



autumn conference

agenda

brighton 22nd–26th september 2012



fairer tax in tough times



Because only

things in life are certain...

...we are launching a legacy fund campaign at this conference, to help secure the future of the Party and to preserve the values we share for the benefit of future generations.

Legacy income provides an important part of the funding for most major charities, and so it should for us too.

By leaving a sum of money or a share of your estate to the Liberal Democrats you can make sure your

commitment to the Party goes on working to deliver our shared vision of a fair and just society.

You are invited to come and hear party president Tim Farron present this new initiative at 1pm on Wednesday 26 September in the Empress Room at The Grand Hotel.

Or visit our Legacy Fund booth in the main conference exhibition area to find out more. Help us communicate the legacy message regionally and locally throughout the party.

legacyfund@libdems.org.uk

Welcome to the *Agenda* for the Liberal Democrat autumn 2012 federal conference.

If you have any questions whilst at conference please ask a conference steward or go to the Information Desk, located on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre.

conference venue

The main conference venue is the Brighton Centre:

The Brighton Centre
Kings Road, Brighton
East Sussex BN1 2GR
www.brightoncentre.co.uk

Most conference sessions take place in the auditorium in the Brighton Centre. The Brighton Centre will open at 13.00 on Saturday.

The conference hotel, where consultative sessions will be held, is The Grand:

The Grand
97–99 King's Road, Brighton
East Sussex BN1 2FW
www.grandhotelbrighton.info

Please note that both the Brighton Centre and The Grand are within the secure zone.

For conference details and registration online



www.libdems.org.uk/autumnconference

contents

Feature:	3–4
Nick Clegg and Andrew Wiseman ... in conversation	3
Auditorium information	5–9
Agenda:	10–57
Agenda index and timetable	10
Saturday 22nd September	12
Sunday 23rd September	19
Monday 24th September	31
Tuesday 25th September	42
Wednesday 26th September	53
2013 conference timetable	57
Standing orders	58–65
Federal Party	65

For further features, general conference information, exhibition and fringe, see the separate *Directory*.

The *Agenda* and other conference publications are available online



www.libdems.org.uk/autumnconferencepapers

If you require plain text or large print versions of this or other conference publications, please ask at the Information Desk at conference or go to www.libdems.org.uk/autumnconferencepapers



ISBN 978-1-907046-51-3

Published by The Conference Office, Liberal Democrats, 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.

Design and layout by Mike Cooper, mike@mikecoopermcc.co.uk.

Printed by Sarum Colourview, 23–24 Henrietta Street, London WC2E 8ND, www.sarumcolourview.co.uk.

Front cover photo by John Russell.

the federal conference committee is here to serve you!



Andrew Wiseman,
Chair



Sal Brinton,
Vice Chair



Geoff Payne,
Vice Chair,
English rep



Robert Adamson



Qassim Afzal



Jon Ball



Lucy Care,
FPC rep



Dee Doocey



Susan Gaszczak



Arnie Gibbons



Sandra Gidley



James Gurling,
FE rep



Jeremy Hargreaves,
FPC rep



Linda Jack



Jenni Lang,
Scottish rep



Elgan Morgan,
Welsh rep



Chris Maines



Justine McGuinness



Jo Shaw,
FE rep



Mike Ross,
Acting Chief Steward,
co-opted

Ex officio:

Alistair Carmichael MP, Chief Whip.

Tim Farron MP, Party President.

Tim Gordon, Chief Executive (non-voting).

Members of the FCC will be available to give advice at the Information Desk at the following times: Saturday 13.00–15.00, Sunday–Tuesday 10.30–12.30. You can also contact the FCC via the Information Desk outside of these hours.



Nick Clegg and Andrew Wiseman ... in conversation

Party Leader and Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg and the Chair of the Federal Conference Committee Andrew Wiseman talk about conference – including Nick's favourite venues, best and worst memories and how conference is changing.

AW: When and where was your first conference?

NC: It would have been in the mid-90s, perhaps 1994 or 1995. But it was certainly such an uplifting experience that I've chosen to repeat it twice a year every year for the rest of my life.

AW: What is your favourite memory of conference?

NC: I always find it exciting to get on a train and see it full of people I know are in the same party as me – avidly clutching their Agendas and reading the fringe guides, with some clad in yellow t-shirts and carrying their hemp bags.

There is a real sense of a tribe coming together. I always like that moment. It's like taking a deep breath before we immerse ourselves in the weird and wonderful ways of conference. That is what I love about conference, the coming together.

AW: Do you have a favourite conference venue?

NC: Sheffield is outstanding obviously; and it demonstrated itself, perhaps a little too literally with the

ring of steel around our conference, as truly the city of steel. And I'm a fan of Brighton, small but not too small, and fun to walk around when Conference gets too much. I have also always enjoyed Spring conferences in Harrogate, and not just because of Betty's.

AW: What were your best and a worst conference moments?

NC: Best – I loved the conference rally in Liverpool in the September after entering government. I thought there was a real thrill around the whole hall about being in government for the first time after so long, it was hugely uplifting. Although with hindsight the free booze before might have had more to do with the great mood than my soaring rhetoric.

Before becoming leader I also remember chairing a Q&A which



© Dave Radcliffe

Nick Clegg and Andrew Wiseman

... in conversation continued

included a couple of rehabilitated former prisoners who were now helping others to avoid the path of crime, and they spoke very movingly about how to make our criminal justice system more effective.

Worst – Graffiti outside the B&B in Blackpool I was staying at which simply said, ‘Lib Dems go Home’.

AW: Before you were leader, did you ever put in a card to speak and not get called?

NC: Yes I’m sure – lots of times! And one of my earliest memories is giving an earnest speech to an empty hall about the intricacies of globalisation. David Boyle told me he loved it, but I fear he was in a very small minority.

AW: How has conference changed since we’ve come into government?

NC: We are under the microscope now more than ever. Everything we say and do is watched like hawks by journalists and lobbyists. And what we say and what we decide really matters; which is a big change, but a good change. It really means we have an obligation to match our words to our ideals and to reality.

AW: Which means we’ve grown up as a party.

NC: Yes, absolutely. In hugely tough circumstances – facing shrill adversaries and determined opposition. And in circumstances,

candidly, we didn’t entirely foresee. But we have kept our democratic traditions and remain fundamentally different from the other parties. Which every member should be very proud of.

AW: Is anything else important to you about conference?

NC: I firmly believe we are a family. And families should spend time together. That’s why I love conference – it is a chance to come together, to catch up with people we have campaigned with for many years, to argue, to agree, to share our values, to talk to long lost friends, to go to Glee Club! That sense of hanging together and hanging tough is so important to us. Though all that talking does mean that almost invariably most of us have lost our voice by the last day – which isn’t great if you are meant to be giving the final speech.

AW: Any final thoughts?

NC: I’d like to put on record what a brilliant job you – Andrew, and the rest of the Federal Conference Committee – do, working with our fantastic Conference Office team in LDHQ, in organising our two conferences. I know you sometimes have to make tough choices in tricky circumstances and don’t always get the credit or thanks you deserve. So thank you for everything you do for the party making conference what it is.



we have kept our democratic traditions and remain fundamentally different from the other parties.



auditorium information

Information you need concerning the conduct of the main conference sessions at this year's autumn conference is listed here in the *Agenda*. General conference information is listed alphabetically in the separate *Directory*.

For information on:

- venue and accessibility – see below,
- applicability and submission of motions, amendments and appeals – see **page 6**.
- question and answer sessions and topical motions – see **page 7**.
- the conduct of debates at conference, speaking and voting – see **page 8**.
- applying to make a speech or an intervention – see **page 9**.
- voting status and passes – see *conference information* in the *Directory*.

The rules for the conduct of conference are set out in *standing orders* on **pages 58–65** of this *Agenda*.

If you have any questions on-site, please ask a steward or go to the Information Desk on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre.

conference extra and daily

Conference Extra will give any changes to the order and timings of conference sessions that are shown in this agenda, amendments to motions, topical issues, emergency motions for debate or the ballot and questions to reports, and changes to movers etc. *Conference Extra* will be available at conference on Saturday 22nd September and online at www.libdems.org.uk/autumnconferencepapers.

Conference Daily will include last-minute changes to the order of business, movers, amendments, emergency motions, etc. Collect your copy of *Conference Daily* from the Information Desk on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre from the start of each morning session.

The information in *Conference Extra* and *Conference Daily* will be vital to your understanding of each day's business.

venue

The main conference sessions take place in the auditorium in the Brighton Centre – see *map of Brighton city centre* and *venue plan* printed in the *Directory*.



© Mike Cooper

Access to the secure zone that covers the Brighton Centre and Grand Hotel (where the consultative sessions take place) is possible only with a valid, visible conference photo pass worn with the official lanyard. You will be asked to show your pass when you enter the secure area and you are required to wear the pass with the lanyard visible at all times within the area.

Please allow time for security check queues during key times – particularly after lunch and ahead of popular events.

Please note that flash photography is frequently used in the auditorium. **You must ensure that all mobile phones are switched off before entering the auditorium.**

disabled facilities

- Space for wheelchair users on the ground floor of the auditorium.
- A wheelchair lift at the front of the stage; the chair of the session will ensure wheelchair users are called in plenty of time to access the stage.
- An induction loop system, which can be linked to hearing aids.
- Sign language interpretation during all auditorium sessions; a number of seats are reserved for representatives using this service, at the front of the auditorium to the left of the stage.
- Reserved seats at the front of the auditorium for those who would benefit from being closer to the stage due to a visual impairment.

If you need assistance at the venue, please contact a conference steward via the Information Desk or our disabled access steward Robert Littlehales on 07712 667702 or rlittlehales@aol.com.

motions, amendments and appeals

Policy and party business motions are debated and voted upon by conference representatives, and set party policy.

Applicability of motions

Federal Conference makes policy for the Federal Party. However, the English Party has 'passed up' responsibility for policy-making to the Federal Party in all areas and the Welsh Party for some areas. The applicability of each motion is shown in the *agenda* on **pages 10–57**.

Amendments

All motions on the agenda are open to amendment. Amendments accepted for debate will be detailed in *Conference Extra*.

Emergency motions

Emergency motion debates are debates with a vote, which make formal party policy like any other policy motion, but refer to a development since the 4th July deadline for motions.

The sessions at F37 and F43 are reserved for emergency motions or topical issues.

Emergency motions may be selected by a ballot among voting representatives:

- If there is a choice between two motions, a card vote will be held in the auditorium at 10.55 on Sunday 23rd September.
- If there is a choice between more than two motions, a ballot will be held between 09.00 and 13.00 on Sunday 23rd September; ballot papers and the ballot box will be available at the Speakers' Table in the auditorium.

Emergency motions accepted for debate and/or for ballot will be detailed in *Conference Extra*.

Submission of amendments and emergency motions

Amendments and emergency motions must be:

- signed by 10 voting representatives; OR
- submitted by local parties, State Parties, Regional Parties in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisations or Federal Party Committees.

Submitters are encouraged use our drafting advisory service. Please download a form from www.libdems.org.uk/autumnconferencepapers.

Submitters should include:

- for amendments – a short explanation of the intended effect of the amendment;
- for emergency motions – a short explanation of its emergency nature.

Appeals

Appeals against the non-inclusion of emergency motions and amendments should:

- a) be no longer than one side of an A4 sheet;
- b) give a contact name and telephone number;
- c) include a copy of the original motion/ amendment to which they relate; and
- d) specify the justification for the appeal and provide new information of which the Conference Committee was unaware when it made its original decision.

Appeals must be signed by the original drafting contact for the relevant item.

Deadlines

Amendments, emergency motions and topical issues	13.00	Monday 10th September
Drafting advice	13.00	Tuesday 28th August
Appeals	09.00	Thursday 20th September

Send to

Amendments, appeals, emergency motions and topical issues to:	motions@libdems.org.uk (preferably) or post to 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.
Draft amendments and emergency motions to:	motionsadvice@libdems.org.uk



other conference sessions

Consultative sessions

Consultative sessions are a less formal opportunity for conference representatives and other party members to participate in discussion of a particular topic. The sessions are organised by the relevant Policy Working Group or other party body, and where appropriate the conclusions will be taken into account when drawing up policy papers. Consultative papers for the sessions will be included with the Directory mailing.

Consultative sessions take place in The Grand Hotel on Saturday 22nd September between 10.00 and 12.30. See **page 12** for details.

Question and answer sessions

There will be two Q&A sessions: with the party leader (F18) and Coalition Two Years In (F26).

Any voting or non-voting representative may submit a concise question (maximum 25 words) on any relevant topic, and, if selected by the chair of the session, will be asked to put the question from the intervention microphones in the auditorium.

Questions may be submitted by email to questions@libdems.org.uk up until 17.00 on Thursday 20th September; or on a form collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium, for the party leader's Q&A – no later than 13.40 on Saturday 22nd September, or for the Coalition Two Years In Q&A – no later than 12.40 on Monday 24th September.

Reports

Any voting representative can submit a question to any of the reports of the Federal Committees and the Parliamentary Parties, included in the separate reports document.

The deadline for questions to the reports of the Federal Committees is 13.00 on Monday 10th September. Download a form from www.libdems.org.uk/autumnconferencepapers. Questions should be sent to the Policy Unit, preferably by email to questions@libdems.org.uk, or by post to 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.

Questions will be detailed in *Conference Extra*.

Questions on events occurring after the 10th September deadline may be submitted on speaker's cards at the Speakers' Table up until one hour before the start of the session.

For the reports of the Parliamentary Parties (F40), conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on any aspect of Liberal Democrat activities in the UK or European Parliaments. The chair will select which questions will be asked during the session.

Questions to reports of the parliamentary parties should be submitted on a form collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table before 15.20 on Tuesday 25th September, and may also be sent by email to questions@libdems.org.uk no later than 17.00 on Thursday 20th September.

Topical issues

Topical issue discussions, unlike other conference debates, will not make party policy, but are intended to allow representatives and spokespeople an opportunity to discuss and comment on a political issue live at the time of conference, where it might be premature to move to formal policy-making.

Suggestions for topical issues may be submitted by any voting representative by the deadline for emergency motions and amendments to motions@libdems.org.uk. Emails should include full contact details of the submitter and may include up to 100 words explanatory background. The title of the issue should be no more than ten words, and should not include an expression of opinion.

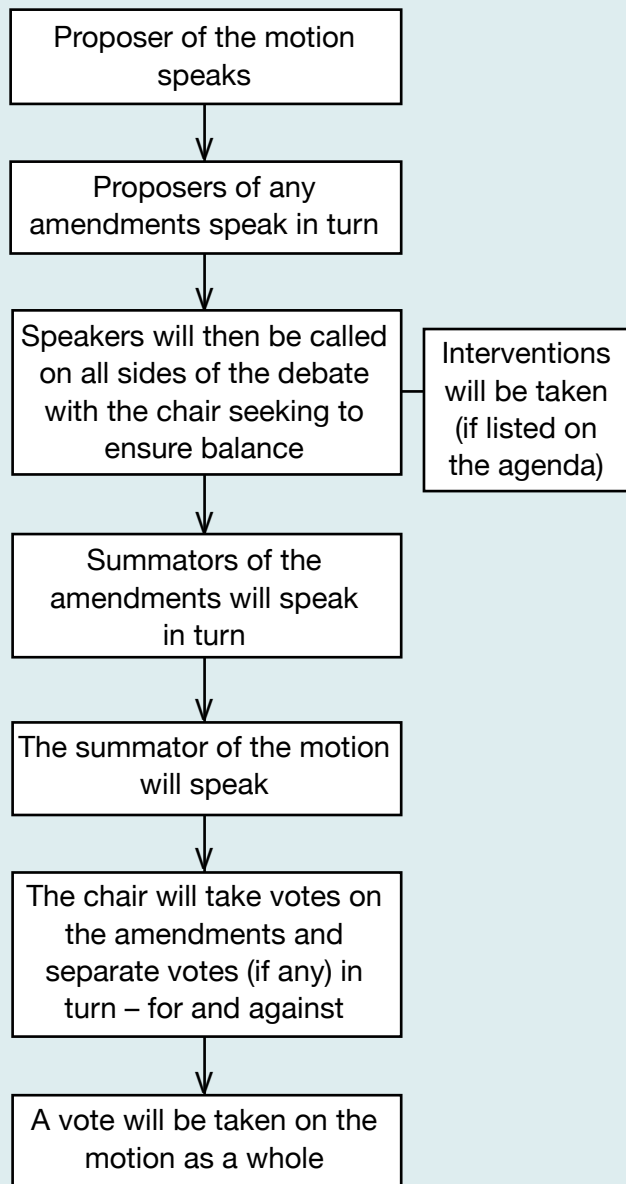
The topical issue to be discussed is chosen by officers of the Federal Conference Committee and Federal Policy Committee and will be detailed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The submitter of an issue that has been chosen will have five minutes to introduce the discussion. The relevant Parliamentary spokesperson will be invited to respond. At the end of the discussion, a member of the Federal Policy Committee will sum up and suggest any further actions.

