

Conference Daily

Monday 16 September 2019

Autumn Conference Bournemouth



Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Monday 16 September and report back for Sunday 15 September. Please read in conjunction with the *Agenda* and *Conference Extra*.

Timetable and contents

Report back for Sunday 15 September

Timetable for Monday 16 September

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If no page number is indicated next to a session or item of business, there are no changes or additional information to that in the Conference Agenda or Conference Extra.

Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated. Members wishing to speak are requested to submit a speaker's card as soon as possible.

Speaker's cards can be submitted online up to one hour before the start of the debate at www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card

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'What next for Lib Dem education policy?'

16:30 - 17:30 | Monday 16th September 2019

Bay View 2 | Bournemouth International Centre (Secure Zone)

With confirmed speakers: **Layla Moran MP** (Education Spokesperson); **Rt Hon. David Laws** (Education Policy Institute); **Dr. Mary Boustead** (NEU); and **Michael Turner** (AQA)



Wine and nibbles provided. To attend, please RSVP to **07532 752 708** or **amy.faux@epi.org.uk**

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Fringe update

Monday early lunchtime 11.30–12.30

Q&A with Luciana Berger MP

Come and listen to why Luciana joined the Liberal Democrats and find out how she will be contributing to the party's campaigns inside and outside of parliament.

BIC, Meyrick

Rights Liberties Justice (Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association)

Future rights – civil liberties, social and economic rights and the future of free movement

With Brexit eroding hard won rights and liberal values, we debate the future of rights from migration to the big-data-state, and redressing social inequity. Chair James Sandbach.

Koldo Casla, Director of Policy, JustFair; Jodie Blackstock, Legal Director, JUSTICE; Clare Collier, Director of Advocacy, LIBERTY; Sanchita Hosali, Director, British Institute of Human Rights; Axel Antoni, The 3Million; Lord McNally.

Highcliff Marriot, Blandford 3

Monday lunchtime 13.00–14.00

JUSTICE and Rights Liberties Justice

Vulnerability in the justice system

How can we better identify the needs of people using the justice system, and adapt processes and language to enable people to effectively participate? Chair, James Sandbach. Speakers: Jodie Blackstock, Legal Director, JUSTICE; Lord Marks QC, Lords Justice Spokesman; Vicki Cardwell, Revolving Doors; Phillip Lee MP.

BIC, Durley

Q&A sessions

Q&A sessions at conference give you the opportunity to ask questions of our spokespeople. Monday's sessions are:

Home Affairs

With Christine Jardine MP & Lord Paddick.

Monday 16 September, 14.30–15.30

BIC, Meyrick

Health

With Sir Vince Cable MP & Baroness Jolly

Monday 16 September, 15.30–16.15

BIC, Meyrick

Monday early evening 18.15–19.15

Rights Liberties Justice (Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association)

Technology and access to justice

An expert panel discuss how 'LegalTech' can improve citizens' interactions with the legal system, and the ethical-logistical challenges. With Government introducing online courts, is the future of justice digital, and can technology really help solve the problems left by legal aid cuts? Chair: Graham Colley. Speakers: Stephanie Boyce, Deputy President of Law Society; Lord Marks QC, Lords Justice Spokesman; Ruth Daniel, Access to Justice Foundation; James Sandbach, Director of Policy, LawWorks.

Highcliff Marriot, Blandford 3

ScottishPower Reception

Climate change and the Race to Net Zero

As the race to decarbonise gathers pace, please join Jo Swinson MP, Ed Davey MP and events sponsors ScottishPower for a reception focussed on what politicians, business and communities can do to meet the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Monday early evening 18.15–19.15

Highcliff Marriott, Dorchester South

Refreshments provided



Lost property

If you have lost property at conference, please go to the Information Desk in the main foyer of the BIC where a number of items of lost property have been handed in.

Livestream of conference

Livestream from the Auditorium will be run from our YouTube account, while high profile speeches will also be on Facebook Live.

www.youtube.com/libdems


[Facebook.com/libdems](https://www.facebook.com/libdems)



Report back for Sunday 15 September

F14	Policy motion: Young Carers	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F15	Policy motion: Stop Brexit to Save the NHS and Social Care	Passed (Amendments Two & Three passed; Amendments One & Four defeated)
F17	Policy motion: Stop Brexit	Passed (lines 53–55, as printed in Sunday's Conference Daily, retained)
F19	Policy motion: Education is for Everyone: Investing in Further Education and Learning Throughout Life	Passed
F21	Report: Federal Board	Approved
F22	Business motion: Membership Subscriptions and Federal Levy	Passed
F23	Constitutional Amendments	Passed (all Parts 1 to 5)
F24	Standing Order Amendments	Passed



For the text of motions and amendments, please refer to the Autumn 2019 *Agenda* and *Conference Daily* for Sunday 15 September 2019.




Conference App

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Available on the  

For Blackberry / Windows Phone visit www.libdemconference.org.uk



Bournemouth Foodbank

Please support Bournemouth Foodbank at this year's conference.

There is a yellow Foodbank collection bin in the front of the exhibition area in the Solent Hall in the BIC.



