Chair – Tara Copeland

* Finished up the last of our MP Q&A’s with Daisy Cooper, Jamie Stone, and Tim Farron for the time being, we’ve had great turn out at these and have successfully engaged new members through them. Some attendance figures were upwards of 50.
* Set up emails for all our new officers
* Leadership hustings has been organised thanks to Jack Worrall, Chessie will be the chair, still need to find two more backup chairs to have trained
* Met with Mark, Baroness Thornhill, and Chessie to discuss YL and the Thornhill report
	+ Was productive and felt like there was a better understanding for Baroness Thornhill, and Mark about how Young Liberals are looking to respond to the report
	+ Skills and training – YL specific
	+ Increase engagement, especially outside of universities
	+ Increase our diversity within the organisation as a whole and in elected positions
	+ Better links with party decision makers
		- More open communication and engagement to better understand what the goals or YL are
	+ Better links with the wider party
		- How YL can help local parties, regional parties, and state parties
	+ Cement ourselves in as a critical body of members and the future leaders of the party
	+ Creation of a Youth manifesto in conjunction with the federal party
* Meeting with Josh, chair of ALDES and Kathy, about better coordination between SAOs and AOs
	+ Possible fringe event on diversity in STEM working with LDCRE and Lib Dem women
* Meeting with Mark, Chessie, Kathy, and Pushkin
	+ Discussed the work YL is doing on diversity including events, consultations, possible campaigns, and reviews
	+ Building better links with HQ and the Party bodies
	+ Talking the question about children and party engagement
	+ Get YL activities onto the monthly party newsletter
	+ Ensure that inductions for new starters in HQ will include information about YL
	+ YL activities to be included in the all staff update at HQ
	+ Local parties should have a youth officer, but if not, we need to have someone as a designated contact so there is better flow of communication between YL and local parties
	+ Sending an induction email to MPs and other elected officials to let them know what YL is and what we do to encourage closer links
* Been working on putting together a YL structure presentation, still in a draft stage and will be sent to officers for input.
* Drafting possible questions to include on a questionnaire to be sent out to leadership candidates to fill out and then circulate (probably via email) to the membership

**Projects:**

* How YL works presentation and structure flow chart – possibly to be included in welcome emails and/or as a webinar (in progress)
* Leadership election Questionnaire (in progress)
* Discuss better communication between regional chairs and the federal party, providing contact details for regional chairs and contact details for local parties– local parties should look to regional chairs as first point of contact along (in progress)
* YL Elections hustings
* Tip sheet on youth engagement for local parties

Vice Chair – Charlie Murphy

Growth continues in Forum, and I’ve discussed with the moderation team processes which may be required for issues pertaining to exec members. We’ve worked with input from the exec on a couple of issues, but have no great issues to report. I’ve reached out to Alliance Youth to see if they’d be up for including their members in YL Forum too.

Documentation on the website is up-to-date, with the exception of recent changes to the exec regulations, which is a fairly short task so should be achievable very soon.

All exec members who have provided details of their preferred pronouns now have these listed on the website, and the staff member has been added to the exec page with contact information.

Finance Officer – Finn Conway

### To Do from 25/04:

1. Get a Zoom account (**A**)
2. Get a Canva Pro account (**I**)
3. Follow up on federal internet banking (**B**)
4. Make sure everything is cancelled for Summer Conference (**C**)
5. Sort International Access Fund (**II**)

### Done since 25/04[[1]](#footnote-1):

1. Got a Zoom account
2. Followed up on federal internet banking
3. Bookings transferred for Summer Conference
4. Contacted States about banking arrangements
5. Publicised the Branch Development Fund

### To Do before 25/07:

1. Get a Canva Pro account
2. Sort International Access Fund
3. Reallocate budget according to new COVID situation
4. Decide on what to do about Freshers Fair 2020
5. Write branch guides (and publish them)
6. Investigate YL merchandise
7. Draft and consult about YL meeting standing orders
8. Contact branches about financial support
9. Update HQ Compliance about change of address
10. Assist States in changing banking arrangements

Communications Officer – Dan Schmeising

Nothing to Report

Campaigns Officer – Sophie Thornton

**No Report Submitted**

Policy Officer – James Bliss

I’m not going to go into an extraordinary amount of detail in this (in part because there is so much but also because of the amount of other things I have to get through), but between now and the last meeting I have been extraordinary busy.

