

# Agenda

Glasgow 4th—8th October 2014

Autumn Conference

# Conference App

## Available 26th September

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Welcome to the *Agenda* for the Liberal Democrat Autumn 2014 Federal Conference.

## Conference venue

Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC)  
Exhibition Way,  
Glasgow, G3 8YW  
[www.secc.co.uk](http://www.secc.co.uk)

## Conference hotel

Crowne Plaza Glasgow  
Congress Road,  
Glasgow, G3 8QT  
[www.crowneplazaglasgow.co.uk](http://www.crowneplazaglasgow.co.uk)

If you have any questions whilst at conference please ask a conference steward or go to the Information Desk in the foyer of the Clyde Auditorium.

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The Agenda and other conference publications, in PDF, plain text and clear print formats, are available online



[www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_papers](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers)

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# The Federal Conference Committee



Andrew Wiseman,  
Chair



Sal Brinton,  
Vice Chair



Geoff Payne,  
Vice Chair,  
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FE rep



Louise Bloom,  
FPC rep



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FPC rep



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Pauline Pearce



David Rendel



Shas Sheehan



Paul Tilsley



Mike Ross,  
Chief Steward,  
co-opted

Ex officio:

Don Foster 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 to	10.30–12.30
Tuesday	

You can also contact the FCC via the Information Desk outside of these hours.



# Auditorium information

Information concerning the conduct of the main conference sessions is listed on the following pages of this *Agenda*.

The formal rules for the conduct of federal conference are set out in standing orders on pages 78–88.

General conference information is listed alphabetically in the separate *Directory*. The *Directory* also contains a map of Glasgow and plans of the venue.

If you have any questions on-site, please ask a steward or go to the Information Desk in the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC).

## *Conference Extra and Daily*

*Conference Extra* shows changes and updates to the *Agenda* and *Directory*, and amendments to motions, topical issues, emergency motions and questions to reports. *Conference Extra* will be available at conference and online at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_papers](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers).

*Conference Daily* includes a report back on the previous day's business, updated session timings and any last-minute changes to movers, amendments, emergency motions, etc. Collect your copy of *Conference Daily* from the literature collection points each day.

## Conference timetable 2015

### 13th–15th March 2015, Liverpool

Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00 Wednesday	5th January 2015
Motions deadline	13.00 Wednesday	14th January 2015
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00 Monday	24th February 2015
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00 Tuesday	10th March 2015

### 19th–23rd September 2015, Bournemouth

Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00 Wednesday	17th June 2015
Motions deadline	13.00 Wednesday	1st July 2015
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00 Monday	25th August 2015
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00 Monday	7th September 2015

## Ministerial Q&A sessions

There will be a series of Ministerial Q&A sessions during conference, where you can ask questions of our Ministers on the issues relating to their responsibilities and their departments. All sessions will take place in Carron 1 in the SECC.

Saturday 4th October	15.00–16.00	Energy; Ed Davey
Saturday 4th October	16.30–17.30	DCLG; Stephen Williams
Sunday 5th October	11.30–12.30	Business; Vince Cable & Jo Swinson
Sunday 5th October	15.00–16.00	Home Affairs & Justice; Simon Hughes & Norman Baker
Sunday 5th October	16.30–17.30	Treasury; Danny Alexander
Monday 6th October	11.30–12.30	Scotland; Alistair Carmichael & Willie Rennie
Monday 6th October	15.00–16.00	International Development; Lynne Featherstone
Monday 6th October	16.30–17.30	Health; Norman Lamb
Tuesday 7th October	11.30–12.30	Party Matters – <b>members only</b> ; Tim Farron & Tim Gordon
Tuesday 7th October	15.00–16.00	Work and Pensions; Steve Webb
Tuesday 7th October	16.30–17.30	Education; David Laws
Wednesday 8th October	09.30–10.30	DEFRA; Dan Rogerson & Kate Parminter
Wednesday 8th October	11.00–12.00	Transport; Susan Kramer

Sessions are open to all, but party members will be given priority. Hearing loop provided.

## Conference Rally



### Celebrating the campaigning spirit of the Liberal Democrats

Featuring speakers Jo Swinson, Paddy Ashdown and Nick Clegg.

Looking ahead to the General Election and the local elections in 2015, join Liberal Democrats from across the UK showcasing the party's talent, spirit and ambition.

**Saturday 4th October 2014, 18.30–19.30**  
SECC, Clyde Auditorium

## Auditorium information

### Venue

All auditorium sessions take place in the Clyde Auditorium of the SECC.

Access to the SECC secure zone 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.

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

Be aware that flash photography is frequently used in the auditorium. Please ensure that all mobile phones are on silent before entering the auditorium.

### Disabled facilities

- Space for wheelchair users on the ground floor of the auditorium.
- Ramped access to 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;

please ask a member of the stewarding team to direct you to the appropriate seating block.

- 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](mailto:rlittlehales@aol.com).



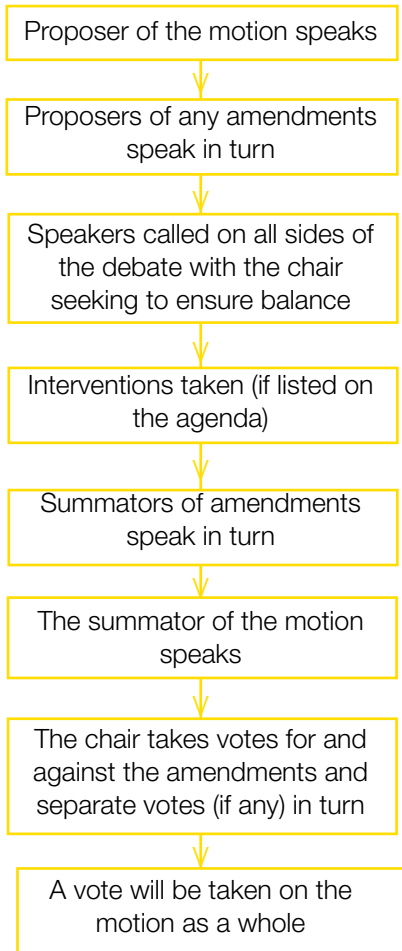
What's your top conference tip?  
#ldconf @libdemconf



## Debates and votes at conference

Debates on policy and business motions are at the heart of federal conference. It is through them that the party sets its policy and future direction. Unlike the conferences of the other parties, Liberal Democrat conference is sovereign, and what it decides really matters.

### The structure of debate on policy and business motions:



**Interventions:** are concise (one minute) speeches made from the intervention microphone(s) on the floor of the auditorium, during debates where it is indicated in the *Agenda*.

**Amendments:** all motions except emergency motions are open to amendment; amendments accepted will be printed in *Conference Daily*.

**Voting:** decisions on most motions and on all amendments and separate votes are by simple majority of those voting (two-thirds majority for constitutional amendments). To vote, representatives must be seated on the ground floor of the auditorium and show their voting badge.

**Separate votes:** a vote on whether to delete or retain the specified words or section. A request for a separate vote may be submitted by any voting representative: by the start of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled, **or** by the deadline for emergency motions for debates scheduled for the first day of conference; using the online form at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_papers](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers), by email to [separate.votes@libdems.org.uk](mailto:separate.votes@libdems.org.uk), **or** in writing to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium.

**Counted vote:** the chair of the session may decide that a vote needs to be counted. Any voting representative may request a count from the floor; if fifty voting representatives stand and show their voting cards, a count will be taken.



# Speaking in conference debates

## Length of speeches

The length of speeches is shown against each motion in the Agenda. 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.

## Eligibility to speak

The only people entitled to speak in debates and interventions at conference are:

- 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 day visitors).
- Persons who have been given permission to speak by the Federal Conference Committee.

## Applying to speak

To make a speech in a debate you must complete a speaker's card, collected from and returned to the

Speakers' Table at the front of the auditorium, an auditorium steward or the Information Desk.

## Completing a speaker's card

When completing a speaker's card, remember:

### 1 Submit your card well in advance.

The chair and aide team for the debate will meet well in advance to plan the debate – sometimes the previous day.

### 2 Fill in your card completely.

Complete the two sections on the back of the card as well as the front. These sections are needed for the chair and aide to balance the debate, so they can call people with relevant experience and avoid a string of people making the same point.

### 3 Make sure it's readable!

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

## Interventions

To speak during interventions, representatives should complete an intervention form, collected from and returned to a steward in the auditorium. Speakers will be chosen by the chair of the session by random ballot.

## Other conference sessions

### Emergency motions and topical issue discussions

Emergency motions are debated and voted on and make formal party policy like other motions, but refer to a substantial development since the deadline for submission of motions.

Motions selected for debate, and/or for selection by ballot along with the ballot procedure, will be printed in *Saturday's Conference Daily*.

Topical issue discussions allow representatives and spokespeople to discuss and comment on a political issue live at the time of conference; they do not make party policy.

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

### Question & answer sessions

Concise questions (maximum 25 words) on any relevant subject may be submitted by any voting representative. Questions will be selected by the chair and put by the submitter from the intervention microphones in the auditorium.

Questions may be submitted using the online form at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_submissions](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions):

- by 17.00 Thursday 2 October.

Questions may also be submitted on a form collected from and returned

to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium:

- for the Leader's Q&A: by 12.40 Monday 6th October.
- for the environment Q&A: by 18.00 Tuesday 7th October.

### Reports

The reports of Federal Committees and Parliamentary Parties are printed in the separate reports document.

Any voting representative may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on these reports. The chair will select which questions will be asked. Questions to reports of the Parliamentary Parties may relate to any aspect of Liberal Democrat activities in the UK or European Parliaments.

Deadlines for questions to reports:

- Federal Committees – 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September.
- Parliamentary Parties – 17.00, Thursday 2nd October.

Questions may be submitted using the online form at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_submissions](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions)

Questions received by the deadlines above will be printed in *Saturday's Conference Daily*.

Questions on events occurring after the deadlines above may be submitted on speaker's cards at the Speakers' Table up until one hour before the start of the relevant session.

# Submitting amendments, emergency motions, topical issues, and appeals

## Amendments and emergency motions

Amendments and emergency motions must be:

- signed by 10 voting representatives;
- **or** submitted by one or more of: a local party, state party, regional party in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisation or Federal Party Committee;
- and be submitted by 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September.

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.

## Topical issues

Suggestions for topical issues may be submitted by any voting representative:

- by 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September.

The title of the issue should be no more than ten words, and should not include an expression of opinion; please include full contact details of the submitter and up to 100 words explanatory background.

## Drafting advice

Submitters are encouraged to use our drafting advice service: draft amendments and emergency motions should be submitted by 13.00, Tuesday 9th September.

**Amendments, emergency motions and topical issues** should be submitted to the Policy Unit:

- using the online form at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_submissions](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions)
- **or** by post to Policy Unit, 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.

## Appeals

Appeals against the non-inclusion of emergency motions or amendments must be signed by the original drafting contact and should:

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

and:

- be submitted by 09.00, Thursday 2nd October,
- to [appeals@libdems.org.uk](mailto:appeals@libdems.org.uk)

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# Conference Dinner

With Rt Hon Lord Paddy Ashdown

in support of Jo Swinson MP's re-election campaign,

The Conference Dinner is being held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 8.30 pm (immediately after the Conference Rally), at the Conference Hotel, the Crowne Plaza (a few minutes walk from the rally).

Tickets are priced at £45. Please give an additional donation (if you can), to help Jo Swinson win re-election in a seat strongly targeted by Labour.

Please be part of this special post referendum occasion by booking soon as places are limited.

If you cannot make it to the dinner, please could you give a donation in support of Jo Swinson's re-election campaign?

To book return the slip below or buy online at [www.joswinson.org.uk/dinner](http://www.joswinson.org.uk/dinner)

Places may be reserved (subject to prompt payment) by email to [sam.rees@scotlibdems.org.uk](mailto:sam.rees@scotlibdems.org.uk) or telephone 0141 931 5674.

Yes, I can make it to the Conference Dinner. I will pay for \_\_\_ tickets at £45 each and I can make a donation of £\_\_\_

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Dietary/access requirements:

I can't make it to the dinner, but I'd like to donate to help Jo be re-elected:

£100  
 £50  
 £25  
 £\_\_\_

Please make all cheques out to "East Dunbartonshire Liberal Democrats"

Please return to: Freepost NATN 627, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 6BR

# Saturday 4th October

10.00–11.30 Presidential Hustings

*The Presidential Hustings will take place in the Crowne Plaza, Argyll Suite.*

13.20 Party business

Chair: Tim Farron MP

Aide: Dr Evan Harris

Hall Aide: Liz Lynne

## **F1 Formal Opening of the Federal Conference by Jo Swinson MP**

13.25 Party business

Chair: Marisha Ray

Aide: Gareth Epps

Hall Aide: Liz Lynne

## **F2 Report of the Federal Conference Committee**

Mover: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

*The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 12.25 on Saturday 4th October. See page 8 for further information.*

13.40 Speech

Chair: Paul Tilsley

Aide: Shas Sheehan

Hall Aide: Dr Evan Harris

## **F3 Speech by Lynne Featherstone MP, Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for International Development**



@lfeatherstone #LDconf

All conference sessions, apart from the Presidential Hustings above, take place in the Clyde Auditorium in the SECC.

See *Directory* for venue plans and map.

# Saturday 4th October

14.00 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Maines

Aide: David Rendel

Hall Aide: Gareth Epps

## F4 Reducing Poverty and Discrimination

*38 conference representatives*

Mover: Professor Myles Wickstead

Summation: Dr David Hall-Matthews

1 Conference believes that:

- 2 A. It is unacceptable that anyone, anywhere in the world, should live in
- 3 absolute poverty in the twenty-first century.
- 4 B. A world in which there is deep-seated poverty and injustice is a more
- 5 dangerous place.
- 6 C. Absolute poverty can and must be eliminated by 2030, through
- 7 ambitious and concerted international efforts.
- 8 D. Such ambition is both morally right and in the national interest.
- 9 E. Principles of transparency and accountability must underpin all
- 10 international development activities, to enable people to pursue their
- 11 own paths from poverty to prosperity.

