

conference final sunday 13th march 2011

Report back for Sunday 13th March including extracts from Nick Clegg's Leader's speech to conference.

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Party Business

F14 Reports: Parliamentary Party Approved

Policy Motion

F15 Emergency Motion: Passed
Tougher Action on Banks and Bonuses

Business Motion

F16 Strategy, Positioning and Priorities Passed (Amendment One passed)

Policy Motion

F18 Access to Justice Passed (Amendment One passed)

Extracts from speech by Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister, page 2



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your views are important to us!

Following conference, representatives will be emailed a link to an online questionnaire. Please complete the questionnaire as your answers help us to improve conference.

Conference Final and other conference documents are available in clear print, plain text and as pdf files – please see www.libdems.org.uk/conference

leader's speech

Extracts from the speech by Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister, to Liberal Democrat Spring Conference, Sunday 13th March.

The banner at this conference says: In government, on your side. Some people have asked me: whose side, exactly?

My answer is simple. We're on the side of the people I call Alarm Clock Britain. The side of everyone who wants to get up and get on.

People who, unlike the wealthy, have no choice but to work hard to make ends meet. People who are proud to support themselves but are only ever one pay cheque from their overdraft. People who believe in self-reliance but who don't want to live in a dog-eat-dog world; who want everyone who can to work hard but they want children, the elderly and the vulnerable to be looked after too.

People who believe it is as wrong to opt out of tax as it is to opt out of working. People who want the best for their children and need good local schools. Who rely on our NHS. Who want great public services but can't stand seeing government waste. People who don't want politicians lecturing them on how to live. And who are fed up with politicians taking their votes for granted.

These are the people liberals have always fought for – fought to get them votes, wages, jobs and welfare.

In government, especially in difficult times, it is more important than ever to know whose side you are on. When money is tight you have to make choices. And the only way to get them right is to know who you are making those choices for.

We are on the side of Alarm Clock Britain. The other parties *say* they are but always let them down.

They have been failed for generations. Failed by the tired tribalism of left and right. Failed because both of those political traditions forget about people and place their faith in institutions. For the left, an obsession with the state. For the right, a worship of the market.

But as liberals, we place our faith in people. People with power and opportunity in their hands.

Our opponents try to divide us with their outdated labels of left and right. But we are not on the left and we are not on the right. We have our own label: Liberal.

We are liberals and we own the freehold to the centre ground of British politics. Governing from the middle, for the middle. In government – on your side.

Autumn Conference 2011, Birmingham Saturday 17th – Wednesday 21st September



Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00	Wednesday	15th June 2011
Motions deadline	13.00	Wednesday	29th June 2011
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00	Monday	22nd August 2011
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00	Monday	5th September 2011

For further information, visit www.libdems.org.uk/conference.