Spring Conference 2020

2020 Spring conference will take place on 13–15 March in York.

Book your accommodation at visityork.org/libdems

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F25 Music Venues

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In 2. (line 41), after 'Parliamentarians' insert 'and councillor organisations'.*
- 2 *In line 48, delete 'c)' and insert 'b)'.*
- 3 *In line 51, delete 'd)' and insert 'c)'.*

Amendment One

11 members

Mover: Lord Clement-Jones.

Summation: Tom Kiehl.

- 1 *After vii) (line 36), insert:*
- 2 viii) The Government has explicitly excluded music venues from business rate relief on the
- 3 grounds that they are not 'similar in nature' to pubs and clubs despite some venues
- 4 facing rate hikes of up to 806% following the damaging 2017 revaluation.
- 5 *After 4. (line 54), add:*
- 6 5. Amended Government guidance to ensure music venues are eligible for business rate
- 7 relief.

Background Briefing

This motion makes new policy on planning laws to protect music venues. It calls for local authorities to implement and enforce new powers to require proper soundproofing of new developments next to music venues and for legislation to introduce further exceptions to the laws around noise to protect longstanding music venues. It also proposes increased funding for grassroots music venues to help the sector flourish.

09.35 Policy motion

Aide: Chris Maines. Hall Aide: Alisdair Calder McGregor.

F26 United Against Crime

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *After III. (line 13), insert:*
- 2 IV. That despite the clear racial bias in deployment of Stop and Search powers and
- 3 the significant resentment caused by their often arbitrary usage, the Conservative
- 4 government has pledged to expand their use and weaken senior officers' oversight of
- 5 their deployment.



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- 6 *In 4. e) (lines 106–108), after 'communities and' insert 'supporting the establishment of*
- 7 *community groups to bring together representatives of local charities, faith and belief groups,*
- 8 *voluntary and community organisations, public sector organisations and businesses that*
- 9 *would work with police and local authorities, to'.*

Background Briefing

This motion updates party policy on crime and policing. Among other proposals, it calls for: an expansion of community policing by providing enough funding for two extra police officers per ward and ensuring that officers have time to build community relations; investment in mental health services to ease the pressure that the mental health crisis places on the police and ensure that people get the help they need; a focus on ending youth violence, by ensuring that every part of the country has a youth diversion scheme and investing in innovative and engaging youth services; extra funding for the National Crime Agency to tackle serious organised crime; and, the creation of a new Online Crime Agency to effectively tackle online crimes such as fraud against the individual and online incitement to violence.

Existing policy is set out in policy motions *Knife Crime and Youth Services* (2019) and *Gun and Knife Crime* (2017), the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future* and Policy Paper 118, *Doing What Works to Cut Crime* (2014).

11.00 Speech

Chair: Duncan Brack.

F27 Chuka Umunna MP, Shadow Foreign Secretary

F29 Tackling the Climate Emergency

The FCC has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

- 1 *In line 9, between 'poorest' and 'people', insert 'and most disadvantaged', and in lines 9–10,*
- 2 *between 'poorest' and 'communities', insert 'and most disadvantaged'.*

- 3 *After 1. c) (line 74), insert:*

- 4 d) Ensuring that any public engagement activity must include empowering poorer and
- 5 BAME communities and people with access and mobility requirements to play a
- 6 central role in agreeing the changes needed to tackle the climate crisis, particularly
- 7 locally.

Amendment One

Newark & Sherwood

Mover: Jane Brophy MEP.

Summation: Keith Melton.

- 1 *Delete lines 11–22 and insert:*

- 2 Conference therefore resolves that the UK must reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases as
- 3 a matter of extreme urgency.



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4 Conference recognises that early action on setting and achieving drastic but credible interim
5 targets is more important than setting a notional, precise end-date to achieve net-zero
6 emissions, and therefore endorses the interim aim of a 75 per cent reduction from 1990
7 levels by 2030 at the latest.

8 Conference also recognises that the rapid global heating effects of methane have been
9 severely under-estimated until very recently, and therefore calls for urgent action to reduce
10 methane emissions, in particular from intensive beef farming and the industrial energy sector
11 and by immediately banning fracking.

12 Conference believes that these steps would enable a faster reduction in greenhouse gas
13 emissions, and calls for an interim target of a 90 per cent reduction by 2035 leading to net-
14 zero emissions by 2040 (with all targets subject to revision should faster progress prove
15 possible).

Amendment Two

Chippenham

Mover: David Vigar.

Summation: Helen Belcher.

1 *After line 31, insert:*

2 Conference recognises the UK's offer to host the 2020 UN climate change summit (COP26)
3 and, in keeping with the policy paper's demand "to raise global ambition", calls for the
4 UK to propose a major strengthening of the UN's capacity to lead emissions reduction by
5 appointing a UN Climate Commissioner and executive team to hold governments to account
6 and mobilise public opinion, with the UK offering an initial contribution to the increased
7 resourcing required.

Amendment Three

West Berkshire & Newbury

Mover: Adrian Abbs.

Summation: Lee Dillon.

