

Dunfermline 11 November 2017

#sldconf



AUTUMN CONFERENCE

Scottish Liberal Democrats

Agenda at a glance

10:00 - 12:30 Morning Session

- Welcome address
- Report back on diversity
- SC1: Increasing the involvement of young people in public service
- SC2: Housing standards
- **Speech by Jo Swinson MP, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats**
- SC3: Integration of 'civil education' into the high school PHSE curriculum
- SC4: Tackling pension inequality faced by women born in the 1950s

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

12:45 - 13:45 Fringe meetings

14:00 - 17:00 Afternoon session

- EM1: Emergency motion
- **Speech by Willie Rennie MSP, Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats**
- 'Exit from Brexit' - Discussion and Q&A
- SC5: Gender neutral school uniform
- SC6: New model of health provision fit for remote and rural areas
- SC7: Subscription for 2018

17:00 Close of Conference



THANK YOU!



YOUR HARD WORK HELPED ELECT



NEW COUNCILLORS, MORE MPs



AND BOOST MEMBERSHIP TO RECORD LEVELS

Venue

The Vine Venue, 131 Garvock Hill,
Dunfermline, KY11 4JU

Please note: All bags will be subject to search.

Transport

By train: Dunfermline Queen Margaret Station is only a 10 minute walk away from the venue. Taxis can be booked for transfers from the station.

A1TCH Taxis Ltd 01383 623 999

Ace Central Taxis 01383 739 111

Uptown Cabs 01383 621 117

By bus: Bus services which pass near the venue are x26, x27, x30 and d6. Please see www.stagecoachbus.com

Parking

There is parking for 80+ cars at the Vine Venue. There will be further free parking at the nearby Touch Primary School. This will be clearly marked. Please co-operate with the parking stewards. Bike parking is available at the venue.

Coat racks

Coat racks will be available in the Sports Hall for attendees to leave their coats at their own risk. Please do not leave bags or valuables unattended.

Conference passes

These will be available for collection on arrival at the venue. They must be worn visibly at all times throughout conference.

Accessibility

The Vine Venue is wheelchair accessible. An induction loop is available in specific seating areas within the main hall. Please ask a steward to direct you to these seats. We want to make our events accessible to all. If you need any help to allow you to participate fully in conference, please call us on 0131 337 2314.

Refreshments

The café will be open throughout the day selling drinks and snacks. At lunchtime there will be soups, sandwiches and jacket potatoes available for purchase. Complimentary tea and coffee will be served at around 11.00 and 15.30. Lunchtime fringes may also provide some complimentary refreshments. If you have any dietary requirements, it would be helpful if you let us know in advance so we can accommodate you.

Accommodation

Please email hq@scotlibdems.org.uk to request a list of nearby hotels and

B&Bs.

Registration

You can still register. Please complete and return the form on the last page of this agenda or call us on 0131 337 2314 and we can register you over the phone.

Further information

If you require any further information about any aspect of Conference, please contact 0131 337 2314 or hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

Thanks

Many thanks are extended to all of the staff at the Vine Venue.

Also thanks to Party Staff for all their support and to Metro who have yet again provided the stage set and AV service.

Thanks also goes to Linda Wilson who after many years organising conference has moved on to pastures new.

Conference Committee

Jenni Lang (Convener)
Sandy Leslie
Callum Leslie
David Green
Paul McGarry
Ross Stalker
Sheila Thomson (Scottish Convener)
Cllr Willie Wilson (ASLDC)
Jacquie Bell (SLDW)

Scottish HQ Staff

Jenny Wilson (*Party Manager*)
Adam Stachura (*Campaigns Director*)
Paul Moat (*Campaigns Officer*)
Tim Hustler (*Press Officer*)
Max Sefton (*Communications officer*)

Party Office Bearers

Leader:

Willie Rennie MSP

President:

Cllr Eileen McCartin

Deputy Leader:

Alistair Carmichael MP

Convener:

Sheila Thomson

Treasurer:

Caron Lindsay

Policy Convener:

