

Conference Extra

Autumn Conference

17th–20th September 2016 Brighton



Updates to the *Agenda* and *Directory*, information from the Conference Committee, amendments, emergency motions and questions to reports. Please read in conjunction with the *Agenda* and *Directory*.

Please keep hold of your copy of *Conference Extra* throughout conference, and make sure you pick up a copy of *Conference Daily* from the literature collection points in the Brighton Centre each morning – it will be vital to your understanding of the day's business.

Conference Extra and other conference publications, in PDF and plain text formats, are available online



www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers
or ask at the Information Desk in the Brighton Centre.

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'A vision for a Britain that is open, tolerant and united'

The Federal Executive



Sal Brinton,
President (Chair)



Tim Farron MP,
Leader



Steve Jarvis,
English Party
Chair



Sheila Thomson,
Scottish Party
Convener



Rodney Berman,
Welsh Party Chair



Neil Fawcett,
Vice Chair



Alistair
Carmichael MP,
MP Rep



Greg Mulholland
MP, MP Rep



Lindsay
Northover, Peer
Rep



Catherine
Bearder,
MEP Rep



Chris White,
Councillor Rep



Kath Pinnock,
Councillor Rep



Antony Hook,
English Party Rep



Dan Farthing-
Sykes, Scottish
Party Rep



Christine
Humphreys,
Welsh Party Rep



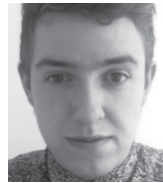
James Gurling,
CCC Chair



Dawn Barnes



Ramesh Dewan



Josh Dixon



Sue Doughty



Jonathan Fryer



Evan Harris



Keith House



Caron Lindsay



Gordon Lishman



Pauline Pearce



Candy Piercy



Alice Thomas



Martin Tod

Non-Voting: Tom Brake MP (Chief Whip, Commons)
Mike German (Federal Treasurer)
Peter Dunphy (Chair, FFAC)

Tim Gordon (Federal Chief Executive)
Al Ghaff (Staff Rep)

FE helpdesk

The FE helpdesk is on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre near the Information Desk. Members of the Federal Executive will be available to have strategic conversations with members at the following times:

Saturday	17th Sept.	14.00–16.00
Sunday	18th Sept.	10.30–12.30 and 14.00–16.00
Monday	19th Sept.	10.30–12.30 and 14.00–16.00
Tuesday	20th Sept.	10.30–12.30

The Federal Conference Committee



Andrew Wiseman,
Chair
(Directly Elected)



Zoë O'Connell,
Vice Chair
(Directly Elected)



Geoff Payne,
Vice Chair
(English rep)



Baroness
Sal Brinton
(Party President)



James Gurling
(FE rep)



Lindsay Northover
(FE rep)



Jeremy Hargreaves
(FPC rep)



Linda Jack
(FPC rep)



Jenni Lang
(Scottish rep)



Jon Ball
(Directly Elected)



Cara Jenkinson
(Directly Elected)



Liz Lynne
(Directly Elected)



Chris Maines
(Directly Elected)



Justine
McGuinness
(Directly Elected)



Jo Otten
(Directly Elected)



Pauline Pearce
(Directly Elected)



Mary Reid
(Directly Elected)



Shas Sheehan
(Directly Elected)



Paul Tilsley
(Directly Elected)



Tom Brake MP
(Chief Whip,
ex-officio)



Mike Ross
(Chief Steward,
co-opted)

Non-Voting: Tim Gordon (Federal Chief Executive)

FCC helpdesk

Members of the FCC will be available to give advice at the Information Desk at the following times:

Saturday	17th Sept.	10.30–12.30
Sunday	18th Sept.	10.30–12.30
Monday	19th Sept.	10.30–12.30

Spokespeople Q&A sessions

There will be a series of Q&A sessions during conference, where you can ask questions of our Spokespeople on the issues relating to their responsibilities.

All sessions will take place in Meeting Room 1 in the Brighton Centre. Hearing loop provided.

Sessions, apart from Party Affairs, are open to all, but Party members will be given priority.

Saturday 17th	13.00–14.00	FCO, DfID & Defence with Tom Brake, Judith Jolly & Lindsay Northover.
Saturday 17th	15.00–16.00	Energy & Climate Change, DEFRA with Kate Parminter & Lynne Featherstone.
Saturday 17th	16.30–17.30	Welfare with Celia Thomas.
Sunday 18th	11.30–12.30	Party Affairs with Tim Gordon, Federal Chief Executive & Baroness Brinton, Party President. Members are invited to ask questions on internal party matters. (Party members only).
Sunday 18th	13.00–14.00	Business & Treasury with Susan Kramer & Lorely Burt.
Sunday 18th	15.00–16.00	Health with Norman Lamb & Joan Walmsley.
Sunday 18th	16.30–17.30	Home Office, Justice & Equalities with Alistair Carmichael, Meral Hussein-Ece, Jonathan Marks & Brian Paddick.
Monday 19th	13.00–14.00	Education with John Pugh, Kirsty Williams & Mike Storey
Monday 19th	15.00–16.00	Housing & DCLG with Olly Grender & John Shipley.
Monday 19th	16.30–17.30	Brexit with Nick Clegg, Tom Brake, William Wallace & Sarah Ludford.

The Federal Policy Committee



Tim Farron MP,
Chair
(Party Leader)



Duncan Brack,
Vice Chair
(Directly Elected)



Baroness Julie
Smith, Vice Chair
(Directly Elected)



Norman Lamb MP,
Vice Chair
(Federal MP rep)



Baroness
Sal Brinton
(Party President)



John Pugh MP
(English MP rep)



Alistair
Carmichael MP
(Scottish MP rep)



Mark Williams MP
(Welsh MP rep)



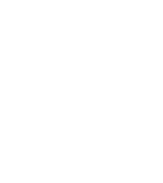
Catherine
Bearder MEP
(MEP rep)



Lord Jonathan
Marks (Peer rep)



Geoff Payne
(English rep)



Vacancy
(Scottish rep)



Peter Price
(Welsh rep)



Lucy Care
(Councillor rep)



Keith House
(Councillor rep)



Paul Tilsley
(Councillor rep)



Kelly-Marie
Blundell (Directly
Elected)



Belinda Brooks-
Gordon (Directly
Elected)



Phil Bennion
(Directly Elected)



Baroness Sharon
Bowles (Directly
Elected)



Prateek Buch
(Directly Elected)



Jeremy
Hargreaves
(Directly Elected)



Dr Evan Harris
(Directly Elected)



Antony Hook
(Directly Elected)



Linda Jack
(Directly Elected)



Baroness Sarah
Ludford (Directly
Elected)



Dr Mark Pack
(Directly Elected)



Rebecca Taylor
(Directly Elected)



Dr Jenny Woods
(Directly Elected)



Andrew Wiseman
(FCC Chair,
Co-opted)

Information update

Auditorium information – disabled access

Wheelchair access to the stage

Please note that wheelchair access to the stage at this conference will be via a wheelchair ramp located behind the drape on the right side of the stage (behind the Stewards' table).