1 *After 4. c) (line 110), insert:*

2 d) Working internationally to develop a simple sustainability 'traffic light' labelling
3 system to empower consumers in all sectors.

Amendment Four

10 members

Mover: Baroness Kramer.

Summation: Baroness Randerson.

1 *In 7. d) (lines 151–152), delete 'to target the most frequent flyers' and insert 'by introducing a*
2 *compulsory carbon offset levy to be replaced by a graduated frequent flyer levy when the*
3 *issues of data protection, compatibility with online booking and exemptions for necessary*



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4 travellers such as small exporters, international students and families with crises have been
5 resolved. And by'.

Background Briefing

This motion updates party policy on climate change and the low-carbon economy. It sets a new target date for net-zero emissions of 2045 at the latest and calls for early, credible action to set the economy on the path towards net-zero.

Among other measures to achieve this, the motion calls for: building the net-zero objective into all decision-making by national and local government; creating a Just Transition Commission to advise on how to deliver a net-zero economy that works for everyone; working closely with European and global partners to raise global ambition and develop new technology; a widescale increase of home insulation to increase energy efficiency, reduce costs and cut greenhouse gas emissions; ending the use of fossil fuels and banning fracking; and a massive programme of tree planting to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Existing policy is set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future*, policy motions *The Paris Agreement and UK Climate Change Policy* (2017) and *Investing in the Green Economy* (2016), and Policy Paper 109, *Green Growth and Green Jobs: Transition to a Zero Carbon Britain* (2013).

F30 Rt Hon Sir Edward Davey MP, Shadow Chancellor

16.30 Policy motion

Aide: Cllr Joe Otten. Hall Aide: Alisdair Calder McGregor.

F31 Open Britain: Policies to Support Tourism

This motion updates and develops party policy on tourism. Its proposals include measures to: create a new Secretary of State for Tourism, Culture, Communications and Sport to provide greater emphasis on tourism at the Cabinet; redistribute visitors from the capital to the regions and nations of the UK to help less well-off communities in Britain gain opportunities; promote growth to enable the industry to be internationally competitive and sustainable; establish a statutory registration scheme for the accommodation sector to level the playing field; and reduce taxation on tourism by reducing VAT on visitor accommodation and attractions.

Existing policy is set out in Policy Paper 129, *A Rural Future: Time to Act* (2018), the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future* and policy motion *Reducing Tax on Tourism* (2015).

17.15 Policy motion

Aide: Jon Ball (Vice Chair, FCC). Hall Aide: James Gurling.

F32 Emergency motion: Amazon fires

Lambeth

Mover: Helen Thompson.

Summation: Duncan Brack.



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- 1 Conference notes with alarm the 84 per cent increase in the number of wildfires in the
- 2 Brazilian Amazon between January and August 2019, compared to the same period in 2018.

- 3 Conference condemns the actions of the Bolsonaro government in encouraging the clearance
- 4 of forests for agriculture, in breach of its own international commitments on climate change
- 5 and biodiversity.

- 6 Conference further notes that:
 - 7 a) The protection and restoration of the world's forests is essential to tackling climate
 - 8 change, protecting biodiversity and guaranteeing the survival of many indigenous
 - 9 peoples and forest communities.
 - 10 b) Clearance for agriculture is the single biggest driver of deforestation worldwide, and is
 - 11 particularly important in tropical forests.
 - 12 c) Many of the commodities so produced, including soy, palm oil, beef and leather, pulp and
 - 13 paper, timber and cocoa, are destined for export markets in Europe, North America and
 - 14 Asia.
 - 15 d) Most of the palm oil imported to the EU, and a significant proportion of soy, are destined
 - 16 for use for energy, mainly as biofuels for transport.

- 17 Conference calls on the EU and its member states, including the UK, to:
 - 18 1. Refuse to ratify the Mercosur-EU free trade agreement until the Brazilian government
 - 19 has put in place effective measures to protect Brazilian forests and the rights of forest
 - 20 communities and indigenous peoples.
 - 21 2. Introduce legislation requiring companies based in or operating in the EU not to place on
 - 22 the EU market any products whose production is associated with illegal or unsustainable
 - 23 deforestation.
 - 24 3. Phase out subsidies and regulatory support for the production of biofuels based on
 - 25 crops.
 - 26 4. Negotiate agreements with governments of forest-rich developing countries to improve
 - 27 forest governance and law enforcement and to make trade in forest risk commodities
 - 28 with the EU conditional on legal and sustainable production.
 - 29 5. Work with other major consumer countries, including in particular China, to put in place
 - 30 global systems to regulate trade in illegal and unsustainable forest risk commodities.
 - 31 6. Increase bilateral and multilateral development aid for the protection of forests
 - 32 worldwide.

Applicability: Federal.

Mover: 7 minutes; summation: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.

Background Briefing

This motion makes new policy regarding the recent increase in wildfires in the Brazilian Amazon. Among other measures, the motion calls for the UK to refuse to ratify the Mercosur-EU free trade agreement until the Brazilian government has put in place effective measures to protect the rainforest and to work with major consumer countries to regulate trade in illegal and unsustainable forest risk commodities.