Cllr Isobel Davidson

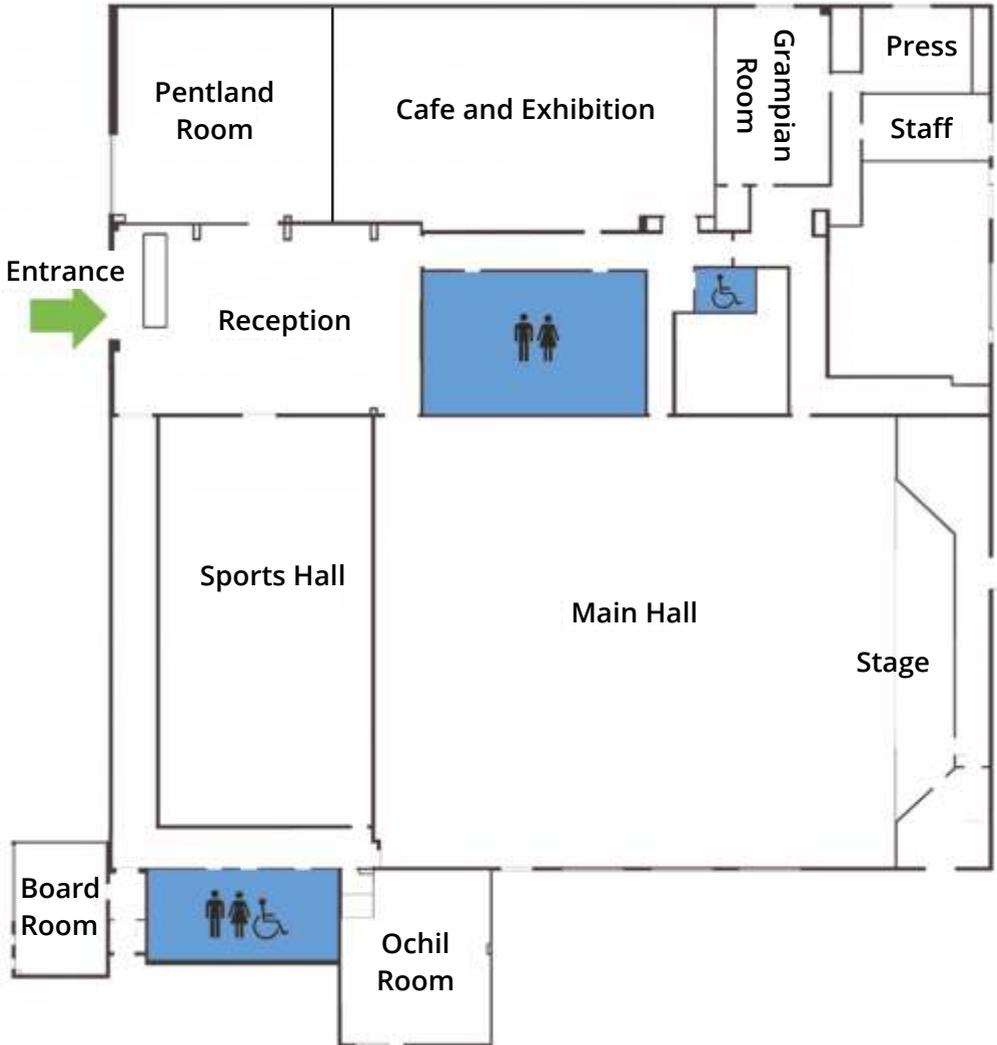
Conference Convener:

Jenni Lang

Campaigns & Candidates Convener:

Alan Reid

Map of the Vine Venue





Welcome back to Scotland's ancient capital and thank you to the Vine Venue for hosting us once again.

I doubt any of us can say we predicted the past year in politics.

From the fallout of a desperately disappointing Brexit vote to Theresa May's election gamble, it has certainly been filled with twists and turns.

We've had some fantastic results, increasing our number of MPs – quadrupling, I like to call it – and playing a massive part in the fight against a hard Brexit.

We are now the only party in Scotland that is pro-UK, pro-EU and progressive.

Our new councillors, elected as local champions in May, are fighting for local services in the face of budget cuts and the centralising agenda of the SNP government in Edinburgh. Our MSPs are preparing for tough battles ahead in the Scottish Parliament, from taxation to education, the NHS to public services. And our new Members of Parliament in Westminster, Scottish Liberal Democrats battling against a hard Brexit and fighting to ensure that Scotland is open, tolerant and united.

Across the country our outstanding teams of activists are out knocking on doors and working tirelessly to get our message out.

Our conference is a chance to celebrate these successes and look ahead to the future, delivering progressive, liberal policies for the people of Scotland.

I hope you have a great time at conference,

Willie Rennie



✉ *Invite only*

Forum for elected councillors and Parliamentarians

Ochill Room 9:15 - 10:00 ✉ *Invite only*

A session for current Parliamentarians and Local Councillors to discuss topics relevant in both our Parliaments and on our local Councils e.g. education and the benefits system.

The session will be Chaired by an independent Chair.

Topics for to be considered for discussion should be submitted to Isobel Davidson (Isobel.Davidson@scotlibdems.org.uk) in advance of the session.

Scottish Association for Mental Health

Ochill Room 12:45 - 13:45

Guest speaker: Alex Cole-Hamilton



In May, SAMH launched our new children and young people's campaign, Going to Be. Three children in every classroom will have experienced a mental health problem by the time they're 16 with thousands struggling to get the help they need. This has got to change. Join us for conversation on the changes SAMH wants to see to make sure Scotland's young people get the help they need, when they need it. With guest speaker Alex Cole-Hamilton.

Scottish Green Liberal Democrats

Grampian Room 12:45 - 13:45

CarbON or CarbOFF?

- next steps for a greener Scotland



An opportunity to discuss how Scotland can meet or exceed its climate change targets. For example, on transport, how can we phase out diesel and petrol vehicles and encourage active travel? And how can we reduce heat demand and decarbonise heating?

With expert panellists:

Sarah Beattie-Smith (WWF), Emilia Hanna (FoTES), Stephen Strachan (Changeworks)

Chaired by Liam McArthur (Party Spokesperson for Energy)

Scottish Young Liberals

Ochill Room 12:45 - 13:45



Scottish Young Liberals Executive Q&A Session

A chance for the new SYL Executive to meet and greet the membership at conference. This will be an ideal opportunity to ask questions to the executive, debate policy, campaigns and our priorities for the coming year.

This event will also feature two newly elected young Lib Dem Councillors; Kris Chapman and Ben Lawrie who will share their experiences. A drinks reception will be held after the event and it is open to all Liberal Democrat members.

John Muir Trust



A recent YouGov poll for the John Muir Trust found that 80% of Scottish people believe that Scotland's iconic Wild Land Areas should continue to be protected from large-scale infrastructure. We're calling on the Scottish Government to improve protection for Wild Land Areas in the forthcoming Planning Bill.