Postal collection

Royal Mail Group



There will be a postal collection from the Royal Mail Group stand, stand 1, on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre.

The last collection will be:

Saturday	17th September	13.00
Sunday	18th September	No collection
Monday	19th September	18.00
Tuesday	20th September	12.00

Gender-neutral toilets

The Brighton Centre will have designated gender-neutral toilets during our conference which will be signposted accordingly.

We are pleased to announce that in the future they are going more permanent with this facility and in future years there will be two additional toilets that are Gender Neutral. One in the East Bar and one in the West Bar.

Spokesperson Q&As

The following Q&A session is additional to the sessions listed in the Directory:

Party Affairs, on Sunday 18th 11.30–12.30, with Tim Gordon, Federal Chief Executive, and Baroness Brinton, Party President. (**Party members only**). Members are invited to ask questions on internal party matters.

Conference tours

*Are you a first timer?
Have you not attended conference in a while?
Do you have questions about the Party?
Do you have a famed Lib Dem you've been waiting to meet?*

If you've answered yes to any of the above, then come along to a conference tour!

Our tour guides are Lib Dem experts who are simply waiting to get tested on their knowledge. Questions are not limited to conference!

Tours are also a great way of meeting people and having a good time, so pick one and we'll see you there.

Meeting point: Information Desk

Saturday 12.30–13.15 tour guide Brian Paddick

Saturday 17.00–17.45 tour guide John Pugh

Sunday 14.15–15.00 tour guide Stephen Lloyd

Monday 11.30–12.15 tour guide Susan Kramer

Monday 15.15–16.00 Tour guide Tom Brake

Tuesday 10.30–11.15 tour guide Lorely Burt



Spring conference 2017

Visit Stand 8 to book your accommodation for the 2017 spring conference in York.

Visit York
visityork.org

Exhibition and sponsors update

Directory of exhibitors

The following is an amendment to the listing in the Directory:



Prater Raines

Making Liberal Democrat campaigns succeed online for 15 years. We'll help you use your website, social media and emails to WIN. Real support, fair pricing and huge range of features.

www.prateraines.co.uk

CZ2

The following is additional to the listings in the Directory:



Pokito

Britain throws away 2.5 billion paper cups every year and we've developed a thoroughly British alternative. We'd love to show you our 'Pokito': an innovative reusable cup that's ultra-portable, versatile and eco-friendly.

Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th only.

Stand 29 on the ground floor of the Brighton Centre.

Conference sponsors



Benenden

Benenden is a mutual community producing a range of products that share the same powerful ethos. Our vision is to become the UK's leading healthcare and wellbeing mutual. To find out more go to: www.benenden.co.uk

Bloomberg Tradebook



Bloomberg Tradebook is a leading agency broker and multi-asset execution technology platform that partners with both the buy side and sell side to provide access to high-quality liquidity, market insight and customized solutions based on innovative technologies, adding value throughout the investment cycle. We offer trading solutions for equities, futures, options, and foreign exchange (FX) so that clients can actively manage complex trading strategies across more than 100 global exchanges.



British Gas

British Gas is Britain's leading energy supplier, and serves around 11 million homes in Britain as well as providing energy to around half a million British businesses. Find out more at www.britishgas.co.uk



Builders Merchants' Federation

The Builders Merchants' Federation is the voice of builders, plumbers & timber merchants who deliver building materials, home improvement products and renewable energy systems. Learn more by going to www.bmf.org.uk



FM Outsource

FM Outsource specialises in creating bespoke customer experience solutions that are omnichannel, multi-language and available 24/7/365. They operate on an industry leading cost-per-contact model that reduces costs and maximises quality. Find out more at www.fmoutsource.com



Gleeds

Gleeds is a leading global property and construction consultancy. Independent since 1885, we are proud to deliver award-winning projects around the world.



Global

Global is one of the world's leading media and entertainment groups, home to the country's four biggest commercial radio brands, Capital, Heart, Classic FM and Smooth.



UK Music

UK Music, the umbrella organisation representing the collective interests of the UK's commercial music industry, is proud to support the 2016 Lib Dem Disco. Follow us on [@UK_Music](https://twitter.com/UK_Music) and www.ukmusic.org

Turning the tide for 2020

What will reverse the rise in child poverty?

How can social security protect vulnerable families and boost earnings?

Monday 19th September

18:15 – 19:15

Hilton, Sandringham

Chair: Emily Firth (*Education Policy Institute*)

Speakers: Caroline Pidgeon (*London Assembly*), Stephen Tall (*blogger*), Jenny Willot (*former MP*), Alison Garnham (*CPAG*)

Refreshments will be provided

CHILD
POVERTY
ACTION
GROUP



The customer experience people



www.fmoutsourcing.com

Fringe and training update

Additions and amendments to listings in the fringe guide in the Directory.

Fringe Saturday lunchtime 13.00–14.00

Faith Matters

Understanding the intersectionality between extremism and hate crimes

After Brexit, hate crimes soared for a 2 week period yet these issues do not take place in isolation. As we draw 2016 to a close, what are the core drivers of extremism and hate crimes and what are the kinds of ideologies and events which fuel these issues. External speakers and specialists to be confirmed.