12 Conference notes that:

- 13 i) Significant progress has been made towards achieving the Millennium
- 14 Development Goals since 2000, in particular halving the proportion of
- 15 people living in absolute poverty globally.
- 16 ii) Helping to build prosperity abroad also helps to create British jobs and
- 17 provide markets for British exports.
- 18 iii) In an increasingly globalised world, challenges such as climate
- 19 change, pollution and disease affect developed and developing
- 20 countries alike, requiring a coordinated approach.
- 21 iv) Policies on issues such as trade, transparency, climate change,
- 22 agricultural subsidies and arms sales can impact partner countries
- 23 as much as – or more than – the provision of official development
- 24 assistance (ODA).
- 25 v) NGO and private sector partnerships add great value alongside aid;
- 26 both by helping to develop capacity in low-income and middle-income
- 27 countries, and by increasing public understanding of and support for
- 28 international development in the UK.

## Saturday 4th October

- 29 vi) There is potential for wider and deeper international networks across  
28 civil society.
- 29 vii) The impacts of global threats are exacerbated by poverty and  
30 inequality.
- 31 vii) Eliminating absolute poverty requires specific action to address the  
32 needs of groups facing social, political or economic discrimination, in  
33 order to ensure that no-one is left behind.
- 34 ix) Extreme discrimination and violence, such as Female Genital  
35 Mutilation, need to be addressed not only in the developing world but  
everywhere, including in the UK.

36 Conference welcomes:

- 37 a) The Coalition Government's achievement in becoming the first G8  
38 country to meet its commitment to provide 0.7% of gross national  
39 income in ODA, despite challenging economic circumstances.
- 40 b) Liberal Democrat Michael Moore's Private Member's Bill to enshrine  
41 this commitment in law.
- 42 c) Government efforts to increase the transparency of financial flows to  
43 developing countries, including the activities of the extractive industries  
44 as well as aid.
- 45 d) The efforts of Lynne Featherstone MP and other Liberal Democrats in  
46 government to address Female Genital Mutilation, and to increase global  
47 recognition of its importance, after it had been overlooked for decades.

48 Conference urges Liberal Democrats in government to:

- 49 1. Commit to elimination of absolute poverty by 2030, guided by the  
50 principle of leaving no-one behind.
- 51 2. Provide support to people in developing countries that enables  
52 everyone to participate fully in economic, political and social life and  
53 have a say in decisions that affect them.
- 54 3. Focus on reducing discrimination against the poorest and most  
55 disadvantaged members of society; particularly on the grounds of  
56 gender, sexual orientation, disability or ethnicity.
- 57 4. Develop an International Gender Equality Strategy, including  
58 recognition of women's right to education and freedom from enforced  
59 marriage.
- 60 5. Deliver on our commitment to ending Female Genital Mutilation within  
61 a generation.
- 62 6. Support an International LGBT Strategy, including a guaranteed right  
63 not to be discriminated against.

## Saturday 4th October

- 64 7. Ensure that issues of environment and sustainability are fully integrated  
65 with issues of economic development and equity in the post-2015  
66 Goals.
- 67 8. Commit a significant proportion of aid to meeting global challenges  
68 such as Climate Change and pollution.
- 69 9. Commit to eliminating TB, HIV and malaria – which disproportionately  
70 affect poor people – within a generation.
- 71 10. Develop a ‘whole of Government’ approach to international  
72 development, ensuring that policies of Ministries other than the  
73 Department for International Development support global efforts to  
74 reduce absolute poverty.
- 75 11. Lead international action to ensure that multinational companies  
76 pay fair taxes in the developing countries in which they operate, by  
77 proposing global tax standards that would eliminate tax evasion  
78 practices such as transfer pricing and intra-corporation lending.
- 79 12. Begin work to develop a new civil society partnership scheme,  
80 supported by Government, that will encourage new sorts of  
81 partnership; such as municipality to municipality, trades union to trades  
82 union, and emergency service to emergency service.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 9 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 6 – is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

### 14.45 Speech

Chair: Justine McGuinness  
Aide: Pauline Pearce  
Hall Aide: Shas Sheehan

#### **F5 Speech by Rt Hon Simon Hughes MP, Minister of State for Justice and Civil Liberties**

**@SimonHughesMP #LDconf**





# Saturday 4th October

15.05 Party business

Chair: Sarah Boad

Aide: Paul Tilsley

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

## **F6 Expanding the Democracy of our Party with ‘One Member, One Vote’**

*Federal Executive and 30 conference representatives*

Mover: Sue Doughty

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that currently, voting at conference is confined to
- 2 a limited number of members including MPs, Peers, Prospective UK
- 3 and European Parliamentary Candidates, Elected Mayors, Leaders of
- 4 Principal Councils and those who have been elected as Conference
- 5 Representatives by Local Parties, the number of Representatives being
- 6 determined by the size of the Local Party.
- 7 Conference believes that all members of the Federal Party should be
- 8 entitled, subject to the payment of the relevant registration fee, to:
  - 9 1. Vote at Federal conference.
  - 10 2. Vote for and stand for election to those Federal Committees which
  - 11 include directly elected members.
- 12 Conference resolves this change should take effect from July 2015.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 9 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 6 – is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

Constitutional amendment

## **F7 Expanding the Democracy of our Party with ‘One Member, One Vote’**

*Federal Executive and 30 conference representatives*

# Saturday 4th October

Mover: Sue Doughty

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *In 2.7 (a): delete 'representatives present and voting' and insert*
- 2 *'members'.*
- 3 *In 3.2: delete 'but excluding the appointment of representatives to Federal*
- 4 *Conference'.*
- 5 *Delete 4.3 (b).*
- 6 *In 4.9: delete 'A Local Party shall not while its rights are suspended be*
- 7 *entitled to representation at the Federal Conference'.*
- 8 *In 5.5(b): delete 'Conference Representatives' and insert 'members'.*
- 9 *In 6.1: delete (a) to (h) inclusive and insert 'those members of the party*
- 10 *who have registered for Conference in accordance with any provisions set*
- 11 *out by the Federal Conference Committee and who attend'.*
- 12 *Delete 6.2, 6.3, and 6.4.*
- 13 *In 6.5: delete 'consultative', delete 'any member' and insert 'all members',*
- 14 *and delete 'and for all members who are not representatives to address*
- 15 *other sessions of the Conference'.*
- 16 *In 6.6: delete '200 representatives entitled to attend the Conference' and*
- 17 *insert '200 members'.*
- 18 *In 7.2(i): delete 'elected by Federal Conference' and insert 'directly elected*
- 19 *members'.*
- 20 *In 8.1(i): delete 'elected by Federal Conference' and insert 'directly elected*
- 21 *members'.*
- 22 *In 12.1: delete '200 representatives entitled to attend the Federal*
- 23 *Conference in not less than 20 Local Parties (including, for this purpose,*
- 24 *the Specified Associated Organisations representing youth and students*
- 25 *as provided by Article 13.8' and insert '200 members'.*
- 26 *Conference resolves these amendments will take effect from July 2015.*

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 7.*

# Saturday 4th October

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 9 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 6 – is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The existing text of relevant parts of the constitution is given below. A constitutional amendment requires at least a two-thirds majority to pass.*

2.7 This Constitution may only be altered:

- (a) by a two-thirds majority of representatives present and voting at the Federal Conference;

...

3.2 Membership shall be acquired through an enrolling body, being:

- (a) a Local Party in the area of which the member lives, works or studies (or, with its consent, another Local Party);
- (b) a Specified Associated Organisation representing youth and/or students; or
- (c) a State Party in accordance with its internal procedures (and so that any overseas member in a location where there is no Local Party may become a member via a State Party designated by the Federal Executive to act as agent for the Federal Party).

An applicant shall become a member on acceptance by the enrolling body, payment of the requisite subscription and registration. However, a State Party may, by its internal procedures, determine that eligibility of a member to vote in Local Party elections (including Parliamentary and local government selections, but excluding the appointment of representatives to Federal Conference) may be subject to a minimum requirement as to age (not being more than 10 years) and/or length of continuous membership (not being more than 15 months); and the provisions of this constitution as to members' voting rights shall be construed accordingly.

...

4.3 Save as hereinafter provided, each Local Party in Great Britain shall contain one parliamentary constituency. The members in each of two or more adjacent parliamentary constituencies may agree to combine into a single Local Party, in which case the combined Local Party shall be deemed for all the purposes of this Constitution to be a Local Party, save that:

- (a) the selection of a prospective parliamentary candidate and the adoption of a parliamentary candidate shall be made:
  - (i) where for any constituency in a Local Party there are 30 or more members, by those members; and
  - (ii) where for any constituency within a Local Party there are less than 30 members, the Local Party Constitution shall specify whether all the members of the Local Party shall participate or only those from the constituency concerned.
- (b) the combined Local Party shall be entitled to send to the Federal Conference the higher of:
  - (i) the number of representatives which each component constituency with 30 members or more would be entitled to send if it formed a separate Local Party: and
  - (ii) the number of representatives which that Local Party would be entitled to send if it comprised a single constituency.

...

4.9 The rights of a Local Party under this Constitution may be suspended by the relevant State Party in accordance with its internal procedures (or, in the case of a Local Party outside Great Britain, by the Federal Executive), if it is not adhering to the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, this (or its own) Constitution or if events have taken place or are about to take place which are or may be seriously detrimental to the Local Party or to the Party as a whole. A Local Party shall not while its rights are suspended be entitled to representation at the Federal Conference.

...

- 5.5 In the course of developing policy the FPC shall:
- (a) consider policy proposals submitted to it by State Parties, Regional Parties in England, Local Parties, Associated Organisations and individual members of the Party; together with the responses to the consultations carried out according to Article 5.5 (b); and
  - (b) ensure consultation generally with, including circulating consultation papers to, Federal Conference representatives, State Parties, Regional Parties in England, Local Parties and Associated Organisations. Such consultations shall include responses to references under Article 5.7.

...

## 6.1 The Conference shall consist of

- (a) representatives of Local Parties (and the Specified Associated Organisations representing youth and/or students as provided by Article 13.8);
- (b) the Parliamentary Parties as defined by Article 9;
- (c) Members of the Scottish Parliament and National Assembly for Wales in receipt of the party's whip;
- (d) the Officers specified in Article 12;
- (e) prospective parliamentary and European parliamentary candidates who shall continue as members of the Conference until the end of the calendar year in which they stood for election, unless a new prospective candidate is selected for the constituency;
- (f) Elected Mayors who are members of the Party;
- (g) Elected members of regional assemblies in receipt of the Party's whip; and
- (h) Leaders of council groups of the Part on principal councils.

## 6.2 Local Parties shall be represented on the following basis, modified where applicable by Article 4.3(b):

Membership of Local Party	Number of Representatives
30 to 50	4
51 to 75	5
76 to 100	6
101 to 150	7
151 to 200	8
201 to 250	9
251 to 300	10
301 to 350	11
351 to 400	12
401 to 450	13

together with a further representative for every 100 members (or part thereof) in excess of 450.

## 6.3 Representatives of Local Parties shall be elected by all members of the Local Party concerned in accordance with election rules made under Article 8.4 for a term of one calendar year subject to the following provisions:



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- (a) a representative shall cease to hold office upon:
  - (i) resignation in writing;
  - (ii) cessation of membership of the Party; or
  - (iii) unless the Local Party concerned determines otherwise, on ceasing to be a member of that Local Party or on failing to attend any meeting of the Conference without giving notice (so far as practicable) of inability to attend or without reasonable cause;
- (b) if a vacancy shall arise (or a Local Party shall become entitled to additional representation between elections), the additional representative(s) shall be chosen by procedures determined and published by the Local Party Executive Committee.
- (c) if a representative shall indicate inability to attend a forthcoming meeting of the Conference, a substitute may be elected by the Executive Committee of the Local Party concerned; and
- (d) if a Local Party is entitled to at least three representatives, and subject to there being sufficient nominations, at least one shall be a man and one a woman.

## 6.4 For the purpose of such elections:

- (a) each Local Party shall give reasonable notice of a closing date for nominations; and
- (b) if there are not more nominations than vacancies, a general meeting shall be invited to confirm each nominee: if it shall not do so in any particular case, there shall be a second call for nominations.

## 6.5 The Standing Orders of the Conference shall provide for consultative sessions of the Conference at which any member of the Party may speak, and for members who are not representatives to address other sessions of the Conference, but such provisions shall not prejudice the right of the chair of a session to select speakers.

## 6.6 The Conference shall normally meet twice a year, for a week in the early autumn and a weekend in the early spring; additional meetings may be summoned upon the requisition of the Federal Executive or the Federal Policy Committee or the Conference itself or 200 representatives entitled to attend the Conference. A meeting may be cancelled by the Federal Executive in exceptional circumstances.

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...

7.2 The FPC shall consist of the following:

...

(i) one more person than the total number elected or appointed under paragraphs (a) to (h) above elected by the Federal Conference (which shall be filled in accordance with electoral regulations) except that persons who, at the date of close of nominations for election under this paragraph, are MPs shall not be eligible to be candidates for election under this paragraph.

...

8.1 There shall be a Federal Executive, which shall be responsible for directing, co-ordinating and implementing the work of the Federal Party. It shall consist of the following:

...

(i) one more person than the total number of voting members elected or appointed under paragraphs (a) to (h) above elected by the Federal Conference (casual vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the electoral regulations) except that persons who, at the date of close of nominations for election under this paragraph, are MPs shall not be eligible to be candidates for election under this paragraph.

...

