

# spring conference



## conference daily

sunday 11th march 2012

Information from the Conference Committee, timings for conference sessions, amendments, emergency motions and questions to reports; report back for Saturday 10th March and detailed information for Sunday 11th March.

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Report back for Saturday 10th March

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## timetable for sunday 11th march

09.00 – 09.20 F16	Reports: Parliamentary Parties of the Liberal Democrats	4
09.20 – 10.00 F19	Emergency motion: Protecting our NHS: the Shirley Williams Motion	5
10.00 – 10.45 F20	Policy motion: Trusted, Professional and Effective: British Policing at its Best	6
10.45 – 11.45 F21	Policy motion: Civil Liberties	7
11.45 – 13.00 F22	Speech: Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Deputy Prime Minister	
13.00 approx	Close of conference	

*Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated. Conference representatives wishing to speak in any of the debates are requested to fill in and submit a speaker's card as soon as possible.*

*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 and Directory.*

Conference Daily and other conference documents are available in clear print, plain text and as pdf files – please ask at the Information Desk.

### fcc help desk

Members of the FCC will be available to give advice about the conduct of conference at the **Information Desk in The Sage Gateshead** from **9.00 to 11.00 on Sunday**.

FCC members can also be contacted via the Information Desk outside these hours.



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# report back for saturday 10th march

F2	Report: Federal Conference Committee	Approved
F3	Report: Federal Policy Committee	Approved
F4	Policy motion: Europe	Passed (Amendment One passed, line 47 retained)
F5	Policy motion: <i>Giving Young People a Future</i> (Policy Paper on Combating Youth Unemployment)	Passed (lines 30–31 and 69–70 retained)
F7	Policy motion: Making Tax Fairer	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F8	Constitutional amendment: Support For A Government Which Contains Other Political Parties	Passed (Amendment One defeated)
F9	Standing order amendment: Support For A Government Which Contains Other Political Parties	Passed
F11	Policy motion: The Greenest Government Ever	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F13	Policy motion: Public and Private Sector Pensions	Passed (Amendment One defeated)
F14	Report: Federal Executive	Approved (move to reject part of the report was defeated)
F15	Report: Federal Finance and Administration Committee	Approved
F17	Report: Diversity and Engagement Group	Approved
F18	Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	Approved

## Ministerial Q&A sessions

There will be a series of Ministerial Q&A sessions, where you can come along and ask questions of our Ministers and Parliamentarians on the issues relating to their responsibilities and their departments – a fantastic opportunity for members to find out more about what our Ministers and Parliamentarians are up to.

*These sessions are very popular and places are limited so please arrive early to avoid disappointment. Priority will be given to party members.*

**Please note that the timings have changed from those printed in the Agenda and Directory.**

Sunday's session will take place in the **Northern Rock Foundation Hall, The Sage Gateshead.**  
**10.00 – 11.00 Sunday 11th March.**

Q&A with Ed Davey – newly appointed Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change.  
*Come along and talk to Ed about his new portfolio; this is a great opportunity to talk to Ed about his priorities for the Department too.*

# sunday 11th march

## 09.00 Party business

### **F16 Parliamentary Party Reports**

#### **Questions to Commons**

##### **Q1. Submitted by Andrew Hudson**

What is the group's position on the proposed changes in the rules for migrant domestic workers including the removal of the right to change employer?

##### **Q2. Submitted by Mark Pack**

Motion F41 Community Politics, passed at the party's autumn conference, included Conference Calls For 2: "The party's parliamentarians and decision-making bodies to ensure that the policies and positions they develop are conducive to community politics and are worded and presented in such a way to help the community activist". What steps have the Parliamentary Party taken since the passing of the motion in order to help achieve this?

##### **Q3. Submitted by Hywel Morgan**

The Bones report made an "urgent" recommendation in 2008 that it be a condition of becoming an elected Liberal Democrat (at all levels) that you tithe to the party. Is the Chief Whip satisfied that all our MPs and MEPs have complied with this recommendation? What amendments have been made to the standing orders of the Parliamentary Party in order to achieve full compliance with this recommendation?

