

spring conference

conference daily

saturday 9th march 2013

Updates to the *Conference Agenda and Directory*, information from the Federal Conference Committee, timings for conference sessions, amendments, emergency motions and questions to reports; detailed information for Saturday 9th March and advance information for Sunday 10th March. Please read in conjunction with the *Conference Agenda and Directory*.



Photo © Dave Radcliffe.

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Make sure you pick up a copy of *Conference Daily* from the Information Desk each morning. It will be vital to your understanding of the day's business.

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Conference Daily and other conference documents are available in clear print, plain text and as pdf files – please ask at the Information Desk or go to www.libdems.org.uk/springconferencepapers



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exhibition update

The exhibition is located in the Cambridge and Durham halls on the upper ground floor of the Hilton Metropole and is open at the following times:

Friday	8th March	14.30–18.30
Saturday	9th March	08.30–18.30
Sunday	10th March	08.30–13.30

exhibitors listed by stand number

Stand Exhibitor

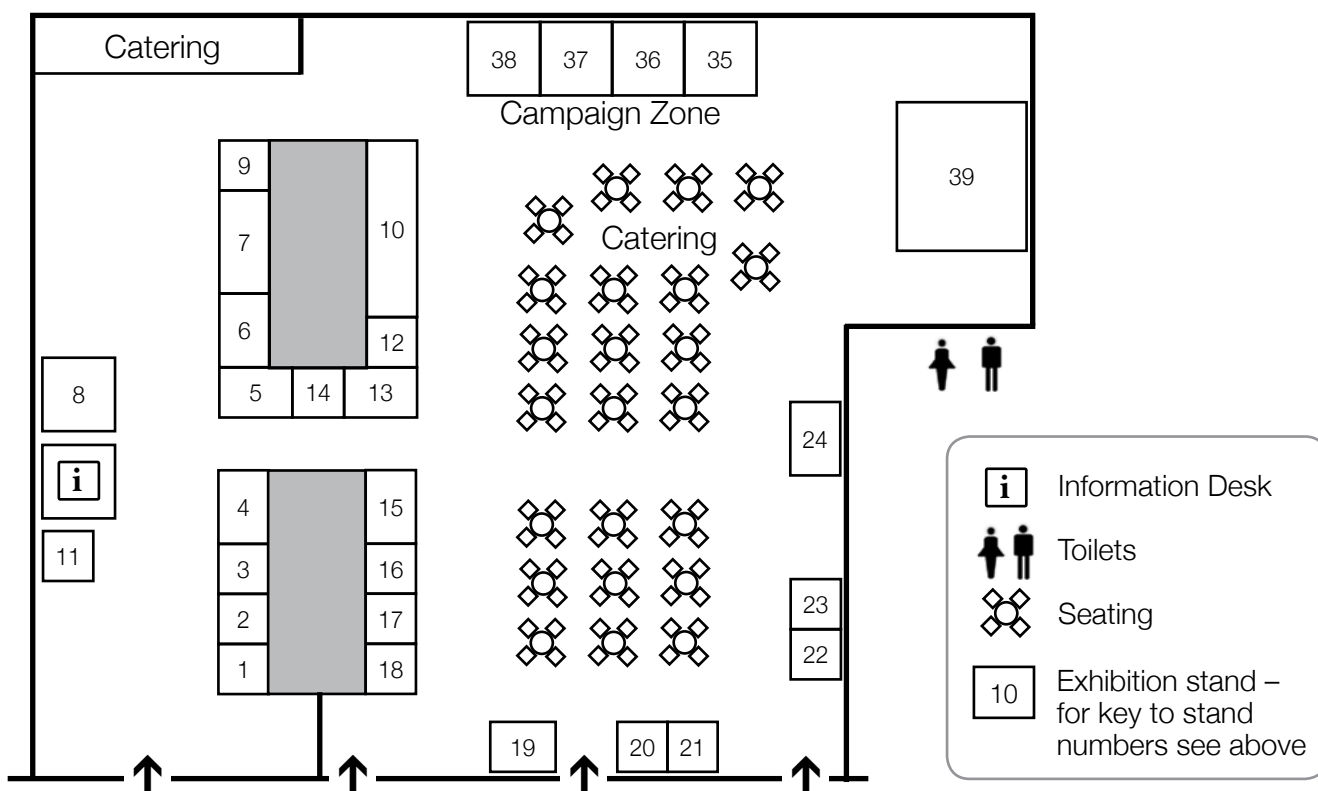
- 1 Agents and Organisers Association
- 2 ALDES - Engineers and Scientists
- 3 Liberal Youth
- 4 Liberal Democrat History Group
- 5 EMLD
- 6 LGBT+ Liberal Democrats
- 7 LDEG (Liberal Democrat European Group)
- 8 Glasgow City Marketing Bureau
- 9 CentreForum
- 10 Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors and LGA Liberal Democrat Group
- 11 Campaign for Fairer Gambling
- 12 Parliamentary Candidates Association
- 13 Airport Operators Association
- 14 Liberal Democrats for Electoral Reform

Stand Exhibitor

- 15 Liberal Democrat Women
- 16 Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association
- 17 Liberal Democrat Education Association
- 18 Green Liberal Democrats
- 19 ALTER
- 20 Humanist & Secularist Liberal Democrats
- 21 Liberal Democrat Disability Association
- 22 *Liberator*
- 23 Liberal Democrat Christian Forum
- 24 ActionAid
- 35 RISO / Midshire Business Systems
- 36 Prater Raines Foci2 Websites
- 37 Bishops Printers
- 38 ONEPOST
- 39 Liberal Democrat Image

exhibition plan

Cambridge and Durham halls, Hilton Metropole, upper ground floor



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Hanham Hall: One of the most environmentally advanced housing projects in the UK.