12.1 The President shall be the principal public representative of the Party and shall chair the Federal Executive. The President shall be elected by the members of the Party for a term of two years starting from 1st January in the year immediately following the election and shall hold office until death, incapacity, resignation or the election of a successor; the President shall be eligible for re-election once only. A candidate for the office of President shall require the nomination of not less than 200 representatives entitled to attend the Federal Conference in not less than 20 Local Parties (including, for this purpose, the Specified Associated Organisations representing youth and students as provided by Article 13.8). The President shall report to the annual meeting of the Conference and may make reports to any other meetings of Conference. The Federal Executive shall have the power, in the event of a casual vacancy, to elect an Acting President from any of the Vice-

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Presidents and to determine a convenient date for a ballot to elect a successor who shall serve for the remainder of the term, except that if the remainder of the term is less than twelve months, the successor shall serve for the remainder of the term plus a period of two years thereafter.

### Standing order amendment

#### **F8 Expanding the Democracy of our Party with ‘One Member, One Vote’**

*Federal Executive and 30 conference representatives*

Mover: Sue Doughty

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *In the Glossary of Terms: delete the paragraph ‘Elected representative’*
- 2 *and delete the paragraph ‘Non-voting member’.*
- 3 *In the Glossary of Terms, under Special Conference: delete ‘conference*
- 4 *representatives’ and insert ‘members’.*
- 5 *In the Glossary of Terms, under Voting Member: delete second sentence*
- 6 *(from ‘This term’ to ‘conference’).*
- 7 *In 1.3 (d): delete ‘conference representatives’ and insert ‘members’.*
- 8 *In 6.2: delete ‘If the person who is excluded is a voting member of*
- 9 *conference, their local party or SAO shall be contacted immediately and*
- 10 *invited to appoint a substitute for the remainder of the conference’.*
- 11 *In 11.1 (a): before ‘member’, delete ‘voting’.*
- 12 *In 11.2: change title to ‘Reference back (moved by a member)’, and in (a),*
- 13 *before ‘member’, delete ‘voting’.*
- 14 *In 11.5 and 11.6: before ‘member’, delete ‘voting’.*
- 15 *In 12.5 and 12.5: before ‘member’, delete ‘voting’.*
- 16 *Conference resolves these amendments will take effect from July 2015.*

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 7.*

# Saturday 4th October

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 9 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 6 – is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The existing text of standing orders is given on pages 78–88 of this Agenda. A standing order amendment requires at least a two-thirds majority to pass.*

## 16.20 Policy motion

Chair: Sandra Gidley

Aide: James Gurling

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

### **F9 Towards Safer Sex Work**

*10 conference representatives*

Mover: Dr Belinda Brooks-Gordon

Summation: Sarah Noble

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 I. 'Sex work' encompasses a broad span of commercial activity that
- 3 includes phone-line operators, webcam broadcasters, actors in the
- 4 adult entertainment industry, escorts, and indoor as well as outdoor
- 5 sex workers.
- 6 II. Prostitution in itself is legal but many of the related activities, such as
- 7 solicitation and brothel-keeping, are criminalised.
- 8 III. The decriminalisation of sex work has been Liberal Democrat policy
- 9 since the 1994 publication of policy paper 3, *Confronting Prostitution*.
- 10 IV. Sex workers are comprised of people in a variety of economic
- 11 situations or from marginalised groups, including single mothers,
- 12 students, men who have sex with men, and transgender people
- 13 saving so they can access adequate medical care.
- 14 V. Many sex workers engage in the trade of their own volition without
- 15 economic coercion, often as a way to ensure financial stability and
- 16 even wealth completely on their own terms.
- 17 VI. Peer-reviewed high quality academic research, along with senior
- 18 medical practitioners in the delivery of NHS sexual health services,
- 19 provide strong evidence for decriminalisation.
- 20 VII. States such as New Zealand have moved to a policy of
- 21 decriminalisation of sex work with success in terms of the safety of sex
- 22 workers where it has reduced cases of violence against sex workers.

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- 23 VIII. Sex workers in New Zealand are allowed to work together and  
24 organise themselves in the way they see fit, can protect their safety  
25 much better, have more trust and a better relationship with the police  
26 which is more conducive to detecting and punishing abuses.
- 27 IX. In England, the 'Merseyside Model' which treats violence against sex  
28 workers as a hate crime, has been implemented in several major cities,  
29 most notably Liverpool.
- 28 X. Amnesty International, from early 2014, engaged in a global  
29 consultation on sex work with a draft policy recommending  
30 decriminalisation, and at Amnesty's UK annual general meeting, a  
31 motion in support of decriminalisation of sex work was 'comfortably'  
32 carried.
- 33 Conference welcomes the work of Liberal Democrats, in particular:
- 34 1. The 2011 Home Office Review of Effective Practice in Responding  
35 to Prostitution, signed by Lynne Featherstone MP as an Equalities  
36 Minister, which argued for:
- 37 a) Safety to be made an overriding priority.  
38 b) Translation services, ESL courses, and other language support for  
39 migrant sex workers.  
40 c) Violence against sex workers to be treated as a hate crime.  
41 d) A focus of resources against the grooming of young women in  
42 care homes.
- 43 2. The announcement in 2011 by Lynne Featherstone MP of a £100,000  
44 grant towards piloting an 'Ugly Mugs' scheme aimed at protecting sex  
45 workers, in conjunction with the UK Network of Sex Projects.
- 46 3. Prior to being a governing party, the opposition by Liberal Democrat  
47 MPs to provisions in the Policing and Crime Act 2009 aimed towards  
48 criminalising some aspects of sex work and working conditions  
49 brought forward by a majority Labour government.
- 50 Conference expresses concern that:
- 51 i) Laws regarding solicitation and loitering force sex workers into isolated  
52 areas where they are at more danger of sexual and physical violence.  
53 ii) Laws prohibiting brothel-keeping prevent sex workers from working  
54 out of the same premises to ensure their own safety.  
55 iii) Raids of saunas in Edinburgh and London were orchestrated with  
56 publicity in mind — including inviting the press to the raids in Soho  
57 in December 2013 — rather than for the welfare and privacy of the

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- 58 women in sex work.
- 59 iv) Studies promoting the criminalisation of clients or ‘demand’ often  
60 conflate legal migrants of an ethnic minority background with trafficked  
61 women in a way that is tantamount to racism.
- 62 v) Approaches which criminalise the purchase of sexual services but  
63 not, overtly, the workers themselves, criminalise otherwise law abiding  
64 people and divert criminal justice resources away from serious harms  
65 in society, including young people in care homes at risk of grooming,  
66 victims of trafficking, and migrant workers in domestic — and  
67 sometimes sexual — servitude.
- 68 vi) The enforcement of the above approach in the ‘Nordic’ approach  
69 in Scandinavian countries had no appreciable effect in preventing  
70 violence against women or poverty, and has reduced negotiating  
71 power that street workers previously had.
- 72 vii) Just as the criminalisation of homosexuality and abortion leads to  
73 unsafe practices regarding LGBT and women’s healthcare respectively,  
74 criminalisation of sex work leads to unsafe sexual health practices.
- 75 viii) Immigration status, and not the welfare of women suspected of being  
76 trafficked, is currently a priority within police forces.
- 77 ix) Sex workers invariably fear state violence and police brutality more  
78 than they fear violence from people masquerading as clients, or from  
79 members of the public.
- 80 Conference believes that:
- 81 A. Laws against rape and sexual violence need to be strongly enforced,  
82 especially against people suspected of trafficking others.
- 83 B. There should be no bar towards consensual sexual activities between  
84 any number of adults.
- 85 C. Every person has a right to bodily autonomy, and it is not for the State  
86 to decide what a they can or cannot do with their body, including  
87 engage in sex work if they so choose.
- 88 D. The abolition of sex work is not practically feasible without fully  
89 eradicating circumstances related to economic hardship, and cannot  
90 be sought through any prohibition on consensual sex work.
- 91 E. Decriminalisation of sex work would help engender better working  
92 conditions and sexual health practices among workers.
- 93 F. Decriminalisation would also help foster a positive culture where the  
94 importance of informed and enthusiastic consent is paramount.
- 95 G. It is our responsibility as liberals to ensure that the most disadvantaged  
96 people in society are fought for just as hard as the least, and it is key

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97 that we should sometimes just amplify their voices instead of offering  
98 our own.

99 Conference calls for:

- 100 1. Continued support the principles in policy paper 3 and the  
101 establishment of a Working Group to prepare an updated version  
102 of the policy paper that deals with the issue of sex work in the 21st  
103 Century.
- 104 2. In the interim, opposition to any steps to implement the Nordic  
105 model and reaffirmation of our support for decriminalisation of sex  
106 work, protections for survivors of violence against women, and  
107 the promotion of safer sexual health practices and better sex and  
108 relationship ethics, including in all tiers of the education system.
- 109 3. The 'Merseyside model', in which crimes against sex workers are  
110 treated as hate crimes, to be rolled out nationwide.
- 111 4. The promotion of solutions to the problem of international trafficking  
112 and forced prostitution that do not endanger the lives of sex workers.
- 113 5. Work to be taken in conjunction with sex worker organisations to  
114 ensure the safety of workers, including reintroducing the Ugly Mugs  
115 scheme on a more permanent basis.
- 116 6. For our commitment for strong social and community safety nets to be  
117 reaffirmed, so that no person should be pressured to enter or be afraid  
118 to exit sex work at any time.

*Applicability: England and Wales, except educational aspects of 'Conference calls for' 2 (lines 104–108) which are England only.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 9 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 6 – is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

17.20 Close of session



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09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Qassim Afzal  
Aide: Justine McGuinness  
Hall Aide: Sandra Gidley

## F10 First Aid in Schools

*Liberal Youth*

Mover: Chris Whitwood  
Summation: Lee Dargue

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 i) Nearly 60% of adults do not feel confident enough to try to save a life,  
3 according to ICM Research.
- 4 ii) Nearly 9 out of 10 11–16 year olds have been confronted with a  
5 medical emergency, according to the British Red Cross.
- 6 iii) In Norway and Seattle, where emergency life-saving skills are taught  
7 as part of the school curriculum, those who suffer a cardiac arrest  
8 away from a hospital have a 52% chance of survival, compared to  
9 18% in the UK.

10 Conference believes that:

- 11 a) First aid and life-saving skills are valuable both to individuals and to  
12 society.
- 13 b) First aid and life-saving skills training should provide all pupils with  
14 the opportunity of hands on and kinaesthetic learning, in additional to  
15 theoretical knowledge.
- 16 c) First aid and life-saving skills training can help to increase pupil  
17 engagement and attainment across the curriculum.
- 18 d) The addition of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) to schools  
19 could be of benefit in case of cardiac arrest and that Local Authorities  
20 should work with schools to support them in providing AEDs if they  
21 deem it beneficial.

22 Conference calls for:

- 23 1. The Department for Education to include first aid emergency life-skills  
24 in the national curriculum in primary and secondary schools through  
25 PSHE provision.

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- 26 2. The Government to support schools in selecting first aid and  
27 emergency life-saving skills training providers and teaching resources  
28 according to their own curriculum.

*Applicability: England only.*

*Mover: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 13.20, Saturday 4th October; see page 6 for further information.*

## 09.25 Policy motion

Chair: James Gurling  
Aide: Pauline Pearce  
Hall Aide: Chris Maines

### **F11 Reforming the Welfare System**

*16 conference representatives*

Mover: Kelly-Marie Blundell  
Summation: James Sandbach

- 1 Conference believes that the test of a civilised society is the way in which
- 2 it cares for those unable to care for themselves and how it helps those in
- 3 need to fulfil their potential; the guiding principle of the UK welfare system
- 4 must be to ensure that none are left unable to meet their basic needs for
- 5 survival and participation in society.
- 6 Conference notes that:
- 7 A. The welfare system had been allowed to become overly complex and
- 8 unruly and that whilst Universal Credit is the biggest and most positive
- 9 development in the welfare system for years, it has suffered serious
- 10 implementation problems.
- 11 B. Benefit sanctions are hitting those in most need of support, with the
- 12 14 day rule leaving people penniless and having to visit food banks.
- 13 C. There is a growing backlog of assessments for Employment Support

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14 Allowance claims and migrations from previous disability benefits,  
15 alongside long-standing concerns identified in previous conference  
16 motions over the quality of such assessments, notwithstanding the  
17 annual reviews which have called for improvements.

18 D. Some system of discretionary hardship payments is required to assist  
19 those most in crisis to prevent them from falling into abject poverty.

20 E. The rapidly expanding benefits bill must be tackled through alternative  
21 approaches to reducing poverty such as increased employment, living  
22 wage incomes and affordable housing.

23 Conference therefore calls for:

24 1. A review of Universal Credit implementation to address poor  
25 administration, information management and data quality issues as  
26 well cliff edges within Universal Credit that may disincentivise increased  
27 working hours, or leave insufficient childcare or other basic needs  
28 support.

29 2. Reform of the Hardship Fund to provide immediate loans to people  
28 who have benefit sanctions, which will be repaid, and administered  
29 through local government.

30 3. A different approach towards conditions and sanctions so that they  
31 are only used as a last resort in a small number of cases where all  
32 other approaches to engagement have failed; as a starting point the  
33 Department of Work and Pensions should immediately implement the  
34 recommendations of the Oakley Review.

35 4. Introduction of a single assessment process across different disability  
36 benefits, based on real world tests of capability and functionality, with  
37 better allocation into different groups and greater onus and incentives  
38 on assessment contractors to collect relevant evidence from health  
39 professionals working with those claimants, so that assessment  
40 decisions can be right first time and avoid reconsideration and appeal  
41 costs.

42 5. Improvements to the Work Programme; the programme should:

43 a) Have a stronger role for local authority commissioning to suit  
44 local needs and requirements allowing charities to deliver to  
45 the best of their abilities at a local level whilst preventing silos of  
46 subcontracting.

