdraw the DST.
- 43 D. The UK Government pressed for big banks to be exempt from the
44 agreement, and seeks to create eight tax-free freeports in England.
- 45 E. Analysis suggests that the replacement of the DST with the current
46 version of 'pillar one' in the UK will result in a combined tax cut of

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- 47 £232.5 million for Amazon, Facebook, Google and eBay.
- 48 F. Experts have warned that if UK Corporation tax payments count
49 towards liabilities under 'pillar one', Amazon, Facebook, Google and
50 eBay will not see any significant change in their corporation tax bill in
51 the UK.
- 52 G. Unless the deal is improved, Amazon could be exempt from paying
53 tax in the UK under 'pillar one', as its overall profit margin does not
54 exceed 10%.
- 55 H. The proposed minimum rate of 15% is significantly lower than the
56 average OECD rate of 23.5% and similar to the corporation tax rates
57 of Lichtenstein (12.5%), Ireland (12.5%) and Switzerland (14%).
- 58 I. According to Oxfam, the 15% minimum rate fails to benefit the
59 finances of developing countries, as they will continue to face unfair
60 competition from tax havens.
- 61 J. The UK Government failed to implement a Windfall Tax to recoup
62 some of the record profits large corporations and tech giants enjoyed
63 due to public health restrictions.

64 Conference reaffirms Liberal Democrat commitments to:

- 65 a) Ensure that all businesses operating in the UK pay tax in the UK on
66 those operations, restricting the ability of multinationals to unfairly
67 shift profits out of the UK to low tax jurisdictions.
- 68 b) A business tax system that encourages investment, with simplified
69 capital allowances, an increase in the Annual Investment Allowance
70 ensuring that businesses obtain tax relief for productive investment,
71 and higher Writing Down Allowances to encourage more investment
72 by the largest businesses.
- 73 c) Introducing a General Anti-Avoidance Rule, setting a target for HM
74 Revenue and Customs to reduce the tax gap and investing in more
75 staff to enable them to meet it.

76 Conference further calls on the Government to:

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- 77 1. Back President Biden's proposal for a global minimum rate of
78 corporation tax at 21%, and persuade other countries to do the
79 same.
- 80 2. Listen to developing countries' concerns and ensure that they will
81 benefit from the new system.
- 82 3. Work for the broadest possible adoption of these measures via the
83 G20, the OECD and other international organisations.
- 84 4. Resist international pressure to remove the DST before the new
85 system is fully operational.
- 86 5. Ensure that the implementation of 'pillar one' in the UK does not lead
87 to a tax cut for some of largest and most profitable tech companies
88 in the world such as Amazon, Facebook, Google and eBay.
- 89 6. Ensure that profitable subsidiaries of large business groups pay tax
90 in their own right as necessary, so that tech giants such as Amazon
91 aren't exempt from new rules due to the 10% profit-margin threshold.
- 92 7. Ensure that current UK Corporation Tax payments don't count
93 towards liabilities arising under 'pillar one', which would lead to a tax
94 break for large multinationals.
- 95 8. Publish its official financial analysis setting out the agreement's
96 expected impact on the UK Exchequer.
- 97 9. Develop a strategy to boost UK startups and growth-stage
98 companies that create high-skill, high-wage jobs, with a particular
99 focus on companies that can help tackle the climate emergency.
- 100 10. Publish a report analysing the effect on the UK Exchequer and
101 on competition of a Windfall Tax on the super-profits of large
102 corporations that benefited from public health restrictions during
103 the pandemic.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

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The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 12 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 9 – is 13.00 on 6 September. Those selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Friday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

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F7 Towards a Fair Global Corporation Tax system

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Olly Craven.

Summation: James Baillie.

1 After iv) (line15), insert:

2 v) Businesses of the future should be better constituted to contribute
3 to the good of society both in the UK and around the world, as well
4 as being better regulated and effectively taxed.

5 In 9. (line 99), after 'emergency', insert: ', cooperatives, mutual, and social
6 enterprises'.

Background briefing

This motion updates and develops economic policy, specifically the UK government's response to US President Biden's global minimum corporation tax plan.

It builds on previous policy in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019) and policy motion Business Tax Reform: Fair for Business and Fair for Society (September 2019).

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F8

19.35 Party business

Chair: Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Jennie Rigg and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F8 Presidential Election Regulations

Federal Board

Mover: Isabelle Parasram (Vice President of the Liberal Democrats).

Summation: Dr Mark Pack (President of the Liberal Democrats).

- 1 Conference ratifies the following changes to the Presidential Election
- 2 regulations:
- 3 a) Delete the title and insert: 'PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT
- 4 (RESPONSIBLE FOR WORKING WITH ETHNIC MINORITY
- 5 COMMUNITIES) ELECTION REGULATIONS'.
- 6 b) In Regulation 2, insert 'se' and 's' to read: 'The electorate for the
- 7 purposes of these elections shall ...'.
- 8 c) In Regulation 4 A, delete 'The timetable for the election' and insert 'The
- 9 timetables for these elections'.
- 10 d) Delete Regulation 6 A and insert EITHER:
- 11 i. 'A candidate for the office of President or Vice President
- 12 responsible for working with ethnic minority communities shall
- 13 require the nomination of not less than 200 members in not less
- 14 than 20 Local Parties (including, for this purpose, the Specified
- 15 Associated Organisations representing youth and/or students).'

16 OR:

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- 17 ii. 'A candidate for the office of President shall require the
18 nomination of not less than 200 members in not less than
19 20 Local Parties (including, for this purpose, the Specified
20 Associated Organisations representing youth and/or students).
21 A candidate for the office of Vice President responsible for
22 working with ethnic minority communities shall require the
23 nomination of any Local Party, any Regional Party, any State
24 Party, any Specified Associated Organisations, or nominations
25 may be submitted by any ten party members.'
- 26 e) Replace Regulation 10 with EITHER:
- 27 i. The Federal Board shall agree a spending limit for election
28 expenses, not including travel or subsistence expenses, when
29 setting the timetable for an election. The limit for President and
30 Vice President may be different. No candidate, or their agent,
31 shall exceed this limit in the production of publicity material
32 and all other expenditures connected with the campaign. This
33 shall include any expenditure (or the relevant proportion of any
34 expenditure) incurred before an individual becomes a candidate
35 if the property, services or facilities are used for the purposes
36 of the candidate's election. All donations above £500 must
37 comply with the provisions of Schedule 7 of the Political Parties,
38 Elections and Referendums Act 2000.
- 39 OR:
- 40 ii. The Federal Board shall agree a spending limit for election
41 expenses, not including travel or subsistence expenses, when
42 setting the timetable for the election for President. The limit for
43 elections for Vice President shall be zero, not including travel or
44 subsistence expenses. No candidate, or their agent, shall exceed
45 this limit in the production of publicity material and all other
46 expenditures connected with the campaign. This shall include

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- 47 any expenditure (or the relevant proportion of any expenditure)
48 incurred before an individual becomes a candidate if the
49 property, services or facilities are used for the purposes of the
50 candidate's election. All donations above £500 must comply with
51 the provisions of Schedule 7 of the Political Parties, Elections
52 and Referendums Act 2000.
- 53 f) If option e) ii) above on election expenses is selected: in Regulation 16,
54 after 'each candidate' insert 'for President'.
- 55 g) In Regulation 21, delete 'Executive' and insert 'Board' in both instances.
- 56 h) In Regulation 21, delete 'the elections' and insert 'an election for
57 President or Vice President'.

The current Presidential Election Regulations can be found on the party website at www.libdems.org.uk/constitution

Applicability: Federal.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

Conference has the power to ratify but not amend election regulations proposed by the Federal Board. There will be votes on the options in the motion but the motion is not otherwise open to amendments or separate votes.

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F9

20.05 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Bex Scott and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F9 Democracy and Public Debate (Nature of Public Debate Policy Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Jamie Stone MP (Spokesperson for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport).

Summation: Martin Dickson (Chair of the Policy Working Group).

- 1 Conference notes the importance of high-quality public debate:
 - 2 a) In enriching democracy, delivering better political, social and
 - 3 economic outcomes for all.
 - 4 b) In delivering the Liberal Democrats' aim of safeguarding a fair, free
 - 5 and open society in which no one shall be enslaved by poverty,
 - 6 ignorance or conformity.
- 7 Conference believes that:
 - 8 I. The current state of public debate is damaging to our democracy
 - 9 with growing political polarisation, hostility and misinformation
 - 10 alongside declining trust in politics.
 - 11 II. Whilst online communications have been positive for society overall,
 - 12 they have helped facilitate these changes, by providing a platform for
 - 13 them to spread.
 - 14 III. Addressing the global challenges to public debate will require an
 - 15 international effort.
- 16 Conference calls for concerted reform of human rights law, education,
- 17 digital and media regulation, and our electoral processes in order to:
 - 18 A. Enhance the quality of public debate.

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- 19 B. Ameliorate the impact of misinformation.
- 20 C. Safeguard democracy, both at home and abroad.
- 21 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 141, Democracy and Public
22 Debate, and in particular its proposals to:
- 23 1. Uphold our rights online by:
- 24 a) Passing a Digital Bill of Rights, comparable in scope to the
25 Human Rights Act for the online age – this will include:
- 26 i) The right to knowledge about the online world, including
27 education in its complexities.
- 28 ii) The right to participate in debate online, on the individual’s
29 terms.
- 30 iii) The right to access the internet, through Citizens’ Wifi in the
31 public realm.
- 32 iv) The right to privacy online.
- 33 v) The right to the ownership and control of our personal data.
- 34 vi) The right to free expression and participation online without
35 being subjected to harassment and abuse.
- 36 b) Creating a new regulator and a new specialist court.
- 37 2. End the ‘regulatory wild west’ of social media by:
- 38 a) Splitting Ofcom into two regulators – the Communications
39 Standards Authority and the Office for Communications
40 Infrastructure, with a new Communications Court to provide
41 judicial oversight.
- 42 b) The Communication Standards Authority’s powers will cover:
- 43 i) Ofcom’s existing powers in respect to broadcast media.
- 44 ii) Auditing online platforms in their observance of the Digital
45 Bill of Rights and compliance with a statutory duty of care to

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- 46 secure the safety of their users and redress the imbalance of
47 power between platforms and their individual users.
- 48 iii) Monitoring social media companies' activity in responding to
49 infringement of online harms legislation including the power
50 to require social media companies to exercise a full range
51 of sanctions exercised proportionately, depending on the
52 seriousness and persistence of the abuse or harm suffered;
53 the sanctions would include deletion of content, restrictions
54 on sharing, affixing warnings against content and temporary
55 or permanent suspension of membership: and to require
56 a robust complaints systems for users who feel their rights
57 have been violated.
- 58 iv) Administering a mandatory 'UK kitemark' scheme for all
59 social media companies that want to operate in the UK
- 60 v) Overseeing the content of life-long digital learning materials
61 and online transparency.
- 62 vi) Monitoring the digital world for emerging threats and
63 publicising these.
- 64 c) The Office for Communications Infrastructure's powers will
65 cover communications infrastructure, such as broadband
66 infrastructure, mobile networks, spectrum licensing and
67 regulation, and the Post Office's universal delivery requirement.
- 68 d) Introducing a levy on social media companies, to fund policies to
69 combat societal harms which occur on their platforms.
- 70 3. Improve the quality of our traditional media by:
- 71 a) Enacting the recommendations of the Leveson Inquiry and
72 commissioning the 'Leveson 2' Inquiry into press and police
73 relations.
- 74 b) Requiring social media platforms to pay news providers for their
75 content.

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- 76 c) Providing financial support for local journalism and fact checking
77 websites, funded through a levy on social media companies.
- 78 d) Applying the same rules to online news outlets as print ones.
- 79 e) Reviewing copyright laws to see if they are fit for purpose in the
80 digital age.
- 81 4. Enhance our education system by:
- 82 a) Reforming the school curriculum in England to make critical
83 thinking and media studies part of the core curriculum,
84 modelled on Finland's reforms.
- 85 b) Introducing lifelong learning in England about the digital public
86 square and how to navigate it for every individual, with adult
87 education receiving a priority.
- 88 c) Introducing public awareness campaigns about emerging
89 threats and misinformation campaigns online.
- 90 5. Increase competition and reduce the concentration of power in the
91 social media market by:
- 92 a) Reviewing and re-negotiating the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation
93 Agreement, with a view to closer cooperation and regulatory
94 alignment.
- 95 b) Proactively working with the U.S. authorities to find a common
96 position for global issues.
- 97 c) Enhancing the powers of the Digital Markets Unit within the
98 Competition and Markets Authority to implement both ex-ante
99 regulation and ex-post competition law.
- 100 d) Passing legislation to further facilitate data portability, network
101 interoperability and transparency in social networks.
- 102 6. Ensure higher quality elections and safeguard democracy at home
103 and abroad by:

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- 104 a) Enhancing transparency in our elections, through accessible
105 information on party manifestos, spending and social media
106 adverts.
- 107 b) Revising and clarifying the powers of the Electoral Commission
108 and police, to ensure fairness in our democratic processes and
109 issue meaningful sanctions when the rules are broken.
- 110 c) Pushing for a global convention or treaty to combat
111 disinformation and electoral interference, supplemented by an
112 annual conference and Global Counter-Disinformation Fund, to
113 safeguard and promote democracy at home as well as abroad.

Applicability: Federal; except 4. (lines 81–89), which is 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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 12 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 9 – is 13.00 on 9 September. Those selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Friday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

Close of session: 21.00.

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F9

F9 ***Democracy and Public Debate*** (Nature of Public Debate Policy Paper)

There will be a separate vote on lines 71–73 and a separate vote on lines 74–75 in the motion.

Background briefing

This motion and the accompanying policy paper update and develop digital, education, media, public life and electoral policy.

It builds on previous policy in the policy motions *Nature of Public Debate during COVID-19* (September 2020), *Save the BBC* (September 2020), the General Election Manifesto *Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future* (2019), policy paper 136, *A Fairer Share for All* (2019) and policy paper 130, *Power to the People* (2014).

Saturday 18 September

F10

09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Maines. Aides: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F10 Children in Care and Care Leavers

Young Liberals

Mover: Brendan Roberts.

Summation: Katharine Macy.

- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 A. 99,000 children are considered children in care in the UK.
 - 3 B. Care leavers only have a pathway plan from the age of 16 to 21.
 - 4 C. 16-year-olds who become homeless or estranged cannot easily find
5 support.
 - 6 D. One in four young care leavers have had to sofa surf, 14% of young
7 care leavers have slept rough, 40% of care leavers are unable to pay
8 the required deposit for housing, and 57% of care leavers feel unsafe
9 in the area they originally lived in.
 - 10 E. The average child in care enters care at age 14, which is a crucial
11 point academically; young people leaving care are less likely to
12 be involved in education, training, or employment and are more
13 vulnerable to social exclusion in later life.
 - 14 F. Children in care are less likely to achieve their academic potential.
15 Only 12% of care leavers enter higher education by the age of twp.
 - 16 G. Care leavers have sometimes lived in up to 20 foster placements
17 and/or care homes.
 - 18 H. Care leavers often rely on universal credit as their main source of
19 income.
 - 20 I. Children in care and care leavers have higher rates of mental health

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21 issues, and are more susceptible to trauma, addiction, dependency
22 issues, depression, and anxiety.

23 Conference believes that:

- 24 I. All children deserve full support in reaching their potential, no matter
25 their circumstances.
- 26 II. Children in care deserve equal access to education and support; care
27 leavers starting at the age of 16 could be inhibiting their ability to
28 partake in post-16 education.
- 29 III. Care leavers are vulnerable young adults who need the support of
30 both their local authority and government.
- 31 IV. Care leavers need more support than the average young adult, in
32 terms of both health and finances, as they often do not have the
33 support of family.

34 Conference resolves that:

- 35 1. All care leavers should have access to support in the form of advisors
36 or mentors up until the age of 25.
- 37 2. Moving children in care should only happen when necessary; care
38 leavers should have support in transferring between local authorities
39 if they wish, including communication between the two and agreed
40 funding.
- 41 3. The Government should increase the Care Leaver Bursary from the
42 current £1,000 to £2,000.
- 43 4. All 16-year-olds should be allowed the opportunity to stay in care
44 until the age of 25. In particular, 16 and 17-year-olds whose family
45 relationship deteriorates should have the full support of their local
46 authority, equal to what they would have had at 15.
- 47 5. Children in care should be supported with exam resits and revision
48 support by both local authorities and schools.
- 49 6. Children in care and care leavers should be given access to special
50 meetings to encourage them to explore their future and given full

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- 51 information on apprenticeships, sixth forms, colleges, universities, etc.
52 with no bias of pathways provided.
- 53 7. Children in care should be offered tutoring and mentoring from the
54 age of 13 provided by local authorities and schools.
- 55 8. More care leavers should be encouraged to go to university, with
56 support from universities through widening access and taking into
57 consideration alternative qualifications and life experiences when
58 making offers.
- 59 9. A pledge of the level of support that they will provide to the children
60 in their care should be mandated for all local authorities; the pledge
61 should be legally enforced, with penalties.

Applicability: England only.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Saturday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.00 Friday 17 September; see page 9.

Background briefing

This motion updates and develops policy for children in care and care leavers.

It builds on previous policy in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019) and the policy motion Tackling Child Abuse (September 2014).

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09.30 Policy motion

Chair: Bex Scott. Aides: Jennie Rigg and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F11 The Climate Change Conference and the UK Government

18 members

Mover: Wera Hobhouse MP (Spokesperson for Climate Change).

Summation: Duncan Brack.

1 Conference notes that the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the
2 Parties (CoP26), which will take place in Glasgow in October / November
3 2021, chaired by the UK government, will offer the first chance since
4 the Paris Agreement was negotiated in 2015 to review the emissions
5 reduction targets countries have set themselves under the terms of that
6 agreement.

7 Conference notes with concern that countries' levels of ambition so far
8 fall far short of what is required to achieve the targets set out in the Paris
9 Agreement.

10 Conference further notes that although carbon dioxide emissions fell
11 during 2020 (as a result mainly of the Coronavirus lockdowns reducing
12 transport use), this is likely only to be a temporary reduction.

13 Conference recognises the need for the UK government to adopt a more
14 proactive role, as chair of the conference, in encouraging countries to
15 adopt more ambitious targets, but that it lacks the credibility to do this
16 because of Conservative ministers' comprehensive failures to support
17 policies that will achieve the UK's own net zero target, including failing
18 to set out a strategy for meeting net zero and, among other decisions,
19 cutting overseas aid from 0.7% to 0.5% of GNP and scrapping the Green
20 Homes Grant scheme and putting nothing in its place to support home
21 insulation.

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22 Conference welcomes the leadership shown by other governments,
23 notably the Biden Administration in the US, in persuading major
24 economies to adopt more ambitious targets and in increasing climate
25 finance, and applauds the fact that 127 countries have now announced
26 net zero targets by mid-century at the latest.

27 Conference therefore calls on the UK government, as chair of CoP26, to:

- 28 a) Press all governments to raise their short-term targets for
29 emissions reductions, and to adopt net zero targets, in line with the
30 commitments they made under the Paris Agreement.
- 31 b) Ensure that developed countries fulfil their pledge to deliver at least
32 \$100 billion per year to help developing countries decarbonise their
33 economies and protect against climate impacts.
- 34 c) Foster the formation of coalitions of like-minded countries to
35 advance specific emission-cutting goals, such as phasing out coal or
36 protecting forests.
- 37 d) Reach agreement on an international framework to protect poor
38 nations against climate change impacts and compensate them for
39 damages.
- 40 e) Develop mechanisms to shift investment from fossil fuel use into
41 clean energy.

42 Conference also calls on the UK government to take steps urgently to
43 increase its credibility and effectiveness as chair of the conference by:

- 44 1. Announcing a comprehensive strategy to meet the UK's own net
45 zero target, including in particular urgent action to reduce emissions
46 from buildings, industry, aviation, surface transport and agriculture,
47 food and land use, and also a wide-ranging strategy for adaptation to
48 climate impacts.
- 49 2. Working together as closely as possible with the UK's neighbours in
50 the EU, including adopting joint targets for greenhouse gas emissions
51 reductions and cooperating in policy frameworks such as emissions

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- 52 trading schemes and border carbon adjustment mechanisms,
53 thereby increasing the UK's weight in the international negotiations.

Applicability: Federal.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

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F11 The Climate Change Conference and the UK Government

Amendment One

Kingston Borough

Mover: Kevin Langford.

Summation: Mark Campanale.

1 In e) (line 41) after 'clean energy', insert:

2 ', including by aiming to reach international agreement on:

3 i) Banning new listings of, and bond issuances for, fossil fuel
4 companies producing, processing or distributing coal, oil or gas
5 whose primary purpose is for energy or transport.

6 ii) Requiring such firms already listed to produce within two years
7 coherent plans to reach net zero in line with the IEA's Net Zero
8 Emissions by 2050 Scenario (NZE, 1.5°C) that notes no new
9 investment is needed in any new coal, oil and gas, anywhere, as
10 from now.

11 iii) Requiring fossil fuel company boards and their bankers to report
12 on when they will cease investment in new fossil fuels, and for
13 this to be put to an annual vote of shareholders.

14 and by introducing such measures in the UK.'

Amendment Two

ALDC

Mover: Cllr Pippa Heylings.

Summation: Cllr Susan Juned.