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But there's something that we've been doing for 50 years that we won't change—helping **aspiring home buyers** get a foot on the ladder.

For more information on Barratt Developments contact:



Patrick.Law@barrattplc.co.uk

Corporate Affairs Director

www.barrattdevelopments.co.uk

@Barrattplc



BARRATT
DEVELOPMENTS PLC

exhibition update continued

The following exhibitor is additional to those listed in the *Conference Agenda and Directory*.

Stand 11

Campaign for Fairer Gambling

Our campaign aims to remove Fixed Odds Betting Terminals (FOBTs) and their addictive, high speed, high stake, electronic casino games from betting shops. By gathering evidence of the problems and damage FOBTs cause we hope to engage with all politicians to rally support to remove FOBTs from our high streets.

www.stopthefobts.org



conference sponsors

Barratt Developments

Barratt Developments is the UK's leading house builder, creating communities where people aspire to live. The company builds around 13,000 homes a year, employing 25,000 people nationwide. It leads the industry in terms of quality and in recent years has invested in improving design, offering industry leading sustainable housing solutions and working more closely with local communities.



SITA UK

SITA UK is the leading recycling and resource management company. We deliver solutions to 12 million people and over 44,000 businesses across the UK, helping our customers to reduce the impact of their waste on the environment. Our purpose is to protect the environment by putting waste to good use.

www.sita.co.uk



fringe guide update

The following is an update to the listing in the fringe guide in the *Conference Agenda and Directory*.

saturday 9th march lunchtime 13.00–14.00

Green Liberal Democrats

Dash for Gas – What 'Fracking' Good is that for the Planet?

The Green Liberal Democrats debate the role of Gas in the transition to a low-carbon energy mix, together with the extraction of gas from shales, with Tessa Munt MP and Oliver Hayes from Friends of the Earth.

Hall 8 C



Ministerial Q&A sessions

The timing of the Ministerial Q&A session **Green Jobs** on Saturday 9th March has changed and will take place 30 minutes later than originally advertised:

Saturday 9th March 16.30–17.30 Green Jobs with Ed Davey MP and Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP.





Hilton

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Breakfast: Waterhouse Restaurant 7am – 11am

Serving full English breakfast, pastries, fruit & freshly ground coffee

Waterhouse Bar & Terrace from 8am

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Lunch: Exhibition Halls 11.30am – 3pm

Dish of the day (Saturday only) £5.95, jacket potatoes, home made soup served along side, grab & go packed lunches £6.50, express coffees, soft drinks, fruit and confectionery

Lunch: Waterhouse Restaurant 12pm – 6pm

Saturday Lunch buffet and Tea by the Sea, delicious three tier cream teas with delicate finger sandwiches, scones, mini pastries & Hilton macarons

Dinner: Waterhouse Restaurant 7pm – 9pm

Delicious two course carvery with either a glass of wine or bottle of beer for £20 per person

Late snacks: Waterhouse Bar & Terrace

Both simple or decadent snacks are available until late in the Waterhouse Bar & Terrace, accompanied by the finest gins, whiskies & cocktails in town

Express Coffee

8.30am – 6.30pm
in exhibition halls



Grab & Go Packed Lunches

available from 12 noon
in exhibition halls
inc sandwich, fruit, crisps
& bottle of water £6.50



2:4:1 Bottled Beers & Wines

Cambridge bar
Exhibition Halls
4.30pm-6.30pm



Conference catering at The Hilton Brighton Metropole

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more at Stand 8



Liberal Democrat Autumn Conference, SECC Glasgow

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14-18 September 2013

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saturday 9th march

timetable for saturday 9th march

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.

			<i>Page</i>
09.00–09.05	F1	Formal opening of conference by Tim Farron MP	
09.05–09.30	F2	Report: Federal Conference Committee	9
	F3	Report: Federal Policy Committee	9
09.30–10.15	F4	Constitutional amendment: Amendment to Article 10.2	
10.15–11.00	F5	Policy motion: Every Child Taught by an Excellent Teacher	9
11.00–11.20	F6	Speech: Lord Ashdown, Chair of the General Election Campaign	
11.20–12.10	F7	Consultative session: Election Manifesto 2015	10
12.20–12.40	F8	Speech: Steve Webb MP	
13.00–14.00		Lunchtime fringe	
14.20–14.50	F9	Report: Federal Executive	10
	F10	Report: Federal Finance and Administration Committee	
	F11	Report: Diversity and Engagement Group	11
	F12	Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	11
14.50–15.50	F13	Policy motion: Revitalising the Rural Economy	11
15.50–16.35	F14	Q&A session: Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP	
16.35–17.20	F15	Policy motion: Justice in Social Security Tribunals	12
17.20–18.00	F16	Reports: Parliamentary Parties	12
18.15 – 02.00		Evening fringe	

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*.

left luggage

There will be no left luggage facilities available in the conference venue.