#### **Questions to Lords**

##### **Q1. Submitted by Mark Pack**

Motion F41 Community Politics, passed at the party's autumn conference, included Conference Calls for 2: "The party's parliamentarians and decision-making bodies to ensure that the policies and positions they develop are conducive to community politics and are worded and presented in such a way to help the community activist." What steps have the Parliamentary Party taken since the passing of the motion in order to help achieve this?

#### **Questions to Europe**

##### **Q1. Submitted by Mark Pack**

Motion F41 Community Politics, passed at the party's autumn conference, included Conference Calls For 2: "The party's parliamentarians and decision-making bodies to ensure that the policies and positions they develop are conducive to community politics and are worded and presented in such a way to help the community activist". What steps have the Parliamentary Party taken since the passing of the motion in order to help achieve this?

# sunday 11th march

## 09.30 Emergency motion

### **F19 Protecting our NHS: the Shirley Williams Motion**

*15 conference representatives*

Mover: Baroness Jolly (Co-Chair, Parliamentary Party Committee on Health)

Summation: Baroness Williams of Crosby

1 Conference notes:

- 2 A. That during the Lords Report Stage of the Health and Social Care Bill in February and March  
3 2012 Liberal Democrats, in conjunction with peers from other benches, have achieved  
4 significant changes to the Conservative Health Secretary's original Health and Social Care Bill.
- 5 B. Taking the lead from the motion passed at Spring Conference 2011 Liberal Democrats in the  
6 House of Lords have worked successfully to:
- 7 i) Guarantee the Secretary of State's responsibility for a comprehensive health service, his  
8 power to intervene if things go wrong and his accountability to Parliament.
- 9 ii) Ensure that competition in the NHS is in the interests of patients, based on quality not  
10 price.
- 11 iii) Secure the commissioning process against damaging conflicts of interest.
- 12 iv) Ensure that any profits from treating private patients in Foundation Trust hospitals are  
13 invested in the NHS.
- 14 v) Underpin the independence of public health.
- 15 vi) Place a duty on the National Commissioning Board and CCGs to address and report on  
16 progress in reducing health inequalities as part of how their performance is assessed.
- 17 vii) Place on all service providers an equal duty to provide NHS education and training; and  
18 viii) Put the NHS in the vanguard of medical research.

19 Conference further:

- 20 1. Confirms the commitment of Liberal Democrats to a comprehensive national health service  
21 accessible to all and free at the point of need.
- 22 2. Welcomes the changes made to the Bill, which meet the main demands made by Conference  
23 at Sheffield, including:
- 24 a) Making Monitor's top priority the interests of NHS patients, not competition.  
25 b) Ending Labour's policy of giving preferential terms to the private sector.
- 26 3. Supports the Liberal Democrat team in the House of Lords in its endeavours to ensure that  
27 the Bill is further amended to:
- 28 a) Remove reviews by the Competition Commission from the Bill.  
29 b) Retain Monitor's regulation of Foundation Trusts after 2016.  
30 c) Ensure that individual Foundation Trusts have to justify in advance any substantial  
31 increase in their private income.

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- 32 4. Calls on Liberal Democrat peers to support the Third Reading of the Bill provided such further  
33 amendments are achieved.
- 34 5. Calls Liberal Democrats nationally and locally to work with Royal Colleges, NHS staff, patients  
35 and carers groups and local authorities in the interests of upholding the NHS as a public  
36 service, ensuring its ability to meet the challenges of an ageing society despite constrained  
37 financial circumstances, and securing better health outcomes for all.

## **Background briefing:**

This motion updates policy on the Health and Social Care Bill. Existing policy is set out in the conference motion *Updating the NHS: Personal and Local* (March 2011).

## 10.00 Policy motion

### **F20 Trusted, Professional and Effective: British Policing at its Best**

#### **Amendment One**

*37 conference representatives*

Mover: Gareth Epps

Summation: Suzanne Fletcher

1 *At end (after line 63), insert:*

- 2 Conference calls on the Government to ensure, using primary legislation if necessary, that the  
3 principle of accountability in the police is not eroded by any move to offer services for tender by the  
4 private sector. Conference calls on Liberal Democrats in Government to oppose any relaxation of  
5 the rules that prohibit frontline services from being offered to tender.