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1 After line 21, insert:

2 Conference recognises the need for the UK government to adopt a
3 proactive role in highlighting the importance of local government in
4 achieving net zero across the world. Globally, the Local Governments
5 and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency have called for COP26 to
6 be recognised as the 'Multilevel Action COP' in acknowledgment of the
7 fact that more than half of the emissions cuts needed rely on people and
8 businesses taking up low-carbon solutions – decisions that are made at a
9 local and individual level.

10 After a) (line 30), insert:

11 b) Propose the inclusion of a dedicated chapter for local governments
12 in the official agreement reached at COP26, recognising the
13 importance of subnational actors in co-designing and delivering
14 climate action and seeking to ensure that local government is
15 politically and financially empowered to meet that ambition.

16 After 1. (line 48), insert:

17 2. Committing to empower local governments and municipal
18 authorities through a shared fiscal and policy framework between
19 central and local government to meet net zero targets and climate
20 adaptation priorities.

Background briefing

This motion updates existing energy and environmental policy, as well as creating new policy specifically responding to the CoP26 conference.

It builds on previous policy in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019) and policy paper 139, Tackling the Climate Emergency (2019).

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10.00 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Chris Maines and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F12 Tackling the Climate Emergency: Proposals for Carbon Pricing (Carbon Pricing Policy Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Lord Oates (Lords Spokesperson for Energy and Climate Change).

Summation: Duncan Brack (Chair of the Policy Working Group).

- 1 Conference recognises the accelerating urgency of the need to tackle the
- 2 climate crisis, and the failure of the Conservative government to put in
- 3 place proposals to meet the UK's net zero target.

- 4 Conference recalls that in 2019 conference endorsed policy paper
- 5 139, Tackling the Climate Emergency, which set out a comprehensive
- 6 programme of emissions reductions, including a sharp cut, to 25 per cent
- 7 of baseline, over ten years, mainly from the power and heating sectors,
- 8 followed by a more gradual reduction from those most sectors more
- 9 difficult to address.

- 10 Conference also recognises that the paper did not contain detailed
- 11 proposals for the use of carbon pricing to reduce emissions, and
- 12 accordingly endorses policy paper 139A, Tackling the Climate Emergency:
- 13 Proposals for Carbon Pricing, as a supplementary set of proposals to
- 14 accompany those in policy paper 139.

- 15 Conference believes that increasing the cost of using fossil fuels through
- 16 carbon taxes, emissions trading schemes or other pricing instruments
- 17 must play an important part in decarbonising the British economy as fast
- 18 as possible, but that there are dangers in applying too blunt an approach.

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- 19 Conference therefore endorses the following principles on which the
20 paper's proposals rest:
- 21 A. Carbon pricing policies which help deliver a just transition, which
22 shares the burdens of decarbonisation equitably.
 - 23 B. Carbon pricing policies to be used to target the biggest polluters and
24 those activities where emissions can most swiftly be reduced, in a
25 way that is fair to individuals and businesses.
 - 26 C. Support and incentives to be offered to smaller emitters, such as
27 households, to reduce emissions before applying carbon pricing to
28 their energy bills.
 - 29 D. Carbon pricing instruments to be combined with other approaches,
30 including regulation, information and subsidy, in order to lead to
31 better and faster outcomes than when used in isolation.
 - 32 E. The UK to collaborate closely with the EU, cooperating in carbon
33 pricing policies to maximise impact and minimise problems for
34 business trading across the border.
- 35 Conference welcomes the paper's detailed proposals to:
- 36 1. Accelerate the decarbonisation of power and industry (alongside our
37 existing proposals to support the development of renewable power
38 and zero-carbon industrial processes) by:
 - 39 a) Raising the price of allowances in the UK Emissions Trading
40 System (ETS) by reducing their number and increasing the
41 auction reserve price, thereby strengthening the incentives for
42 large emitters to cut emissions.
 - 43 b) Extending emissions trading to cover suppliers of fossil fuels
44 currently outside the ETS.
 - 45 c) Linking the UK ETS to the EU ETS, creating a larger market for
46 trading allowances and thereby improving its effectiveness.
 - 47 d) Introducing, in collaboration with the EU, a carbon border
48 adjustment mechanism for high-emission products such as

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- 49 metals or chemicals, protecting UK businesses from competition
50 from imports not facing similar costs.
- 51 e) Simplifying the existing system of energy taxes by abolishing the
52 Carbon Support Price and the Climate Change Levy, which will
53 be no longer needed once the UK ETS is more effective.
- 54 2. Accelerate the decarbonisation of housing (alongside our existing
55 proposals to provide free home insulation to low-income home-
56 owners, introduce a zero-carbon standard for new buildings and
57 require landlords to raise the energy rating of their properties) by:
- 58 a) Widening the list of energy and emissions-saving products
59 enjoying the 5 per cent rate of VAT, and extending this lower
60 rate to all household solar PV and battery systems.
- 61 b) Allowing owners to offset spending on insulation, low-carbon
62 heat sources, EV charging points and climate adaptation
63 measures against their income tax bills.
- 64 c) Graduating Stamp Duty Land Tax by the energy rating of the
65 property being sold, and offering refunds to house purchasers if
66 they improve the rating within one year of purchase.
- 67 d) Working with mortgage providers to encourage them to
68 support energy-saving and zero-carbon measures, including
69 requiring them to report their lending for climate-related home
70 investments, and requiring buyers and mortgage providers to be
71 made aware of the extent to which the property falls below the
72 target energy rating.
- 73 e) Protecting households from sudden price increases by delaying
74 by ten years the extension of emissions trading to suppliers of
75 fossil fuels to homes.
- 76 f) Keeping electricity bills stable by transferring some levy funding
77 for renewables from electricity to gas bills and to general
78 taxation.
- 79 3. Accelerate the decarbonisation of transport (alongside our existing

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- 80 proposals to end the sale of new fossil fuel cars and small vans by
81 2030, promote cycling and walking, and invest in public transport) by:
- 82 a) Reinstating the indexation of road fuel duty, graduating VED by
83 fuel efficiency and increasing rates for fossil fuel vehicles overall,
84 reducing company car tax for electric vehicles and increasing it
85 for fossil fuel vehicles.
- 86 b) Replacing the limited electric vehicle purchase grant with a 5 per
87 cent VAT rate (up to a ceiling), to be phased out as the market
88 expands, and introducing a zero-emission-vehicle mandate for
89 manufacturers.
- 90 c) Limit the growth in demand for flights by ensuring that no
91 net increase in airport runways across the UK takes place and
92 banning flights where direct rail transport is available for the
93 same journey, up to 2.5 hours, unless planes are alternative-
94 fuelled.
- 95 d) Limit demand for flying by reforming Air Passenger Duty to
96 target the most frequent flyers, and introducing VAT on first-
97 class and business travel.
- 98 e) Introducing a charge on airlines for each take-off, and on flights
99 by private jets.
- 100 f) Collaborating with the EU in extending the UK ETS to non-EEA
101 flights and in placing a specific excise tax on airline fuel.
- 102 g) Including shipping emissions in the UK ETS.
- 103 4. Put in place further measures to:
- 104 a) Prioritise climate change mitigation in agricultural support
105 systems, including measures to increase soil carbon, tree
106 planting and woodland creation.
- 107 b) Work with farmers and manufacturers to support the
108 development of zero-emissions technologies for agricultural
109 machinery, after which red diesel can be included in the UK ETS.
- 110 c) Require a full climate impact assessment of proposed UK free

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- 111 trade agreements to be made public before the agreements are
112 finalised.
- 113 d) Provide incentives for negative emissions strategies, including
114 technological and nature-based solutions.

Applicability: Federal; except 2. c) (lines 64–66) 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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Saturday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

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F12 Tackling the Climate Emergency: Proposals for Carbon Pricing

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Steve Mason.

Summation: to be announced.

1 After d) (line 114), add:

- 2 e) Boost confidence and stimulate private sector investment by
3 introducing a government-supported Green Finance Guarantee
4 Scheme to offer lenders the assurances they need to provide
5 meaningful funding for renewable energy generation, energy
6 efficiency and green infrastructure.

There will be a separate vote on 3 d) and e) (lines 95–99) of the motion.

Background briefing

This motion updates existing climate change policy, specifically introducing carbon pricing through measures such as emissions trading and a frequent flyer levy.

It builds on previous policy in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019), the policy motion Tackling the Climate Emergency (2019), and policy paper 109, Green Growth and Green Jobs (201).

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11.05 Speech

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F13 Daisy Cooper MP, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats

@libdemdaisy, #LDConf

11.25 Policy motion

Chair: John Bridges. Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F14 The Uyghur Genocide

Young Liberals

Mover: Peter Banks.

Summation: Adam Lawless.

- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 A. There have been eyewitness reports and footage of the widespread
3 human rights violations against Uyghurs by the People's Republic of
4 China in the province of Xinjiang.
 - 5 B. These violations include forced sterilisation, torture, restrictions on
6 childrens' names, destruction of religious sites, forced separation of
7 families, and detainment in re-education camps.
 - 8 C. The most recent figures from Adrian Zenz, senior fellow in China
9 studies at the Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation,
10 suggest that over 1.5 million Uyghurs have been forcibly detained in
11 internment camps, with a further half a million children indefinitely
12 separated from their parents in re-education 'schools'.
 - 13 D. Disturbing accounts of the aforementioned re-education camps

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- 14 have been released by the International Consortium of Investigative
15 Journalists in the China Cables.
- 16 E. The Sanctions and anti-Money Laundering Act 2018 includes gross
17 human rights violations as grounds for imposing sanctions on a
18 person or an entity.
- 19 F. In July 2020, the UK government introduced Magnitsky-style
20 sanctions under this legislation on specific nationals of Russia, Saudi
21 Arabia, and Myanmar as well as on two organisations involved with
22 North Korean gulags.
- 23 G. The Liberal Democrats have a proud history of supporting the rights
24 of oppressed minority groups around the world.

25 Conference notes with great concern the recent atrocities committed in
26 Xinjiang, namely:

- 27 a) The systemic use of forced sterilisation, forced abortion and
28 involuntary admission of intrauterine devices on Uyghur women
29 by the Chinese state in order to lower the birth rate in the Uyghur
30 population.
- 31 b) The harrowing testimonies of interned Uyghurs recently published in
32 a report by Amnesty International which documents that:
- 33 i) Detained Uyghurs are physically punished if they speak a
34 language other than Mandarin.
- 35 ii) Physical and non-physical torture is used against detained
36 Uyghurs.
- 37 iii) All detained Uyghurs are subject to non-stop surveillance,
38 depriving them of any privacy.
- 39 iv) Uyghurs outside of re-education camps are subject to intense
40 surveillance, with the use of facial recognition, the collection of
41 biometric data and invasive interviews by government officials.

42 Conference welcomes:

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- 43 I. The work of Alistair Carmichael MP, as Co-Chair of the All-Party
44 Parliamentary Group on Uyghurs, calling for:
- 45 A. Recognition of the actions taken against the Uyghurs as a
46 genocide.
- 47 B. Sanctions in response to the persecution of Uyghurs.
- 48 II. Votes taken in Parliament to declare that China is committing a
49 genocide against the Uyghurs.
- 50 III. Layla Moran MP, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs,
51 explicitly calling actions of the Chinese government in Xinjiang a
52 genocide.
- 53 Conference believes that:
- 54 i) The Chinese government's actions in Xinjiang constitute a genocide,
55 based on the description of genocide as laid out in Article 6 of the
56 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.
- 57 ii) The deliberate, systemic persecution of, and violence against, the
58 Uyghur population of China well surpasses the definition of gross
59 human rights violations and thus meets the standard for imposing
60 sanctions on persons or entities under the Sanctions and anti-Money
61 Laundering Act 2018.
- 62 iii) The UK Government has a moral duty to take actions to oppose
63 human rights abuses.
- 64 Conference therefore calls on both the UK Government and the Liberal
65 Democrat Parliamentary Party to be explicit in their condemnation of the
66 actions of the Chinese state as being that of a genocide.
- 67 Conference further calls on the UK Government to:
- 68 1. Introduce Magnitsky-style sanctions on persons and entities involved

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- 69 with the persecution of Uyghurs under the Sanctions and anti-Money
70 Laundering Act 2018.
- 71 2. Call upon the Chinese government to cease the systemic mass
72 incarceration of the Uyghurs.
- 73 3. Grant asylum to Uyghurs fleeing persecution.
- 74 4. Call for the reunification of all families where children have been
75 forcibly entered in re-education camps.
- 76 5. Boycott the 2022 Olympics in Beijing, unless and until the Chinese
77 government ceases its crimes against humanity in Xinjiang.

Applicability: Federal.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

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Background briefing

This motion creates new policy in response to the Chinese government's policies towards its Uyghur population.

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12.00 Policy motion

Chair: Jennie Rigg. Aides: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC) and Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC).

F15 Dignity, Care and Choice at the End of Life

11 members

Mover: Christine Jardine MP.

Summation: Liam McArthur MSP.

1 Conference believes that:

2 I. People with a terminal illness deserve to live and die with as much
3 dignity and control as possible.

4 II. It is vital that high-quality palliative care is available to anyone who
5 needs it.

6 III. Carers looking after a loved one who is terminally ill deserve more
7 support.

8 IV. It is wrong that the current law not only robs people who are
9 terminally ill of dignity and choice at the end of their lives, but also
10 criminalises family members who support their loved one's final
11 wish.

12 Conference notes that:

13 a) An estimated 300 terminally ill people in England end their lives each
14 year, and, in 2019, more than 50 people from the UK travelled to
15 Switzerland for an assisted death at an average cost of £10,000 each.

16 b) Laws have been passed to give terminally ill people the option of
17 assisted dying in many other parts of the world, including Canada,
18 New Zealand, ten US states and three Australian states.

19 c) Polling by Populus in 2019 found that 84% of people – including
20 85% of people with a disability – support changing the law to give

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21 terminally ill adults the option of assisted dying.
22 c) A British Medical Association survey in 2020 found that 50% of
23 doctors personally support changing the law on prescribing drugs for
24 eligible patients to self-administer to end their own life, while only
25 39% oppose it.

26 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitments to:

- 27 1. Champion the freedom, dignity and well-being of individuals, and
28 respect their right to freedom of conscience.
- 29 2. Provide more choice at the end of life, and move towards free end-
30 of-life social care, whether people spend their last days at home or in
31 a hospice.
- 32 3. Support unpaid carers, including by guaranteeing a right to respite
33 care, raising Carer's Allowance, and making it easier to juggle paid
34 work with caring responsibilities.

35 Conference further reaffirms its support for legislation providing
36 for medical assistance to die to be available to patients in particular
37 circumstances, subject to rigorous safeguards to prevent abuse.

38 Conference welcomes the Assisted Dying Bill introduced by Baroness
39 Meacher in the House of Lords, which would legalise assisted dying as
40 a choice for terminally ill, mentally competent adults in England and
41 Wales, as well as Liam McArthur's plans for a Members Bill in the Scottish
42 Parliament to do the same in Scotland.

43 Conference endorses the safeguards set out in the Assisted Dying Bill to:

- 44 A. Restrict it to terminally ill people who have six months or less to live
45 and have made and signed a declaration that they have a voluntary,
46 clear, settled and informed wish to end their life.
- 47 B. Require two independent doctors to confirm that the person is
48 terminally ill, has the capacity to make the decision, and has reached

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- 49 it voluntarily, on an informed basis and without coercion or duress.
- 50 C. Require an application to be made to and approved by the High
51 Court.
- 52 D. Include a mandatory waiting period to give the person time to reflect
53 on their decision.
- 54 E. Require the person to self-administer the medicine to end their life,
55 and prohibit anyone else from administering it to them.
- 56 F. Enshrine the right of anyone to refuse to participate in assisted dying
57 if they have a conscientious objection.
- 58 Conference calls on the Government to make time available in this
59 parliamentary session for both Houses to fully consider the Assisted Dying
60 Bill.
- 61 Conference further believes that Liberal Democrat parliamentarians
62 should have a free vote on the Bill.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

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Background briefing

This motion updates existing policy on assisted dying as set out in policy motion Medically Assisted Dying (September 2012).

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13.00 Auditorium break

Please see the Conference Directory for our fringe and exhibition programme.

14.15 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Joe Otten. Aides: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC) and Chris Adams.

F16 Protecting Patients' Health Data – Creating a Health Data Charter and Sovereign Health Data Trust

15 members

Mover: Lord Clement-Jones (Lords Spokesperson for Digital).

Summation: Baroness Brinton (Lords Spokesperson for Health, Wellbeing and Care).

- 1 Conference believes that:
 - 2 I. Data collection and sharing are important and have been
 - 3 instrumental in advancing medical capabilities and improving
 - 4 population health.
 - 5 II. Individuals have the right to understand how and why their health
 - 6 data is being used.
 - 7 III. Understanding and transparency is key to public trust and
 - 8 confidence in data sharing initiatives.
 - 9 IV. The wealth of data held by the NHS should be used for the benefit of
 - 10 the health service and improving people's health only.
 - 11 V. Health data should never be shared for marketing or insurance
 - 12 purposes.
- 13 Conference calls for the creation of a Health Data Charter that will:
 - 14 i) Set out the fundamental principles and responsibilities for assessing

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- 15 whether a data sharing partnership is in the interest of the public
16 and the NHS.
- 17 ii) Aim to ensure trust in the Government's handling of health data, by
18 laying out stringent principles that will help protect people's privacy
19 and their data from exploitation.
- 20 iii) Lay out ways to retain and protect the value of the nation's health
21 data.
- 22 Conference further calls for the creation of a Sovereign Health Data Trust
23 that will:
- 24 a) Comprise a diverse, independent and balanced board of experts,
25 clinicians and patient representatives and will be responsible for
26 overseeing the implementation and observance of the Charter.
- 27 b) Have continuous oversight of all health data and will not only have
28 the power to grant access but also the power to recall or restrict an
29 organisation's access if it has reason to believe that the data is not
30 being used for public or patient benefit.
- 31 Conference endorses the Liberal Democrats' proposed Health Data
32 Charter as follows:
- 33 1. Access to health data must be for public and patient benefit – this
34 benefit will be defined by the Sovereign Health Data Trust with input
35 from external experts and the public; the Trust will also determine
36 whether an organisation can access the data for such purposes and
37 can rescind access at any time.
- 38 2. No data shall be shared with an organisation without complete
39 transparency – all health data contracts entered into by a public
40 body must be published publicly and in a timely manner, as
41 should detailed minutes for all meetings, including meetings of the
42 Sovereign Health Data Trust; details of the organisation requesting
43 use of the data should also be published, such as its sources of
44 funding, ownership and intentions.

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- 45 3. All health data collection and sharing initiatives must be preceded
46 by public consultation, involvement and awareness – public trust is
47 key to any sharing of health data; this trust must be built through
48 awareness and consultation with the public, ensuring a solid
49 understanding of the benefits of sharing health data with external
50 organisations and bodies.
- 51 4. The value of all health data must be retained by the NHS – people’s
52 health data belongs to them and any value derived from it should be
53 for everyone’s benefit; when data is used to develop new medicines
54 or treatments, by research organisations or commercial enterprises,
55 a share of the income generated should be invested back into the
56 healthcare system and the NHS.
- 57 5. All health data must be held anonymously and accessed through a
58 Trusted Research Environment – this Environment will be overseen
59 by the Trust and will ensure that no data is handed over to an
60 organisation indefinitely and therefore outside the governance of the
61 Trust; it will also mean that personal data can be retrieved should a
62 person wish to opt out at any time, and access granted to an external
63 organisation withdrawn, should it be found they are not using the
64 data as agreed.

Applicability: England only.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker’s card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Saturday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.00 Friday 17 September; see page 9.

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F16

F16 Protecting Patients' Health Data – Creating a Health Data Charter and Sovereign Health Trust

Amendment One

Lib Dems in Europe

Mover: Hannah Bettsworth.

Summation: Rob Harrison.

- 1 After b) (line 30), insert:
 - 2 c) Be designed in such a way as to render it interoperable with
 - 3 the European Health Data Space in technical and in semantic
 - 4 terms, including through the promotion of Findable, Accessible,
 - 5 Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR) data principles within the NHS.

6 After 5. (line 64), add:

- 7 6. Consent processes must include plain language terms, and formats
- 8 accessible to disabled people and people with low literacy.

Background briefing

This motion creates new policy in regard to personal health data.

Saturday 18 September

F17

14.50 Party business

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Bex Scott and Chris Adams.

F17 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties

Movers: Wendy Chamberlain MP (Chief Whip of the Commons Parliamentary Party) and Lord Newby (Leader of the Liberal Democrats in the House of Lords).

The deadline for questions to these reports is 13.00 on 6 September. Questions selected will be published in the Conference Extra and Saturday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda. These questions will be guaranteed an answer, either in the session or in writing thereafter.

Questions may also be submitted online until 17.00 on Friday 17 September, or through the chat function in Hopin during the session, but they will only be called if time allows and at the discretion of the Chair.

See page 12 for further information.

Saturday 18 September

F17

F17 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties

Q1. Submitted by Adam Robertson

The lack of help for individuals who suffer from Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) to get a diagnosis then proper treatment is woefully inadequate, if not non-existent. Can the Parliamentary Party raise this in Parliament, because this needs to be fixed urgently before more people die from ARFID?

Saturday 18 September

F18

15.20 Question & answer session

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC). Aide: Jennie Rigg.

F18 Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats

Members may put questions on any topic to the Leader of the Liberal Democrats. Concise questions (maximum 25 words) may be submitted via the website until 17.00 on Friday 17 September or using the conference chat whilst the session is in progress. See Page 11.