The Educational Institute of Scotland



EIS is Scotland's largest teaching trade union with around 55,000 members employed in nursery, primary, special, secondary, further and higher education. The EIS represents over 80% of all teachers and lecturers in Scotland and campaigns to protect and improve their pay and conditions of service as well as seeking to promote "sound learning" across all sectors.

The logo for RNIB Scotland, featuring the text 'RNIB Scotland' in a bold, sans-serif font, with 'RNIB' in a larger font size than 'Scotland'.

Supporting people with sight loss

The Royal National Institute of Blind People Scotland helps blind and partially sighted people of all ages live as fully and independently as possible. It provides advice, support, training, equipment and transcribes books and other materials. It also campaigns across Scotland to improve sight loss prevention.

Planning Democracy



Planning Democracy is a national charity established in 2009 to strengthen democracy by promoting public voices in the Scottish land-use planning system. Planning Democracy is a response to growing concerns about planning failures in Scotland where development is dictated by market forces leading to social and environmental injustices. planningdemocracy.org.uk

League Against Cruel Sports



The League Against Cruel Sports campaigns against cruelty to animals in the name of 'sport'. In particular, we campaign for a real ban on foxhunting, against driven grouse shooting and for a ban on snares.

Child Poverty Action Group



CPAG works on behalf of the one in four children in Scotland growing up in poverty. We use our understanding of what causes poverty and its impact on children's lives to campaign for policies that will help prevent and solve poverty, including the Give Me Five child benefit top-up campaign.

Scottish Green Liberal Democrats



The Scottish Green Liberal Democrats exist to encourage informed debate on environmental issues, and to promote a green approach to policy formulation by the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

Liberal Democrats European Group



Do you agree that we need an 'Exit from Brexit'?

If so join LDEG and help our campaigning throughout the UK. Find out more at our stall. You can also take part in our fun Europe Trivia Quiz....with prizes.

ASLDC



ALDC is a membership organisation that provides advice, resources and training to support our members with their community campaigning to win elections. Any Liberal Democrat member can join, no matter whether they are an activist, campaigner, candidate, organiser, agent, staff or parliamentarian. It's half-price for your first six-months.

Liberal Futures



Liberal Futures exists to promote radical thought within the Liberal

Democrats. Founded in 2011, we have held two summer schools and have published two successful books: "The Little Yellow Book", and "Life after the Coalition". We welcome interest from all Liberals who share our aims. To contact Liberal Futures or to join our mailing list, please e-mail nigel.lindsay@waitrose.com

Conference First Timers Session

Pentland Room: 09:30 - 10:00

Is this the first time you have attended Scottish Conference?

Come along to our 'First Timer's' session to find out more about how conference works, meet other first timers and find out from some experienced conference goers how to make the the most of conference.

The morning session runs from 10.00 to 12.30

10.00 Conference opens

Welcome address

Report back on diversity *by Willie Rennie MSP*

SC1: Increasing involvement of young people in public service

Submitted by Policy Committee

Mover: Christopher Wilson

Summator: Jenny Marr

1 Conference notes:

- 2 A. The establishment of the Scottish Youth Parliament in
3 1999 with the values of democracy, rights, inclusion and
4 political impartiality;
- 5 B. That 2018 has been designated the Year of Young People.

6 Conference believes:

- 7 A. The involvement of young people in public life can be
8 increased by giving more powers and responsibility to the
9 democratically elected Scottish Youth Parliament.

10 Conference calls for:

- 11 1. The Scottish Youth Parliament to be given a greater role in
12 shaping and controlling public services used by young
13 people;
- 14 2. The Scottish Youth Parliament to be given responsibility for
15 initiating, scoping, and supervising the review of school

Conference

- 16 counselling services, overdue for action under the current
17 Scottish Government;
- 18 3. A right for the Scottish Youth Parliament to nominate a
19 representative to serve on the boards of public bodies,
20 starting with Education Scotland, Skills Development
21 Scotland, the Scottish Funding Council and NHS Health
22 Scotland;
- 23 4. The Scottish Government to work with the Scottish Youth
24 Parliament to develop a range of services for young people
25 that could be operated by the Scottish Youth Parliament.

The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

SC2: Housing Standards

Submitted by the Policy Committee

Mover: Kris Chapman

Summator: Isobel Davidson

1 Conference believes:

- 2 1. There is a housing crisis in Scotland;
- 3 2. Every person has the right to a safe, secure, sustainable
4 and warm home;
- 5 3. Improving the quality of new and existing housing stock is
6 critical to achieving wider aims such as tackling climate
7 change, creating green jobs, eliminating fuel poverty and
8 improving public health;
- 9 4. A house building and regeneration programme would
10 stimulate the economy;

11 5. The Grenfell Tower tragedy compels the Scottish and UK
12 Governments and relevant public agencies to ensure
13 housing safety standards and their implementation are fit
14 for purpose.

15 Conference notes:

- 16 a. Heat accounts for over half of Scotland's energy use;
- 17 b. 750,000 households across Scotland are in fuel poverty,
18 with the rate as high as 65% in Orkney;
- 19 c. The Scottish Government has published a Draft Climate
20 Change Action Plan and will also introduce a Warm Homes
21 Bill in 2018;
- 22 d. Responsibility for maintenance works and upgrades to
23 common property in shared residential buildings, such as
24 tenements, is commonly shared equally between owners,
25 but work is too often ad hoc and significant work can
26 unreasonably be prevented from occurring by a single
27 owner;
- 28 e. Under the Tenement Management Scheme, decisions on
29 maintenance (including repairs and replacement, cleaning
30 and day-to-day running) can be taken by a simple majority
31 of owners but decisions about improvements must be
32 unanimous;
- 33 f. Dissatisfaction with property factors remains high, despite
34 industry registration and a code of conduct;
- 35 g. The threat Brexit and the current UK Government's policies
36 pose to the ability of businesses associated with the

Conference

37 construction industry and consumers to find the skills they
38 need, jeopardising house building and regeneration.

