



## WE Party Conference

Kettering 7 – 9 September 2018

**Title:** Governance Review: Leader

**Proposed by:** WE Executive Committee

**Proposer:** Chris Paouros

**Type of motion:** Emergency Business Motion

**Motion text:**

1 Conference calls on the Leader to:

2 **A.** relinquish her position on the Executive Committee and assume the position of Chair of the  
3 Policy Committee in order to more clearly distinguish between the operational and strategic  
4 decisions of the Party.

5 *In Article 7.6.1, after 'consist of:' insert 'the Leader (as Chair of the Committee) and'.*

6 **B.** The Leader may continue to attend Executive Committee meetings, but is not entitled to vote.

7 *See item E of the Executive Committee motion, with reference to Article 7.4.6 of the Constitution.*

**Motion rationale:**

It has been almost two years since the Party's structure was ratified by the 2016 Party Conference, and WE have learned a great deal about the roles, functions and effectiveness of our governance arrangements, as well as the political context, legal structure and regulatory environment.

In order to ensure that learning is properly embedded, the Steering Committee commissioned an independent consultant to conduct a governance review in 2018. The recommendations of that review were finalised in July 2018, following receipt of the audit findings report from the Party's appointed auditors (MacIntyre Hudson), and approved at a meeting of the Executive Committee on 1st August 2018. This motion is submitted as an emergency motion to conference because the independent review concluded after the deadline for motions.

The independent governance review found that, overall, the Party's governance arrangements are appropriate and effective and support the strategic aims of the Party. However, it also concluded that there needs to be greater clarity on the roles and responsibilities of the different committees, and the mechanisms for accountability between the staff team, officers, committees and Party members/registered supporters. These recommendations are set out across five motions and will enable the Party to better meet its aims and objectives over the coming years.