16.15 Auditorium break

Please see the Conference Directory for our fringe and exhibition programme.

18.45 Speech

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F19 Cllr Joe Harris, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group at the Local Government Association and Leader of Cotswold District Council

@joeharrisark, #LDConf

19.05 Policy motion

Chair: Duncan Brack. Aides: Cllr Joe Otten and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F20 Building Communities

44 members

Mover: Tom Morrison.

Summation: Fraser Coppin.

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- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 i) House prices in the UK continue to rise relative to average incomes.
 - 3 ii) Rent or mortgage payments are the largest living cost that most
 - 4 households in the UK face.
 - 5 iii) 788,000 households in England were living in overcrowded
 - 6 conditions from 2016–2019.
 - 7 iv) 17% of households in England live in a home that lacks modern
 - 8 facilities, has no effective insulation or heating, or is in a state of
 - 9 disrepair.
 - 10 v) Only 14% of UK towns are currently considered affordable for key
 - 11 workers such as nurses, doctors and teachers.
 - 12 vi) Polling undertaken by Shelter revealed that 48% of people were
 - 13 supportive of more housing being built in their local areas, with 30%
 - 14 opposed.

- 15 Conference believes that:
 - 16 A. The UK is currently experiencing a housing crisis, and this crisis
 - 17 is impacting people's freedom to start a family, live a healthy and
 - 18 dignified life when they get old, and is having an adverse effect on
 - 19 social mobility.
 - 20 B. The proposed Conservative planning reforms run roughshod over
 - 21 local communities and are not the right solution to the housing crisis.
 - 22 C. There is a desperate need for an alternative, liberal approach to
 - 23 providing more housing.
 - 24 D. Everybody deserves the right to a secure roof over their head that
 - 25 they can afford, therefore tackling this issue is a moral imperative.
 - 26 E. The key to solving the housing crisis is providing more affordable
 - 27 good quality housing.
 - 28 F. The most effective way to achieve house building is with the consent
 - 29 and active involvement of our local communities.
 - 30 G. New homes should be well designed, of good quality and contribute
 - 31 to a sense of pride in the local area.

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- 32 H. Providing homes for the next generation is essential in order to
33 create sustainable communities, with thriving shops, schools and
34 public services.
- 35 Conference calls for:
- 36 1. The Liberal Democrats to advocate for more house building UK wide
37 by:
- 38 a) Committing to a national target of 380,000 new homes per year.
39 b) Ensuring that at least 150,000 of these homes are available for
40 social rent.
- 41 2. Local authorities to take the lead on house building by:
- 42 a) Reforming the 1961 Land Compensation Act to give local
43 authorities the power to acquire land at its 'current use value', in
44 order to be used to meet the community's need for housing.
45 b) Identifying areas for development in consultation with the local
46 community, then acquiring this land and planning all necessary
47 infrastructure including roads, utilities and green spaces.
48 c) Only once all the infrastructure is planned, to allow developers
49 or housing associations to bid for plots and to start building.
- 50 3. More land to be freed up for housing by:
- 51 a) Reaffirming our party's commitment to a Land Value Tax
52 collected by local authorities as a replacement for Business
53 Rates, to disincentivize land banking by developers.
54 b) Introducing a condition that any plots sold as set out above in
55 2 c) must be built upon on schedule, and if the developers fail
56 to do this after a certain amount of time, then they will become
57 open to bids from other developers who can start building
58 immediately.

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- 59 4. New house building to be combined with our desire to tackle the
60 climate emergency by:
- 61 a) A net-zero whole-life carbon condition to be imposed on all new
62 development.
- 63 b) Requiring all new developments to be insulated to modern safe
64 and efficient standards.
- 65 c) Encouraging development plans to include green space within
66 walking distance, as well as solar panels and electric car charging
67 points where possible.
- 68 d) Reaffirming our party's commitment to establish a Green
69 Investment Bank, in order to retrofit millions of existing homes.

Applicability: England only; except 1. (lines 36–40), which is Federal (except that Scottish and Welsh Liberal Democrats set their own specific targets for housebuilding).

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Saturday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.00 Friday 17 September; see page 9.

Close of session: 20.00.

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F20 Building Communities

Summation: Laura Gordon.

Amendment One

10 members and ALDC

Mover: Sarah Olney MP.

Summation: Cllr Pippa Heylings.

1 After vi) (line 14), insert:

2 vii) Following the introduction of restrictions on local authorities that
3 prevented the building of social housing, since the 1980s there has
4 been a severe shortfall in the provision of new social housing.

5 viii) Years of altering national and local planning policy and imposing
6 national, regional and local housing targets have failed to address
7 the under provision of social housing.

8 Delete 1. a) (line 38) and insert:

9 a) Ending the top-down centralised system for determining
10 housing need and replacing with local or regional based
11 assessments based on objective criteria and in line with local
12 authorities' Local and Neighbourhood plans.

13 Delete 1. b) (lines 39–40) and insert:

14 b) Increasing state funding for social housing for rent, aiming to
15 increase the number of social homes to 40% of new homes built.

16 c) Giving local authorities greater powers over the 'right to buy',
17 including the right to suspend it in their area.

18 d) Increasing state funding for apprenticeships in the house

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19 building sector, to ensure a suitable workforce is available to the
20 house building industry.

21 In 2. a) (line 43) delete 'land' and insert 'landbanked land from housing
22 developers'.

23 After 2. a) (line 44) insert:

24 b) Increasing local authority compulsory purchase powers.

25 After 3. a) (line 53) insert:

26 b) Introducing penalties for developers who fail to develop land
27 that has been given full planning permission.

28 In 4. b) (line 64) after 'standards', insert 'with adequate ventilation and
29 shade to prevent urban heat stress in heatwaves'.

The amendment will be voted on in two parts: lines 1–20 and lines 21–29.

Background briefing

This motion updates existing housing and planning policy as set out in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019), policy paper 136, A Fairer Share for All (2019), policy paper 129, A Rural Future: Time to Act (2018), and policy paper 130, Power for People and Communities (2018).

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F21

09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Bex Scott and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F21 A Framework for England in a Federal UK

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Cllr Prue Bray.

Summation: Lord Shipley (Chair of the Policy Working Group).

1 Conference believes that:

2 1. The UK's constitution is no longer fit for purpose, failing to deliver
3 appropriate representation, disempowering communities and risking
4 the break-up of the UK.

5 2. Too much power and control over people's lives is hoarded in
6 Westminster and Whitehall, especially in England, with regions
7 and communities excluded from decision making over their areas,
8 leading to a dangerous sense of powerlessness and alienation from
9 government.

10 3. Power and decision making should be dispersed as widely as
11 possible across the UK, which is best delivered through a federal
12 system of government.

13 4. In England, many of the decisions about areas which are currently
14 taken in London should be taken instead at the regional level, which
15 should become powerful centres of decision-making in their own
16 right, empowering and engaging communities, improving the quality
17 and efficiency of public services, leading to a sustainable levelling-up
18 of the UK, and strengthening the union.

19 Conference calls for:

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- 20 i) The creation of a UK Constitutional Convention, with the aim of
21 drafting a new Federal Constitution that sets out the powers of the
22 government at each tier, founded on the principles of democratic
23 engagement, liberal values and respect for diverse identities,
24 underpinned by a fair distribution of resources based on respective
25 needs.
- 26 ii) English Ministries and ministerial functions to be separate from
27 those of the United Kingdom Federal Government.
- 28 iii) The Convention to establish an inclusive approach for determining
29 the structure of government in England, including a regional tier of
30 government and special protections for rural communities where
31 necessary.
- 32 iv) A new Declaration of Rights, which will ensure human rights are
33 integrated fully into the new system of government and respected at
34 all levels.
- 35 v) The replacement of the House of Lords with an elected Senate of the
36 federal UK Parliament which will represent the federal states of the
37 UK.
- 38 vi) A target of at least 50% of public spending to be controlled by state,
39 regional and local government, in line with other successful federal
40 states. Achieving this will be a prerequisite for successfully and
41 sustainably levelling up the UK.

42 Conference further calls for:

- 43 I. A federal system in which the UK government primarily has
44 responsibility over matters affecting the whole of the United
45 Kingdom, including;
- 46 a) International Aid.
47 b) Defence and security.
48 c) Transnational and cross-boundary crime.
49 d) Foreign policy.
50 e) Monetary policy.

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- 51 f) Overall fiscal policy.
- 52 g) International trade.
- 53 h) Employment and the United Kingdom internal market, working
54 in partnership with the nations and regions.
- 55 i) Immigration.
- 56 j) Strategic transport.
- 57 k) Strategic environmental and decarbonisation policy.
- 58 l) Ensuring financial resources are shared fairly across the UK.
- 59 m) Pensions and core social security benefits.
- 60 II. A tier of directly elected regional government throughout England
61 which will have responsibility for:
- 62 a) Regional economic development.
- 63 b) NHS and social care services.
- 64 c) Policing.
- 65 d) Strategic housing and planning policy.
- 66 e) Regional transport.
- 67 f) Education, including skills.
- 68 g) Agriculture and rural affairs.
- 69 h) Local environmental and decarbonisation policy.
- 70 III. A smaller range of functions to be exercised at the all-England level,
71 including the legal system and universities.
- 72 IV. A process based on natural communities and local consent for
73 determining the boundaries of regions.
- 74 V. The interest of rural communities within England to be given
75 enhanced protection both within the federal constitution and in the
76 processes and practices of English regions.
- 77 VI. The powers and standing of local government to be enhanced and
78 strengthened in the new federal constitutional settlement.

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79 VII. EITHER:

80 A. England to be a single federal state, with a constitutional
81 standing equivalent to that of Scotland, Wales and Northern
82 Ireland, but the powers outlined above exercised at regional
83 level.

84 OR:

85 B. Individual regions within England to be federal states, with a
86 constitutional standing equivalent to that of Scotland, Wales
87 and Northern Ireland, with England remaining as a single legal
88 jurisdiction and some common functions being managed at an
89 all-England level.

90 VIII. AND EITHER:

91 1. An English National Chamber with representatives appointed by
92 the English Regions.

93 OR:

94 2. A directly elected English Assembly/Parliament.

95 OR:

96 3. The UK Parliament holding responsibility for England-wide
97 matters, but in a way that does not conflate the governance of
98 England with the governance of the United Kingdom.

Applicability: Federal; except II. to VIII. (lines 60–98), which are England only.

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

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For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18 September; see page 9.

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F21 A Framework for England in a Federal UK

This motion contains options.

On the two options in VII., there will be a simple vote between option A. (lines 80–83) and option B. (lines 85–89).

On the three options in VIII., there will be two votes. First, a vote between option 1. (lines 90–91) and option 2. (line 94); then a vote between the winner of the first vote and option 3. (lines 96–98).

Background briefing

This motion updates existing constitutional and devolution policy.

This builds on existing policy as set out in the policy motion The Creation of a Federal United Kingdom (September 2020), the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019), policy paper 130, Power for People and Communities (2018), and policy paper 117, Power to the People (2014).

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10.10 Policy motion

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: John Bridges and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair FCC).

F22 What Liberal Democrats Believe (Principles and Values Policy Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Dr Alyssa Gilbert.

Summation: Dr Christine Cheng.

- 1 Conference endorses policy paper 142, What Liberal Democrats Believe,
- 2 as a concise expression of the Liberal Democrats' principles and values –
- 3 its philosophy – which underpin the party's specific policy proposals.

- 4 Conference recognises the party's core values as:
 - 5 1. Liberty: the right of individuals to make their own decisions about
 - 6 how they live their lives, as long as they do not cause harm to others;
 - 7 our aim is to empower and support individuals to pursue their
 - 8 dreams, to make the most of their talents and to live their lives as
 - 9 they wish.
 - 10 2. Equality, without which true liberty cannot be realised, both in terms
 - 11 of access to education and other public services, and a welfare safety
 - 12 net, and in terms of equality before the law and opposition to all
 - 13 forms of discrimination on the basis of personal characteristic or
 - 14 beliefs.
 - 15 3. Democracy, through which every citizen is empowered to make their
 - 16 voice heard, without being dominated by entrenched interests or the
 - 17 power of money; checks and balances, so that those in power cannot
 - 18 abuse their positions for personal gain or political advantage; and
 - 19 a plurality of views, where no individual or organisation is deterred
 - 20 from speaking truth to power.
 - 21 4. Community: support for a diverse range of organisations that
 - 22 enable individuals to join together in the pursuit of common goals or

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- 23 activities; and the decentralisation of political and economic power
24 to local government and the nations and regions of the UK.
- 25 5. Internationalism: support for a fairer and more equal, tolerant
26 and connected world and collaboration with the UK's neighbours –
27 including, ultimately, rejoining the EU – in guaranteeing peace and
28 security, tackling the climate and nature emergencies, standing up to
29 corporate power and spreading prosperity around the world.
- 30 6. Environmentalism: acting at home and internationally to promote
31 environmentally sustainable means of production and consumption
32 and living in harmony with nature.
- 33 Conference, recognising that no single document can capture the rich
34 diversity of the Liberal Democrat philosophy, encourages party members
35 to discuss and debate this paper and to produce their own statements of
36 philosophy and to disseminate them within the party.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18 September; see page 9.

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F22 *What Liberal Democrats Believe* (Principles and Values Policy Paper)

Amendment One

Copeland and Workington

Mover: Katharine Pindar.

Summation: Michael Berwick-Gooding.

1 Delete 2. (lines 10–14) and insert:

2 2. Equality, without which true liberty cannot be realised, which
3 requires an active state to: ensure that no one is held back by
4 poverty, poor health, or discrimination, including on the basis of
5 personal characteristics or beliefs; provide access to education or
6 training, and other public services, including a welfare safety net; and
7 guarantee that everyone enjoys equality before the law.

8 After 4. (line 24) insert:

9 5. Human rights: providing, defending and promoting equal legal rights
10 for everyone to pursue their lives according to their abilities, wishes
11 and means, with no discrimination on the basis of religion or belief,
12 gender, sexuality, age, ethnicity, disability, or minority status in their
13 country of birth or permanent residency.

The two parts of this amendment will be voted on separately.

Background briefing

This motion updates and restates existing policy with regard to what the Liberal Democrats believe.

This updates the party's principles and values as set out in policy paper 50, *It's About Freedom* (2002).

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10.55 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC). Aides: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F23 Party Strategy: Our Road to Success

Federal Board

Mover: Daisy Cooper MP (Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats).

Summation: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Board).

- 1 Conference condemns the failure of the Conservative government
- 2 in Westminster which, through incompetence and indifference, has
- 3 caused the death of tens of thousands of COVID victims unnecessarily,
- 4 deliberately sought to create deep divisions in society on issues of culture,
- 5 emboldened those who seek to break up the United Kingdom, pursued
- 6 a deliberate approach of bypassing Parliament on key decisions, and
- 7 further damaged the integrity of our democracy by facilitating cronyism
- 8 and evading accountability.

- 9 Conference abhors the rise of nationalism, whether British, English,
- 10 Scottish or Welsh.

- 11 Conference re-affirms that the Liberal Democrats' purpose is to ensure
- 12 every individual has control of their own lives, and for society to enable
- 13 them in that aim, balancing liberty, equality and community, and ensuring
- 14 no-one is enslaved by poverty, ignorance or conformity.

- 15 To achieve this, Conference re-asserts the central importance of having
- 16 a clear strategy for success in the term of this Parliament, and then
- 17 following it, as required by the party's constitution, and as further
- 18 reinforced by the Thornhill Review of the 2019 General Election campaign.

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19 Conference therefore agrees the following federal strategy for the Liberal
20 Democrats:

21 1. Our aims are to:

- 22 a) Secure the election of as many Liberal Democrats as possible, to
23 promote and deliver our vision of society.
- 24 b) Support the party organisations in Scotland, Wales and England
25 in maximising their success in their parliamentary, regional and
26 local elections.
- 27 c) Secure the election of as many MPs as possible to Parliament in
28 Westminster.
- 29 d) Remove from power a Conservative government that is failing
30 the country.

31 2. We will achieve these aims most effectively by:

- 32 a) Developing a compelling and distinctive political narrative
33 about the power of a vote for the Liberal Democrats, with wide
34 emotional as well as rational appeal to the electorate as a whole.
- 35 b) Maintaining a rigorous focus on a set of realistic objectives for
36 winning seats, and the specific campaigning building blocks
37 needed to do so.
- 38 c) Demonstrating electoral success at all levels and in all parts of
39 the country.

40 3. Our top priorities to help us fight and win elections will be:

- 41 a) Continuing to research, develop and communicate a compelling
42 liberal narrative with emotional appeal, which engages the
43 electorate most effectively with our vision for a country which is
44 fairer, greener and more caring.
- 45 b) Optimising our support for campaigning excellence, through:

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- 46 i) Investing in information technology and data.
- 47 ii) Further developing an outstanding network of campaigns
- 48 staff and campaigners right across the Party.
- 49 iii) Building capacity in local parties and elsewhere.
- 50 iv) Providing an extensive range of training, tools and materials.
- 51 v) Ensuring elections at all levels reinforce one another as
- 52 effectively as possible.
- 53 vi) Becoming more evidence-led, by testing what works.
- 54 4. Taking our efforts to promote diversity to a higher level, so that:
- 55 a) We reflect all parts of society, at all levels and in all parts of our
- 56 party.
- 57 b) Our efforts actively to encourage participation from under-
- 58 represented groups break through to a higher level.
- 59 c) All members and voters feel they have the opportunity to play a
- 60 full role in the party.
- 61 5. Ensuring our members and registered supporters have an excellent
- 62 experience of the party, including opportunities to:
- 63 a) Develop and promote their own personal political priorities,
- 64 locally and nationally, stand for election both to public bodies,
- 65 and for roles within the party.
- 66 b) Use and develop their skills.
- 67 c) Work with others who share their interests, in party bodies and
- 68 other groupings.
- 69 d) Gain satisfaction from achieving their political aims, and from
- 70 working with others who share the same objectives.
- 71 6. Further developing our 'one party' approach and culture through
- 72 which all members, staff, bodies and organisations which are part
- 73 of the Liberal Democrat family respect each other, and focus their
- 74 efforts on working together to achieve our shared objectives of
- 75 political success.

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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 9. To submit a speaker's card, go to www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

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The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18 September; see page 9.

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F23 Party Strategy: Our Road to Success

Amendment One

Liberal Democrat Campaign for Racial Equality

Mover: Rod Lynch.

Summation: Dr Mohsin Khan.

- 1 In 4. (line 54) after 'level', insert 'by implementing the Thornhill and
- 2 Alderdice recommendations'.

- 3 *In 4. b) (line 58) after 'level', insert 'by making race and ethnic minorities*
- 4 *top priority, putting resources into a national campaign to encourage and*
- 5 *assist local parties to:*
- 6 i) reach out to local ethnic minority communities;
- 7 ii) include these communities in canvassing targets during elections;
- 8 iii) establish their key concerns and campaign on them; and
- 9 iv) recruit ethnic minority members;
- 10 thereby gaining ethnic minority support, members and votes and making
- 11 our party better reflect the diversity of the society we wish to represent."

Amendment Two

Parliamentary Candidates Association

Mover: Josh Babarinde.

Summation: Toni Brodelle.

- 1 After 3. b) vi) (line 53), insert:

- 2 vii) Recognising the central importance of the quality and
- 3 commitment of our candidates to our chances of electoral
- 4 success and the need for a structured and holistic programme
- 5 to identify, train, mentor and support them to lead winning
- 6 teams and win political office.

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Amendment Three

10 members

Mover: Simon McGrath.

Summation: Callum Robertson.

1 After 2. c) (line 39), insert:

- 2 c) Standing a candidate at every seat in England, Scotland and
3 Wales at the next General Election, with any decision not to
4 stand having to be ratified by local members, subject to any
5 rules applied by State Parties. This will not apply to the seat of
the Speaker.

Amendment Four

10 members

Mover: Oliver Jones-Lyons.

Summation: Cllr Pippa Heylings.

1 After 1. d) (line 30), insert:

- 2 e) Deliver a strategy for success which is in keeping with core party
3 values, such as environmentalism and equality.

4 After 6. (line 75), add:

- 5 7. Expedite progress on measuring, reducing and offsetting carbon
6 emissions that arise from party operations towards the aim of
7 eventually operating at net zero emissions.

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Background briefing

This motion updates existing party strategy policy.

This builds on existing policy as set out in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019) and policy motion Ambitious for our Country, Ambitious for our Party: Liberal Democrat Party Strategy (March 2019).

Sunday 19 September

F24

12.00 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Cllr Joe Otten and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F24 A Fairer, Greener, More Caring Society (Themes Policy Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee).

Summation: Cllr Lucy Nethsingha (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee).