The sessions at F37 and F43 are reserved for emergency motions or topical issues.

the structure of debates at conference

Policy and business motions: generally, conference will consider a motion as follows:



Procedural motions: See *standing orders* on pages 58–65 for details.

- Reference back (to stop debate and send the motion to a specified body for more work);
- Next business (to stop debate and move to the next item of business on the agenda);
- Suspension of standing orders (to lift one or more of the rules governing conference).

Procedural motions may be submitted by any voting representative, in writing to the Speakers' Table with a statement of reasons of 75 words or less.

Decisions on procedural motions are made by simple majority of those voting, except for the suspension of standing orders, which requires the support of two-thirds of those voting.

Eligibility to speak: for information about eligibility to speak and submitting a speaker's card, see *applying to speak in conference debates* on page 9.

Length of speeches: the time allowed for speeches is shown against each motion in the *agenda* on pages 10–57. Interventions are limited to one minute each.

There are three lights on the speaker's rostrum and visible either side of the stage. The green light is switched on at the beginning of the speech. The amber light is switched on 60 seconds before the end of the allowed time (20 seconds before the end of an intervention). The red light is switched on when all the time is used up, and the speaker must stop immediately.

Interventions: interventions give representatives the opportunity to make concise (one-minute) speeches from the floor during debates where indicated in the *agenda* on pages 10–57. Speakers will be chosen by the Chair by random ballot, and called to the intervention microphones on the ground floor of the auditorium.

Voting: decisions on the motion, on amendments and separate votes are by simple majority of those voting. In order to vote, representatives must be seated on the ground floor of the auditorium.

Separate vote: any voting representative can submit a request for a separate vote – requests must be submitted in writing to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium by the commencement of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled; for debates scheduled for the first day of conference, they must be submitted to motions@libdems.org.uk by the deadline for emergency motions and amendments.

When a separate vote is taken, the chair shall ask conference to vote on whether to delete or retain the specified words or section.

Counted vote: the chair of the session may decide that a vote is so close that it needs to be counted. Alternatively, any voting representative may request one from the floor; if fifty other voting representatives stand and show their voting cards in support, a count will be taken.



applying to speak in conference debates

Debates are the heart of federal conference: they're where the party sets its policy and decides its future direction. Unlike in the other parties, the Liberal Democrat conference is sovereign, and what it decides really matters.

Three categories of people are entitled to speak in debates at conference:

- Voting representatives (or substitutes), elected by their local parties or appointed ex-officio, who have paid their full registration fee.
- Non-voting representatives who have paid their full registration fee (not including day visitors).
- Persons who have been given permission to speak by the Federal Conference Committee.

No other person may be called to speak in debates, including during interventions.

To speak in a debate you must complete a speaker's card, that should be collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table at the front of the auditorium, an auditorium steward or the Information Desk.

Three things to remember when completing a speaker's card

1 submit your card well in advance

If you hand your card in late, in a popular debate you're virtually guaranteeing you won't be called. The chair and aide team for the debate always meet well in advance to plan the debate – sometimes the previous day.

2 fill in your card completely

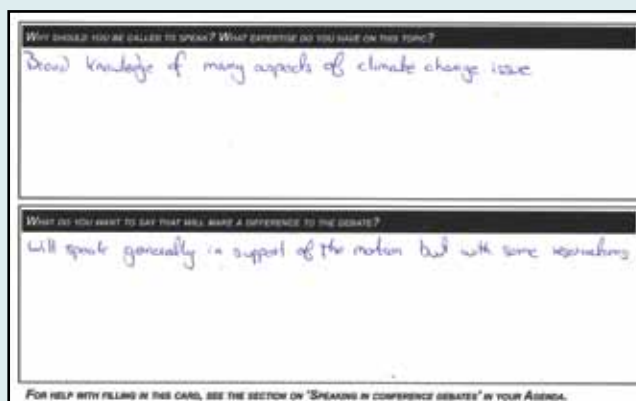
The second major mistake is not to fill in the card completely. As well as the information on the front of the card (name, local party, for or against the motion, etc.), there are two sections on the back, for relevant background (professional or consumer experience, party background, etc.) and for a brief outline of what your speech is going to be about.

These sections are needed for the chair and aide to balance the debate – so they can call people with relevant experience and not call a whole string of people who'll make the same point.

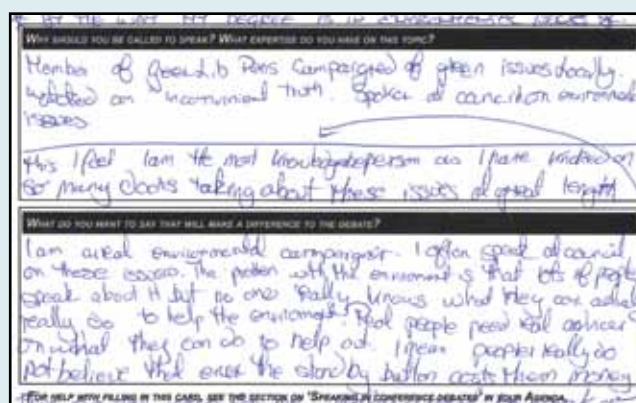
3 make sure it's readable!

Don't take this as an invitation to fill every square centimetre of the card; and don't write illegibly, or in very small letters, or in green ink ... the easier you make it for the chair and aide to read your card the more likely you will be to be called.

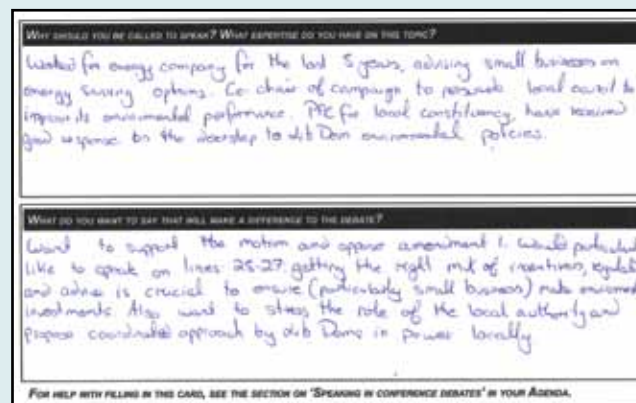
The wrong way to fill in a speaker's card (1): no useful information



The wrong way to fill in a speaker's card (2): too much information, but mostly neither helpful nor easily readable!



The right way to fill in a speaker's card: clear, concise, to the point, and probably different from anyone else's



Interventions

Representatives may make concise (one-minute) interventions during debates where indicated in the *agenda* on **pages 10–57**. Those wishing to speak during interventions should complete an intervention form, that should be collected from and returned to a steward in the auditorium.

agenda index and timetable

Saturday 22nd September		<i>Page</i>
10.00–12.30	Consultative sessions: A Balanced Working Life Zero Carbon Economy Taxation	12
13.00–14.00	Lunchtime fringe	
14.20–14.30	F1 Formal opening of conference	13
14.30–14.50	F2 Report: Federal Conference Committee	13
	F3 Report: Federal Policy Committee	13
14.50–15.10	F4 Speech: Sarah Teather MP	13
15.10–15.55	F5 Policy motion: Early Years	14
15.55–16.40	F6 Policy motion: Getting the Most Out of Schools	15
16.40–17.20	F7 Policy motion: Reform of the House of Lords	17
18.30–19.30	Conference rally – Jobs Education Environment Tax	
Evening fringe		

Sunday 23rd September		
09.00–09.15	F8 Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	19
	F9 Report: Diversity Engagement Group	19
	F10 Report: Federal Appeals Panel	19
09.15–10.15	F11 Policy motion: A Sustainable Future for Aviation	19
10.15–10.35	F12 Presentation: Citizens UK	22
10.35–10.55	F13 Speech: Tim Farron MP	22
10.55–11.40	F14 Policy motion: International Cooperation on the Environment	22
11.40–12.20	F15 Policy motion: Good Food Shouldn't Cost the Earth	24
12.20–12.40	F16 Speech: Rt Hon Edward Davey MP	25
13.00–14.00	Lunchtime fringe	
14.20–15.05	F17 Policy motion: Empowering the IPCC	25
15.05–15.50	F18 Q&A session: Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP	26
15.50–16.40	F19 Policy motion: Equal Citizenship – Supporting Independence for Sick and Disabled People	27
16.40–18.00	F20 Policy motion: Medically Assisted Dying	29
Evening fringe		

Monday 24th September		
09.00–09.45	F21 Policy motion: Developing a Future – Policies for Science and Research	31
09.45–11.05	F22 Policy motion: Mutuals, Employee Ownership, and Workplace Democracy Policy Paper	32
11.05–12.20	F23 Policy motion: Generating Growth and Jobs in a Time of Austerity	34
12.20–12.40	F24 Speech: Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP	35
13.00–14.00	Lunchtime fringe	
14.20–15.50	F25 Policy motion: Sustainable Prosperity and Jobs Policy Paper	36
15.50–16.35	F26 Q&A session: Coalition Two Years In with Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP	38
16.35–17.10	F27 Policy motion: 20 is Plenty – Saving Lives on the Road	38
17.10–18.00	F28 Report: Federal Executive	40



agenda index and timetable continued

Monday 24th September continued

	Page
F29 Party business: Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy	40
F30 Report: Federal Finance and Administration Committee	41

Evening fringe

Tuesday 25th September

09.00–09.45	F31 Constitutional amendment: Compliance with the Equalities Act 2010	42
	F32 Constitutional amendment: Lords Elections	44
09.45–10.30	F33 Policy motion: Rehabilitation Revolution	45
10.30–10.50	F34 Speeches: Rt Hon Michael Moore MP and Willie Rennie MSP	46
10.50–12.20	F35 Policy motion: <i>Tackling Inequality at its Roots</i> (Inequality Policy Paper)	46
12.20–12.40	F36 Speech: Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP	48
13.00–14.00	Lunchtime fringe	
14.20–15.05	F37 Emergency motion or topical issue	49
15.05–15.25	F38 Speech: Sharon Bowles MEP	49
15.25–16.20	F39 Policy motion: Fair Pay for Public Sector Workers Across the UK	49
16.20–17.05	F40 Reports: Parliamentary Parties of the Liberal Democrats	51
17.05–18.00	F41 Policy motion: No Government Above the Law – The Justice and Security Bill	51

Evening fringe

Wednesday 26th September

09.00–09.45	F42 Policy motion: Addressing Underprovision in Mental Health	53
09.45–10.35	F43 Emergency motion or topical issue	54
10.35–12.20	F44 Policy motion: <i>Decent Homes for All</i> (Housing Policy Paper)	55
12.20–12.40	F45 Speech: Paul Burstow MP	57
13.00–14.00	Lunchtime fringe	
14.30	F46 Party Awards	57
	F47 Speech: Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister	57
15.45 (approx.)	Close of conference	

Conference rally:

Jobs Education Environment Tax

Saturday 22nd September, 18.30 – 19.30,
Brighton Centre.

See *Directory* for details.

Scan this to access the
consultation papers and
policy papers online:



saturday 22nd september

10.00 Consultative sessions
–12.30

A Balanced Working Life

Alexandra Room
Grand Hotel

Chair: Baroness Claire Tyler
Rapporteur: Adam Pritchard

Taxation

Charlotte Room
Grand Hotel

Chair: Jeremy Hargreaves
Rapporteur: Kevin Norton

Zero Carbon Economy

Empress Room
Grand Hotel

Chair: Neil Stockley
Rapporteur: Andrew Johnson

Consultative sessions provide a less formal mechanism than the full-scale conference debates for conference representatives and other party members to participate in the party's policy-making and decision-making process. Each session examines a particular topic and hears contributions from party members and in some cases outside speakers.

The sessions will be organised by the relevant Policy Working Group or other party body. Where appropriate, the conclusions of the sessions will be taken into account by the groups when drawing up their final policy papers. Consultative papers for the sessions are included with the Directory mailing.

Ministerial Surgeries

There will be a series of Ministerial Surgeries, where you can come along and ask questions of our Ministers on the issues relating to their responsibilities and their departments.

All sessions take place in the West Bar in the Brighton Centre and are scheduled as follows:

Coalition and the economy with Danny Alexander; 15.00–16.00, Saturday 22nd September.

International Affairs with Jeremy Browne and Nick Harvey; 16.30–17.30, Saturday 22nd September.

Business and banks with Vince Cable and Norman Lamb; 09.45–10.45, Sunday 23rd September.

Justice and Human Rights with Tom McNally; 09.30–10.30, Monday 24th September.

Older people with Paul Burstow and Steve Webb; 14.30–15.30, Monday 24th September.

Education with Sarah Teather; 16.30–17.30, Monday 24th September.

The Environment with Ed Davey, Norman Baker and Andrew Stunell; 15.30–16.30, Tuesday 25th September.

Party communications with Tim Gordon; 16.30–17.30, Tuesday 25th September. **Members only.**

Communications Data Bill with Tom Brake and Julian Huppert; 11.00–12.00, Wednesday 26th September.

This is a fantastic opportunity for members to find out more about what our Ministers are up to. Sessions (except Party communications) are open to all, but party members will be given priority.



14.20 Party business

Chair: Tim Farron MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)
Aide: Justine McGuinness

F1 Formal Opening of the Federal Conference by Cllr David Tutt, Liberal Democrat Group Leader, East Sussex County Council

14.30 Party business

Chair: Baroness Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Lucy Care

F2 Report of the Federal Conference Committee

Mover: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 13.40 on Saturday 22nd September.

F3 Report of the Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Jo Swinson MP (Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 13.40 on Saturday 22nd September.

14.50 Speech

Chair: Linda Jack
Aide: Jeremy Hargreaves, (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F4 Speech by Sarah Teather MP, Minister of State for Children and Families

15.10 Policy motion

Chair: Jo Shaw
Aide: Cllr Jon Ball

F5 Early Years

Eleven conference representatives

Mover: Baroness Brinton

Summation: Annette Brooke MP (Co-Chair, Parliamentary Party Committee on Communities and Local Government)

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 A. The first few years of a child's life can be hugely important for their personal, academic and
- 3 physical development.
- 4 B. The average annual cost for childcare for a child under two is between £5,000 and £15,000.
- 5 C. An estimated 38% of parents have considered quitting their jobs due to the cost of
- 6 childcare.
- 7 D. Six out of ten two-year-olds from the poorest 40% of families do not experience any formal
- 8 early education – compared to just three out of ten in the richest fifth of families.
- 9 E. The excellent work done by Liberal Democrat Ministers within the Coalition Government and
- 10 Department for Education to increase the amount of free early years education available to
- 11 all 3–4 year olds; extend early years provision to disadvantaged 2 year olds; and increase
- 12 the flexibility for all parents to claim this free provision at the times most convenient to them.

13 Conference believes that:

- 14 i) Childcare remains too large a financial burden, particularly on those families who are having
- 15 to manage on low to middle incomes, but it is vital that any policies to address this do not
- 16 reduce quality.
- 17 ii) Current childcare arrangements do not take people who work anti-social hours properly into
- 18 consideration.
- 19 iii) The government should do more to ensure that people from all communities are aware of
- 20 their free early years entitlements and are encouraged to take them up.
- 21 iv) The best early years settings involve parents in their work with young children.

22 In the short term, conference calls for:

- 23 a) The Government to actively encourage the registration of more childminders.
- 24 b) The Government to continue to assess, and if needs be amend, regulations in order to allow
- 25 more flexibility over how parents utilise the free entitlement and commission an independent
- 26 report into improving the flexibility of childcare provision; this should include examining ways
- 27 in which the Government could improve child care provision for shift workers and those with
- 28 anti-social hours.
- 29 c) A feasibility study on combining the disparate elements of child care support including the
- 30 free entitlement, the child care element of Working Tax Credits / Universal Credit and Child
- 31 Care Vouchers; such a study should examine ways of combining the three elements into
- 32 one comprehensive child care support mechanism.
- 33 d) A feasibility study into a 'Nursery Premium' to provide additional funding for the early
- 34 education of young children who would meet Free School Meal criteria in order to improve
- 35 the quality and affordability of childcare in deprived areas which directly serves lower income
- 36 families and those who have special needs.
- 37 e) Conduct an inclusion campaign to ensure that all communities are accessing the Free
- 38 Entitlement; this should particularly focus on deprived areas and communities which have
- 39 traditionally not utilised current provision.