* The drafting advice process went quite well, there were some hiccups in me being late to get back to some people for personal reasons, but everyone pretty much received feedback on their motions
* We had an \*extraordinary\* large number of submissions 29 motions and 11 constitutional amendments. A lot of the stuff I have been doing is trying to cut back the number, by merging motions/const amendments, asking people who submitted multiple to choose one ext. I didn’t need to fully push anyone into deferring anything and the responses were very understanding thankfully
* Policy Committee held a rare proper meeting (as opposed to groupchat/email discussions) in order to discuss some of the motions and the large number, i found this very positive and good (previously I hadn’t really seen the need for actual meetings) and will definitely be using more when appropriate.
* The preliminary agenda is now out and amendments deadline next week, I have been inundated with questions so thats what I am primarily going to be working on for the next week
* Since the end of the consultation on the BAME Officer role, I have been working with Meraj, Kathy and Pushkin, as well as consulting Chris (since he wrote the original amendment) to produce an amendment/amendment to the amendment that fits within the results of that consultation. It was slightly more inconclusive than originally thought, but I believe that the best course of action going forward is to leave the question of if it is elected to conference.
* More general conference discussions are going well, and I have attended meetings/been involved in discussions through that, including the meeting with geoff payne. I’ve started to put together plans for how Chairs/Aides are going to work, asking people directly to run the exec scrutiny session, and talked to chessie about both speakers cards and a new conference code of conduct.
* The drafting deadline for autumn conference is next week, and so at some point when I find time (god knows when) I will be putting together a couple of policies from the policy book to submit

On a personal note, I return to work next Friday so will somehow (but probably unsuccessfully) need to find a new balance between work and YL stuff between now and conference otherwise ill end up burning out, so I may need to switch off for large parts of the day/set specific days as “YL” days.

**FPC Meeting 24/6**

FPC had some discussion on ongoing working groups motions and the policylab project (which seems to be going tentatively well with the first group of people allowed on). The majority of the discussion was on motions being brought to conference, including on on Europe and a Federalism motion that has been written by Scotland (with input from wales I believe). If anyone has any specific questions on any of the motions I can answer them.

Events Officer – Joshan Parmar

**Conference Planning**

* Dates have been set for conference
	+ 19-26th July
* Had meeting with federal conference committee about the usage of their system
	+ Overwhelming consensus that zoom is a more sensible system
* Tested zoom polling features
	+ Will have been discussed in a joint policy conference committee meeting on 25th June
* Begun compiling a list of speakers and contact information
	+ Will begin contact speakers in an order of precedence to be decided at next conference committee meeting
* Opened up sign up for conference
* Begun preliminary planning for social events

**Other events**

* Will begin planning other events after the YL conference happens - vital to keep engagement up over the summer

Membership Development Officer – Alex Howarth

Since our last meeting, I have been very busy with a number of projects. I have (with the help of Dan) successfully launched the opt-in pilot for our age range changes. While we had hoped to pass a constitutional amendment this year, it was agreed following discussion with the Party President that we would work within the current constitutional frameworks to make opt-in membership of YL free and that the Party would help us facilitate this.

I have also been working hard with both Policy Committee and Conference Committee to produce our online conference, looking particularly at training for members, for which we now have two settled topics, and on ensuring that debate chairs and aides will be trained in the software and standing orders. Similarly, we now have set topics and trainers for federal autumn conference.

I have produced a tentative first draft of training to be delivered to English Regional Chairs at the beginning of their terms. I will continue to take advice on this and work to perfect it for the remainder of my term.

Finally, I have been working hard to respond to the large number of enquiries I’ve had recently about the Branch Accreditation Scheme, from YLers and non-YLers alike.

Accessibility, Diversity, and Standards Officer – Katharine Macy

Completed:

* Meeting with Rebecca Procter RE how YL can improve, followed up by a meeting with her, Jack Worral and Kian Hershaw - hope to discuss in the meeting
* Diversity graphics (thanks to Amy Weatherald) to attempt to make sure people know who their representatives are
* BAME Action points meeting with Meraj Khan, Pushkin Defyer and Dipa Vaya
	+ What you as a white YLer can do (along with Pushkin Defyer)
	+ Dipa wrote a Lib Dem Voice article praising our work and advertising the document
	+ Adding agenda items to the meeting (how the exec works coffee morning, non-facebook community and BAME campaigns
* Success women and NB quiz (again thanks to Amy Weatherald) - amazing black women and non-binary round included
* Carer’s Week (along with Carol Hayward) - video from Jamie Stone, petition was shared widely inc. by Caroline Pigeon (petition is entirely credit to Dan Schmeising), facebook posts shared a lot
* Attended every YL event held
* YL Pride
	+ Cocktail and mocktail competition - concluded with a recipe book, good engagement and plenty of mocktails.
	+ Bake off competition - also good engagement with some different people entering, recipe book also created
	+ Pride itself went well - Helen’s speech was fantastic and many people have sent good feedback - a typeform for formal feedback will be created
* Ableist language graphic

Working on:

* Supporting BAME consultation/amendments
* Trans support/education document with Caitlin Richardson
* Engaging with LYMEC’s Hear me out, take me in online training
* Candidate literature (still - this is something that keeps falling to the bottom of the to do list, my apologies)



BAME Officer – Pushkin Defyer

There are four motions to Conf in relation to BAME Issues, two of which I've worked and written with people and proposed in my role as BAME Officer as people felt comfortable approaching me about working on these ideas which is promising to see

I have set up with the help of the LDCRE an article platform for Young BAME LDs to voice their experiences of racism within Party politics and am in contact with Dan about YL sharing the articles on their platforms, Ive also written the first article for this platform

I have set up draft structure for YL Alderdice report based of the alderdice report and will present to the exec

There was a BAME Officer consultation report over whether my position should be elected and if there should be a separate non voting LDCRE nominated exec member in which the result was 50/50 for my positions being elected, and if it were elected a large majority would support the LDCRE having a non-voting exec member. An amendment put together by James Bliss will be sent off to conference for a vote on the matter.