Hilton, Gloucester

Fringe Sunday afternoon 16.15–17.30

Matt Forde and Tim Farron

Comedy at Conference

We are incredibly excited to announce that Matt Forde, the UK's leading political comic, will be interviewing Tim Farron MP at conference and you are invited! This is a free event with limited capacity – arrive early to avoid disappointment.

Note: doors open at 16.00.

Hilton, Clarence

Fringe Monday early evening 18.15–19.15

Brighton and Hove Liberal Democrats, Sussex Progressives, and Brighton and Hove Compass

Progressive Alliances: Panacea or Pipe Dream?

Norman Lamb joins Caroline Lucas and Peter Kyle to discuss progressive alliances. In a Q&A moderated by Frank Le Duc, the MPs will consider the viability of progressive alliances. What would a progressive alliance mean and what would it achieve?

Hilton, Buckingham

Internet EARS – Campaign, Helper & Casework Software

Demonstration of how EARS has the better campaigning and Casework Management software.

See how much faster EARS is on polling day (or adding

canvass data or marked registers). See its better canvass cards, walks, filters, cleverer mailmerge letters and how it's much easier to use than other software – for half the price.

Hilton, Surrey 1



Fringe Monday mid evening 19.45–21.00

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)

The Built Environment Reception

Join us for a high-level reception to network with RICS and CIOB professionals and engage with policy issues, from addressing the skills shortage to tackling the housing crisis. We will be joined by John Pugh MP and other leading speakers.

Hilton, Ambassador

Fringe Monday late evening 21.30–23.00

South West Liberal Democrats

Joint Regional Reception

All members of Devon & Cornwall and Western Counties regions are invited to meet colleagues at a reception in the Lancaster Suite, Hilton Hotel. Cash Bar.

Hilton, Lancaster

Fringe Tuesday lunchtime 13.00–14.00

Education Policy Institute, Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Webb Memorial Trust

Eliminating poverty and achieving security through housing, jobs and good educational opportunities

Note: change of venue.

Hilton, Clarence

Training update

Training events on Tuesday that are listed in the Directory to take place in the Library, will now take place in the Churchill Suite in the Hilton.



Watch us on [Youtube.com/LibDem](https://www.youtube.com/LibDem)

Saturday 17th September

F2 Federal Conference Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by Alisdair McGregor

Why did the online form for submission of amendments not include in the drop-down box an option to submit amendments to item F13 (Business motion: Towards a More Effective Party Governance)? Is FCC aware of any amendments that were either submitted but not accepted, or were not submitted in time, because of this?

Q2. Submitted by Alisdair McGregor

Why are the Standing Orders of the Conference not included in the Conference Agenda?

Q3. Submitted by Gordon Lishman

What has been the percentage increase in fees for organisations associated with the Party for each of the last three years for stalls and fringe meetings at Conference and what are the Committee's intentions for fee levels in future?

Q4. Submitted by Maureen Rigg

What steps have been taken to encourage venues to provide Fairtrade refreshments in their selection?

F4 Federal Finance and Administration Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by Simon Pike

What action is being taken to make the Membership Database fit for purpose, by removing the numerous errors and inconsistencies in way it operates?

Q2. Submitted by Simon McGrath

Why is the Federal levy only applied to England and who made this decision? What is the estimated cost of not applying it to Scotland and Wales in 2016?

F6 Recognition of SAOs and AOs

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendment to the motion:

- 1 *In 2. (line 29), delete 'A (above)' and insert '1 (above)'.*

F8 Safe and Free

Summation: Dr Jenny Woods

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendment to the motion:

- 1 *In A. (line 14), delete 'these'.*

There will be a separate votes on 7 (lines 97–108).

Saturday 17th September

F9 An End to Homelessness

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In 2. (lines 51–52) delete 'Increased funding for local authorities from central government to meeting their*
- 2 *homelessness duties and'.*

- 3 *In 2. (line 52), delete 'these' and insert 'homelessness'.*

- 4 *After 3. (line 62) insert:*

- 5 4. Increased funding for local authorities from central government to meeting their homelessness duties.

Amendment One

Cambridge

Mover: Dr Julian Huppert

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *After v) (line 20) insert:*

- 2 vi) Many homeless and ex-homeless people are looked after in the supported housing sector, where
- 3 the landlord provides care, support and supervision, but that there is uncertainty about the future of
- 4 funding in this area.

- 5 *After 10. (line 80) add:*

- 6 11. Long-term support for the supported housing sector, including maintaining funding rates at least in
- 7 line with inflation.

Amendment Two

Canterbury and Coastal

Mover: Andrew Palmer

Summation: James Flanagan

- 1 *After 3. (line 62), insert:*

- 2 4. Adequately resourced mental health services to support those leaving care and those who become
- 3 homeless.

F10 Tackling Corruption and Corporate Crime

Amendment One

North East Cambridgeshire and South East Cambridgeshire

Mover: Mark Inskip

Summation: Charlotte Cane

Saturday 17th September

1 *After iv) (line 35), insert:*

2 v) Proposals are being considered to reduce the amount of time the records of dissolved companies
3 are retained by Companies House, from 20 years to six, a move that could result in the loss of
4 more than two and a half million records and would be a major step back in the global fight against
5 corruption.

6 *After 5. (line 61), add:*

7 6. Companies House to be required to continue to retain records of dissolved companies for 20 years
8 as at present, and to consider ways in which information about dissolved companies could be made
9 more rather than less accessible.

F12 Adopting Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)

Note that this debate will start at 15.45.

Amendment One

Lewisham

Mover: Bobby Dean

Summation: To be announced

1 *In iii) (line 10), after 'health care savings' insert: 'and the High Court's ruling that it is responsible for its*
2 *introduction,'.*

3 *After iii) (line 12), insert:*

4 iv) That if NHS England believes that the cost is a central barrier to its introduction, then it should push
5 for access to a generic version of PrEP.

F13 Towards a More Effective Party Governance

Amendment One

East Midlands

Mover: Adam Wain

Summation: Leon Duveen

1 *After v) (line 35), insert:*

2 vi) The preamble to our Federal Constitution affirms our belief that decisions should be taken at the
3 lowest practicable level and that this principle should be applied to the internal organisation of the
4 party.