40 In the long term, conference calls for:

- 41 1. As finances allow, an emphasis on increasing further the Early Years Entitlement, both by
42 extending it to more two-year-olds and increasing the total number of hours towards a goal
43 of 20 hours.
- 44 2. Improving links between the independent, voluntary and maintained sectors early years
45 facilities to take advantage of the benefits of partnership working in the same way they have
46 been for schools.
- 47 3. A programme to gradually increase funding for the Quality Premium of the Graduate Leader
48 Fund to help training Early Years Professionals with the aim of ensuring all nurseries, crèches
49 and other non-school based professional child care facilities have at least one graduate-
50 level worker.
- 51 4. In line with the recommendation of the Nutbrown Review ('Foundations for Quality Final
52 Report'), individuals with Early Years Professional Status (EYPS) should be able to access
53 routes to obtain Qualified Teacher Status (QTS.)

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion, and for requests for separate votes, is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 4 and 'separate vote' on page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

15.55 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Arnie Gibbons
Aide: Sandra Gidley

F6 Getting the Most Out of Schools

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Dan Rogerson MP (Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Party Committee on Education and Families)

Summation: To be announced

1 Conference notes:

- 2 1. The increase in pupil premium funding to £2.5 billion by 2015 and the positive help this
3 money will provide to schools to narrow the attainment gap between the poorest and
4 richest pupils.
- 5 2. The increase in per-pupil premium funding to £600 in 2012/13.
- 6 3. That vocational courses are an important part of the curriculum.
- 7 4. The value of careers guidance to pupils of the ages 10–11 and face-to-face careers advice
8 for pupils aged 13–14, as outlined in the Hughes Report.

9 Conference believes that:

- 10 I. The policies of the Liberal Democrats in government will have a positive effect on narrowing
11 the attainment gap between the richest and poorest pupils.
- 12 II. The most vulnerable children deserve the highest quality of care.
- 13 III. Diagnostic testing is an invaluable tool for helping teachers to identify both abilities and
14 learning difficulties.
- 15 IV. Early diagnosis would hugely reduce the 20% currently reported as failing to reach an
16 adequate standard of literacy and numeracy at age eleven.
- 17 V. Vocational education has wrongly and for too long been held in low esteem.

18 With respect to the Pupil Premium, conference calls for:

- 19 A. The Government to chart the impact of the Pupil Premium in narrowing the achievement
20 gap between well-off and poor pupils.
- 21 B. Schools to continue to have the freedom to decide how to spend Pupil Premium funding,
22 for example on out of schools learning such as extra tuition or supplementary schools.
- 23 C. The introduction of measures to deal with schools which are entitled to large amounts
24 of Pupil Premium funding, but which fail to show an improvement in outcomes for those
25 children whom the Pupil Premium was intended.

26 To improve vocational education, conference calls for:

- 27 i) Clear pathways to be developed for those undertaking vocational courses so that they
28 remain a legitimate and valued alternative to academic courses.
- 29 ii) The government to open a tender process to develop and implement a programme to
30 improve parental involvement in schools, which should lead to the establishment of best
31 practice and some localised pilots.
- 32 iii) Technical and vocational education, whether at Further Education colleges or University
33 Technical Colleges, to be able to lead onto appropriate university courses or high-quality
34 industrial apprenticeships and to be fairly funded.
- 35 iv) Industry and commerce to be actively involved in developing vocational qualifications; we
36 need to ensure that such qualifications are acceptable internationally so that holders can, for
37 example, find work in other EU countries.
- 38 v) Engagement of relevant appropriate private sector employers to provide a career path for
39 students achieving low grades.
- 40 vi) A vocational equivalent to the EBacc.

41 In the short term conference also calls for:

- 42 a) Pupils leaving primary education to be tested and assessed through the school's internal
43 procedures, and results made available to those pupils' parents, the secondary school to
44 which they will transfer, OFSTED and the Department for Education.
- 45 b) Provision of age-appropriate careers advice from age 10–11 and face-to-face careers
46 advice for all from age 13–14, as recommended in the Hughes Report.
- 47 c) New school buildings to be able to accommodate children with special needs on the same
48 site as other children, to make joint activities easier where that is what parents choose for
49 their child.



50 In the long term, conference calls for:

- 51 1. Future increases in the Pupil Premium to be targeted at disadvantaged children in early
52 years and primary school settings, while protecting current Pupil Premium funding for
53 Secondary schools.
- 54 2. Schools to be encouraged to focus their pupil premium on early assessment and addressing
55 special needs.
- 56 3. The Government to encourage companies to work with pupils while still at school to support
57 them through their studies and develop 'school leaver' programmes similar to graduate
58 training schemes.
- 59 4. Support to be offered to schools to form partnerships with former pupils, local businesses
60 and further education providers to provide mentoring for pupils.

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion, and for requests for separate votes, is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 4 and 'separate vote' on page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

16.40 Policy motion

Chair: James Gurling
Aide: Jenni Lang

F7 Reform of the House of Lords

Croydon

Mover: Jeremy Hargreaves
Summation: Dinti Batstone

- 1 Conference believes:
- 2 A. The Liberal Democrats and their forebears can take justifiable pride in their role across the
3 last five centuries in achieving the dispersal of power away from unaccountable individuals
4 to accountable bodies, in the interests of giving all citizens greater control over their own
5 lives.
- 6 B. The principle that those in public authority, such as holders of executive and legislative
7 power, should be chosen by the public is now well established across the world.
- 8 C. The remaining presence in Britain in 2012 of a chamber with the authority to change the law
9 which does not respect this principle is a standing outrage, and an ongoing stain on Britain's
10 ability to preach the values of open, transparent and accountable government to the rest of
11 the world.
- 12 D. That this view is highly and enduringly popular with the British public.
- 13 E. The achievement of constitutional reform to bring Britain out of the nineteenth century is
14 and always has been clearly a major basis of Liberal Democrat participation in the present
15 coalition government.

16 Conference notes:

- 17 i) The Liberal Democrat manifesto at the 2010 General Election committed Liberal Democrats
18 to “replace the House of Lords with a fully-elected second chamber”.
- 19 ii) The Conservative manifesto at the 2010 General Election committed Conservatives to “work
20 to build a consensus for a mainly-elected second chamber to replace the current House of
21 Lords, recognising that an efficient and effective second chamber should play an important
22 role in our democracy and requires both legitimacy and public confidence”.
- 23 iii) The Labour manifesto at the 2010 General Election committed the Labour party to a
24 referendum on its proposal that “At the end of the next Parliament one third of the House of
25 Lords will be elected; a further one third of members will be elected at the general election
26 after that”.

27 Conference:

- 28 a) Restates once again its commitment to campaigning for the latest liberal change of many
29 down the centuries which have brought greater power and freedom to British citizens – and
30 which is also popular with the British people.
- 31 b) Notes the successful and effective work done by Liberal Democrat peers over the years in
32 improving legislation.
- 33 c) Believes that the useful work which the both the current House of Lords, and many of its
34 individual members, do, can nevertheless not justify the ongoing existence of a major seat
35 of power which is not accountable to the British people.

36 Conference calls for:

- 37 1. The Coalition Government to deliver, by 2015, a second chamber which is wholly or
38 predominantly elected.
- 39 2. Measures already outlined in Liberal Democrat policy to ensure that from the start the
40 elected second chamber has a gender balance.
- 41 3. All Liberal Democrat members of the House of Lords to support a principle which has been
42 at the heart of Liberal Democrat and Liberal policy since before even any member of the
43 House of Lords was born.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see ‘applying to speak in conference debates’ on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion, and for requests for separate votes, is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See ‘amendments’ on page 4 and ‘separate vote’ on page 8. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

17.20 Close of session



09.00 Party business

Chair: Jenni Lang
Aide: Cllr Arnie Gibbons

F8 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance

Mover: Rosalyn Gordon (Chair of the Campaign for Gender Balance)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 17.20 on Saturday 22nd September.

F9 Report of the Diversity Engagement Group

Mover: Baroness Brinton (Chair of the Diversity Engagement Group)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 17.20 on Saturday 22nd September.

F10 Report of the Federal Appeals Panel

Mover: Alan Masters (Chair, Federal Appeals Panel)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 17.20 on Saturday 17th September.

09.15 Policy motion

Chair: Susan Gaszczak
Aide: Jo Shaw

F11 A Sustainable Future for Aviation

Watford

Mover: Dr Julian Huppert MP (Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Party Committee on Transport)
Summation: To be confirmed

- 1 Conference believes that:
- 2 i) The aviation industry is an important driver of jobs and growth in our globalised economy.
- 3 ii) Aviation helps to connect people who live in different countries, and promotes
- 4 internationalism.

- 5 iii) Aviation has the potential to become one of the greatest threats to the global environment.
- 6 iv) Unmitigated expansion of aviation would cause the UK to miss its carbon reduction targets.
- 7 v) Aviation has a very negative impact on the health and well being of individuals living near UK
- 8 airports, particularly in terms of noise pollution and air quality.
- 9 vi) Without significant technological development, air travel will become too expensive for the
- 10 majority of people due to the rising cost of fuel.
- 11 vii) The Government should support and promote efforts by the aviation industry to reduce its
- 12 environmental impact.
- 13 viii) Aviation policy in the UK has lacked a clear strategy for how we can mitigate its impact on
- 14 the environment and on local residents.
- 15 ix) Successive Governments have failed to find a means by which we can support this industry,
- 16 while mitigating its impact on UK residents and the global environment.

17 Conference therefore welcomes:

- 18 I. The Government's decision, in line with our manifesto, to cancel Labour's third runway at
- 19 Heathrow and to oppose new runways at Gatwick and Stansted.
- 20 II. The publication of the Government's Draft Aviation Policy Strategy.
- 21 III. The Government's continued support for the European Emissions Trading Scheme.

22 Conference however notes that:

- 23 A. The independent Committee on Climate Change (CCC) recommended that, in order for the
- 24 UK to meet its target of 80% reduction in emissions by 2050, aviation emissions of CO₂
- 25 should not exceed 2005 levels in 2050 (37.5MtCO₂ a year); for this to be possible, air traffic
- 26 movements should not be allowed to expand more than 60% beyond current levels.
- 27 B. Up to half of emissions relating to air travel are caused by surface access to airports.
- 28 C. Heathrow is an extremely badly located airport, with half of all those in Europe affected by
- 29 aircraft noise living under the Heathrow flight path – we strongly oppose the third runway,
- 30 and are disappointed that the Labour party do not have a clear policy against it.
- 31 D. London is the best-connected city in the world, with seven runways operating at six airports.
- 32 E. A Thames Estuary airport would be extremely expensive; catastrophic for local wildlife; a
- 33 dangerous investment due to the location of the SS Richard Montgomery; liable to bird-
- 34 strike; and poorly located for those living outside London and the South-East.
- 35 F. Aviation policy has to date focused on London and the South-East; it is clear that that is
- 36 where the greatest demand lies, but airports and foreign travel for business or leisure must
- 37 be easily accessible for citizens living across the UK.
- 38 G. With Birmingham looking to expand, Stansted only half full and Gatwick expanding into
- 39 emerging markets, regional airports and other airports within London can meet demand for
- 40 years to come; however, we recognise that a single, hub airport – rather than a constrained
- 41 Heathrow with multiple satellite airports – would be better for the environment and better for
- 42 the economy.

43 Conference therefore calls for:

- 44 1. Rejection of new runways at Heathrow, Stansted or Gatwick.
- 45 2. Rejection of mixed-mode at Heathrow, and opposition to an extension of night flights.
- 46 3. Rejection of expansion of airport capacity which would allow for aircraft movements above
- 47 the cap set by the CCC, or which would allow for a net increase in the number of runways



- 48 which serve the UK; we would introduce an overall emissions cap for the industry for 2050
49 in line with the CCC recommendations.
- 50 4. UK Aviation policy to be based on five key principles:
- 51 a) Accessibility from North and South.
52 b) Growth within UK carbon budgets.
53 c) Minimal impact to local population.
54 d) Minimal impact to the local environment.
55 e) Maximum hubbing potential.
- 56 5. The UK to make best use of existing capacity through:
- 57 a) Movement of point-to-point flights which do not serve our hub capability from Heathrow
58 to other airports; this would be done through a re-negotiation of EU slot allocation rules
59 and the introduction of slot auctioning – failing that, we support the introduction of a
60 departure tax at Heathrow to shift less profitable non-hub flights.
- 61 b) An end to cross-subsidy of lower landing fees at Heathrow.
62 c) The introduction of a Per-Plane-Duty (PPD) in place of APD to incentivise fully-loaded
63 planes; in the mean time, we support a revenue neutral shift in APD rates to discourage
64 short-haul flights, which can be made on land, and to encourage long-haul hubbing –
65 APD and PPD rates should be based on distance to airports, not to capital cities.
- 66 d) Use of existing capacity and improved transport links at Gatwick, Stansted, Luton,
67 Manchester, Birmingham and Edinburgh – the priority should be better use of capacity
68 at Gatwick, which has already shown the ability to access emerging markets across
69 Asia through new point-to-point routes.
- 70 6. Greening of the aviation industry through:
- 71 a) New noise limits in population centres at certain times to incentivise quieter planes.
72 b) Tough requirements for low emission surface access to UK airports, and for airport
73 operators to use low emission vehicles on site.
74 c) Support for the Emissions Trading Scheme at the EU level to promote the polluter pays
75 principle.
- 76 7. An independent, evidence-based study to find a suitable location for a hub airport, or a
77 suitable airport to expand into a hub, but the remit of the commission must include:
- 78 a) A strategy for removing excess capacity above the CCC cap outside of the new hub
79 airport.
80 b) No net increase in the number of UK runways.
81 c) Greater recognition of the need to serve North and South than previous governments
82 have shown.
83 d) Significantly lower noise impact than currently exists at Heathrow.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy

Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.20, Saturday 22nd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

10.15 Presentation

Chair: Justine McGuinness
Aide: Linda Jack

F12 Presentation by Citizens UK

A presentation by Citizens UK, with Sarah Teather MP and Nick Clegg MP, to celebrate the Liberal Democrat achievement in government of ending child detention for immigration purposes.

10.35 Speech

Chair: Lucy Care
Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F13 Speech by Tim Farron MP, President of the Liberal Democrats

10.55 Policy motion

Chair: Baroness Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Cllr Jon Ball

F14 International Cooperation on the Environment

Twelve conference representatives

Mover: To be announced
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes the progress made as a result of:
 - 2 A. The Renewable Energy Directive which mandates that 20% of energy in Europe will come
 - 3 from renewable sources from 2020 and which has seen UK renewable energy increase to
 - 4 3.8% of production earlier this year.
 - 5 B. The Climate Change Act which places strict limits on carbon emissions, under our carbon
 - 6 budgets, and is driving the Government to decarbonise the economy.
 - 7 C. The UN Framework for the Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which paved the way
 - 8 for international cooperation to reduce green house gas emissions.
 - 9 D. The Kyoto Protocol agreed under the UNFCCC, which saw developed countries commit to
 - 10 reduce their green house gas emissions by 5.2% by 2012.
 - 11 E. The Convention on Biological Diversity, which acknowledges the importance of biodiversity,
 - 12 recognises it as a key pillar of development, and is dedicated to promoting sustainable
 - 13 development; and the Nagoya Protocol, agreed at the tenth meeting of the Conference of



14 the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which sets targets for protecting the
15 natural environment.
16 F. The Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species, a vital tool in the
17 protection of plants and animals at risk from the international wildlife trade, including tigers,
18 elephants and coral.

19 Conference notes with regret:

- 20 i) The lack of agreement under the UNFCCC on a comprehensive legally binding agreement
21 to apply from 2012.
22 ii) The failure of EU Governments to adopt a target to reduce emissions by 30% by 2020.
23 iii) The failure of EU Governments to put in place a 'Low Carbon Roadmap'.
24 iv) The failure of the European Trading Scheme to create a sufficiently high carbon price and
25 the failure of EU Governments to reform it.
26 v) The unprecedented scale of biodiversity loss the world is experiencing, in spite of the current
27 international agreements: more needs to be done.

28 Conference congratulates Liberal Democrat Coalition Ministers and MEPs on helping to secure:

- 29 a) The European Energy Efficiency Directive which will ensure more than 17% improved energy
30 efficiency in 2020.
31 b) Agreement to a roadmap to negotiate a Legal Binding Agreement at COP 17 in Durban.
32 c) Agreement at Rio+20, to develop Sustainable Development Goals; broader measures of
33 progress to complement GDP to allow countries to measure their natural wealth and social
34 wellbeing; and recognition of the importance of the role of business sustainability reporting.
35 d) £2.9bn funding to 2015 for an international climate fund to support adaptation and low
36 carbon development and effective forest management in developing countries.