I have been in contact with the Black Curriculum about what they stand for and what we could do to potentially help

I attended a meeting organised by Guy Bensen about Chris Annous’ right to remain campaign where we discussed and created an action plan about resuming the campaign and going forwards

I attended a meeting organised by Tara Copeland with Mark Pack in which we discussed diversity with me and Katherine Macy present to give our insight on the matter

International Officer – Catriona McDougall

Nothing to report

Non-Portfolio Officer – Guy Benson

Wrote and got LD Voice article published from the executive

Arranged and held meeting with myself, Sophie, Meraj, Chris and Pushkin regarding progressing the right to remain campaign

English Chair – Jack Worrall

EYL had a meeting last sunday and here are the minutes of it:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xnX5A37eGGE2ijZSvtG9GBPPT_akaVcgJ9MjDNf9cv4/edit>

We talked at length with Sophie Thornton in a very constructive discussion. We are very grateful for all exec members who have come in and talked with our exec. We find it very useful.

We are sorting out the constitution and will have it ready for the EYL AGM.

We discussed the English Council and one spicy motion in particular

Alex gave training and asked for feedback for training for the new EYL exec of 2021

I don’t think there have been any ECE Meetings since but we have coopted 3 members onto exec. We have confirmed that Self-ID is ECC policy.

I have also been very active in the Online Conference organising. I am glad that Joshan has come in and has taken the ball.

Welsh Chair – Chloe Hutchinson

**Elections**

We have filled the vacancies on the WYL Committee as of the 18th June. With a total of 7 candidates, several of which have not previously engaged, competing for the 3 positions and over 27 individual voters, an improvement on the last set in November.

Campaigns Officer – Glyn Preston and Leena Farhat
Policy Officer – Ed Patrick
Communications Officer – Harvey Jones

I would like to formally thank Chessie for all her help running this election – she was an absolute star.

We have held 1 committee meeting so far.

**Societies and Branches**

Cardiff and Bangor have successfully elected a new committee. Swansea is holding it’s AGM soon (we hope. I am chasing). Sadly the Aberystwyth society has collapsed. I am currently aware of one party member starting in September, but we need 10 students to set up a society.

We have also set up regional pages on our Groups section on the website as we had a few people signing up on old pages and have members wanting to get active outside of our handful of societies. These are not properly constituted groups but more serve as a page to get in touch and have a single point of contact to get involved. We are in the process of identifying reliable people to do this.

**Finances**

All but one piece of paperwork has been completed to change the mandate and resolve our banking issues. Unfortunately, HSBC require the previous signatories (Trudi and Callum) to sign a single form, and go into the bank together with valid ID. They do not allow for this to be done separately. Under COVID restrictions this is not possible as they do not live in the same city and travel is restricted to 5 miles.

Exploring the potential of opening an alternative account as we are looking to close the HSBC account soon anyway.

**Freshers**

We have discussed preliminary plans for our Freshers campaign and are drawing up a consultation for members. We plan to hold a series of events hosted in collaboration with societies, potentially extending beyond the typical Freshers period depending on lockdown situation. Facebook advertising will be key to our campaign and we plan to target ads across the UK to those that like pages connected to Welsh universities and other factors. We have set up a spreadsheet to map the situation at each university/college we wish to target.

The two themes/issues we are currently exploring are the environment and supporting live music venues.

We will need a sign-up form asking for name, e-mail, place of study and hometown. The reason for asking for both is so we can help people get engaged wherever they are based and to allow us to share info across YL. If Federal YL adopt a similar sign up approach we will use that form as there is little point in duplicating.

**Other**

On the 18th June we led a ‘Dodds Debate’ for Welsh party members on young people in politics, intergenerational inequality, and how to get involved. It went well and there may be future events on intergenerational indequality.

Our Comms Officer (Harvey) is developing a WYL style guide, with a focus on how we cater to bilingual comms and what a bilingual logo looks like for us.

We have set up a basic risk register and manifesto tracker. The manifesto tracker also has a section to identify training needs.

Introducing a Welsh members newsletter – **would it be possible for there to be a YL Comms calendar so Welsh members don’t get too many YL e-mails on a single day?**

Our Reps to YL Committees are as follows:
Policy – Ed (I remain as a non-voting member for the time being)
Conference – Trudi

Scottish Chair – Christopher Wilson & Andrew Reynolds

* SYL was contacted by lecturers at the University of Edinburgh to ask if we could promote a project examining the experience of young people in Lothian. This was spread amongst young liberals in the area via our social media, with the Ed Uni chair contacted as well.
* SYL is currently performing a review of our constitution, highlighting areas where wording could be improved upon or rewritten etc
* Nothing else of note to report
1. Owing to my intermediate exams, this date is chosen over other intervening meetings. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)