



# Spring Conference

York. 17th - 19th March 2017



**AGENDA & DIRECTORY**

Liberal  
Democr

Open, tolerant and united.

# Rally for Europe

Friday 17th March 2017

**18.30–19.30**

York Barbican, Auditorium



With Tim Farron, Sarah Olney, Nick Clegg and special guests



## Civic Drinks Reception



Members are invited to join Councillor Dave Taylor, The Right Honourable Lord Mayor of York, and Councillor Keith Aspden, Deputy Leader of City of York Council (Lib Dem), for welcome drinks before the Conference Rally.

**Friday 17 March 2017, 17.15–18.00, York Barbican**



# Contents

Welcome to the Agenda & Directory for the Liberal Democrat spring 2017 federal conference.

If you have any questions whilst at conference please ask a conference steward or go to the Information Desk in York Barbican.

## Conference venue

York Barbican  
Paragon Street  
York YO10 4NT

The conference venue will open at 16.30 on Friday 17th March.

## Conference hotel

Novotel York Centre  
Fishergate  
York YO10 4FD

## Official fringe venue

Hilton York  
1 Tower St  
York YO1 9WD

Further information, registration and conference publications (including plain text and clear print versions) are available at:



[www.libdems.org.uk/conference](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference)

Feature	2–3
Welcome to York <i>by Tim Farron</i>	2
Conference information	4–12
Conference venue plan	12
Exhibition:	13–17
List of exhibitors	13
Directory of exhibitors	14
Fringe guide:	19–33
Fringe venues and key	19
Friday fringe	20
Saturday fringe	22
Conference training programme	28
Agenda:	35–55
Agenda index and timetable	35
Friday 17th March	36
Saturday 18th March	37
Sunday 19th March	50
Autumn 2017 conference timetable	49
Federal Party	56
Map of York	back cover

ISBN 978-1-910763-29-2

Edited by Emma Price and published by The Conference Office, Liberal Democrats, 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.

Design and layout by Mike Cooper, [mike@mikecoopermcc.co.uk](mailto:mike@mikecoopermcc.co.uk).

Printed by Park Communications Ltd, Alpine Way, London E6 6LA.

Photographs © Liberal Democrats unless stated.



# Welcome to York

by Tim Farron MP

We gather this weekend as a party with a very clear mission: to fight for the United Kingdom's interests in Europe.

Whatever we think of the referendum campaign, the result was a narrow win for Leave that has opened up huge divisions in our country. It set up fierce debates in communities and families. It set regions and cities against each other and caused resentment between different generations.

Theresa May has fuelled those divisions by choosing the most damaging form of Brexit. That was a choice, not an inevitability.

As lamentable is Labour's appalling failure to hold the government to account. Instead of challenging May and the Conservatives, Jeremy Corbyn has become a cheerleader for a Tory Brexit Government hell bent on ripping us out of the Single Market.

In short, both May and Corbyn are content with choices that will leave the United Kingdom poorer, damage our security and reduce our influence in the world.

They have alienated our friends in the largest free market on the planet. Their choices will leave us vulnerable in negotiations with a United States

governed by a President who rails against everything we would consider British values to be.

People don't trust politicians.

After the referendum campaign that is not surprising. No-one – not a single Leave campaigner – set out a vision for where our country would end up.

Still, I don't dismiss the outcome of the referendum. I found the result very hard to swallow, but I accept the government has a mandate to negotiate an exit from the European Union.

It has no mandate to decide our final destination.

The only way to heal the divisions that have been exposed is to ensure that it is the people – not bureaucrats in Brussels or Whitehall, or politicians in Westminster – who have the final say on where we end up.

Theresa May has celebrated 'taking back control' and 'respecting the will of the British people'. She should do just that and give the people the final say on the deal.

Not Theresa May. Not Jeremy Corbyn. Not me.

The people.

This is a decision our country needs to make together: do we accept the Tories' hard Brexit deal or do we choose to stay in the European Union?

So as Jeremy Corbyn leads the Labour Party into political irrelevance, I want us to show that we Liberal Democrats are the real opposition to this government. We are the party through which people can express their anger at a Conservative government that is betraying our country's interests.

Up and down the country we are showing this to be the case. In by-election after by-election we are hammering Labour and the

Conservatives. Our clear statement of British interests and our commitment to working hard for our local areas is winning respect – and votes.

So whatever it is that brought you into our party, and here to York, throw yourself into our debates. Enjoy the chance to learn new ways to show people how we will stand alongside them and fight for their communities.

And leave York emboldened by the knowledge that 2017 will see us grow even stronger and more successful.

**Tim Farron is MP for Westmorland and Lonsdale and Leader of the Liberal Democrats**



# Conference information

If you have any questions on-site, please ask a steward or go to the Information Desk in the main foyer of York Barbican.

Be aware that flash photography is frequently used in the auditorium. Please ensure that all mobile phones are on silent before entering the auditorium.

Please note that access to York Barbican is only possible with a valid conference pass.

## Conference Access Fund

We have established a Conference Access Fund to improve accessibility for members attending conference. The fund consists of a contribution from the Conference budget as well as donations from party members. Any contributions made by members are ring-fenced for this purpose only and where applicable, any unused donations will be carried over to the next conference. For details see:

[www.libdems.org.uk/access-fund](http://www.libdems.org.uk/access-fund)

## Accommodation

Accommodation can be booked via our local partner, Visit York on 01904 550080.

## Banking facilities

Please note there is no ATM available at this venue or in the immediate vicinity.

## Cloakroom

York Barbican does not have a cloakroom; however rails will be available for attendees to leave coats at their own risk. Do not leave bags unattended at any point within the venue.

Please note that under no circumstances will any large bags or suitcases be allowed into York Barbican.

## Conference Daily

Conference Daily includes last-minute changes to the order of business; collect your copy on Saturday morning from the Information Desk or view it online at:

[www.libdems.org.uk/conference](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference)

## Disabled access

If you need assistance at the venue, please contact the Information Desk where our dedicated access steward will be on hand to help. If you need assistance or information in advance, contact the Conference Office on:

[conferences@libdems.org.uk](mailto:conferences@libdems.org.uk)

## Auditorium facilities

- A wheelchair lift at the right of the stage; the chair of the session will ensure wheelchair users are called in plenty of time to access the stage.
- An induction loop system, which can be linked to hearing aids.

## Conference information

- Sign language interpretation during all auditorium sessions; a number of seats are reserved for attendees using this service, at the front of the auditorium to the left of the stage.
- Reserved seats at the front of the auditorium for those who would benefit from being closer to the stage due to a visual impairment.

### Mobility aids

The Liberal Democrats have a limited number of electric scooters available for use around the conference venue – please note that they need to be returned each evening. To request the use of an electric scooter, tick the appropriate box when registering or prior to conference contact:

[conferences@libdem.org.uk](mailto:conferences@libdem.org.uk)

### Distribution of literature

Distribution of literature is not allowed inside or directly outside York



Barbican. Excessive distribution of promotional literature is not in line with the party's environmental policies.

Any persons attempting to bring a large number of fliers into the conference centre may be prohibited from entering and a dilapidation charge will be levied against any organisation or individual responsible for 'fly-posting'.

### FCC helpdesk

Members of the FCC will be available to give advice at the Information Desk at the following times:

Friday	17th March	17.00–18.00
Saturday	18th March	09.00–10.30
Saturday	18th March	14.00–16.00

### Federal Board helpdesk

The FB helpdesk is situated by the Information Desk. Members of the Federal Board will be available to have strategic conversations with members at the following times:

Saturday	18th March	10.30–12.30
Saturday	18th March	14.00–16.00
Sunday	19th March	10.30–12.30

### First Aid

In the event of needing First Aid, please speak to a conference steward or go to the Information Desk. The stewards will arrange for First Aiders to attend and/or request a paramedic.

## Conference information

### Information Desk

The Information Desk is located in the main foyer of York Barbican and is open as follows:

Friday	17th March	16.30–18.30
Saturday	18th March	08.30–18.30
Sunday	19th March	08.30–13.30

You can also contact the Information Desk by email or telephone:

conferenceinformation@libdems.org.uk  
01904 310047

### Internet access

Free wifi is available within York Barbican – no password is required.

Network name: Barbican Free

### Left luggage

On Sunday 19th March please store your luggage at your hotel after checkout. Alternatively, there is a secure, complimentary luggage service

in operation at the Novotel in Meeting Rooms 5 & 6. There will be a charitable box if you wish to donate to one of the hotel's chosen charities.

### Prayer and meditation room

Unfortunately due to venue restrictions we are unable to provide a prayer and meditation room at this event.

Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

### Registration on-site

On-site registration is located in the Box Office of York Barbican and is open at the following times:

Friday	17th March	16.30–18.30
Saturday	18th March	09.00–17.30

At busy times you may experience queues at on-site registration and we strongly advise all those wishing to attend conference to pre-register via:

[www.libdems.org.uk/conference](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference)

## Q&A sessions

There will be a series of Q&A sessions during conference, where you can come along and ask questions of our spokespeople. A fantastic opportunity for members to find out more about what our Parliamentarians are up to.

All sessions take place in the Lendal Room in York Barbican.

### Saturday 18th March

11.30–12.15 Education with John Pugh & Sue Garden  
12.30–13.15 Housing with John Shipley & Kath Pinnock

### Sunday 19th March

10.00–11.00 Brexit with Tom Brake, Sarah Ludford & Nick Clegg



## Conference information

If you have lost your conference photo pass, visit on-site registration to arrange a re-print. A replacement fee of £25 applies and photo passes are reissued at the discretion of the Registration Manager.

## Security and safety

Access to York Barbican is possible only with a valid, conference pass worn with the official lanyard. Conference photo passes must be worn visibly at all times within the secure zone. Anyone found in the secure area without a valid pass will be escorted from the venue.

Attendees will be subject to random bag searches at the entrance. To ensure you can access the venue as quickly as possible please only bring essential items with you into the conference venue. Please allow time for queuing during key times – particularly after lunch and ahead of popular events.

Under no circumstances will any large bags or suitcases be allowed into the secure zone.

### York Visitor Information Centre

15% off gifts in the Visitor Information Centre. A fantastic selection of York, Yorkshire and British made crafts and produce.

From handmade chocolates and biscuits to bath oils made from local lavender and much more!  
1 Museum Street, York YO1 7DT.

Any bag left unattended will be brought to the attention of the police and may be removed and/or destroyed.

## Transport and travel

York Barbican is 20 minutes walk from York train station or a short taxi ride.

## Bus tours offer

York City Sightseeing Hop-On Hop-Off bus tours are offering conference-goers 50% off their tour prices. Present your conference photo pass to the driver for 24 hours unlimited use for just £6.50 over the conference weekend.

[www.city-sightseeing.com](http://www.city-sightseeing.com)

## Taxis

Streamline Taxis are offering an exclusive 10% discount off all city taxi journeys. Present your photo pass to the driver at the start of your journey to claim your discount.

Telephone: 01904 656565

## Parking

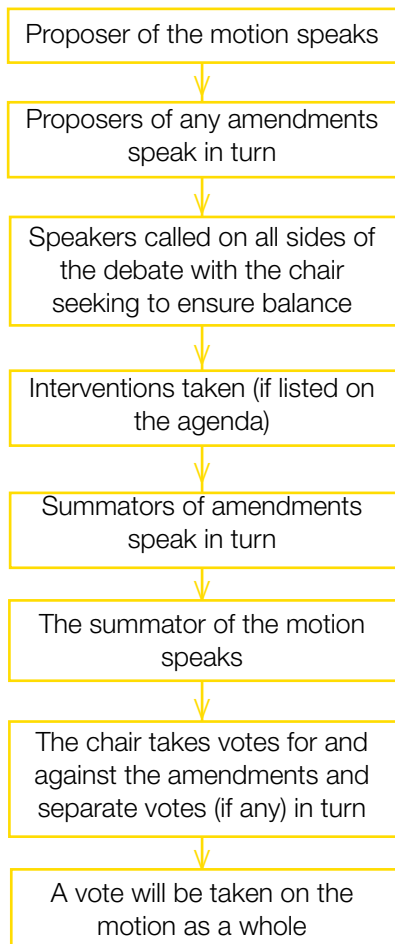
The nearest car park is Q park on Kent Street (YO10 4AH), just behind York Barbican. Q Park has 5 dedicated disabled parking spaces. Please note, these are not blue badge parking – for information on blue badge parking in York visit:

<http://bit.ly/1nMYIZu>

# Debates and votes at conference

Debates on policy and business motions are at the heart of federal conference. It is through them that the party sets its policy and future direction. Unlike in other parties, Liberal Democrat members are sovereign, and what they decide really matters.