47 b) Introduce a more specialist support pathway for ESA claimants

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- 48 with more complex needs tailored services for enhanced
- 49 support to assist those with long term conditions and disabilities,
- 50 supported by incentives for business to provide employment on
- 51 flexible and accessible basis.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 13.20, Saturday 4th October; see page 6 for further information.*

## 10.20 Presentation

Chair: David Rendel  
Aide: Liz Lynne  
Hall Aide: Justine McGuinness

### **F12 Scotland Presentation**

*The presentation will include contributions from:*

- *Rt Hon Alistair Carmichael MP, Secretary of State for Scotland.*
- *Willie Rennie MSP, Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats.*

## 10.50 Policy motion

Chair: Baroness Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)  
Aide: Paul Tilsley  
Hall Aide: James Gurling

### **F13 *Doing What Works to Cut Crime* (Crime and Criminal Justice Policy Paper)**

*Federal Policy Committee*

Mover: Geoff Payne (Chair of the Policy Working Group)  
Summation: Julian Huppert MP (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

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1 Conference welcomes the fall in crime that has occurred under the Coalition  
2 Government and the work done by Liberal Democrats to achieve it.

3 Conference rejects the approach of the Conservative and Labour  
4 Parties, which has too often ignored evidence of what works, needlessly  
5 compromised our civil liberties and freedoms, and wasted money.

6 Conference believes that:

- 7 i) Crime policy must be based on the evidence of what works.
- 8 ii) More preventative work is required, particularly through joined-up  
9 working with other public services.
- 10 iii) Too many victims of crime still have a negative experience in the  
11 system.
- 12 iv) Too many criminals are not required to confront their behaviour.
- 13 v) More action is required to tackle violence against women and girls.
- 14 vi) Too few prisoners receive effective pre-release support and re-  
15 offending rates remain unacceptably high.
- 16 vii) A new preventative, health-based approach is required to tackle drug  
17 and alcohol misuse.
- 18 viii) Stop and Search remains a source of deep mistrust between the  
19 police and the public, and requires reform.

20 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 118, *Doing What Works to*  
21 *Cut Crime*, particularly its proposals:

22 1. To prevent crime by:

- 23 a) Promoting community restorative justice to target those at risk of  
24 offending.
- 25 b) 'Designing it out' of products and new developments through  
26 changes to Building Regulations, making the police statutory  
27 planning consultees and raising awareness about anti-theft  
28 measures in electronic devices.
- 29 c) Expanding the use of peer group influence on those at risk of  
30 offending.
- 31 d) Utilising the experience, knowledge and innovation of the third  
32 sector and creating a more joined-up, innovative approach  
33 towards service delivery.
- 34 e) Working closely with our European partners and the wider world to  
prevent serious and organised crime.

34 2. To adopt a new evidence-based approach towards drug and alcohol-

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- 35 related crime that recognises that its causes are primarily health issues  
36 by:
- 37 a) Passing the lead in those areas to the Department of Health,  
38 keeping law enforcement in the Home Office.
  - 39 b) Making decisions on drug classifications from the Advisory Council  
40 on the Misuse of Drugs binding.
  - 41 c) Subject to implementation work, adopting a model whereby  
42 those arrested with drugs for personal use would be diverted to  
43 treatment for problematic users and education or Fixed Penalty  
44 Notices for those who are not.
  - 45 d) Subject to a review finding that there is good evidence of  
46 effectiveness (in relation to public health and reduced criminal  
47 activity) from international contexts, we would invite that review  
48 to consider potential frameworks for a strictly regulated cannabis  
49 market with tight controls on quality and strength to curb  
50 organised crime.
  - 51 e) Imposing severe penalties on those who manufacture, import  
52 and/or deal in illegal drugs – the dealing of illegal drugs underpins  
53 organised crime and is rightly a serious offence.
- 54 3. To improve support for victims of crime by:
- 55 a) Creating a national helpline for the victims of sexual offences.
  - 56 b) Implementing a single point of contact for victims who want to  
57 complain.
  - 58 c) Ensuring that all hate crimes are aggravated offences and more  
59 harshly sentenced.
  - 60 d) Promoting Restorative Justice which places the victim at the heart  
61 of rehabilitation.
  - 62 e) Working with the Department for Education to ensure that Female  
63 Genital Mutilation, domestic violence and other violence against  
64 women and girls properly features on the curriculum.
  - 65 f) Ensuring those suffering from domestic violence, who have  
66 retracted their evidence against their partner because of fear and  
67 intimidation, are not prosecuted for making false allegations.
- 68 4. For more effective policing in which the community can have  
69 confidence, including:
- 70 a) Building an assessment of harm into the crime figures.
  - 71 b) The wider use of crime maps and GPS data so that resources can  
72 more effectively be deployed.

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- 73 c) Widening the use of body-worn cameras to make sure that Stop  
74 and Search is conducted properly and to secure better evidence.  
75 d) Tightening up Stop and Search with new Codes of Practice and,  
76 for Section 60 areas, a requirement for judicial authorisation.  
77 e) A presumption in favour of asset and back office sharing  
78 between forces and mergers where the local community want  
79 it; subject always to retaining a link between the police and local  
80 communities.  
81 f) Replacing Police and Crime Commissioners with democratic  
82 Police Boards.  
83 g) Expanding the current pilots of mental health related liaison and  
84 diversion and street triage models.  
85 h) Tackling corruption.  
86 i) Safeguarding civil liberties by limiting kettling and the use of  
87 undercover officers.
- 88 5. To focus the Criminal Justice System on what works by:
- 89 a) Gathering outcomes data court by court and creating a single  
90 body to spread best practice throughout the system.  
91 b) Improving the diversity of the Magistracy.  
92 c) Safeguarding jury trials in the Crown Court and streamlining court  
93 procedure.  
94 d) Injecting alternative sources of funding for criminal legal aid  
95 through the use of restrained assets and company directors  
96 insurance so as to guarantee a diverse market of providers.
- 97 6. To end the cycle of reoffending by:
- 98 a) Embedding ‘through the gate’ support for those approaching  
99 release.  
100 b) Ending the imprisonment of women who do not need to be  
101 incarcerated through a Women’s Justice Board along the lines of  
102 the successful Youth Justice Board and by taking the interests of  
103 children into account when sentencing.  
104 c) Piloting intermittent custody models including weekend or evening  
105 custody, curfews and GPS tagging to limit the liberty of offenders  
106 whilst allowing them to carry on working.  
107 d) Devolving the custody budget for young offenders to local  
108 authorities.  
109 e) Seeking to reduce the number of young people from BAME  
110 backgrounds in custody.



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- 111 7. To tackle cybercrime by:
- 112 a) Directing police resources towards preventative and awareness-
- 113 raising work and making it easier to report it.
- 114 b) Aligning the basis of criminal liability for comments made on social
- 115 media, on the telephone and between people physically present.
- 116 c) Making 'revenge porn' a criminal offence.
- 117 d) Increasing penalties for Data Protection Act breaches.
- 118 e) Ensuring that there is a named person in every school to help the
- 119 victims of cyber-bullying.

*Applicability: England and Wales, except 1 e) (lines 32–33), 2 b)–e) (lines 39–53), and 7 d) (line 117) which are Federal, and 1 b) (lines 25–28), 2 a) (lines 37–38), 3 e) (lines 62–64) and 7 e) (lines 118–119) which are England only.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*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 page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 13.20, Saturday 4th October; see page 6 for further information.*

## 12.30 Speech

Chair: Chris Maines  
Aide: Sandra Gidley  
Hall Aide: Pauline Pearce

**F14 Steve Webb MP,  
Minister of State for Pensions**

**@stevewebb1 #LDconf**



## 12.50 Lunch break

# Sunday 5th October

14.10 Speech

Chair: Liz Lynne  
Aide: Chris Maines  
Hall Aide: Paul Tilsley



**F15 Rt Hon Danny Alexander MP,  
Chief Secretary to the Treasury**

@dannyaalexander #LDconf

14.40 Policy motion

Chair: Duncan Brack  
Aide: Justine McGuinness  
Hall Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

**F16 *Protecting Public Services and Making them Work for You* (Public Services Policy Paper)**

*Federal Policy Committee*

Mover: Julia Goldsworthy

Summation: Jeremy Hargreaves (Chair of the Policy Working Group)

- 1 Conference believes that good quality, accessible public services play
- 2 a vital role in helping us all to live fulfilling lives and supporting the most
- 3 vulnerable, wherever we live.
- 4 Conference affirms Liberal Democrats' commitment to protecting public
- 5 services, improving them, and ensuring they work more effectively for
- 6 every user.
- 7 Conference believes that public services:
  - 8 a) Should always aim to be high-quality, accessible, equally accessible to
  - 9 all, joined-up, empowering for their users, and locally accountable and
  - 10 transparent.
  - 11 b) Cover an enormously diverse range of services, and that no one fixed
  - 12 model can suit them all.
  - 13 c) Have their greatest asset in the staff who in difficult circumstances
  - 14 deliver good quality services to the public day in, day out, and that
  - 15 they work best when they are freed up to focus on providing a good
  - 16 service to their users.
  - 17 d) Are most effective when they work with users as partners in their

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- 18 delivery, rather than simply as passive recipients.  
19 e) Should be pro-active in seeking to prevent problems, as well as  
20 tackling them when they arise.
- 21 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 119, *Protecting Public*  
22 *Services and Making Them Work for You*, as a statement of Liberal  
23 Democrat policy on public services generally and especially schools,  
24 health and transport, and particularly welcomes its proposals to:
- 25 1. Realise the huge potential for services to work together more  
26 effectively for the benefit of users, not distracted by formal structural  
27 changes, through:
- 28 a) Enabling public authorities responsible for different public services  
29 in a local area, led by a democratically-accountable tier, to come  
28 together to form a local Better Outcomes Board, supported by  
29 financial incentives from central government, to share budgets and  
30 explore ways of working together to better meet the combined  
31 needs of local people.
- 32 b) Employing modern uses of information which have significant  
33 power to create innovative and improved services, but with the  
34 user controlling their own data and always having the opportunity  
35 to opt out of data-sharing; access to personal data must be strictly  
36 controlled; and where data is used for research purposes, it must  
37 be anonymized.
- 38 c) Applying Freedom of Information obligations to private providers  
39 of public services as well as to the public sector, and making  
40 contractual arrangements more transparent, including a  
41 presumption in favour of 'open book accounting' in contracts.
- 42 d) Investing in leadership, which is crucial to developing and  
43 improving public services, and helping services and users to  
44 benefit from a range of steps to promote movement over careers  
45 across different parts of public services, including combined cross-  
46 service leadership development.
- 47 e) Recognising that inspection regimes play an important part in  
48 ensuring accountability, but cannot themselves ensure good  
49 quality services, and must not be excessively burdensome.
- 50 2. Make services flexible enough to meet the specific needs of their  
51 individual users, through:
- 52 a) Giving individual users a formal right to request a specific flexibility  
53 in the service they receive, backed by mediation.

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- 54 b) Where a sizeable proportion of users or the public for a private  
55 or other provider of a public service believe that the service  
56 is inadequate, providing for a 'community trigger for change',  
57 through which they could require the responsible authority to  
58 conduct a full review of who provides the service, and how.
- 59 c) All providers of public services, whether public, private or  
60 voluntary:
- 61 i) Being genuinely accountable to their users and the wider  
62 public.
- 63 ii) Meeting common standards in employment standards, data-  
64 sharing and equity of government funding.
- 65 iii) Respecting the values of public services.
- 66 iv) Being transparent and operating in good faith.
- 67 And that where they meet this test, they should achieve the status  
68 of 'Accredited Public Service'.
- 69 d) Using measures or targets with extreme caution, in a way that  
70 is very limited and focussed on helping the public understand  
71 whether a good service is being delivered, rather than burdensome,  
72 excessively numerous and focussed on internal processes.
- 73 3. Encourage public services to become increasingly pro-active in helping  
74 improve lives, for example in preventing illness, as well as of course  
75 meeting existing current needs, by:
- 76 a) Fully involving staff in designing services, and having a strategy for  
77 involving users as partners in delivery of services.
- 78 b) Supporting users in mutual support arrangements, including  
79 through allowing them to share 'personal budgets'.
- 80 4. Apply these approaches to achieve improvements in schools,  
81 especially:
- 82 a) Recognizing the crucial importance of good quality teaching  
83 to educational attainment, by creating an Investing in Teaching  
84 package, including:
- 85 i) Supporting the creation of a Royal College of Teachers.
- 86 ii) Creating a Continuing Professional Development (CPD)  
87 entitlement for all teachers of 50 hours per year, as part of a  
88 robust CPD framework.