- 1 Conference notes that Britain is renowned for its:
 - 2 I. Commitment to fairness, a system in which people who work hard
 - 3 can succeed, and where everyone is free to live their lives in the way
 - 4 they choose.
 - 5 II. Caring and mutually supportive society, manifested in institutions
 - 6 such as the NHS.
 - 7 III. Democratic traditions and institutions and deep-seated respect for
 - 8 the rule of law.
 - 9 IV. Educational tradition, creativity and innovation, including in green
 - 10 technologies and medicine.
 - 11 V. Open, trading, entrepreneurial culture and commitment to a fair
 - 12 international system and contributing to key international institutions.
- 13 Conference condemns the Conservative UK government's betrayal of the
- 14 people of Britain, their needs and wishes by their:
 - 15 A. Incompetent handling of the pandemic, which has seen one of the
 - 16 highest rates of Covid infection, serious illness and death of any
 - 17 country in the world.
 - 18 B. Encouragement of a divided and profoundly unfair society, in which
 - 19 one set of rules applies to an extremely wealthy and privileged

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- 20 few with close connections to the government, while NHS and care
21 workers are paid too little.
- 22 C. Lack of urgency and ambition in tackling the climate and nature
23 emergency.
- 24 D. Institutionalisation within government of lying and corruption,
25 willingness to break international law, including treaties they
26 themselves negotiated and signed recently, and historic rupture with
27 Britain's successful trading economy past, leaving the world's largest
28 and most successful free-trade area.
- 29 E. Mishandling of the United Kingdom as a whole, with the place of
30 Scotland and Northern Ireland in the UK now in question.
- 31 Conference therefore welcomes policy paper 143, A Fairer, Greener, More
32 Caring Society, as a statement of Liberal Democrat policy priorities to make
33 Britain:
- 34 1. A fair society in which all contribute their fair share, and every person
35 can have a decent income and a secure home, and can rely on good
36 public services, by:
- 37 a) Creating a properly funded commitment to free childcare from 9
38 months until the day a child starts school.
- 39 b) Making the £1000 pa uplift to Universal Credit permanent and
40 scrapping the sanctions system.
- 41 c) Introducing a 20% higher minimum wage for people on zero-
42 hour contracts, and a clearer 'dependent contractor' status with
43 basic protections, between employment and self-employment.
- 44 2. A caring society in which everyone's health and care needs are met
45 and we give carers the support they deserve, by:
- 46 a) Raising Carer's Allowance by £1,000 a year and funding regular
47 breaks for every unpaid carer.
- 48 b) Building a broad and cross-party agreement on a long term,

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- 49 sustainable system of social care that is at least as generous as
50 that proposed by the Dilnot report.
- 51 c) Raising £7 billion a year in additional revenue by putting 1p on
52 Income Tax, ringfenced for spending on the NHS (focusing on
53 mental health services) and social care.
- 54 3. A leader in the fight against the climate and nature emergencies, by:
- 55 a) Delivering a green recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic,
56 spending £150 billion to kick-start programmes to retrofit all UK
57 homes, generate 75% of electricity from renewables by 2030,
58 and decarbonise transport.
- 59 b) Protecting the natural environment, including supporting
60 nature-friendly farming, ensuring that UK environmental and
61 animal welfare standards are maintained, and setting legally
62 binding targets for improving the quality of water, air, and soil
63 and biodiversity.
- 64 c) Increasing the availability of housing and supporting sustainable
65 communities, including opposing the Government's planning
66 reforms and backing councils to build 300,000 new homes a
67 year, including 100,000 for social rent.
- 68 4. A beacon for individual rights, diversity and inclusion, by:
- 69 a) Ending violence by men against women and girls, including by
70 making misogyny a hate crime, giving police, prosecutors and
71 judges better training and more resources, and improving age-
72 appropriate sex and relationship education in schools.
- 73 b) Combating racial injustice, including by abolishing the
74 Conservatives' Hostile Environment, ending the disproportionate
75 use of Stop and Search, and implementing a new Race Equality
76 Strategy.
- 77 c) Opposing the Conservatives' dangerous and draconian
78 crackdown on protests, and defending the Human Rights Act,

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- 79 the European Convention on Human Rights and judicial review
80 from Tory attacks.
- 81 5. A modern, open, democratic state in which people can have real
82 control over decisions which affect them and confidence in the
83 integrity of politicians and institutions, by:
- 84 a) Making every vote count through reforming the electoral system
85 to make it more proportional, using the single transferable vote,
86 for all public elections in the UK; and through votes at 16.
- 87 b) Giving power back to the people by strengthening local
88 government in England.
- 89 c) Making the Ministerial Code legally enforceable.
- 90 6. The best place in the world to start and to grow a business, by:
- 91 i. Quadrupling the Employment Allowance, massively reducing
92 small businesses' national insurance contributions bills, and
93 giving small businesses relief on their rent arrears.
- 94 ii. Creating an Entrepreneur's Allowance to help people start new
95 businesses.
- 96 7. A model of a truly world class education and skills system, by:
- 97 a) Extending eligibility for Free School Meals to every primary
98 school student and child living in poverty, providing food
99 vouchers during school holidays and tackling the 'digital divide'
100 by making household internet more affordable.
- 101 b) Giving every adult the chance to access education and training
102 opportunities throughout life by introducing Skills Wallets.
- 103 c) Delivering an ambitious, long-term plan to support young
104 people's educational and emotional recovery from the
105 pandemic.

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- 106 8. A strong and responsible international partner for peace, democracy
107 and prosperity, by:
- 108 a) Reversing cuts to development aid and ensuring the UK keeps
109 its word by protecting existing aid projects.
- 110 b) Creating the closest possible alignment between the UK and
111 the EU, including rejoining the Customs Union, Single Market
112 and other EU agencies and programmes as appropriate, and
113 supporting a longer-term objective of UK membership of the EU.

Applicability: Federal; except 1. a) (lines 37–38), 2. b)–c) (lines 48–53), 3. c) (lines 64–67), 4. a) (lines 69–72), 5. b) (lines 87–88) and 7. (lines 96–105), which are 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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18 September; see page 9.

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F24 *A Fairer, Greener, More Caring Society (Themes Policy Paper)*

The FCC has agreed the following drafting amendment to the motion as a consequence of the votes on F20:

- 1 In 3. b): in line 66, delete '300,000' and insert '380,000'; and in line 67,
- 2 delete '100,000' and insert '150,000'.

Amendment One

Basingstoke & Deane

Mover: to be announced.

Summation: to be announced.

- 1 Delete 1. b) (lines 39–40) and insert:
 - 2 b) Making the £1000 pa uplift to Universal Credit permanent and
 - 3 extend it to all legacy benefits.
 - 4 c) Scrapping the sanctions system.
- 5 In 3. a) (line 58), delete 'and', and after 'transport' insert ', and introduce
- 6 a green jobs guarantee, offering a well-paying green job to anyone who
- 7 wants one'.
- 8 In 7. d) (line 102) after 'Skills Wallets' insert 'and providing training courses
- 9 free to those not in work via a training guarantee scheme'.

The three parts of this amendment will be voted on separately.

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Amendment Two

10 members

Mover: Natasha Chapman.

Summation: James Baillie.

1 After 1. c) (line 53), insert:

- 2 d) Introducing an equitably funded Universal Basic Income that
3 will make household finances more resilient and help empower
4 people to make their own choices about work and training.

Amendment Three

10 members

Mover: Natasha Chapman.

Summation: James Baillie.

1 After 4. c) (line 80) insert:

- 2 d) Strengthening LGBT+ rights at home and abroad, including
3 by banning conversion therapy, strengthening trans rights
4 and healthcare services, improving inclusive education on
5 LGBT+ issues in schools, and ending the current regime of
6 dehumanising processes and deportations to instead provide
7 support and welcome for LGBT+ people from around the world
8 who seek sanctuary in the UK.

Background briefing

This motion restates existing policy, acting as a mid-term manifesto.

This builds on existing policy as set out in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019).

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13.00 Auditorium break

Please see the [Conference Directory](#) for our fringe and exhibition programme.

14.15 Party Business

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: John Bridges and Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC).

F25 Federal Board Report: questions and accountability

Mover: Dr Mark Pack (President of the Liberal Democrats).

The Federal Board report is the chance for party members to hear how the party is being run and what is being done to implement the election review, and to put questions direct to the Party President.

The Board report is in the Reports to Conference booklet and includes a report to conference on the complaints process rules.

Please note that the Reports to Conference have been updated since initial publication. The changes are to the Racial Diversity Campaign's report only. The revised Reports document can be found on the Party website at www.libdems.org.uk/a21-reports

The deadline for questions to F25 is 13.00 on 6 September. Questions selected will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda. These questions will be guaranteed an answer, either in the session or in writing thereafter.

Questions may also be submitted online until 17.00 on Saturday 18 September, or through the chat function in Hopin during the session, but they will only be called if time allows and at the discretion of the Chair.

See page 9 for further information.

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F25 Federal Board Report: questions and accountability

Please note that the reports to Conference have been updated since initial publication. The changes are to the Racial Diversity Campaign's report only. The revised reports document can be found on the Party website at www.libdems.org.uk/a21-reports

Q1. Submitted by Prue Bray

I like the disciplinary proposals, but the system still does not deal satisfactorily with complaints about councillors. Will you discuss this with local government representatives?

Q2. Submitted by Cllr Alan Connett

Why does the disciplinary system allow complaints about London Assembly members to be referred initially to their group but not allow the same for councillors?

Q3. Submitted by Cllr Joe Harris

How will you deal with the bad feeling about the disciplinary system because of its failure to understand or value council groups or council issues?

Q4. Adam Robertson

How is the Federal Party engaging with SocialMediaCheck.com regarding the issue of GDPR and Security regarding Social Media Checks on Prospective Parliamentary Candidates?

Q5. Submitted by Adam Robertson

How do the Federal Board intend on tackling the lack of Disabled Candidates, especially at Parliamentary Level, when Scope are saying that 20% of the population is considered Disabled, and only 0.5% of MPs consider themselves as Disabled?

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Q6. Submitted by Cllr Oliver Jones-Lyons

Given the advent of the Maraphone, would the Federal Board consider a whole party effort to complete a membership census to improve member engagement?

Q7. Submitted by Cllr Oliver Jones-Lyons

What progress, if any, has been made towards decarbonising party operations?

Q8. Submitted by David Grace

The President agreed my question at last conference but the party website remains unfit for members' use. There is no search facility and it is difficult to navigate. Will anything be done?

Q9. Submitted by Suzanne Fletcher

When press releases are launched, can they be put onto the party website at same time so it is possible for links to them be used on social media?

Q10. Submitted by Suzanne Fletcher

Will those developing the website ask for views on how it works from party members who haven't been part of its development before launching?

Q11. Submitted by Suzanne Fletcher

When will work on the party website be completed so that both public and party members can find up-to-date information that they need, with ease?

Q12. Submitted by Suzanne Fletcher

When consultation was undertaken for the Thornhill Review some made detailed submissions on phone banking. What is the latest progress on this and is there feedback?

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There will be a vote to delete the words 'continuing the steering group pilot in the meantime' from the Federal Board Report at the foot of page 20 of the Reports Document.

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14.30 Party Business

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: John Bridges and Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC).

F26 Membership Subscription and Federal Levy

Federal Board

Mover: Anthony Harris (Chair, Federal Finance and Resources Committee).

Summation: Neil Fawcett.

- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 1. The existing standard minimum membership rate of £12 has
 - 3 remained constant since 2010.
 - 4 2. Had the standard minimum membership rate tracked the Consumer
 - 5 Price Index since 2010, instead of remaining static, it would now be
 - 6 in excess of £15.
 - 7 3. The COVID pandemic has placed severe financial pressures on those
 - 8 on the lowest levels of income.
 - 9 4. It is important to reward the loyalty of existing members so as to
 - 10 encourage membership retention.
- 11 Conference agrees to the following for 2022:
 - 12 A. For existing members, to freeze the current membership rate of £12
 - 13 (standard minimum).
 - 14 B. For new members, to increase the standard minimum membership
 - 15 rate to £15 (new standard minimum).
 - 16 C. To freeze the £6 minimum for those in receipt of or entitled to
 - 17 state benefits, and the £6 minimum for members paying via Young
 - 18 Liberals.
 - 19 D. To introduce an annual grant of £5,000 for Young Liberals for use
 - 20 in improving the access to politics for young people. Funded by, an

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- 21 increase of the special introductory rate for new members, paying
22 via Young Liberals in their first year of membership, to £3.
23 E. To freeze the membership rate of £72 (recommended).
24 F. That nothing in this motion shall prevent a State Party from setting
25 via their internal procedures higher recommended or minimum
26 subscription rates or from introducing additional concessionary
27 rates.
28 G. That the Federal Levy remains at 55 per cent.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18 September; see page 9.

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F26 Membership Subscription and Federal Levy

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Joe Toovey.

Summation: Oliver Craven.

- 1 In B. (lines14–15), delete ‘to increase the standard minimum membership
- 2 rate to £15 (new standard minimum)’ and insert ‘to freeze the current
- 3 membership rate of £12 (standard minimum)’.

- 4 Delete E. (line 23) and insert:

- 5 E. For existing members, to freeze the membership rate of £72
- 6 (recommended).
- 7 F. For new members, to increase the membership rate to £80
- 8 (recommended).

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14.50 Party Business

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: John Bridges and Chris Adams (Vice Chair, FCC).

F27 Federal Appeals Panel Report: questions and accountability

Mover: David Graham (Chair of the Federal Appeals Panel).

The Federal Appeals Panel report is the chance for party members to hear about the work of the Panel and to put questions direct to the Chair.

The deadline for questions to F27 is 13.00 on 6 September. Questions selected will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda. These questions will be guaranteed an answer, either in the session or in writing thereafter.

Questions may also be submitted online until 17.00 on Saturday 18 September, or through the chat function in Hopin during the session, but they will only be called if time allows and at the discretion of the Chair. See page 9 for further information.

Please note that this session will include a vote on the Federal Appeals Panel's proposed updated procedures, per Article 22.6 of the Federal Constitution. The proposed procedures are available in the Federal Appeals Panel report to Conference on the Party website at www.libdems.org.uk/a21-reports

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15.05 Speech

Chair: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F28 Speech by The Leader of the Liberal Democrats, the Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey MP

@EdwardJDavey, #LDConf

16.15 Auditorium break

Please see the Conference Directory for our fringe and exhibition programme.

18.45 Party business

Chair: Chris Maines. Aides: Duncan Brack and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F29 Party Bodies Reform: constitutional amendment

Federal Board

Mover: Flo Clucas.

Summation: Lee Dargue.

- 1 Conference notes that:
 - 2 i. Following the Party Bodies Review Group report into the Specified
 - 3 Associated Organisations (SAOs) and Associated Organisations (AOs),
 - 4 and how both bodies interact and work together with the wider
 - 5 Party, a consultation process has taken place to determine what
 - 6 changes ought to be made.
 - 7 ii. That consultation has arrived at a set of constitutional
 - 8 recommendations to replace SAOs and AOs with a new category of
 - 9 'Affiliated Organisations'.

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- 10 iii. The Federal Party should support any SAO/AO that wishes to become
11 an 'Affiliated Organisation' and ought to make all best efforts to
12 ensure a successful transition.

13 Conference resolves to amend the Constitution as follows:

- 14 A. Remove the current Article 21 and insert a new Article 21:

15 Article 21: Affiliated Organisations

16 21.1 Any organisation of persons having a common interest which
17 satisfies the following criteria:

18 (a) It has a membership policy which conforms to the principles
19 in Article 3.1 of the Federal Constitution;

20 (b) Its objects are consistent with the fundamental values and
21 objectives of the Party;

22 (c) Its internal procedures conform with the democratic
23 principles in Article 4.6 (c), (d) and (e); and

24 (d) Its internal procedures conform to any rules created under
25 Article 9.6 (b);

26 may apply to the Federal Board or a State Party by the
27 internal procedures of that State Party to become an Affiliated
28 Organisation. The Federal Board, or relevant State Party, may
29 confer such status by their procedures. A list of Affiliated
30 Organisations currently recognised by the Federal Party will be
31 maintained by the Federal People and Development Committee
32 and published on the party's website. State Parties may make
33 similar arrangements.

34 21.2 The Federal Board shall from time to time review the operation
35 of Affiliated Organisations in the light of the principles and
36 practices established by and pursuant to this Constitution and
37 shall report to the Conference on such reviews.

38 21.3 Affiliated Organisations shall have the rights granted to them
39 under the Constitution, and relevant rules made thereunder,

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40 of the body responsible for the granting of their Affiliated
41 Organisation status. The rights of an Affiliated Organisation
42 under this, or relevant State Party's, Constitution may be
43 suspended by the Federal Board, or relevant State Party, in
44 accordance with internal procedures, if:

- 45 (a) It is not compliant with any statutory or regulatory provisions
46 that are relevant to the party's activities, including the
47 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act and the
48 relevant data protection legislation;
- 49 (b) It is not compliant with this, or its own, Constitution or the
50 rules made thereunder; or
- 51 (c) if events have taken place or are about to take place
52 which are or may be seriously detrimental to the Affiliated
53 Organisation or to the Party as a whole.

54 21.4 Before suspending the rights of an Affiliated Organisation,
55 the Federal Board, or relevant State Party, shall draw the
56 attention of the Affiliated Organisation to the grounds on which
57 it is proposed to take this action, and shall give the Affiliated
58 Organisation a reasonable time to answer any allegations and/or
59 take any necessary corrective action. An Affiliated Organisation
60 which is suspended under Article 21.3 may appeal from that
61 decision as provided by Article 22 or, if an Affiliated Organisation
62 of a State Party, via that State Party's appeals procedures.

63 21.5 The suspension of an Affiliated Organisation may be lifted if the
64 Federal Board, or relevant State Party, is satisfied that corrective
65 action has been taken. During the period of its suspension the
66 powers and functions of the Affiliated Organisation and its
67 organs shall be exercised subject to and in accordance with the
68 directions of the Federal Board, or relevant State Party.

69 21.6 An Affiliated Organisation will have its status as an Affiliated
70 Organisation revoked if one of the following sets of conditions
71 are met:

- 72 i. Removal

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- 73 (a) The Federal Board, or the relevant State Party, has
74 suspended the Affiliated Organisation; and
75 (b) The Federal Board's intended removal of Affiliated
76 Organisation status has been reported in the Federal
77 Board's written report to Conference under Article 8.7
78 or the State Party's intention has been reported to its
79 members by their own procedures;

80 or

81 ii. Resignation

- 82 (a) The Affiliated Organisation, through its own procedures
83 and notifying the Federal Board, or relevant State Party,
84 has resigned its Affiliated status.

85 21.7 For the purposes of exercising the rights conferred on Affiliated
86 Organisations by this Constitution and rules made under it:

- 87 (a) The Affiliated Organisation representing youth and students
88 shall have the same rights as a Local Party;
89 (b) ALDC shall have the same rights as an Affiliated
90 Organisation; and
91 (c) An organisation listed in the Annexe to this Constitution shall
92 until 31st December 2022 continue to exercise the rights it
93 previously enjoyed as a Specified Associated Organisation
94 or an Associated Organisation, and be subject to the duties
95 and obligations including but not limited to suspension and
96 removal, as applied on August 1st 2021. This article shall
97 not apply to any organisation that becomes an Affiliated
98 Organisation.

99 21.8 The recognition by the Party of Affiliated Organisations shall not
100 prejudice the independence of such organisations.

101 B. Delete the Annexe and insert a new Annexe:

102 1. Specified Associated Organisations

103 Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors and Campaigners (ALDC)

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- 104 Association of Liberal Democrat Engineers and Scientists (ALDES)
105 Liberal Democrat Campaign for Race Equality (LDCRE)
106 LGBT+ Liberal Democrats
107 Liberal Democrat Lawyers' Association (LDLA)
108 Liberal Democrat Women
109 Young Liberals
110 Parliamentary Candidates' Association (PCA)
111 Liberal Democrat Christian Forum (LDCF)
- 112 2. Associated Organisations
- 113 Association of Liberal Democrat Trades Unionists
114 Chinese Liberal Democrats
115 Green Liberal Democrats
116 Humanist & Secularist Liberal Democrats
117 Liberal Democrat Action for Land Taxation & Economic Reform
118 Liberal Democrat Campaign for Racial Equality
119 Liberal Democrat Disability Association
120 Liberal Democrat Education Association
121 Liberal Democrat European Group
122 Liberal Democrat Friends of Israel
123 Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine
124 Liberal Democrats for Electoral Reform
125 Liberal Democrats for Seekers of Sanctuary
126 Liberal International British Group
- 127 Consequently, conference resolves to further amend the Constitution as
128 follows:
- 129 a. In Article 3.2 (b), delete 'a Specified Associated Organisation' and insert
130 'an Affiliated Organisation'.
131 b. In Article 3.2 (d), delete 'Specified Associated Organisation or
132 Associated Organisation' and insert 'Affiliated Organisation'.
133 c. In Article 5.2, delete 'Specified Associated Organisations' and insert
134 'Affiliated Organisations'.

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- 135 d. In Article 7.5 (a), delete 'Associated Organisations, Specified Associated
136 Organisations' and insert 'Affiliated Organisations'.
- 137 e. In Article 7.5 (b), delete 'Associated Organisations' and insert 'Affiliated
138 Organisations'.
- 139 f. In Article 7.6, delete 'Specified Associated Organisations' and insert
140 'Affiliated Organisations'.
- 140 g. In Article 9.2 (i) (g), delete 'Specified Associated Organisation' and insert
141 'Affiliated Organisation'.
- 142 h. In Article 9.2 (ii) (e), delete 'ALDC' and insert 'the Association of Liberal
143 Democrat Councillors (ALDC)'.
- 144 i. In Article 9.6 (b), delete 'Associated Organisation and Specified
145 Associated Organisation' and insert 'Affiliated Organisation'.
- 146 j. In Article 12.5, delete 'SAOs' and insert 'As appropriate, Affiliated
147 Organisations'.
- 148 k. In Article 13.2 (i) (f), delete 'SAO representing councillors' and insert
149 'Affiliated Organisation representing Councillors'.
- 150 l. In Article 14.2 (d), delete 'AOs and SAOs as set out in Article 21' and
151 insert 'Affiliated Organisations'.
- 152 m. In Article 14.3 (c), delete 'AOs and SAOs as set out in Article 21 and
153 the Annexe to this Constitution' and insert 'Affiliated Organisations'
154 and delete 'SAO which represents youth and/or students' and insert
155 'Affiliated Organisation which represents youth and/or students'.
- 156 n. In Article 15.2 (d), delete 'SAO' and insert 'Affiliated Organisation'.
- 157 o. In Article 18.2 (f), delete 'Specified Associated Organisation or
158 Organisations' and insert 'Affiliated Organisation or Organisations'.
- 159 p. In Article 18.5, delete 'Specified Associated' and insert 'Affiliated'.
- 160 q. In Article 20.1, delete 'Specified Associated Organisations' and insert
161 'Affiliated Organisation or Organisations'.
- 162 r. In Article 22.3 (b), delete 'AO or SAO' and insert 'Affiliated Organisation'.