37 Conference urges the Coalition Government to:

- 38 1. Push other European member states to adopt a target to reduce emissions by 30% by
39 2020 as set out in the 'Programme for Government'.
40 2. Continue to push for reform of the European Emissions Trading Scheme.
41 3. Show leadership and ensure that a set of indicators is agreed at the meeting of the
42 UN Convention on Biodiversity, Hyderabad in October 2012, to measure progress on
43 biodiversity.
44 4. Work with other countries, especially the G77 and emerging economies, and listen to the
45 voices of the poorest in to developing Sustainable Development Goals focussing on food,
46 energy, and water – important for growth, poverty eradication and sustainability; these must
47 be universal and aspirational, build on the success of the Millennium Development Goals
48 and should be an integral part of the post-2015 development framework.
49 5. Work with other members of UNFCCC, and crucially as a driving member of the EU, to
50 secure further progress at COP18 in Qatar towards negotiating a legally binding climate
51 change agreement by 2015 to take effect by 2020 and implementing the commitments
52 made in Durban.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.20, Saturday 22nd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

11.40 Policy motion

Chair: Qassim Afzal
Aide: Baroness Doocey

F15 Good Food Shouldn't Cost the Earth

Fifteen conference representatives

Mover: Baroness Parminter (Co-Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Parliamentary Party Committee)

Summation: Cllr Steve Bradley

- 1 Conference recognises the key roles food production and consumption play in the UK economy,
- 2 enhancing natural capital and the health of citizens.

- 3 Conference believes that government should promote:
 - 4 a) Access for all to affordable and nutritious food.
 - 5 b) Healthy eating behaviour.
 - 6 c) Measures which encourage individuals to develop the knowledge and skills to make
 - 7 informed choices over food consumption.
 - 8 d) Sustainable food production and consumption, minimising negative environmental impacts,
 - 9 both in the UK and abroad.
 - 10 e) Respect for animal welfare in food production.

- 11 Conference recognises the challenges posed to these aims by global population growth, the
- 12 impacts of climate change and natural resource depletion.

- 13 Conference therefore calls for:
 - 14 1. Government to adopt a National Food Strategy to secure the production and consumption
 - 15 of sustainable and healthy food, addressing issues of food security, climate change,
 - 16 environmental protection, affordability, nutrition and animal welfare.
 - 17 2. Policies and measures aimed at promoting healthier and more sustainable diets, including
 - 18 consultation on fiscal measures such as the taxation of heavily sugared drinks.
 - 19 3. Food and food skills to be included in the school curriculum.
 - 20 4. Cities to be encouraged to produce Food Plans aiming to increase food resilience, support
 - 21 local food businesses and help people get involved with food production.
 - 22 5. Government to use public procurement policy to require healthy and sustainable food for
 - 23 public food contracts, including adopting a timetable to achieve a minimum of 30 per cent
 - 24 organic food.
 - 25 6. Government to work with industry and retailers to encourage the universal uptake of
 - 26 the 'traffic light' colour-coding system for nutritional labelling, and to work towards more



- 27 consistent sustainability labelling for fish products.
28 7. Government to publish a coherent framework for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from
29 agriculture in line with the targets set by the Climate Change Act.
30 8. Measures to be taken to promote small and mixed farms, recognising the benefits they
31 deliver to rural communities and the environment; and an independent review of the
32 behavioural, welfare, socio-economic and environmental impacts of large-scale farming.
33 9. Government to set a target date for zero food waste to landfill.
34 10. A levy on plastic bags with the money raised supporting community food initiatives.

Applicability: England, except 1 (lines 14–16), 5 (lines 22–24) and 7 (lines 28–29) which are Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.20, Saturday 22nd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

12.20 Speech

Chair: Lucy Care
Aide: Cllr Jon Ball

F16 Speech by Rt Hon Edward Davey MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change

12.40 Lunch

14.20 Policy motion

Chair: Justine McGuinness
Aide: James Gurling

F17 Empowering the IPCC

Lewisham and North Beckenham
Mover: Cllr Duwayne Brooks
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 a) The increasing difficulties the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) has in
3 investigating police officers and police staff who refuse to be interviewed about complaints.
4 b) That such refusals often have serious consequences in incidents where members of the
5 public die and police officers only provide a written statement.

- 6 c) That full and thorough investigations become impossible because efforts to ascertain facts
7 by asking questions are deliberately thwarted.
- 8 d) That this situation will soon be exacerbated as more and more police forces contract out
9 police work to private companies over which the IPCC has no jurisdiction.
- 10 Conference believes that creating a fair and just society for all is dependent on the full
11 transparency and co-operation of those the public employs and trusts to protect society.
- 12 Conference calls on the Coalition Government to restore the trust between our police forces and
13 the public they serve by giving the IPCC far stronger powers to:
- 14 1. Obtain information from employees of the police services and those to whom their work is
15 sub-contracted.
- 16 2. Require police officers and police staff who are the subject of an IPCC investigation following
17 a death to give an account of events, and be compelled to answer questions.
- 18 3. Require minimum standards for private contractors with custody or other responsibilities.
- 19 4. Ensure all private contractors for police services must adhere to strong and enforceable
20 minimum standards over their operations and checks on their directors, managers and staff;
21 such standards should be determined, regulated, monitored and enforced by the IPCC,
22 including powers to search premises and arrest and question suspects.

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion, is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.20, Saturday 22nd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

15.05 Question and answer session

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Susan Gaszczak

F18 Question and Answer Session with Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister

A chance for conference representatives to put questions, on any topic, to the leader of the Liberal Democrats in a 'Town Hall' style event. Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Sunday 23rd September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 20th September. See page 7.



15.50 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Sarah Boad
Aide: Cllr Chris Maines

F19 Equal Citizenship – Supporting Independence for Sick and Disabled People

Islington and thirteen conference representatives

Mover: Kelly-Marie Blundell
Summation: George Potter

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 A. The passage of the Welfare Reform Act, particularly:
- 3 i) Changes to Employment and Support Allowance (ESA).
4 ii) The introduction of Personal Independence Payments (PIPs) as a replacement for
5 Disability Living Allowance (DLA), which is predicted to reduce working age DLA
6 expenditure by 20% by 2015/16, returning expenditure to 2009/10 levels in real terms.
7 iii) The feeling of exclusion from the welfare reform policy development process amongst
8 the disabled community.
9 iv) The conclusions of the report *Reversing Recovery* on the impact of the Welfare Reform
10 Act.
- 11 B. The adoption of policy motion *Employment and Support Allowance and Work Capability*
12 *Assessments* by Autumn Federal Conference 2011.
- 13 C. The rise in disability hate crime in recent years as reported in a survey conducted by the
14 disability charity Scope.
- 15 Conference welcomes:
- 16 1. The introduction of Universal Credit, which will means-test ESA based on household
17 income rather than the number of hours a claimants partner works, reducing the number of
18 claimants receiving no means-tested ESA.
19 2. The independent annual reviews of the Work Capability Assessment (WCA), which
20 determines eligibility for ESA, being conducted by Professor Malcolm Harrington.
21 3. The Government's decision to accept the vast majority of the recommendations made in the
22 first two annual reviews by Professor Harrington.
23 4. The four public consultations held so far on the introduction of PIPs.
24 5. The Government's decision to allocate an additional £15 million to the Access to Work
25 budget as a result of the recommendations of Liz Sayce in her review of specialist disability
26 employment programmes.
- 27 Conference believes that:
- 28 a) Society and government have a duty of care towards sick and disabled people and that the
29 goals of government policy must be the empowerment of sick and disabled people in order
30 to tackle and reduce their dependency on others and, fundamentally, to enable them to
31 enjoy full and equal citizenship.

- 32 b) Current welfare policy is failing sick and disabled people and that the Welfare Reform Act
33 does not do enough to remedy this situation.
- 34 c) Sick and disabled people unable to work or unable to find employment should be
35 supported by the welfare system for as long as they are unable to work or find employment
36 and that mechanisms such as the current method of time limiting of contributory ESA are
37 counterproductive and harmful.
- 38 d) Although a variety of organisations, including private sector organisations, have a role to
39 play in formulating DWP policy, the last Labour Government relied too heavily on advice
40 from private companies with a potential financial interest in the outcomes of policies affecting
41 sick and disabled people.
- 42 e) Policies which force sick and disabled people to be dependent on others may prevent them
43 from being able to enjoy equal citizenship and leads to exclusion from society.
- 44 f) Further action by government is required to prevent victimisation of and discrimination
45 against sick and disabled people by employers.
- 46 g) More needs to be done in society as a whole to remove barriers to access to employment,
47 transport and participation as equal citizens.

48 Conference therefore calls for:

- 49 1. An independent review of the impact of the Welfare Reform Act.
- 50 2. A review of WCA assessment centres to ensure they have adequate disabled access and
51 easy access by public transport or that mechanisms are in place to provide home visits or
52 alternative assessment venues.
- 53 3. The establishment of a public consultation on the assessment mechanisms for DLA,
54 ESA and PIPs, with special emphasis on eligibility for support for those with time variant
55 conditions.
- 56 4. The results of this consultation to be used by the DWP to reform its sickness and disability
57 policies.
- 58 5. Additional support and effort to be targeted at enabling sick and disabled people to remain
59 in work and at removing barriers of access to work through expansion of schemes such as
60 the Access to Work Fund.
- 61 6. The Government to ensure that it continues to take a balanced approach to the advice it
62 receives, and that it prioritises the advice of organisations representing sick and disabled
63 people.
- 64 7. The Citizen's Advice and non-profit making advice services to receive increased government
65 funding during the transitional periods for any future substantial changes to the welfare
66 system.
- 67 8. The Government to examine the impact of means-testing and income-related support
68 elements of disability welfare policy and, when funds allow, to reform policy to reduce the
69 number of cases where sick and disabled people are made dependent on partners and
70 carers and to ensure that, where this does happen, this does not lead to exclusion from
71 society.
- 72 9. A public awareness campaign to tackle prejudice and other attitudes detrimental to the well-
73 being of sick and disabled people.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy



Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.20, Saturday 22nd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

16.40 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Linda Jack

F20 Medically Assisted Dying

Croydon

Mover: Chris Davies MEP

Summation: Lorely Burt MP

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 a) A significant minority of people who suffer unendurably from medical conditions that offer
3 no hope of recovery are physically unable to end their lives at a time of their own choosing
4 without assistance.
- 5 b) It is over 50 years since the passage of the 1961 Suicide Act established the current
6 legislative framework, but that scores of British citizens now travel to Switzerland each year
7 to seek medical assistance to die.
- 8 c) Legislation making provision for medically assisted dying, and incorporating many
9 safeguards to prevent misuse, was enacted in Belgium and the Netherlands a decade ago
10 and continues to enjoy very strong public support in those countries.
- 11 d) There is continuing debate on the subject in the United Kingdom, and the evidence of
12 successive opinion polls demonstrates very strong public support for similar legislation here.
- 13 Conference reaffirms the policy it adopted in the conference motion *Medically Assisted Dying* in
14 2004 in support of legislation providing for medical assistance to die to be available to patients
15 in particular circumstances, subject to rigorous safeguards to prevent abuse. Conference also
16 recognises the importance of high quality palliative care being available to all who may need it,
17 and of greater support for carers.
- 18 Conference calls for Liberal Democrat ministers:
- 19 1. To press for the introduction of a government bill on the subject.
20 2. In the event of a Bill being introduced through Private Members' procedures, to press for
21 time to be made available in the House of Commons to enable it to be fully considered.
- 22 Conference believes that any such legislative proposal should be determined by way of a free
23 vote in order to respect the freedom of conscience of Parliamentarians.

Applicability: England and Wales.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

sunday 23rd september continued

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See pages 8 and 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 14.20, Saturday 22nd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

18.00 Close of session



09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Caroline Pidgeon AM (London)
Aide: Cllr Arnie Gibbons

F21 Developing a Future – Policies for Science and Research

Cambridge

Mover: Dr Julian Huppert MP
Summation: Dr Jenny Woods

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 A. The UK spends less than 2% of GDP on research and development, less than it did in the
3 1980s and significantly less than OECD and G7 averages.
- 4 B. OECD analyses suggest that public investment in research and development pulls in private
5 sector investment, rather than crowding it out.
- 6 C. Despite historically poor funding, the UK has performed extremely well in research outputs,
7 whether measured in academic papers published or in key inventions and discoveries.
- 8 D. It is very hard to predict at the outset what the impact of blue-skies research will be – the
9 Internet, lasers, and monoclonal antibodies have had huge, unpredictable benefits.
- 10 E. There is a shortage of people entering and remaining in Science, Technology, Engineering
11 and Mathematics (STEM) careers, particularly women and those from poorer socio-
12 economic backgrounds.
- 13 F. Research and development are global activities, with people and ideas from around the
14 world being needed for successful progress.
- 15 Conference believes that:
- 16 I. Investment in research and development is critical to the current and future economic
17 success of the UK.
- 18 II. Curiosity in the way the world works is to be encouraged for its own sake, to build deeper
19 understanding, as well as for economic growth.
- 20 III. If we are to keep the brightest and the best in UK science and research, we need to:
- 21 a) Ensure that STEM subjects are well taught in schools and universities.
22 b) Ensure that academic and research careers are fulfilling and well supported.
23 c) Ensure that immigration rules do not place arbitrary barriers in the way of skilled
24 individuals coming to or remaining in the UK.
- 25 IV. Policymaking should be evidence-based, and scientific advice into policy making should be
26 impartial and independent.
- 27 Conference calls on the Coalition Government to ensure that:
- 28 1. The Government science budget is ring-fenced, for both revenue and capital expenditure.
29 We aim to increase the ring-fenced science budget by 3% above inflation for 15 years, and
30 will seek to arrange a cross-party consensus to deliver this over such a timescale.

- 31 2. Encouragement is provided for research investment by industry, charities, and the EU.
32 3. 'Blue-skies' research continues to be well funded, in parallel to applied research, and that
33 political interference in science funding decisions is avoided.
34 4. Specialist science teachers are available in all schools, with funded continuous professional
35 development entitlements.
36 5. Immigration laws are revised to ensure that bona fide international students can continue to
37 come to the UK to study, that the best and the brightest can stay in the UK, work and settle
38 after graduation, and that special provision is made for academics, scientists and other
39 chartered individuals to work and settle in the UK.
40 6. An income-contingent loan scheme is established for post-graduate students, so that they
41 do not have to pay the cost of their courses up-front.
42 7. Open Access publications and Open Data principles become the norm for publicly funded
43 research.

Applicability: Federal, except 4 (lines 34–35) and 6 (lines 40–41) which are England only.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 23rd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

09.45 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Jo Shaw

F22 Mutuels, Employee Ownership, and Workplace Democracy Policy Paper

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Martin Horwood MP
Summation: Gordon Lishman

- 1 Conference recalls that Liberal Democrats have always believed in helping individuals to take and
2 use power, enabling them to be involved in the decisions which affect their lives.
- 3 Conference believes that employee participation in the workplace, together with wider employee
4 ownership, is important for diffusing economic power; promoting enterprise; increasing job
5 satisfaction; and improving service to customers.
- 6 Conference therefore welcomes policy paper 106, *Mutuels, Employee Ownership, and*
7 *Workplace Democracy*, and affirms that:
- 8 A. Every individual has the right to play a meaningful role in society regardless of their
9 occupation, wealth, gender, age, role, or position.



- 10 B. Every person should have a sense of self-worth about the work that they do and the skills
11 that they use.
- 12 C. Participation as well as choice and competition have an important role in empowering
13 individuals and driving economic efficiency.
- 14 D. Individuals should have a say in the way that they live their lives, including where and how
15 they work.
- 16 E. Liberal Democrats believe that democracy, participation, and the co-operative principle are
17 fundamental both to individual rights and the successful operation of the economy.

18 Conference welcomes the work being done by Liberal Democrat ministers in government to
19 further this agenda, and endorses the policy paper; conference in particular supports its calls for:

20 1. Making mutuals, employee-owned, and employee-share-owned businesses (MEESOs) a
21 more viable business option through:

- 22 a) Establishing a formal, legal structure for the holding of employee shares.
- 23 b) Removing adverse tax consequences for companies which wish to transfer shares to
24 Employee Benefit Trusts.
- 25 c) Giving discounts on capital gains tax for business owners who transfer a significant
26 stake in the business to employees.