5 vii) The English Party is disproportionately large compared to its Scottish and Welsh counterparts and
6 is too focused on Westminster; as a result it is not well placed to reflect the views of members in the
7 English Regions.

8 *In 8. (line 67), delete 'three' and insert: 'Scottish and Welsh'.*

Saturday 17th September

9 *Delete 9. (lines 71–77) and insert:*

- 10 9. The English Party produce proposals to devolve its role and responsibilities to the English regions
11 which would result in the English regions becoming State Parties with a similar remit as the Scottish
12 and Welsh State parties; the proposals should, given the principles outlined above, ensure effective
13 working between States and Federal bodies, and reflect the comments of members that they want
14 consistency between bodies.

F14 Party Strategy

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendment to the motion:

1 *In line 6, after 'debate' insert: 'and agreement'.*

Sunday 18th September

F15 Combatting Racism

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

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

- 2 e) Newcomers to the UK make a positive contribution to our economy, our public services and our
3 culture.

4 *After e) (line 32), insert:*

- 5 f) Local authorities and democratically elected councillors have a strong role to play in bringing people
6 together by working with their communities to stand up to racism, create community cohesion and
7 share good practice.

Amendment One

Twickenham & Richmond

Mover: Sarah Olney

Summation: Cllr Gareth Roberts

1 *After e) (line 32), insert:*

- 2 f) We as a liberal party should stand shoulder to shoulder with France and Belgium but deplore moves
3 in France to ban Muslim women from wearing burkas and burkinis, and that people must have the
4 freedom to wear what they want.

5 *After 4. (line 43), add:*

- 6 5. Hate and prejudice should not be encouraged by any Government's policy and, therefore, people
7 should have the freedom to wear any religious dress they want and citizens of any social, cultural
8 background or orientation should not face prejudice for the clothes they decide to wear.

Sunday 18th September

F16 The Opportunity to Succeed, the Power to Change

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendment to the motion:

- 1 *In 5. (line 34), delete 'through dispersing' and insert 'working with democratically elected local*
- 2 *government to disperse'.*

F18 UK and European Collaborative Research and Erasmus

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In line 16, after 'will' insert: 'commit to'.*
- 2 *In 1. (line 18), at end, add: 'and to align with EU structures to facilitate future applications'.*
- 3 *After 4. (line 24), add:*
- 4 5. Support the capabilities of UK Universities and research institutions to attract, hire and retain
- 5 research staff from the EU and elsewhere without undue legal hindrance.

Amendment One

Lewisham

Mover: Dr Bill Town

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *In lines 12 and 13, delete: 'In light of the inequitable split in the referendum between young and old and*
- 2 *the UK's main hubs for science, technology and learning,'.*
- 3 *In 1. (line 18), at the end, add: 'and seek participation by the UK in similar research programmes in the*
- 4 *post-Brexit future'.*
- 5 *In 2. (line 21), at the end, add: 'now and in the future'.*
- 6 *Delete 4. (line 24) and insert:*
- 7 4. Ensure our continued participation in the Erasmus programme for student exchange now and in the
- 8 future.
- 9 5. Seek freedom of movement for scientists to ensure that existing and future collaborative research
- 10 projects may continue unhindered.

F20 Campaign to Save Parent Governors

Amendment One

Sheffield

Mover: Colin Ross

Summation: Andy Sagar

Sunday 18th September

1 *After ii) (line 7), insert:*

2 iii) The objective of growing Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) with the stated aim to 'improve the quality of
3 governance' meaning that the best governing bodies will take responsibility for more schools; it is
4 intended that MAT boards will increasingly use professionals to hold individual school-level heads to
5 account for educational standards and the professional management of the school usurping the role
6 of parent, community and LEA governors.

7 *After c) (line 17), insert:*

8 d) Individual school governing bodies are the employers of all school staff including the head, and are
9 accountable for all aspects of school performance; there should be no transfer of accountability to
10 MATs boards.

11 *After 2. (line 25), add:*

12 3. Liberal Democrats to resist the move to MATs and campaign for support for governing bodies,
13 including all aspects of school performance, to be provided by school to school support with the
14 Local Education Authority continuing to have a key role in brokering family of schools arrangements
15 and establishing structured support to Governing Bodies.

F23 Restoring Access to Justice

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

1 *After h) (line 39), insert:*

2 i) The increased pressure not only on these legal aid professionals, but also on agencies such as the
3 Citizens Advice Bureaux.

4 *In 1. (line 41), after 'urgent' insert: 'and comprehensive'.*

5 *In 2. (line 44), after 'Clarification' insert: 'and advertisement'.*

Amendment One

Rights Liberties Justice

Mover: Joyce Arram

Summation: Graham Colley

1 *After 19. (line 87), add:*

2 20. Revival of the 'Green Form' Legal Aid system whereby litigants in person can be given initial
3 constructive legal advice on the strengths (and weaknesses) of their cases.

F24 Federal Executive Report

Q1. Submitted by Alisdair McGregor

How does the Federal Executive intend to assure that diversity within the diversity strands identified by motion F34 (clause 2.6) is promoted?

Sunday 18th September

Q2. Submitted by Simon McGrath

How many 'key seats' where candidates for a snap election needed to be selected by a members vote (rather than being appointed) were identified in England, Scotland and Wales. What criteria were used to identify them?

Q3. Submitted by Sarah Noble

What preparations are being made to enable the selection of candidates for the European Parliament elections in 2019?

Q4. Submitted by Jonathan Hunt

Given the continuing failure of local parties in winnable seats to select BAME candidates would you prefer a Campaign for Race & Gender Balance or just one for Race Balance?

Q5. Submitted by Kevin Daws

All the Presidential and Leadership candidates promised an inquiry into racism in the Liberal Democrats. Who has been appointed to run that inquiry and what is the timescale for reporting to conference. Will you undertake to consult and involve the party's BaME members and organisations in determining the scope of the inquiry?