## The structure of debate on policy and business motions:



**Interventions:** are concise (one minute) speeches made from the intervention microphone(s) on the floor of the auditorium, during debates where it is indicated in the *Agenda*.

**Amendments:** all motions except emergency motions are open to amendment; amendments accepted will be printed in *Conference Daily*.

**Voting:** decisions on most motions and on all amendments and separate votes are by simple majority of those voting (2/3 majority for constitutional amendments). To cast their votes, voting members must be seated on the ground floor of the auditorium and show their voting badge.

**Separate votes:** a vote on whether to delete or retain the specified words or section. A request for a separate vote may be submitted by any party member: by the start of the first conference session on the day before the debate is scheduled, **or** by the deadline for emergency motions for debates scheduled for the first day of conference; using the online form at [libdems.org.uk/conference\\_papers](http://libdems.org.uk/conference_papers), by email to [separate.votes@libdems.org.uk](mailto:separate.votes@libdems.org.uk), **or** in writing to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium.

**Counted vote:** the chair of the session may decide that a vote needs to be counted. Any voting member may request a count from the floor; if fifty voting representatives stand and show their voting cards, a count will be taken.

# Speaking and voting in conference debates

## Eligibility to speak and vote

All party members are entitled to speak and vote in conference debates, providing they are:

- attending conference as a party member (and not eg an exhibitor or observer); and
- not registered as a day visitor.

Party members fulfilling these criteria are known as ‘voting members’.

The Federal Conference Committee may also give permission for other persons to speak (but not vote) in conference debates.

## Length of speeches

The length of speeches is shown against each motion in the *Agenda*.

There are three lights on the speaker’s rostrum and visible either side of the stage. The green light is switched on at the beginning of the speech. The amber light is switched on 60 seconds before the end of the allowed time (20 seconds before the end of an intervention). The red light is switched on when all the time is used up, and the speaker must stop immediately.

## Applying to speak

To make a speech in a debate you must complete a speaker’s card, collected from and returned to the Speakers’ Table at the front of the

auditorium, an auditorium steward or the Information Desk.

## Completing a speaker’s card

When completing a speaker’s card, remember:

**1 Submit your card well in advance.** The chair and aide team for the debate will meet well in advance to plan the debate – sometimes the previous day.

**2 Fill in your card completely.** Complete the two sections on the back of the card as well as the front. These sections are needed for the chair and aide to balance the debate, so they can call people with relevant experience and avoid a string of people making the same point.

**3 Make sure it’s readable!** Don’t fill every square centimetre of the card; don’t write illegibly, in very small letters, or in green ink ... The easier you make it for the chair and aide to read the card the more likely you will be called.

## Interventions

To speak during interventions, voting members should complete an intervention form, collected from and returned to a steward in the auditorium. Speakers will be chosen by the chair of the session by random ballot.

# Other conference sessions

## Emergency motions and topical issue discussions

Emergency motions are debated and voted on and make formal party policy like other motions, but refer to a substantial development since the deadline for submission of motions.

Motions selected for debate, and/or for selection by ballot along with the ballot procedure, will be printed in *Saturday's Conference Daily*.

Topical issue discussions allow members and spokespeople to discuss and comment on a political issue live at the time of conference; they do not make party policy.

The topical issue to be discussed is chosen by officers of the Federal Conference Committee and Federal Policy Committee and will be printed in *Saturday's Conference Daily*.

## Leader's question & answer session

Any party member may submit a concise question (maximum 25 words) on the subject of the session, or on any subject for the Leader's Q&A. Questions will be selected by the chair and put by the submitter from the intervention microphones in the auditorium.

Questions may be submitted using the online form:

- at [libdems.org.uk/conference\\_submissions](http://libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions).
- by 13.00, Tuesday 14th March.

Questions may also be submitted on a form collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table in the auditorium by:

- 12.40 Saturday 18th March.

## Reports

The reports of Federal Committees and Parliamentary Parties are printed in the separate reports document.

Any party member may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on these reports. The chair will select which questions will be asked. Questions to reports of the Parliamentary Parties may relate to any aspect of Liberal Democrat activities in the UK or European Parliaments.

Deadlines for questions to reports:

- 13.00, Tuesday 14th March.

Questions may be submitted using the online form at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_submissions](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions)

Questions received by the deadlines above will be printed in *Saturday's Conference Daily*.

Questions on events occurring after the deadlines above may be submitted on speaker's cards at the Speakers' Table up until one hour before the start of the relevant session.

# Submitting amendments, emergency motions, topical issues and appeals

## Amendments and emergency motions

Amendments and emergency motions must be:

- signed by 10 party members; **OR**
- submitted by one or more of: a local party, state party, regional party in England, Federal Specified Associated Organisation or Federal Party Committee.

Amendments and emergency motions must be submitted by 13.00, Tuesday 14th March.

Submitters should include:

- For amendments – a short explanation of the intended effect of the amendment.
- For emergency motions – a short explanation of its emergency nature.

## Topical issues

Suggestions for topical issues may be submitted by any party member:

- by 13.00, Tuesday 14th March.

The title of the issue should be no more than ten words, and should not include an expression of opinion; please include full contact details of the submitter and up to 100 words explanatory background.

## Drafting advice

Submitters are encouraged to use our drafting advice service: draft amendments and emergency motions should be submitted

- by 13.00, Tuesday 28th February.

**Amendments, emergency motions and topical issues** should be submitted to the Policy Unit:

- using the online form at [www.libdems.org.uk/conference\\_submissions](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference_submissions)
- **or** by post to Policy Unit, 8–10 Great George Street, London SW1P 3AE.

## Appeals

Appeals against the non-inclusion of emergency motions or amendments must be signed by the original drafting contact and should:

- be no longer than one side of an A4 sheet;
- give a contact name and telephone number;
- include a copy of the motion/ amendment to which they relate;
- give justification for the appeal and new information Conference Committee was unaware of when it made its decision;

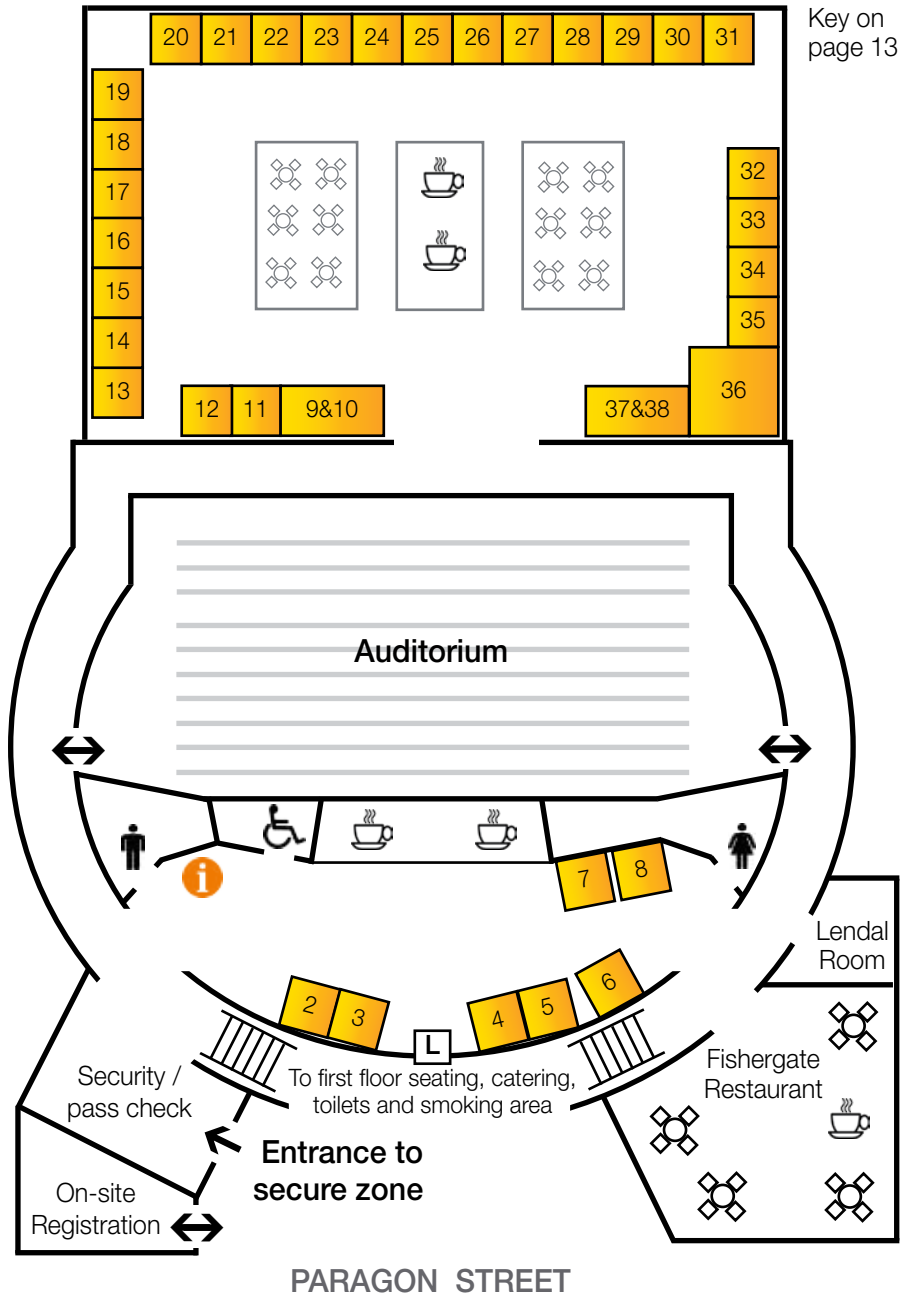
and:

- be submitted by 09.00, Thursday 16th March,
- sent to [appeals@libdems.org.uk](mailto:appeals@libdems.org.uk)

# Conference venue

## York Barbican

Information



Key on page 13

# The exhibition

The exhibition will be open at the following times:

Friday	17th March	16.30–18.15
Saturday	18th March	09.00–18.00
Sunday	19th March	09.00–12.00

## Exhibitors listed by stand number

2	Green Liberal Democrats	
3	Business Events Bournemouth	
4&5	Carryon Clothing	
6	Visit York	
7&8	Berber Leather	
9&10	ONEPOST	
11	Humanist & Secularist Liberal Democrats	
12	Social Liberal Forum	
13	Prater Raines	
14	Young Liberals	
15	Liberal Democrats for Electoral Reform	
16	Liberator	
17	Liberal Democrat Christian Forum	
18	Association of Liberal Democrat Engineers and Scientists	
19	Rights-Liberties-Justice (LDLA)	
20	Ask an Expert	
21	Liberal Reform	
22	Liberal Democrat Education Association	
23	ALTER	
24	Election Workshop	
25	Ethnic Minority Liberal Democrats and Liberal Democrats for Seekers of Sanctuary	
26	Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine	
27	Liberal Democrat Women	
28	Prospect Magazine	
29	Liberal Democrat History Group	
30	English Review Group	
31	Lib Dem Disability Association	
32	Midshire	
33&34	ALDC – Liberal Democrat Campaigners and Councillors and LGA Liberal Democrats	
35	Parliamentary Candidates Association	
36	Liberal Democrat Image	
37&38	Pulmonary Hypertension Association UK	

### Key to venue plan



Information desk



Female toilet



Male toilet



Disabled toilet



Exhibition stand – key to stand numbers above.