On Sunday 10th March your hotel should be able to store your luggage for you after checkout. You will not be able to leave your luggage at the conference hotel unless you have been a resident there.

fcc help desk

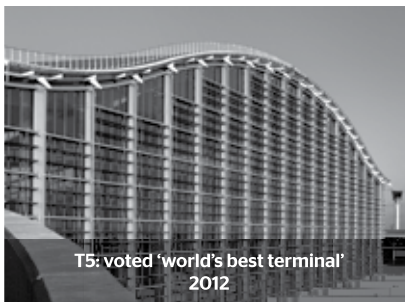
Members of the Federal Conference Committee will be available to give advice about the conduct of conference at the Information Desk in the exhibition:

Saturday 9th March 09.00–10.30

Saturday 9th March 14.00–16.00

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

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Heathrow

saturday 9th march

09.05 Party business

F2 Federal Conference Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by Zoë O'Connell, Cambridge

What meetings have occurred and what decisions have been taken in respect of accreditation at Autumn 2013 conference?

F3 Federal Policy Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by Paula Keaveney, Garston and Halewood

My understanding is that FPC is one of the 'homes of Lib Dem policy making'. What advice, if any, did FPC give to our MPs and Government ministers on the wisdom of introducing a measure, the so called 'bedroom tax', which penalises people retrospectively?

10.15 Policy motion

F5 Every Child Taught by an Excellent Teacher

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

1 *Delete a) (lines 35–37) and insert:*

- 2 a) All classroom teachers, including in academies and free schools and Further Education
3 colleges, to be required to have Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or Qualified Teacher in
4 Learning and Skills (QTLS) Status or to be working towards them, to be achieved within
5 three years of employment.

Amendment One

10 conference representatives

Mover: Cllr Liz Green

Summation: David Ryder-Mills

1 *After VI. (line 15), insert:*

- 2 VII. An over-burdensome National Curriculum is a straitjacket that prevents teachers adapting
3 their lessons to the individual needs of the children in their class and discourages new
4 entrants into the profession.

5 *In B. (line 22), after 'classroom', insert: ', including through a less prescriptive National*
6 *Curriculum,'.*

7 *After C. (line 26), insert:*

- 8 D. That all schools, regardless of their category, should teach a broad and balanced curriculum,
9 including a short, mandatory National Curriculum focused on the essential skills and
10 knowledge every child needs to succeed.



saturday 9th march

11 *After ii) (line 33), insert:*

- 12 iii) The principles behind the new draft National Curriculum, that gives more freedom to schools
13 and teachers by focusing on the essentials and also for the first time features vital life skills.
14 iv) The coalition government's decision to explicitly prohibit Free Schools from teaching
15 creationism as scientific fact, reflecting the position for maintained schools and Academies.

16 *After a) (line 37), insert:*

- 17 b) The Department for Education to continue to develop the content of the draft National
18 Curriculum in meaningful partnership with heads and teachers and subject specialists.
19 c) All schools, including academies and free schools, to subsequently be required to teach the
20 new, slimmed down, National Curriculum.

Background briefing

This motion updates and develops policy on teacher qualifications. Key proposals include requiring all classroom teachers, including those in academies and free schools, to have Qualified Teacher Status or Qualified Teacher in Learning and Skills Status, or to be working towards them.

Existing party policy on teacher qualifications is set out in policy paper 89, *Equity and Excellence* (2009).

11.20 Consultative session

F7 Election Manifesto 2015

This session will include an opening presentation by David Laws MP and Sharon Bowles MEP.

The session will be structured around the three themes of a stronger economy, a fairer society, and enabling every person to get on in life. Contributions on these themes are particularly welcome, but representatives may put in a card to speak on any topic. See page 37 of the Conference Agenda and Directory.

14.20 Party business

F9 Report of the Federal Executive

Q1. Submitted by Roger Stephens, Aylesbury

The Federal Executive report under the heading Lib Dem News/ Ad Lib, states that the change from weekly tabloid to monthly A5 magazine has given 'the ability to create more content of interest to members with the greater space that a magazine allows.'

How can this statement be justified when the change has meant that over a full year there will be a reduction in the space available for content of over 66%?

Just one consequence is that the number of readers' letters published in a year will be cut from around 500 to 60 while scarce space is now being wasted on such things as recipes and party celebrities' choices of desert island discs.



saturday 9th march

Q2. Submitted by Cllr Prue Bray, Wokingham

Many party members have expertise in areas such as communications, PR, IT, media and the law, which they would be very happy to use for the benefit of the party. There are also many party members who would be happy to give up time to assist with day-to-day tasks to help the party run smoothly or campaign more effectively. But there does not seem to be any mechanism in place at the centre of the party for harnessing the time and the talents of these many willing people.

The campaign in Eastleigh showed what the party can achieve with the help of many willing volunteers. Will the Federal Executive consider appointing a volunteer co-ordinator to help the party get maximum benefit from willing volunteers, not just during elections but on an on-going basis?

Q3. Submitted by Andrew Hudson, Barrow and Furness

Why were the rules changed on the artwork rules for submitting accompanying statements to nominations without the rule change going through conference?

Q4. Submitted by Paula Keaveney, Gaston and Halewood

We have previously been told that one of the roles of Federal Executive is to advise the leadership on issues affecting the party and its core principles. What did FE say about the wisdom of the so called 'bedroom tax'?