The current Federal Party Constitution can be found on the party website at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution

Applicability: Federal.

See notes at the end of F34 on page 104.

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F29 Party Bodies Reform: constitutional amendment

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 In B. 1. (line 105), delete 'Race' and insert 'Racial'.
- 2 In B. 2., delete line 118.

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F30 Party Bodies Reform: standing order amendment

Federal Board

Mover: Flo Clucas.

Summation: Lee Dargue.

1 Conference notes that, subject to the acceptance of the Party Bodies
2 Reform constitutional amendment (F29), the conference standing orders
3 will require updating in order to properly take account of the new status
4 of Affiliated Organisation.

5 Conference resolves to amend the conference standing orders as follows:

- 6 1. In standing order 1.3 (b) delete 'Specified Associated Organisations'
7 and insert 'Affiliated Organisations'.
- 8 2. In standing order 1.3 (d) delete 'Specified Associated Organisations'
9 and insert 'Affiliated Organisations'.

The text of the current standing orders is printed at page 139 of this Conference Agenda document.

Applicability: Federal.

See notes at the end of F34 on page 104.

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F31 Party Bodies Reform: rules made under Article 9.6 of the Federal Constitution

Federal Board

Mover: Flo Clucas.

Summation: Lee Dargue.

1 Conference notes that, subject to the acceptance of the Party Bodies
2 Reform constitutional amendment (F29), rules will need to be made under
3 Article 9.6 of the Federal Constitution in order to properly take account of
4 the new status of Affiliated Organisation.

5 Conference resolves to adopt new rules as follows:

6 A. Each application for Affiliated Organisation status must:

- 7 1. Fulfil the conditions of the Party Constitution in Article 21.1 and
8 those defined for local parties in Article 4.6 (C), (D) and (E);
- 9 2. Have a membership of not less than 30 members of the Liberal
10 Democrats from no fewer than two local parties;
- 11 3. Have a membership policy which:
 - 12 a. Unless specifically agreed by the Federal Board ("the Board"),
13 is organised such that only party members and party
14 members of sister parties [1] may:
 - 15 i. hold the role of officer, including Chair, Secretary,
16 Treasurer and Membership Officer;
 - 17 ii. sit on Federal Party Committees;
 - 18 iii. access party data;
 - 19 iv. receive financial information, or sensitive political
20 information; or
 - 21 v. vote within the Affiliated Organisation.
 - 22 b. Has, if the Affiliated Organisation chooses to admit
23 non-party members, a specified separate status for
24 those members which makes them subject to the Party

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- 25 Disciplinary Process 2 and eligible to be removed as a
26 member of the Affiliated Organisation by that process. Non-
27 party members of Affiliated Organisations shall otherwise
28 be treated as if they were registered supporters of the party;
29 and
- 30 c. Requires all Affiliated Organisation members to act in
31 accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct.
- 32 [1 Sister parties for this purpose shall be defined as the members of
33 ALDE (Alliance of Liberal and Democrats for Europe) and / or the Renew
34 Europe Group and / or the members and associate organisations of
35 Liberal International. The Federal Board reserves the right to exclude
36 parties from this definition if it concludes doing so is in the interests of
37 protecting the party's reputation.]
- 38 [2 Refusal to take part in the process will be deemed sufficient basis for
39 someone being removed as a member of an Affiliated Organisation.
40 An Affiliated Organisation which does not suspend such a member, or
41 refuses to comply with the requirements of the Complaints Process, will
42 itself be subject to suspension or removal.]
- 43 4. Be able to demonstrate a commitment to equality of
44 opportunity, including relevant party standards or codes,
45 including the Members' Code of Conduct and any recommended
46 membership standards approved by the Federal People and
47 Development Committee (FPDC);
- 48 5. Maintain full and accurate records of its transactions, including
49 financial reports. Have in place the appropriate administrative
50 procedures and records to ensure compliance with the
51 provisions of any relevant party finance and data protection
52 legislation and take all steps necessary to become/be a
53 compliant accounting unit of the party. The Federal Party and
54 State Parties reserve the right to deny access to services in cases
55 of non-compliance and to impose the financial escalation policy
56 as if the Affiliated Organisation were a local party;
- 57 6. Provide annual reports on their activities to the Board, or
58 relevant State Party, and comply with any reasonable requests

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- 59 for further reporting;
- 60 7. Agree to be subject to the standard review procedure in
- 61 Appendix II and the procedure for investigating Affiliated
- 62 Organisation behaviour as set out in Appendix III; and
- 63 8. Provide an explanation that satisfies the FPDC, or relevant State
- 64 Party, as to why becoming an Affiliated Organisation, with all the
- 65 attending regulatory and administrative burden, is in the best
- 66 interests of the applicant and the party. This requirement shall
- 67 not apply to the Young Liberals or the ALDC.
- 68 B. In addition to the rights conferred by the Federal Constitution, an
- 69 approved Affiliated Organisation will be entitled to:
- 70 1. Nominate a representative, who must be a party member, to
- 71 policy working groups in circumstances where the remit of
- 72 such a working group enters into the areas of interest of the
- 73 organisation, subject to the final decision on composition of
- 74 working groups remaining a matter for the FPC;
- 75 2. A page on the Federal Party's website and/or a link to its own
- 76 website (the precise format to be determined by the Chief
- 77 Executive in consultation with appropriate staff). The Chief
- 78 Executive must be satisfied that the content is in keeping with
- 79 the party's aims and objectives, is factually accurate and does
- 80 not defame or libel any individuals or organisations;
- 81 3. Inclusion in any "new members pack" (the precise format to
- 82 be determined by the Chief Executive in consultation with
- 83 appropriate staff and with the organisation concerned);
- 84 4. The ability to use the party's logo, subject to regulations, in its
- 85 materials; and
- 86 5. Be invited to take part in the Party Body Forum meeting and
- 87 associated activities.
- 88 C. Process of Application to become a Federal Affiliated Organisation
- 89 1. Applications for Affiliated Organisation status at Federal level
- 90 must be made in writing to the Federal Chief Executive [3].

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- 91 Applications to State Parties shall be made using their own
92 procedures. Applications will be expected to include the
93 following documentation:
- 94 a. A copy of the organisation's constitution [4];
 - 95 b. Evidence that it meets the relevant membership
96 requirement set out in A and, including a membership list [5];
 - 97 c. Written information detailing the applicant organisation's
98 current capabilities in relation to A 5; and
 - 99 d. A formal request to HQ for the required assistance to help
100 the applicant become fully compliant with A 4 and A 5 and
101 for further instruction as to how, in practice, to comply with
102 A 6, A 7 and A 8.
- 103 [3 Or, to the Federal Chief Executive via the Clerk to the Board.]
104 [4 A model constitution shall be published and from time to time
105 updated by the FPDC, or relevant State Party per their internal
106 procedures.]
107 [5 Groups of members are at liberty to form and create their own
108 membership lists before becoming Affiliated Organisations, but
109 will not have the rights, privileges or responsibilities of an Affiliated
110 Organisation until they complete this process.]
- 111 2. If the Chief Executive, personally or via a delegated body, is
112 satisfied with an application made per C 1, they shall direct
113 Federal staff to work with the applicant to support it in meeting
114 the requirements under A.
 - 115 3. Subject to the Chief Executive being satisfied that the application
116 is in order and on the advice of expert staff with respect to all
117 requirements being met or being on course to be met, they
118 shall ensure that the application is placed on an agenda for
119 consideration by the FPDC at the earliest practical opportunity.
 - 120 4. Once an application is provisionally accepted by the FPDC it
121 shall gain the status of Candidate Affiliate (see Appendix I –
122 Candidate Affiliates). If a Candidate Affiliate is an existing SAO
123 or AO, it shall at this stage automatically become an Affiliated
124 Organisation as long as it is able to meet the criteria set out in

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- 125 section A. Otherwise it shall automatically become an Affiliated
126 Organisation as soon it does meet the criteria set out in section
127 A.
- 128 5. The FPDC shall report, via the Board, on Candidate Affiliates
129 in its report to the next following conference per Article 8.7 of
130 the Federal Constitution. The report shall include the following
131 details for each Candidate Affiliates:
- 132 a. The name of the Candidate Affiliate;
- 133 b. A single point of contact for those interested in learning
134 more;
- 135 c. A one-page summary, written by the Candidate Affiliate with
136 wording approved by FPDC, setting out the reason for the
137 Candidate Affiliate becoming an Affiliated Organisation.
- 138 6. Subject to the approval of conference, the Board shall confirm
139 whether it wishes to grant the Candidate Affiliate (see Appendix
140 I) the status of Affiliated Organisation at its next suitable
141 meeting. The Board may decide to postpone this decision
142 if the Candidate Affiliate is still in the process of making
143 itself compliant with its legal, regulatory, and constitutional
144 obligations.

145 Appendix I – Candidate Affiliates

116 Candidate Affiliates are organisations wishing to become Affiliated
117 Organisations of the Liberal Democrats who have been considered and
118 provisionally approved by the Board or relevant State Party.

119 Candidate Affiliate status ensures the party has sufficient time to engage
120 with members, such as via conference, before confirming an applicant as
121 an Affiliated Organisation. It also provides time for the applicant to ensure
122 that any work required to become fully compliant with A 1–8 is completed
123 before transition.

124 Candidate Affiliate status does not apply to any existing SAOs or AOs who
125 fulfil the conditions set out in section A.

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126 Appendix II – Review procedure

127 In addition to the annual reports of their activity, Affiliated Organisations
128 will be required, at least once every five years, to take part in a formal
129 review.

130 In conducting the review, the Board will establish a working group who
131 will:

- 132 1. Request a written report from the current Executives of the Affiliated
133 Organisations, proving continued compliance with the base
134 requirements for being an Affiliated Organisation set out in section
135 A;
- 136 2. Request an additional report from current Executives of Affiliated
137 Organisations which shall include any feedback those Executives
138 wish to provide the Board for the purposes of reviewing the current
139 Affiliated Organisation arrangements.
- 140 3. Request a report from the Federal Staff responsible for regulatory
141 and financial compliance summarising issues experienced by the
142 Affiliated Organisations since the last review;
- 143 4. Interview Affiliated Organisation Chairs and other members of
144 Affiliated Organisations as the working group deems appropriate,
145 and meet with the Party Bodies Forum.

146 The working group shall allow Affiliated Organisations at least six weeks to
147 respond to the review. The working group shall report back to the Board
148 on its findings and make recommendations as to how improvements
149 might be made, to the benefit of Affiliated Organisations and the Party.
150 This report shall be publicised to the party membership.

151 Any Affiliated Organisation which does not take part in this review
152 process will be considered to have resigned per Article 21.6 of the Federal
153 Constitution.

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154 Appendix III - Investigation procedure

155 When an investigation may be launched

156 The Board, or relevant State Party Executive, may resolve to investigate
157 an Affiliated Organisation if a voting majority believe there is reasonable
158 grounds to believe the Affiliated Organisation:

- 159 a. Is not or has not been compliant with any statutory or regulatory
160 provisions that are relevant to the party's activities, including the
161 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act and the relevant
162 data protection legislation;
- 163 b. Is not or has not been compliant with this, or its own, Constitution or
164 the rules made thereunder; or
- 165 c. Is or is about to be responsible for events which are or may be
166 seriously detrimental to the Affiliated Organisation or to the Party as
167 a whole.

168 Non-compliance or obstruction with an investigation will be deemed to
169 be a resignation of Affiliate Organisations status. The Board, and State
170 Parties, reserve the right to launch an investigation without suspending
171 the Affiliated Organisation.

172 Wherever possible, the Board or State Parties will aim to resolve any
173 matter which may lead to, or require, an investigation informally before
174 launching an investigation.

175 Anyone wishing to bring grounds for an investigation to the attention of
176 the Board, or relevant State Party, should contact the Party Standards
177 team (standards@libdems.org.uk) or relevant state standards team.
178 Specific complaints against a member of the Party shall be addressed via
179 Article 23 of the Federal Constitution.

180 Conduct of an investigation

181 Once the Board, or State Party, has resolved to conduct an investigation it
182 shall appoint an investigator.

183 The investigator must not be a member of the Affiliated Organisation

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- 184 under investigation and will, unless it is not practical, generally be a
185 member of the Board, or State Party Executive. The investigator:
- 186 a. Must not vote in any decision-making process resulting from their
187 investigation;
 - 188 b. Must be granted access to see any documents they request from the
189 Affiliated Organisation;
 - 190 c. Must give the Affiliated Organisation an opportunity to mount a
191 defence to any allegations that are made against it – except where
192 doing so runs counter to the Party safeguarding policy or the
193 principles of confidentiality laid out in the Party's disciplinary system.
- 194 The Board, or State Party, will agree, in writing, a remit for the investigator
195 on appointment. This remit need not be made available to the Affiliated
196 Organisation, unless the Affiliated Organisation has been suspended.
197 The remit shall include a timescale for the investigation but this may be
198 extended. The investigator shall address all the points set in the remit but
199 is not precluded from addressing additional points should they arise.

200 Interviews

201 In conducting any interviews, the investigator will take notes and give
202 the interviewee the opportunity to agree the accuracy of those notes.
203 Where there are points of disagreement, these should be supplied with
204 the report, but the investigator should not change their notes unless they
205 believe them to be inaccurate. All interviewees should be treated fairly
206 and be given the opportunity to put the points they wish to make.

207 Report

208 The investigator shall deliver a report to the Board, or State Party, setting
209 out what they have found, a response to each point in their remit and a
210 recommendation for further action. The further action could be, but is not
211 limited to:

- 212 a. Proposing no further action;
- 213 b. Requesting the Board, or State Party, work with the Affiliated
214 Organisation to improve its workings;

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- 215 c. Suspension until corrective action is completed by the Affiliated
216 Organisation;
217 d. Removal of Affiliated Organisation status; or
218 e. Referral of the Affiliated Organisation, or specific members of the
219 Affiliated Organisation, to the Complaints Process, or if they are not
220 members of the party, to the FPDC.

221 On receipt of the report, the Board, or State Party, shall determine what
222 action to take. It is not obliged to accept the recommendations and can
223 take other actions.

224 There is no obligation to make the full report available to the Affiliated
225 Organisation. Content which might later form part of a disciplinary
226 complaint, or any personal information not already in the public domain
227 shall be kept confidential.

228 The Affiliated Organisation Executive shall, subject to the caveats above,
229 receive notice of the recommendations in the report, the basis for those
230 recommendations and, if the Affiliated Organisation specific direction
231 of what action to take as necessary. The Affiliated Organisation may be
232 required to report, at the Board or State Party's discretion, on progress
233 on directed actions and, if the reporting or reported progress is deemed
234 unsatisfactory, the Affiliated Organisation may face further sanctions.

235 Nothing in this process shall conflict with Article 21 of the Federal
236 Constitution. Where criminal behaviour is suspected it must be reported
237 to the police.

238 Appeals

239 An Affiliated Organisation which is suspended under Article 21.1 of the
240 Federal Constitution or has its status as an Affiliated Organisation revoked
241 under Article 21.6 may appeal from that decision as provided by Article
242 22 or, if an Affiliated Organisation of a State Party, via that State Party's
243 appeals procedures.

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- 244 Postscript
- 245 Affiliated Organisations are reminded that suspension of Affiliated
246 Organisation status refers to the removal of their rights, privileges
247 and responsibilities as affiliates of the Liberal Democrats. Affiliated
248 Organisations wishing to continue their work, separately to the party, may
249 do so as non-affiliated groups.

The current Federal Party Constitution and regulations are available on the Party website at: www.libdems.org.uk/constitution

Applicability: Federal.

See notes at the end of F34 on page 104.

F32 Party Bodies Reform: Leadership Election Regulations

Federal Board

Mover: Flo Clucas.

Summation: Lee Dargue.

- 1 Conference notes that, subject to the acceptance of the Party Bodies
2 Reform constitutional amendment (F29), the Leadership Election
3 Regulations will require updating in order to properly take account of the
4 new status of Affiliated Organisation.
- 5 Conference resolves to amend the Leadership Election Regulations as
6 follows:
- 7 1. In Regulation 6 (a) delete 'Specified Associated Organisations' and
8 insert 'Affiliated Organisation or Organisations'.
9 2. In Regulation 7 delete 'SAOs, AOs' and insert 'Affiliated
10 Organisations'.

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The current regulations can be found on the Party website at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution

Applicability: Federal.

See notes at the end of F34 on page 104.

F33 Party Bodies Reform: Presidential Election Regulations

Federal Board

Mover: Flo Clucas.

Summation: Lee Dargue.

- 1 Conference notes that subject to the acceptance of the Party Bodies
- 2 Reform constitutional amendment (F29), the Presidential Election
- 3 Regulations will require updating in order to properly take account of the
- 4 new status of Affiliated Organisation.

- 5 Conference resolves to amend the Presidential Election Regulations as
- 6 follows:
 - 7 1. In Regulation 6 (a) delete 'Specified Associated Organisations' and
 - 8 insert 'Affiliated Organisation or Organisations' .
 - 9 2. In Regulation 7 delete 'SAOs, AOs' and insert 'Affiliated
 - 10 Organisations'.

The current regulations can be found on the Party website at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution

Applicability: Federal.

See notes at the end of F34 on page 104.

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F34

F34 Party Bodies Reform: Committee Election Regulations

Federal Board

Mover: Flo Clucas.

Summation: Lee Dargue.

- 1 Conference notes that, subject to the acceptance of the Party Bodies
- 2 Review constitutional amendment, the Committee Election Regulations
- 3 will require updating in order to properly take account of the new status
- 4 of Affiliated Organisation.

- 5 Conference resolves to amend the Committee Election Regulations as
- 6 follows:
 - 7 1. In Regulation 3 (d) delete 'Specified Associated Organisations' and
 - 8 insert 'Affiliated Organisations'.

The current regulations can be found on the Party website at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution

Applicability: Federal.

See notes below.

Notes applicable to F29 to F34:

All of items F29 to F34 will be moved and debated together, and there will be a series of votes on all of them at the end of the debate.

Constitutional amendments and standing order amendments require a two-thirds majority to pass.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

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F29 and F30 are a constitutional amendment and a standing order amendment respectively. They are therefore open to amendment and separate vote.

The deadline for amendments to the motions – see page 12 – is 13.00 on 6 September. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday's Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 19 September; see page 9.

F31 to F34 are regulations made by the Federal Board under Article 9.6 of the Federal Constitution and are therefore subject to ratification by conference but cannot be amended.

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F35

19.20 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Joe Otten. Aides: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC) and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F35 International Trade and the DIT

14 members

Mover: Sarah Olney MP (Spokesperson for Business and Trade).

Summation: Dr Phil Bennion.

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 a) The UK has completed 23 EU replacement 'rollover' trade
3 negotiations since leaving the EU, with a further 13 with temporary
4 arrangements, and with three still under negotiation, many details of
5 which remain unpublished in full.
- 6 b) The UK has currently negotiated only one new trade agreement
7 which is not a replacement EU agreement, with Australia, and is
8 also reportedly attempting to negotiate similar 'new' deals with New
9 Zealand, USA, GCC, Canada and India.

10 Conference believes that:

- 11 i) The British Government's desperate need to hurriedly 'chalk up'
12 trade deals, has led to a weak negotiating effort, in part facilitated
13 by unsuitable constitutional limitations on Parliament's ability to
14 withhold consent from disadvantageous treaty terms, which thus
15 largely eliminate the UK trade negotiators' fear of treaties being
16 voted down in Parliament if terms are disadvantageous.
- 17 ii) The government is giving away sensible human rights and anti-
18 conflict conditions in trade agreements and apparently happy to
19 lower public standards dangerously for imports, without achieving
20 significant concessions in return.

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21 iii) The current exodus of international expertise and assets from the UK
22 and the City of London represents a further neglect of the economy,
23 with lost tax receipts and reductions of domestic income.

24 Conference expresses grave concerns at:

- 25 a) The apparent willingness of the UK government to permit private
26 corporations to sue for any losses incurred as a result of UK policy
27 changes, in trade agreements, via investor-state dispute settlement
28 (ISDS) systems.
- 29 b) Reports that major concessions are being agreed or offered by the
30 UK government via side agreements which are not made public in a
31 timely way.