Catering



Seating area



Stairs



Lift

# Directory of exhibitors



## ALDC – Liberal Democrat Campaigners and Councillors and LGA Liberal Democrats

ALDC and LGA Lib Dems provide advice, support and resources for local campaigners and councillors. Get in touch and join ALDC for just £3.41 a month here.

[www.aldc.org](http://www.aldc.org)

[www.libdemgroup.lga.gov.uk](http://www.libdemgroup.lga.gov.uk) **33 & 34**

## ALTER



ALTER seeks to build support for Land Value Taxation amongst Liberal Democrats; and to promote and campaign for this policy as a more sustainable and just resource-based economic system

[www.libdemsalter.org.uk](http://www.libdemsalter.org.uk) **23**

## Ask an Expert



Ask an Expert provides in-depth one-to-one assistance, training and support on a range of issues. Learn new skills, troubleshoot problems and get advice on issues that matter to you. **20**

## Association of Liberal Democrat Engineers and Scientists



The Association of Liberal Democrat Engineers and Scientists (Aldes) provides a resource of engineering and scientific know-how to support the Party. Meet our members and learn how to get involved. **18**



## Berber Leather

Berber Leather specialises in high quality, handmade leather bags from Morocco that are practical, yet stylish, for today's busy world.

[www.berberleather.com](http://www.berberleather.com) **7 & 8**



## Business Events Bournemouth

Business Events Bournemouth is an established Partnership created to provide a one-stop shop facility for conferences in Bournemouth including an official secure online accommodation reservation facility.

T: 01202 816147

[www.bebes.org.uk](http://www.bebes.org.uk) **3**

## Carryon Clothing



Weatherproof coats, jackets, some reversible, and hats with coordinating accessories in amazing colours and designs to suit all occasions.

[www.carryonclothing.co.uk](http://www.carryonclothing.co.uk) **4 & 5**

## Election Workshop



Print. Design. Direct Mail. Election Workshop was set up to provide quality and value to Liberal Democrat campaigners. We offer bulk buys and colour print offers for ALDC's template artwork.

[www.electionworkshop.co.uk](http://www.electionworkshop.co.uk) **24**



# Directory of exhibitors

## English Review Group

Your chance to help shape the future structure of the party in England to improve its efficiency and effectiveness

[www.libdems.org.uk/england](http://www.libdems.org.uk/england) **30**



## Ethnic Minority

### Liberal Democrats and Liberal Democrats for Seekers of Sanctuary

EMLD campaigns and works with ethnic minorities promoting the Party objectives. LD4SOS believe in standing up for asylum seekers in the UK and treating them with compassion, humanity and respect.

[www.emlibdems.org.uk](http://www.emlibdems.org.uk)  
[www.ld4sos.org.uk](http://www.ld4sos.org.uk) **25**

## Green Liberal Democrats

GLD's stand focuses on carbon-free energy this conference. As one of the Party's largest membership organisations, GLD is examining the availability of options for a carbon-free future.

[www.greenlibdems.org.uk](http://www.greenlibdems.org.uk) **2**



## Humanist & Secularist Liberal Democrats

For Liberal Democrats who believe the state should treat everyone equally regardless of their religion or belief. Recent campaigns cover caste discrimination, humanist weddings and religious discrimination in schools.

[www.hsld.org.uk](http://www.hsld.org.uk) **11**



## Lib Dem Disability Association

Working to win the votes of people with disabilities. Providing a voice for members with disabilities. Influencing policies to ensure they reflect the views of people with disabilities and carers.

<https://disabilitylibdems.org.uk> **31**



## Liberal Democrat Christian Forum

We are a Christian voice in the Party and a voice of liberal democracy among Christians. We support Christians of all backgrounds to engage positively and constructively in politics.

[www.ldcf.org](http://www.ldcf.org) **17**



## Liberal Democrat Education Association

The Liberal Democrat Education Association aims to improve education through: publishing articles; running conferences; generating new ideas; promoting Lib Dem education policies and providing advice to Liberal Democrats in power.

[www.ldea.co.uk](http://www.ldea.co.uk) **22**



## Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine

LDFFP fights for the rights of the Palestinian People, for immediate recognition of Palestine as a State, and for the human rights of Palestinians as defined in international law.

[www.ldfp.eu](http://www.ldfp.eu) **26**



# Directory of exhibitors

Exhibition

## Liberal Democrat History Group



The past illuminates the present. Subscribe to the *Journal of Liberal History*. Buy Liberal history publications - including our new booklet, a concise history of the party – ideal for new members.

[www.liberalhistory.org.uk](http://www.liberalhistory.org.uk) **29**

## Liberal Democrat Image



Visit Liberal Democrat Image in the exhibition for all your campaign materials for 2017. The official supplier of party merchandise. Find us on Facebook and on our website:

[www.libdemimage.co.uk](http://www.libdemimage.co.uk) **36**

## Liberal Democrat Women



Come visit our exhibition stand to find out more about Liberal Democrat Women and our aims to create gender equality in politics.

[www.libdemwomen.org.uk](http://www.libdemwomen.org.uk) **27**

## Liberal Democrats for Electoral Reform



The home for Lib Dems who support a fairer and more effective voting system, working to ensure the party gets the arguments and the politics right, to make reform happen.

[www.lider.org](http://www.lider.org) **15**

## Liberal Reform



Liberal Reform exists within the Liberal Democrats to bring together members and campaigners committed to “four-cornered freedom” – personal, political, social and economic.

[www.liberalreform.org.uk](http://www.liberalreform.org.uk) **21**

## Liberator

Read the latest from the Party's leading thinkers. As ever *RB*, shines light on the dark corners of the Party.

[www.liberator.org.uk](http://www.liberator.org.uk) **16**

## Midshire



Midshire is proud to be the largest reseller of RISO equipment nationally. RISO printers are a favourite with political parties due to their high-volume output with various finishing options.

[www.midshire.co.uk](http://www.midshire.co.uk) **32**

## ONEPOST



ONEPOST has worked with the Liberal Democrats Party since 2010, providing low cost postal and production solutions. Speak to one of our experts and find out how we can help.

[www.onepost.co.uk](http://www.onepost.co.uk) **9 & 10**

## Conference Daily

Pick up *Conference Daily* each morning from the literature collection points or view it online at:

[www.libdems.org.uk/conference](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference)

# Directory of exhibitors

## Parliamentary Candidates Association



The organisation that supports candidates, run by candidates. We provide help and advice for candidates at every stage, from assessment through selection to the election campaign.

35

## Prater Raines



Making Liberal Democrat campaigns succeed online for 15 years. We'll help you use your website, social media and emails to WIN. Real support, fair pricing and huge range of features.

[www.prateraines.co.uk](http://www.prateraines.co.uk)

13

## Prospect Magazine



*Prospect* established itself as the home of intelligent debate. It tackles the big challenges confronting society through rigorous analysis and fine writing, in pieces that prompt you to think again.

[www.prospectmagazine.co.uk](http://www.prospectmagazine.co.uk)

28

## Pulmonary Hypertension Association UK



The PHA UK is the only national patient organisation set up to support individuals with a life limiting and often life threatening heart and lung condition called Pulmonary Hypertension.

[www.phauk.org](http://www.phauk.org)

37 & 38

## Rights-Liberties-Justice (LDLA)



Visit us – to join R-L-J (at special introductory rate of £2), for information on the Party's Legacy campaign and updates on our Saturday fringe meetings. Chair: Graham Colley.

[www.rights-liberties-justice.uk](http://www.rights-liberties-justice.uk)

19

## Social Liberal Forum



SLF exists to create a society where everyone has access to the wealth, power and opportunity to enable us to lead full and rewarding lives, unfettered by conformity and hardship.

[www.socialliberal.net](http://www.socialliberal.net)

12

## Visit York



Rich in ancient history, romantic ambience and fun activities, York is the perfect destination for business or pleasure. Come and visit us on stand for visitor information and top York tips.

[www.visitYork.org](http://www.visitYork.org)

6

## Young Liberals



The newly rebranded youth wing of the Liberal Democrats will be promoting their policies, work and their rebrand. Come and say hello!

[www.liberalyouth.org](http://www.liberalyouth.org)

14



Like us on Facebook.com/libdems

# YORK BARBICAN

## Liberal Democrat Spring Conference

*Great value food, available throughout the entire event.*

### Breakfast Menu

Served All Day

**Cumberland Sausage or Streaky**

Bacon £2.95

In a toasted bun

Add Fried Egg 50p

**Scrambled Eggs (v) £3.50**

On toasted bread

With smoked salmon £5.80

With bacon £4.80

**Berry Fruit Salad with yogurt £3.50 (v)**

Organic English yoghurt berries & honey

### Lunch Menu

**Beetroot Salad (v) £4.50**

Mixed with walnuts & feta cheese in a balsamic vinegar dressing

**Tuna Salad £4.90**

Light mayo, celery, cucumber & baby leaf lettuce

**Chicken Caesar Salad £4.80**

Grilled chicken, lettuce, parmesan cheese, croutons all tossed in a classic Caesar sauce.

**Avocado, bacon & spinach salad £5.80**

Streaky bacon, avocado, baby spinach & baby leaf lettuce

**Selection of Cold Sandwiches served on white or wholemeal bread**

(Served with a side salad or chips)

Ham Salad £3.90

Cheese & Pickle (v) £3.90

Tuna Mayonnaise & Cucumber £3.90

Egg Mayonnaise (v) £3.90

Smoked Salmon & Cream Cheese £4.90

Bacon & Avocado £4.90

**Salt & Pepper Oven Baked Jacket Potato**

(Served with a side salad)

Cheese Savoury (v) £4.90

Baked Beans & Cheese (v) £4.90

Prawn Mayonnaise £4.90

Tuna Mayonnaise £4.90

Chicken & Bacon £5.00

Chicken Salad £5.00

**Soup of the Day £2.90**

Served with a crispy bread roll

### Sides

French Fries £2.00

Sweet Potato Fries £3.00

Mixed Salad £2.50

Coleslaw £1.50

**Deserts and refreshments  
will also be available.**

# Fringe guide

## Fringe meeting venues and access

All fringe events listed in the Novotel or Hilton hotel (our official venues) are wheelchair-accessible. If you experience any access difficulties, please let the Information Desk know or make a comment on your online feedback.

If you have any concerns or compliments about a fringe event at conference, please contact the event organiser during or at the end of the session.

### Key to fringe listings



Refreshments provided



Hearing loop provided



**Ask an Expert** is staffed throughout Conference by Liberal Democrats with wide-ranging expertise and experiences from across the party.

So why not come along and get advice today? Find us in the exhibition during opening hours.

Fringe

### Novotel York Centre

Fishergate, Fewster Way, York, YO10 4FD

Tel: 01904 611660 – Fax: 01904 610925 – Email: h0949-sb@accor.com



Novotel York is a five minute walk from the Barbican where the main event is being held so an ideal place to meet for refreshments.

#### Restaurant Opening Times

Breakfast: 6.30am-10.00am

Lunch: 12.30pm-2.00pm

**Special Lunch offer 18<sup>th</sup> March - 3 course hot & cold buffet £13.00 per person**

Dinner: 6.00pm-10.00pm

#### Bar

Celebrate the conference in style with a 15% discount in draft beer and house wine 7.30pm – 8.30pm on the 17<sup>th</sup> March

#### Grab and Go

Tea or coffee takeaway £1.80

Tea, coffee & choice of pastry £2.50

Crispy bacon baps £3.95

Sandwich & crisps £5.00

#### And more....

Le Club Accor Hotels, collect loyalty points for each stay in our hotel



# Fringe Friday 17th March

Friday afternoon 15.00–18.00

## Federal Conference Committee

*A Conference Guide for First Timers*

New to conference? Come and ask members of the Federal Conference Committee any questions that you may have about how conference, or the Party in general, works.

