

# autumn conference

## conference daily

### tuesday september 20th 2011



Information from the Conference Committee for Tuesday 20th September and report back on the business of Monday 19th. Please read in conjunction with the *Conference Agenda*.

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*Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated. Conference representatives wishing to speak in any of the debates are requested to fill in and submit a speaker's card as soon as possible.*

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### Social Market Foundation

Liberal Democrat Party Conference Fringe Programme

TUESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

08.00-09.00

#### Whose crime is it anyway?

Room 104, Jury's Inn

**SPEAKERS:** Rt Hon Sir Alan Beith, Chair of the Justice Select Committee; Tom Brake MP, Co-Chair Parliamentary Party Committee on Home Affairs, Justice and Equalities; Paul McDowell, Nacro

**CHAIR:** Ian Mulheim, SMF



13.00-14.00

#### Smart on crime, tough on the causes of crime

Chamberlain Suite, Council House

**SPEAKERS:** Brian Paddick, Liberal Democrat Mayoral Candidate; A representative from the Community Justice Partnership; Ashley Ames, Ipsos MORI; Zoe Williams, The Guardian (tbc)

**CHAIR:** Ian Mulheim, SMF



18.15-19.30

#### Growing Pains? Where next for jobs and the economy?

Executive Room 8, ICC (secure zone)

**SPEAKERS:** Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury; Rt Hon Oliver Letwin MP, Cabinet Minister; Brendan Barber, TUC; Ian Mulheim, SMF

**CHAIR:** Olly Grender, Liberal Democrat Commentator



18.15-19.30

#### The Green Growth challenge: opportunities for public-private partnerships on development finance

Dolce, Hyatt Regency

**SPEAKERS:** Baroness Kramer; Yvo De Boer, KPMG; Ingrid Holmes, E3g; Fiona Harvey, The Guardian

**CHAIR:** John Springford, SMF



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11am - 10 ways CONNECT will help you win

2:30pm - CONNECT for Agents & Organisers

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# report back for monday 19th september

F21	Party business	Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy	Passed
F22a	Emergency motion	Phone Hacking	Passed
F22b	Emergency motion	Responding to the Riots	Passed
F24	Policy motion	<i>Facing the Future</i> (Policy Development Agenda Policy Paper)	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F26	Policy motion	Tackling Violence Against Women	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F28	Policy motion	<i>Preparing the Ground: Stimulating Growth in the Digital Economy</i> (Information Technology Policy Paper)	Passed (Option A passed, Amendments Two, Three and Four passed, Amendment One defeated)
F30	Party business	Recognition of Specified Associated Organisations and Associated Organisations	Passed (Amendment One withdrawn)

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## Internet EARS

**Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Tuesday 18:15-19:30  
(with Adrian Sanders)**

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Wednesday 13:00-14:00**

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## Ministerial Q&A sessions

### Tuesday 20 September

Come along and ask questions of our Ministers on the issues relating to their responsibilities and their departments – a fantastic opportunity for members to find out more about what our Ministers are up to.

**All sessions will take place in Hall 10b, The ICC.** *Priority will be given to party members. Places are limited so please arrive early to avoid disappointment.*

#### **09.00–10.00**

Equalities and Civil Liberties with Lynne Featherstone and Tom McNally

#### **10.30–11.30**

Education with Sarah Teather

#### **14.30–15.30**

Parliament and political reform with David Heath and Commons Whips

#### **16.00–17.00**

Welfare and Pensions with Steve Webb

# tuesday 20th september

## **F31 Standing Order Amendment: Emergency Motions**

Chair: Caroline Pidgeon AM (London)  
Aide: James Gurling

*Federal Conference Committee has accepted the following drafting amendment to the motion:*

*In c) (line 5), delete 'policy'.*

*At end (line 8), add:*

Re-number following paragraphs accordingly.

## **F33 Science Not Stigma: Ending the Blood Ban**

Aide: Qassim Afzal

*In light of the Government announcement on Thursday 8th September, the Federal Conference Committee has accepted an emergency drafting amendment from the movers, so the text of the motion therefore now reads:*

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 a) Men who have had sex with men (MSM), even with a condom, are currently banned from  
3 donating blood in the UK for life. On 7th November 2011, this will change to a 12-month  
4 deferral period.
- 5 b) Women who have sex with MSM individuals are currently prevented from giving blood for 12  
6 months, effectively excluding long-term partners of men who have had sex with a man only  
7 once in their lifetime from donating.
- 8 c) The UK currently suffers from low levels of blood stock, particularly for certain blood types.
- 9 d) Heterosexual men and women who have had unprotected sex in a high-risk HIV country can  
10 give blood after one year.
- 11 e) Nick Clegg and David Cameron both made comments prior to the election that the MSM  
12 blood ban should end.
- 13 f) Blood donations are not all individually screened for HIV, unlike in other developed countries.
- 14 Conference believes that:
- 15 1. The safety and well-being of those who require blood transfusions should always be  
16 paramount.
- 17 2. There is currently a high demand for certain blood types and the situation of low blood  
18 stock could be exacerbated by any future epidemics or pandemics, having catastrophic  
19 consequences for those who require blood transfusions.
- 20 3. The restrictions placed on the MSM group are inconsistent with the restrictions placed on  
21 other 'high risk' groups.