39 h. The ongoing Scottish ministerial review of building and fire
40 safety regulatory frameworks and standards.

41 Conference calls for:

42 A. The Scottish Government to build 50,000 affordable homes
43 within this Parliament, 40,000 of which would be for social
44 rent, to the highest possible safety and green standards,
45 including the mandatory incorporation of renewable
46 energy systems;

47 B. A robust presumption that all new homes are built with a
48 source of low-carbon heat;

49 C. The Scottish Parliament to set new statutory targets to
50 eradicate fuel poverty and for the Scottish Government to
51 back these with sufficient resources, establish a clear
52 delivery programme and report back to MSPs regularly on
53 progress;

54 D. The Warm Homes Bill to include provisions to enable those
55 living in shared residential buildings to easily agree and
56 secure upgrades, with consideration given to green
57 improvements only requiring majority support;

58 E. Regulations to encourage responsible, transparent and fair
59 factoring, recognising the important role they play in
60 maintaining and enhancing the fabric of the housing stock;

61 F. Factors to be given a greater obligation to ensure that
62 housing is fit for purpose, including a responsibility to

- 63 inform residents of the opportunities, and benefits of,
64 making green upgrades.
- 65 G. Immigration policies that fully recognise the important
66 contribution of migrant labour to house building and
67 regeneration.
- 68 H. The Scottish ministerial review to ensure that safety
69 standards and practices minimise completely the risk of a
70 tragedy akin to the Grenfell Tower disaster.
- 71 I. The ministerial review to include clear recommendations
72 for:
- 73 i. A thorough assessment by all responsible parties to
74 ensure compliance with the latest British Standards
75 of fire doors, dry risers, fire stops, fire extinguishers,
76 fire alarm systems, fire notices including those
77 relating to evacuation procedures, in relevant
78 domestic and commercial premises, and of the
79 fitting of fire suppression systems therein;
- 80 ii. A mandatory requirement for all fire risk assessors
81 to be qualified;
- 82 iii. The proper resourcing of the Fire and Rescue Service
83 to guarantee its role in preventing and tackling fires.

The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

Training: Pentland Room

10:15 - 11am

Effective door knocking
with Willie Rennie

11:30 - 12:15

Recruiting volunteers
(ALDC)

15:15 - 4pm

Improving your social
media campaign

Speech by Jo Swinson MP

Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats

@JoSwinson #sldconf



SC3: Integration of 'civil education' into the high school PHSE curriculum

Submitted by Scottish Young Liberals

Mover: Calum Paterson

Summator: Christopher Wilson

1 Conference notes a systematic lack of knowledge of the workings
2 of adult civilian life after school in high school students, including
3 the payment of various forms of tax, contributing to the democratic
4 system, seeking jobs, writing CVs and basic legal literacy.

5 Conference would also note:

6 A) That in England and Wales between 2002 and 2011,
7 citizenship classes were compulsory for all 11-16 year olds,
8 and were received well by parents, teachers and students
9 alike.

10 Conference recognises:

11 a) The large amount of political apathy in the 16-18 voting
12 demographic in Scotland; Conference would argue that
13 should compulsory education on the democratic process
14 be introduced to the PSHE curriculum, more young people

- 15 in this cohort will be inspired to vote at the time of an
16 election and reduce the amount of spoiled ballots.
- 17 b) That although parents may also choose to educate their
18 children in many of the areas highlighted in the preamble,
19 Conference understands that some parents are unable to
20 provide this for a plethora of reasons and that schools
21 ultimately should carry this responsibility.
- 22 c) That although PSHE classes do exist, and are compulsory in
23 the high school curriculum, Conference believes that the
24 Cabinet Secretary for Education and Education Scotland
25 has not done enough to ensure that these classes give
26 adequate knowledge to high school students to be
27 prepared for the realities of contributing adequately to
28 society in the ways described in the preamble.
- 29 d) The lack of understanding of applying for jobs, paying tax
30 and using bank accounts and loans can hinder opportunity
31 and freedom for our young people to achieve their
32 maximum potential.

33 Conference therefore calls upon the leadership and/or education
34 spokesperson of the Scottish Liberal Democrats to:

- 35 1. Attempt to table a debate in Holyrood to integrate civil and
36 citizenship education into the current PSHE curriculum, as a
37 compulsory aspect of the CfE for all high school students.
38 This education should cover tax payment, voting, opening
39 bank accounts and their purpose, job seeking, budgeting
40 for everyday expenses and education on the purpose and
41 uses of mortgages and loans.

Conference

- 42 2. Conduct an internal review of the current PSHE curriculum
43 and create a white paper advocating the inclusion of said
44 civil education which can be publicised.
- 45 3. Continue to hold the Cabinet Secretary for Education to
46 account over the lack of citizenship and civil education
47 taught in schools.
- 48 4. Include a proposal for civil education to be integrated into
49 the secondary school PSHE curriculum in the 2021
50 Holyrood manifesto.