**Note: this event starts at 16.45 and ends at 17.30**

**Novotel, Meeting Room 5**

## English Party

*English Party Consultation*

Consultation on the future structure of the English Party.

**Note: this event ends at 17.30**

**Novotel, Meeting Room 6**

## Green Liberal Democrats

*How to build a pathway to a Carbon Free Britain*

GLD is hosting a consultative session on this issue with Baroness Lynne Featherstone chairing. Members interested in sustainable energy and reducing energy consumption are encouraged to attend and offer their views on the policy way forward for the Party.

**Note: this event ends at 17.30**

**Novotel, Riverside Room**

## Liberal Democrat Christian Forum

*Evensong at York Minster*

Once again, join us as we kick conference off with a trip to choral evensong at York Minster. A choir-led service in the beautiful surrounds of the Minster.

**Note: this event starts at 17.15**

**York Minster, YO1 7JN**

Fringe

Friday early evening 18.30–19.30

## Conference Rally

*Rally for Europe*

With Tim Farron, Sarah Olney, Nick Clegg and special guests

**York Barbican, Auditorium**



## Leaflets that you don't have to deliver

Make sure to check the literature collection points located in the York Barbican for up-to-date information each day.

Pick up your Conference Daily as well as flyers, magazines and brochures to ensure you are kept in the know.

Distribution of literature must be booked.

For more information please email: [jack.everitt@libdems.org.uk](mailto:jack.everitt@libdems.org.uk)

## Friday mid evening 20.15–21.30

### Lib Dem Peers

*What should we say to reassure the 'Left Behind'?*

Liberal Democrats want to give a voice to the 48%, but what do we want to say to those who voted 'Leave'? The discussion will be led by William Wallace, John Shipley, Cathy Bakewell, Tony Greaves, and other members of the working group.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 1&2**

### Liberal Democrat Education Association with Humanist & Secularist Liberal Democrats

*Topical discussion: faith schools, faith admissions and liberal democracy*

Your chance to hear all sides of the discussion, and share your views, before the formal debate. Speakers: Richie Thompson (British Humanist Association); Derek McAuley (Unitarian and Free Christian Churches); Peter Taylor (Catholic Education Service). Chaired by Lord Mike Storey.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 3**

### Liberal Democrat History Group

*Who Rules? Parliament, the People or the Prime Minister?*

Parliamentary supremacy, hard won in the seventeenth century, is being challenged by the government response to Brexit. Discuss the Liberal approach to who rules with English Civil Wars historian Professor Michael Braddick and Lord Martin Thomas. Chair: Baroness Lynne Featherstone.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 4**

### LibdemVoice and Irish Liberal Democrats

*Irish / UK relations post-brexite*

Baroness Suttie (Lib Dem Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland) and Naomi Long (NI Alliance Party) will discuss the House of Lords EU Select Committee report on Brexit and UK / Irish relations. The debate will be followed by a visit to the York Irish Association St. Patrick's Day festival.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 5**

Fringe

## Friday late evening 22.15–23.30

### Official Lib Dem Conference Quiz

With Alistair Carmichael as your host and a bounty of amazing prizes up for grabs this is guaranteed to be a great event. Space is limited.

**Novotel, Fishergate Suite**

### Autumn conference

Visit Stand 3 in the Barbican foyer to book your accommodation for the 2017 Autumn conference in Bournemouth.

**BusinessEventsBournemouth**

Right place. Right fit. Right feel

### Q&A sessions

#### Saturday 18th March

11.30–12.15 Education

12.30–13.15 Housing

#### Sunday 19th March

10.00–11.00 Brexit

All sessions take place in the Lendal Room in York Barbican.

*For details see page 6.*

# Fringe Saturday 18th March

Saturday lunchtime 13.00–14.00

## Radix

*What does 2017 hold in store for liberalism?*

A look at the year ahead and the challenges for liberalism with Sarah Olney, MP for Richmond Park, Mark Pack, Caron Lindsey and Nick Tyrone as chair, with Radix launching a book on the topic.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 1&2**

## Your Liberal Britain

*Britain in 2030: Your Vision for the Future*  
Inspired by the ideas of 7,000 Lib Dems, and written by a group of members old and new, 'Britain in 2030' is your vision for the future. Meet the team, and share your ideas for what YLB should do next.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 3**

## Social Liberal Forum and Liberal Democrats for Free Syria

*Freedom and Death: the Syrian experience of revolution, organisation and war*  
With Razan Ghazzawi, Syrian feminist activist and detainee; Robin Yassin-Kassab, co-author 'Burning Country: Syrians in Revolution and War'; Saleyha Ahsan, 'People's Convoy to Syria' doctor and BBC TV journalist; and Hamish de Bretton-Gordon OBE, former British Army chemical weapons expert.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 4**

## Rights-Liberties-Justice (LibDem Lawyers)

*"Enemies of the People": Independence of the Judiciary –v– "The Harlot's Prerogative"*  
The press attack the judiciary and the Lord Chancellor fails to defend them. Sir Simon Hughes, former Minister of Justice, leads a panel to discuss. Invited speakers include

Lord Marks QC, Alexander Glassbrook, barrister, Daisy Cooper (HackedOff). Chair: Graham Colley.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 5**



## Liberal Democrat Women

*Shrill, nasty women*

Has the openness of the misogyny during the US presidential campaign made it harder or easier for women and feminists to engage in politics?

**Novotel, Meeting Room 6**

## ALDC - Association of Liberal Democrat Campaigners and Councillors

*Space to breathe, space to build?*

Join us for a lively debate on the tensions between the need to build housing and to protect the Green Belt. Chaired by Councillor Sarah Boad, with speakers Baroness Kath Pinnock, Council leader Keith House, others tbc.

**Novotel, Riverside Room**

## Green Liberal Democrats

*Are we clear on Nuclear?*

An update from the industry experts, movers and shakers. Where we are with EDF, Chinese investment, security, business case, timescale, involvement of EU? Speakers: Sir Ed Davey; Humphrey Hawksley, Journalist; Dan Lewis, IoD; Dr David Toke, Aberdeen University.

**Hilton, Bootham Room**



Follow us on Twitter

@libdemconf #LDconf



## Fringe Saturday lunchtime 13.00–14.00

### Liberal Democrats for Seekers of Sanctuary (LD4SOS)

*Now you are here in the U.K. – What next for asylum seekers?*

Baroness Shas Sheehan chairs a meeting with Jon Beech, Director of Leeds Asylum Seekers Support Network, introducing how asylum seekers in the community can be supported with learning English, friendship and also, for destitute asylum seekers, with accommodation.

**Hilton, Micklegate Room**

### LGA Liberal Democrat Group

*Prevention is better than cure – how to improve public health services*

What changes do we want to see to public health services in an era of continual government cuts to public health budgets? Speakers: Norman Lamb MP, Cllr Wendy Taylor and Cllr Richard Kemp.

**Hilton, Walmgate Room**



## Saturday early evening 18.15–19.15

### LGA Liberal Democrat Group

*“Doing it the Watford Way” – A Lib Dem local government success story!*

Chaired by: Cllr Ruth Dombey, Leader of Sutton Council. Speakers: Baroness Dorothy Thornhill, Elected Mayor of Watford; Cllr Iain Sharpe, Former Lib Dem Group Leader & Deputy Mayor of Watford.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 1&2**



colloquium report on land value tax (LVT) with economic analysis suggesting that a single annual tax based on land values would be capable of producing potential revenue flows of £82 billion: sufficient to replace all existing property taxes.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 4**

### Rights-Liberties-Justice (LibDem Lawyers)

*Bleak House for Brexiteers? Leavers get entangled in the Law*

Article 50 (& 127), the ‘Great’ Repeal Bill, 40 years of law have added to the other problems Leavers didn’t mention. Academic experts, Professor David Howarth (Cambridge) and Dr Kathryn Wright (York Law School) discuss. Chair: Graham Colley.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 3**

### Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine

*50 years on – the reality of the Israeli occupation of Palestine*

In 1967 Israel invaded Palestine and took control of the West Bank and Gaza. It remains in occupation in defiance of UN resolutions and in breach of the Geneva Conventions (1949) on the conduct of war. Mark Williams MP will be discussing his recent visit to the West Bank and the reality on the ground.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 5**



### Action for Land Tax and Economic Reform (ALTER)

*Housing Market Failure*

Dr Tony Vickers will present the RICS

### LGBT + Lib Dems

*Sex Work and Diversity*

Join us for a discussion on the particular challenges and experiences of sex workers from LGBT+ and other diverse communities.

**Novotel, Meeting Room 6**

## Fringe Saturday early evening 18.15–19.15

### Brussels and Europe Liberal Democrats

*What does Brexit mean for Brits living in the EU 27?*

Brexit will overturn the residency, work and healthcare rights of the 1.2m Brits living in the EU. How should the Government negotiate with the EU over its nationals? Speakers: Alistair Carmichael, MP. Chair: Laura Shields, Chair BELD. Others tbc.

**Novotel, Riverside Room**



### Social Liberal Forum

*Conversation with Rt Hon Vince Cable*

Vince Cable will discuss the economy: pre-Brexit and post-Trump.

**Hilton, Bootham Room**

### Liberal Reform

*NATO in the era of Trump, Putin, Corbyn and Brexit*

Do Brexit, Trump and the rise of populism in Europe signal a disintegration of western institutions? Has NATO become irrelevant or do we need it more than ever at a time of Russian expansionism? Join us for a lively debate.

**Hilton, Micklegate Room**

### Liberal Democrat Education Association

*Liberal Democrat Education Association Annual General Meeting with John Pugh MP (invited)*

Join LDEA members to have your say on current issues in early years, education, children's services and youth policy, and to contribute to the party's emerging education policy. LDEA members and guests welcome.

**Hilton, Minster Suite**



### Liberal Democrat Christian Forum

*Faith, belief and the Lib Dems*

A reception for people of all faiths and beliefs in the Liberal Democrats to meet one another, hear from Lord Mike German, share experiences and discuss ideas for future collaboration between faith and belief communities in the Lib Dems.

**Hilton, Walmgate Room**



## Saturday mid evening 19.45–21.00

### Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust

*Power of the Press: 'The greatest danger of our national life'?*

Promoting media plurality and full implementation of the Leveson reforms, Rt Hon Sir Vince Cable, Christopher Jeffries and Daisy Cooper (Hacked Off) discuss Joseph Rowntree's warning and the impact of unaccountable press power. Convened by JRRT Chair, Sir Nick Harvey.

**Novotel, Fishergate Suite**



### London Region Liberal Democrats

*The Liberal Pitch*

Have an idea to make people's lives better? The Liberal Pitch is a fun event of quick-fire policy proposition and debate. Pitch your policy in under 30 seconds, debate it, and vote! For more information email [liberalpitch@outlook.com](mailto:liberalpitch@outlook.com).

**Novotel, Meeting Room 6**

## Fringe Saturday mid evening 19.45–21.00

### Liberal Democrat Friends of Whisky

#### *Whisky Tasting*

An opportunity to taste, discuss and learn a bit about malt whisky in a relaxed and friendly environment. Hosted by Alistair Carmichael MP. Tickets £30. Numbers limited. Apply to libdemfow@gmail.com Proceeds support campaigning in Orkney and Shetland.

**Novotel, Riverside Room**

### Young Liberals

#### *Working for You*

Young Liberals work all year round to promote the Lib Dems and champion the views of students and young people. Join us in celebration of Young Liberals activists and find out how you can get involved with our campaigns.

**Hilton, Bootham Room**

### Social Democrat Group

#### *Social justice at a time of deficits*

The UK has a large deficit. Brexit and an ageing population will make it worse. How can we fight for social justice when the money is tight? Speakers: Jo Swinson and Rachel Reeves invited.

**Hilton, Micklegate Room**

### Association of Liberal Democrat Engineers and Scientists

Science, Brexit and the way forward  
Join a panel of experts to discuss the major threats to science and research from Brexit and what opportunities remain to prevent damage to the sector.