32 Conference calls for:

- 33 1. Extension of full parliamentary sovereignty to trade agreements,
34 such that the old so-called Ponsonby Rule on scrutiny and the later
35 CraG process in both Houses, end in a parliamentary vote, without
36 which any trade agreement cannot receive Royal Assent.
- 37 2. Full and timely transparency in both interim and final trade deals
38 which have been agreed, including timely publication of any side
39 agreements or significant MoUs, so that there can be proper
40 parliamentary scrutiny.
- 41 3. Transparent public consultation on proposed trade deals,
42 throughout the process, including with representatives of small and
43 medium-sized businesses, and including reports to Parliament at
44 each stage.
- 45 4. A set of minimum standards for benchmarking future trade
46 agreements; to include human rights, conflict and oppression,
47 environmental, labour and safety standards, where they can be
48 negotiated, based on a UK Trade and Human Rights Policy, and a
49 Trade and Development Policy; as a UK successor to the Cotonou
50 agreement.

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- 51 5. A multilateral judicial process instead of ISDS, where precedent
52 and case law transparently play a central part, and where disputes
53 are resolved openly in a proper manner; rather than via the
54 government's preferred secretive 'smoke filled room' approach.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18 September; see page 9.

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F35

F35 International Trade and DIT

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Tim Farron MP (Spokesperson for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs).

Summation: to be announced.

1 After b) (line 31), insert:

2 c) That the Conservative government has failed to guarantee British
3 standards on animal welfare and environmental protection in trade
4 deals, placing British farmers at risk.

5 In 4. (line 47) after 'environmental,', insert 'animal welfare,'.

6 After 5. (line 54), add:

7 6. The strengthening of the role of the Trade and Agriculture
8 Commission, to allow it to review the impact of international trade
9 deals before Parliament approves it.

Background briefing

This motion updates existing trade and European policy.

This builds on existing policy as set out in the policy motion The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement and the Future of the UK-EU Relationship (March 2021) and the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019).

20.00 Close of session

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F36

10.00 Party business

Chair: Duncan Brack. Aides: Jennie Rigg and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F36 Campaign for Gender Balance Report: questions and accountability

Mover: Cllr Julia Cambridge (Vice Chair, Campaign for Gender Balance).

The deadline for questions to F36 is 13.00 on 6 September. Questions selected will be published in the Conference Extra and Monday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda. These questions will be guaranteed an answer, either in the session or in writing thereafter.

Questions may also be submitted online until 17.00 on Friday 19 September, or through the chat function in Hopin during the session, but they will only be called if time allows and at the discretion of the Chair.

See page 12 for further information.

Monday 20 September

F37

10.10 Emergency motion or topical issues

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Bex Scott and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F37 Emergency Motions or Topical Issue Discussions

This slot has been reserved for the debate of emergency motions and / or discussion of topical issues.

The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00 on 6 September. See pages 12 and 13.

The motions selected for debate or the motions proposed for the ballot will be published in the Conference Extra and Saturday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

Monday 20 September

F37A

F37A Emergency motion: Solving the Supply Chain Crisis

10 members

Mover: Sarah Olney MP (Spokesperson for Business and Trade).

Summation: Tim Farron MP (Spokesperson for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs).

1 Conference notes with concern:

- 2 i) The empty shelves in supermarkets and shortages reported in a
3 range of other sectors, which are predominantly the result of Brexit
4 and government incompetence.
- 5 ii) That councils have warned of the impact on services such as refuse
6 collections.
- 7 iii) The likely increase in food prices resulting from the increase in
8 wages and other costs required to attract new workers, and from
9 the additional disruption when new checks on the supply chain of EU
10 imports are introduced.
- 11 iv) That these price rises will hit those worst off the hardest, at a time
12 when the Government plans to remove the £20 per week Universal
13 Credit uplift.
- 14 v) The lack of qualified staff in many sectors of the economy, such
15 as the road haulage business, logistics companies, and the food-
16 processing industry.
- 17 vi) The costs, bureaucracy and inflexibility of the Conservative
18 Government's "skilled worker" visa system.
- 19 vii) The return of many EU citizens to their home countries due to Brexit
20 and the pandemic and the difficulty of recruiting from the EU with
21 loss of free movement.
- 22 viii) The calls by farmers for seasonal support in the harvest season.
- 23 ix) The effect that the supply chain crisis is having and is forecast to
24 have on the post-Covid economic recovery.
- 25 x) The announcement of a retirement scheme for farmers, without any
26 guarantees that new entrants will replace them.

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- 27 xi) The phasing out of existing farm payments without the new
28 Environmental Land Management scheme (ELM) being ready until
29 2028.
- 30 xii) That the Conservative government's potential trade deal with
31 Australia, which is likely to establish a precedent for further trade
32 agreements, fails to guarantee British standards, including on animal
33 welfare, food safety and environmental protection.

34 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitments to:

- 35 a) A long-term economic strategy, including investment in jobs and
36 training.
- 37 b) Make the £20 per week Universal Credit uplift permanent.
- 38 c) Free movement of people as part of a longer-term objective of UK
39 membership of the EU, as set out in the September 2020 conference
40 motion 'The UK and Europe'.
- 41 d) Support for farmers by broadening the remit of the Groceries Code
42 Adjudicator and supporting them with access to markets.
- 43 e) Introduce a National Food Strategy, including the use of public
44 procurement policy, to promote the production and consumption
45 of healthy, sustainable and affordable food and cut down on food
46 waste.

47 Conference calls for the UK Government to:

- 48 1. Abandon the plan to scrap the Universal Credit uplift at the end of
49 September 2021.
- 50 2. Engage with local authorities to help address the impact on local
51 services.
- 52 3. Scrap the arbitrary salary threshold for work visas, which prevents
53 British businesses from recruiting the workers they need.
- 54 4. End the arbitrary categorisation of workers into "skilled" and
55 "unskilled" for visa purposes.
- 56 5. Abandon their divisive rhetoric on immigration and scrap the
57 Nationality and Borders Bill.

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F37A

- 58 6. Increase training places for shortage occupations, such as HGV
59 drivers, and invest in HGV test facilities.
- 60 7. End the phase out of current farm payments until the new ELMs
61 scheme is ready.
- 62 8. Encourage new entrants to farming by promoting the sector as
63 a career choice, increasing funding to agricultural colleges and
64 reviewing the Kickstart scheme with a view to expanding access to
65 the scheme among under 25s.
- 66 9. Commission a review by the Migration Advisory Committee on the
67 impact of ending free movement on the food and farming sector.
- 68 10. Ensure that any future trade deals are signed off by Parliament.
- 69 11. Protect British farmers by ensuring that imported food in trade deals
70 meets UK standards of animal welfare and environmental protection.
- 71 12. Strengthen the role of the Trade and Agriculture commission, to
71 allow it to review the impact of international trade deals before
72 Parliament approves it.
- 73 13. Within the provisions of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement,
74 agree a veterinary agreement with the EU.
- 75 14. Enshrine alignment with EU SPS standards in legislation.

Applicability: Federal; except d) & e) (lines 41–46), and 6., 7. & 8. (lines 58–65), which are England only.

Background Briefing

This motion updates existing trade and European policy in response to the supply chain crisis.

It builds on existing policy as set out in the policy motion *The EU–UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement and the Future of the UK–EU Relationship* (March 2021).

Monday 20 September

F37B

F37B Emergency motion: Responding to the Crisis in Afghanistan

Liberal Democrat Women, Liberal Democrat Campaign for Racial Equality and LGBT+ Liberal Democrats

Mover: Cllr Rabina Khan.

Summation: Layla Moran MP (Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs).

1 Conference notes:

2 i) The Taliban takeover of almost all of Afghanistan by military force
3 and without legitimacy from its people.

4 ii) The deeply alarming expansion of extrajudicial killings and
5 disappearances of government officials, journalists, and civil society
6 activists, which is plunging the country into a state of terror.

7 iii) The Taliban's disregard for human rights and persecution of
8 marginalised groups, including women and girls; LGBT+ people; and
9 religious, ethnic and cultural minority groups.

10 iv) The greater levels of violence and abuse to which Afghan women and
11 girls are subject to, and the risks of the deterioration of their basic
12 human rights, eg. such as rights in education, work, healthcare, and
13 basic civil liberties.

14 v) The additional barriers, including but not limited to proving their
15 identities, which are often faced by LGBT+ individuals seeking asylum
16 in the UK.

17 vi) The UK's responsibility to the Afghan people following twenty years'
18 intervention in the country.

19 vii) The UK Government's culpability for a situation which has resulted in
20 millions of Afghans living in fear.

21 viii) The betrayal of Afghan interpreters and many others who supported
22 the UK's work in Afghanistan.

23 ix) The moral negligence and abject complacency of UK Government
24 ministers, in particular the Foreign Secretary, as the Taliban took
25 territory across the country, resulting in thousands of those who
26 supported us being left behind.

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- 27 x) The UK's derisory commitment of taking in just 5,000 Afghan
28 refugees this year under the new settlement scheme.
- 29 xi) The potential for international terrorist groups to re-use Afghanistan
30 as a safe haven to plan, train and launch acts of terror.

31 Conference believes that:

- 32 a) Standing up for human rights, oppressed minority groups, and those
33 facing persecution is at the core of liberal values.
- 34 b) It is essential that the international community speaks with one voice
35 and works together on humanitarian crises and on the fight against
36 human rights violations.
- 37 c) The UK Government must honour its obligations to the Afghan
38 people.

39 Conference therefore calls on the UK Government to:

- 40 1. Work with the international community and neighbouring countries
41 on the provision of safe, legal passages for those who wish to leave
42 Afghanistan.
- 43 2. Support Afghan refugees, providing humanitarian visas, speeding up
44 the process of asylum claims, revisiting previously rejected asylum
45 claims, and ensuring that Local Authorities receive sufficient funding
46 for refugee settlement.
- 47 3. Implement the calls from the Joint Council for the Welfare of
48 Immigrants to scrap the "resettlement-only" plans in the Nationality
49 and Borders Bill, grant immediate asylum to Afghan asylum-
50 seekers already in the UK, release Afghan nationals unfairly held in
51 immigration detention centres, and expand the family reunion route.
- 52 4. Prioritise vulnerable groups in refugee settlement, working with
53 women's organisations, LGBT+ organisations, and journalist
54 agencies, acknowledging the barriers faced by Afghan women and
55 girls, who are vulnerable to gender-based violence and often have
56 caring responsibilities; the Afghan LGBT+ community, who have
57 difficulty disclosing their identities; and others.

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- 58 5. Increase Official Development Assistance to those in need in
59 Afghanistan and the region as part of a reinstatement of the 0.7%
60 GNI international development target, and put pressure on the
61 Taliban to ensure that aid workers who are women can continue
62 their work.
- 63 6. Support local and international gender-based violence services to
64 ensure that Afghan women and girls - whether they have been able
65 to flee Afghanistan or not v- receive help and support.
- 66 7. Expand the Armed Forces Covenant to include Afghan soldiers and
67 interpreters who have worked with British forces in Afghanistan.
- 68 8. Take urgent action to stop terrorism from spreading its roots in
69 Afghanistan once again, including by proscribing the Islamic State
70 Khorasan Province (ISKP) and convening a European Security Summit
71 to respond to the crisis in Afghanistan.
- 72 9. Launch an urgent, immediate public inquiry into the Government's
73 intervention in Afghanistan throughout 2001 to 2021.
- 74 10. Use all diplomatic means to support regional security and good
75 governance in Afghanistan.
- 76 11. Consider offering any relevant and appropriate diplomatic and
77 military resources for any United Nations or other multilateral efforts
78 to provide humanitarian relief in Afghanistan, including the potential
79 use of peacekeepers.

Applicability: Federal.

Background briefing

This motion creates new foreign, international development and refugee policy, in response to the US withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Taliban's takeover of the country.

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11.40 Speech

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F38 Jane Dodds MS, Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats

@JaneDodds, #LDConf

12.00 Policy motion

Chair: Duncan Brack. Aides: Joe Otton and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F39 Towards a Lasting Peace in Israel and Palestine

13 members

Mover: Layla Moran MP (Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs).

Summation: Alistair Carmichael MP (Spokesperson on Home Affairs).

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

- 4 Conference welcomes the role of Yair Lapid, leader of Liberal International
- 5 partner Yesh Atid, in the formation of the new Israeli government and
- 6 hopes that this moment of change may offer the chance of a fresh
- 7 approach to the peace process.

- 8 Conference deeply regrets the deaths of Palestinian and Israeli civilians
- 9 in the escalation in May 2021, unequivocally condemns all acts of
- 10 indiscriminate violence, noting that there is no excuse for the targeting
- 11 of civilians, especially children, and notes that the escalation was caused
- 12 by long-term underlying tensions which must be addressed if we are to

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- 13 achieve a lasting peace rather than a short-term truce.
- 14 Conference notes the deteriorating human rights situation in Israel and
15 Palestine as detailed in reports, notably those published by B'Tselem and
16 Human Rights Watch detailing transgressions by the Israeli government.
- 17 Conference condemns all human rights abuses committed by Hamas
18 in Gaza and the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank, as outlined in
19 reports including notably the 2018 Human Rights Watch publication *Two
20 Authorities, One Way, Zero Dissent*.
- 21 Conference regrets that Hamas's attitude to the conflict, including its
22 rhetoric, its incitement and its refusal to recognise the state of Israel, is
23 itself a significant barrier to peace.
- 24 Conference further regrets the position of the UK Prime Minister when he
25 opposed the ICC investigation into alleged crimes committed in Palestine,
26 noting that the ICC has jurisdiction given that Palestine, like the UK, is a
27 signatory to the Rome Statute.
- 28 Conference affirms that given the 54 year old Israeli occupation and
29 that, under international law, occupation is meant to be temporary,
30 the ongoing Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory is illegal under
31 international law.
- 32 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrats' commitment to:
- 33 A. A two-state solution in which Israel and Palestine both exist with
34 secure boundaries based on the 1967 lines with two capitals in
35 Jerusalem recognised in international law with normal relations
36 (including diplomatic, security and trade relations) between them
37 and with their neighbours.
- 38 B. The right of Israel and Palestine to territorial integrity under
39 international law, and that any peace negotiations must allow the

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- 40 possibility of negotiations on fair and equal land swaps if replacing
41 existing boundaries, namely the pre-1967 lines.
- 42 C. Condemnation of all threats and acts of violence and unlawful use
43 of force such as war crimes and crimes against humanity, or extra-
44 judicial killing, whoever the perpetrators may be.
- 45 D. The belief that any such threats and acts of violence or force will only
46 make a just settlement more difficult to achieve.
- 47 E Immediate recognition of Palestine as a sovereign independent state
48 by the UK Government based on the 1967 lines.

49 Conference calls on the UK Government to:

- 50 1. Work with the international community to facilitate a new peace
51 process and set out a route map to lasting peace including
52 confidence-building measures, especially by working with our EU
53 partners and seeking to use any UK influence with President Biden.
- 54 2. Urge those states and actors in the region which have not yet
55 recognised the State of Israel to do so, as Egypt did in 1979 and as
56 the Palestine Liberation Organization did in 1988.
- 57 3. Express its regret that Palestinian elections were cancelled and
58 engage with the international community to press that the
59 Palestinian Authority reschedules free and fair democratic elections
60 as soon as possible and that the Israeli government permits free and
61 full campaigning and voting, notably in East Jerusalem.
- 62 4. Press for the Palestinian Authority to enshrine 'crimes against
63 humanity' in Palestinian law and to strengthen the independence of
64 their judiciary.
- 65 5. Apply pressure on the Palestinian Authority and Hamas, where
66 appropriate, to halt persecution of or discrimination against
67 marginalised groups, including the LGBT+ community and women,

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- 68 civil society organisations and democratic opposition.
- 69 6. Call on the Israeli and Palestinian authorities to do more to stop
70 incitement and hate speech in their media, their respective curricula
71 and in political discourse.
- 72 7. Recognise the tensions among civilians both between and within
73 Israel and Palestine and accordingly increase funding for the region,
74 including by:
- 75 a) Actively supporting humanitarian and civil society efforts within
76 Israel and Palestine to promote peace, including the creation of
77 an international fund for peace, such as the fund proposed by
78 the Alliance for Middle East Peace whose purpose is to create
79 a climate for peace in which the existing status quo, incitement
80 and the language of hatred are seen as unacceptable.
- 81 b) Providing increased support for UNRWA.
- 82 8. Respect the right of the ICC or any other neutral internationally
83 recognised body to investigate possible international crimes in
84 Israel and Palestine according to their mandates and remits, and
85 hold those responsible to account where there are breaches of
86 international law.
- 87 9. Urge continued adherence to the status quo agreement on the holy
88 sites in Jerusalem.
- 89 10. Declare that illegal Israeli settlements represent a de facto
90 annexation of Palestinian territory and that such settlements are a
91 major but not sole factor in making the search for a lasting peace
92 ever more difficult to achieve.
- 93 11. Ensure that trade is used as a tool for peace and shared prosperity in
94 all nations by:
- 95 a) Promoting trade links with Israel and Palestine and increasing

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- 96 cooperation especially in science, technology and medicine.
- 97 b) Ensuring that the UK Government's approach to international
- 98 trade promotes human rights and adheres to the international
- 99 rule of law.
- 100 c) Acknowledging that illegal settlements represent a breach of
- 101 international law and do not form part of the sovereign territory
- 102 of Israel, and therefore introducing a legislative requirement
- 103 to clearly label goods and services which are produced in the
- 104 settlements.
- 105 d) Engaging with the UN database on companies operating in
- 106 the illegal settlements, including supplying information and
- 107 requesting regular publication of reports from the UN High
- 108 Commissioner for Human Rights.
- 109 e) Publishing an assessment of the impact of UK business dealings
- 110 and the role of UK-linked supply chains in sustaining the illegal
- 111 settlements.

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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

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F39 Towards a Lasting Peace in Israel and Palestine

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendment to the motion:

- 1 In line 12, delete 'we are to achieve', and in line 13 after 'truce' insert 'is to be
- 2 achieved'.

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Jonathan Brown.

Summation: Andrew Whitley.

- 1 In 11. b) (line 99) after 'rule of law', insert ', and protects the interests of
- 2 British businesses trading legitimately with Palestinian businesses in the
- 3 occupied territories'.

4 After 11. e) (line 111) add:

- 5 f) Ensuring that there is equality of treatment for Israelis and
- 6 Palestinians in the rules for visa free travel to the UK.

Amendment Two

10 members

Mover: Anne-Marie Simpson.

Summation: Andy Daer.

1 Delete 11. c) (lines 100–104) and insert:

- 2 d) Acknowledging that illegal settlements represent a breach of
- 3 international law, and that any UK trade which bolsters such
- 4 activity is sustaining this breach, by legislating to cease trade
- 5 with illegal settlements, unless and until a negotiated peace
- 6 settlement is reached.

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Background briefing

This motion updates existing foreign policy in response to the recent formation of a new Israeli government.

It builds on existing policy as set out in the General Election Manifesto *Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future* (2019), policy motion *The Centenary of the Balfour Declaration* (2017) and policy motion *A Holistic Pathway to Peace in the Middle East* (September 2014).

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F40

13.00 Auditorium break

Please see the Conference Directory for our fringe and exhibition programme.

14.15 Constitutional amendment

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F40 Young Liberals Age Limit Change

Federal Board

Mover: Callum Robertson.

Summation: Tara Copeland.

- 1 Conference resolves to amend the Constitution as follows.
- 2 Delete clause 28.1 and replace with:
 - 3 28.1A member of an SAO shall not be counted as a member or
 - 4 participate in exercising the rights of the SAO under clauses 18.5 and
 - 5 20.1 of this Constitution:
 - 6 A. if such member is not a member of the Party; in the case of the
 - 7 Youth and/ or Student Organisation;
 - 8 B. if such member has reached the age determined by that
 - 9 Organisation as to make them no longer eligible for full
 - 10 membership and is not a student;
 - 11 C. if such member, having been originally enrolled by an SAO, has
 - 12 elected to exercise the related constitutional rights through a
 - 13 Local Party; or
 - 14 D. if such member, having been originally enrolled by a Local
 - 15 Party, has not elected to exercise the related constitutional
 - 16 rights through an SAO: no person may exercise the related

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- 17 constitutional rights concurrently as a member of more than
18 one SAO or as a member of both an SAO and a Local Party.

The current text of the Federal Party Constitution can be found at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution.

Applicability: Federal.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

A constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

Sunday 19 September

F40

F40 Young Liberals Age Limit Change

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendment to the motion:

- 1 *In line 2 and line 3, delete '28.1' and insert '21.8'.*

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F41

14.30 Constitutional amendment

Chair: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC). Aides: Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F41 Empowering Liberal Democrat Values: for People and Planet

215 members

Mover: Keith Melton.

Summation: Cllr Pippa Heylings.

1 Conference recognises the occurrence, from time to time, of public and
2 media questioning as to the values represented by the Liberal Democrats;
3 whilst these are spelled out in some detail in the Preamble to the
4 Constitution of the Party, conference believes that, as we emerge from
5 the coronavirus pandemic to face the twin existential threats of climate
6 change and loss of biodiversity, this would be a good time to review
7 the Preamble and restate our priorities with greater clarity. Conference
8 believes the key value statement relating to the environment currently
9 languishes as the second sentence of the second paragraph of the
10 Preamble and is known to be overlooked by commentators on Liberal
11 Democrat values.

12 Conference believes that our Party's longevity of support for the
13 primacy of the environment should be strengthened and clarified by the
14 promotion of that sentence to become the second sentence of the first
15 paragraph of the Preamble.