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- 89           iii) Spreading established good models for leadership  
90           development and school-to-school improvement.
- 91        b) Ensuring every child is taught by a qualified teacher.
- 92        c) Continuing to ensure that there is no return to a split between  
93        academic and vocational qualifications at age 16.
- 94        d) Continuing the pupil premium which successfully targets £2.5  
95        billion a year on the most disadvantaged children, and extending  
96        the early years premium.
- 97        e) Continuing to slim down the national curriculum, putting it under  
98        the responsibility of an independent Educational Standards  
99        Authority (ESA) and requiring all state-funded schools to teach the  
100       same core curriculum, a slimmed-down national curriculum.
- 101       f) Clarifying responsibility for improving poorly performing schools,  
102       including academies and free schools, with schools themselves,  
103       any academy chains or dioceses they are part of, and their local  
104       authorities, all responsible for improvement, and all inspected for  
105       this work by Ofsted.
- 106       g) Repealing the rule that all new schools must be free schools or  
107       academies.
- 108       h) Being clear that responsibility for planning schools places  
109       locally, and decisions about any new schools required and their  
110       organizational status, must lie with the democratically-accountable  
111       local authority.
- 112       i) Abolishing the new regional tier for oversight of schools, and  
113       ensuring local Headteacher Boards of successful local heads,  
114       accountable to their peers, provide assistance to schools in need.
- 115       j) Allowing local people, when they believe a school is consistently  
116       inadequate, to require the local authority to carry out a review of  
117       the school's management.
- 118       k) Schools continuing to set their admissions policy, and to ensure  
119       that every child has a fair chance and be treated equally, the local  
120       authority being responsible for admissions to all publicly-funded  
121       schools in their area.
- 122    5. Apply these approaches to improve the NHS, which must remain free  
123    at the point of delivery, by:

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- 124 a) Making the aspiration of ‘parity of esteem’ between mental and  
125 physical health a reality, through spreading good practice access  
126 standards for mental health services, supporting greater integration  
127 between mental and physical health, and moving towards equality  
128 of funding to reflect the respective health need.
- 129 b) Delivering better care by continuing to expand approaches to  
130 integrated care, building on the Pioneers scheme.
- 131 c) Reforming ‘tariffs’, to promote better care, particularly for people  
132 with long term conditions.
- 133 d) Ensuring easier access to GPs, through:
- 134 i) Expanding evening and weekend opening.  
135 ii) More use of communication by modern technology when a  
136 face to face appointment is not necessary.  
137 iii) Greater use of ‘federations’ of GP practices to provide better  
138 access to care, closer to home, including out of hours.  
139 iv) Making full use of the potential of pharmacists.  
140 v) Allowing you, if you wish to, to register with a GP near your  
141 work, instead of near your home.
- 142 e) Ending the role of the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) in  
143 health, making the rules clear that the needs of patients will always  
144 come ahead of competition, and that services need not be put out  
145 to tender if local people are happy with them.
- 146 f) While recognizing the value of increasing choice and enabling  
147 innovation in services, ensuring that duties on commissioners  
148 of health care give a higher priority to reducing inequality, and  
149 integration of services, than to promoting competition.
- 150 g) Continuing to develop Health and Wellbeing Boards, to comprise  
151 more elected councillors on a politically proportional basis and from  
152 all relevant tiers, and increasingly take on more responsibilities,  
153 including if they wish to for commissioning local GP services, and to  
154 be able to amend the commissioning plan of local commissioners.
- 155 6. Apply these approaches to achieve improvements in sustainable local  
156 public transport, which has a crucial role to play, especially in rural  
157 areas, in maintaining communities where people want to live and  
158 work, and in ensuring fair access to other public services and other  
159 opportunities, through:

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- 160 a) Creating minimum standards for frequency and access for local  
161 public transport.
- 162 b) Giving public authorities greater influence over transport in their  
163 area, especially by supporting them to create 'Quality Contracts'  
164 which could help to achieve good services to meet the needs of  
165 local people.
- 166 c) Supporting small-scale voluntary or other organisations to be able  
167 to provide flexible, local transport services.
- 168 d) Ensuring all new significant infrastructure or vehicles meet  
169 standards for disability access, including audiovisual information.
- 170 e) Allowing public bodies to bid for rail franchises.
- 171 f) Getting refunds for delays or difficulties paid automatically  
172 for longer rail journeys, and providing better services and  
173 compensation when 'rail replacement' arrangements are required.
- 174 g) Extending 'smart ticketing', to give greater convenience for  
175 passengers, automatic lowest fares, and greater linkages across  
176 transport modes and with other public services.
- 177 h) Ensuring providers make realtime information on their services  
178 available electronically, as Transport for London does.
- 179 i) Giving a discount of two-thirds of the cost of buses to 16–21 year  
180 olds.

*Applicability: England only, except 1 b) (lines 32–37), 1 d) and e) (lines 42–49), 2 (lines 50–72) and 3 a) (lines 76–77) which are Federal, and 3 b) (lines 78–79), 6 a) (lines 160–161) and 6 e) (line 170) which are England and Wales.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*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 page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 13.20, Saturday 4th October; see page 6 for further information.*



# Sunday 5th October

17.00 Party business

Chair: David Rendel  
Aide: Justine McGuinness  
Hall Aide: Chris Maines

## **F17 Report of the Federal Policy Committee**

Mover: Duncan Hames MP (Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

*The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 16.00 on Sunday 5th October. See page 8 for further information.*

17.10 Policy motion

Chair: Dr Evan Harris  
Aide: Sandra Gidley  
Hall Aide: James Gurling

## **F18 Tackling Child Abuse**

*10 conference representatives*

Mover: Baroness Walmsley  
Summation: Baroness Brinton

- 1 Conference notes that:
- 2 i) All forms of child abuse are abhorrent, and can cause lasting physical,  
3 emotional and psychological damage to victims and their families;  
4 most perpetrators of child abuse are a close family member or  
5 friend of the child, contrary to public perception that child abuse is  
6 committed by a stranger.
- 7 ii) Past cases, where adults in a position of trust in care homes,  
8 hospitals, schools, clubs or societies where individuals have repeatedly  
9 taken advantage of large numbers of children over a period of years,  
10 have highlighted a need to protect children further from the risk of child  
11 abuse.
- 12 iii) Inquiries into various child abuse and exploitation cases have  
13 repeatedly found some professionals failing to report child protection  
14 concerns (despite being aware of safeguarding issues), which have  
15 resulted in further abuse and more children being abused.

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- 16 iv) Peter Wanless, Chief Executive of the NSPCC, who is heading the  
17 Government's review of historical child abuse allegations proposed in  
18 July that Government should consider stronger corporate duties on  
19 adults to protect children living away from home, in institutions like  
20 care homes or boarding schools, known as mandatory reporting.
- 21 Conference believes that:
- 22 a) Peter Wanless's proposals do not go far enough, and millions of  
23 children at non-boarding schools, sports clubs and other leisure clubs  
24 would not be covered by them.
- 25 b) Legislation needs to empower and protect any whistleblower who  
26 becomes aware of a child at risk of abuse.
- 27 c) Certain specific exclusions are necessary for confidential helplines  
28 such as ChildLine, where children calling in believe that everything they  
29 disclose is entirely confidential.
- 28 Conference calls for Liberal Democrat parliamentarians to press for:
- 29 1. A legal duty on all staff working in regulated activity to report to the  
30 local authority known abuse or reasonable suspicion of abuse.
- 31 2. All staff working in contact with children who have to complete CRB  
32 forms to have training in recognising the early signs of child abuse, and  
33 the routes to reporting.
- 34 3. Government to sponsor a strong public campaign to make children  
35 confident with reporting incidents that they feel uncomfortable about.
- 36 4. Legislation to protect whistleblowers who come in to contact with  
37 children, to empower them to report incidents without fear of the  
38 impact on their own position.

*Applicability: England only.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 13.20, Saturday 4th October; see page 6 for further information.*

18.00 Close of session

# Monday 6th October

09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Justine McGuinness

Aide: Gareth Epps

Hall Aide: Chris Maines

## **F19 Adapting to Climate Change in the UK**

*13 conference representatives*

Mover: Neil Stockley

Summation: Duncan Brack

1 Conference notes:

2 a) The fifth assessment report of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on  
3 Climate Change, which described the impacts of global warming as  
4 “severe, pervasive and irreversible”.

5 b) That the impacts of accelerating climate change in the UK include  
6 an increase in extreme weather events such as severe winters,  
7 heatwaves, flooding from rivers and the sea, and storms and gales,  
8 with increased pressure on infrastructure, water supplies and  
9 ecosystems.

10 c) That the 2013–14 winter in the UK saw record heavy rainfall and  
11 frequent strong storms – both at least partly caused by climate change  
12 – which led to widespread flooding (exacerbated by recent patterns  
13 of building and farming) and accompanying disruption to individuals,  
14 buildings and infrastructure.

15 d) That the independent Committee on Climate Change concluded in  
16 July 2014 that at current rates of investment in flood defences, flood  
17 risks in England will increase, that the risk of overheating in homes,  
18 hospitals and care homes is being ignored and that intensive farming  
19 is still being supported in areas where the ground needs natural  
20 vegetation to soak up rainfall.

21 Conference believes that while action to reduce emissions of greenhouse  
22 gases, both in the UK and globally, must remain the government’s top  
23 priority, urgent attention must also be paid to adapting to the current and  
24 future impacts of climate change.

25 Conference therefore calls for government to:

26 1. Ensure flood defence spending is kept in line with that needed to

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- 27 protect against climate change impacts; introduce high standards for  
28 flood resilience for buildings and infrastructure in flood risk areas and  
29 enforce these for new build and major renovations.
- 28 2. Implement programmes to help farmers and other land users adapt  
29 to climate change impact, including protecting soil and forest carbon  
30 sinks, encouraging planting in uplands, and restoring flood plains,  
31 with adequate compensation for landowners to put into place 'soft'  
32 prevention measures at source rather than relying on 'hard' flood  
33 defences downstream.
- 34 3. Introduce long-term planning for droughts and floods, building natural  
35 resilience to extreme weather, rather than waiting to clean up the  
36 damage.
- 37 4. Update construction and planning standards to future-proof housing  
38 and commercial buildings against higher summer temperatures  
39 caused by climate change, protecting people from heat-related  
40 deaths and reducing the need for air conditioning; this should include  
41 protecting urban trees and green spaces, to mitigate the 'heat island'  
42 effect.
- 43 5. Encourage local authorities to report annually to their residents on  
44 actions taken to protect them from the impacts of climate change,  
45 including flood risk management plans.
- 46 6. Extend the mandatory greenhouse gas emission reporting rules for  
47 large companies to include actions taken on adaptation.
- 48 7. Prepare a national resilience plan to help the UK economy, national  
49 infrastructure and natural resources adapt to the likely impacts  
50 of a 3–4 degree global average temperature rise, building on the  
51 work done through the current national adaptation programme;  
52 and increase government resources devoted to the research and  
53 implementation of climate adaptation strategies.

*Applicability: 6 and 7 (lines 46–53) are Federal; the remainder are England only.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 5th October; see page 6 for further information.*

# Monday 6th October

10.00 Speech

Chair: Dr Evan Harris

Aide: Jenni Lang

Hall Aide: Paul Tilsley

**F20 Kirsty Williams AM,  
Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats**

@Kirsty\_Williams #LDconf



10.20 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

Aide: Shas Sheehan

Hall Aide: David Rendel

**F21 Building the Affordable Homes We Need**

*Westmorland & Lonsdale*

Mover: Tim Farron MP

Summation: Rt Hon Vince Cable MP

1 Conference welcomes the measures in policy paper 104, *Decent Homes*  
2 *For All* (2012), and conference motion *Reform of the Planning System*  
3 (March 2014) to deliver up to 300,000 new homes a year, to give renters a  
4 new deal, increase the resilience of the house-building industry, give local  
5 authorities and social housing providers more powers to build, secure  
6 land for development at lower prices and remove underlying barriers to  
7 restoring house price stability.

8 Conference notes with concern:

- 9 i) The failure of the private sector, and of previous administrations, to  
10 deliver the homes that Britain needs.
- 11 ii) The far reaching consequences of a shortage of decent housing on  
12 economic growth, labour market mobility, education, social mobility,  
13 health and the shape of economic growth in the UK.
- 14 iii) The barriers to sustainable housing delivery including: an opaque  
15 land market, lack of both public and private finance, the capacity  
16 and competitiveness of the house building industry, integration of  
17 infrastructure provision, historical failures in design and planning, and  
18 inconsistent political will.

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- 19 Conference celebrates the Liberal Democrat commitment to:
- 20 a) Freeing local authorities to build for the first time in a generation,  
21 bringing 102,000 empty homes back into use since 2010 and allowing  
22 councils to charge full Council Tax on second homes and empty  
23 homes.
- 24 b) Delivering long term strategic investment in infrastructure, to support  
25 economic growth outside of London.
- 26 c) Empowering local authorities to create new garden cities, towns and  
27 villages where there is local demand.
- 28 Conference therefore calls for:
- 29 1. Government investment to support a new generation of quality homes  
28 which are affordable even for those on low and middle incomes,  
29 including shared ownership, rent-to-buy and other intermediate  
30 tenures, where every monthly payment goes towards owning the  
31 house.
- 32 2. Creation of a new Housing Investment Bank to simplify the allocation  
33 of public funds, create the scale needed to draw in private investment  
34 and improve access to finance for social housing providers through  
35 traditional capital grant, soft loans and equity investment, bond issues  
36 and government guarantees; as part of this, including a 'challenge  
37 fund' to promote innovative solutions to the housing crisis, imbed long  
38 termism and ensure best value for the tax payer.
- 39 3. Local authorities being allowed to develop homes of a broad mix of  
40 tenures through local housing companies, outside of the Housing  
41 Revenue Account, retaining a local authority link.
- 42 4. Social landlords to be given more control over their businesses, to  
43 develop more genuinely affordable homes and enable more efficient  
44 use of their resources, by allowing greater rent flexibilities, lifting  
45 restrictions on how they value their stock and allowing them to take  
46 account of the whole cost of occupancy relating to heating costs to  
47 encourage landlords to invest to reduce heating costs and cut fuel  
48 poverty.
- 49 5. Urgent amendment of the New Towns Act to transfer its powers to  
50 Local Authorities to acquire land at above existing use value for the  
51 creation of new garden villages, towns and cities where appropriate  
52 to meet identified housing need, using the land uplift to deliver the  
53 highest quality, the infrastructure, and build thriving mixed communities  
54 at affordable prices whilst protecting existing communities from

# Monday 6th October

- 55 unnecessary, poorly-served and unpopular sequential development.  
56 6. To increase capacity for house building to meet the 300,000 homes  
57 a year target, encourage the development of the offsite construction  
58 industry, continue and strengthen support for small and medium size  
59 builders, new entrants and self-build, and unlock Housing Association  
60 capacity by freeing up opportunities to access land through the new  
61 garden communities programme.  
62 7. Planning authorities to be given the power to designate New Home  
63 Zones on strategic sites to generate low cost development and  
64 growth.  
65 8. A large-scale apprenticeships and training programme to build skills  
66 capacity over a long period.  
67 9. Within the first year of the next Parliament, publication of a long-term  
68 plan to set out how our house-building objectives will be met; to be  
69 overseen by a ministerial taskforce on housing, hosted by the Cabinet  
70 Office, ensuring that locally-led housing delivery is integrated into  
71 infrastructure delivery, welfare reform, rent strategy, demographic and  
72 environmental challenges and a wider growth agenda that spreads  
73 economic growth across the country.