**Hilton, Minster Suite**



### Green Liberal Democrats

#### *GLD Annual General Meeting*

Guest speaker: Tom Brake MP & GLD Vice President. Our AGM will also be having our deferred annual Elections from September, as well as holding the Executive to account along with a few Constitutional Amendments.

**Hilton, Walmgate Room**



## FREE WIFI

Network name:  
**Barbican Free**

No password required



## Saturday late evening 22.00–02.00

### Glee Club

Join us for the ultimate end-of conference celebration!

Pick up your copy of the *Liberator Songbook* and come 'raise the roof'!

**Novotel, Fishergate Suite**

# Conference App



Download our Conference App for Spring Conference, with great features such as My Schedule (the easiest way to plan your Conference) and a searchable Fringe Guide and Agenda.

To download the App visit App Store or Google Play



For Blackberry / Windows Phone visit  
[www.libdemconference.org.uk](http://www.libdemconference.org.uk)



## Exclusive offers at Hilton York for Liberal Democrat Attendees

**Snack packs from £7.50    Afternoon Tea from £13.50**

See front desk on the day or contact our events team  
email: [events.york@hilton.com](mailto:events.york@hilton.com) 01904 648111

1 Tower Street York YO1 9WD



T&Cs Apply

Fringe

# ASK AN EXPERT!



**Ask an Expert** is the perfect opportunity at Conference to get advice, help and in-depth one to one training on issues big and small.

From fundraising to campaign strategy, seat approval and selection to election law - and everything else in between!

You can also get one-to-one tuition on the party's digital tools and IT programmes: Connect, NationBuilder

and the membership database (Salesforce), PagePlus, as well as support with social media, artworking and more.

Whatever you need help or advice with, our team of Liberal Democrat experts will be pleased to help you.

Drop in and chat with an expert at the Campaign Zone during exhibition opening hours, we look forward to seeing you there.

☑ Advice for new members: how to get started with the Liberal Democrats

☑ Advice for local Councillors

☑ Campaign strategy and advice

☑ Fighting and winning local elections

☑ Fighting to win a parliamentary seat

☑ Fundraising ideas and advice

☑ Legal and compliance issues

☑ One-to-one support on Connect, NationBuilder, PagePlus, Salesforce and other digital tools

☑ Working with different people

☑ Getting approved

and selected as a candidate

☑ Diversity issues

☑ Leadership

☑ Growing your local team and local party

☑ Developing your volunteer team and getting the most from people's time and talents

☑ And much more...!

# Conference Training 2017

We want to help you get the most from Spring Conference training. Whether you joined the party a month ago or twenty plus years ago, there is something for everyone.

Every course is now 'tagged' with the sets of skills you will learn, helping you find the right training course for you. If you need any help, please email [training@libdems.org.uk](mailto:training@libdems.org.uk).

## What skills will you learn?

### diversity

Learn how to engage diverse people and communities, or, as a person from an under-represented group, find out how to build a successful political career.

### campaigning

Whether you have been campaigning and fighting elections for decades or are just getting started, learn the latest techniques and brush up on your existing skills.

### digital

Learn how to get the most from the party's suite of digital tools. Find out how to engage voters and supporters with social media and learn the latest techniques.

### compliance

Whether you are an election agent or a Local Party treasurer, these courses will keep you up to date on legal and compliance issues to excel in your role.

### fundraising

Whether you are trying to win an election or grow your local party, fundraising is crucial. Learn how to fundraise, get ideas, tips, tricks as well as advice and support.

### personal

Personal development courses will help you develop a range of skills that will enable you to grow in your roles within the Liberal Democrats as well as in the outside world.

### media/comms

Media and communication courses will help you effectively communicate with individuals, groups and wider audiences, including how to work well with the media.

### Top Tip for Training

The coloured buttons at the bottom of each course make suggestions as to what skills you will learn in each session. Use this as a guide to help you find the right training for your needs.

# Saturday 0930 - 1045

## Law for Election Agents

Key points of law that you need to know if you're going to be successful. This important area of law changes all the time and is a must for everyone who is planning on being an agent in 2017.

*LDHQ Compliance Team*

**Venue: Meeting Rooms 1+2, Novotel**

campaigning

compliance

## Data Protection for Party Officers

Make sure you are prepared for the new General Data Protection legislation. For all local party officers and activists. Not coming to this session could cost you more than the Information Commissioners' fine.

*LDHQ Compliance Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, Novotel**

campaigning

compliance

digital

## Selling yourself in 250 words

Come along and get practical tips on writing your candidate profile.

*LDHQ Candidates Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 4, Novotel**

personal

diversity

media/comms

## Membership development: recruit new members and retain existing members

Share best practice on how to recruit and retain members in your local party. Applying the lessons shared in this session will assist local parties to increase their new member recruitment and well as retention rates.

*LDHQ Membership Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 6, Novotel**

media/comms

diversity

digital

## Fundraising: Big Rewards from New Donors and Legacy Gifts

Learn how to reach out to find new donors in your local area and from businesses. Learn the techniques and skills to secure pledges to leave a legacy gift to build your work long-term.

*LDHQ Fundraising Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 5, Novotel**

campaigning

fundraising

personal

## Be a Councillor - Approvals and Selection

Explains best practice for approving and selecting candidates to fight local elections and, along with candidate agreements, to getting them elected to local authorities.

*ALDC*

**Venue: Micklegate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

diversity

compliance

personal

## Using ALDC templates and campaign packs

ALDC produce a wide range of literature and other templates and a series of campaign packs. Come and see how to use them as part of your own campaigning.

*ALDC*

**Venue: Bootham Room, Hilton**

campaigning

digital

## Not sure what training courses are right for you?

For advice on what conference training courses are right for you, email [training@libdems.org.uk](mailto:training@libdems.org.uk) and one of our team will be able to guide you.

# Training: Saturday (continued)

## Transforming your digital campaign

How email, Facebook and other digital tools can build your supporter base, reach fresh audiences and give you new insight into local communities.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Walmgate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

digital

media/comms

## Growing your party and winning elections with the European issue

Europe is the dominant issue in British politics and it is a huge opportunity for our party. Whether you're in a leave or remain area, we can help you make the most of this issue.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Minster Suite, Hilton**

campaigning

digital

media/comms

## Saturday 1100 - 1230

### Election Law Q & A

Come and ask specific election law questions & make sure you are fully up to speed to be an agent or a candidate in 2017.

*LDHQ Compliance Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, Novotel**

campaigning

compliance

### Returning Officer: a vital role

Help play a key role in enabling fair Westminster, Mayoral and Police and Crime Commissioner selections. More Returning Officers will crucially help the party select candidates earlier in the cycle.

*LDHQ Candidates Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 4, Novotel**

personal

compliance

diversity

### Giving a Brilliant Speech (*women only*)

Whether speaking at a hustings, public meeting or in a debate at conference, this session will give you the confidence to succeed.

*Campaign for Gender Balance (LDW)*

**Venue: Meeting Room 6, Novotel**

personal

diversity

media/comms

### Campaign Skills - Emails in campaigning and using video in campaigning

Keys to successful digital campaigning: Effective use of emails to campaign and using video to get noticed online.

*ALDC*

**Venue: Micklegate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

media/comms

digital

### Recruit Young Liberals

Perfect your Young Liberals elevator pitch and prepare a recruitment strategy. Take advantage of opportunities to engage and develop young members all year round.

*Young Liberals*

**Venue: Meeting Room 5, Novotel**

campaigning

diversity

digital

media/comms

### Campaign Skills - Knocking on doors and Postal Votes

Key ways to win elections: why we knock on doors and how to do it and why postal voters are vital and how to use them effectively.

*ALDC*

**Venue: Bootham Room, Hilton**

campaigning

digital



# Training: Saturday (continued)

## Get out the vote the smart way

Find out about the latest data-driven approaches to successfully getting the vote out that can be the difference between victory and defeat.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Walmgate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

digital

media/comms

## Getting your message right for local and national elections

Whether you're facing elections in May or building for future years, getting your message right is key. Learn how to develop a strong local message and how to integrate effectively with national messages to get the best results.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Minster Suite, Hilton**

campaigning

digital

media/comms

## Media Training: Make Europe the Heart of your Campaign - INVITATION ONLY

Prospective Parliamentary Candidates are on the frontline delivering the Lib Dem message on the doorstep, in their communities and to their local media. Learn how to perfect your media skills with leading media coach Laura Shields. Offered to PPCs by invitation only.

Please email [audrey.eager@bearder.eu](mailto:audrey.eager@bearder.eu) for an invitation.

*Organised by the Office of Catherine Bearder MEP / ALDE. Training by The Media Coach*

**Venue: Meeting Rooms 1+2, Novotel**

campaigning

media/comms

personal

Fringe

## Saturday 1430 - 1600

### Donation Rules and Your Party

All local party officers should make sure they are up to speed on this important legislation. Especially important if you are a new Chair, Treasurer or Activist.

*LDHQ Compliance & Fundraising Teams*

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, Novotel**

campaigning

compliance

fundraising

### Diverse Communication Skills

Understanding effective communication for diverse audiences, helping you to understand your purpose, audience and message.

*LDHQ Diversity Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 5, Novotel**

campaigning

media/comms

personal

### Successful selection

This session will look at the key skills and knowledge required when going for selection.

*LDHQ Candidates Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 4, Novotel**

campaigning

media/comms

personal

personal

diversity

### Wow! She is brilliant! *(women only)*

Making a positive impression one to one or in an interview.

*Campaign for Gender Balance (LDW)*

**Venue: Meeting Room 6, Novotel**

# Training: Saturday (continued)

## Fundraise Like the Big Players

Learn advanced techniques and skills from charities, institutions and universities to uplift your fundraising and build a winning fighting fund. Joint session with ALDC.

*ALDC and LDHQ Fundraising Team*

**Venue: Micklegate Room, Hilton**

fundraising

## What we can learn from Richmond Park and recent by-elections

Richmond Park and Witney were two of the best by-election results of the last 20 years. Come find out how we did it and how it can help your local campaign.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Minster Suite, Hilton**

campaigning

media/comms

digital

## Campaign skills - Being an agent in local elections

What you need to know to be an agent in local council elections.

*ALDC Team*

**Venue: Bootham Room, Hilton**

campaigning

compliance



**Ask an Expert** is staffed throughout Conference by Liberal Democrats with wide-ranging expertise and experiences from across the party.

So why not come along and get advice today? Find us in the exhibition during opening hours.

## Getting your message right for local and national elections

Whether you're facing elections in May or building for future years, getting your message right is key. Learn how to develop a strong local message and how to integrate effectively with national messages to get the best results.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Walmgate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

media/comms

digital

## Shaping your Response to Populism - INVITATION ONLY

Prepare an effective communication strategy in the face of populism in your area and be armed with the necessary techniques and arguments to counteract the rise of populism. Offered to local campaigners by invitation only.

Please email [audrey.eager@bearder.eu](mailto:audrey.eager@bearder.eu) for an invitation.

*Organised by the Office of Catherine Bearder MEP / ALDE.*

**Venue: Riverside Room, Novotel Time: 1430 - 1530**

campaigning

media/comms

personal

---

# Saturday 1615-1730

---

## Fundraising for Liberal Democrat interest groups and SAOs: building funds to extend your impact

Identify new funding opportunities to grow your organisation. Make your case for support and plan for success alongside other Liberal Democrat SAOs and interest groups.

*LDHQ Fundraising Team & Young Liberals*

**Venue: Meeting Room 3, Novotel**

fundraising

---

## Top tips for first time candidates

The session will offer advice on immediate and long term candidate plans, how to overcome challenges facing less-developed seats + set and achieve goals that will help you & your local party.

*LDHQ Candidates Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 4, Novotel**

diversity

personal

campaigning

---

## Unconscious bias

How unconscious bias develops and how it affects us all. The course will help you manage its impact on attitudes, decisions and on behaviour in life and politics.

