

Conference Daily



Tuesday 17 September 2019

Autumn Conference Bournemouth



Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Tuesday 17 September and report back for Monday 16 September. Please read in conjunction with the *Agenda* and *Conference Extra*.

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11.10–11.50	F37	Policy Motion: Reforming Housing Legislation: Scrapping Section 21 'No Fault Evictions'	4
11.50–12.50	F38	Policy Motion: Building Railways Fit for the 21st Century	5
12.50–14.10		Lunch	
14.10–15.30	F39	Speech: Jo Swinson MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats	5

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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Report back for Monday 16 September

F25	Policy Motion: Music Venues	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F26	Policy Motion: United Against Crime	Passed
F29	Policy Motion: Tackling the Climate Crisis Together	Passed (Amendment Two & Three passed, Amendments One & Four defeated)
F31	Policy Motion: Open Britain: Policies to Support Tourism	Passed
F32	Emergency motion: Amazon Fires	Passed

For the text of motions and amendments, please refer to the Autumn 2019 *Agenda* and *Conference Daily* for Monday 16 September 2019.

Fringe update

Tuesday lunchtime 13.00–14.00

Rights Liberties Justice (Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association)

Employment rights in the gig economy

UK employment is apparently at its highest ever level but also more insecure, how do protect employment rights in the “gig economy”? Should freelancers have more rights as proposed by the recent Taylor Review. Join us for an informal discussion on employment rights. Chair, Graham Colley. Speakers: Heather Wakefield, Chair – Maternity Action; Barnaby Towns, Pioneer Strategy; Representative from Association of Liberal Democrat Trade Unionists.

Highcliff Marriot, Blandford Room

We want to hear from you!

Conference attendees will be sent a feedback survey link. Please let us know about your experience at conference.

Spring Conference 2020

Book your accommodation for Spring conference 13–15 March 2020 in York, at visityork.org/libdems

Left luggage

A left luggage facility will be available at the Highcliff Marriott between 08.00 and 17.00 on Tuesday 17 September. Capacity is limited and will be available on a first-come first-served basis; a charge of £2 per item will apply.

No large suitcases/ bags will be allowed into the BIC.

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.

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.



Tuesday 17 September

09.00 Emergency motion

Hall Aide: Cllr Paul Tilsley

F33 Emergency motion: Standing up for Parliamentary Democracy

11 members

Mover: Tom Brake MP (Shadow Cabinet Member for Exiting the EU).

Summation: Lord Newby (Leader of the Liberal Democrats in the House of Lords).

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 A. The Westminster model of government and the 'Mother of All Parliaments' are held
3 in high esteem around the world and are considered to be the basis of modern
4 parliamentary democracy.
- 5 B. On 27 August 2019, the Prime Minister announced that he would prorogue Parliament
6 between 9 and 11 September, preventing Parliament from sitting until 14 October and
7 stopping MPs from being able to vote on whether to hold a Conference recess.
- 8 C. Liberal Democrats are working on a cross-party basis in Parliament and in the courts to
9 stop our democracy being silenced and restore parliamentary sovereignty.

10 Conference believes that:

- 11 i) The Prime Minister and the Government are the servants of Parliament, are accountable
12 to Parliament, and only continue in post because they command the confidence of the
13 House of Commons.
- 14 ii) Shutting down parliamentary democracy for so long during the most significant political
15 crisis in recent memory is an authoritarian power grab by the Prime Minister, significantly
16 reducing the number of days that Parliament can sit before 31 October 2019.
- 17 iii) The decision silences democracy, preventing MPs from scrutinising Government policy
18 decisions and the potential impact of a no-deal Brexit in the days leading up to 31
19 October.
- 20 iv) The Prime Minister's purely politically motivated decision undermines faith in the fairness
21 of the British political system and strengthens the case for constitutional reform.
- 22 v) Liberal Democrats in Parliament will stand up for the people's right to have their say on
23 the final Brexit deal by ensuring that the United Kingdom does not leave the European
24 Union without a deal on 31 October 2019 and by leading the campaign for a People's
25 Vote in order to stop Brexit altogether.

