

Week Commencing 18th November 2018

Chairs:

Things we've done:

- Chaired the first meeting arranged a date for the budget & strategy meeting.
- Organised the next Executive meeting and circulated a draft agenda.
- Represented YL at two Federal Board phone in meetings.
- Organised a "Policy Forum" with former policy officers to help advise on a plan to get YL policy accepted for Federal Conference.
- Set up all of the Executives new emails and email groups for committees.
- Started up the formal Executive Whatsapp group and added the Honorary President and Honorary Vice-Presidents to this group.
- Had two telephone meetings with Party Directors at HQ about how YL can work better within the party and where the party can support YLs activities.
- Organised relevant training for executive members and had conversations about organising the same for State Executives.
- Finalised updating the nationbuilder permissions and given all relevant officers their new permission sets.
- Wrote a letter to Lord Newby (our leader in the Lords) about the Lord Lester suspension vote.
- Drafted letters to send to our MPs ahead of the upcoming Brexit vote.
- Started talks with Party President about changes to the age range of YL.
- Began considering places for future Executive meetings and mapping out the location of executive members.
- Am working with Digital Department at HQ to migrate all the State Domains onto the Young Liberals G-Suite to allow for easier management and state specific @s on email accounts.
- Began talks with relevant people in HQ about getting some form of age collection upon sign up.
- Picked up talks with external bodies (such as FFS, Hope not Hate, Lib Dem Expand etc.) and working to set up meetings with all to discuss future cooperation.
- Have arbitrate in a members appeal against a Forum ban.

Things still to do:

- Arrange a date and time for a sit down meeting with the Party President.
- Have meetings with Rachel Palmer-Randle (Director of People) at HQ.
- Set up the new English Executives email accounts and relevant email groups - *this is due to the "executive-elect" situation which exists at present.*

Vice Chair:

Things I've Done:

- Attended Conference Committee Meetings
- Organised yearly calendar for Vice Chair
- Attended NYEL's new members day

To Do:

- Email LD Women, LDCFRE, and ALDC about events throughout the year and establishing closer relationship with them
- Plan budget
- Address new moderators/admins for YL Women and Forum (state moderators)

Finance:

Done/In Progress:

- Travel Expenses budget 2019
- Reimbursements for 03/11/18 meeting
- Sign some forms

To-Do:

- Communicate with other officers to draw up their budgets, particularly Campaigns and Events
- Finish reimbursements for 03/11/18 meeting

Communications:

This fortnight, I have been doing a lot of preparatory work for the implementation of my manifesto pledges. This began with the Exec meeting on 3rd November, where strategic priorities for each portfolio were discussed.

Since then, I have drawn up an implementation plan for each pledge, including discrete goals for each, as well as lists of time-limited steps for measuring progress. This is about to be shared with the exec, and will eventually form a Gantt chart by which members themselves can track my progress on implementing the things they elected me to do.

More specifically, I have begun an initial outline of the Federal Communications Plan, in preparation for writing it up and putting a first copy before the Communications Committee. I have also started to discuss plans and goals with Communications Committee. In due course, co-options will open for the unfilled space on the Committee, for which I encourage everyone to apply.

I have been active on the YL social media accounts, where we have had significant success with engagements (proportionally outstripping the main party on many occasions for the same message), and have collaborated with the Campaigns Officer to start using Young Liberals blog posts to enable us to convert engagements to participation. I have also begun sending emails, and am in the preparatory stage for sending out the first monthly bulletin, which I am planning to go out in late November/early December.

As ever, any questions or requests for communications help should be sent to me at harry.samuels@youngliberals.uk - I can't promise that everything is possible, but I will certainly try to help as best I can.

Campaigns:

So I've done:

- Started YL Style Guide
- Worked on finalising General Election contingency planning report
- Developed new communication strategy for key campaigns with Comms Officer
- Worked on supporting young PPCs during their selections
- Worked with Co-Chairs on setting up GDPR-compliant Typeforms which will be used for Freshers and Young and Winning campaigns
- Put together the first of many YL blog posts to support our campaigns with relevant material and direct engagements towards www.youngliberals.uk

Policy:

Done:

Get policy book published to site
Organise first meeting for housing working group

To do:

Housing working group meeting
Organise application forms for criminal records working group

Events:

Done:

Spoken with Kathy and Alex to schedule in events over the next year.

Spoken with Nomi to design a call for conference bids.

Discussed aims and objectives for future events:

A focus on gender equality, improving policy writing, and building up additional membership outside of universities.

Went to ALDE Congress:

- spoke to Sal about proposed reforms and funding
- spoke to Alliance and Gibraltar's Liberal Party about a possible joint event in July.
- received fundraising training

To do:

meet Tilly (Lib Dem Business) to discuss future cooperation
Investigate accessibility things for Lib Dem Federal Conference
Begin organisation for the two conferences -
Ideally have a location and a date my the next meeting.