*LDHQ Diversity Team*

**Venue: Meeting Room 5, Novotel**

diversity

personal

---

## Planning and Winning a Selection Campaign *(women only)*

What you need to do to organise and win selection as a parliamentary candidate.

*Campaign for Gender Balance (LDW)*

**Venue: Meeting Room 6, Novotel**

diversity

personal

media/comms

## Councillor training - Using the Council to campaign

How to use the council in your campaigning; from full council to scrutiny (whatever your numbers are).

*ALDC*

**Venue: Micklegate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

media/comms

digital

---

## Consultative session - more diverse candidates and council groups

Our council groups and our local election candidates are not nearly diverse enough. Come along and discuss ideas and proposals for making sure we change that.

*ALDC*

**Venue: Bootham Room, Hilton**

campaigning

diversity

---

## Developing a winning plan for 2017, 18 and beyond

Even the best messages can be ineffective if you don't have the plan and organisation to deliver them. Come along and we'll help build or fine tune your plans to hit your goals.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Walmgate Room, Hilton**

campaigning

media/comms

digital

fundraising

---

## What we can learn from Richmond Park and recent by-elections

Richmond Park and Witney were two of the best by-election results of the last 20 years. Come find out how we did it and how it can help your local campaign.

*LDHQ Campaigns Team*

**Venue: Minster Suite, Hilton**

campaigning

media/comms

digital

# York Welcomes the Liberal Democrats Spring Conference

MEET IN YORK: BRITAIN'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CITY

Visit York  
4 meetings  
visityork4meetings.com

Bournemouth is proud to be hosting the

## Liberal Democrats Autumn Conference

Bournemouth International Centre  
**16-19 September 2017**

### World-Class Venue

- Network at one of the South's best conference centres
- Unwind in restaurants café and bars
- Stay connected with complimentary WiFi in public areas

### Travel and Transport

- Direct, regular trains to Bournemouth from all parts of the UK
- Fly direct to Southampton or Bournemouth International airports
- Vibrant and cultural town centre within short walking distance



**Book your accommodation today:**

**Visit:** [bebres.org.uk/libdems](http://bebres.org.uk/libdems)

**Telephone:** 01202 816147

**Business  
Events  
Bournemouth**

Right place. Right fit. Right feel.

# Agenda index and timetable

---

## Friday 17th March

15.00–17.30	Consultative sessions:	36
	21st Century Economy	
	Education	
	Rural Communities	
16.30–18.15	Consultative session:	36
	Britain in the World	

---

## Saturday 18th March

09.00–09.10	F1	Opening of conference by Baroness Brinton	37
09.10–09.30	F2	Report: Federal Conference Committee	37
	F3	Report: Federal Policy Committee	37
09.30–10.30	F4	Policy motion: A Rational Approach to Harm Reduction	37
10.30–11.15	F5	Policy motion: Tackling Overcrowding in the Prison System	40
11.15–11.35	F6	Speech: Baroness Featherstone	41
11.35–12.40	F7	Emergency motion or topical issue: Britain and the EU	42
12.40–14.20		Lunch break	
14.20–15.20	F8	Policy motion: The Crisis in Health and Social Care	42
15.20–16.05	F9	Question and answer session: Tim Farron MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats	45
16.05–16.25	F10	Speech: Baroness Kramer	45
16.25–17.40	F11	Policy motion: Towards a World Free of Nuclear Weapons	45
17.40–18.00	F12	Reports: Parliamentary Parties	49

## Sunday 19th March

09.00–09.30	F13	Emergency motion or topical issue	50
09.30–09.50	F14	Report: Federal Board	50
	F15	Report: Campaign for Gender Balance	50
09.50–11.05	F16	Policy motion: The Role of Faith in State-Funded Schools	51
11.05–11.45	F17	Policy motion: Associate Citizenship of the European Union	54
11.45–13.00	F18	Speech: Tim Farron MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats	55
		(approx.)	

---

# Friday 17th March

15.00–17.30 Consultative sessions

## 21st Century Economy

Meeting Room 3 Novotel	Chair: Rapporteur:	Mike Tuffrey & Julia Goldsworthy To be announced
---------------------------	-----------------------	---

## Education

Meeting Rooms 1 & 2 Novotel	Chair: Rapporteur:	Cllr Lucy Nethsingha Alex Whitehead
--------------------------------	-----------------------	--

## Rural Communities

Meeting Room 4 Novotel	Chair: Rapporteur:	Cllr Heather Kidd To be announced
---------------------------	-----------------------	--------------------------------------

16.30–18.15 Consultative session

## Britain in the World

Lendal Room York Barbican	Chair: Rapporteur:	Martin Horwood Rachael Clarke
------------------------------	-----------------------	----------------------------------

*Consultative sessions provide a less formal mechanism than full-scale conference debates for party members to participate in the Party's policy-making and decision-making process. Each session examines a particular topic and hears contributions from party members and in some cases outside speakers.*

*Each session will be organised by the relevant Policy Working Group. The conclusions of the sessions will be taken into account by the groups when drawing up their final policy papers.*

*Note: these sessions are for party members only.*

All conference sessions, apart from the consultative sessions above, take place in the Auditorium in York Barbican.

# Saturday 18th March

09.00 Party business

Chair: Baroness Brinton. Aide: Qassim Afzal. Hall Aide: Robert Adamson.

**F1 Opening of conference by Baroness Brinton,  
President of the Liberal Democrats**



@salbrinton, #LDconf

09.10 Party business

Chair: James Gurling. Aide: Cara Jenkinson. Hall Aide: Mary Reid.

**F2 Federal Conference Committee Report**

Mover: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee)

**F3 Federal Policy Committee Report**

Mover: Baroness Ludford (Vice Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

*The deadline for questions to these reports is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Conference Daily. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 08.50 on Saturday 18th March. See page 10 for further information.*

09.30 Policy motion

Chair: Cllr Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Liz Lynne. Hall Aide: Qassim Afzal.

**F4 A Rational Approach to Harm Reduction**

*Federal Policy Committee*

Mover: Charlotte Cane

Summation: Dr Belinda Brooks-Gordon (Chair of the Policy Working Group)

# Saturday 18th March

1 Conference endorses the enlightenment approach of rationalism and  
2 science to ensure that Liberal Democrat policy is based on principle,  
3 evidence, research, and experience.

4 Conference recognises the long-standing tensions around sex work,  
5 including within communities, between differing police approaches, and  
6 among different groups that recognise there are problems in the way sex  
7 work is currently managed by the law.

8 Conference notes:

- 9 i) The 2014 motion *Towards Safer Sex Work* which reaffirmed our  
10 support for the decriminalisation of sex work.
- 11 ii) The complex and intersectional nature of sex work, in which all genders  
12 and sexualities engage in an ever-evolving economy.
- 13 iii) The moves within Europe, including in Northern Ireland, towards the  
14 Nordic Regime, which criminalises the buying of sex.
- 15 iv) Moves within the UK to increase regulation around pornography,  
16 including mandatory age verification, classification of online  
17 pornography by the British Board of Film Classification, and the default  
18 filtering of pornographic images by Internet Service Providers.
- 19 v) The harm done to sex workers, with 153 sex workers being murdered  
20 since 1990 and more than half of sex workers having been raped or  
21 sexually assaulted under the current system.
- 22 vi) The fundamental importance of consent to any sexual activity, paid or  
23 otherwise.

24 Conference believes that:

- 25 a) Legislation should prevent harm and not exacerbate it.
- 26 b) Criminalisation of an activity such as sex work does not prevent it  
27 happening but drives it underground and out of the reach of support  
28 and enforcement bodies.
- 29 c) Some sex workers, most notably street workers and migrant workers,  
30 remain in a very vulnerable position.
- 31 d) The stigma of sex work has a catastrophic effect on people involved in  
32 it, preventing them from asking for help and support when they need it,  
33 and that discrimination in access to public and private services on the  
34 grounds of sex work is unacceptable.

35 Conference therefore endorses policy paper 126, *A Rational Approach to*



## Saturday 18th March

36 *Harm Reduction*, as a statement of Liberal Democrat policy on sex work  
37 and the harms done by current legislation, and particularly welcomes its  
38 proposals to:

- 39 1. Focus law enforcement on non-consensual activity and reducing harm  
40 to sex workers by decriminalising sex work.
- 41 2. Strengthen laws to address coercion into sex and sex work on the  
42 grounds of fear, force, or fraud.
- 43 3. Provide additional support for people trying to leave sex work, including  
44 support for one-stop shops who work with organisations such as Local  
45 Housing Authorities and healthcare providers, and where education  
46 and training are available.
- 47 4. Quash past convictions for anything that would be decriminalised  
48 under the new system.
- 49 5. Roll out a Merseyside+ Model in all police forces, requiring that they  
50 use a multi-agency approach to support sex workers and combat  
51 crimes against them and the wider community.
- 52 6. Oppose government plans for age verification for access to online  
53 pornography – believing them to be illiberal, to pose a severe danger  
54 to privacy, and to be fundamentally unworkable – and the banning of  
55 pornographic online content that would not be classified by the British  
56 Board of Film Classification.

*Applicability: England and Wales, except 6 (lines 52–56) which is Federal.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 9 for further information.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 11 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 8 – is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.*

### 10.30 Policy motion

Chair: Chris Maines. Aide: Robert Adamson. Hall Aide: Cara Jenkinson.

# Saturday 18th March

## F5 Tackling Overcrowding in the Prison System

17 members

Mover: Durgesh Hari Prabu

Summation: Stephen Crosher

1 Conference notes that:

- 2 i) The last three decades have seen the sharpest rise in English and  
3 Welsh prison numbers with a population of 44,975 in 1990 almost  
4 doubling in just twenty-six years to today's level of 84,874.  
5 ii) In December 2016, the useable operational capacity of the prison  
6 system was 86,288 and eighty out of 124 prisons in total were past  
7 100% capacity and eighteen more were past 95% capacity.  
8 iii) In November 2016, 3859 people remained Imprisoned for Public  
9 Protection and of those roughly 3200 had served their minimum term.  
10 iv) Prison officer numbers have been cut by 30% since 2010.  
11 v) In the prison system in the twelve months leading up to September  
12 2016, there were 107 suicides and five homicides (in 1990 there were 51  
13 suicides and 4 homicides) and in the twelve months leading up to June  
14 2016 there were 36,440 incidents of self-harm (up 26% on the previous  
15 year) and 23,775 incidents of assault (up 34% on the previous year).  
16 vi) The proven adult re-offending rate within a year for people released  
17 from custody in 2014 was 45.5%.  
18 vii) The cost in 2015–2016 per prisoner was £32,510 and the annual cost  
19 of re-offending to England and Wales is estimated to be between £7.4  
20 billion and £10.7 billion.  
21 viii) The riot in HMP Birmingham on 16th December 2016 is the largest  
22 since that which occurred in Strangeways prison in 1990.

23 Conference believes that:

- 24 a) The Liberal Democrat values of championing the freedom, dignity  
25 and well-being of individuals should extend to all people regardless of  
26 whether they are free, convicted or imprisoned.  
27 b) The more people we imprison and the more prison staff we cut, the  
28 greater the risk is of prisoners and staff suffering from violence and self-  
29 harm.  
30 c) The prison system is only as effective in reducing crime as the quality  
31 of services it provides in education, training, and health-care; these  
32 services become overstretched through prison overcrowding and

# Saturday 18th March

- 33 public safety is therefore put at risk upon prisoners' release.  
34 d) The criminal justice system should prioritise preventing re-offending  
35 over punishment; if an individual could be better motivated outside of  
36 prison to not commit offences through treatment for health conditions,  
37 assistance to find employment, classes to challenge behaviour,  
38 or monitoring them in or excluding them from certain locations or  
39 activities, a penal sentence should be avoided.  
40 e) The Liberal Democrat policy to decriminalise possession of drugs for  
41 personal use will help tackle prison overcrowding.  
42 f) Imprisonment for Public Protection sentences breached offenders'  
43 human rights and caused difficulty in managing the prison population at  
44 a safe and effective level.