Q5. Submitted by Zoë O'Connell, Cambridge

What meetings have occurred and what decisions have been taken in respect of accreditation at Autumn 2013 conference?

F11 Report of the Diversity and Engagement Group

Q1. Submitted by Simon McGrath, Merton

What criteria were used when deciding that people of Irish origin were now included as being an ethnic minority for the purposes of participation in the Leadership programme?

F12 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance

Mover: Tamora Langley (Chair, Campaign for Gender Balance)

14.50 Policy motion

F13 Revitalising the Rural Economy

There will be a separate vote on d) (lines 23–24).

Background briefing

This motion updates party policy on a range of issues affecting the rural economy, including the impact of second homes, investment in modern infrastructure and sustainable rural jobs.



saturday 9th march

Existing party policy on the rural economy is set out in the 2010 General Election Manifesto *Change That Works For You* and conference motion *Rural Communities* (2006).

16.35 Policy motion

F15 Justice in Social Security Tribunals

This motion stands in the name of Stockton and Middlesbrough local parties, not in the name of 12 representatives.

Background Briefing

This motion creates new policy on appeal rights at Social Security Tribunals.

Existing party policy on access to advice and legal aid is set out in conference motion *Access to Justice* (2011).

17.20 Party business

F16 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties

Q1. Submitted by Andrew Hudson, Barrow and Furness

How can the energy bill produce reforms to deliver affordable low carbon energy when bills are due to rise or protect energy security with the dash for gas?

Q2. Submitted by Gareth Epps, Greater Reading

Following the welcome report of progress on accreditation for Party conferences at Brighton in the Autumn, could we please be given an update on progress to date?

Q3. Submitted by Caron Lindsay, Dunfermline West

Mike Crockart and Julian Huppert are the Lib Dem experts on the Justice and Security Bill. Why were they not listened to when the Party decided how to vote?

Q4. Submitted by Paula Keaveney, Gaston and Halewood

What possible reason can there be for our ministers and parliamentarians to support the so-called bedroom tax which penalises people retrospectively?

Q5. Submitted by Zoë O'Connell, Cambridge

Can the parliamentary party provide an update on its discussions with the Home Office in relation to political conference accreditation?

Q6. Lucy-Marie Nelson, East Worthing and Adur

What steps are being taken to ensure local parties and the European Parliamentary Party can work on an integrated basis on campaigns run by MEPs?



advance notice for sunday 10th march

09.30 Emergency motion or topical issue

Emergency motions will be selected by ballot; see page 15.

10.00 Policy motion

F18 Corporate Tax Avoidance

Amendment One

15 conference representatives

Mover: Lisa Smart

Summation: To be announced

1 *In a) (line 18), after 'share', insert 'with other tax authorities'.*

2 *Delete c) (lines 20–21).*

3 *Delete 3. and 4. (lines 28–32) and insert:*

4 3. Move to a principles-based approach to tackling tax avoidance, specifically:

5 a) Extend the scope of the existing GAAR to cover all transactions for which tax avoidance
6 is the primary motive, in line with the Australian approach.

7 b) Simplify and shorten the tax code by replacing existing specific anti-avoidance
8 legislation with the new GAAR.

9 c) Introduce a comprehensive pre-clearance system to give taxpayers certainty before
10 they enter into a transaction.

11 d) Thereby switch more of the focus of tax inspectors to preventing avoidance transactions
12 before they happen rather than seeking to catch them after they have taken place.

11.00 Policy motion

F20 Creating a Strong Manufacturing Sector in a Stronger Economy

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

1 *After 2. (line 30), insert:*

2 3. UK University research to be recognised as a key driver for innovation, both in existing
3 manufacturing processes and in the development of future industries. Government should
4 continue to close the gap between university research and manufacturing uptake, further
5 supporting initiatives such as the Research Councils' Centres for Innovative Manufacturing
6 and the TSB Catapult Centres.



advance notice for sunday 10th march

Amendment One

15 conference representatives

Mover: Mike Tuffrey

Summation: To be announced

1 After 4. (line 36), add:

2 5. The expansion of the Green Investment Bank's scale and remit as fast as possible, including
3 relaxing the restriction on its ability to borrow before total public sector debt begins to fall,
4 in order to support green manufacturing, generate jobs, increase tax revenues and lay the
5 foundations for long-term prosperity.

6 6. Government to scrap the review in 2014 of the fourth carbon budget target imposed by the
7 Chancellor, helping to end the current uncertainty over the government's low-carbon policies
8 and reinforce confidence amongst investors in low-carbon manufacturing, technology and
9 infrastructure.

Meet Mike Thornton MP and the Eastleigh campaign team

Come and meet our newest MP & members of the winning campaign team from the Eastleigh by-election.

You'll be able to meet the team who designed the literature, the suppliers who produced it, as well as the people behind the online, phone and doorstep campaigns in Eastleigh.



4.15pm in the Campaign Zone

The campaign zone is located in the main exhibition area

emergency motions ballot

Emergency motions will be debated at agenda item F17 between 09.00 and 10.00 on 10th March. There will be two half-hour debates depending on the outcome of the Emergency Motions ballot. However, FCC has decided that Emergency Motion 6 will require an hour to debate. Therefore, if Emergency Motion 6 comes top of the ballot, only that motion will be debated. If Emergency Motion 6 comes second in the ballot, there will not be time to debate it in the 30 minutes remaining, and the third motion in the ballot will be debated in the second slot instead.