27 2. Giving employees a greater say over their own working environments by:

- 28 a) Enshrining in legislation workers' rights to participation in organisations with over 250
29 employees.
- 30 b) Giving employees in companies where employees own at least 5% of shares the right
31 to elect a member to the board.
- 32 c) Amending Companies Act legislation to allow the option of a two-tier board structure
33 similar to the German model.

34 3. Increasing the number of employees benefiting from ownership schemes by:

- 35 a) Giving employees in publicly-listed companies with more than 250 employees the right
36 to request an all-employee share scheme covering at least 5% of the shares.
- 37 b) Providing for employees to submit a bid for up to 100% ownership of a business at the
38 point of sale.
- 39 c) Requiring that all Initial Public Offerings on the London Stock Exchange offer at least
40 5% of shares to employees at a discounted rate.

41 4. Increasing government support for the MEESO sector through:

- 42 a) The nomination of a Minister in the Department for Business, Innovation, and Skills with
43 particular responsibility for the MEESO sector.
- 44 b) Ensuring that all legislation and regulation creates a level playing field for MEESOs to
45 compete with other forms of business ownership.
- 46 c) Working to encourage employee involvement in the public and voluntary sectors.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See pages 8 and 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 23rd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

11.05 Policy motion

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)
Aide: Susan Gaszczak

F23 Generating Growth and Jobs in a Time of Austerity

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP (Chief Secretary to the Treasury)
Summation: To be announced

1 Conference recognises that the difficult decisions taken by the Coalition Government have
2 ensured the credibility of the UK government's position in the financial markets allowing the
3 UK to borrow at record low rates but also recognises that there remain clear challenges for the
4 generation of more jobs and growth in the economy.

5 Conference therefore welcomes recent announcements detailing the Coalition Government's
6 plans to use the country's hard-won fiscal credibility to kick start growth and jobs in the short
7 term and to boost the green economy, including:

- 8 I. The Funding for Lending Scheme, worth up to £80bn, which uses the low interest rate on
9 UK Government debt to reduce funding costs for banks and building societies, enabling
10 them to make more – and cheaper – loans to businesses.
- 11 II. A £9.4bn package to invest in the rail industry, making rail travel faster, more reliable, less
12 crowded and greener.
- 13 III. The UK Guarantees scheme, which is designed to: unlock £40bn worth of stalled
14 investment projects; lend up to £6bn to public private infrastructure projects; and boost UK
15 exports through a £5bn refinancing facility.
- 16 IV. The Renewables Obligation, unlocking up to £25bn of new investment in renewable
17 electricity and its supply chain.

18 Conference remains concerned by:

- 19 A. The lack of competition in the banking sector, which penalises consumers and businesses.
- 20 B. The refusal of the Conservatives to acknowledge that investing in carbon reducing
21 technologies has the potential to make an important contribution to long-term growth.
- 22 C. The failure of successive governments to tackle the housing crisis.
- 23 D. Irresponsible calls for policies with no clear evidence of effectiveness, such as introducing
24 no-fault dismissal, where the evidence suggests this would weaken confidence further.



monday 24th september continued

25 Conference calls on the Coalition Government to do everything possible to stimulate growth
26 within its fiscal mandate, including to:

27 1. Foster a diverse banking system in the UK, including through developing community
28 banking, credit unions, peer-to-peer lending and other non-bank finance.

29 2. Stimulate green growth in the economy and create framework where there is greater
30 certainty and confidence among businesses to invest in renewable energy, including by:

31 a) Strengthening the Green Investment Bank and sticking to the promise of giving it
32 borrowing powers once the national debt is falling as a proportion of GDP.

33 b) Establishing a target range of 50–100g of CO₂ per kwh for the decarbonisation of
34 power sector by 2030 in addition to existing carbon emission reductions.

35 3. Use the government's balance sheet to support investment in housing, including in the
36 owner-occupier, social and private rented sectors.

37 4. Raise the personal allowance on income tax to £10,000 in the next budget to stimulate
38 consumer demand.

39 5. Rule out making changes to employment law without clear, robust evidence that the
40 changes will protect employees and support job creation.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See pages 8 and 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 23rd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

12.20 Speech

Chair: Baroness Doocey

Aide: Lucy Care

F24 Speech by Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills

12.40 Lunch

14.20 Policy motion

Chair: Ruth Polling
Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F25 Sustainable Prosperity and Jobs Policy Paper

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Duncan Hames MP (Chair of the Policy Working Group)
Summation: To be announced

1 Conference notes that:

2 A. In the years since the financial crisis first struck, economic recovery has been fragile; the
3 national economy is £250 billion smaller in 2012 than was forecast by the last government in
4 2008 – and this impacts on us all.

5 B. Hard-pressed households need relief from the relentless rise in prices while their income
6 remains static; young people need more job opportunities; and we all need an economy
7 that supports a civilised level of welfare support, public services and the peace of mind they
8 bring.

9 C. However, the UK's current difficulties are not solely a product of the recent crisis; they are
10 also the result of longer-term structural problems in our economy, including:

11 i) Several regions have economies that are far less vibrant and robust than those in
12 London and the southeast of England.

13 ii) The banking sector is highly consolidated, and needs reform.

14 iii) Educational outcomes across the UK are unequal and below the level we need in an
15 increasingly technological and competitive world.

16 iv) The UK consistently struggles to bridge the gap between academic research and
17 successful commercial exploitation.

18 Conference believes that the three pillars of our vision for sustainable prosperity should be:

19 I. Social sustainability: a society in which every individual has a stake and in which all can
20 participate and shape their own future.

21 II. Environmental sustainability: such that we will not squander the natural environment's assets
22 that will be needed by future generations.

23 III. Economic sustainability: an economic system where the current generation can enjoy the
24 fruits of its endeavours without relying for its living standards on a legacy of debt for the next
25 generation.

26 Conference further believes that individuals and local communities have the potential to flourish
27 if they are empowered and provided with opportunity, and that economic policies will only be
28 sustainable if they address the underlying problems that hamper long-term development.

29 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 105, *Sustainable Prosperity and Jobs*, as a
30 distinctive Liberal Democrat approach to achieving sustainable prosperity, and in particular
31 welcomes its proposals to:



- 32 1. Revive Local Economies, including through:
- 33 a) Allocation of a portion of future rounds of the Regional Growth Fund so that Local
34 Enterprise Partnerships can bid for a pot of money to hold their own Growth Funds.
- 35 b) Giving responsibility for business rates to local authorities and creating a fairer system
36 where rates are based on undeveloped site values.
- 37 c) Pioneering Small Business Zones, a space where new businesses, co-ops and social
38 enterprises are encouraged, and New Enterprise Hubs, to improve the success rate of
39 business start-ups.
- 40 2. Open up access to finance, including through:
- 41 a) Giving the new Financial Conduct Authority a statutory responsibility to foster a diverse
42 banking system in the UK.
- 43 b) Opening up the payment system to be genuinely accessible to new financial institutions.
- 44 c) Facilitating the emergence and growth of new lenders, in particular by restructuring
45 parts of RBS into local and community banks.
- 46 3. Realise everyone's potential, including by:
- 47 a) Extending OFSTED's inspection focus on behaviour in schools to cover the wider
48 aspects of 'employability' and 'life' skills.
- 49 b) Guaranteeing the wide availability of apprenticeships and focusing on re-skilling
50 unemployed people through expansion of apprenticeships in part by specifying local
51 content on major public infrastructure projects.
- 52 4. Unlock innovation, including by:
- 53 a) Channelling a greater proportion of public procurement through the Technology
54 Strategy Board to encourage innovation in the public sector supply-chain.
- 55 b) Reviewing patent law to ensure that new ideas are encouraged and commercialised.
- 56 5. Fulfil our low-carbon vision for Britain, including by:
- 57 a) Expanding the Green Investment Bank's scale and remit as fast as possible, including
58 relaxing the restriction on its ability to borrow before total public sector debt begins to
59 fall.
- 60 b) Taking additional actions to increase the flow of capital to low-carbon investments,
61 including fulfilling the coalition commitment to create innovative financial products.
- 62 c) Using government procurement policies to stimulate the market for green products.
- 63 d) Adopting a 'closed loop' approach, whereby use of materials is reduced, reused where
64 possible and recycled for further use.
- 65 6. Introduce a world of export opportunities to small businesses, including by:
- 66 a) Introducing a 'supply chain buddying' programme, whereby large companies already
67 engaged in export undertake to support SMEs in their supply chain to find new
68 overseas customers.
- 69 b) Extending the 'Passport to Export' to include SMEs that are more than five years old.

Applicability: Federal, except 1 (lines 32–39), 3 (lines 46–51), and 5 d) (lines 63–64) which are England only.

Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See pages 8 and 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 23rd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

15.50 Question and answer session

Chair: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)
Aide: Baroness Doocey

F26 Question and Answer Session: Coalition Two Years In

This session will include a presentation by Danny Alexander MP on progress so far in delivering the Coalition Programme and allow conference representatives to put questions. Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Monday 24th September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 20th September. See page 7.

16.35 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Chris Maines
Aide: Justine McGuinness

F27 20 is Plenty – Saving Lives on the Road

Dover & Deal

Mover: Cllr Sarah Osborne
Summation: Antony Hook

1 Conference notes:

- 2 i) Among member states of the EU, the UK has the highest proportion of pedestrian road
- 3 fatalities, and half of road deaths and serious injuries in Britain occur on roads with 30 mph
- 4 limits.
- 5 ii) Among member states of the EU, the UK has one of the poorest levels of children walking or
- 6 cycling to school and many parents cite danger from fast traffic as a reason for not allowing
- 7 their children to travel to school on foot or by bike.



- 8 iii) Lowering the normal residential speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph would make roads
9 safer; in particular a study by the Transport Research Laboratory has found 20 mph limits
10 decrease child pedestrian accidents by 70%.
- 11 iv) It has been shown that half of people hit by a car at 30 mph will die and only 10% of people
12 hit by a car at 20 mph will die.
- 13 v) Widespread use of 20 mph limits in certain local areas, such as Portsmouth, Oxford,
14 Lancashire, Brighton & Hove and Bath & North East Somerset has been both popular and
15 made roads safer.
- 16 vi) According to the British Social Attitudes Survey 2011, 71% of drivers support 20 mph on
17 residential streets.
- 18 vii) Slower speeds result in smaller exhaust emissions, less noise and lighter congestion.
- 19 viii) The greater safety of 20 mph is well demonstrated in insurance premiums being less in
20 areas with a significant number of 20 mph limits.
- 21 ix) Road injuries are hugely expensive: the Department for Transport estimates that the average
22 cost per seriously injured casualty on the roads is £178,160 and the average cost per fatality
23 is £1,585,510.
- 24 x) The relatively small cost of changing speed limits (e.g. new signage) pays for itself many
25 times over by preventing costly accidents.

26 Conference congratulates the Department of Transport for relaxing requirements for 20 mph
27 limits to be introduced in that it is no longer mandatory to add physical measures such as bumps.

28 Conference believes:

- 29 a) Speed limits on residential roads are currently too high and, in particular, the normal speed
30 limit on residential roads should be reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph.
- 31 b) Lower speed limits will make the streets safer for pedestrian, cyclists and car users alike and
32 will encourage more people to walk and cycle with consequential benefits for health and
33 quality of life.

34 Conference calls for:

- 35 1. All roads in new residential developments to have a speed limit of 20 mph.
- 36 2. All existing residential roads currently on a 30 mph to move to a 20 mph over a period of 10
37 years, with an aim for 10% of all roads to have the lower speed limit introduced each year.
- 38 3. The government to give appropriate financial support to local authorities to ensure that up-
39 front costs of conversion are no barrier to changing speed limits.
- 40 4. A minister in the Department for Transport to be put in charge of the national conversion
41 to 20 mph limits in residential areas and to report at least annually on progress toward this
42 goal.

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 23rd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

17.10 Party business

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball
Aide: Qassim Afzal

F28 Report of the Federal Executive

Mover: Tim Farron MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 16.10 on Monday 24th September.

F29 Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy

Federal Executive

Mover: To be announced
Summation: To be announced

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 a) The Federal Executive is proposing that there be no change to the Minimum, Concessionary,
3 or Youth and Student SAO subscription rates, and no change to the Federal Levy.
- 4 b) The Federal Executive is proposing that the recommended rate should rise from £62 to £65.
- 5 c) The proposed minimum rate, together with our concessionary rate of £6 for those receiving
6 or entitled to receive state benefits, maintains our position of offering access to the widest
7 possible proportion of society.

8 Conference resolves that for the year 2013:

- 9 1. The recommended subscription rate shall be £65.
- 10 2. The minimum subscription rate shall be £12.
- 11 3. The concessionary subscription rate for those in receipt of, or entitled to, state benefits
12 other than child benefit or state pension shall be £6.
- 13 4. Those paying their subscription through the Youth and Student SAO shall pay a minimum of
14 £6 or, where a new member joins, a special introductory rate of £1.
- 15 5. Nothing in this motion prevents a State Party from setting a recommended rate or rates
16 of subscription by its internal procedures which is higher than that agreed by the Federal
17 Conference.

18 Conference further resolves that for the year 2013 the Federal Levy on new members shall be
19 0% of the subscription paid and the Federal Levy on renewal subscriptions shall be 44%.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for



monday 24th september continued

speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 23rd September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

F30 Report of the Federal Finance and Administration Committee

Mover: Duncan Greenland (Chair, Federal Finance and Administration Committee)

The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 7 for further information. Questions selected will be detailed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 16.10 on Monday 24th September.

18.00 Close of session

09.00 Party business

Chair: Cllr Chris Maines
Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F31 Constitutional Amendment: Compliance with Equalities Act 2010

Federal Executive

Mover: To be announced
Summation: To be announced

1 *In Article 2.4, at the end of the first sentence insert: 'subject to the provisions of the Equality Act*
2 *2010 (the Act)'.*

3 *In Article 2.4, delete the second paragraph ('Whenever ... in force') and insert:*

4 If and insofar as the Act may be amended to permit positive action by political parties
5 to secure adequate representation of groups having protected characteristics within the
6 meaning of the Act on internal party bodies, and there is no opportunity to propose an
7 constitutional amendment to Conference before a relevant internal election, the Federal
8 Executive shall introduce such provisions as they consider to be appropriate to take
9 advantage of such amendment of the Act. The Federal Executive shall ensure that such
10 provisions as they may so introduce shall be brought before Conference as a constitutional
11 amendment at the next reasonable opportunity.

12 Where this Constitution or any Standing Orders made there under appear to conflict with
13 the Act, the provisions of the Act shall prevail.

14 *Delete Article 11.5 (g) and insert:*

15 (g) A system will be put in place to secure adequate representation of groups having
16 protected characteristics within the meaning of the Equalities Act 2010.

17 *Delete Article 11.9 (g) and insert:*

18 (g) A system will be put in place to secure adequate representation of groups having
19 protected characteristics within the meaning of the Equalities Act 2010.

20 *In Article 14.4 (a), in the first line, delete '(of whom ... women)'.*

21 *Delete Article 14.4 (c) and renumber accordingly.*

The relevant current Articles of the Constitution are:

2.4 The provisions of this Constitution shall be implemented with regard to the principle that men and women shall have an equal opportunity of participating at every level of the Party.

Whenever this Constitution provides for the election by the same electorate of three or more persons to any committee or other body, not less than one-third or,



if one-third is not a whole number, the whole number nearest to but not exceeding one-third ('the Specified Number') shall be men and women respectively, provided that there is at least twice the Specified Number of male and female candidates respectively validly nominated by the close of nominations. Such elections shall take place from a common list and in accordance with the election rules made by the Federal Executive as from time to time in force.

...

11.5 The rules for the selection of Westminster candidates shall comply with the following requirements:

...

- (g) Subject to there being a sufficient number of applicants of each sex, short lists of two to four must include at least one member of each sex and short lists of five or more must include at least two members of each sex; there must also be due regard for the representation of ethnic minorities.

...

11.9 The rules for selecting the lists of candidates for European Parliamentary Electoral Regions shall comply with the following requirements:

...

- (g) Subject to there being a sufficient number of applicants of each sex, at least one third of all applicants on each short-list shall be male and at least one third shall be female; there must also be due regard for the representation of ethnic minorities.

...

14.1 There shall be a Federal Appeals Panel, which shall consist of 18 members elected as follows:

- (a) Nine (of whom at least three shall be men and at least three shall be women) elected by the Federal Executive subject to confirmation by the Federal Conference. Each name shall be presented individually to Conference for confirmation. If any name is rejected by Conference, that name may not be re-presented to Conference for confirmation until at least eighteen months have elapsed; and
- (b) three elected by each State Party according to its internal procedures.