F25 Changes to Leadership

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In 10.1 (line 21), delete '8.4' and insert '8.5'.*
- 2 *In 10.5 (line 40), after 'Member of the', insert: 'Parliamentary Party in the'.*
- 3 *In 10.6 (line 62), delete (i) and insert (a).*
- 4 *In 10.6 (line 63), delete (ii) and insert (b).*
- 5 *In 10.6 (line 66), delete (iii) and insert (c).*
- 6 *In 10.6 (line 69), delete (iv) and insert (d).*
- 7 *In 10.6 (line 72), delete (a) and insert (i).*
- 8 *In 10.6 (line 76), delete (b) and insert (ii).*

Monday 19th September

F27 Britain in the European Union

Federal Policy Committee

Mover: Rt Hon Tom Brake MP (Foreign Affairs Spokesperson)

Summation: Baroness Ludford (Lords Europe Spokesperson)

- 1 Conference:
- 2 1. Notes that the benefits of membership of the EU which Britain has enjoyed for the last 43 years

Monday 19th September

- 3 include peace, increased trade, investment and jobs, greater security, cultural enrichment, academic
4 and scientific cooperation and stronger environmental protection.
- 5 2. Deeply regrets the outcome of the referendum on membership of the EU in which a majority voted to
6 leave, and notes the government and parliamentary attention, and significant resources, that Brexit
7 will absorb when there are so many other pressing demands.
- 8 3. Condemns the Leave campaign for the dishonest and divisive messages it delivered in the
9 referendum campaign and its failure to take responsibility for providing a coherent and practical plan
10 for exiting the EU, which has still not been produced.
- 11 4. Is deeply concerned about the increase in xenophobic and racist threats, abuse and violence against
12 both EU citizens living in the UK and British citizens of ethnic minority backgrounds that has taken
13 place since the referendum, and calls on the government and police to take decisive action to
14 protect potential victims and crack down on the perpetrators of hate crimes.
- 15 5. Further notes that the complications surrounding the positions of Scotland and Northern Ireland after
16 the referendum present a risk to the continued existence of the United Kingdom, and in the case of
17 Northern Ireland to the peace process supported by the Good Friday Agreement, and also that the
18 interests of Gibraltar have been put at risk.
- 19 6. Further regrets that Brexit will result in a loss of UK's ability to shape the future direction of the EU
20 during a period of rapid change.
- 21 7. Recognises that the priority should be to address the justifiable sense of economic grievance
22 and alienation from the establishment which came to the fore in the campaign and which had
23 domestic rather than EU drivers, and resolves to address its underlying causes through the pursuit
24 of progressive, liberal policies on the economy, regional development and migration (including via a
25 Migration Impact Fund), and the devolution of power to communities.
- 26 8. Calls for a parliamentary vote on the terms of the negotiation before Article 50 is triggered and for
27 continuing parliamentary scrutiny of negotiations on EU withdrawal, as well as on future international
28 relations and trade negotiations being led by the two newly created government departments, the
29 Department for Exiting the European Union and the Department for International Trade.
- 30 9. Resolves on the following priorities in any negotiations about Britain leaving the EU:
- 31 a) Protection of rights for EU citizens and UK citizens, so that those who have settled in UK are
32 allowed to stay and British people living in EU countries can remain.
- 33 b) Membership of the Single Market, with its 'four freedoms' of freedom of movement for workers,
34 free movement of goods, free movement of capital and freedom to provide services, so that
35 British companies can continue to trade with the EU without additional restrictions, as well as
36 retaining full 'passporting' rights in EU financial markets to preserve London's status as the
37 finance capital of Europe.
- 38 c) Protecting freedom of movement, so that British citizens retain the right to live and work
39 throughout the EU, and opportunities are maximised in particular for young people, including
40 participation in the Erasmus scheme, which is a fantastic and enriching experience for students
41 and apprentices.
- 42 d) Maintaining environmental protection, ensuring that the UK continues to benefit from the highest
43 environmental standards in the world.
- 44 e) Keeping the high level of health, safety, consumer protection, employment and equalities

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- 45 standards the UK currently meets as an EU member.
- 46 f) Ensuring effective law enforcement and judicial co-operation, including keeping the European
47 Arrest Warrant which allows the police to track down criminals more efficiently.
- 48 g) Protecting British business and jobs, including protecting the level of support provided by
49 the EU to domestic industries such as farming, tourism and creative arts, as well as regional
50 support for some deprived areas.
- 51 h) Promoting scientific cooperation and funding for research, including continuing funding for
52 existing projects, so that valuable medical, defence, security and other areas are not harmed
53 and our universities maintain their world class rankings.
- 54 i) Encouraging travel and tourism, by keeping benefits such as the European Health Insurance
55 Card, pet passports and reduced roaming charges.
- 56 10. Commits to giving the British people the final say through a referendum on whether the terms of the
57 deal agreed for the withdrawal of Britain from the EU should be accepted.
- 58 11. Believing that any deal the Government negotiates for the UK outside the EU will not be as beneficial
59 to the British people as continued EU membership, commits the Liberal Democrats to continue to
60 campaign for the UK to remain a member of the EU.

Applicability: Federal

The deadline for submission of amendments to this motion will be 17.00 on Thursday 15th September. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily. See pages 5 and 6 of the Conference Agenda.

*Amendments should be submitted to the Policy Unit using the online form at:
www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions,
or by post to Policy Unit, 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.*

Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion.

F29 Investing in the Green Economy

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In 1. (line 26), after 'transport' insert: 'energy storage'.*
- 2 *In 7. (line 61), delete 'UK Trade & Investment' and insert: 'the Department for International Trade'.*
- 3 *In 7. (line 63), delete 'stop providing' and insert: 'phase out provision of'.*
- 4 *After 7. (line 64), add:*
- 5 8. Ratify as a matter of urgency the COP 21 Paris Agreement on tackling climate change by the UK and
6 all other countries involved.

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Amendment One

Cambridge

Mover: David Grace

Summation: Catherine Smart

- 1 *In line 15, after 'support for' insert: 'and facilitation of'.*
- 2 *After 1. (line 27), insert:*
- 3 2. Reform the planning framework and associated guidance to enable local authorities to encourage
- 4 a consistent and positive approach to applications for low and zero carbon installations across the
- 5 domestic, non-domestic, public and community sphere.
- 6 *After 7. (line 64), add:*
- 8 8. Legislate to confirm the UK's continued adherence to established EU environmental legislation and
- 9 targets.

