

Conference Extra

Liberal Democrats Spring Conference

York March 17-19 2023



Updates to the Agenda and Directory, information from the Federal Conference Committee (FCC), amendments, emergency motions and questions to reports. Please read in conjunction with the Agenda & Directory.

Please keep Conference Extra with you throughout conference and get hold of a copy of Conference Daily each day – they will be vital to your understanding of the day's business – available via the Conference App and at:

www.libdems.org.uk/conference_papers

Limited hard copies of Conference Daily will be available at conference – enquire at the Information Desk on the ground floor of the York Barbican.

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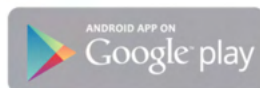
**FOR A
FAIR
DEAL**

Conference App

Download our Conference App for Spring Conference. With great features such as:

- | My Schedule (the easiest way to plan your conference).
- | A searchable Fringe Guide and Agenda.
- | Conference Extra and Conference Daily as they are published.

To download the App visit **App Store** or **Google Play**



For Blackberry / Windows Phone visit
www.libdemconference.org.uk



Electronic speaker's cards

Speaker's cards can be submitted online up to one hour before the start of the debate at www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card. Cards can also be submitted in person as usual before and during the debate. See page 8 of the Agenda and Directory.

Live stream

The conference will be streamed live at: libdems.org.uk/conference-live in case you miss any sessions or want to watch again!

Free WiFi



Free wifi is available at all our official venues:

Barbican:

Network name: Barbican Free - enter your email address, click 'get online' and accept terms & conditions.

Novotel:

Network Name: Novotel - enter your email address, click 'connection'.

Hilton:

Network Name: Hilton Honors - enter the promotional code: Libdems23 then click 'connect'.

WINNING HERE OPENING RALLY!

Join Ed Davey as he opens his first in-person conference with a lively rally celebrating members, council leaders and by-election winners.

Get the low down on Richard Foord's first 9 months in Parliament and find out about the party's strategy as we gear up for the May local elections.

Friday 18:30



Exhibitors listed by stand number

Updated list of exhibitors by stand number:

- 1 Liberal Democrat Disability Association
- 2 People's Postcode Lottery
- 3 Young Liberals
- 4 Prater Raines Ltd
- 5 Rights-Liberties-Justice (Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association)
- 6 Liberal Democrat History Group
- 7 National Education Union
- 8 Green Lib Dems
- 9 Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine
- 10 Liberal Democrats for Electoral Reform
- 11 Humanist & Secularist Liberal Democrats
- 12 Blue Door - Photo Opps
- 13 Liberal Democrat Women
- 14 ALTER
- 15 LGBT+ Liberal Democrats
- 16 Liberal Democrats for Seekers of Sanctuary (LD4SOS)
- 17 Election Workshop
- 18 Liberal Democrat Friends of Kashmir
- 19 Liberal Democrat Christian Forum
- 20 National Liberal Club
- 21 Liberal Democrat Campaign for Race Equality (LDCRE)
- 22 Liberator Magazine
- 23 ALDC & LGA
- 24 ALDC & LGA
- 25 Liberal Democrats in England
- 26 Liberal Democrat European Group & Liberal International British Group
- 27 RISO/SHARP
- 28 Liberal Democrats Abroad
- 29 Association of Liberal Democrat Engineers and Scientists (ALDES)
- 30 Liberal Democrat Education Association
- 31 Liberal Democrat Legacy Fund
- 32 Liberty and Business Network
- 33 Social Democrat Group
- 34 Social Liberal Forum
- LD IMAGE Liberal Democrat Image
- VY Visit York/Make it York AND Liberal Democrat Software Group (*for Saturday and Sunday only*)

Directory of exhibitors

The following exhibitors are additional to those listed in the Directory:

Liberal Democrat Software Group

A group of volunteer coders, designers and managers using our skills to help to party.

www.liberalsoftware.org



Stand VY (Saturday and Sunday only)

Fringe update

FRINGE SATURDAY EARLY EVENING 18.15-19.15

Update to listing in the Directory (amended description):

How can we restore trust in our politics?

LDER, Unlock Democracy and Make Votes Matter

The weaknesses of our outdated political system were exposed by Johnson and Truss. Trust in politics is lower than ever. Join Layla Moran MP, Klina Jordan (Chief Executive, Make Votes Matter), Joe Sousek, (Labour for a New Democracy), Zack Polanski (Green Party Deputy Leader) and Tom Brake (Director, Unlock Democracy) to discuss how we can change things for the better.