45 Conference calls for:

- 46 1. A drastic overhaul in sentencing policy and cross-party collaboration  
47 to reduce the prison population as well as the conditional release of all  
48 prisoners on indeterminate sentences who have served their minimum  
49 term.  
50 2. The Home Secretary to increase prison officer levels beyond the extra  
51 2500 promised to reach a safe prisoner-to-officer ratio.

*Applicability: England and Wales.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 11 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 8 – is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.*

## 11.15 Speech

Chair: Qassim Afzal. Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Robert Adamson.

### **F6 Speech by Baroness Featherstone, Spokesperson for Energy and Climate Change**



@lfeatherstone, #LDconf

# Saturday 18th March

11.35 Emergency motion or topical issue

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Mary Reid.  
Hall Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

## **F7 Britain and the EU**

*This slot has been reserved for an emergency motion or topical discussion of the latest developments on Britain and the EU. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. The item selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily. See pages 10 and 11.*

*Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 7 minutes; summation: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.*

*Topical issue timing – introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.*

*For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 9 for further information.*

12.40 Lunch break

14.20 Policy motion

Chair: Mary Reid. Aide: Chris Maines. Hall Aide: Jennie Rigg.

## **F8 The Crisis in Health and Social Care**

*10 members*

Mover: Norman Lamb MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Health)

Summation: Cllr Richard Kemp

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 i) The crisis in the NHS and care services which has seen hundreds of
- 3 urgent operations cancelled this winter, a steep rise in the number of

## Saturday 18th March

- 4 hospitals issuing emergency alerts, and people regularly being diverted  
5 from A&E departments because services cannot keep pace with  
6 demand.
- 7 ii) The warning from the Health Foundation, The King's Fund and the  
8 Nuffield Trust that a combination of cuts and rising demand will leave  
9 adult social care facing a £1.9bn funding gap this year, and the  
10 projected gap could reach at least £2.6bn by 2020; and that nearly two  
11 thirds of NHS Trusts ended the last financial year in deficit.
- 12 iii) That the Government's only response to the social care funding crisis  
13 has been to suggest that councils will be allowed to further increase  
14 the 'social care precept', raised through the regressive council tax – a  
15 move which will worsen the postcode lottery of care; and that they  
16 have failed to give the NHS the additional funding promised at the last  
17 election.
- 18 iv) That short-sighted decisions from the Government to cut community  
19 pharmacy budgets and public health grants to local government will  
20 only serve to increase pressures on primary and secondary care.
- 21 v) That the Government has failed to ensure that all the additional funding  
22 for children's mental health, secured by the Liberal Democrats in 2015,  
23 is spent as intended, and that the goal of equality for those who suffer  
24 from mental ill-health is still a long way from being achieved.
- 25 vi) That the negative economic consequences of leaving the EU and the  
26 risks of losing dedicated health and care workers from other European  
27 countries will pose additional challenges for health and care services.

28 Conference believes that:

- 29 a) The NHS and care services are some of our most vital institutions  
30 and we should always fight to protect and safeguard them for future  
31 generations.
- 32 b) That these services face critical funding and capacity pressures and  
33 that politicians need to be honest with the public about the tough  
34 decisions needed to address them – including the possibility of raising  
35 additional revenue through taxation.
- 36 c) That inordinate pressures placed on staff by a combination of these  
37 factors, have also led to serious problems with staff recruitment and  
38 retention.
- 39 d) That the Government cannot continue to ask the health and care  
40 system to do more without sufficient extra resource, including forcing  
41 through plans for seven-day opening of GP surgeries, when many  
42 already struggle to stay open during normal 'core' hours.

# Saturday 18th March

- 43 e) That building a more sustainable, efficient and joined-up health and  
44 care system which can provide high-quality care cannot be realised  
45 without putting aside party political point-scoring.
- 46 Conference calls for:
- 47 1. The Government to establish a cross party NHS and Care Convention  
48 to engage with the public, patients, staff, professional bodies, local  
49 government and trade unions from across the health and care sector  
50 and civic society with the objective of agreeing a long-term settlement  
51 for the NHS and care services.
- 52 2. An injection of additional emergency funding for health and care  
53 services to be delivered over the next year to keep services from the  
54 brink of collapse; this funding should be directed in particular to social  
55 care and mental health services, as well as invested in improving  
56 integration between health and social care, modernising services,  
57 supporting general practice and all out of hospital care, and improving  
58 efficiency in the longer term.
- 59 3. Any EU citizen working in NHS and care services to be guaranteed the  
60 right to continue to live and work in the UK, following Brexit.

*Applicability: England.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 9 for further information.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 11 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 8 – is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.*

## 15.20 Question and answer session

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Cara Jenkinson. Hall Aide: Liz Lynne.

# Saturday 18th March

## F9 Question and Answer Session with Tim Farron MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats

*A chance for party members to put questions, on any topic, to the leader of the Liberal Democrats in a 'Townhall' style event. Concise questions (maximum 25 words) may be submitted on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers' Table by 12.40 on Saturday 18th March. See page 10.*

### 16.05 Speech

Chair: Robert Adamson. Aide: Cllr Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Qassim Afzal.

## F10 Speech by Baroness Kramer, Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer



@BaronessKramer, #LDconf

### 16.25 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Mary Reid. Hall Aide: Alexander Hegenbarth.

## F11 Towards a World Free of Nuclear Weapons

*Federal Policy Committee*

Mover: Baroness Jolly (Shadow Secretary of State for Defence)

Summation: Neil Stockley (Chair of the Policy Working Group)

- 1 Conference:
  - 2 A. Reaffirms the Liberal Democrats' commitment to pursue the global
  - 3 elimination of nuclear weapons, seeking to ensure that nuclear
  - 4 weapons are never used, and ultimately put beyond use.
  - 5 B. Believes that, as a nuclear weapons power, a permanent member of
  - 6 the UN Security Council and a signatory to the Non-Proliferation Treaty
  - 7 (NPT), the UK has a responsibility to seek reinvigorated initiatives in
  - 8 international diplomacy to achieve nuclear disarmament.

# Saturday 18th March

- 9 C. Recognises the duty of HM Government to maintain a UK defence and  
10 security policy that can:
- 11 i) Protect its population, and that of its dependent overseas  
12 territories, from attack.
- 13 ii) Help to protect the UK's allies and partners, particularly in pursuit of  
14 its legal responsibilities through formal alliance structures such as  
15 NATO and through other treaty obligations.
- 16 D. Reaffirms that the Liberal Democrat goals of peace and security are  
17 best advanced by working actively and constructively through alliances,  
18 partnerships and international institutions, including the European  
19 Union, the United Nations, NATO and the Commonwealth, within a  
20 framework of international law.
- 21 Conference also:
- 22 i) Notes that the immediate security challenges the UK faces, in common  
23 with its allies, are: combatting terrorism, the growth of cyber warfare  
24 and instability; and conflict in North Africa and the Middle East.
- 25 ii) Recognises that the international environment has become much less  
26 stable over recent years, including the increasingly aggressive foreign  
27 policy of the Russian Federation, turmoil in the Middle East, China's  
28 growing military power, and North Korea's continuing pursuit of nuclear  
29 weapons.
- 30 iii) Believes that the nuclear weapons states need to make progress on  
31 negotiating disarmament measures, strengthening the framework for  
32 the long-term elimination of nuclear weapons and making progress on  
33 wider nuclear security issues.
- 34 Conference concludes that:
- 35 a) A commitment to a strong NATO, especially in Europe, should be the  
36 highest priority for the UK's defence policy, particularly if the UK was to  
37 leave the European Union and EU defence cooperation deepens.
- 38 b) The UK should maintain a cost-effective minimum nuclear deterrent  
39 while seeking to kickstart new multilateral talks that will reinvigorate  
40 the drive to reduce nuclear stockpiles and operational weapons, and



# Saturday 18th March

- 41 de-emphasise the relevance of nuclear weapons in national and global  
42 security.
- 43 c) The current external risks to the UK do not justify maintaining the UK  
44 nuclear deterrent in the same hair-trigger posture as during the Cold  
45 War and which the current Trident/Vanguard system of four submarines  
46 operating as a Continuous At-Sea Deterrent (CASD) was designed to  
47 address.
- 48 Conference further believes that:
- 49 I. A submarine-based delivery system remains the safest, most  
50 defendable, and least detectable platform and should be used to  
51 provide the UK's minimum nuclear deterrent.
- 52 II. The current CASD posture could be safely discontinued without  
53 threatening the UK's security.
- 54 Conference proposes that the UK Government should:
- 55 a) Work to regain momentum in the disarmament and control of nuclear  
56 weapons, primarily through its role in the 'P5 process' and in three key  
57 areas:
- 58 i) A concerted effort to build a regime for de-alerting nuclear  
59 weapons.
- 60 ii) Strengthening the legal framework for arms control and  
61 disarmament, including pressing for the ratification and  
62 implementation of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT),  
63 pushing for a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty and implementing a  
64 protocol for naval fuels with the International Atomic Energy Agency  
65 (IAEA) and removing surplus fissile material from military stocks.  
66 iii) Developing new verification and transparency measures.
- 67 b) Engage with the UN Open-Ended Group and the process focussed on  
68 the humanitarian consequences of using nuclear weapons and work to  
69 link their activities with the P5 process.
- 70 c) Work through the P5 process and after careful pre-consultation with  
72 the UK's NATO allies to:

## Saturday 18th March

- 72 i) Declare its intention to end CASD and adopt a medium-readiness  
73 responsive posture that provides minimum deterrence by  
74 maintaining armed patrols, without continuous at-sea deployment,  
75 (which we believe currently will require three submarines).  
76 ii) Provide the option of moving to a low-readiness responsive  
77 posture, or having no nuclear weapons at all, should significant  
78 nuclear disarmament take place.

79 Conference further proposes that the next Strategic Defence and Security  
80 Review (SDSR), in 2020/21, should:

- 81 1. Consider how best to deliver operationally a medium-readiness  
82 responsive posture while maintaining a credible minimum deterrent,  
83 including an examination of how many submarines would be required  
84 to fulfil this.
- 85 2. Investigate the feasibility of other lower-readiness posture options  
86 that could be employed, including a 'zero option' under which the UK  
87 would not field a nuclear capability.
- 88 3. Investigate the impact of a medium-readiness posture on the schedule  
89 for maintaining and replacing the current Vanguard fleet.
- 90 4. Scrutinise the evolving costs of the Dreadnought Programme, the  
91 replacement class of submarines for the Vanguard fleet.
- 92 5. Consider the impact of changing technology on the replacement class  
93 of submarines for the Vanguard fleet.
- 94 Conference therefore welcomes and approves Policy Paper 127, *Towards*  
95 *a World Free of Nuclear Weapons*, as a statement of Liberal Democrat  
96 policy on nuclear weapons.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; movers and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 9 for further information.*

# Saturday 18th March

*The deadline for amendments to this motion – see page 11 – and for requests for separate votes – see page 8 – is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. Those selected for debate will be printed in Saturday’s Conference Daily.*

17.40 Party business

Chair: Liz Lynne. Aide: Chris Maines. Hall Aide: Heidi Worth.

## F12 Parliamentary Party Reports

Commons: Tom Brake MP, Chief Whip in the Commons

Lords: Lord Newby, Leader in the Lords

Europe: Catherine Bearder MEP

*Each of the reports will be moved briefly, and voted on at the end of the session, but the bulk of the session will be used to allow party members to put questions on any aspect of Liberal Democrat activities in the Westminster and European Parliaments on the panel.*

*Party members may submit concise questions (maximum 25 words) on a form collected from and submitted to the Speakers’ Table by 12.40 on Saturday 18th March. The Chair will select which questions shall be asked during the session. See page 10.*

18.00 Close of session

## Conference timetable 2017

### 16th–19th September 2017, Bournemouth

Drafting advice deadline (motions)	13.00 Wednesday	14th June 2017
Motions deadline	13.00 Wednesday	28th June 2017
Drafting advice deadline (amendments, emergency motions)	13.00 Monday	21st August 2017
Deadline for amendments to motions, emergency motions, topical issues, questions to reports	13.00 Monday	4th September 2017

# Sunday 19th March

09.00 Emergency motion or topical issue

Chair: Cllr Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Liz Lynne. Hall Aide: Nicholas Da Costa.