F31 Mending the Safety Net

Mover: Kelly-Marie Blundell (Vice Chair, Policy Working Group)

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In 4. d) (lines 76–77), after '£150' and '20' insert: 'per week'.*

Amendment One

48 members

Mover: Dr Kirsten Johnson

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *Delete v) (lines 20–23) and insert:*
- 2 v) Sanctions applied to benefits are fundamentally wrong and leave people destitute who are already in
- 3 poverty; the sanction system should be scrapped and replaced with an incentivised scheme.

Amendment Two

Ten members

Mover: Anthony Harris

Summation: Judith Bunting

- 1 *In 1. b) (line 36), delete 'Removing the benefit cap' and insert: 'Retaining the benefit cap at a level equal*
- 2 *to UK average household earnings, opposing any reduction in the cap and further limiting the impact of*
- 3 *the cap by excluding benefits aimed at the most vulnerable including Severe Disablement Allowance,*
- 4 *Maternity Allowance and Bereavement Allowance;'*

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Amendment Three

Calderdale

Mover: To be announced

Summation: Alisdair McGregor

- 1 *Delete lines 84–93 and insert:*
- 2 Conference believes that a Negative Income Tax is a cost-efficient and fair system of assessing benefits
- 3 to provide a basic standard of living to those in need whilst reducing overpayment of benefits to those
- 4 whose income is sufficient to not require state help.

Tuesday 20th September

F36 Committees

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *Delete Article 13.5 (lines 479–481).*
- 2 *In Article 13.6 (line 482), delete: 'also'.*

Amendment One

10 members

Mover: Sarah Noble

Summation: George Potter

- 1 *In lines 18, 155, 261, 306, 348, 410, 475, and 543, delete: 'three' and insert: 'two'.*
- 2 *In 7.4 (lines 21 and 23), delete 'triennial' and insert: 'biennial'.*
- 3 *Delete lines 96 to 98.*

Amendment Two

English Liberal Democrats

Mover: Steve Jarvis

Summation: David Hughes

- 1 *Delete 12.4 (c) (lines 437–440) and insert:*
- 2 c. In accordance with article 11.8 (a), the JCSC may instruct a State Candidates Committee to
- 3 take appropriate action or may take over its functions if it is not discharging its constitutional
- 4 responsibilities; this action shall only be taken after due consultation with the relevant State
- 5 Party and with the approval of the Federal Board.

Tuesday 20th September

F40 Future Transport

The Federal Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 In 1. (ine 43), after 'Commission', insert: '; this strategy should also incorporate new transport
- 2 infrastructure with new urban and housing developments'.

- 3 After 13. (line 71), add:

- 4 14. The Transport for London 'Baby on Board' badge scheme and, if successful, the pilot of the 'Please
- 5 offer me a seat' badge for disabled passengers, to be introduced nationally across other local
- 6 transport systems where feasible.

Amendment One

Calderdale

Mover: To be announced

Summation: Alisdair McGregor

- 1 Delete f) (lines 28–30) and insert:

- 2 f) HS2 and HS3 are essential and long-overdue structural upgrades to the railway network of the
- 3 United Kingdom; their implementation forms the essential backbone upon further development
- 4 of supporting heavy and light rail systems will be based and is essential to further investment and
- 5 revitalisation of the North of England.



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Emergency motions ballot

Two of the following motions and/or topical issue will be selected by ballot to be debated either as F26 at 09.00 on Monday 19th September or as F35 at 09.00 on Tuesday 20th September. Ballot papers will be printed with Sunday's Conference Daily and the ballot box will be open in the Auditorium between 09.00 and 12.50 on Sunday 18th September.

Emergency Motion 1: Ending the Southern Rail Dispute and Putting Passengers First

South East Region

- 1 Conference notes with concern:
 - 2 i) The introduction of an Emergency Timetable on Southern Rail on 11 July with no guarantee that
 - 3 services will be re-instated before the school term starts in September 2016.
 - 4 ii) Talks between Southern Rail and the RMT Union aimed at settling the long-running railway dispute
 - 5 broke down most recently on 5 and then 15 August.
 - 6 iii) That the 'Delay Repay' compensation claims system is cumbersome, time-consuming, and thus
 - 7 deters passengers from claiming compensation; does not work for shorter distance commuters; that
 - 8 Southern Rail does not pass on the compensation it receives from the government to passengers at
 - 9 the same rates; and that in August 2016 Southern Rail reportedly changed its terms and conditions
 - 10 to block passengers making legitimate compensation claims via new third party providers seeking to
 - 11 simplify the compensation claims process.
 - 12 iv) The Conservative government is expected to announce an increase in rail fare prices of 1.9% from
 - 13 2017 with no exceptions for those using Southern Rail services.
- 14 Conference regrets that:
 - 15 a) Southern Rail has blamed disruption solely on high levels of employee sickness although other
 - 16 contributory factors include inflexible new centralised arrangements for overtime which prevent
 - 17 staff from negotiating anything less than a full shift; serious and unaddressed driver shortages; and
 - 18 failure to address a catastrophic collapse in morale and lack of trust with frontline staff and middle
 - 19 managers.
 - 20 b) The RMT Union (and ASLEF) claims that there are safety reasons over Driver Only Operated (DOO)
 - 21 doors on trains but appear to be using 'door safety responsibilities' as a veil to guarantee jobs in the
 - 22 long-term (despite promises of no immediate job losses for conductors).
 - 23 c) The Conservative Government is using Southern as a spearhead to force through changes to
 - 24 working practices on the railway, in the knowledge that the nature of their management contract
 - 25 means the taxpayer picks up the bill for lost revenue.
 - 26 d) Conservative MPs whose constituents rely on Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) services, particularly
 - 27 those in the South East where Southern Rail operates, have collectively failed to hold their own
 - 28 Government to account, not only for its abject failure to intervene but for being complicit in
 - 29 perpetuating this completely avoidable situation.
- 30 Conference believes that passengers should be put first meaning that the dispute must be ended urgently,
- 31 normal services reinstated and substantial and fair compensation should be paid out automatically by
- 32 Southern shareholders to all season ticket holders.
- 33 Conference therefore calls on the Government immediately to:
 - 34 1. Terminate the management contract for Southern, divorce it from the rest of the contract, take