Twitter: [@LibDem4ER](https://twitter.com/LibDem4ER)

www.lder.org

Novotel, Meeting Room 3

Update to listing in the Directory (amended description):

Sustaining rural communities in the carbon trading age

Countryside Alliance

The countryside is not just landscape and wildlife, it is also people. A discussion of community sustainability in the face of land use change with Tim Farron MP, Alistair Carmichael MP, Helen Morgan MP and Jamie Stone MP.

www.facebook.com/CountrysideAllianceUpdates

Novotel, Meeting Room 4

FRINGE SATURDAY MID EVENING 19.45-21.00

John Stuart Mill Institute

Are You A Liberal?

Novotel, Meeting Room 6

This fringe will be held in the Hilton, Bootham Room

Update to listing in the Directory:

SOCIAL LIBERAL FORUM supported by Liberator

Are you a Liberal?

Join SLF, Liberator and John Stuart Mill Institute to discuss.

Can you explain the principles and philosophy of Liberalism? What do you do when the principles conflict? What does Liberalism have to say about the big challenges of today? Alan Butt Philip (John Stuart Mill Institute), Gordon Lishman (SLF) and Michael Meadowcroft lead the debate.

Hilton, Bootham Room

Training update

TRAINING AND SKILLS SATURDAY LATE MORNING 11.00-12.15

Update to listing in the Directory (amended session name):

Fundraising to Win

Fundraising is a cornerstone of campaign success. Learn how to develop your team and create a plan to raise the money you need to win.

The Campaigns and Elections Team

Hilton Hotel, Minster Suite

ADVANCED CAMPAIGNER

Spokesperson Q&A Sessions

There will be three Q&A sessions at conference where you can ask questions of our spokespeople. All sessions will take place in the Lendal Room, York Barbican.

Health Q&A

Saturday 18 March 13.00-14.00

Daisy Cooper and Richard Allan

Chair: Jennie Rigg

Defence Q&A

Saturday 18 March 14.30-15.30

Richard Foord and Julie Smith (Baroness Newnham)

Chair: Hannah Kitching

Economy Q&A

Sunday 19 March 10.15-11.15

Sarah Olney and Dick Newby on the Economy

Chair: Eleanor Kelly



Join us for the launch of

Winning Here, Winning There A Handbook for Local Liberal Democrats by Christopher Hudson

ROOM 6, NOVOTEL HOTEL, YORK, 18 March 2023, from 9.30 pm

"With this guide you'll better understand what the key tasks are for our local organisation, how to make a success of them and how to share the burden by getting more people involved."

Mark Pack, President of the Liberal Democrats

Caroline Pidgeon, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group on the London Assembly

"...a relevant, impactful and vital guide to Lib Dem life, from answering initial questions on how to get involved with the Party to a comprehensive guide to building and growing your local party..."

Toni Brodelle, PPC for Wycombe, member of the House of Lords task group on Syria/refugees, and Chair of the Parliamentary Candidates Association

"Whether you are a new member, raring to go; or like some of us, a little long in the tooth, with a lot to update ourselves on, this book is invaluable."

Mark Williams, Welsh Board member, and former Ceredigion MP.



Agenda Extra

Saturday 18 March

F2A Federal Conference Committee Report

We have an unusually large number of questions to reports at this conference. In order to try to address as many of the issues raised as possible in the time available, questions will be grouped and the movers of reports will try to answer each group collectively. Supplementary questions will then be taken from the first questioner in each group.

Q1. Submitted by Andrew Hudson

Why are delegates required to pay the conference registration fee online unless they register at conference?

Q2. Submitted by Zoe Hollowood

How will FCC ensure members with gender-critical beliefs are safe at conference given inflammatory language used about them at senior levels of the party?

Q3. Submitted by Daniel Jones

Could the committee elaborate on the steps being taken to ensure conference remains a welcoming space for trans and non-binary attendees?

Q4. Submitted by Greg Webb

What are FCC's plans to ensure that Conference remains accessible to trans members, rather than being dominated by a vocal but small trans-hostile minority?

Q5. Submitted by Olly Craven

What precautions have FCC made to ensure that trans people are safe from harassment and abuse at Conference?

Q6. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

What are FCC doing to ensure the safety of trans members at conference given the hostility of the vocal minority of GC members?

Q7. Submitted by Toby Keynes

Does FCC undertake that members holding gender critical beliefs will not be systematically or

casually excluded from conference debates, and chat, relevant to those beliefs?

Q8. Submitted by Fraser Graham

F32 passed at Autumn conference 2020 brought in several actions to make conference more welcoming to Trans and Non-Binary Individuals. How have these been actioned?

Q9. Submitted by John Fraser

Should not Spring Conference have taken more than just five policy proposals to have sufficient new ideas to put in Autumn's Pre Manifesto Document?