26 Conference calls on the Government to:

- 27 a) Rescind the Order-in-Council proroguing Parliament immediately, enabling Parliament to
28 fulfil its democratic purpose and sit throughout the remainder of the Conference Recess
29 in order to ensure that the UK does not leave the European Union on 31 October 2019
30 without a deal.
- 31 b) Enable Parliament, rather than the Queen-in-Council, to approve when Parliament is
32 prorogued and for how long, just as the House of Commons approves its own recess
33 dates.
- 34 c) Set up an independent commission made up of parliamentarians, academics, the
35 judiciary and others, to consider each power that the executive is able to exercise
36 under the Royal Prerogative and make recommendations on how to curtail the illiberal



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- 37 centralisation of power into the executive and in particular the use of the Royal
38 Prerogative.
- 39 Conference reaffirms its commitments, as set out in Policy Paper 117, *Power to the People*, to
40 make government more accountable both Parliament and to the people by:
- 41 1. Creating a House Business Committee to enable backbench MPs and MPs from
42 opposition parties to influence the parliamentary timetable.
 - 43 2. Providing that a new Prime Minister and their administration can only take office formally
44 once the House of Commons has voted for them to do so.
 - 45 3. Electing MPs by Single Transferable Vote in multi-member constituencies and electing the
46 House of Lords.
 - 47 4. Establishing a Constitutional Convention to draw up a comprehensive written constitution
48 for the UK.

Applicability: Federal.

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

Background Briefing

This motion updates and develops policy in response to the Government's decision to prorogue Parliament from September 9 to October 14 2019. It calls for the Order-in Council proroguing Parliament to be rescinded, and in the longer term calls for Parliament itself to be empowered to prorogue Parliament, and for an independent commission to review the exercises of powers under the Royal Prerogative. Existing policy on the powers of the executive is set out in Policy Paper 117, *Power to the People* (2014).

F34 Deprivation of Citizenship

Background Briefing

This motion creates new policy to restrict the circumstances under which someone can be deprived of their British citizenship to cases where citizenship has been obtained through fraud (or other types of deceit) or in cases in which it is a proportionate response that is necessary for national security and would not make the person concerned stateless. The motion also proposes reforms to the process and the right of appeal to ensure that the courts give permission for deprivation of citizenship rather than the Home Secretary being the ultimate arbiter.

F37 Reforming Housing Legislation: scrapping section 21 'No fault' Evictions

Background Briefing

This motion creates new policy concerning the private rental market. It calls for the scrapping of no-fault evictions and the reform of court processes to ensure that landlords are still able to properly access justice in cases where tenants are found to be in breach of their tenancy agreements. Existing policy is set out in the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future*.

11.50 Policy motion

Hall Aide: Cara Jenkinson



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F38 Building Railways Fit for the 21st Century

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

- 1 *In 1. a) (lines 32–33), delete 'existing commuter lines' and insert 'where this can unlock capacity*
- 2 *or create new demand'.*
- 3 *After 3. d) (line 72), insert:*
- 4 e) *Identify and set out an action plan to tackle skills shortages, identifying resource*
- 5 *requirements from the industry as appropriate.*
- 6 *In 5. a) (line 88), delete 'expenditure' and insert 'cost and schedule'.*
- 7 *In 7. b) (line 107), after 'appropriate' insert 'including being statutory consultees as part of the*
- 8 *franchising process, and where relevant, moving towards Regional Transport Authorities*
- 9 *leading this process for local services in their areas'.*
- 10 *In 8. (line 108), delete 'Keep passenger and freight services apart' and insert 'Increase overall*
- 11 *passenger and freight capacity and reduce bottlenecks'.*

Amendment One

16 members

Mover: Gareth Epps.

Summation: Gareth Epps.

- 1 *In 6. (line 98), after 'franchises' insert 'and creating the opportunity for existing employees to*
- 2 *set up an employee-owned company to run franchises through the transfer of LNER into*
- 3 *employee ownership'.*

Background Briefing

This motion updates party policy about the railways. It opposes the renationalisation of the railways and, instead, to make the railways work proposes: large-scale investment in existing commuter lines as well as new and reopened lines; fixing the broken fares system by using technology to simplify fares and making season tickets work for people with part-time jobs; creating a new Railway Agency to oversee the day-to-day operation of the railways; making the railways greener, safer and more accessible; reforming franchising and opening-up the bidding process; effectively devolving power to local and combined authorities; and improving freight services so they don't slow passenger services.

Existing policy is set out in policy motion *Fixing Rail Franchising* (2018), the 2017 General Election Manifesto *Change Britain's Future* and Policy Paper 119, *Protecting Public Services and Making Them Work for You* (2014).

14.10 Speech

Aide: Cara Jenkinson

F39 Speech: Jo Swinson MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats



Conference timetable 2020

13–15 March 2020, York

Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00	18 December 2019
Motions deadline	13.00	8 January 2020
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00	17 February 2020
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00	2 March 2020

26–29 September 2020, Brighton

Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00	17 June 2020
Motions deadline	13.00	1 July 2020
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00	31 August 2020
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00	14 September 2020

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The Legacy Society launched at Autumn Conference 2018 as a way of celebrating and rewarding anyone who has left a legacy to the party in their will.

Yes I would like more information about the Legacy Society

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