...

14.4 The members of the Panel to hear a particular case shall be selected by the Chair, who shall if appropriate consult with the applicant, subject to the following provisos:

...

- (c) so far as practicable these members shall include at least one man and at least one woman.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy

Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 24th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

A constitutional amendment requires at least a two-thirds majority to pass.

F32 Constitutional Amendment: Lords Elections

Federal Executive

Mover: To be announced

Summation: To be announced

1 In Article 11.2, in the 4th line, after 'Article 9.1' insert '(a)', and at the end add:

2 (b) The Joint Candidates Committee shall co-ordinate the maintenance of standards and the
3 performance of the functions specified in Article 11.1 for the first elections to the House
4 of Lords (or any fully or partially elected replacement second chamber of the Westminster
5 Parliament). If it is not possible for there to be an appropriate constitutional amendment
6 before the first elections the procedures to be adopted for the purposes of article 11.1 shall
7 be based as far as possible on the provisions of clauses 11.5 and 11.9 as appropriate.

8 Renumber Article 11.8 as 11.8 (a) and at the end add:

9 (b) If necessary the Joint Candidates Committee shall produce an emergency set of procedures
10 for the first elections to the House of Lords (or any fully or partially elected replacement
11 second chamber of the Westminster Parliament) if an election has been called or is likely to
12 be called in the near future.

The relevant current Articles of the Constitution are:

11.2 There shall be a Joint Candidates Committee, which shall consist of one representative, with a power of substitution, from each of the State Candidates Committees and shall be chaired by the Chief Whip or nominee from the Parliamentary Party as defined in Article 9.1. The Joint Candidates Committee shall co-ordinate the maintenance of standards and the performance of the functions specified in Article 11.1 and it shall meet at least once a year.

...

11.8 The requirements of Article 11.5 may be modified so far as necessary to accelerate selection if a general or by-election has been called or appears likely to be called in the immediate future.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.



The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 24th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

A constitutional amendment requires at least a two-thirds majority to pass.

09.45 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Arnie Gibbons
Aide: Sandra Gidley

F33 Rehabilitation Revolution

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Tom Brake MP (Co-Chair of the Home Affairs, Justice and Equalities Parliamentary Party Committee)

Summation: Baroness Hamwee (Co-Chair of the Home Affairs, Justice and Equalities Parliamentary Party Committee)

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 A. The Government is increasing the role of payment by results in the probation services.
3 B. Private companies are not currently subject to Freedom of Information requests.
4 C. Prisons like Doncaster are already providing innovative rehabilitation schemes both inside
5 and outside the prison.
6 D. The welcome establishment of drug recovery wings in some prisons.
7 E. Currently there are approximately 4000 women in prison, two thirds of them serving
8 sentences of less than 12 months.
9 F. There is an over-representation of Black and Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) people in
10 the prison system and yet an under-representation of the BAME community and socio-
11 economic diversity in the judiciary and an ethnic imbalance between prisoners and prison
12 officers.
- 13 Conference believes that:
- 14 I. The probation services industry is dominated by a few large companies like Serco and G4S.
15 II. Too many illiterate offenders are leaving prison or community service still illiterate and lacking
16 in basic skills.
17 III. Prison is not the right vehicle for the rehabilitation of offenders with severe mental health
18 problems, including drug addiction.
- 19 Conference calls for:
- 20 a) A presumption in favour of robust community sentences and restorative justice against
21 ineffective and costly short sentences of up to six months.
22 b) Efforts to increase uptake in restorative justice sentences where these are available.
23 c) Providers of probation services to keep records of ex-offenders educational and employment
24 pursuits, to gauge the success of community sentencing.
25 d) The government to make sure credit is available to assist small firms in entering the market.
26 e) Mandatory rotation of service providers and contract sharing between large and smaller
27 firms and ones as well as charities, cooperatives and voluntary organisations to encourage

- 28 competition.
- 29 f) Prisons to be held to the same 'payment by results' rule based on reoffending rates some
30 existing private prisons already operate under – a prison that consistently releases prisoners
31 who go on to re-offend should be held to account.
- 32 g) All companies with a large market share of probation services to be subject to FOI requests.
- 33 h) A strong focus on literacy and life skills within prison and community sentencing.
- 34 i) Judges to visit community sentencing and restorative justice schemes to gauge for
35 themselves their effectiveness.
- 36 j) Further roll-out of Neighbourhood Resolution Panels.
- 37 k) Continued roll-out of Women's Centres across the UK.

38 In the longer term, conference also calls for:

- 39 1. Establishment of a network of Women's Centres and the introduction of a Women's Officer
40 at the National Offender Management Scheme.
- 41 2. The establishment of an Institution of Justice Excellence based on the National Institute
42 for Clinical Excellence, to establish and publicise best practice and establish definitions for
43 terms like 'effective punishment'.

Applicability: England only.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 24th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

10.30 Speech

Chair: Jenni Lang
Aide: Linda Jack

F34 Speeches by Rt Hon Michael Moore MP, Secretary of State for Scotland, and Willie Rennie MSP, Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats

10.50 Policy motion

Chair: Baroness Doocey
Aide: James Gurling

F35 Tackling Inequality at its Roots (Inequality Policy Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Lord German (Co-Chair, Parliamentary Party Committee on Work and Pensions)
Summation: David Hall-Matthews (Chair of the Policy Working Group)



- 1 Conference recalls the preamble to the party constitution, which states that ‘The Liberal
2 Democrats exist to build and safeguard a fair, free and open society, in which we seek to balance
3 the fundamental values of liberty, equality and community’.
- 4 Conference believes that for Liberal Democrats, inequality matters when it:
- 5 I. Is an obstacle to individuals determining their own destinies and reduces aspirations.
 - 6 II. Prevents talent from fulfilling its potential to the detriment of the economy and society.
 - 7 III. Creates a sense of unfairness, weakening the fabric of society and setting groups of people
8 against each other.
- 9 Conference regrets that current levels of inequality in the United Kingdom are too high, leading to
10 these problems.
- 11 Conference further believes that addressing socio-economic inequality benefits everyone, not
12 just the poor.
- 13 Conference recognises that:
- 14 A. Inequality often perpetuates itself between generations as well as through individual
15 lifetimes.
 - 16 B. This is in part due to the harmful effects of child poverty on future life chances, but it is not
17 only to do with income levels but also inequality of aspirations and individual capabilities,
18 which evidence shows are determined in the earliest years of people’s lives.
 - 19 C. Lack of capabilities such as confidence, empathy and self-discipline – as well as educational
20 qualifications – is a major obstacle to social mobility and a major cause of entrenched
21 inequality.
- 22 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 107, *Tackling Inequality at its Roots*, and its
23 emphasis on ways to strengthen everybody’s capabilities when they need that support most.
- 24 Conference in particular welcomes its proposals to:
- 25 1. Introduce a Capabilities Index and a Life Chances Indicator in order to measure the key
26 obstacles that inequality creates – this would be more nuanced than established measures
27 of poverty and inequality because they would capture the complex and multi-dimensional
28 nature of the problems people face in their real lives, while continuing to measure income
29 inequality.
 - 30 2. Make the strongest efforts to give support to pre-school children and their parents,
31 including:
 - 32 a) Creating a ‘Nursery Premium’ to target extra resources towards improved pre-school
33 provision and parenting support for the most disadvantaged families.
 - 34 b) Extending the entitlement to parental leave to a total of eighteen months to be shared
35 between parents provided that each parent takes at least six months.
 - 36 3. Take steps to promote fair access to services including by:
 - 37 a) Promoting co-provision and the involvement of voluntary groups in helping people to
38 access services and support.

tuesday 25th september continued

- 39 b) Placing obligations on private sector service providers to develop social tariffs which
40 would offer their lowest rates to those in most need.
- 41 c) Requiring financial services providers to tackle financial exclusion for example by
42 ensuring reasonable access to free cash point facilities in low-income areas.
- 43 4. Tackle inequality and insecurity at work by:
- 44 a) Increasing the power of shareholders to hold senior management to account.
- 45 b) Requiring companies with over 250 employees publish average pay in each quintile –
46 and provide a rationale for the ratios between them and the top earners at both board
47 and sub-board level.
- 48 c) Investing in training or re-skilling both for those in work and during periods of
49 unemployment.
- 50 5. Address inequality in wealth and assets by switching the balance of taxation towards those
51 with the broadest shoulders, and in particular increasing taxes on unearned income and
52 wealth.
- 53 6. Tackle the undue political influence of big money in politics by:
- 54 a) Working to achieve reform of party funding with caps on large donations and strict
55 limits on campaign expenditure.
- 56 b) Pressing for the effective registration and publication of contacts between ministers
57 and lobbyists.
- 58 c) Reforming the House of Lords to end political patronage and make politics more
59 accountable to the people.

Applicability: Federal, except 2 (lines 30–35) and 3 a) (lines 37–38) which are England only.

Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See pages 8 and 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 24th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

12.20 Speech

Chair: Jo Shaw
Aide: Qassim Afzal

F36 Speech by Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury



12.40 Lunch

14.20 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Gareth Epps
Aide: Baroness Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F37 Emergency Motion or Topical Issue

This session has been reserved for an emergency motion or discussion of an important current political issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See pages 6 and 7 for further information. Those selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Conference Extra.

Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

Topical issue timing – introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

15.05 Speech

Chair: Justine McGuinness
Aide: Cllr Chris Maines

F38 Speech by Sharon Bowles MEP, Chair of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee of the European Parliament

15.25 Policy motion

Chair: Susan Gaszczak
Aide: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

F39 Fair Pay for Public Sector Workers Across the UK

Welsh Liberal Democrats and South East Cornwall

Mover: To be announced
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 A. The Coalition Government is considering the introduction of regional or local pay, which
- 3 would see variations in the level of pay for public sector workers across the country.
- 4 B. The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in the 2012 budget that "some departments

5 will have the option of moving to more local pay for those public sector workers whose pay
6 freezes end this year.”

7 Conference is concerned that:

- 8 i) Regional or local pay could adversely affect many regions and nations of the UK especially
9 those with relatively lower incomes or relatively weaker private sectors.
- 10 ii) Regional or local pay could reduce the economic productivity of these areas by reducing the
11 amount of money in the local economy and consequently reducing demand, which would in
12 turn have a detrimental impact on local businesses.
- 13 iii) Regional or local pay risks undermining public services in areas that offered lower rates of
14 pay, as more skilled or experienced public sector workers would be able to compete for
15 higher paying jobs in other regions and as a result there could be a ‘brain drain’ towards
16 these regions.
- 17 iv) The evidence that there are significant pay differentials between the public and private sector
18 and that consequently public sector pay is crowding out private sector jobs is inconclusive.
- 19 v) Local pay, as distinct from regional pay, could have an equally detrimental impact on the
20 areas affected.

21 Conference endorses:

- 22 a) The statement by Vince Cable that “We certainly don’t want to be in a position where in
23 relatively low income parts of the country, pay is depressed. That would be wrong and
24 inappropriate.”
- 25 b) The statement by Nick Clegg that regional pay could “be totally unjust because it would
26 actually penalise people working in some of the most difficult areas.”

27 Conference calls for:

- 28 1. The UK Government to rule out any further expansion in regional or local pay.
29 2. The continuation of national pay agreements for the Public Sector which may include
30 flexibility to let employers solve specific staff recruitment and retention problems.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see ‘applying to speak in conference debates’ on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See ‘amendments’ on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 24th September, see ‘separate vote’ on page 8.

16.20 Party business

Chair: James Gurling
Aide: Jenni Lang



F40 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties of the Liberal Democrats

Commons: Alistair Carmichael MP (Chief Whip) and Lorely Burt (Chair of Parliamentary Party)
Lords: Lord McNally (Leader) and Lord Newby (Chief Whip)
Europe: Fiona Hall MEP (Leader) and George Lyon MEP (Chief Whip)

Each of the reports will be moved briefly, and voted on at the end of the session, but the bulk of the session will be used to allow conference representatives to put questions on any aspect of Liberal Democrat parliamentary activities to the panel. Conference representatives may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 15.20 on Tuesday 25th September. Questions may also be emailed to questions@libdems.org.uk until 17.00 on Thursday 20th September. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 7.

17.05 Policy motion

Chair: Duncan Brack
Aide: Justine McGuinness

F41 No Government Above the Law – The Justice and Security Bill

Mover: Jo Shaw
Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 A. The 'secret courts' proposals within the Government's Justice and Security Bill, which
3 would allow Ministers to seek that civil hearings and trials take place in secret, with neither
4 the public nor the other party having the right to see relevant evidence, where national
5 security is at risk of being damaged.
- 6 B. That these proposals for 'Closed Material Procedures' (CMP) did not form part of either the
7 Liberal Democrat or Conservative manifestos in 2010, nor the Coalition Agreement.
- 8 C. Widespread opposition to the proposals, including from the majority of the 'Special
9 Advocates' who would be the lawyers authorised to participate in CMP proceedings, who in
10 their response to the Green Paper described the CMP proposals as "fundamentally unfair".
- 11 D. The Bill's removal from the powers available to the court the 'Norwich Pharmacal' order
12 which permits disclosure of information about the actions of a third party (such as a foreign
13 government) where the UK government had an involvement in the third party's actions and
14 has relevant information, thereby preventing this relevant information from being disclosed.
- 15 E. The success already of Liberal Democrats within Government in:
- 16 i) Excluding inquests from these proposals.
17 ii) Restricting to their use to cases where 'national security' is at risk, rather
18 than a broader 'public interest' test.
19 iii) Achieving some judicial oversight of Ministerial applications for CMP.

20 F. Existing arrangements for handling secret information in court, known as the Public Interest
21 Immunity (PII) system work well, with decisions about sensitive disclosures being made by
22 a judge rather than an interested party, namely a Minister and Government being prevented
23 from relying on evidence that is untested and therefore potentially misleading.

24 Conference believes that:

- 25 a) It is a fundamental principle of a democracy that no-one shall be above the law.
26 b) It is essential for confidence in the UK judicial system, the UK government and the UK
27 security services for justice to be seen to be done via a transparent, fair and open judicial
28 process.
29 c) These proposals represent a fundamental challenge to the balance between the Government
30 and citizens in the justice system.
31 d) The UK courts should not be banned from disclosing evidence of serious wrongdoing by
32 Britain or its allies, especially where that evidence may be vital to an individual's interests or
33 in holding to account those responsible for serious criminal acts.
34 e) These proposals risk further undermining the reputation of British Security Services and
35 damaging public trust and confidence in those Services due to judgments in the CMP
36 handed down in secret, after a trial potentially held entirely behind closed doors from which
37 parties to the litigation other than the Government are excluded.

38 Conference reaffirms its belief in the importance of the principle of open justice, the right to
39 a fair trial, that transparency is a fundamental aspect of democratic accountability and that
40 Government must not set itself above the law.

41 Conference calls for:

- 42 1. The Coalition Government to withdraw Part II of the Justice and Security Bill; and put in
43 place instead a statutory scheme reflecting the current Public Interest Immunity system
44 to be enacted which will retain judicial discretion, be a proportionate means of ensuring
45 national security is not jeopardised by any litigation, and ensure the working successful
46 democratic principle of open justice is retained.
47 2. All Liberal Democrats in parliament to press the government to do this and in any event to
48 press for the withdrawal or defeat of Part II of the Justice and Security Bill.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 24th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

18.00 Close of session



09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Linda Jack
Aide: Cllr Arnie Gibbons

F42 Addressing Underprovision in Mental Health

Ten conference representatives

Mover: Sarah Yong
Summation: Claire Mills

1 Conference notes the report by The Centre for Economic Performance's Mental Health Policy
2 Group *How Mental Illness Loses out in the NHS* (June 2012) and in particular the overall
3 conclusion of the report that the under-treatment of people with crippling mental illnesses is the
4 most glaring case of health inequality in our country.

5 Conference believes the following findings in the report need to be addressed:

- 6 a) Among people under 65, nearly half of all ill health is mental illness and this is generally more
7 debilitating than most chronic physical conditions; yet only a quarter of all those with mental
8 illness are in treatment compared with those with physical conditions.
9 b) There are 6 million people with depression or crippling anxiety conditions and 7 million
10 children with problem behaviours, anxiety or depression in the UK, yet three quarters of
11 each group get no treatment.
12 c) Untreated mental illness costs the NHS over £10 billion in physical healthcare costs per
13 year.
14 d) Mental illness reduces GDP by £52 billion per year (4.1%).
15 e) Mental illness is most common in the poorest 20% of the population.