The ballot will take place on Saturday morning in the auditorium. Please vote using the attached ballot paper and return it to the ballot box between 9.00 and 13.00 on Saturday 9th March.

Emergency Motion 1: Competition Rules to be Imposed on the NHS

Shrewsbury and Atcham

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 a) On 13 Feb 2013 the government published “Regulations on procurement, patient choice
3 and competition” that will determine the way the Health and Social Care Act 2012 is carried
4 out.
5 b) These regulations make it clear that promises on the place of competition in the NHS have
6 not been delivered.
7 c) These promises were made by Nick Clegg and Shirley Williams to Liberal Democrats,
8 by Lord Howe to Liberal Democrat Peer Tim Clement Jones and by Andrew Lansley to
9 prospective Clinical Commissioning Groups.

10 Conference further notes the party has:

- 11 1. Expressed concerns about fragmentation and privatisation in the NHS (March 2008).
12 2. Drawn attention to the many undesirable effects likely to arise from the proposals in the NHS
13 White Paper (March 2011).
14 3. Declined to support the Health and Social Care Bill (March 2012).

15 Conference believes that the health of the UK is most effectively and efficiently served by an
16 integrated, co-ordinated, co-operative, public service NHS.

17 Conference therefore resolves that in view of the failure to deliver on promises made and
18 reassurances given no regulations made under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 are
19 acceptable if they force the NHS to operate competitive markets.

Emergency Motion 2: Continuing Our Opposition to Secret Courts

55 conference representatives

1 Conference notes:

- 2 i) The motion ‘No Government Above the Law – the Justice and Security Bill’ passed
3 overwhelmingly at the Liberal Democrat Federal Conference in September 2012 called for:
4 a) Part II of the Justice and Security Bill to be withdrawn or defeated by Liberal Democrat
5 parliamentarians; and
6 b) Public Interest Immunity to be put into legislation.
7 ii) That the amendment calling for ‘CMPs to be used only as a last resort and in cases that
8 would otherwise be incapable of being tried’ was rejected overwhelmingly by the Liberal



emergency motions ballot

- 9 Democrat Conference.
- 10 iii) That Liberal Democrat peers formed the majority of those voting in the Lords to remove secret
11 courts from the Justice and Security Bill.
- 12 iv) The Liberal Democrat party's unique characteristic is that party members decide policy at
13 Federal Conference.
- 14 v) That despite the above, the government's amendments passed in January and February 2013
15 undo the Lords amendments and put the Bill back into a non-JCHR compliant state. That on
16 5th February 2013 Liberal Democrat MPs Julian Huppert and Mike Crockart voted, along with
17 Labour MPs, to remove clause 6 (the 'secret courts clause') from the Bill in Committee but
18 were defeated by one vote.
- 19 vi) That the Report stage of the Bill debated government amendments which fail to deliver the
20 last resort provision, or the judicial balancing of public interest in open and fair administration
21 of justice against national security considerations.
- 22 vii) That the Commons Report stage of the Justice and Security Bill takes place on 4th and 7th
23 March which falls immediately prior to Liberal Democrat Spring Conference, and the outcome
24 of that stage is unknown at the time of submitting this motion.

25 Conference believes:

- 26 A. That the measures in Part II of the Justice and Security Bill will mean the courts system of the
27 United Kingdom will provide neither justice nor security in cases involving allegations against
28 the state of the most serious nature including torture, rendition, negligence of armed forces,
29 malicious prosecution and false imprisonment.
- 30 B. That the proposals in the Justice and Security Bill are directly contradictory to the core
31 values and stated purpose of the Liberal Democrat party as enshrined in the Preamble to the
32 Constitution, namely to "build and safeguard a fair, free and open society".
- 33 C. That Part II of the Justice and Security Bill should be withdrawn immediately.

34 Conference repeats its call for:

- 35 1. Liberal Democrat parliamentarians to vote to delete Part II of the Justice and Security Bill.
- 36 2. Party policy to remain that the Liberal Democrats will repeal Part II of the Justice and Security
37 Act (if so enacted) as soon as we are in a position to do so.

Emergency Motion 3: Dilnot

10 conference representatives

1 Conference welcomes the publication of the Coalition Government's response to the Review of
2 Funding of Care and Support (the Dilnot Review). The new measures include:

3 A. From April 2017:

- 4 i) A £61,000 (in 2010 prices) cap on care costs, which gives everyone the reassurance that
5 they will have a level of protection, if they have the most serious needs and incur very
6 high care costs.
- 7 ii) New financial protection for those with assets of up to £100,000.

8 B. From April 2015:

- 9 i) No-one will have to sell their home in their lifetime to pay for residential care. If people



emergency motions ballot

- 10 cannot afford their fees without selling their home, they will have the right to defer paying
11 during their lifetime.
- 12 ii) A national minimum eligibility will make access to care more consistent around the
13 country, and carers will have a legal right to an assessment for care for the first time.

14 Conference calls for further measures to improve the quality of social care support, including:

- 15 1. A study into the feasibility of the introduction of 'care advisers' to support people with ensuring
16 all their care needs are met, that they receive appropriate continuity of care and do not fall
17 between the gaps between services.
- 18 2. A continued focus on recruitment of a high quality social care workforce, including going
19 beyond the commitment in the 'Caring for our future: reforming care and support' White
20 Paper to double the number of social care apprentices.