Membership Development:

I've been working with Huw to work out rough dates for New Members' Days and training events, including fixing a date and working on a location for a women and non-binary New Members' Day in January.

I've also begun work on online resources for branch chairs, and plan to contact Harry and Charlie on this in the coming days. This has included liaising with a number (though not all) of regional chairs/regional chairs elect.

To do:

- Email Harry and Charlie about creating online resources for newer or smaller branches
- Work up a list of draft locations for New Members' Days and training events, including contacting state and regional chairs for advice on locations
- Fix a definite location and training for the women and non-binary New Members' Day
- Work up a list of potential training events for conferences

Welfare and Accessibility:

So far I have:

Spoken to Huw about increasing conference accessibility

Discussed membership days with a focus on specific groups with Alex and Huw

Spoken to Nomi about training for both the executive and conferences

To do (by the new year):

Confirm details of our first membership day, the women and non binary day to be held January 12th

Ensure changes occur when organising conference by communicating with Huw and conference committee

International:

Since taking over the main international event has been ALDE Congress where I dealt with a number of issues. Together with Finn I have made arrangements for us to pay our IFLRY membership fee.

ALDE Congress Report

Met with the LYMEC President, Treasurer and Secretary General to discuss LYMEC London. I should be receiving a draft budget by the end of the month. At the Congress, **we set a date for LYMEC London of the last weekend in October 2019 (25-27 October 2019)**. At the meeting LYMEC made clear that, the only members of the executive that they will discuss the Congress with are myself and Huw. This is because of the personal relationship members of the bureau have with both of us.

I spoke to several Lib Dem groups about possible financial support for YL in hosting LYMEC and our international activities.

I discussed collaboration between YL and Liberal International British Group (LIBG), who are also keen to engage with us. I previously discussed closer working with them at LD

conference in September and this was a plank of my manifesto. I will be proceeding with this in the coming weeks. LIBG also indicated that they would be willing to donate to the YL international budget to help meet the costs of international travel.

Myself and Huw, continued our efforts to engage with the Liberal Youth of Gibraltar and had a successful meeting with members of their mother party.

I also attended a fundraising seminar at the Congress. Please see the email that Huw set all of you on the 10th for full information.

Finally, at Congress me and Huw discussed our proposed constitutional reforms with Sal Brinton. As mentioned in the update she expressed similar concerns that we ourselves have. But overall, she was supportive of the reforms and expressed a willingness to come to an exec meeting of YL conference to discuss them with us and/or our membership.

To do:

Follow up emails from ALDE Congress

Write LDV article on Congress

Write report for and attend FRIC

Begin work on International Web page and 'Guide to international liberalism'

Between 23-25 November, I will be in Barcelona, attending IFLRY's Autumn General Assembly.

Non Portfolio:

Not much to report - started working on the age raise, submitted the proposal to the exec for adoption of support of it as a formal position which was passed. Have been looking through constitution and at things that raising the age will have an impact on (eg financial structure) to ensure we are prepared for any issues it may raise and for discussions with Sal/FB/HQ. Need to follow up with Callum about potential meetings with Sal, and talk to Nomi to about what discussions need to happen with HQ.

English Chair:

Nothing to report, working on EYL handover.

Welsh Chair:

1. The Welsh Executive Committee started off on a 'missed step', with the positions of Vice Chair and Campaigns Officer not being filled following the election.
2. Following a first executive 'Welcome & Handover Update' meeting on 06/11/18, the new executive committee confirmed that they were content with taking on their new roles. In the same meeting, the following was decided:
 - i) Co-options will be held to fill the roles of Vice Chair and Campaigns Officer. Welsh Language Coordinator will also be advertised as part of this process. The co-options were originally planned to have taken place in the week following the meeting,

however due to difficulties with organising a returning officer, the opening of nominations was postponed until 19/11/18

ii) The executive will provide Quarterly Action Plans for their portfolios. It was decided that these will be postponed until after the co-option process has finished.

iii) All exec members are content to support each other manifesto pledges.

3. The Welsh Exec is now waiting for the co-option process to conclude before meeting again.

4. The website remains to be updated with current information regarding societies and exec members.

Scottish Chair:

SYL are currently in the process of archiving out chatbox and opening something new. We've also decided to fortnightly update emails to our membership where possible. Our next moves are getting the a new RO since Callum became co-chair and then getting our policy co-options sorted. We've also started the process of creating our conference buddy system that will see first time conference attendees paired with people who know the ropes so nobody is left sitting by themselves in the conference hall all weekend not knowing anyone.