16 Conference welcomes the important conclusion in the report that mental health provision can be
17 improved at zero net cost to the taxpayer as the resultant savings would outweigh the initial cost.

18 Conference commends the work of Liberal Democrat Minister Paul Burstow MP in raising the
19 profile of mental health and welcomes the publication of the national strategy *No Health Without*
20 *Mental Health*.

21 Conference welcomes the extra £22 million investment in the children and young people's
22 Improved Access to Psychological Therapy (IAPT) programme and the £400 million investment in
23 the adult IAPT scheme.

24 Conference believes the Coalition Government can go further in giving priority to mental health
25 provision and therefore calls for:

- 26 1. Central government to ensure mental health policies are being implemented on the ground,
27 for example ensuring local NHS commissioners spend the £400 million they have been
28 given for IAPT.
29 2. The inclusion of IAPT targets in the NHS Outcomes Framework.
30 3. The continuation of the IAPT programme beyond 2014 (the end date for current
31 programme).

wednesday 26th september continued

- 32 4. The elevation of the IAPT scheme as a priority project for the NHS Commissioning Board
33 and Health Education England.
34 5. The inclusion of a placement in IAPT or Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
35 (CAMHS) for all GPs during training.
36 6. Increased recruitment to psychiatry to handle the more complex cases of mental illness.

Applicability: England.

Mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See 'amendments' on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Tuesday 25th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

09.45 Policy motion

Chair: Sandra Gidley
Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F43 Emergency Motion or Topical Issue

This session has been reserved for an emergency motion or discussion of an important current political issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Monday 10th September, to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See page 6 and 7. for further information. Those selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Conference Extra.

Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 7 minutes; all other speakers: 4 minutes.

Topical issue timing – introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'applying to speak in conference debates' on page 9.

10.35 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Jon Ball
Aide: James Gurling



F44 Decent Homes for All (Housing Policy Paper)

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Martin Tod (Co-Chair of the Policy Working Group)

Summation: Annette Brooke MP (Co-Chair, Parliamentary Party Committee on Communities and Local Government)

1 Conference notes with concern that the historic failure to create a sustainable housing model has
2 implications, not just on individuals and families, but on the wider economy and jobs market. In
3 particular:

4 I. The failure to build enough houses is making home-buying increasingly unaffordable and
5 forcing rents higher and higher.

6 II. More and more families are facing the instability of short-term leases in the private rented
7 sector, and too many tenants are suffering the consequences of bad landlords.

8 III. Poor housing is bad for health and holds back achievement in school.

9 IV. The rapid increase in rents and the increasing number of people renting privately is putting
10 welfare budgets under intense pressure.

11 Conference believes the most effective way to put housing on a sustainable footing in the future
12 is to give more power and control to: those trapped in poor housing and short tenancies; small
13 organisations, cooperatives, companies and individuals wanting to build but held back by
14 corporate land-banking and lack of land and finance; and local communities and councils.

15 Conference endorses Policy Paper 104, *Decent Homes for All*, and its key priorities to:

16 A. Build more homes, providing environmentally sustainable homes where people need them,
17 helping with jobs and with kick-starting the economy.

18 B. Give tenants more power and security, making social landlords more accountable and
19 improving standards and security in the rapidly growing private rented sector.

20 C. Ensure more local control, giving local councils, communities and individuals more power
21 and autonomy to create thriving neighbourhoods in the face of the hugely diverse range of
22 challenges that they face.

23 1. Conference calls for action to deliver our priority in building more homes, particularly to:

24 a) Stimulate a major programme of house building, increasing the rate of construction
25 until we reach at least 300,000 houses a year, using untapped sources of finance and
26 giving more freedom to social landlords, local authorities and local communities.

27 b) Take radical steps to improve land supply, through releasing public land with 'build
28 now, pay later' deals.

29 c) Tackle 'landbanking' through 'Community Land Auctions', 'use it or lose it' planning
30 permissions and a competition review of the major builders.

31 d) Require, wherever possible, all government-owned housing to undergo energy
32 efficiency improvement through the Green Deal by 2018, and all registered providers
33 by 2025 – and bringing environmental standards to current levels whenever planning
34 permission is extended.

- 35 2. Conference calls for further action to give tenants more power and security, including to:
- 36 a) Increase protection for private tenants, promoting new longer tenancies and access to
37 a housing ombudsman.
- 38 b) Give social housing tenants an even stronger role in how their providers are run – with
39 tougher standards of accountability enforced by the Social Housing Regulator. We will
40 also give tenants the power to vote to change their social housing provider and have
41 their stock transfer to another provider willing to receive them.
- 42 c) Ensure a stronger role for the Social Housing Regulator, giving them the power to
43 proactively cover ‘consumer’ standards, reintroducing a programme of inspections.

Option A:

- 44 d) Reduce restrictions on the power of local authorities to set up comprehensive or
45 targeted licensing schemes in any area they deem appropriate; establish a national
46 licensing system for managing agents; and promote longer tenancies.

or Option B:

- 47 d) Require all private landlords to obtain a license from their local authority, with national
48 minimum standards for licensing and additional standards to be implemented at the
49 local authority’s discretion; establish a national licensing system for managing agents;
50 and promote longer tenancies.

- 51 3. Conference calls for more local control over housing policy, including to:

- 52 a) Give local authorities greater ability to control second homes, not just in rural areas, but
53 also in areas such as central London – where increasing numbers of homes are bought
54 by overseas investors and left empty.
- 55 b) Improve powers to tackle the blight of empty homes, giving local communities, housing
56 associations and individuals a greater role in refurbishing them and bringing them back
57 into use, and providing loans for private individuals to renovate an empty property,
58 repaid through rent or sale, and reducing VAT on renovation.
- 59 c) Encourage more flexible local planning through optional use classes that allow greater
60 control of second homes and private rented accommodation.
- 61 d) Allow social housing providers (including local authorities) to vary rents based on
62 a tenant’s ability to pay, on a sliding scale up to market rent levels for those on the
63 highest incomes.

Applicability: England, except the change to VAT in 3 b) (line 58) which is Federal.

Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; all other speakers: 4 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see ‘applying to speak in conference debates’ on page 9.

In addition to speeches from the platform, it will be possible for conference representatives to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See pages 8 and 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Monday 10th September; to the Policy Unit, Liberal Democrat HQ. See ‘amendments’ on page 6. Those selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.



wednesday 26th september continued

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Tuesday 25th September, see 'separate vote' on page 8.

12.20 Speech

Chair: Qassim Afzal
Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F45 Speech by Paul Burstow MP, Minister of State for Care Services

12.40 Lunch

14.30 Party business

Chair: Tim Farron MP (President of the Liberal Democrats)
Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

F46 Party Awards

Speech

F47 Speech by the Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister

15.45 Close of conference

(approx.)

conference timetable 2013

8th–10th March 2013 Brighton

Drafting advice deadline (motions) 13.00 Wednesday 19th December 2012

Motions deadline 13.00 Wednesday 9th January 2013

Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions) 13.00 Tuesday 19th February 2013

Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports 13.00 Tuesday 5th March 2013

14th–18th September 2013 Glasgow

Drafting advice deadline (motions) 13.00 Wednesday 12th June 2013

Motions deadline 13.00 Wednesday 26th June 2013

Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions) 13.00 Monday 19th August 2013

Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports 13.00 Monday 2nd September 2013

standing orders for federal conference

glossary of terms

Business motion A proposal to conduct the affairs of the Party in a particular way or to express an opinion on the way affairs have been conducted.

Business amendment A proposal to change a business motion. *Any such proposal should be significant, should be within the scope of the original motion and must not be a direct negative.*

Committee Throughout these standing orders, Committee means the Federal Conference Committee unless otherwise qualified.

Constitutional amendment A proposal to change the constitution of the Party.

Secondary constitutional amendment An amendment to a constitutional amendment. *This must not introduce new material.*

Consultative session A meeting where selected areas of policy or strategy are considered in greater depth than is possible in full debates.

Day visitor Someone who has paid the appropriate day visitor fee. Day visitors are not entitled to speak or vote in full sessions of conference.

Elected representative A person elected by a local party or an SAO to represent them at conference. This term does not include substitutes appointed to replace an elected representative at a particular meeting of conference. It does include elected representatives who have not registered for a particular meeting of conference.

Emergency motion A proposal which relates to a *specific recent development which occurred after the deadline for submission of motions. Emergency motions must be brief.*

Emergency amendment An amendment to a motion which relates to a specific event which occurred after the deadline for the submission of amendments. *It must be brief and uncontentious.*

Full session Any part of the conference agenda during which debates, topical issue discussions or discussion of business, including formal reports, takes place. This specifically excludes formal speeches such as those by the Leader or Party Officers.

Non-voting member A party member who has paid the appropriate registration fee, but, because they are not an elected representative, is not entitled to vote at conference. A non-voting member is, however, entitled to submit a speaker's card for any item on which voting members may submit a speaker's card.

Point of order A suggestion to the chair of a debate that

the conduct of the debate, as laid down in the standing orders, has not been followed correctly.

Policy motion A proposal to adopt a new policy or reaffirm an existing one. This includes motions accompanying policy papers.

Policy amendment A proposal to change a policy motion. *Any proposal should be of significant importance, should be within the scope of the original motion and must not be a direct negative.*

Policy paper A paper prepared by the Federal Policy Committee and submitted to conference for debate under the terms of Article 5.4 of the Federal Party constitution.

Procedural motion A proposal that the conduct of a debate should be changed in a specific way. Procedural motions are:

Move to next business A proposal that the conference should cease to consider an item of business and immediately move to the next item on the agenda.

Reference back A proposal to refer a motion or amendment to a named body of the Party for further consideration.

Request for a count A request to the chair that a specific vote be counted and recorded rather than decided on the chair's assessment of a show of voting cards.

Separate vote A request to the chair of a debate that a part or parts of a motion or amendment should be voted on separately.

Suspension of standing orders A proposal to relax specific standing orders for a stated purpose.

Special conference An additional meeting of the conference requisitioned by the Federal Executive, Federal Policy Committee, conference itself or 200 conference representatives under the provisions of Article 6.6 of the Federal constitution.

Standing order amendment A proposal to change these standing orders.

Secondary standing order amendment An amendment to a standing order amendment. *This must not introduce new material.*

Topical issue discussion A discussion on a policy issue of significant and topical relevance, conducted without a vote.

Voting member A person who is entitled to vote at conference. This term includes substitutes replacing



standing orders continued

conference representatives for a particular meeting of conference. It does not include conference representatives who have not paid any registration fee that may be in

force nor does it include day visitors or observers who are not conference representatives.

standing orders

1. The conference agenda

1.1 What is on the agenda

The agenda for each meeting of conference, other than a special conference, shall include time for:

- a) One or more consultative sessions; save that the Committee may decide not to hold any consultative sessions at a spring conference.
- b) A business session or sessions for the consideration of reports from the Parliamentary Party in the House of Commons, the Parliamentary Party in the House of Lords, the Parliamentary Party in the European Parliament, the Federal Executive, the Federal Finance and Administration Committee, the Federal Policy Committee and the Federal Conference Committee together with, when appropriate, reports from any other body the Committee considers appropriate, accounts, the annual report, business motions, constitutional amendments and standing order amendments.
- c) Policy motions (including motions accompanying policy papers).
- d) Emergency motions.
- e) Topical issue discussions.
- f) Any other business which the Committee thinks appropriate.

The time to be allocated to each type of business and the order of that business shall be decided by the Committee provided that conference may decide not to take any particular item on the agenda.

1.2 Conference or council of state parties

In addition, time before or after a meeting may be agreed with the relevant state party for a meeting of the conference or council of that party.

1.3 Right to submit agenda items

- a) Reports to conference may be submitted only by the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b).
- b) Business motions (including amendments and emergency business motions and amendments), constitutional amendments and secondary constitutional amendments, standing order amendments and secondary standing order amendments may be submitted by the Federal Executive, Federal Policy Committee, state parties, regional parties in England, local parties, Specified Associated Organisations and 10 conference representatives. Business motions, standing

order amendments and secondary standing order amendments may also be submitted by the Federal Conference Committee.

- c) Motions accompanying policy papers may only be submitted by the Federal Policy Committee.
- d) Policy motions (including amendments, emergency policy motions and amendments) may be submitted by the Federal Policy Committee, state parties, regional parties in England, local parties, Specified Associated Organisations and 10 conference representatives.
- e) The Parliamentary Party in the House of Commons may submit a motion relating to supporting a government containing members of the other parties, in accordance with article 15 of the constitution.
- e) Proposals for topical issue discussions may be submitted by any voting member.

1.4 How motions and amendments are submitted

All motions and amendments must be submitted to the Committee. They must be typed clearly and accompanied by the name, address and telephone number(s) of a person authorised to agree to their being composited or redrafted. Motions submitted by conference representatives must be accompanied by all their signatures, names and addresses.

1.5 The deadlines by which motions, amendments, reports and questions to reports must be submitted

The Committee shall specify:

- a) The closing date for the receipt of policy motions (including motions accompanying policy papers), business motions, constitutional amendments and amendments to standing orders, which shall be at least eight weeks before the start of conference.
- b) The closing date for the receipt of amendments to motions published in the agenda and emergency motions, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference.
- c) The closing date for the submission of written reports from the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b), which will be set so as to enable their distribution with the agenda. Any supplementary report submitted later than this deadline may only be tabled at conference with the permission of the Committee.
- d) The closing date for the submission of questions to any of the reports listed in the agenda, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference, except for questions to the reports of the Parliamentary

standing orders continued

Parties in the House of Commons, House of Lords and European Parliament, where the closing date shall be at least one hour before the start of the business session at which the report is due to be considered.

- e) Notwithstanding 1.5(d), questions may always be submitted to any of the reports listed in the agenda arising from events occurring after the deadline specified in 1.5(d). The deadline for these questions shall be one hour before the start of the business session at which the report is due to be considered.
- f) The closing date for proposals for topical issue discussions, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference

1.6 Notification of deadlines

All dates specified under Standing Order 1.5 shall be notified to conference representatives and bodies entitled to submit motions. Publication in the party newspaper may be treated as notice for this purpose.

1.7 Later deadlines in special circumstances

In special circumstances the Committee may specify later dates than those indicated above. In particular, where developments which, in the opinion of the Committee, are of great importance have taken place after the closing date for emergency motions and questions to reports, the Committee may make time available for an additional emergency motion or for a statement to be made on behalf of the Party or for additional questions to be submitted to reports.

2. Consultative sessions

2.1 The subjects for consultative sessions

The subjects for debate at consultative sessions shall be chosen by the Committee on the advice of the Federal Policy Committee and, where appropriate, the Federal Executive, and published in the agenda. Two or more such sessions may be held simultaneously.

2.2 Speaking at consultative sessions

Any member of the Party may be called to speak at a consultative session and, with the approval of the chair, non-members with relevant expertise may also be called.

2.3 Voting at consultative sessions

At the discretion of the chair a vote by show of hands may be taken to indicate the weight of opinion among members present on any issue that has been debated.

3. The agenda

3.1 The shortlisting of motions

The Committee shall draw up the agenda and shall decide which of the motions duly submitted shall be included in it. The Committee may allocate time for one or more policy or business motions to be selected by

ballot. Copies of motions not selected shall be available for inspection and will be supplied to any conference representative on payment of a copying charge and postage.

3.2 Motions for the amendment of the constitution or standing orders

Save as detailed below in Standing Order 4.3, all proposed amendments to the constitution or standing orders must be either selected for debate or included in a ballot to allow conference representatives to determine an order of priority for allocating time.

3.3 Balance between State and Federal policy debates

The Committee shall, in drawing up the agenda, have due regard to the balance of State and Federal policy debates and in particular shall as far as possible organise the agenda so that all matters which relate solely to one or more state parties but not all State Parties or the Federal Party shall be considered at either the beginning or the end of the conference.

4. Selection of motions and amendments

4.1 Compositing or otherwise altering motions

In drawing up the agenda the Committee shall seek to reflect the range of views in the Party as indicated by the motions and amendments submitted. The Committee may:

- a) Treat any severable part of a motion or amendment as a separate motion or amendment.
- b) Redraft a motion or amendment so as to improve expression, remove inaccuracy or superfluity or take account of new developments.
- c) Composite similar motions or amendments.

4.2 Selection of amendments

The Committee shall decide which of the amendments duly submitted to each motion shall be selected. No amendment shall be selected if, in the opinion of the Committee it is insubstantial, outside the scope of the motion, or tantamount to a direct negative of the motion.