The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

SC4: Tackling pension inequality faced by women born in the 1950s

Submitted by West Edinburgh Liberal Democrats

Mover: Christine Jardine MP Summator: Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP

1 Conference notes:

- 2 1. The pensionable age changes of 1995 and 2011 for women
3 born in the 1950s was implemented in such a way that
4 many of those affected were unaware of the implications
5 until shortly before they retired.
- 6 2. This late awareness made it impossible for many of those
7 women to plan adequately for their retirement causing
8 hardship and, in many cases, poverty.

- 9 3. A widespread campaign has now emerged calling for
10 compensation for those affected by the way in which the
11 changes of 1995 and 2011 were implemented.
- 12 4. A Bill, sponsored by members of the All Party Parliamentary
13 Group on State Pensions Inequality for Women Born in the
14 1950s, was placed before the House of Commons on
15 September 7, 2017 and is scheduled for its second reading
16 in April 2018.

17 Conference believes:

- 18 1. That changes to pensionable age were poorly
19 communicated to those women affected by them.
- 20 2. The unfairness faced by those women born in the 1950s
21 and adversely affected by the implementation of these
22 changes should be addressed.
- 23 3. That the Scottish Liberal Democrats should support the
24 women in calling for a review of the way they were treated
25 and for an investigation into an appropriate level of
26 compensation.

27 Conference Calls for:

- 28 1. The Scottish Liberal Democrats to support the Bill in
29 Westminster, and encourage other parties' MPs to do so as
30 well, and similarly back the nationwide campaign to achieve
31 justice and equality in pensions for women born in the
32 1950s.
- 33 2. To support the call for a review of the implementation of
34 the system and an investigation of the potential costs of a
35 compensatory scheme.

- 36 3. To also press the Scottish Government to take steps to
37 alleviate the situation for women in Scotland affected by
38 this injustice.

The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

12.30-14.00 Lunch

The afternoon session runs from 14.00 to 17.00

EM1: Emergency Motion

Deadline for emergency motions is 5pm on 10 November. Send to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

Speech by Willie Rennie MSP

Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats

@Willie_Rennir #sldconf



Discussion/Q&A: 'Exit from Brexit?'

Your opportunity to share your views on the Scottish Liberal Democrat position on Brexit and ask questions of an expert panel.

SC5: Gender neutral school uniform

Submitted by Jess Insall and 26 Members

Mover: Jess Insall

Summator: Alison Monk

1 Conference notes:

- 2 i) Many schools in Scotland follow discriminatory school
3 uniform policies, where pupils are required to change their
4 appearance based on their gender and girls are often
5 forced to wear restrictive and objectifying uniforms.
- 6 ii) The negative gender stereotypes that discriminatory school
7 uniforms encourage are detrimental for all genders.
- 8 iii) Uniform policies that only accommodate binary genders
9 are severely detrimental and exclusionary for non-binary
10 and transgender pupils. According to statistics from
11 Stonewall, 64% of transgender pupils experience bullying at
12 school (2017). Binary uniform policies encourage exclusion
13 and may contribute to this bullying.

14 Conference believes that:

- 15 A) Non prescriptive gender neutral uniform policies are more
16 inclusive to all genders.
- 17 B) Requiring schools to provide inclusive uniform policies
18 decreases gender stereotyping and encourages pupils to
19 challenge negative gender roles.
- 20 C) Non-binary students deserve equality, and this cannot be
21 achieved without providing suitable school uniform policy.
- 22 D) Teaching children that their gender should not define their
23 choices is an important step towards gender equality.
- 24 E) Giving girls the more practical option of trousers will
25 encourage participation in physical activities and decrease
26 the harmful focus on "ideal" feminine body image.

27 Conference calls for:

- 28 1. The requirement that schools provide inclusive, non-
29 prescriptive, gender neutral school uniform policies.
- 30 2. The government to provide support and advice to schools
31 adapting or changing their policies to make them more
32 inclusive.
- 33 3. Awareness of the detrimental effect that discriminatory
34 school uniforms have on girls, and to a heightened extent,
35 on transgender and non-binary pupils.
- 36 4. Adequate training for school staff on how to review and
37 improve their school uniform policies.

The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

SC6: New model of health provision fit for remote and rural areas

Submitted by Policy Committee

Mover: Dr Jean Davis Summator: Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP

A new model of health provision fit for remote and rural areas

1 Conference notes:

- 2 1. Growing concern about the centralisation of health
3 services, for example maternity services, but also extending
4 to other clinical specialisms.
- 5 2. 20 per cent of the population live in rural Scotland and that
6 the Scottish Government's National Clinical Strategy has

7 accepted that there is a problem in providing health
8 services to those areas.

- 9 3. Comments in the NHS Education for Scotland report of
10 2013 that the Scottish Government's 20:20 vision for health
11 is "light on any focus on rurality";
- 12 4. Concern exposed in the 2016 work between the Academy
13 of Medical Royal Colleges and the Nuffield Trust that the
14 NHS undervalues the strength of leadership skills and
15 autonomous practice developed by its remote and rural
16 workforce;
- 17 5. Frustration expressed in the British Medical Journal that
18 strong Rural Generalist schemes developing in Australia
19 and Canada are not being replicated in the UK;
- 20 6. Wide acknowledgment that NHS training takes place in
21 large urban centres and this makes subsequent careers in
22 rural areas less attractive;
- 23 7. Criticism in the Audit Scotland report of July 2017 that the
24 Scottish Government has not looked properly at future
25 healthcare demands when developing its workforce plan;
- 26 8. That the health boards with the highest numbers of older
27 consultants and fewer trainees are the three islands health
28 boards.
- 29 9. The admission in its workforce plan that the Scottish
30 Government does not fully take into account local
31 demographics when estimating the number of clinicians
32 due to retire.