## **F13 Emergency Motion or Topical Issue**

*This slot has been reserved for an emergency motion, or discussion of an important current political issue. The deadline for emergency motions and for suggestions for topical issues is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. The item(s) selected for debate and/or proposed for the ballot will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily. See pages 10 and 11.*

*Emergency motion timing – mover of motion: 7 minutes; summation: 4 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.*

*Topical issue timing – introducer of issue and spokesperson's response: 5 minutes; all other speakers: 3 minutes.*

*For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

09.30 Party business

Chair: Cara Jenkinson. Aide: Mary Reid. Hall Aide: James Gurling.

## **F14 Report of the Federal Board**

Mover: Baroness Brinton (President of the Liberal Democrats)

## **F15 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance**

Mover: Candy Piercy (Chair of the Campaign for Gender Balance)

*The deadline for questions to these reports is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March. Questions selected will be detailed in Saturday's Conference Daily. Questions on events occurring after the deadline may be submitted at the Speakers' Table on speaker's cards up until 09.00 on Sunday 19th March. See page 10.*

# Sunday 19th March

09.50 Policy motion

Chair: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Cllr Zoë O’Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

## F16 The Role of Faith in State-Funded Schools

*Federal Policy Committee*

Mover: Cllr Lucy Nethsingha (Chair, Education Policy Working Group)

Summation: Jeremy Hargreaves (Vice-Chair, Federal Policy Committee)

- 1 Conference believes that:
  - 2 A. Religious communities make a valuable contribution to the cultural life  
3 of the UK, and religious organisations have played a major historic role  
4 in broadening access to education.
  - 5 B. Children should not be taught to hold or to reject religious or non-  
6 religious beliefs against the wishes of their parents, and religious  
7 instruction should not be funded by the state.
  - 8 C. Children of different racial, religious, cultural and socio-economic  
9 backgrounds should be able to benefit from mixing together from an  
10 early age.
  - 11 D. There is a wide range of ethos underpinning schools across the country  
12 as a result of different organisations being allowed to sponsor state  
13 schools.
  - 14 E. Every child should receive a balanced and non-directive education  
15 about religion, belief and ethics.
- 16 Conference further believes that:
  - 17 i) Where different bodies are allowed to sponsor state schools, religious  
18 organisations should not be discriminated against in so doing.
  - 19 ii) There continues to be a place for state schools with a religious  
20 character.

# Sunday 19th March

- 21 iii) There is a distinction between educating children about religions and  
22 their practices ('religious education') and teaching children to follow a  
23 particular religion ('religious instruction').
- 24 iv) Religious education in all state-funded schools should cover religious  
25 and non-religious world views, should be about people's beliefs and  
26 practice and their ethical and moral standpoints, and should be taught  
27 in a non-directive way.
- 28 v) Where religious instruction, worship or other religious practice takes  
29 place in state-funded schools it should not be compulsory, and  
30 meaningful alternative activities should be offered.
- 31 vi) Teaching and other staff of state-funded schools (other than those who  
32 are mainly or exclusively responsible for providing religious instruction)  
33 should not be employed, dismissed, promoted, demoted or otherwise  
34 discriminated against on the basis of their protected characteristics  
35 under the Equality Act.
- 36 vii) Lack of social cohesion and social tensions with a religious aspect have  
37 a number of causes including segregated housing, all of which need to  
38 be tackled, but that segregation of school children, based on religion,  
39 can also be a contributory factor or cause of communities failing to  
40 integrate or growing apart.
- 41 Conference therefore calls for a new approach to state-funded faith  
42 schools which:
- 43 1. Ensures that religious education in all state-funded schools:
- 44 a) Is kept separate from any religious instruction.  
45 b) Covers all the major religious and non-religious viewpoints.  
46 c) Is part of the party's proposed slimmed-down national curriculum,  
47 appropriate to local circumstances.  
48 d) Is included in inspections by Ofsted.
- 49 2. Ensures that staff in faith schools are employed only on the basis  
50 of merit, with exemptions to allow candidates' beliefs to be a factor  
51 in recruitment only for those staff who are mainly or exclusively  
52 responsible for providing religious instruction.

## Sunday 19th March

- 53 3. Allows state-funded schools to hold acts of worship and provide  
54 religious instruction, but repeals the existing legal requirement for  
55 all state-funded schools to hold acts of collective worship, and for  
56 non-religious schools to hold acts of worship of a broadly Christian  
57 character.
- 58 4. Requires schools to ensure that any act of worship and any religious  
59 instruction is optional for members of staff directly employed by the  
60 school, and for pupils who are mature enough to decide for themselves  
61 and otherwise for parents, and that suitable alternative activities are  
62 provided for these pupils.

### OPTION A:

- 63 5. Ensures that selection in admissions on the basis of religion or belief to  
64 state-funded schools is phased out over up to six years.

### OPTION B:

- 65 5. Allows state-funded schools with a religious character to give priority  
66 to children from particular faith communities in their admissions but  
67 strengthens the Schools Admissions Code so that the faith criteria  
68 used in admissions policies cannot be used as a proxy for socio-  
69 economic or racial discrimination, and ensures that they demonstrate  
70 through inspection by Ofsted the social and cultural inclusivity of their  
72 admissions.

### OPTION C:

- 73 5. Ensures that types of state-funded schools which are currently  
74 permitted to select more than 50% of their intake on the basis of faith,  
75 have this limit reduced to 50%; and that types of state-funded schools  
76 currently limited at less than 50% selection by faith, including those  
77 with no selection by faith, retain their existing limit.

*Applicability: England.*

*Mover and summation: 16 minutes combined; mover and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes, all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*In addition to speeches from the platform, voting members will be able to make*

# Sunday 19th March

concise (maximum one-minute) interventions from the floor during the debate on the motion. See page 9 for further information.

The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March – see page 11. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.

The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18th March – see page 8.

## 11.05 Policy motion

Chair: Liz Lynne. Aide: James Gurling. Hall Aide: Victor Chamberlain.

### **F17 Associate Citizenship of the European Union**

*Young Liberals, Beaconsfield, Derby and Wycombe*

Mover: Henry Jones

Summation: Thomas Bull

1 Conference notes that:

2 I. The motion *Britain in the European Union*, passed at the Liberal  
3 Democrats' Autumn 2016 conference, called for protecting freedom  
4 of movement, so that British citizens retain the right to live and work  
5 throughout the EU to be a priority in any negotiations about Britain  
6 leaving the EU.

7 II. In November 2016, Charles Goerens, an MEP in the ALDE  
8 parliamentary group, proposed to create EU associate citizenship, and  
9 to allow British citizens to apply for it, which could allow them to work  
10 and travel freely in the EU, to vote in European Parliament elections,  
11 and to retain other rights that they would otherwise lose due to Brexit.

12 III. In December 2016, Guy Verhofstadt, the leader of ALDE and the lead  
13 Brexit negotiator for the European Parliament, announced that the  
14 ability to keep European citizenship for those who risk losing it will be  
15 on the table of the upcoming Brexit negotiations.

16 Conference believes that:

17 a) Despite the result of the 2016 referendum, there are millions of people  
18 across the UK who value their EU citizenship, and don't want to have



# Sunday 19th March

- 19 it taken away from them; they should be allowed to express their  
20 individual choices.
- 21 b) Anyone, however they voted, should be able to access associate EU  
22 citizenship if they wish to do so.
- 23 Conference reaffirms its call for Britain to remain a member of the European  
24 Single Market.
- 25 In addition, Conference calls on the Government, as a priority in any  
26 negotiations about Britain leaving the EU, to ensure that:
- 27 1. British citizens can apply for associate EU citizenship.  
28 2. This associate EU citizenship provides as many of the rights of full EU  
29 citizenship as possible.  
30 3. If a fee is charged for associate EU citizenship, this fee is as low as  
31 possible.

*Applicability: Federal.*

*Mover: 7 minutes; summation of motion and mover and summation of any amendments: 4 minutes, all other speakers: 3 minutes. For eligibility and procedure for speaking in this debate see page 9.*

*The deadline for amendments to this motion is 13.00, Tuesday 14th March – see page 11. Amendments selected for debate will be printed in Saturday's Conference Daily.*

*The deadline for requests for separate votes is 09.00 Saturday 18th March – see page 8.*

## 11.45 Party business

Chair: Andrew Wiseman (Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Aide: Geoff Payne (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee). Hall Aide: Cllr Zoë O'Connell (Vice Chair, Federal Conference Committee).

### **F18 Speech by Tim Farron MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats**



@timfarron, #LDconf

13.00 Close of conference  
(approx.)

# The Federal Party

## Officers of the Federal Party

Leader	Tim Farron MP
President	Baroness Sal Brinton
Chair of FFRC	Peter Dunphy
Treasurer	Lord Mike German
Vice President (England)	Liz Leffman
Vice President (Scotland)	Sheila Thomson
Vice President (Wales)	Carole O'Toole
Chief Executive	Tim Gordon

## Federal Conference Committee

The FCC is responsible for organising the two Federal conferences each year. This includes choosing the agenda from the policy and business motions submitted by conference representatives, local, regional and state parties, specified associated organisations and Federal committees, and taking decisions on venues, registration rates and other organisational matters. It works within a budget set by the FFRC.

The FCC has 22 voting members: the Party President; the Chief Whip; three state party representatives; one representative from the FB, two from the FPC, one from the FCEC and one from the FPDC; and twelve members directly elected by conference representatives. It elects its own chair, who must be one of the directly elected representatives

## Federal Policy Committee

The FPC is responsible for researching and developing policy and overseeing the Federal Party's policy-making process, including producing policy papers for debate at conference and drawing up (in consultation with the relevant parliamentary party) the Federal election manifestos for Westminster and European elections.

The FPC has 29 voting members: The Party Leader and six other Parliamentarians; the Party President; two councillors; three state party representatives; one representative of the Federal Communications and Elections Committee; and fifteen members directly elected by conference representatives. It must be chaired by the Leader.

## Federal Board

The FB is responsible for directing, co-ordinating and overseeing the implementation of the Party's strategy and the work of the Federal Party. The Federal Board also has responsibility, at least once per Parliament, for preparing a document outlining the Party's Strategy, for submission for debate and agreement by Conference.

The FB has 35 voting members: the Party President (who chairs it); the Leader and three other Parliamentarians; the chairs of the three state parties; the chairs of each of the Federal Committees including a

# The Federal Party

vice-chair of the Federal Policy Committee; a councillor; a Young Liberals representative; three state party representatives; and 15 members directly elected by party members.

## Federal Finance and Resources Committee

The FFRC is responsible for planning and administering the budget and finances of the Federal Party, overseeing its administration and ensuring its compliance with the

Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000, as well as overseeing the Party's risk management operations and its Risk Register.

The FFAC has 14 voting members: the Registered Treasurer and Chair; the three Registered Treasurers of the state parties; five other members (elected by the FB); Party Treasurer; the Party President; one representative of the Parliamentary Office of the Liberal Democrats; the Chief Executive; and one member of Federal staff.



# Map of York

## Venues

- B** York Barbican
- N** Novotel York Centre
- H** Hilton York



## Key

- Major Roads
- Roads within City Wall
- Roads outside City Wall
- Footpaths
- Approximate walking time to City Centre (marked by a star)
- Visitor Information
- Car parks
- City wall
- One-way streets

Published by Visit York  
 1 Museum Street, York YO1 7DT.  
 Tel: (01904) 554455 [www.visitjork.org](http://www.visitjork.org)

Approximate walking time and distance  
 0 200 400 600 800 m