



# WE Party Conference

15 – 18 October 2020

**Title:** Inclusion of Student Branch Societies in the Women's Equality Party Constitution

**Proposed by:**

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WE Sheffield Branch  
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WE Nottingham Branch  
WE Worcester Branch  
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**Proposer:** Charlotte Mead

**Type of motion:** Business Motion

**Motion text:**

A change to Article 6.10 of the Constitution:

“The Party has local and student branches run by Party Members.”

An addition to Article 7.8 of the constitution, the below to become Article 7.8.2, the current Article 7.8.2 to become Article 7.8.3 and so on:

“7.8.2 Student members in any Student Union across the UK shall be able to set up a student branch in accordance with the rules of their Student Union. These student branches will have the same status as local branches and so include the necessary roles required of a local branch detailed in Article 7.8.4. These will usually be known as “Women’s Equality Party Society” within their Student Union.

These societies can work with local branches, where applicable, to mobilise the student population in the country. This will boost membership, bring WE into student spaces and involve students as



active members of WE. This will enable students to work within their student communities and campaign for change according to WE policies within their Student Unions and the National Union of Students.”

**Motion rationale:**

Student Unions across the country are home to so much political activism, campaigning and fundraising on the basis of causes or in alliance with existing political parties. For example Labour Students, the Labour Party’s official student wing, organise student activism within Student Unions and hold elected roles within the National Union of Students, for example Rania Ramli, the National Chair of Labour Students. We feel that this addition to the constitution will bring WE into those areas and help to mobilise the vast student population in the country.

Including and embracing the student population into our party will bring in a whole other generation of members with new experiences and bring further diversity to our membership. Many politicians start their political experiences within the student movement, Jo Swinson, Lorna Fitzsimmon, Jim Murphy, and our current prime minister Boris Johnson, to name a few. WE need to be there, in the mix, as an option for those future politicians, future proofing our party and creating a structure which supports mentorship for the politicians of the future.

Student branches will boost membership, bring the beliefs and causes of WE into student-run spaces and add a whole new active community that can both support WE to achieve its aims and affect change in each Student Union where societies are set up.