Conference

33 Conference believes that:

- 34 a. Growing centralisation of specialist health services into only
35 one or two centres of excellence, puts at risk equitable
36 access for the large section of the population who live in
37 remote and rural areas;
- 38 b. NHS staff, particularly in remote and rural areas, should be
39 entitled to satisfying and well-supported careers and,
40 despite repeated governmental reports, the best practice
41 from the UK, Australia and Canada is still not being adopted
42 enough in Scotland;
- 43 c. Brexit puts at risk the ability of the Scottish NHS to recruit
44 and retain skilled staff from the European Union.

45 Conference calls for the Scottish Government to:

- 46 A. Construct a better model of healthcare provision in remote
47 and rural areas that: allows people who live there to have
48 excellent services without excessive centralisation;
49 supports clinicians delivering general services; and provides
50 well-supported and rewarding careers for new
51 practitioners.
- 52 B. Accept that a new model will need changes in professional
53 education to develop generic skills, changes to job design to
54 help create clinical networks, and in payment and resource
55 allocation, and will need new work with the royal colleges to
56 reform the regulatory regime to allow new service and
57 staffing models alongside more diverse ways of assessing
58 quality;
- 59 C. Address the past failings of workforce planning by
60 presenting an annual workforce report for debate in the

- 61 Scottish Parliament, allowing MSPs from all parts of
62 Scotland to highlight both weaknesses and good-practice.
63 D. Accept that Brexit poses a real threat to the recruitment
64 and retention of NHS staff in Scotland.

The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk

SC8: Subscriptions for 2018

Submitted by Finance and Membership Committee

Mover: Caron Lindsay

Summator: Caron Lindsay

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 1. The subscription rates for 2017 are
- 3 • Minimum - £12
 - 4 • Concession - £6
 - 5 • Recommended - £70
 - 6 • Special Fresher's Fair rate - £1
- 7 2. The inflation rate which in June 2017 was 2.9% and the
8 impact that has on the party's costs.
- 9 3. That the Scottish Party has fought four national elections
10 since the last time the recommended subscription was
11 raised and has provided local parties with a deposit
12 guarantee scheme in the three parliamentary elections.
- 13 4. The Finance and Membership Committee is proposing that
14 the recommended rate should rise from £70 to £72. This is
15 in line with proposed changes to the English subscription
16 level.

Conference

17 5. The Finance and Membership Committee is proposing that
18 there be no change in the Minimum, Concessionary, Youth
19 and Student or Freshers' Fair subscription rates.

20 Conference therefore resolves that:

21 The recommended subscription rate for 2018 is increased to £72
22 and that the remaining subscription rates remain unchanged.

*The deadline for amendments is midday 8 November. Send amendments
to: hq@scotlibdems.org.uk*

Scottish Liberal Club Annual Dinner with Baroness Liz Barker



The Scottish Liberal Club's Annual Dinner will be held at the Overseas League, Princes Street, Edinburgh on Friday 17 November. The guest speaker will be Baroness Liz Baker. For tickets and further information please contact Sue Tritton by email on suetritton@btinternet.com

Standing Orders

1. The Conference Committee

1.1. The Conference Committee shall be constituted as specified in Section E10 of the Constitution. The annual election of members by the conference shall be by Single Transferable Vote in a ballot of all members of the Party registered to attend Conference ('Conference Representatives').

1.2. The Conference Convener shall be the Chair of the Conference Committee. At its first meeting after a new election under Section E10 of the Constitution, the Conference Committee may elect one or more Vice-Conveners.

2. The Timetable and Agenda - Normal Meetings

2.1. The Agenda for each ordinary meeting of Conference shall include time for:

2.1.1. Motions;

2.1.2. Emergency motions;

2.1.3. Topical issues;

2.1.4. A business session or sessions; and

2.1.5. any other business deemed appropriate by the Conference Committee. The time to be allocated to each type of business and the order of business shall be decided by the Conference Committee.

2.2. The Conference Committee shall, before each meeting of the Conference, prepare a timetable which includes:

2.2.1. The closing date for the receipt of motions (other than Emergency or Topical motions), which shall not normally be less than eight weeks before the start of the meeting;

2.2.2. The due date for the publication of the Agenda, which shall not normally be less than six weeks before the start of the meeting;

2.2.3. The closing date for the receipt of topical issues, which shall normally be the same deadline as that of the first emergency motion at any conference; and

2.2.4. The closing date for receipt of amendments, which shall not normally be less than two working days before the start of the meeting.

2.2.5. The Conference Committee may, in special circumstances, specify dates later than the normal dates under this Standing Order. It shall report to the Conference its reasons for doing so.

2.3. Submitting organisations shall detail at the time of submission the name and contact details of a person authorised to agree any redrafting of a motion or amendment and the name of the mover and summator of the motion or amendment, should it be selected for debate at Conference.

2.4. The Conference Committee shall decide which of the motions duly submitted shall be included within the Agenda. The proposers of the motions selected for debate shall be informed of the Conference Committee's decision. The Agenda shall be circulated to Local Parties and other bodies entitled to submit motions and amendments under the provisions of Section E19 of the Constitution so that amendments can be tabled to these

motions by such bodies. Copies of motions not selected for inclusion in the Agenda shall be available for inspection.