Emergency Motion 4: Equal Marriage

LGBT+

1 Conference agrees with the Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP who said: "Marriage is about love and
2 commitment, and it should no longer be denied to people just because they are gay".

3 Conference welcomes the Marriage (Same-Sex Couples) Bill passing second reading on the 5th
4 February 2013 with a huge parliamentary majority of 61.5%.

5 Conference notes that the Bill does not yet currently entirely fulfil Liberal Democrat Party Policy
6 written in September 2010 Autumn Conference Motion "Equal Marriage in the United Kingdom".

7 Conference believes:

- 8 i. That Liberal Democrats are the only mainstream political party with a long standing
9 commitment to Equal Marriage.
- 10 ii. That Equal Marriage is finally being made a reality thanks to the work of Liberal Democrat
11 Ministers like Lynne Featherstone MP & Jo Swinson MP within the Coalition Government.
- 12 iii. That due to Liberal Democrats presence in this Coalition Government it is committed to
13 building a fairer society by advancing equality for all sexual and gender minorities including
14 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

15 Conference notes that the overwhelming majority of those MPs voting against the Marriage (Same-
16 Sex Couples) Bill were Conservatives. Conference notes that 22 Labour MPs and only 4 Liberal
17 Democrats also voted against.

18 Conference calls for:

- 19 1. Liberal Democrats to continue to campaign for the right for mixed-sex couples to enter into
20 civil partnerships as highlighted in the Bill Committee stage led by Stephen Williams MP
- 21 2. Liberal Democrats to continue to campaign for the right of couples forced to divorce under
22 the Gender Recognition Act, to have their marriages restored and considered continuous
23 from the original marriage date and also to remove the right of a spouse to veto their partner's
24 legal change of gender.
- 25 3. Liberal Democrats to continue to campaign for the rights of couples where either or both
26 partners does not identify as a man or as a woman.



emergency motions ballot

- 27 4. Those Liberal Democrat Parliamentarians who have failed to support the Bill during its various
28 stages as well as those who feel unable to in future to meet with LGBT+ Lib Dems
29 5. Parliamentarians to ensure that the Bill reflects the wide reality of sexuality and gender
30 diversity, including lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people, rather than concentrating on
31 specific, popular, and well-lobbied strands.

Emergency Motion 5: Implementing the Leveson Report

13 conference representatives

1 Conference notes:

- 2 1. The high standards of much British journalism.
3 2. The appalling behaviour of some parts of the press in industrial-scale violation of the rights of
4 citizens in respect of defamation, invasion of privacy, data theft and harassment without any
5 public interest justification.
6 3. The inappropriate and sometimes corrupt relationship between some newspapers and the
7 police.
8 4. The undemocratic and corrosive relationship between some senior newspaper executives
9 and proprietors and successive Governments and opposition leaders.
10 5. The inability of the Press Complaints Commission to implement its own Code of Conduct or
11 to enforce appropriate standards of ethical behaviour.
12 6. The decades of refusal by the press to regulate its own affairs in a way that upholds standards
13 and protects ordinary citizens and the public interest.
14 7. The continuing and unacceptable levels of concentration of media power in too few hands.

15 Conference welcomes:

- 16 A) The establishment and the report of the Leveson Inquiry which conducted a thorough, fair
17 and public investigation.
18 B) The findings of the Leveson Inquiry which identified the harm caused to the victims of press
19 abuse.
20 C) The recommendations of the Leveson Inquiry that:
21 i) There should be a new system of independent, voluntary self-regulation.
22 ii) It should be periodically inspected by a statutory recognition body to guarantee that the
23 successor system to the PCC is independent, fair, effective and enduring.
24 iii) News publishers which choose to join a recognised regulator with an arbitration service
25 will benefit through reduced court costs and protection from exemplary damages.
26 iv) Data protection laws should be amended to better improve the balance between
27 journalism and the right to protect personal information.
28 v) There should be greater transparency of relationships between powerful press interests,
29 ministers and politicians.

30 Conference respects and applauds the willingness of victims to come forward and give evidence
31 at the Inquiry despite subjecting themselves to additional distress.

32 Conference applauds the support given to victims of press abuse, and to the Leveson
33 Inquiry and its conclusions by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Liberal Democrats, and regrets
34 the decision of the Prime Minister to oppose key recommendations of the report.



emergency motions ballot

35 Conference believes that:

- 36 I. The Leveson recommendations are no threat to free expression.
- 37 II. The recommendations will safeguard whistle-blowers and are compliant with human rights
38 law.
- 39 III. Legislation to provide for the establishment of a Recognition Body which can verify the
40 independence, fairness and continuing effectiveness of new voluntary self-regulators is the
41 best way to replace the discredited PCC.
- 42 IV. The Recognition Body, as recommended by Leveson, must be wholly independent of press
43 AND political influence.
- 44 V. Leveson's recommendations on reforming data protection law should be implemented in
45 such a way as to safeguard investigative journalism.
- 46 VI. Secret meetings between media executives and politicians on all areas of public policy should
47 end, as Leveson recommended.
- 48 VII. Affordable access to justice in the courts in tandem with a low cost arbitration system is vital
49 for victims of press abuse and small publishers alike.
- 50 VIII. The Home Office should heed the warning of Lord Justice Leveson and refrain from reforming
51 police search powers in a way that threatens the public interest in the protection of journalist
52 sources.