16 Conference therefore resolves to move from their current position the
17 words: 'We believe that each generation is responsible for the fate of our
18 planet and, by safeguarding the balance of nature and the environment,
19 for the long-term continuity of life in all its forms', and insert them after
20 the words: 'poverty, ignorance and conformity'. The first paragraph of the
21 Preamble would then read as follows:

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22 The Liberal Democrats exist to build and safeguard a fair, free and
23 open society, in which we seek to balance the fundamental values of
24 liberty, equality and community, and in which no one shall be enslaved
25 by poverty, ignorance or conformity. We believe that each generation is
26 responsible for the fate of our planet and, by safeguarding the balance
27 of nature and the environment, for the long-term continuity of life in all
28 its forms.

29 Conference also supports a further change which would reinforce the
30 necessary updating of our approach to global sustainable economic
31 development needed to ensure our environmental concern is made
32 manifest with respect to the paradigm of 'Wellbeing', rather than adhering
33 to the outdated focus on GDP as an economic measure of success.

34 Conference therefore further resolves to delete from the first sentence of
35 the existing third paragraph the words: 'which encourages the necessary
36 wealth creating processes, develops and uses the skills of the people and
37 works', and insert in their place the words: 'which enables people to thrive
38 in their communities, assessing progress by measuring people's wellbeing.
39 Such an economy will encourage necessary wealth creating processes,
40 develop and use the skills of the people and work to the benefit of all, with
41 a just distribution of the rewards of success'. The third paragraph of the
42 Preamble would then read as follows:

43 We will foster a strong and sustainable economy which enables people
44 to thrive in their communities, assessing progress by measuring
45 people's wellbeing. Such an economy will encourage necessary wealth
46 creating processes, develop and use the skills of the people and work to
47 the benefit of all, with a just distribution of the rewards of success.

The current text of the Federal Party Constitution can be found at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution.

Applicability: Federal.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

A constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

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F41 Empowering Liberal Democrats for People and Planet

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 In line 20, before 'The first paragraph', insert 'This section of'.
- 2 In lines 40–41, delete 'to the benefit of all, with a just distribution of the
- 3 rewards of success'.
- 4 In line 41, before 'The third paragraph', insert 'This section of'.

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F42

14.50 Constitutional amendment

Chair: Bex Scott. Aides Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC) and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair FCC).

F42 Updating the Constitution's Language on Equality and Inclusion

17 members

Mover: George Potter.

Summation: Fraser Graham.

- 1 Conference resolves to amend the Constitution as follows.
- 2 In the Preamble to the Constitution:
 - 3 a) Replace 'race, colour, religion, age, disability, sex or sexual
 - 4 orientation' with 'race, ethnicity, caste, class, religion, age, disability,
 - 5 sex, gender or sexual orientation'.
 - 6 b) Replace 'women and men' with 'people'.
- 7 Throughout the Constitution:
 - 8 1. Where the words 'he or she is' occur, replace with 'they are'.
 - 9 2. Where the words 'his or her' occur, replace with 'their'.

The current text of the Federal Party Constitution can be found at:
www.libdems.org.uk/constitution.

Applicability: Federal.

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

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see

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page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

A constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds majority to pass.

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F42 Updating the Constitution's Language on Equality and Inclusion

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 In 3. a) (line 4), after 'religion', insert 'or belief'.

Amendment One

Kingston Borough

Mover: Kim Bailey.

Summation: Kevin Langford.

- 1 In 3. a) (line 4) after 'caste', insert ', heritage'.

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F43

16.10 Speech

Chair: Wendy Chamberlain MP (Chief Whip, House of Commons).

F43 Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats, Alex Cole-Hamiton MSP.

15.30 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Joe Otten. Aides: Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC) and Cllr Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC).

F44 Rebuilding our Cultural, Artistic and Educational Ties with Europe

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Layla Moran MP (Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs).

Summation: Dr Robert Harrison.

1 Conference believes that Brexit has created significant barriers to
2 the cultural, educational and artistic links which British citizens have
3 enjoyed with their European neighbours and friends over decades, from
4 programmes such as Creative Europe to the formative opportunities
5 enjoyed by young people, ranging from the use of Interrail railway passes
6 to the ability to travel to EU member states on school trips without
7 needing a passport.

8 Conference notes that this will cause severe economic damage to arts and
9 culture sectors, with negative impacts to the national and local economies,
10 exacerbated by the government's domestic policies, which threaten to
11 damage the UK's world-leading arts and culture sectors, including cutting
12 funding for arts-based university courses, downgrading arts in the school

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13 curriculum and leaving creative industry businesses woefully under-
14 supported during the coronavirus pandemic.

15 Conference condemns the creation of obstacles to musicians and actors
16 performing in the EU, and to EU artists performing in the UK, as well as
17 their staff, and welcomes the calls for paperwork-free travel from artists
18 such as Elton John.

19 Conference further condemns the decision of the Government to leave
20 the Erasmus Plus scheme; and notes with concern that the replacement
21 Turing Scheme:

22 I. Is less accessible and less well-funded than the Erasmus Plus
23 scheme, excluding youth and adult education, and so fails to achieve
24 its stated aim of 'levelling up'.

25 II. Has no basis for reciprocity, unlike Erasmus Plus, and therefore
26 restricts the ability of EU students to study at UK higher and further
27 education institutions.

28 III. Will risk further the shortage of modern foreign language teachers
29 in UK schools and likely reduce the take-up of modern foreign
30 languages in the long term.

31 Conference further notes that the Government's visa scheme for young
32 people aged 18–30 (the Youth Mobility Scheme) is not currently applicable
33 to EU/EEA member states.

34 Conference congratulates Kirsty Williams' efforts in Wales to establish an
35 Erasmus-style scheme to fix the deficiencies of the Turing Scheme; and
36 notes that the SNP has refused to support such a scheme, despite their
37 vocal complaints about the UK's departure from Erasmus Plus.

38 Conference reaffirms:

39 A. The Liberal Democrats' commitment, as set out in the Spring 2021
40 conference motion The EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement

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- 41 and the Future of the UK-EU relationship, to:
- 42 i) Demonstrating the benefits to UK citizens and businesses of
- 43 a much closer relationship compared to the government's
- 44 inadequate measures.
- 45 ii) Recommending roadmaps for the UK to rejoin the Customs
- 46 Union, Single Market and other EU agencies and programmes as
- 47 appropriate.
- 48 iii) Maximising public support for eventual UK membership of the
- 49 EU.
- 50 B. The Liberal Democrats' support for a longer-term objective of UK
- 51 membership of the EU, as set out in the September 2020 conference
- 52 motion 'The UK and Europe'.
- 53 C. The Liberal Democrats' commitment to free movement of people as
- 54 part of a longer-term objective of UK membership of the EU and its
- 55 institutions.
- 56 Conference therefore calls on the government to begin to restore the UK's
- 57 cultural links with EU member states, by:
- 58 1. Rejoining the Erasmus Plus scheme.
- 59 2. Prior to any re-entry of Erasmus Plus, following the steps taken by
- 60 Kirsty Williams to improve the Turing Scheme, including by:
- 61 a) Establishing reciprocal partnerships between UK and EU
- 62 institutions.
- 63 b) Improving (and in some cases establishing) the ability of further
- 64 and vocational education providers, as well as adult education,
- 65 youth work settings and schools to access the scheme.
- 66 c) Ensuring that the same level of funding is provided for the
- 67 Turing Scheme as would have been provided by the UK for
- 68 Erasmus Plus.

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- 69 3. Establishing a European cultural fund, to ensure that young
70 people can access modern foreign language teaching and cultural
71 opportunities regardless of their backgrounds.
- 72 4. Extending the Youth Mobility Scheme to EEA member states on a
73 reciprocal basis.
- 74 5. Improving access to the Youth Mobility Scheme by:
75 a) Increasing the number of visas available to meet demand.
76 b) Abolishing the fees for these visas, including the Immigration
77 Health Surcharge.
78 c) Promoting the scheme to UK citizens.
79 d) Increasing the age limit from 18 to 30 to 18 to 35.
80 e) Expanding the length of the visa from two to three years.
- 81 6. Negotiating passport- and visa-free school visits to EU member
82 states, on a reciprocal basis.
- 83 7. Simplifying visa arrangements for students attending bona fide
84 language schools.
- 85 8. Rejoining Creative Europe.
- 86 9. Negotiating paperwork-free and cost-free travel and work short-term
87 within the EU for UK artists and their support staff, equipment and
88 hauliers, on a reciprocal basis.
- 89 10. Encouraging town twinning, including cultural, artistic and
90 educational exchanges, between towns in the UK and EU.

Applicability: Federal.

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

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F44

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

Background briefing

This motion updates existing European policy in regards to education.

It builds on existing policy as set out in the policy motion The UK and Europe (September 2020).

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16.05 Policy motion

Chair: John Bridges. Aides: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC) and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F45 Keeping People Safe from Frauds and Scams

12 members

Mover: Baroness Ludford.

Summation: Lord Marks (Lords Spokesperson for Justice).

- 1 Conference notes with grave concern that each year, around 3.5 million
- 2 people across England and Wales are victims of fraud.

- 3 Conference further notes that:
 - 4 i) Fraud is the most prevalent type of crime, accounting for more than
 - 5 a third of all crimes, but is not getting the focus it deserves from the
 - 6 Government.
 - 7 ii) UK Finance estimates that £1.26 billion was lost to financial fraud and
 - 8 scams in 2020, while a further £1.6 billion in fraud was prevented by
 - 9 banks and card companies.
 - 10 iii) Most fraud happens online. Losses to criminals using stolen card
 - 11 details – usually obtained through hacks or other data breaches – to
 - 12 buy things online have doubled since 2013, to around £380 million
 - 13 in 2020. Internet banking fraud has also risen dramatically in recent
 - 14 years, with the number of cases more than doubling from 2019 to
 - 15 2020, as more and more people are managing their finances online.
 - 16 iv) Criminals are also increasingly defrauding people through
 - 17 ‘authorised push payment’ scams, where they trick their victims into
 - 18 transferring money to them. This includes getting people to pay in
 - 19 advance for goods or services that they never receive, taking their
 - 20 money for fake ‘investments’, pretending to be police officers or bank
 - 21 staff, and using fake profiles to form a ‘relationship’ with their victim
 - 22 to manipulate them into sending money.

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- 23 v) Criminals have exploited the Covid pandemic to dramatically
24 increase certain types of fraud, with the number of online shopping
25 cases reported to Action Fraud up 44% in the year to April 2021, and
26 the number of romance scams up 15%.
- 27 vi) In May 2019, the banking industry adopted a voluntary code for
28 dealing with authorised push payment fraud, including the principle
29 that banks should reimburse victims unless they are at fault.
30 However, of the £312 million of losses assessed under code as of the
31 end of 2020, just £147 million (47%) was reimbursed.
- 32 vii) A lack of resources for the police prevents most fraud being
33 investigated properly: only 3% of fraud offences reported in 2019-20
34 were disseminated to police forces for investigation, and only around
35 1 in 200 victims see their perpetrator convicted.
- 36 viii) In 2018, the House of Commons Home Affairs Committee concluded
37 that Action Fraud, the centralised reporting centre for fraud victims,
38 “has irretrievably lost the confidence of the public, and reasonable
39 expectations from victims are not being met”.
- 40 ix) In 2020, Google was paid £572,814 by the Financial Conduct
41 Authority to host adverts warning people about fraud, while also
42 taking money from criminals to host fraudulent ads.
- 43 Conference believes that:
- 44 a) Fraud is an appalling crime that particularly preys on vulnerable
45 people. It can cause severe financial hardship, as well as enormous
46 distress and fear.
- 47 b) Far too many criminals are getting away with fraud, and far too
48 many victims are being left without justice or redress.
- 49 c) A far stronger response is needed from the Government, police,
50 regulators, internet companies and banks, working together to
51 prevent fraud, support victims and catch the perpetrators.
- 52 d) Local branch closures have forced many people to use online
53 banking, and banks must therefore do more to keep them safe from
54 the risks it presents.

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- 55 e) Everyone should be helped and empowered to avoid frauds and
56 scams, but the onus should not be on individuals to prevent them,
57 nor should people be blamed for falling victim to them.
- 58 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitment to create a new
59 Online Crime Agency to effectively tackle illegal content and activity online,
60 including fraud.
- 61 Conference calls on the Government to tackle fraud and scams
62 aggressively, including by:
- 63 1. Naming and shaming the banks with the worst records on
64 preventing fraud and reimbursing victims, to help consumers make
65 an informed choice and drive improvements across the industry.
 - 66 2. Setting minimum standards for all banks on preventing fraud, and
67 requiring them to report to government on their performance.
 - 68 3. Replacing the voluntary industry code on authorised push payments
69 with a mandatory, statutory code, including an obligation to
70 reimburse victims unless there is clear evidence that they are at
71 fault.
 - 72 4. Explicitly including a duty on social media companies and search
73 engines to prevent fraud in the forthcoming Online Safety Bill,
74 including a requirement to ensure that any adverts for financial
75 services they host are from genuine, regulated firms.
 - 76 5. Establishing a national real-time warning system for scams, where
77 individuals can check and report suspicious activity.
 - 78 6. Launching a high-profile public awareness campaign to help people
79 spot, avoid and report frauds and scams.

Applicability: Federal; except vii) & viii) (lines 32–39) and Conference reaffirms... (lines 58–60), which are England and Wales.

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

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For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see page 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

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F45 Keeping People Safe from Frauds and Scams

Amendment One

ALDC

Mover: Cllr Heather Kidd.

Summation: Cllr Jon Ball.

- 1 After 4. e) (line 57) insert:
- 2 Conference recognises that local government is a key partner in working
- 3 with the police and central government to raise public awareness of fraud
- 4 and scams and to ensure close liaison and adequate funding for councils
- 5 to play a full role in supporting local communities in tackling fraudsters.

Background briefing

This motion updates existing crime and justice policy.

It builds on existing policy as set out in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019).

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16.50 Policy motion

Chair: Jennie Rigg. Aides: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC) and Cara Jenkinson (Vice Chair, FCC).

F46 Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

Liberal Democrat Women

Mover: Caroline Voaden.

Summation: Christine Jardine MP.

1 Conference notes that:

2 i) Sexual violence, sexual harassment, and domestic abuse remain
3 endemic in our society:

4 a) In 2019/20, 4.9 million women were victims of sexual assault in
5 England and Wales, according to the Office for National Statistics
6 (ONS).

7 b) A third of 16–18-year-old girls report experiencing unwanted
8 sexual touching at school, according to End Violence Against
9 Women.

10 ii) The pandemic has made the situation worse:

11 a) The ONS report into Domestic abuse during the pandemic in
12 November 2020 found increased demand for victim services and
13 indicators that severity of abuse has increased.

14 b) Plan International UK found that since lockdown began, 1 in 5
15 girls aged 14–21 experienced public sexual harassment.

16 c) By 2030, 2 million more girls are now at risk of undergoing
17 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) due to the pandemic according
18 to Plan International.

19 iii) The justice system is failing many victims of domestic abuse and
20 sexual violence:

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- 21 a) Out of 139,000 rapes estimated by the ONS in the year ending
22 March 2020, only 58,845 were reported to police. Of those, just
23 2.4% ended in convictions.
- 24 b) Three in four domestic abuse cases in England and Wales end
25 without charge, according to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of
26 Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services.
- 27 iv) Those from minority backgrounds experience domestic abuse
28 disproportionately:
- 29 a) ONS figures for 2019 show that disabled women were more
30 than twice as likely to experience domestic abuse than non-
31 disabled women.
- 32 b) LGBT+ people are significantly more likely to experience
33 domestic abuse, with 13 per cent of bisexual women facing
34 intimate partner abuse in 2019/20, according to Stonewall.
- 35 c) In 2019, 60 per cent of UK police forces admitted referring
36 victims of crime to the Home Office for immigration purposes,
37 harming migrant women.
- 38 v) The Domestic Abuse Act 2021, whilst very welcome, still contains
39 policy gaps, including failure to provide equal protection for migrant
40 women.
- 41 vi) The funding for domestic abuse services in the 2021 Budget falls
42 short of the figure that Women's Aid says is needed by over £200
43 million per year.
- 44 vii) The UK has failed to ratify the Istanbul Convention, a treaty creating
45 a global framework for protecting women from violence.
- 46 Conference believes that:
- 47 i. Everyone, regardless of identity, has the right to live a life free from
48 fear and violence.

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- 49 II. The Conservative Government is failing to properly tackle continuing
50 violence against women and girls in our society.
- 51 III. Investing in raising awareness, education, and policies aimed at
52 prevention is vital and prevents greater costs long-term.
- 53 IV. An intersectional approach to violence against women and girls
54 is imperative to provide high level care and support to the most
55 vulnerable victims.
- 56 V. Disclosures of abuse must be made easier and always taken
57 seriously by authorities who offer a trauma-informed response.
- 58 VI. Ending violence against women and girls must be a top priority for all
59 levels of government.

60 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrat commitments to:

- 61 A. Improve and reform the Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)
62 curriculum, including age-appropriate education on consent from
63 primary school.
- 64 B. Expand the number of refuge and rape crisis centres, including
65 specialist provision.
- 66 C. Give Local Authorities the duty and funding to provide appropriate
67 accommodation and support for survivors of abuse
- 68 D. Recognise misogyny as a hate crime.

69 Conference calls on the Government to:

- 70 1. Increase efforts to prevent and detect violence against women and
71 girls by:
- 72 a) Funding an NHS-style public awareness campaign, including on
73 long-lasting trauma impacts.
- 74 b) Consulting education leaders and the specialist violence against
75 women and girls sector, to take immediate action on sexual
76 harassment in school.
- 77 c) Implementing guidance to include awareness of public sexual
78 harassment and its consequences in the national curriculum.

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- 79 d) Upskilling all school staff via training to ensure confidence in
80 correctly and sensitively handling disclosures of a sexual or
81 abusive nature.
- 82 e) Introducing a duty on public authorities to ensure all frontline
83 staff are trained to detect and respond appropriately to
84 domestic abuse.
- 85 f) Improving cross-government coordination of policies and
86 services for separating families across England and Wales.
- 87 g) Establishing a plan to tackle the social recovery of vulnerable
88 and at-risk women and girls following the pandemic.
- 89 2. Improve outcomes for victims of sexual violence and domestic abuse
90 by:
- 91 a) Ensuring migrant women have equal access to protection from
92 abuse.
- 93 b) Introducing training and guidance for organisations on making
94 their services more trans inclusive.
- 95 c) Offering a long-term funding model for specialist services,
96 including specialist BAME and LGBT+ services, so they can plan
97 strategically and fully focus on providing support.
- 98 d) Introducing mandatory training for police and the Crown
99 Prosecution Service in understanding the impact of trauma on
100 victims.
- 101 e) Improving access to independent legal support for victims,
102 including those with no recourse to public funds.
- 103 3. Strengthen the justice system to properly deal with sexual violence
104 and domestic abuse by:
- 105 a) Urgently increasing funding to reduce Criminal and Family court
106 backlogs.
- 107 b) Extending protections of 16 and 17-year-olds by expanding the
108 definition of 'position of trust', to include all adults who work/
109 volunteer with under-18s.
- 110 c) Legislating to make public sexual harassment a criminal offence.

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- 111 d) Legislating to make the promotion of Female Genital Mutilation/
112 Cutting (FGM/C) a hate crime.
- 113 4. Establish the UK as a leader in domestic and global efforts to end
114 violence against women and girls by:
- 115 a) Ratifying the Istanbul Convention as soon as possible.
- 116 b) Setting up an independent commission on 'Ending Violence
117 Against Women and Girls' for ongoing, sustainable accountability
118 and progress in domestic and global efforts.

Applicability: England and Wales; except A., B. and C. (lines 61–67), 1. b) and c) (lines 74–78) and 1. e) (lines 82–84), which are 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 9. To submit a speaker's card go to: www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 6 September; see pages 12. Amendments selected for debate will be published in the Conference Extra and Sunday Conference Daily updates to the Conference Agenda.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Sunday 18 September; see page 9.

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F46 Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

Amendment One

Wokingham Borough

Mover: Sarah Kerr.

Summation: Prue Bray.

1 After 1. g) (line 88), insert:

2 h) Ensuring the child's safety and needs are put first when
3 decisions are made as to the appropriate level of contact with an
4 abusive parent.

5 After 2. e) (line 102), insert:

6 f) Introducing mandatory awareness training for local authority
7 Children's Services staff to enable them to appropriately
8 examine and record allegations of domestic abuse which may
9 present as parental conflict.
10 g) Ensuring appropriate support is available for those who do not
11 flee from their abuser.

Background briefing

This motion builds on existing policy as set out in the General Election Manifesto Stop Brexit and Build a Brighter Future (2019) and policy motion Continuing the fight for gender equality (September 2019).

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17.35 Party business

Chair: Dr Mark Pack (President of the Liberal Democrats). Aide: Cllr Nick da Costa (Chair, FCC).

F47 Party Awards

The President's Award

An award to a Party Member elected to public office and who has demonstrated excellence and commitment.

The Harriet Smith Liberal Democrat Distinguished Service Award

This award is named for Harriet Smith, who campaigned and worked tirelessly for the Party, notably alongside Paddy Ashdown, with the Federal Conference Committee. It is open to any Party Member never elected to public office.

The Belinda Eyre-Brook Award

This award is named for legendary campaigner Belinda Eyre-Brook, whose achievements with the Party include being Ed Davey's agent in 1997, overturning 15,000 Tory Majority. It is given to recognise and celebrate the efforts of people working for our elected representatives in their local areas.