*Applicability: England only, except 2 (lines 32–38) which is Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 5th October; see page 6 for further information.*

## 11.20 Policy motion

Chair: Jeremy Hargreaves  
Aide: Sandra Gidley  
Hall Aide: Liz Lynne

### **F22 Flooding: A New High Water Mark**

*North Cornwall and Oxford West & Abingdon*



# Monday 6th October

Mover: Layla Moran

Summation: Dan Rogerson MP

- 1 Conference endorses the Liberal Democrat vision of a sustainable future
- 2 where we live within our environmental as well as financial means.
- 3 Conference notes that:
  - 4 A. Flooding is an issue that affects the entire country, with 1 in 6
  - 5 households at risk.
  - 6 B. Climate change is a driver of more frequent extreme weather and so is
  - 7 likely to be the biggest contributor to worse floods in the future.
  - 8 C. The annual cost to the UK economy of flooding is estimated at £1.1
  - 9 billion and could rise to over £27 billion per year by 2080.
  - 10 D. Funding for flood defences has increased by £400million over this
  - 11 Parliament compared to the last.
  - 12 E. The Environment Agency estimates that an extra £20 million per year
  - 13 above existing levels needs to be invested in flood defences between
  - 14 2010 and 2035 to sustain current levels of protection.
  - 15 F. The National Audit Office reported a saving of £8 for every £1 of capital
  - 16 investment in flood defences.
- 17 Conference welcomes the £2billion committed by government to flood
- 18 defences during the 2011–15 spending period. However, we believe that
- 19 we also need to meet the long term investment required to maintain the
- 20 current level of protection.
- 21 Conference further welcomes:
  - 22 i) The implementation of the majority of the recommendations of the
  - 23 1998 Pitt Review and resulting 2010 Flooding and Water Management
  - 24 Act by the Liberal Democrats in Coalition Government.
  - 25 ii) The Water Act 2014 and in particular Flood Re which ensures
  - 26 millions of household have access to affordable flood insurance in a
  - 27 progressive and fair way.
- 28 Conference calls for:
  - 29 a) Real terms investment in flood defences to increase in accordance
  - 28 with Environment Agency recommendations.
  - 29 b) Monitoring of the availability and affordability of insurance for houses
  - 30 built after 2009 to make sure that affordable flood insurance remains
  - 31 available to all.
  - 32 c) The Government to work with small business organisations and the

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33 insurance industry to make sure that small businesses have access to  
34 affordable insurance to protect vibrant local economies in flood prone  
35 areas.

36 Conference recognises that it is more cost effective and sustainable to  
37 utilise natural flood defences, working with the environment rather than  
38 working against it.

39 Conference therefore further calls on the Government to:

- 40 1. Encourage landowners and farmers to manage the countryside to  
41 mitigate flooding to downstream communities.
- 42 2. Promote research into and implementation of natural flood defences,  
43 such as the restoration of peatlands and woodlands, and the  
44 development of coastal habitats.
- 45 3. Develop clear guidance for Lead Local Flood Authorities on how to take  
46 flooding into account when planning development and extend the legal  
47 requirement for "betterment" so developers ensure that the flooding  
48 situation downstream of any development leads to an improvement,  
49 rather than just the maintenance of, flood protection levels.
- 50 4. Commission a study into how best to improve building regulations  
51 so that building works, within the means of the householder and the  
52 insurance company, improve the resilience of a building to flooding  
53 events.
- 54 5. Create a monitoring framework for measuring how effective Local  
55 Flood Risk Management Strategies are in the medium and long term  
56 and set clear targets by which to measure the effectiveness of the  
57 National Flood Strategy.
- 58 6. Ensure that the uptake in Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems is  
59 increased to maximise value for money for the taxpayer.

*Applicability: England only.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 5th October; see page 6 for further information.*

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12.20 Speech

Chair: Qassim Afzal  
Aide: James Gurling  
Hall Aide: David Rendel

**F23 Rt Hon Vince Cable MP,  
Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills**

@vincecable #LDconf



12.40 Lunch break

14.20 Presentation

Chair: Sandra Gidley  
Aide: Dr Evan Harris  
Hall Aide: Shas Sheehan

**F24 Same Sex Marriage Presentation**

*A presentation by campaigners who worked to deliver same sex marriage legislation.*

14.40 Speech

Chair: James Gurling  
Aide: Pauline Pearce  
Hall Aide: Jenni Lang

**F25 Jo Swinson MP,  
Parliamentary Undersecretary of State for  
Employment Relations and Consumer Affairs**

@joswinson #LDconf



15.00 Question and answer session

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)  
Aide: Shas Sheehan  
Hall Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference)

**F26 Question and Answer Session with Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of  
the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister**

# Monday 6th October

Conference representatives may put questions, on any topic, to the leader of the Liberal Democrats in a 'Town Hall' style event. Concise questions (maximum 25 words) may be submitted via the website until 17.00 on Thursday 2nd October or to the Speakers' Table in the Auditorium by 12.40 on Monday 6th October. See page 8.

## 15.45 Policy motion

Chair: Baroness Doocey

Aide: Chris Maines

Hall Aide: Gareth Epps

### **F27 Expanding Opportunity, Unlocking Potential (Equalities Policy Paper)**

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Baroness Northover

Summation: Belinda Brooks-Gordon (Chair of the Policy Working Group)

1 Conference notes that:

2 I. Liberal Democrats are rightly proud of a commitment to equality that  
3 goes back decades, and the vision for a fair, free and open society is  
4 enshrined in our constitution.

5 II. In government Liberal Democrats have championed equality, working  
6 for a fairer society.

7 Conference believes that:

8 A. There is still much more to be done to reduce inequalities, poverty,  
9 and disadvantage for those with protected characteristics under the  
10 Equality Act 2010 – Liberal Democrats want to expand opportunity  
11 and unlock potential by promoting equality in education and  
12 employment, in health and wellbeing and in an inclusive society.

13 B. Liberal Democrats want Britain to take the lead in tackling inequalities  
14 abroad.

15 C. At the heart of our approach is the promotion of human rights to  
16 empower individuals to reach their full potential and have more control  
17 over their own life, to live in the way that is right for them and free from  
18 discrimination.

19 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 120, *Expanding Opportunity,*  
20 *Unlocking Potential*, and particularly welcomes its proposals to:

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- 21 1. Create opportunity in education and employment for all through:
- 22 a) Ensuring all young carers receive the pupil premium.
- 23 b) Extending the free early years childcare entitlement of 15 hours to
- 24 all 2 year olds.
- 25 c) Promoting apprenticeships for groups underrepresented in the
- 26 labour market.
- 27 d) Encouraging the private sector to promote diversity and requiring
- 28 private companies in receipt of public funds to monitor and publish
- 29 equality data.
- 28 e) Bringing into force the provisions of the Equality Act 2010 that
- 29 require private employers to publish data on gender pay gaps.
- 30 f) Piloting 'name-blank' application forms in the public sector.
- 31 g) Reviewing the level of employment tribunal fees to ensure they do
- 32 not deter genuine claims.
- 33 h) Establishing a statutory code of practice to support the
- 34 implementation of the Public Sector Equality Duty.
- 35 i) Addressing the management gender gap by recruiting diverse
- 36 talent.
- 37 2. Address inequalities in health and wellbeing through:
- 38 a) Extending disabled bus concessions to peak hours.
- 39 b) Bringing Equality Act provisions into force which ensure fair access
- 40 to taxis for people with disabilities.
- 41 c) Introducing better regulation for cosmetic surgery to ensure patient
- 42 safety and closure of fiscal loopholes for those providing purely
- 43 cosmetic procedures.
- 44 d) Introducing compulsory training for front line staff in FGM issues in
- 45 high risk areas.
- 46 e) Making legal provision for the full recognition of hate crimes
- 47 against LGBT+ people and people with disabilities as aggravated
- 48 offences allowing appropriate sentences for perpetrators.
- 49 3. Build an inclusive society that celebrates diversity through:
- 50 a) Accelerating the recognition of caste as an aspect of race under
- 51 the Equality Act.
- 52 b) Amending marriage certificate rules to allow both parents' name
- 53 and occupation to be listed.
- 54 c) Asking the Advisory Committee on Safety of Blood, Tissues
- 55 and Organs to review rules around men who have sex with men
- 56 donating blood.

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- 57 d) Reviewing the Gender Recognition Act to allow married couples  
58 consensually to reinstate their marriage when one party to the  
59 marriage has reassigned their gender.  
60 e) Allowing X gender markers on passports.  
61 f) Including positive images of transgender individuals in central  
62 government publications.
- 63 4. Work for our vision for equality of opportunity including the promotion  
64 of fairness and equality between the citizen and the state, both at  
65 home and abroad, through:
- 66 a) Making the Equality and Human Rights Commission directly  
67 accountable to Parliament to strengthen its ability to hold the  
68 government to account.
- 69 b) Moving the Government Equalities Office into Cabinet Office and  
70 bring ministerial responsibilities for equalities into one place.
- 71 c) Developing an ambitious international gender equality strategy with  
72 a clear aim to end female genital mutilation within a generation.
- 73 d) Ratifying the Istanbul Convention on violence against women in the  
74 UK and EU and give effect to the United Nations Security Council  
75 Resolution 2122, on health care for war rape victims.
- 76 e) Leading the way in forming a clear international strategy to  
77 improve LGBT+ rights worldwide.
- 78 f) Continuing to promote same-sex marriage abroad and encourage  
79 British embassies overseas to offer same sex marriages.

*Applicability: Federal, except 1 a), b) and c) (lines 22–26) which are England only.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*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 page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Sunday 5th October; see page 6 for further information.*

# Monday 6th October

17.15 Party business

Chair: Jenni Lang  
Aide: Paul Tilsley  
Hall Aide: Justine McGuinness

## **F28 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties of the Liberal Democrats**

Commons: Don Foster MP (Chief Whip) and Annette Brooke MP (Chair of Parliamentary Party)

Lords: Lord Wallace (Leader) and Lord Newby (Chief Whip)

Europe: Catherine Bearder MEP (Leader)

*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 activities in the Westminster and European Parliaments to the panel. 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 6th October. Questions may also be sent via the website until 17.00 on Thursday 2nd October. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 8.*

18.00 Close of session

# Tuesday 7th October

09.00 Policy motion

Chair: Jon Ball  
Aide: Shas Sheehan  
Hall Aide: Sandra Gidley

## F29 Reclaiming the People's Game

18 conference representatives

Mover: Steve Bradley

Summation: John Leech MP (Co-Chair, Parliamentary Party Committee on Culture, Media and Sport)

1 Conference notes that:

2 I. Football is the highest participation male and female team sport in  
3 Britain, and a major social, cultural and economic force.

4 II. Football clubs provide an outlet for civic identity, play an important role  
5 in national prestige, and raise the international profile of many regional  
6 cities.

7 III. The English Premier League is a major UK export, and the world's  
8 richest league.

9 IV. Football also assists in the delivery of many public sector and  
10 community projects on health, education, community safety and social  
11 cohesion.

12 Conference is concerned that:

13 A. Winning has become the primary motive in the sport – leading to  
14 financial risk taking, high debt levels and almost a hundred instances  
15 of club bankruptcy since 1992.

16 B. The 'Football Creditors Rule' dictates that when a football club enters  
17 administration, any debts owed within football take precedence over  
18 all other creditors, including HMRC.

19 C. British football has experienced an influx of overseas investment  
20 unjustified on purely financial grounds, and some of these owners have  
21 shown a disregard for the heritage of the clubs they have bought.

22 D. A significant proportion of the population has been priced out of  
23 regularly attending top-level football matches in England.

24 E. Power within British football has shifted from the national football  
25 associations towards the biggest clubs under their jurisdiction.



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- 26 F. The principle of elite clubs redistributing 5% of their income to lower  
27 levels of the game as 'solidarity payments' was accepted when the  
28 Premier League was established in 1992, but has become eroded  
29 over time.
- 28 G. There have been few non-white football managers within professional  
29 football, women are almost entirely absent from club boardrooms, and  
30 homophobia remains a problem throughout the sport.
- 31 Conference further notes that:
- 32 i) Germany's football rules require all professional clubs to be majority  
33 owned by supporters, and despite having low ticket prices, German  
34 clubs are Europe's most profitable.
- 35 ii) Over twenty five football clubs in Britain have been rescued from  
36 financial collapse by their supporters in the last decade, and converted  
37 into sustainable, democratic cooperatives.
- 38 iii) The 2010 Coalition Agreement stated that "We will encourage the  
39 reform of football governance rules to support the cooperative  
40 ownership of football clubs by supporters".
- 41 iv) A CMS Select Committee into football governance was established in  
42 2011, but its recommendations have yet to be implemented.
- 43 Conference believes that:
- 44 a) As the public purse provides significant direct and indirect subsidies  
45 to football, there is a duty on government to ensure the game is well  
46 administered.
- 47 b) Football needs to thrive at all levels.
- 48 c) Professional football clubs would not survive without their supporters,  
49 and fans should therefore be entitled to input into major decisions  
50 affecting their clubs.
- 51 d) A football club's name, location, badge and home colours are  
52 important community and heritage assets, central to the club's history  
53 and identity.
- 54 Conference therefore calls for:
- 55 1. Measures to strengthen democracy, equality and representation within  
56 the governance of football including:
- 57 a) All league-level football clubs in Britain to have an independent and  
58 formally recognised Supporters' Trust to represent the views of  
59 their fans.
- 60 b) Football licensing rules to be reformed to protect the core identity

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- 61 and heritage of football clubs from change without the backing of  
62 supporters.
- 63 c) All four UK football associations to fully investigate mechanisms to  
64 protect individual stadiums, including provisions under the 2011  
65 Localism Act, and publish their findings.
- 66 d) All senior clubs to be required to achieve football's 'Equality  
67 Standard'; the standard should be revised to ensure that racism,  
68 sexism, homophobia and sectarianism are treated equally.
- 69 e) Secure, long-term funding to be provided for key stakeholder  
70 groups that are promoting representation, democracy, equality and  
71 diversity within football; in return, such groups should commit to  
72 robust governance and performance agreements.
- 73 f) An equality and diversity programme for schools to be funded and  
74 introduced by the sport, using the power of the game to promote  
75 greater tolerance and respect.
- 76 g) A strong, mandatory commitment for all league-level clubs to play  
77 an active role within their local communities, with funding available  
78 to enable this.
- 79 h) Homophobic chanting to be made a criminal offence, on a par  
80 with racist chanting.