# tuesday 20th september continued

- 22 4. The criteria for being eligible to give blood should be based on the risk posed by the behaviour  
23 of the individual, not their membership of a certain societal grouping.  
24 5. Removing the outright ban will give way to between one and two million new donors, based  
25 on statistics suggesting that around 6% to 10% of the male population are gay or bisexual.  
26 6. Each individual blood donation should be subject to the most sensitive forms of screening  
27 available to ensure risk of transfusion-transmitted infections are absolutely minimal.  
28 7. A deferral on the MSM group is not sufficient in terms of increasing the number of donors, nor  
29 does it recognise or deal with the risk posed by the behaviour of each individual, regardless of  
30 sexual orientation.  
31 8. The outright ban on men who have sex with other men from donating blood in the UK should  
32 be removed.

33 Conference welcomes the recently announced lifting of the lifetime MSM blood ban, but expresses  
34 dismay that this does not go far enough to ensuring that both the blood bank is safe whilst allowing  
35 active MSM to donate blood responsibly.

36 Conference calls for blood donations to be subject to the most thorough and advanced screening  
37 available to ensure minimal risk of transfusion-transmitted infections.

38 Conference resolves to urge the government to end the outright ban on the MSM group from  
39 donating blood without introducing a deferral period; to end the twelve month deferral on female  
40 partners of that group; and subsequently to work with medical experts and organisations to ensure  
41 adequate criteria and restrictions are put in place that reflect the risk posed by the behaviour of  
42 each individual.

## **Background Briefing**

This motion creates new policy.

### **best stand competition**

Help choose the winners of our annual best stand competition and enter our prize draw.

All submissions are entered in a prize draw to win a three course meal for two people and a bottle of house wine at the Living Room Restaurant and Bar in Newcastle (Spring conference venue 2012).

Entry forms available from the Information Desk.

### **left luggage**

A left luggage facility will be available on Wednesday 21st September from 08.00–17.00, at House of Sport, Broad Street (across the road from The ICC – see map in the Directory).

All luggage is left at owners risk; any luggage not collected by 17.00 may be destroyed. There will be a charge of £1 per item.

Do not bring large bags or luggage to The ICC on Wednesday morning – either leave items at your hotel or use the left luggage facility.

# tuesday 20th september continued

## F34 Adult Social Care

### Amendment One

27 conference representatives

Mover: Liz Lynne MEP

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *After D. (line 7), insert:*
- 2 E. Follows best practice in protecting older people from abuse.
- 3 *In 2 c) (line 26), after 'framework' insert 'and to confer comparable rights to adults at risk of abuse*  
4 *as those afforded to children'.*
- 5 *After 5. (line 45), add:*
- 6 6. Take further action to highlight and prevent the growing problem of the abuse of older people,  
7 including:
- 8 a) Steps to improve the inspection regime for care homes to monitor for abuse and take  
9 action when concerns are raised.
- 10 b) Improved assistance for victims of abuse, whether it occurs in the home or in a care  
11 institution and greater protection for those who uncover or witness abuse.
- 12 c) Support for a non-statutory EU-wide Code of Conduct for long term care, including a  
13 Charter of Rights for older people.
- 14 d) Encourage the pro-active exchange of research and best practice in Britain and other EU  
14 member states on the prevalence of abuse and effective measures to prevent it.

### Background Briefing

This motion updates existing policy in light of the findings of the Dilnot Commission recommendations and the Law Commission report on adult social care. Existing policy is set out in the 2010 General Election manifesto, *Change That Works For You*, and policy paper 84, *Empowerment, Fairness and Quality in Healthcare* (2008).

## F36 NHS Reform Report Back

Chair: Baroness Barker

## F38 A Green Stimulus for Economic Recovery

### Amendment One

23 conference representatives

Mover: Lucy Care

Summation: Phil Bennion

- 1 *In line 2, after 'substantially on' insert 'broadening our energy and resource base and'.*

# tuesday 20th september continued

2 *After 2. (line 26), insert:*

- 3 3. Ensure that an increasing proportion of the country's waste is used as a resource by extracting  
4 materials for reuse and that wherever possible these materials are reused within the UK.  
5 4. Recognise the importance of the UK's agricultural sector as a source of sustainable materials  
6 for manufacturing, and invest in diversifying the rural economy to increase both food and other  
7 outputs, especially those which can result in the long term sequestration of carbon.