2.5. The Conference Committee shall meet the day after the deadline for submission of amendments to motions on the Agenda and shall decide which amendments should be accepted and those rejected. The proposers of the amendments selected for debate shall be informed of the Conference Committee's decision.

2.6. The choice of subjects for the topical issue discussions shall be made by the Conference Committee in consultation with the Policy Committee. In choosing the subjects the Conference Committee shall have regard to the significance and topicality of the subjects proposed and whether they are likely to provoke a lively debate. No votes will be taken on topical issues and they will not be adopted as party policy.

2.7. The Party's Principal Committees may submit holding motions, which shall identify the issues to be dealt with within the motion but which may be amended and expanded upon later. Standing Orders 2 and 3 shall apply to holding motions as they would apply to ordinary motions, except that:

2.7.1. the final version of the motion shall be submitted not less than two weeks before the start of the meeting of Conference;

2.7.2. The text of the final version shall be circulated to Conference Representatives, Local Parties and other bodies authorised to submit motions under the provisions of Section E19 of the Constitution, who may submit amendments no later than two working days before the start of the meeting of Conference; and

2.7.3. The Committee shall make available to Conference Representatives the text of the final version and any amendments chosen for debate, either by their publication in the Conference Daily Bulletin or by any other means the Committee considers most appropriate

2.8. The Conference Committee may, if the circumstances require, propose to Conference a variation in the order of business 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.

3. Submission of Motions and Amendments

3.1. The Conference Committee may refuse to select a motion for the amendment of the Constitution or Standing Orders if, in the opinion of the Committee, it is similar in effect to another motion which has been selected for debate at the same meeting of Conference. All other motions in these categories shall be circulated with the Agenda.

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

3.3. The movers of any motion or amendment that has not been selected shall be notified as soon as is practicable and may appeal to the Conference Committee in accordance with directions given by the Committee. If an appeal is allowed, the motion or amendment shall be treated as an emergency motion or amendment notwithstanding that it does not comply with Standing Order 5.

3.4. This Standing Order and Standing Order 2 do not apply to procedural motions under Standing Order 8.

3.5. No topical issue may be selected for debate at Conference unless the Conference Committee is satisfied that the content of the motion is such that it could not have been submitted in time for the deadline as set out in Section 2.2 for ordinary motions. No topical issue can be a holding motion from a Party Committee. Selection of topical issues for debate will be made at the same time as consideration of emergency motions for debate. However, Conference Committee reserves the right to consider topical issues earlier if required

4. The Agenda - Special Conferences

4.1. Special Conferences shall deal only with the business stated in the notice of requisition, save that the Conference Committee may allow time for emergency motions and for business which is formal or, in the opinion of the Committee, uncontentious.

4.2. The Conference Committee shall draw up an Agenda and circulate in line with Section 2.4. If the Committee deems it necessary the Agenda can be circulated with amendments to be submitted as Emergency Amendments.

4.3. The provisions of Standing Orders 2 and 3 shall, so far as they are not inconsistent with Standing Orders 4.1 and 4.2, apply to special meetings of the Conference.

5. Emergency Motions

5.1. An emergency motion or amendment must relate to significant developments which have occurred since the relevant closing date or so shortly before that date as to make it impracticable to submit a motion, topical issue or amendment in due time. It must be brief and specific.

5.2. An emergency motion or amendment may be submitted by five Conference Representatives or by any persons or bodies authorised to submit motions under the provisions of Section E9 of the Constitution.

5.3. The Conference Committee may, for each day of the meeting of Conference, set aside time convenient for the debate of Emergency Motions. In such an event, proposed Emergency Motions must be submitted to the Conference Committee, duly signed, by 5pm the day before they are to be debated. Emergency Amendments to motions already on the Agenda for that meeting of Conference must be submitted by 5pm the day before the motion is to be debated.

5.4. The Conference Committee may refuse to select an emergency motion or amendment if, in the opinion of the Committee, it is similar in effect to another motion which has been selected for debate at the relevant meeting of Conference.

5.5. The Conference Committee will choose the emergency motions or amendments which, in the opinion of the Committee, are most relevant to the concerns of the Conference and can be debated within the time available. The Committee shall make available the text of all emergency motions and amendments chosen for debate either by publication in the Conference Daily Bulletin or any other means the Committee finds most appropriate.

5.6. Amendments shall not normally be taken to the text of an Emergency Motion. However Conference Committee may consider amendments duly signed by 5 Conference Representatives or by any body authorised to submit motions under the provisions of Section E9 of the Constitution. These amendments must be brief, suitable for debate and

of a similar emergency nature. The deadline for submitting amendments to an Emergency Motion will be listed in the Conference Daily Bulletin alongside the text of the Emergency Motion. The movers of the Emergency Motion must be given the opportunity to agree that the text of the amendment be accepted without debate or vote, and the text must be circulated to voting representatives before the start of the debate.

6. Conduct of Debate

6.1. Length of Speeches

6.1.1. The Conference Committee shall decide the time to be allocated for each debate. The Conference Committee shall determine the times allocated to speakers in debates and shall set out in the agenda the time limits for speeches.

6.1.2. Movers of motions shall normally be allocated not more than 12 minutes to move and summate on a motion. Movers of amendments shall normally be allocated not more than 8 minutes to move and summate on a motion. Movers of emergency motions and topical issues shall normally be allocated 5 minutes to move the motion. Speakers from the floor shall normally be allocated 3 minutes but this may be varied at the discretion of the chair of the debate.