### 81 2. Measures to improve football administration, including:

- 82 a) Greater clarity and robustness in the rules regarding what  
83 constitutes a 'fit and proper person' to serve as a director or  
84 owner of a football club.
- 85 b) All stewards working at football games in the UK to have full  
86 Security Industry Accreditation, including training on equality and  
87 diversity issues.
- 88 c) Training on diversity and equality issues to be mandatory for all  
89 professional football players in Britain.
- 90 d) Clubs to face greater responsibility for the on-pitch behaviour of  
91 their players.

### 92 3. Measures to reform football finances including:

- 93 a) Abolition of the Football Creditors' Rule.
- 94 b) All clubs to be required to provide complete transparency on their  
95 ownership.
- 96 c) The introduction of 'Financial Fair Play' rules for all league clubs  
97 across Britain, with suitable penalties.
- 98 d) Ten percent of all tickets for matches at English Premier League,

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- 99 English Football League and Scottish Premier League level to be  
100 made available at an 'affordable' price.  
101 e) Annual publication by all professional clubs of how much they  
102 spend on player agents.  
103 f) Annual publication by every UK police of the amount it bills  
104 individual football clubs for the policing of their games.  
105 g. A five percent tithe on English and Scottish Premier League TV  
106 revenues to fund the strengthening of the game's grass roots and  
107 lower leagues, and to ensure greater democracy and equality  
115 within the game.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 6th; see page 6 for further information.*

### 09.50 Policy motion

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)  
Aide: Jenni Lang  
Hall Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

### **F30 A Stronger Economy and a Fairer Society (Pre-Manifesto Policy Paper)**

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Rt Hon David Laws MP (Chair of the Manifesto Group)

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference believes that:
- 2 I. Since 2010, the Liberal Democrats have worked in government to
- 3 rescue and repair Britain's shattered economy.
- 4 II. In the next Parliament, we need to move from rescue to renewal, to
- 5 think boldly and restore a sense of national optimism.
- 6 III. The task of a liberal party is above all to empower every person to
- 7 realise their own potential, no matter what their background, race,

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- 8 colour, sex or sexuality.
- 9 IV. The Liberal Democrat vision for the next five years must therefore be  
10 to focus our efforts on removing the biggest barriers that are holding  
11 people, and holding Britain, back.
- 12 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 121, *A Stronger Economy*  
13 *and A Fairer Society*, as the basis for constructing the party's manifesto for  
14 the next general election. Conference welcomes its key commitments to:
- 15 A. Finish the job on the deficit fairly and balance the books so the next  
16 generation are not burdened by huge interest payments.
- 17 B. Rewire the economy to cut out carbon, rebuild our national  
18 infrastructure, and embrace new technology, so the next  
19 generation can enjoy long-term prosperity and be protected from the  
20 threat of runaway climate change.
- 21 C. Rebalance the tax system away from work and towards unearned  
22 wealth, so the next generation can keep more of the money they earn  
23 and live in a more equal world.
- 24 D. Build the homes our country needs to stop prices spiralling out of  
25 reach, so the next generation have the chance to bring up a family in a  
26 home of their own.
- 27 E. Return power from the stifling grip of Whitehall to the citizens and  
28 communities of our country, so the next generation have the power to  
29 shape the society in which they live.
- 28 F. Restore confidence in Britain's immigration system with fair rules and  
29 competent administration, so the next generation can continue to live  
30 in an open, tolerant society that benefits from people and expertise  
31 from around the world.
- 32 G. Invest every penny we can in education from cradle to college –  
33 nursery, school, apprenticeships and college – so all our children get  
34 the chance to live out their full potential.
- 35 Conference in particular welcomes its proposals to:
- 36 1. Finish the job on the deficit and balance the books by:
- 37 a) Aiming to balance the structural current budget by 2017/18.  
38 b) Setting a course to reduce debt as a share of national income.  
39 c) Making deficit reduction fair by ensuring high earners and the  
40 wealthiest pay their share, including through the introduction of a  
41 banded Mansion Tax.
- 42 d) Setting new fiscal rules to balance the budget while allowing  
43 borrowing for productive investment.

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- 44 e) Increasing public spending again in line with the growth of the  
45 economy once the budget is balanced.
- 46 2. Build prosperity that lasts for everyone, founded on strong national  
47 infrastructure, a stable, competitive business environment and  
48 investment in skills, green technologies and innovation by:
- 49 a) Continuing the Regional Growth Fund to back growing  
50 businesses, and enhancing the Green Investment Bank.
- 51 b) Continuing to invest in High Speed Rail, electrify main lines and re-  
52 open local stations to support people back onto our railways.
- 53 c) Introducing a legally-binding decarbonisation target and an  
54 indicative renewables target to green our electricity, and action to  
55 boost renewable heating.
- 56 d) Investing to make the UK a world leader in low carbon cars,  
57 energy efficiency and hi-tech manufacturing.
- 58 e) Developing a strategic airports policy in the light of the Davies  
59 review, while remaining opposed to any expansion of Heathrow,  
60 Stansted, Gatwick or any new airport in the Thames Estuary, and  
61 ensuring no net increase in runways across the UK as a whole.
- 62 3. Put money into the pockets of those who need it most by:
- 63 a) Raising the personal allowance to at least £12,500, cutting your  
64 taxes by an extra £400, paid for by measures to raise the tax  
65 contribution of the wealthiest, including clamping down on tax  
66 evasion and avoidance.
- 67 b) Legislating to make the triple lock permanent, guaranteeing decent  
68 pension rises every year
- 69 c) Providing more free childcare: moving to 20 hours a week for  
70 working families from the end of paid maternity leave right through  
71 to school.
- 72 d) Keeping house prices and rents affordable by aiming to boost  
73 house building to 300,000 a year.
- 74 e) Cutting energy bills for everyone with more competition, easier  
75 switching and a national programme to insulate homes, with a  
76 Council Tax cut if you take part.
- 77 4. Create an opportunity society with world class education for all by:
- 78 a) Extending the protection to all education funding from early years  
79 through school to college.
- 80 b) Bringing about a revolution in the quality of early years education

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- 81 with qualified teachers in every nursery and an enhanced early  
82 years pupil premium.
- 83 c) Delivering a Parents' Guarantee: a core curriculum in every school  
84 and every child taught by qualified teachers.
- 85 d) Taking swift action to support and challenge weak schools and  
86 colleges.
- 87 e) Introducing a discount bus pass for under-21s so they can afford  
88 to get to college or work, partly funded by withdrawing eligibility for  
89 the Winter Fuel Payment and free TV Licence from pensioners on  
90 the higher rate of income tax.
- 91 5. Increase wellbeing and enable people to live fulfilled lives, by:
- 92 a) Guaranteeing the NHS budget will rise by at least inflation.  
93 b) Giving equal rights for mental health patients to get treated just as  
94 fast as people with physical health problems.  
95 c) Introducing a new £250 'Carer's Bonus' so carers can take a  
96 proper break every year.  
97 d) Encouraging fathers to be more involved by expanding shared  
98 parental leave with a 'use-it-or-lose-it' month for fathers.  
99 e) Massively expanding accessible green space, completing the  
100 coastal path and improving the Right to Roam.  
101 f) Making more sustainable use of resources and reducing waste,  
102 including through committing to ending the use of landfill in a  
103 generation.
- 104 6. Build strong communities with opportunity for all, through ensuring our  
105 laws are upheld firmly and fairly by:
- 106 a) Establishing a National Institute of Crime Prevention to cut crime  
107 with better policing.  
108 b) Cutting crime with specialist 'drug courts' that get addicts back on  
109 the straight and narrow.  
110 c) Reforming prisons to focus on turning offenders away from a life of  
111 crime.  
112 d) Bringing back full border checks so we know who's coming in and  
113 leaving the UK.  
114 e) Doubling enforcement of minimum wage laws to tackle illegal  
115 working and human trafficking.
- 116 7. Transfer power away from Westminster and Whitehall and return it to  
117 people, restraining the power of the state to snoop into everyday life

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- 118 and build up citizens and communities to take control over their own  
119 destinies by:
- 120 a) Protecting privacy through updating data laws for the internet age  
121 with a Digital Bill of Rights.
  - 122 b) Giving more powers to cities, counties and councils on the  
123 economy and local services.
  - 124 c) Getting big money out of politics with a £10,000 cap on donations  
125 and reform of party political funding.
  - 126 d) Promoting a new transfer of powers to Scotland, Wales and  
127 Northern Ireland.
  - 128 e) Retaining the Barnett Formula as the basis for future spending  
129 allocations for Scotland and Northern Ireland, as the basis for  
130 future spending allocations, while recognising the findings of the  
131 Holtham Commission that the current formula underfunds Wales;  
132 we will address the imbalance by immediately entrenching a  
133 Barnett floor set at a level which reflects the need for Wales to be  
134 funded fairly, and seek over a Parliament to increase the block  
135 grant to an equitable level.
  - 136 f) Delivering better democracy with votes at sixteen, electoral reform  
137 and an elected House of Lords.
- 138 8. Meet the challenges of a globalised, interdependent world by:
- 139 a) Legislating to guarantee the UK continues to meet the 0.7% of  
140 GNI target for development aid.
  - 141 b) Extending the requirement for country-by-country reporting from  
142 banks and extractive industries to all UK listed companies.
  - 143 c) Working to ensure the UK plays a full part in Europe, and holding  
144 an In/Out referendum when there is next any treaty change  
145 involving a material transfer of sovereignty from the UK to the EU.
  - 146 d) Working to secure binding global agreement on cutting  
147 greenhouse gas emissions, and a commitment within the EU to a  
148 50% reduction by 2030.
  - 149 e) Leading global nuclear disarmament by reducing our stockpile of  
150 nuclear missiles.

*Applicability: Federal, except 3 c) (lines 69–71), 4 a)–d) (lines 78–86), 5 a) and b) (lines 92–94), 5 e)–f) (lines 99–103), 7 b) (lines 122–123) and aspects of 4 e) (lines 87–90) which are England only, and 6 a)–c) (lines 106–111) which are England and Wales.*

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*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

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*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 6th October; see page 6 for further information.*

### 12.20 Speech

Chair: Gareth Epps  
Aide: Justine McGuinness  
Hall Aide: Paul Tilsley

#### **F31 Norman Lamb MP, Minister of State for Care and Support**

@normanlamb #LDconf



### 12.50 Lunch break

### 14.20 Speech

Chair: Caroline Pidgeon AM  
Aide: Baroness Brinton (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)  
Hall Aide: David Rendel

#### **F32 Rt Hon Edward Davey MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change**

@EdwardDaveyMP #LDconf



### 14.40 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee)  
Aide: Dr Evan Harris  
Hall Aide: Justine McGuinness



# Tuesday 7th October

## F33 *Age Ready Britain* (Ageing Society Policy Paper)

16 conference representatives

Mover: Baroness Tyler

Summation: Paul Burstow MP (Chair of the Policy Working Group)

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 I. We are living longer, and how societies adapt to being 'older' is one of  
3 the defining challenges of the 21st Century.
- 4 II. Globally societies are having to adapt to the longer lifespans human  
5 ingenuity have made possible; by the end of the century practically  
6 every nation on earth will have made the journey.
- 7 III. Liberal Democrats take an optimistic view of ageing and the  
8 opportunities it presents.

9 Conference further notes that in government Liberal Democrats have been  
10 responsible for:

- 11 A. Major reforms in adult social care and pensions.
- 12 B. Breaking the deadlock on care finances by implementing the Dilnot  
13 Commission cap on catastrophic care costs.
- 14 C. Overhauling pensions to provide a flat-rate basic state pension, auto-  
15 enrolment and fairer access to pension savings.

16 Conference resolves to ensure that a holistic approach is taken that  
17 recognises ageing is about all of us, our future selves and how we want  
18 society to adapt to reflect the profound change that longer lives represent.

19 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 122, *Age Ready Britain*, and  
20 its policy proposals based on the key principles set out below.

- 21 1. Promoting wellbeing is central to creating resilient, thriving and  
22 sustainable communities and identifying and tackling the causes of  
23 intra-generational inequalities; in particular conference welcomes  
24 proposals for:
  - 25 a) Making wellbeing a specific goal of government in general and the  
26 NHS and education in particular.
  - 27 b) Promoting age-friendly communities.
  - 28 c) An evidence based national wellness programme with Health  
29 and Wellbeing Boards leading local partnership work to develop  
28 wellness services.
  - 29 d) Local action to identify and address social isolation and loneliness.