Emergency motions ballot

- 35 over the running of the Southern franchise using the government's own operating company (the
36 Department for Transport's Directly Operated Railways holding company), and leave Govia to
37 improve Thameslink and the Gatwick Express – the government should handle this until it can be
38 handed over to a mutually-owned operator, owned by the frontline staff, managers and passengers,
39 with a guarantee of investment in the rail system in the area by Network Rail.
- 40 2. Guarantee to passengers that staff will be put back on platforms and settle the dispute by agreeing
41 that drivers shut the doors whilst guaranteeing that in future there will always be a second staff
42 person on the train.
- 43 3. Commission an independent inquiry into the safety of Driver Only Operated Doors on Southern Rail
44 operated routes.
- 45 4. Re-instate the full timetable of services and guarantee that last trains will not be cancelled
- 46 5. Freeze passenger fares on all Govia-operated lines.
- 47 6. Insist that Govia's owners Go Ahead fund comprehensive compensation payments to all monthly and
48 annual season ticket holders.
- 49 7. Allow third party apps which enable passengers to claim refunds immediately.
- 50 8. Bring forward the date from 2022 when Transport for London can take over Govia's London metro
51 routes, subject to an impact assessment and guarantees that there will be no adverse impact on
52 longer-distance services.

Applicability: England.

Emergency Motion 2: Local Communities Welcoming Refugees

Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors and Campaigners

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 i) The refugee crisis over the summer including refugees from Syria but also from other countries; the
3 publication of a House of Lords report on unaccompanied migrant children in July 2016 and the
4 visit by a delegation of senior local government figures to the Calais 'jungle' migrant camp in August
5 2016.
- 6 ii) That 88,245 unaccompanied migrant children applied for asylum in 2015.
- 7 iii) That there are an estimated 10,000 missing unaccompanied migrant children in the EU.
- 8 Conference believes:
- 9 a) The UK must welcome its fair share of refugees to ease this crisis including unaccompanied refugee
10 children.
- 11 b) That Government should make additional funding available to local authorities to help with this and to
12 build capacity.
- 13 c) That refugees contribute a huge amount to local communities throughout the UK.
- 14 Conference calls for:
- 15 1. National co-ordination which is essential to share intelligence around foster care capacity across the
16 country.
- 17 2. Central government to work closely with local government to ensure councils have the funding and
18 support they need to help refugees.
- 19 3. UK and French governments to work together to ensure that unaccompanied children are reunited
20 with their families or otherwise given long-term security including access to education.

Emergency motions ballot

- 21 4. Councils to support measures such as the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme (SVPRS)
- 22 and request that Syrian refugees are encouraged to settle in their area.
- 23 5. Suitable housing to be made available to refugees in need.
- 24 6. Councils to provide a contact point for newly arrived refugees to register their skills and qualifications
- 25 and given assistance to find work.
- 26 7. Improved provision for English language teaching for those who need it.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency Motion 3: Nuclear Power at Hinkley Point

Bermondsey & Old Southwark and 21 party members

- 1 Conference notes:
 - 2 a) The decision by Electricite de France (EDF) on 28 July to invest in the construction of a new nuclear
 - 3 power station, based on the EPR design, at Hinkley Point in Somerset.
 - 4 b) The announcement by the UK government later the same day that it would delay its decision on
 - 5 whether to approve the new station until the autumn.
 - 6 c) Existing Liberal Democrat policy to accept that new nuclear power stations can play a limited role in
 - 7 electricity supply provided they can be built without public subsidy.
 - 8 d) That the coalition programme agreed between the Liberal Democrats and the Conservatives in 2010
 - 9 contained the same commitment.
 - 10 e) That in autumn 2015 the new Conservative government explicitly dropped the commitment not
 - 11 to subsidise new nuclear stations, and announced a loan guarantee to underwrite EDF's final
 - 12 investment decision.
- 13 Conference further notes:
 - 14 1. The conclusion of the National Audit Office in March 2016 that the additional cost to consumers of
 - 15 the electricity generated by the new station had risen from the £6.1 billion estimated in October 2013
 - 16 to £29.7 billion.
 - 17 2. That since the government agreed, in 2013, a fixed price of £92.50/MWh (in 2012 prices) for
 - 18 electricity generated by the new nuclear station, the costs of many renewable energy technologies,
 - 19 including in particular wind and solar PV, have fallen further and faster than almost anyone predicted,
 - 20 and now represent much better value low-carbon energy options.
 - 21 3. That no working nuclear station based on the EPR design has yet been built, and that the two such
 - 22 stations currently under construction, in France and Finland, are both years behind schedule and
 - 23 significantly over budget.
- 24 Conference believes that the construction of the new nuclear station at Hinkley Point is both entirely
- 25 dependent on public subsidy and represents very poor value for money for UK consumers, and that
- 26 therefore it should be opposed.
- 27 Conference calls for a UK energy strategy resting on investments in energy efficiency, renewable energy,
- 28 storage and interconnection with European grids, thereby providing energy security, an end to fuel poverty
- 29 and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions at the same time as creating jobs, exports and prosperity.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency motions ballot

Emergency Motion 4: Requiring Police Officers Equipped with Tasers to Wear Body-cams

Bermondsey & Old Southwark

- 1 Conference notes that the unfortunate death of Mr Dalian Atkinson in August this year appears to have
- 2 been a result of the use of a taser device, by police in Shropshire.

- 3 Conference sends our condolences to the family and friends of Mr Atkinson, and to all those affected by
- 4 the tragedy.

- 5 Conference notes that the use of tasers (conducted electrical weapons) whether by threat of use,
- 6 withdrawal from their holster, 'red dotting' (by pointing the laser sight at a targetted person), or by firing
- 7 the weapon at someone, is understandably, controversial.

- 8 Conference further notes that they may be preferable to the use of fire-arms, but are deadly, and deserve
- 9 special accommodation.

- 10 Conference therefore calls for personnel armed with tasers to wear body-cameras, to record the lead-up
- 11 to the situation requiring their:
 - 12 a) Threat;
 - 13 b) Withdrawal;
 - 14 c) Aiming (red dotting); or
 - 15 d) Discharge.