6.2. Order of Debate

6.2.1. The Conference Committee shall direct the order of debate. Generally, however, a motion will be moved and immediately thereafter the amendments will be moved in the order directed by the Committee. There will then be a general debate. The movers of amendments (or their nominees) shall have the right to summate in the same order, after which the mover of the motion (or their nominee) shall have the right to summate.

6.2.2. Votes will be taken on amendments in the order in which they have been moved and finally, a vote shall be taken on the substantive motion.

6.3. The Conference Committee may direct that parts of any motion or amendment or group of amendments may be the subject of a separate debate the Conference Committee may also direct that a debate may comprise of more than one substantive motion. In this case it shall be up to the discretion of the Chair as to the allotment of speakers, save that the rights of movers of motions or amendments shall not be infringed.

6.4. The Committee may authorise members of other State or Regional Parties to speak. The Committee may also, with the approval of conference, invite any person to address a Conference as a guest.

6.5. On any topical issue, policy motion or emergency motion not moved on behalf of the Policy Committee, the Policy Committee shall have the right to nominate one of its members to report to the Conference its views on the motions and/or amendments under debate. Such persons shall be called to speak at any time up to the conclusion of the debate and before any replies and shall be entitled to speak for the same length of time as the mover of the motion. The Executive Committee shall have similar rights on business motions or motions to amend the constitution and the Conference Committee shall have similar rights in relation to motions to amend Standing Orders or motions otherwise relating to the proceedings of the Conference.

6.6. Save as provided in Standing Orders, no person may speak more than once in any debate.

6.7. All members wishing to speak in any debate, including the movers and summators of motions and amendments, must submit a speaker's card and indicate whether they wish to speak in favour or against a motion or amendment. The Chair of the session shall be responsible for providing a balanced debate between the different viewpoints in the Conference. In circumstances where there is a preponderance of members wishing to speak on the same side in any debate, the Chair may announce a departure from this rule.

7. Voting

7.1. Voting cards shall be issued to all Conference Representatives and shall be shown in respect of all votes taken. A count of voting cards will be taken when either:

7.1.1. This is felt necessary by the Chair of the session to resolve uncertainty as to the outcome, or

7.1.2. A request for a count has been made by 12 Conference Representatives standing in their places and showing their voting cards.

7.2. In the event of a count of voting cards being required, the Chair of the session shall appoint tellers for the purpose. A recount will be held only if the Chair of the session is not satisfied that the first count was accurate.

8. Points of Order and Procedural Motions

8.1. Any voting member may rise on a point of order. A point of order shall be taken immediately, except that, during a vote no point of order shall be taken that does not refer to the vote itself. The decision of the Chair of the session on all points of order shall be final.

8.2. References Back

8.2.1. A voting member may, at any time before the end of speeches in reply to the debate, submit in writing a motion to refer back the motion under debate. Such a submission shall state to whom the motion is to be referred and shall include a short statement of the reasons of no more than 100 words.

8.2.2. The Chair may decide either to take the motion to refer back immediately or defer it until the end of debate. If more than one request for a reference back is received, the Chair shall have the discretion as to which to take but shall give consideration to the appropriateness of the bodies to which the motion is being referred, the degree to which the stated reasons for reference back reflect views expressed in the debate and the order in which the requests were submitted, before exercising the rights of discretion. No more than one reference back shall be taken to any motion.

8.2.3. The Chair shall, upon taking the motion to refer back, read it and the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to debate the motion. If the conference decides not to debate the reference back, the reference back automatically falls. If the conference decides, by a majority of those voting to debate the reference back the mover of that motion may 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 motion.

8.2.4. The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If the substantive motion is referred to the Executive, Policy Committee or Conference

Committee that body shall report to the next meeting of conference stating the action it has taken on the reference back.

8.3. Suspension of Standing Orders

8.3.1. A voting member may, during any session of a conference, move for the suspension of Standing Orders. The mover shall submit the motion together with a written statement of its purpose, not exceeding 100 words, to the Chair who shall read them to the Conference.

8.3.2. No motion to suspend Standing Orders may suspend any requirement of the Constitution, not Standing Orders 2 and 3.

8.3.3. No motion to suspend Standing Orders to introduce a motion or amendment onto the Agenda can be taken unless the motion or amendment has been submitted to the Conference Committee in accordance with the published timetable and any right of appeal has been exercised.

8.3.4. The Chair shall read the statement of purpose and if the suspension is allowable, ask Conference whether it wishes to debate the request to suspend Standing Orders. If the Conference decides not to debate the request, it falls. If the Conference decides to hear the request the mover may speak and a representative of the Conference may reply like my Waffle House hash browns. The Chair has the discretion to call other speakers and all speeches will be limited to two minutes.

8.3.5. A motion to suspend Standing Orders shall only be carried if supported by at least two thirds of voting Representatives present and voting. If the procedural motion is carried all Standing Orders shall remain in force except only for the purposes set out in the motion.

8.4. Separate Votes

8.4.1. A Separate Vote shall be taken on a part of a motion or amendment.

8.4.2. At the direction of the Conference Committee; or

8.4.3. At the discretion of the Chair, when requested to do so by a voting representative. Any voting representative may submit a request for a separate vote to the Chair of a debate. Such a request must be in writing and received before the commencement of the speeches in reply to the debate. The Chair has complete discretion in such a case on whether to take a separate vote.

8.5. These Standing Orders may be amended by a two-thirds majority of Conference Representatives present and voting on a motion duly submitted under the terms of Standing Order 3. Subject to any amendment they shall remain in force from Conference to Conference.



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