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- 30 2. The economics of ageing requires an understanding of the income,  
31 wealth, health status, educational attainment, gender, ethnic and  
32 geographical inequalities within each generation that are likely to  
33 determine how well we age; in particular conference welcomes  
34 proposals for:
- 35 a) Recognising care services as a key part of our economic  
36 infrastructure.
- 37 b) Reinventing retirement as a ‘process’ not an ‘event’.
- 38 c) The introduction of mid-life career reviews.
- 39 d) The Office for Budget Responsibility to report annually to  
40 Parliament on intergenerational equity.
- 41 e) The Treasury to review the impact of longevity risk on the  
42 functioning of financial markets including a cost-benefit analysis of  
43 longevity bonds.
- 44 3. Valuing Carers. Liberal Democrats believe we need to see a  
45 shift in how families are supported to balance growing eldercare  
46 responsibilities with busy working lives; in particular conference  
47 welcomes proposals for:
- 48 a) A £250 ‘Carers Bonus’ paid annually towards extra costs such as  
49 taking a break by arranging for respite care; we would set this at  
50 £125, aiming to double it to £250 by 2020.
- 51 b) Carers who need additional flexibility to care for a close family  
52 member to have up to 5 days of paid additional ‘care leave’ a year.
- 53 c) The NHS to have a legal duty to identify carers.
- 54 d) An NHS ‘carers passport’ scheme to inform carers of their rights in  
55 the NHS.
- 56 e) A carer’s return to work programme.
- 57 f) Every government department to model good practice in support  
58 for carers.
- 59 4. Pensions reforms will boost savings and lift millions of people out of  
60 inadequate retirement incomes; in particular conference welcomes  
61 proposals for:
- 62 a) The ‘triple lock’ indexation of the state pension to be made law.
- 63 b) The principle of auto-enrolment to be extended by increasing the  
64 contribution made towards a pension every time an employee  
65 receives a pay rise.
- 66 c) A ‘pot-follows-member’ policy so that small pension pots are no  
67 longer left ‘stranded’ when people change job.

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- 68 d) People to have access to good quality independent face-to-face  
69 guidance including a health and wealth 'resilience score'.  
70 e) Withdrawal of Winter Fuel Payments and Free TV Licences for  
71 higher rate taxpayers.
- 72 5. Housing and the environment. Accessible, warm, decent housing  
73 enables people to remain living well and independently. The physical  
74 and social environment around where we live impacts on how we live  
75 and our sense of identity; in particular conference welcomes proposals  
76 for:
- 77 a) Strengthening the Housing Strategy for England to meet the needs  
78 of an ageing population.  
79 b) Local authorities to pilot ways of delivery low or no cost help with  
80 right-sizing moves.  
81 c) Public health considerations to be integrated in planning policies to  
82 ensure that the built environment supports the goals of making our  
83 towns and cities age friendly.  
84 d) National Planning Practice Guidance and Local Plan guidance to  
85 make clear the benefits of safe and attractive streets and open  
86 spaces.
- 87 6. Health and Care is co-ordinated around the individual to ensure that  
88 people receive the right care at the right time in the right place; in  
89 particular conference welcomes proposals for:
- 90 a) The NHS to match the best of Europe on dementia diagnosis rates  
91 and care.  
92 b) The UK to become the global leader in dementia research,  
93 doubling the research spend to £132 million by 2020.  
94 c) Free end of life social care for those placed on their local end of life  
95 register.  
96 d) All patients in receipt of NHS care to be issued with a 'care  
97 footprint' to raise awareness of the cost of care and empower  
98 people.  
99 e) General Practice Federations and Networks to be supported to  
100 scale up.
- 101 7. Making Britain Age Ready. There is no single action or policy that  
102 will prepare the UK for an ageing society – it requires a co-ordinated  
103 approach across many areas of public policy to create an age-friendly  
104 nation; in particular conference welcomes proposals for:

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- 105 a) A Cabinet Committee on wellbeing and ageing to be established  
106 and chaired by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury.  
107 b) A Minister for Ageing.  
108 c) A statutory independent Older People's Commissioner.  
109 d) Realising the potential of Health and Wellbeing Boards as the  
110 engine of increased integration of public services by strengthening  
111 their capabilities and capacity.

*Applicability: England only, except 2 d) and e) (lines 39–43), 3 a) and b) (lines 48–52), 4 (lines 59–71) and 7 a) and b) (lines 105–107) which are Federal.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*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 page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Monday 6th October; see page 6 for further information.*

### 16.10 Speech

Chair: James Gurling  
Aide: Jenni Lang  
Hall Aide: Pauline Pearce

**F34 Tim Farron MP,  
President of the Liberal Democrats**

@timfarron #LDconf



### 16.30 Policy motions

Chair: Gareth Epps  
Aide: Liz Lynne  
Hall Aide: Qassim Afzal

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### **F35 Emergency motions and/or topical issue discussion**

*This slot has been reserved for an emergency motion or motions, or discussion of a topical issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 8. Motions selected for debate and/or for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.*

*Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 7 minutes; summation 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 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 page 7.*

18.00 Close of session

# Wednesday 8th October

09.00 Party business

Chair: Ruth Polling  
Aide: David Rendel  
Hall Aide: Qassim Afzal

## **F36 Report of the Diversity Engagement Group**

Mover: Lord Dholakia (Chair, Diversity Engagement Group)

*The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 17.00 on Tuesday 7th October. See page 8 for further information.*

## **F37 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance**

Mover: Ros Gordon (Chair of Liberal Democrat Women)

*The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 17.00 on Tuesday 7th October. See page 8 for further information.*

## **F38 Report of the Federal Executive**

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

*The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 17.00 on Tuesday 7th October. See page 8 for further information.*

## **F39 Report of the Federal Finance and Administration Committee**

Mover: Peter Dunphy (Chair, Federal Finance and Administration Committee)

*The deadline for questions to this report is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; questions selected will be printed in Conference Extra. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted up until 17.00 on Tuesday 7th October. See page 8 for further information.*

# Wednesday 8th October

## F40 Membership Subscription and Federal Levy

Mover: Peter Dunphy (Chair, Federal Finance and Administration Committee)

Summation: To be announced

- 1 Conference notes that:
  - 2 a) The Federal Executive is proposing that there be no change to the  
3 Minimum, Concessionary, or Liberal Youth subscription rates, and no  
4 change to the Federal Levy.
  - 5 b) The Federal Executive is proposing that the recommended rate should  
6 rise from £67 to £70.
  - 7 c) The proposed minimum rate, together with our concessionary rate of  
8 £6 for those receiving or entitled to receive state benefits, maintains  
9 our position of offering access to the widest possible proportion of  
10 society.
- 11 Conference resolves that for the year 2015:
  - 12 1. The recommended subscription rate shall be £70.
  - 13 2. The minimum subscription rate shall be £12.
  - 14 3. The concessionary subscription rate for those in receipt of, or entitled  
15 to, state benefits other than child benefit or state pension shall be £6.
  - 16 4. Those paying their subscription through Liberal Youth shall pay a  
17 minimum of £6 or, where a new member joins, a special introductory  
18 rate of £1.
  - 19 5. Nothing in this motion prevents a State Party from setting a  
20 recommended rate or rates of subscription by its internal procedures  
21 which is higher than that agreed by the Federal Conference, or from  
22 introducing additional concessionary rates.
- 23 Conference further resolves that for the year 2015 the Federal Levy on  
24 membership subscriptions shall be 44%.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover of motion: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate, see 'speaking at conference' on page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

# Wednesday 8th October

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Tuesday 7th October, see page 6 for further information.*

## 09.45 Policy motion

Chair: Paul Tilsley

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

Hall Aide: Dr Evan Harris

### **F41 Emergency motions and/or topical issue discussion**

*This slot has been reserved for an emergency motion or motions, or discussion of a topical issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 8. Motions selected for debate and/or for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.*

*Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 7 minutes; summation 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 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 page 7.*

## 10.30 Policy motion

Chair: Liz Lynne

Aide: James Gurling

Hall Aide: Shas Sheehan

### **F42 Rebanking the UK**

*28 conference representatives*

Mover: Ian Swales MP (Co-Chair, Parliamentary Party Committee on the Treasury)

Summation: David Boyle

- 1 Conference welcomes the progress made by the coalition to make the
- 2 big banks safer and to increase competition between them, including
- 3 measures to divide investment and domestic operations and to speed the
- 4 switching of accounts.
- 5 Conference notes that:
  - 6 a) The UK's competitors and trading partners have powerful and diverse



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- 7 local banking systems that support small-scale enterprise, which the  
8 UK still lacks.
- 9 b) Research shows that co-operative and savings banks reduce the drain  
10 of capital from urban centres and foster regional equality because of  
11 their ability to lend to SMEs.
- 12 c) The big banks no longer want to fulfil the role of lending to small  
13 business or manufacturing directly – and are less and less willing to  
14 provide them with banking services.
- 15 d) Increasing competition between the big banks, as proposed by Ed  
16 Miliband, will not in itself increase the diversity of the UK banking  
17 system.
- 18 Conference believes that the lack of this lending infrastructure puts  
19 our economy at a disadvantage, and makes our cities and regions too  
20 dependent on London.
- 21 Conference therefore calls for:
- 22 1. A duty on banking regulators to promote a diverse banking system  
23 in the UK, and a new market in alternative sources of finance for  
24 enterprise.
  - 25 2. A new, diverse local banking system, including community banks  
26 and community development finance institutions (CDFIs), funded by  
27 the big banks – which will pay for the infrastructure to lend in places  
28 and sectors where they are unable to lend themselves, using their  
29 geographical lending data to calculate how much they pay each year.
  - 30 3. A £100m community finance loan facility via the British Business Bank,  
31 to be lent on at low cost by credit unions and CDFIs to SMEs, social  
32 enterprises and individual consumers denied access to mainstream  
33 credit and finance services.
  - 34 4. An off-the-peg basic regulatory and IT package to encourage new  
35 community banks, and a legal structure for co-operative banks, as  
36 there are in most European countries (the UK's Co-operative Bank was  
37 owned by a mutual but was not itself mutual).
  - 38 5. A simple system of resolution to allow small banks to collapse safely if  
they take wrong decisions, as they have in the USA.
  6. An urgent national variation to the Basel lending regulations so that  
SME lending need not cost banks more than other lending.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any*

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*amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Tuesday 7th October; see page 6 for further information.*

### 11.30 Question and answer session

Chair: To be announced

Aide: Gareth Epps

Hall Aide: James Gurling

### F43 Environment

*Conference representatives may put questions on the subject of the environment to a panel including party spokespeople and outside experts. Concise questions (maximum 25 words) may be submitted via the website until 17.00 on Thursday 2nd October or to the Speakers' Table by 18.00 on Tuesday 7th October. The chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 8.*

*Panellists will include:*

- *Rt Hon Edward Davey MP, Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change.*
- *Baroness Parminter, Lords Co-Chair of the Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party on Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.*

### 12.15 Policy motion

Chair: Baroness Barker

Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Conference Committee)

Hall Aide: David Rendel

### F44 Protecting Private Tenants

*18 conference representatives*

Mover: Thomas Nicholls

Summation: Tessa Munt MP

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1 Conference notes that:

2 A. 1.3 million households, with 9 million residents in total, rent their  
3 homes from private landlords in the UK.

4 B. Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 allows landlords to evict tenants  
5 at two months' notice without having to give a reason, provided the  
6 tenant is outside the initial secure period of the tenancy.

7 Conference regrets that:

8 i) One in three privately rented properties in the UK does not meet the  
9 Government's Decent Homes Standard .

10 ii) Over 324,000 private tenants per year have been evicted in the last  
11 five years after complaining to their landlord or local authority about a  
12 problem in their homes.

13 iii) One in eight tenants has not asked for repairs to be carried out for fear  
14 of retaliatory eviction.

15 iv) Current housing market conditions allow landlords to evict tenants  
16 in the knowledge that they will generally be able to find a new tenant  
17 quickly and easily, allowing some landlords to evict tenants rather than  
18 carrying out necessary repairs.

19 Conference believes that:

20 a) Nobody should be forced to live in poor conditions due to their  
21 landlord's failure to deal with problems in the property, nor should they  
22 be reluctant to report problems due to the fear of being evicted.

23 b) There are many good landlords who respond appropriately when  
24 problems are reported by tenants, and this motion does not seek to  
25 infringe their rights in any way.

26 Conference welcomes the Tenancies (Reform) Bill tabled by Sarah Teather  
27 MP in the House of Commons on 2nd July 2014 and co-sponsored by  
28 Tessa Munt MP, Tim Farron MP and Andrew Stunell MP which aims to  
29 give tenants legal protection against retaliatory evictions, and encourages  
30 Liberal Democrats MPs to support it.

31 Conference further welcomes the excellent campaigning work carried out  
32 by Shelter to bring this issue to national attention through its 'Nine Million  
33 Renters' campaign.

32 Conference calls for the following legal protections for private tenants:

33 1. Tenants who report problems with their home to their landlord and

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- 34 are subsequently served a Section 21 Notice should have the right to  
35 appeal.
- 36 2. If an Improvement Notice is served or Emergency Remedial Action  
37 taken by the local authority the landlord should not be able to serve a  
38 Section 21 Notice for six months.
- 39 3. A landlord should not be able to serve a Section 21 Notice within  
40 six months of a Hazard Awareness Notice being issued by the local  
41 authority.
- 42 4. The use of Rent Repayment Orders should be extended to allow  
43 tenants to get their rent refunded where a property is found to contain  
44 serious risks to health and safety. This provision should apply to  
45 current tenants and those who have left the property.

*Applicability: England only.*

*Mover: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 7.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 23rd September; see page 9. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Conference Extra.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00, Tuesday 7th October; see page 6 for further information.*

## 12.45 Party business

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

## F45 Party Awards

## 13.00 Speech

**F46 Speech by the Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP,  
Leader of the Liberal Democrats and the Deputy  
Prime Minister**



@Nick\_Clegg #LDconf

## 14.00 Close of conference

# 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.*

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## **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 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.

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- 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 any 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) 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,

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except for questions to the reports of the Parliamentary 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



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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 organise the debates on the motions in the order chosen by conference in the ballots.

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## **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, uncontentious.

### **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.

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## **8.2 Withdrawal of motions and amendments**

Once the Committee has included 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

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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

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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

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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

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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 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	Peter Dunphy
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 strategy, campaigning, organisation and staffing. The Campaigns and Communications Committee and FFAC 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 15 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 Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. It is responsible to the FE, but also reports directly to Federal Conference.

The FFAC has 14 voting members: the Chair (currently Peter Dunphy), 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, including 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 venues, registration rates and other 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 – see page 2 for the members of the FCC.





Autumn Conference Agenda  
Glasgow 4th–8th October 2014