## **Amendment Two**

*Glasgow North and 29 conference representatives*

Mover: Neil Stockley

Summation: To be announced

1 *After 5. (line 32), insert:*

- 2 6. Consider further measures to stimulate investment in green infrastructure and technologies,  
3 through the Green Investment Bank and other investment and retail banks, including  
4 promoting green financial products such as green ISAs.

## **Amendment Three**

*Streatham and 18 conference representatives*

Mover: Lord Teverson

Summation: To be announced

1 *After 7. (line 37), add:*

- 2 8. Introduce a windfall tax on operators of existing nuclear stations, recovering through taxation  
3 the profits they make solely as a result of the introduction of the carbon price floor from April  
4 2013; the proceeds of the windfall tax to be used to help consumers, especially those in  
5 low-income households, adapt to higher energy prices, for example through investments in  
6 improving energy efficiency.

## **Background briefing**

This motion updates policy on promoting 'green growth'. Existing policy is set out in the 2010 General Election manifesto, *Change That Works For You*. Existing policy on the transition to a low-carbon economy is set out in policy paper 82, *A Zero-Carbon Britain – Taking a Global Leader* (2007).

## 15.50 Policy motion

Chair: James Gurling

Aide: Susan Gaszczak

### **F40 A New Purpose for Politics (Quality of Life Policy Paper)**

*Federal Conference Committee has accepted the following drafting amendment to the motion:*

*In E. (lines 30–31), delete 'Personal, Health and Social Education (PHSE)' and insert 'Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)'.*

# tuesday 20th september continued

## **Amendment One**

*11 conference representatives*

Mover: Andrew George MP

Summation: To be announced

1 *After 1 e) (line 43), insert:*

- 2 2. The concept of sustainable development, through which social and economic needs are  
3 balanced, is an integral component of quality of life, and should be incorporated into all  
4 measures of quality of life and all other relevant government policies.

## **Amendment Two**

*Greater Reading, Glasgow North and 15 conference representatives*

Mover: Gareth Epps

Summation: Linda Jack

1 *After 9 c) (line 68), insert:*

- 2 10. As there is an established link between debt and financial insecurity and diminished sense of  
3 well-being, and the cost in fees alone of debt advice to UK consumers is £250 million, the  
4 Government should therefore introduce a statutory debt management framework to ensure  
5 minimum standards, control of fees and specifically to prevent front-loading.

## **Amendment Three**

*Greater Reading, Glasgow North and 15 conference representatives*

Mover: Linda Jack

Summation: Gareth Epps

1 *After iv) (line 79), insert:*

- 2 v) Employers should be obliged to provide clear standard information to employees about advice  
3 providers such as ACAS, trade unions and Citizens' Advice Bureaux, including the processes  
4 available up to, and including employment tribunals.  
5 vi) Resourcing of the Employment Tribunals should be protected to ensure fairness at work.

*In Amendment Three, there will be separate votes on v) (lines 2–4) and vi) (line 5).*

## **Background briefing**

This motion and the accompanying policy paper develop new policy on the theme of quality of life. In particular they call for the creation of a national institute of wellbeing and the appointment of a cabinet-level champion for wellbeing.

## **F41 Community Politics**

### **Amendment One**

*Greater Reading and 10 conference representatives*



# tuesday 20th september continued

Mover: Jonathan Walls  
Summation: Gareth Epps

1 *After d) (line 30), insert:*

2 Conference further believes that community politics transfers power to people in a democratically  
3 accountable manner, and is not a simplistic transfer of power from national to local government,  
4 nor a transfer of power to unaccountable institutions inside or outside the private sector.  
5

## **Amendment Two**

*Kingston, Richmond & Twickenham, Glasgow North and 18 conference representatives*

Mover: Mary Reid  
Summation: Mark Pack

1 *In 1. (line 33), delete 'organise' and insert 'empower, enable and encourage'.*

2 *After 2. (line 37), insert:*

3 3. The principle of subsidiarity to be adopted by elected representatives at all levels of  
4 government, ensuring that decision-making is devolved to the lowest feasible, democratically  
5 accountable level.

6 *In 3. (line 38), delete 'ensure dialogue with the communities they serve' and insert: 'listen and*  
7 *respond to the communities they serve by engaging with community groups and by seeking out*  
8 *those without advocates, and to ensure dialogue and personal contact'.*

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R35**

## glee club

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### **John Hemming and the Sisters of Jazz**

The usual glee club celebrations will, for one Conference only, be kicked off by none other than our very own John Hemming MP and Birmingham jazz group The Sisters of Jazz!

From 10pm join John and the band as a warm up for the usual glee club celebrations including (as always) highlights from the Liberator songbook!

**Venue: Symphony Ballroom,  
The Hyatt Regency**

**Date and Time: Tuesday 20th September,  
10pm to 2am**

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