The Dadabhai Naoroji Award

This award is named for Liberal MP, and joint founder of the Indian National Congress, Dadabhai Naoroji. It is presented annually to the local Party that has done most to promote ethnic minority participants to elected office.

The Penhaligon Award

This award is named for former MP David Penhaligon who took the seat of Truro in 1974. David will always be remembered for his succinct advice to local campaigners: 'stick it on a piece of paper and stuff it through a letterbox'. It is presented to the local party which demonstrates the most impressive increase in membership and exemplary activities to deliver and involve members and supporters.

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The Patsy Calton Award

This award is named for the former MP for Cheadle and is presented (and judged) by Lib Dem Women. It is awarded to exceptional women ranging from Councillors, to members, to Parliamentarians.

17.45 Close of conference

Standing orders

Standing orders – glossary of terms

Business motion

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

Business amendment

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

Committee

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

Constitutional amendment

A proposal to change the constitution of the Party.

Secondary constitutional amendment

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

Consultative session

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

Day visitor

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

Emergency motion

A proposal which relates to a specific recent development which occurred after the deadline for submission of motions. Emergency motions must be brief.

Emergency amendment

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

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Full session

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

Point of order

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

Policy motion

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

Policy amendment

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

Policy paper

A paper prepared by the Federal Policy Committee and submitted to conference for debate under the terms of Article 7.4 of the Federal Party constitution.

Procedural motion

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

Move to next business

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

Reference back

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

Request for a count

A request to the chair that a specific vote be counted and recorded rather than decided on the chair's assessment of a show of voting cards. [Note: this does not apply to a virtual conference.]

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Separate vote

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

Suspension of standing orders

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

Special conference

An additional meeting of the conference requisitioned by the Federal Board, Federal Policy Committee, conference itself or 2% of party members, in not fewer than 10% of local parties, under the provisions of Article 6.3 of the Federal constitution.

Standing order amendment

A proposal to change these standing orders.

Secondary standing order amendment

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

Topical issue discussion

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

Voting member

A member attending conference who has satisfied the requirements for attendance and has paid the registration fee presently in force for party members as agreed by FCC, and who is not a day visitor [or observer].

Standing Orders for a conference held remotely

- a) In the event that the Federal Board determines it is impossible to hold a conference under the normal rules, and instead summons a special meeting of the conference to be held remotely, or the Committee otherwise directs that a conference shall be conducted remotely, these Standing Orders shall apply.
- b) A remote conference shall be conducted in accordance with the Standing Orders that apply to a conference not conducted remotely ('the original Standing Orders'), save that:

Standing orders

- i) All references in the original Standing Orders to votes, whether by ballot, show of hands or show of voting cards, shall instead be conducted via an online poll or alternative secure method of online voting, designated by the Committee; similarly all references to speakers cards shall be taken to mean electronic speakers' cards.
- ii) Any communications with the chair must be made via an online channel designated by the Committee for that purpose and advertised to voting members prior to the commencement of a debate.
- iii) In original Standing Order 6.2, the reference to the Chief Steward shall also include lead moderators designated by the Chief Steward.
- iv) Original Standing Order 8.7 shall apply save that the Committee may set a deadline in respect of any given full session for the receipt of electronic speakers' cards; the chair shall have discretion to accept electronic speakers' cards after the deadline.
- v) Original Standing Orders 9.1, 9.2, 11.5 and Procedural motion 3 (Request for a Count) in the Glossary of Terms, shall not apply; instead, voting members shall, when appropriate, be directed by the chair to vote using the online voting tool made available to them. Standing Order 2.3 shall not apply.
- vi) In original Standing Order 10.1, any voting member may signal to the Chair via the designated online channel that they are moving a point of order, in lieu of rising in their place.
- vii) As, by necessity, all votes shall be counted votes, original Standing Order 11.5 shall not apply; instead, the chair shall ensure the result of the counted vote is publicised to members, via the appropriate online channel.

Standing orders for a conference held physically

1. The conference agenda

1.1 What is on the agenda

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

- a) One or more consultative sessions; save that the Committee may decide not to hold any consultative sessions at a spring conference.

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- b) A business session or sessions for the consideration of reports from the Parliamentary Parties as listed in Article 17 of the Federal Party's Constitution, the Federal Board, the Federal Policy Committee and the Federal Conference Committee together with, when appropriate, reports from any other body the Committee considers appropriate, accounts, the annual report, a motion accompanying the proposed strategy of the party, business motions, constitutional amendments and standing order amendments.
- c) Policy motions (including motions accompanying policy papers).
- d) Emergency motions.
- e) Topical issue discussions.
- f) Any other business which the Committee thinks appropriate.

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

1.2 Conference or council of state parties

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

1.3 Right to submit agenda items

- a) Reports to conference may be submitted only by the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b).
- b) Business motions (including amendments and emergency business motions and amendments), constitutional amendments and secondary constitutional amendments, standing order amendments and secondary standing order amendments may be submitted by the Federal Board, Federal Policy Committee, state parties, regional parties in England, local parties, Specified Associated Organisations and 10 party members. Business motions, standing order amendments and secondary standing order amendments may also be submitted by the Federal Conference Committee.
- c) Motions accompanying policy papers may only be submitted by the Federal Policy Committee.
- d) Policy motions (including amendments, emergency policy motions and amendments) may be submitted by the Federal Policy Committee, state parties, regional parties in England, local parties, Specified Associated Organisations and 10 party members.

Standing orders

e) Proposals for topical issue discussions may be submitted by any party member.

1.4 How motions and amendments are submitted

All motions and amendments must be submitted to the Committee. They must identify a person authorised to agree to their being composited or redrafted. The detail of methods of submission will be notified for each conference via the party website.

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

The Committee shall specify:

- a) The closing date for the receipt of policy motions (including motions accompanying policy papers), business motions, constitutional amendments and amendments to standing orders, which shall be at least eight weeks before the start of conference.
- b) The closing date for the receipt of amendments to motions published in the agenda and emergency motions, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference.
- c) The closing date for the submission of written reports from the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b), which will be set so as to enable their distribution with the agenda. Any supplementary report submitted later than this deadline may only be tabled at conference with the permission of the Committee.
- d) The closing date for the submission of questions to any of the reports listed in the agenda, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference, except for questions to the reports of the Parliamentary Parties in the House of Commons, House of Lords and European Parliament, where the closing date shall be at least one hour before the start of the business session at which the report is due to be considered.
- e) Notwithstanding 1.5(d), questions may always be submitted to any of the reports listed in the agenda arising from events occurring after the deadline specified in 1.5(d). The deadline for these questions shall be one hour before the start of the business session at which the report is due to be considered.
- f) The closing date for proposals for topical issue discussions, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference

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1.6 Notification of deadlines

All dates specified under Standing Order 1.5 shall be publicised to party members and bodies entitled to submit motions. Publication in the party newspaper/magazine and website may be treated as notice for this purpose.

1.7 Later deadlines in special circumstances

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

2. Consultative sessions

2.1 The subjects for consultative sessions

The subjects for debate at consultative sessions shall be chosen by the Committee on the advice of the Federal Policy Committee and, where appropriate, the Federal Board, and published in the agenda. Two or more such sessions may be held simultaneously.

2.2 Speaking at consultative sessions

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

2.3 Voting at consultative sessions

At the discretion of the chair a vote by show of hands may be taken to indicate the weight of opinion among members present on any issue that has been debated. [Note: this Standing Order will NOT apply to a virtual conference; voting will be undertaken in a different way if needed.]

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3. The agenda

3.1 The shortlisting of motions

The Committee shall draw up the agenda and shall decide which of the motions duly submitted shall be included in it. The Committee may allocate time for one or more policy or business motions to be selected by ballot. Copies of motions not selected shall be available for inspection and will be supplied to any party member on payment of a copying charge and postage.

3.2 Motions for the amendment of the constitution or standing orders

Save as detailed below in Standing Order 4.3, all proposed amendments to the constitution or standing orders must be selected for debate.

3.3 Balance between State and Federal policy debates

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

4. Selection of motions and amendments

4.1 Compositing or otherwise altering motions

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

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

4.2 Selection of amendments

The Committee shall decide which of the amendments duly submitted to each

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motion shall be selected. No amendment shall be selected if, in the opinion of the Committee it is insubstantial, outside the scope of the motion, or tantamount to a direct negative of the motion.

4.3 Motions for the amendment of the constitution or standing orders

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

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

4.4 Emergency motions

The Committee may reject an emergency motion if:

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

No amendment shall be taken to any motion selected under this Standing Order.

4.5 Ballots for emergency motions

All emergency motions, except those rejected under Standing Order 4.4, must be placed either on the agenda for debate or in a ballot for selection by Conference. The Committee may hold separate ballots to select which of a range of emergency policy motions and which of a range of emergency business motions to debate.

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If one or more ballots is held the Committee shall circulate the text of all balloted motions to the voting members as soon as practicable and shall specify a closing time for the ballot. Following the counting of any ballots the Committee shall organise the debates on the motions in the order chosen by conference in the ballots.

4.6 Emergency amendments

The Committee shall have complete discretion whether to select emergency amendments for debate.

4.7 Topical issue discussions

The choice of subjects for topical issue discussions shall be made by the Officers of the Committee in consultation with the Officers of the Federal Policy Committee. In choosing the subjects, the Officers shall have regard to the significance and topicality of the subjects proposed and whether they are likely to provoke a lively discussion.

5. Special meetings

5.1 Timetabling of special meetings

The Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the requisitioning of a special meeting of the conference, fix a date for the meeting, draw up the agenda and, if appropriate, specify a date for the submission of amendments. The meeting shall deal only with the business stated in the notice of requisition save that the Committee may allow time for emergency motions and for business which is formal or, in its opinion, uncontentious.

5.2 Preferred timescales for special meetings

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

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6. Appeals

6.1 Appeals against rejection of motions

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

6.2 Appeals against exclusion from conference

Any person excluded from conference by a decision of the Chief Steward shall have the right of appeal to the Committee at the next of its regular meetings. The exclusion shall remain in force pending the appeal. [Note: this Standing Order will apply with modifications to a virtual conference: the Chief Steward may designate people to act as lead moderators for the conference chat.]

7. The chair

7.1 Who chairs conference

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

7.2 The chair's aide

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

8. Conduct of debate

8.1 Variation in the order of business

The Committee may propose to the conference a variation in the order of business

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as set out in the agenda. Such variation shall be put to the vote and shall take effect if approved by a majority of those voting.

8.2 Withdrawal of motions and amendments

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

8.3 The order of debate

The Committee shall direct the order of debate. Generally, however, a motion will be moved and immediately thereafter the amendments and options will be moved in the order directed by the Committee. There will then be a general debate. The movers of amendments and options (or their nominees) shall have the right of reply in the same order (except that where an amendment or option has not been opposed during the debate, the chair of the session shall have the right to direct that its movers shall not exercise their right of reply), after which the mover of the motion (or the mover's nominee) shall have the right of reply. Votes shall then be taken on the amendments and options in the order in which they have been moved and, finally, on the substantive motion. The Committee may direct that part of any motion or amendment or groups of amendments may be the subject of a separate debate.

8.4 Topical issue discussions

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

8.5 Who may speak

All voting members may speak at a full session of conference. Additionally, the Committee may invite any person to address the conference as a guest. Neither such provision shall prejudice the right of the chair of a session to select speakers.

8.6 The special rights of the Federal Committees

Provided that the Federal Policy Committee is not proposing the motion or any of the amendments to be taken in a debate on a policy motion or on motions relating

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to the policy-making processes of the Party it shall have the right to nominate a person to report its views on the subject before the conference. The Federal Board shall have similar rights on business motions or motions to amend the constitution, as shall the Federal Conference Committee on motions relating to the proceeding and procedures of the conference and to amend standing orders. Such a person shall be called to speak for the same length of time as the person replying on behalf of the mover of the motion.

8.7 The selection of speakers

Voting members wishing to speak in any debate shall submit a speaker's card, prior to the commencement of the debate in which they wish to speak, stating whether they wish to speak for or against an amendment, the motion or part of the motion. The chair shall be responsible for the choice of the speakers and shall attempt to provide a balanced debate between the different viewpoints in the conference, but may announce a departure from this rule if there is an overwhelming preponderance of members wishing to speak on the same side. The chair shall have the discretion to accept speakers' cards after the start of the debate. Save as provided for in these standing orders, no person may speak more than once in any debate. [Note: this Standing Order will apply with modifications to a virtual conference: speaker's cards must be submitted electronically and by no later than 17.00 on the day before the relevant debate, although the chair has a discretion to accept cards submitted after the deadline.]

8.8 The length of speeches

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

9. Voting at conference

9.1 The method of voting

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

[Note: this Standing Order will NOT apply to a virtual conference if the new set of

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Standing Orders for a virtual conference is passed; instead a secure online poll or alternative shall be used.]

9.2 Counting of votes

A vote by show of voting cards shall be counted:

- a) If the Committee has so directed.
- b) If the chair so directs.
- c) As the result of a procedural motion under Standing Order 11.5 below.

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

[Note: this Standing Order will NOT apply to a virtual conference.]

9.3 Separate votes

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

- a) On the direction of the Committee.
- b) At the discretion of the chair.
- c) As a result of a procedural motion under Standing Order 11.4 below.

10 Points of order

10.1 Making a point of order

Any voting member may rise on a point of order which shall be taken immediately except that, during a vote, no point of order shall be taken that does not refer to the conduct of the vote. The chair's decision on all points of order shall be final. [Note: this Standing Order will apply with modifications to a virtual conference: the chair must be contacted via debates@libdems.org.uk.]

11 Procedural motions

11.1 Next business

- a) A voting member may, during any full conference session, submit, in writing, a request that conference move to next business, giving the reasons to do so. The submission shall not exceed 75 words.

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- b) The chair may either take the request immediately upon receipt, or at the end of any speech currently being made. If more than one request is received the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken in respect to any motion or report.
- c) When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to consider the request to move to next business. If conference decides, by a simple majority of those voting, to do so, the person who made the request may speak. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes. If conference decides not to debate the proposal, it falls.
- d) The proposal shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting being to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

11.2 Reference back (moved by a voting member)

- a) A voting member, who has not already spoken in the debate, may, at any time before the chair has asked the first speaker in reply to stand by, submit, in writing, a request to refer back the motion under debate. The submission shall state to whom the motion is to be referred and shall include a statement of the reasons, including reasons why voting against the motion would not achieve a similar result, not exceeding 75 words.
- b) The chair may take the request to refer back at whatever stage of the debate they consider appropriate. If more than one request is received, the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken with respect to any motion.
- c) When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to consider the request to refer. If conference decides, by a simple majority of those voting, to do so, the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes. If conference decides not to debate the reference back, it falls.

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- d) The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.
- e) If the substantive motion is referred to the Federal Board, the Federal Policy Committee or the Federal Conference Committee that body shall, in its report to the next meeting of the conference, state what action it has taken on the reference.

11.3 Reference back (moved by the Federal Policy Committee)

- a) The Federal Policy Committee may, at any time before the beginning of the debate on a motion, submit, in writing, a request to refer that motion to the next meeting of the conference. The chair shall announce the existence of such a request at the start of the debate.
- b) The chair may take the request to refer back at whatever stage of the debate they consider appropriate. A nominee of the Federal Policy Committee will speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair shall have discretion whether to allow other speakers on the request.
- c) The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.
- d) If passed, the Federal Policy Committee shall, before the next meeting of the conference, circulate its reasons for acting under this section and its comments on the motion and any amendments thereto accepted for debate.

11.4 Separate vote

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

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vote. In exceptional circumstances, the Chair of the debate shall have discretion to accept a request for a separate vote if it is received in writing after this deadline.

11.5 Counted vote

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

[Note: this Standing Order will NOT apply to a virtual conference.]

11.6 Suspension of standing orders

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

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carried all standing orders shall remain in force except only for the purposes set out in the motion.

11.7 No procedural motions during votes

No procedural motion can be moved during a vote.

12 Reports

12.1 Which reports are tabled

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

12.2 Submission and selection of questions

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

12.3 Whether questions are in order or not

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

12.4 How questions and supplementary questions are put and answered

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

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and (e) which are in order, and to all supplementary questions asked.

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

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

12.6 Receipt of reports from other bodies

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

13 Amendment of standing orders

13.1 Amendment of standing orders

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

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14 The Chair and Vice Chairs of the Committee

14.1 Chair and Vice Chairs

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

The Federal Party

Officers of the Federal Party

Leader – Rt Hon Sir Ed Davey MP

President – Dr Mark Pack

Vice President (England) – Alison Rouse

Vice President (Scotland) – Sheila Ritchie

Vice President (Wales) – Paula Yates

Vice President (BAME) – Isabelle Parasram

Chair of FFRC – Anthony Harris

Chair of FPDC – Mary Regnier-Wilson

Treasurer – Tilly McAuliffe

Chief Executive – Mike Dixon

Federal Conference Committee (FCC)

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 party's Chief Whip in the House of Commons; three state party representatives; one representative from the FB, two from the FPC, one from the Federal Communications & Elections Committee (FCEC), one from the Federal People Development Committee (FPDC); and fifteen directly elected members. It elects its own chair, who must be one of the directly elected representatives.

Federal Policy Committee (FPC)

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.

The FPC has 29 voting members: the Party Leader and six other parliamentarians,

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the Party President; two local councillors, three state party representatives, one member of the FCEC and 15 members directly elected by members. It must be chaired by the Leader.

Federal Board (FB)

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 FB 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 Party 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 FPC; a local councillor; a Young Liberals representative; three state party representatives; and 15 directly elected members.

Federal Finance and Resources Committee (FFRC)

The FFRC is responsible for planning and administering the budget and finances of the Federal Party, overseeing its administration and ensuring 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 (who chairs it); the Registered Treasurers of the three state parties; five other members (elected by the FB); the Party Treasurer; the Party President; one representative of the Parliamentary Office of the Liberal Democrats; the Chief Executive; and one member of Federal staff.

The Federal Board

Mark Pack, Party President
Isabelle Parasram, Vice President
Elaine Bagshaw, Vice-Chair
Jeremy Hargreaves, Vice-Chair, FPC rep
Alison Rouse, Chair, English Party
Sheila Ritchie, Scottish Party Convenor
Paula Yates, Chair, Welsh NEC
Ed Davey MP, Leader
Christine Jardine MP, Parliamentary Group rep
Lord Paul Strasburger, Parliamentary Group rep
Munira Wilson MP, Parliamentary Group rep
Chris White, Principal Local Authority Councillor
Kevin Lang, Scottish Party rep
Bill Powell, Welsh Party rep
Nicolas da Costa, FCC Chair
Phillip Bennion, FIRC Chair
Lisa Smart, FCEC Chair
Tony Harris, FFRC Chair
Mary Regnier-Wilson, FPDC Chair
Helena Cole, FASC Chair
Tara Copeland, Young Liberals co-Chair
Callum Robertson, Young Liberals co-Chair
Lisa-Maria Bornemann
Luke Cawley-Harrison
Kishan Devani
Neil Fawcett
James Gurling
Jo Hayes
Caron Lindsay
Simon McGrath
Roisin Miller
Joyce Onstad
Candy Piercy
April Preston
Alice Thomas
Gerald Vernon-Jackson

The Federal Board

Federal Board non-voting members:

Terry Stacy, LGA rep

Wendy Chamberlain MP, Chief Whip (Commons)

Tilly McAuliffe, Federal Treasurer

Mike Dixon, Federal Chief Executive

Paul Moat, Staff rep

Federal Board and Federal Conference Committee helpdesks

Members of the Federal Board and members of the Federal Conference Committee will be available to chat with conference attendees at their helpdesks in the virtual exhibition at the following times:

Friday	17 September	15.45–17.45
Saturday	18 September	12.30–14.00 and 15.45–17.45
Sunday	19 September	12.30–14.00 and 15.45–17.45
Monday	20 September	12.30–14.00 and 16.45–18.30

The Federal Conference Committee

Nicholas da Costa, Chair

Chris Adams, Vice Chair

Jon Ball, Vice Chair

Cara Jenkinson, Vice Chair

Mark Pack, Party President

Duncan Brack

John Bridges

Belinda Brooks-Gordon

Jon Burree

Wendy Chamberlain MP

Baroness Lynne Featherstone

Jenni Lang

Liz Lynne

Chris Maines

The Federal Conference Committee

Simon McGrath

Keith Melton

Joe Otten

Mary Regnier-Wilson

Jennie Rigg

Bex Scott

Rachelle Shepherd-DuBey

Joseph Toovey

Non-voting members:

Mike Dixon, Federal Chief Executive

Esther McGee, Staff Rep

The Federal Policy Committee

Ed Davey MP, Chair

Lucy Nethsingha, Vice Chair

Jeremy Hargreaves, Vice Chair

Mark Pack, Party President

Duncan Brack

Belinda Brooks-Gordon

Julia Brown

Sally Burnell

Christine Cheng

Richard Cole

Tara Copeland

Adam Corlett

Oliver Craven

Helen Cross

Alec Dauncey

Alyssa Gilbert

Robert Harrison

Wera Hobhouse MP

Elizabeth Jewkes

The Federal Policy Committee

Susan Juned

Mohsin Khan

Sarah Ludford

Mark Platt

Catherine Royce

Baroness Julie Smith

Peter Thornton

Non-voting members:

Nicholas da Costa, FCC rep

Lisa Smart, FCEC rep

Philip Bennion, FIRC rep

Janey Little, co-opted