#### **Background briefing:**

This motion introduces substantial new policy on policing. Proposals include commissioning an evaluation of the new structure of PCCs and PCPs, the introduction of 'Police First' based on the Teach First scheme and the establishment of the world's first Institute for Policing Excellence based on NICE.

Existing policy on policing can be found in the 2010 General Election Manifesto *Change that Works for You*, conference motion *Cutting Crime: Catching Criminals With Better Policing* (2008) and Policy Paper 78, *Together We Can Cut Crime* (2007).

## 10.45 Policy motion

### **F21 Civil Liberties**

*Federal Conference Committee has accepted the following drafting amendment to the motion:*

1 *After 3. b) (line 37), insert:*

- 2 c) The equality impact of surveillance is too little researched, too little known and of crucial  
3 importance to the cohesion of our society.

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## **Amendment One**

### *Greater Reading*

Mover: Dr Jenny Woods

Summation: Jason Mehmet

1 *After 4. e) (line 96), insert:*

2 5. The right to privacy to be protected by:

- 3 a) Ensuring that there shall be no interception of telephone calls, SMS messages, social  
4 media, internet or any other communications without named, specific and time-limited  
5 warrants.
- 6 b) Guaranteeing that any communications data kept by service providers in accordance  
7 with the EU Data Retention Directive are kept securely by the service providers, and that  
8 they be only released to government bodies with strict and strengthened safeguards.
- 9 c) Ensuring that service providers are not mandated by law to collect communications data  
10 by any method that would also provide access to content information, unless specifically  
11 authorised by a warrant.
- 12 d) Ensuring that service providers are not mandated by law to collect third-party  
13 communications data for non-business purposes by any method.
- 14 e) Renegotiating the EU Data Retention Directive and changing how it is implemented into  
15 UK law, to provide a better balance towards privacy.

## **Amendment Two**

### *Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association*

Mover: Geoff Payne

Summator: James Sandbach

1 *At end (after line 97), add:*

2 6. The protection of fair and equal access to justice, through:

- 3 a) A properly funded system whereby access to legal advice and representation before the  
4 courts is not denied to those otherwise unable to bear the costs.
- 5 b) The continued provision of legal aid, for those who cannot afford to pay for legal services,  
6 in serious cases where a failure to provide legal services may lead to injustice.
- 7 c) The continued provision of free legal advice and assistance to all held in custody  
8 regardless of means and merits.
- 9 d) The continued provision of legal aid to those who qualify in appeals cases where there  
10 are grounds of appeal, and ensuring that the scope of civil legal aid covers appropriate  
11 legal help and assistance in categories of law where the issues raised are of substantial  
12 importance to the assisted person and which cannot be settled by alternative dispute  
13 resolution (ADR).
- 14 e) Adequately supporting ADR and other means of resolving civil legal problems through the  
15 training and provision of mediation and conciliation services, and through direct support  
16 of Citizens Advice Bureaux and Law Centres.
- 17 f) The implementation of the party's policy on Access to Justice debated at Conference in  
18 2011.

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There will be separate votes on 2. a) (lines 58–60) and on 2. b) (lines 61–62).

## Background briefing:

This motion updates and develops policy on civil liberties. It particularly updates policy in the areas of freedom of speech, the right to protest, policing by consent and data protection.

The motion builds on existing policies as set out in the 2010 General Election Manifesto *Change that Works for You* and conference motion *Standing up for Civil Liberties* (2009).

## left luggage

A left luggage facility will be available at the **Jurys Inn NewcastleGateshead** on **Sunday 11th March between 08.00 and 15.00**. A small charge will apply which is being donated to the British Heart Foundation.

***Under no circumstances will any large bags or suitcases be allowed into The Sage Gateshead.***

Please visit our website and social media throughout conference for up-to-date news and information

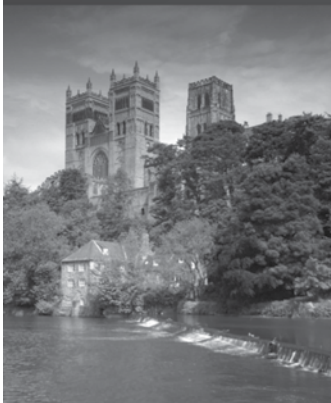


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