53 Conference further notes the proposals from Conservative ministers published on 12th February to
54 establish a Recognition Commission by Royal Charter rather than by legislation.

55 Conference further believes that:

- 56 a) All-party agreement is the most desirable way forward, as long as Leveson's recommendations
57 are not diluted or compromised.
- 58 b) Liberal Democrats should support a Royal Charter to deliver the Leveson reforms only if it:
59 i. Was fully protected in statute from executive interference.
60 ii. Delivered the Leveson conditions for effective self-regulation in full.
61 iii. Was accompanied by statute to fully implement necessary incentives on costs, exemplary
62 damages and data protection.
63 iv. Fully implemented Leveson's recommendations on how the recognition process should
64 work.
- 65 c) In the continuing absence of a Royal Charter proposal that is acceptable and supportable,
66 Liberal Democrats in Parliament should support any legislative proposal which is able to fully
67 implement the Leveson Recommendations on press regulation, and that the Defamation Bill
68 is unsuitable for this purpose and should be safeguarded.
- 69 d) Any failure of the press as a whole or of significant news publishers to set up an approved self-
70 regulator should – as all three main party leaders have said – trigger equivalent independent
71 regulation set up by statute until such time as the industry complies.

Emergency Motion 6: Kick-starting the Economy

32 conference representatives

1 Conference is concerned that the latest published figures show:

- 2 i) Low growth, as announced on January 25th, 2013.
- 3 ii) Negative net bank lending (especially by RBS and Lloyds), as confirmed on March 4th 2013.
- 4 iii) Weak manufacturing confidence as announced on March 4th 2013.



emergency motions ballot

5 While real incomes are being squeezed for the fourth year in a row, with retail prices rising at 3.3%
6 pa, more than twice as fast as average earnings at 1.4% as announced on February 12th 2013.

7 While noting positive trends in employment and company start-ups, conference believes our
8 economy continues to suffer in the wake of the disastrous banking crisis from a serious shortage of
9 confidence and domestic demand, and therefore calls on Liberal Democrat ministers to show unity
10 and resolve not only to reduce the structural deficit in the budget but to take radical action to get
11 growth going again with a bold Plan A+ with these four pillars:

- 12 1. Get the builders building.
- 13 2. Get the banks lending to business.
- 14 3. Prevent a slash and burn approach to public spending.
- 15 4. Bring in the mansion tax.

16 Conference calls for:

- 17 a) Loosening the strait-jacket preventing public capital investment by government and councils
18 and realising a once in a lifetime opportunity to invest using low interest rates.
- 19 b) A firm commitment to increase house building by at least 100,000 houses a year by 2015
20 including at least 50,000 more social homes by freeing councils and housing associations to
21 borrow and build.
- 22 c) Urgent action to step up lending to SMEs through the imposition of net lending targets on
23 semi state owned banks as in the Coalition Agreement, including consideration of whether it
24 is necessary to split them in to good and bad banks, and further development of the Business
25 Bank and Green Investment Bank.
- 26 d) Resisting pressures to agree to curbs on public spending beyond the lifetime of this parliament
27 when this Coalition Government will be over.
- 28 e) Shifting the tax burden from hard earned income to wealth with a Mansion Tax of 1% a year
29 on a property's excess value over £2m to help lift the income tax threshold to £10,000.

Emergency Motion 7: Mid-Staffordshire

10 representatives

1 Conference notes the publication of the Francis Inquiry into failings at Stafford hospital. Between
2 2005 and 2008 conditions of appalling care were able to continue at Stafford hospital, in spite of a
3 range of organisations being responsible for the scrutiny of the Mid Staffordshire General Hospital
4 NHS Trust. An inquiry was commissioned in 2009 to give a voice to those who had suffered at
5 Stafford and to investigate the failings of the trust. The recommendations the Francis Inquiry
6 included:

- 7 a) The merger of the regulation of care into one body.
- 8 b) A strengthened code of conduct for NHS Managers.
- 9 c) A new criminal offence of hiding information about poor care that leads to death or serious
10 harm.
- 11 d) A statutory obligation on doctors and nurses for a duty of candour so they are open with
12 patients about mistakes.
- 13 e) An increased focus on compassion in the recruitment, training and education of nurses.

14 Conferences welcomes the Coalition Government's commitment to a renewed focus on listening
15 to patients in its response to the inquiry, expected in March 2013.



emergency motions ballot

16 Conference calls for:

- 17 1. A duty of candour on doctors and nurses for so they are open with patients about mistakes.
- 18 2. A strengthening of the inspection regime for NHS providers including a focus on the quality of
- 19 individual departments, wards and consultant teams.
- 20 3. The inspection regime to prioritise patient feedback above all other factors.
- 21 4. A review of the impact of financial and operational targets in the NHS.
- 22 5. A renewed focus on patient safety in the NHS, including the system of learning from
- 23 complaints or 'near-misses' and zero tolerance on failure to adopt basic care standards.
- 24 6. Improved regulation and training of healthcare assistants.

Emergency Motion 8: Reducing Pollution through the Energy Bill

23 conference representatives

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 a) The Energy Bill will shape the future of UK energy generation for the next forty years.
- 3 b) Early investment in non-fossil fuel generation would help stimulate the UK economy, protect it
- 4 from fossil fuel price hikes, and make the country more competitive.
- 5 c) Long term certainty about decarbonisation is needed to stimulate sufficient investment in
- 6 green electricity generation.