- 16 Conference believes that the use of body-cameras would:
 - 17 1. Protect victims of tasers, as well as the user of the device.
 - 18 2. Allow courts to view evidence in support of the use of the device, should the decision to use be
 - 19 challenged.
 - 20 3. Promote best use, and engender support for their appropriate use.
 - 21 4. Justify the expense incurred.

Applicability: England and Wales.

Emergency Motion 5: Young People and Grammar Schools

26 members

- 1 Conference notes with great concern:
 - 2 i) That the current Government is considering bringing back grammar schools.
 - 3 ii) That the Government has confirmed that such reforms could include allowing Free Schools to
 - 4 introduce academic selection.
 - 5 iii) The revelation that the Government will first seek to expand grammar schools by the backdoor
 - 6 through exploiting loopholes in existing legislation.
 - 7 iv) That support is being encouraged for the premature selection and separation of young people
 - 8 according to a crudely measured academic ability.

Emergency motions ballot

9 Conference believes:

- 10 a) In the potential of all our young people to develop themselves and to contribute to society and our
11 economy.
12 b) That young people have varied and complex aptitudes and abilities and develop at different rates.
13 c) That young people should be treated as individuals who can learn to socialise and respect
14 differences.

15 Conference:

- 16 1. Reiterates our opposition to the expansion of grammar schools.
17 2. Calls on the government to abandon the selection by ability and social separation of young people,
18 into different schools.
19 3. Rejects any change to free schools to enable them to select on the basis of academic ability.
20 4. Calls on the Government to respect the spirit of existing legislation on Grammar Schools and not
21 seek to use loopholes within it to create effectively new grammar schools under the pre-text of
22 expansion.
23 5. Calls on the government to do more to cater for all young people according to individual aptitudes
24 and abilities.

Applicability: England.

Topical Issue 1: Sustainability & Transformation Plans in the NHS

Steve Hitchens

Background note:

NHS England's attempts to reform our NHS through the Five Year Forward View are welcome but the top-down approach in preparing local Sustainability & Transformation Plans (STP) is regrettable.

An opportunity to make the NHS fit for the 21st century may be missed. The STP process has become focussed on short-term financial savings targets rather than longer-term sustainability which will lead to fragmented care, local rather than national health service, and widen inequalities.

Furthermore, the potential benefits of involvement of local government, the moves to devolution and greater integration of health and social care could be frittered away.

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Standing Orders

Standing orders – 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.

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.

Point of order

A suggestion to the chair of a debate that the conduct of the debate, as laid down in the standing orders, has not been followed correctly.

Policy motion

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

Policy amendment

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

Policy paper

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

Procedural motion

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

Move to next business

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

Reference back

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

Request for a count

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

Separate vote

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

Suspension of standing orders

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

Special conference

An additional meeting of the conference requisitioned by the Federal Executive, Federal Policy Committee, conference itself or 200 members in not fewer than 20 local parties, 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.

Standing Orders

Voting member

A member attending conference who has satisfied the requirements for attendance and has paid the registration fee presently in force for party members as agreed by FCC, and who is not a day visitor [or observer].

Standing orders

1. The conference agenda

1.1 What is on the agenda

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

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

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

1.2 Conference or council of state parties

In addition, time before or after 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 party members. 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 party members.
- e) Proposals for topical issue discussions may be submitted by any party 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 party members 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

Standing Orders

- days before the start of conference.
- c) The closing date for the submission of written reports from the bodies listed in paragraph 1.1(b), which will be set so as to enable their distribution with the agenda. Any supplementary report submitted later than this deadline may only be tabled at conference with the permission of the Committee.
 - d) The closing date for the submission of questions to any of the reports listed in the agenda, which shall be at least two days before the start of conference, except for questions to the reports of the Parliamentary 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 publicised to party members and bodies entitled to submit motions. Publication in the party newspaper/magazine and website 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 party member 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 selected for debate.

3.3 Balance between State and Federal policy debates

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

4. Selection of motions and amendments

4.1 Compositing or otherwise altering motions

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

Standing Orders

- 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 voting members 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.

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

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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.

7. The chair

7.1 Who chairs conference

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

7.2 The chair's aide

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

8. Conduct of debate

8.1 Variation in the order of business

The Committee may propose to the conference a variation in the order of business as set out in the agenda. Such variation shall be put to the vote and shall take effect if approved by a majority of those voting.

8.2 Withdrawal of motions and amendments

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

8.3 The order of debate

The Committee shall direct the order of debate. Generally, however, a motion will be moved and immediately thereafter the amendments and options will be moved in the order directed by the Committee. There will then be a general debate. The movers of amendments and options (or their nominees) shall have the right of reply in the same

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

8.4 Topical issue discussions

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

8.5 Who may speak

All voting members may speak at a full session of conference. Additionally, the Committee may invite any person to address the conference as a guest. Neither such provision shall prejudice the right of the chair of a session to select speakers.

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 members wishing to speak in any debate shall submit a speaker's card, prior to the commencement of the debate in which they wish to speak, stating whether they wish to speak for or against an amendment, the motion or part of the motion. The chair shall be responsible for the choice of the speakers and shall attempt to provide a balanced debate between the different viewpoints in the conference, but may announce a departure from this rule if there is an overwhelming preponderance of members wishing to speak on the same side. The chair shall have the discretion to

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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 voting member)

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

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majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

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

11.3 Reference back (moved by the Federal Policy Committee)

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

11.4 Separate vote

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

vote. In exceptional circumstances, the Chair of the debate shall have discretion to accept a request for a separate vote if it is received in writing after this deadline.

11.5 Counted vote

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

11.6 Suspension of standing orders

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

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orders shall remain in force except only for the purposes set out in the motion.

11.7 No procedural motions during votes

No procedural motion can be moved during a vote.

12 Reports

12.1 Which reports are tabled

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

12.2 Submission and selection of questions

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

12.3 Whether questions are in order or not

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

12.4 How questions and supplementary questions are put and answered

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

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

Any report tabled by a Federal Party committee or sub-committee must be submitted for approval by the conference and must be voted upon

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

12.6 Receipt of reports from other bodies

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