4.3 Motions for the amendment of the constitution or standing orders

The Committee may refuse to select a motion for amendment of the constitution or standing orders if, in their opinion, it is:

- a) Similar in effect to another motion which has been selected for debate or ballot at the same meeting of conference.
- b) Similar in effect to a motion that has been rejected at either of the last two meetings of conference.
- c) In the case of amendments to the constitution, incomplete in that it leaves unamended some other part of the constitution which contradicts the meaning



of the amendment.

- d) In the case of amendments to standing orders, incomplete in that it leaves unamended some other part of standing orders which contradicts the meaning of the amendment.
- e) Ambiguous.

4.4 Emergency motions

The Committee may reject an emergency motion if:

- a) It is similar in effect to another motion that has been selected for debate or ballot.
- b) It is similar in effect to a subject chosen for a topical issue discussion.
- c) It is unclear as to its meaning or intent or is, in the opinion of the Committee, too poorly drafted to provide a sensible basis for debate.
- d) It falls outside the definition of emergency motions.

No amendment shall be taken to any motion selected under this Standing Order.

4.5 Ballots for emergency motions

All emergency motions, except those rejected under Standing Order 4.4, must be placed either on the agenda for debate or in a ballot for selection by Conference. The Committee may hold separate ballots to select which of a range of emergency policy motions and which of a range of emergency business motions to debate. If one or more ballots is held the Committee shall circulate the text of all balloted motions to the representatives attending Conference as soon as practicable and shall specify a closing time for the ballot. Following the counting of any ballots the Committee shall decide how many motions shall be debated in the time available.

4.6 Emergency amendments

The Committee shall have complete discretion whether to select emergency amendments for debate.

4.7 Topical issue discussions

The choice of subjects for topical issue discussions shall be made by the Officers of the Committee in consultation with the Officers of the Federal Policy Committee. In choosing the subjects, the Officers shall have regard to the significance and topicality of the subjects proposed and whether they are likely to provoke a lively discussion.

5. Special Meetings

5.1 Timetabling of special meetings

The Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the requisitioning of a special meeting of the conference, fix a date for the meeting, draw up the agenda and, if appropriate, specify a date for the submission of amendments. The meeting shall deal only with the business stated in the notice of requisition save that the Committee may allow time for emergency motions and for business which is formal or, in its opinion, uncontroversial.

5.2 Preferred timescales for special meetings

In setting dates for the submission of motions and amendments and giving notice thereof and of the conference itself the Committee shall endeavour to follow the timescales laid down elsewhere in these standing orders but, where this is not practicable, the Committee shall set such dates as it sees fit.

6. Appeals

6.1 Appeals against rejection of motions

The Committee shall provide written reasoning to the nominee of the proposers for the rejection of any motion or amendment. The proposers may appeal, in writing, to the next meeting of the Committee. Any such appeal shall provide reasons why, in the opinion of the proposers, the expressed reasons for rejection are not valid. If the appeal is allowed, the motion or amendment shall be treated as an emergency motion or amendment according to the stage of the agenda-setting process at which the appeal has been allowed.

6.2 Appeals against exclusion from conference

Any person excluded from conference by a decision of the Chief Steward shall have the right of appeal to the Committee at the next of its regular meetings. The exclusion shall remain in force pending the appeal. If the person who is excluded is a voting member of conference, their local party or SAO shall be contacted immediately and invited to appoint a substitute for the remainder of the conference.

7. The Chair

7.1 Who chairs conference

The President, if present, shall normally take the chair at the formal opening and closing of conference and when the Party Leader is making a formal speech from the platform. At all other sessions the chair shall be appointed by the Committee. Normally no person shall chair more than one session at any meeting.

7.2 The chair's aide

The Committee may appoint an aide or aides to assist the chair of each session.

8. Conduct of Debate

8.1 Variation in the order of business

The Committee may propose to the 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.

8.2 Withdrawal of motions and amendments

Once the Committee has included a motion or

standing orders continued

amendment, or part of a motion or amendment, in the agenda, may not be withdrawn except by leave of conference.

8.3 The order of debate

The Committee shall direct the order of debate. Generally, however, a motion will be moved and immediately thereafter the amendments and options will be moved in the order directed by the Committee. There will then be a general debate. The movers of amendments and options (or their nominees) shall have the right of reply in the same order (except that where an amendment or option has not been opposed during the debate, the chair of the session shall have the right to direct that its movers shall not exercise their right of reply), after which the mover of the motion (or the mover's nominee) shall have the right of reply. Votes shall then be taken on the amendments and options in the order in which they have been moved and, finally, on the substantive motion. The Committee may direct that part of any motion or amendment or groups or amendments may be the subject of a separate debate.

8.4 Topical issue discussions

The Committee shall direct the order of the discussion. Normally the proposer of the subject shall speak first, and a representative of the Federal Policy Committee shall speak last.

8.5 Who may speak

Only voting or non-voting members may speak at a full session of conference, save that other persons may speak in the following circumstances:

- a) As a member of the Federal Policy Committee representing that committee in a policy debate.
- b) As a member of the Federal Conference Committee representing that committee in debates on standing orders and matters of conference procedure.
- c) As a member of the Federal Executive representing that committee on matters of party business.
- d) If called by the chair of the session, after the Committee has given permission. Such permission shall only be given exceptionally.

Additionally the Committee may invite any person to address the conference as a guest.

8.6 The special rights of the Federal Committees

Provided that the Federal Policy Committee is not proposing the motion or any of the amendments to be taken in a debate on a policy motion or on motions relating to the policy-making processes of the Party it shall have the right to nominate a person to report its views on the subject before the conference. The Federal Executive shall have similar rights on business motions or motions to amend the constitution, as shall the Federal Conference Committee on motions relating to the proceeding and procedures of the conference and to amend standing orders. Such a person shall be called to

speak for the same length of time as the person replying on behalf of the mover of the motion.

8.7 The selection of speakers

Voting and non-voting members wishing to speak in any debate shall submit a speaker's card, prior to the commencement of the debate in which they wish to speak, stating whether they wish to speak for or against an amendment, the motion or part of the motion. The chair shall be responsible for the choice of the speakers and shall attempt to provide a balanced debate between the different viewpoints in the conference, but may announce a departure from this rule if there is an overwhelming preponderance of members wishing to speak on the same side. The chair shall have the discretion to accept speakers' cards after the start of the debate. Save as provided for in these standing orders, no person may speak more than once in any debate.

8.8 The length of speeches

The Committee shall set out in the agenda time limits for speeches.

9. Voting at Conference

9.1 The method of voting

Voting cards shall be issued at each meeting to voting members. The Committee may direct that voting on any issue be by ballot. Subject thereto all votes at full sessions shall be taken by show of voting cards.

9.2 Counting of votes

A vote by show of voting cards shall be counted:

- a) If the Committee has so directed.
- b) If the chair so directs.
- c) As the result of a procedural motion under Standing Order 11.5 below.

A recount will only be held if the chair is not satisfied that the first count was accurate.

9.3 Separate votes

A separate vote may be taken on a part of a motion or amendment:

- a) On the direction of the Committee.
- b) At the discretion of the chair.
- c) As a result of a procedural motion under Standing Order 11.4 below.

10 Points of Order

10.1 Making a point of order

Any voting member may rise on a point of order which shall be taken immediately except that, during a vote, no point of order shall be taken that does not refer to the conduct of the vote. The chair's decision on all points of order shall be final.



11 Procedural Motions

11.1 Next business

- a) A voting member may, during any full conference session, submit, in writing, a request that conference move to next business, giving the reasons to do so. The submission shall not exceed 75 words.
- b) The chair may either take the request immediately upon receipt, or at the end of any speech currently being made. If more than one request is received the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken in respect to any motion or report.
- c) When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to consider the request to move to next business. If conference decides, by a simple majority of those voting, to do so, the person who made the request may speak. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes. If conference decides not to debate the proposal, it falls.
- d) The proposal shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting being to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

11.2 Reference back (moved by a representative)

- a) A voting member, who has not already spoken in the debate, may, at any time before the chair has asked the first speaker in reply to stand by, submit, in writing, a request to refer back the motion under debate. The submission shall state to whom the motion is to be referred and shall include a statement of the reasons, including reasons why voting against the motion would not achieve a similar result, not exceeding 75 words.
- b) The chair may take the request to refer back at whatever stage of the debate they consider appropriate. If more than one request is received, the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken with respect to any motion.
- c) When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the statement of reasons and ask conference whether it wishes to consider the request to refer. If conference decides, by a simple majority of those voting, to do so, the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes. If conference decides not to debate the reference back, it falls.
- d) The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current

agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

- e) If the substantive motion is referred to the Federal Executive, the Federal Policy Committee or the Federal Conference Committee that body shall, in its report to the next meeting of the conference, state what action it has taken on the reference.

11.3 Reference back (moved by the Federal Policy Committee)

- a) The Federal Policy Committee may, at any time before the beginning of the debate on a motion, submit, in writing, a request to refer that motion to the next meeting of the conference. The chair shall announce the existence of such a request at the start of the debate.
- b) The chair may take the request to refer back at whatever stage of the debate they consider appropriate. A nominee of the Federal Policy Committee will 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 request.
- c) The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.
- d) If passed, the Federal Policy Committee shall, before the next meeting of the conference, circulate its reasons for acting under this section and its comments on the motion and any amendments thereto accepted for debate.

11.4 Separate vote

A voting member of conference may request that the chair take a separate vote on a part of a motion or amendment provided that such a request is in writing and received by the commencement of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled. If the debate is scheduled for the first day of conference, the request must be received in writing by the same deadline as that for emergency motions. The Committee shall have complete discretion whether to take a separate vote. In exceptional circumstances, the Chair of the debate shall have discretion to accept a request for a separate vote if it is received in writing after this deadline.

11.5 Counted vote

Any voting member may ask for a counted vote, which shall be taken if the request is supported by 50 members rising in their places and showing their voting cards.

11.6 Suspension of standing orders

- a) A voting conference member may, during any full conference session, move a motion for the suspension of standing orders. The mover shall submit the motion together with a written statement of its purpose, not exceeding 75 words, to the chair, who shall read them to the meeting. The chair may either take the request immediately upon receipt, or at the end of the speech currently being made.
- b) No motion to suspend standing orders may suspend any requirement of the constitution, nor any part of these standing orders which govern:
 - i) The rights of, or timetable for, submission of motions and amendments.
 - ii) Consultative sessions.
 - iii) Procedural motions for next business or suspension of standing orders.
- c) No motion to suspend standing orders to introduce a motion or amendment on to the agenda can be taken unless the motion or amendment has been submitted to the Committee in accordance with the published timetable and, where a right of appeal against non-selection exists, the right has been exercised.
- d) The chair shall read the statement of purpose and, if the suspension is allowable in the terms of this standing order, ask the conference whether it wishes to debate the request for suspension. If the conference decides not to debate the request, it falls. If the conference decides, by a majority of those present and voting, to hear the request the mover may speak and a representative of the Committee may reply. The chair shall have the discretion to allow other speakers. All speeches on the motion to suspend standing orders will be limited to two minutes.
- e) A motion to suspend standing orders shall only be carried if supported by at least two-thirds of the conference members voting. If the procedural motion is carried all standing orders shall remain in force except only for the purposes set out in the motion.

11.7 No procedural motions during votes

No procedural motion can be moved during a vote.

12 Reports

12.1 Which reports are tabled

The business session or sessions of the conference must include consideration of reports from the bodies listed in Standing Order 1.1(b).

12.2 Submission and selection of questions

A voting member may submit questions to any report tabled for consideration, by the deadlines set under Standing Orders 1.5 (d) and (e). The Committee shall publish in advance of the report session all the questions submitted under Standing Order 1.5 (d) which are in order, compositing similar questions where appropriate.

12.3 Whether questions are in order or not

A question shall be ruled out of order if it asks the body submitting the report about issues which are outside its duties and responsibilities. If the question could be answered by another body reporting to the same conference, the Committee may transfer the question to that body.

12.4 How questions and supplementary questions are put and answered

After the report is moved, the mover, or their nominee, shall answer the questions in turn. After each question has been answered, the voting member who submitted the question will be given the opportunity to put a supplementary question, speaking for a maximum of two minutes, and the mover, or their nominee, will be given an opportunity to respond. The chair shall determine the time given to the mover in moving the report and replying to questions. The chair shall also determine how many of the published questions, and how many of the questions submitted under Standing Order 1.5 (e), can be taken. After the conference the Committee shall publish the answers to all questions submitted under Standing Orders 1.5 (d) and (e) which are in order, and to all supplementary questions asked.

12.5 Approval or rejection of reports from Federal Party committees or sub-committees

Any report tabled by a Federal Party committee or sub-committee must be submitted for approval by the conference and must be voted upon accordingly. A voting member may move the rejection of any part of the report or of the report as a whole. A voting member wishing to move a rejection shall submit a speaker's card prior to the commencement of the consideration of the report, stating the section(s) which they wish to have rejected. All moves to reject a report must be debated (except that the chair shall have discretion to choose between moves to reject the same part of the report), at the conclusion of the question session. The person who made the request shall speak and the mover of the report, or their nominee, shall reply. The chair may allow other speakers, and shall determine the time given to all speakers.

12.6 Receipt of reports from other bodies

Any report tabled by a body other than a Federal Party committee or sub-committee must be submitted for receipt by the conference and must be voted upon accordingly. A voting member may move not to receive the report, by submitting a speaker's card prior to the commencement of the consideration of the report. A move not to receive a report must be debated (except that the chair shall have discretion to choose between more than one move not to receive the same report), at the conclusion of the question session. The person who made the request shall speak and the mover of the report, or their nominee, shall reply. The chair may allow



standing orders continued

other speakers, and shall determine the time given to all speakers.

13 Amendment of Standing Orders

13.1 Amendment of standing orders

These standing orders may be amended by a two-thirds majority of members of conference voting on a motion duly submitted and selected in accordance with standing orders. Subject to any amendment they shall remain in force from meeting to meeting.

14 The Chair and Vice Chairs of the Committee

14.1 Chair and Vice Chairs

At its first meeting after a new election the Committee shall elect a Chair, who must be a member of the Committee directly elected by conference, and at least one Vice Chair, who must be members of the Committee either directly elected by conference or elected by one of the State Parties.

the federal party

officers of the federal party

Leader	Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP
President	Tim Farron MP
Chair of FFAC	Cllr Duncan Greenland
Treasurer	Sir Ian Wrigglesworth
Vice President (England)	Peter Ellis
Vice President (Scotland)	Craig Harrow
Vice President (Wales)	John Last CBE
Chief Executive	Tim Gordon

federal executive

The FE is responsible for directing, co-ordinating and implementing the work of the Federal Party, including overall strategy, campaigning, organisation and staffing. The Federal Finance and Administration Committee and the Campaigns and Communications Committee both report to the FE.

The FE has 29 voting members: the Party President (who chairs it) and three Vice Presidents; the Leader and two other MPs; one peer; one MEP; two councillors; three state party representatives; and fifteen members directly elected by conference representatives.

federal finance and administration committee

The FFAC is responsible for planning and administering the budget and finances of the Federal Party, directing its administration and ensuring its compliance with the provisions of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. It is responsible to the FE, but also reports directly to the Federal Conference.

The FFAC has 14 voting members: the Chair (currently Cllr Duncan Greenland), Party Treasurer and five other members (elected by the FE); the Party President; three

state party representatives; and the Chief Executive and two other members of Federal (HQ and Parliamentary) staff.

federal policy committee

The FPC is responsible for researching and developing policy and overseeing the Federal Party's policy-making process. This includes producing policy papers for debate at conference, and drawing up (in consultation with the relevant parliamentary party) the Federal election manifestos for Westminster and European elections.

The FPC has 29 voting members: the Party Leader and four other MPs; the Party President; one peer; one MEP; three councillors; three state party representatives; and fifteen members directly elected by conference representatives. It must be chaired by one of the five MP members, and is currently chaired by the Leader.

federal conference committee

The FCC is responsible for organising the two Federal conferences each year. This includes choosing the agenda from the policy and business motions submitted by conference representatives, local, regional and state parties, specified associated organisations and Federal committees, and taking decisions on topics such as venues, registration rates and other administrative and organisational matters. It works within a budget set by the FFAC.

The FCC has 21 voting members: the Party President; the Chief Whip; three state party representatives; two representatives from the FE and two from the FPC; and twelve members directly elected by conference representatives. It elects its own chair (currently Andrew Wiseman), who must be one of the directly elected representatives.

The members of the FCC are shown on page 2.



autumn conference

agenda

brighton 22nd–26th september 2012