7 Conference further notes that:

- 8 1. The Liberal Democrats have policy calling for a electricity decarbonisation target to be set to
- 9 help the UK meet its Climate Change Act obligations.
- 10 2. The final draft of the Energy Bill released on 7th February 2013, however, did not require an
- 11 electricity decarbonisation target to be set in this parliament. It merely stated that there may
- 12 be one set in future, and prevents it from happening before 2016.
- 13 3. On 7th February 2013 a cross-party amendment to the Energy Bill was submitted by two
- 14 members of the all-party Energy and Climate Change Select Committee (including its
- 15 Conservative chair). The amendment called for an electricity decarbonisation target, in line
- 16 with that recommended by the government's 'Committee on Climate Change', to be set by
- 17 2014.

18 Conference is concerned that:

- 19 i) If a decarbonisation target is not set in this parliament, there is a risk it will never happen.
- 20 ii) The lack of a target will erode the confidence required for large scale investment in cleaner
- 21 energy infrastructure, and risk the UK falling further behind on green jobs and technology.
- 22 iii) The Committee on Climate Change has explicitly said that a target to remove the majority of
- 23 carbon from electricity by 2030 should be included in this Energy Bill.

24 Conference resolves to commend to all Liberal Democrats the Energy Bill amendment proposed
25 by the Chair of the Energy and Climate Change Select Committee.



emergency motions ballot

Emergency Motion 9: Tackling the Threat to Bees

10 representatives

- 1 Conference recognises the crucial role which bees and other insect pollinators play in the
2 pollination of crops and pastures, in maintaining bio-diversity and their contribution to the UK
3 food economy.
- 4 Conference notes the proposals from the European Commission on 31st January 2013 to ban
5 the use of certain neonicotinoids for use on flowering crops.
- 6 Conference notes with concern declines in populations of wild pollinators including:
- 7 i) Six of the 25 bumblebee species in the UK declining by at least 80% in last 50 years and
8 positive trends reported for only two species.
- 9 ii) Over 250 UK pollinators, including bees, moths and butterflies are so threatened that they
10 are listed on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority list.
- 11 iii) Despite recent improvements in the rate of loss of wild flower meadows these declines are
12 not reversing.
- 13 iv) Research suggesting a link between the health of honeybees and wild bee populations and
14 the use of certain neonicotinoid based products.
- 15 v) Changes in the UK landscape resulting in the loss of bees' natural habitat.
- 16 vi) The potentially significant impact on the economy and food production posed by a decline
17 in the number of both natural and commercially reared pollinators, most notably the several
18 hundred million pounds per annum that derives from insect pollination.
- 19 Conference recognises:
- 20 1. The value of the precautionary approach, acknowledging scientific evidence of a risk to bees
21 and the importance of protecting pollinators.
- 22 2. The need for a harmonised approach to the use of neonicotinoids and the decision by
23 several EU member states to ban their use.
- 24 3. The pressure to produce food in the volumes required to feed a growing population against
25 an increasingly challenging backdrop created by changes in weather patterns, rising costs
26 and crop disease.
- 27 Conference therefore calls for increased government action to tackle the decline in the bee and
28 pollinator populations through:
- 29 I. Supporting EU Commission proposals to restrict the authorised use of neonicotinoids;
- 30 II. Calling for a review of restrictions in 2 years, with an independent assessment of the
31 economic and agricultural impacts, as well as the impacts on the declining pollinator
32 populations, including wild bees, moths, butterflies and hoverflies.
- 33 III. Working closely with the farming community to encourage more bee and pollinator friendly
34 measures including greater crop rotation and the creation and maintenance of hedges and
35 wild flower rich meadows.
- 36 IV. Promoting the use of alternative pest control measures in food production.
- 37 V. Using the opportunity presented by the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy to call
38 for an increase in funding for Agri-Environmental Schemes, particularly the Higher Level
39 Stewardship, in helping to create and maintain meadows, grasslands and heathlands which
40 are vital habitats for bees.



emergency motions ballot paper

Please vote by listing your preferences in order (1, 2, 3 etc.)

Emergency motion 1: Competition Rules to be Imposed on the NHS	
Emergency motion 2: Continuing Our Opposition to Secret Courts	
Emergency motion 3: Dilnot	
Emergency motion 4: Equal Marriage	
Emergency motion 5: Implementing the Leveson Report	
Emergency motion 6: Kick-starting the Economy	
Emergency motion 7: Mid-Staffordshire	
Emergency motion 8: Reducing Pollution through the Energy Bill	
Emergency motion 9: Tackling the Threat to Bees	

There will be two half-hour debates depending on the outcome of this ballot. However, FCC has decided that Emergency Motion 6 will require an hour to debate. Therefore, if Emergency Motion 6 comes top of the ballot, only that motion will be debated. If Emergency Motion 6 comes second in the ballot, there will not be time to debate it in the 30 minutes remaining, and the third motion in the ballot will be debated in the second slot instead.

Please return this paper to the ballot box in the Auditorium in Hilton Metropole between 09.00 and 13.00 on Saturday 9th March.

You will need to show your voting representative's photo pass when submitting the ballot paper.