Q10. Submitted by Alisdair Calder McGregor

When Autumn Conference was cancelled, the all-party email stated that FCC was "...reviewing options [...] in order to allow more items on the agenda" - if this is true, why is this conference SHORTER than the previous Spring Conferences (both online AND in person)?

Q11. Submitted by John Grout

How does FCC feel the process for asking and publishing questions at Conference can be improved?

Q12. Submitted by Lucas North

The Young Liberals have now held 4 successful hybrid conferences. Why has the federal party failed to do so?

Q13. Submitted by Lucas North

The Young Liberals have previously offered access to the software we developed for hybrid events. Do FCC plan to take us up on this offer to allow better hybrid participation in conference?

Q14. Submitted by James Bliss

The Young Liberals have successfully managed several hybrid conferences over the past couple of years, with those online able to speak and vote. Why has FCC been unable to do this?

Q15. Submitted by Joe Toovey

What work is FCC doing on hybridisation and enabling online attendees like myself to contribute fully to Conference, including in debates as we could previously?

Q16. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

Why are FCC still not making fully accessible hybrid events a priority? The Young Liberals have now held 4 on a much smaller budget.

Q17. Submitted by Lucas North

You chose not to take the federal levy motion at this conference. Does this mean you agree the levy should be scrapped?

Q18. Submitted by Janey Little

What is the purpose of the Innovation Working Group established by FCC and what sorts of projects will it be looking at?

Q19. Submitted by Mark Johnston

What's the cost to the party budget of subsidising this conference? What's the net financial position across both conferences, spring and autumn, for this year?

Q20. Submitted by Gareth Epps

Delays in receiving drafting advice have been experienced. What is being done to make sure this doesn't happen again?

Q21. Submitted by James Bliss

Other federal committees (like FB formally and FPC on an ad hoc basis) have a seat on the committee for the Young Liberals, would you support adding one for FCC to help with engagement of young party members and to help develop the next generation of committee members?

Q22. Submitted by Gareth Epps

Why is there no opportunity to ask questions of the Federal Finance & Resources Committee at this Conference?

Q23. Submitted by Katherine Macy

Why are the names on the passes so small and can we have pronouns automatically included (by an optional box) next time?

Q24. Submitted by Katherine Macy

How can the access fund be better supported and widened to all individuals, not just those with

disabilities?

Q25. Submitted by Sean Bennett

How can financial accessibility to conference be better supported and advertised to members during this cost of living crisis?

Q26. Submitted by Olly Craven

How are you ensuring that disadvantaged groups can take part in your committee without being discriminated against or subjected to discriminatory rants from other members?

F2B Federal Policy Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by Andrew Hudson

When will the Homes and Planning Policy working group paper come to conference?

Q2. Submitted by Katherine Macy

Do you prioritise lived experiences or academic/work expertise in your working groups? If you balance them, how?

Q3. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

What happened with the findings of the UBI working group after consultation?

Q4. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

What are FPC doing to address the lack of diversity in Policy Working Groups?

Q5. Submitted by John Fraser

Due to shortage of policy making via cancelled conference etc, how do we ensure sufficient new 'grass-root' ideas for Autumns Conferences 'Pre manifesto Paper'

Q6. Submitted by Helen Baxter

How and when will FPC consult with the membership on the manifesto?

Q7. Submitted by Fraser Graham

What steps will FPC take to ensure our next manifesto appeals to the country as a whole, and not just to 'Blue Wall' voters?

Q8. Submitted by John Grout

How does FPC feel the Lib Dem policy making process can be protected from the culture war we seem to be in at the moment?

Q9. Submitted by Daniel Jones

Given the success of succinct policies like "Bollocks to Brexit" in early 2019, will the committee focus on short, one line "pitches" of our policies?

Q10. Submitted by Gareth Epps

The Party desperately needs an overarching narrative. Why is this work being delayed in favour of no fewer than six policy working groups?

Q11. Submitted by James Bliss

Currently FPC normally invites/coopts the Young Liberals Policy Officer onto the committee. Would you support formally adding a seat for the Young Liberals onto FPC to secure engagement of young party members and to help develop the next generation of committee members?

Q12. Submitted by Fraser Graham

How have FPC been working with AOs representing diverse groups to ensure our party policies are inclusive and don't inadvertently discriminate?

Q13. Submitted by Olly Craven

How are you ensuring that disadvantaged groups can take part in your committee without being discriminated against or subjected to discriminatory rants from other members?

Q14. Submitted by Caron Lindsay

Would you consider establishing a working group on Ending violence against women and girls in all its forms?

F2C Federal International Relations Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by John Grout

How is FIRC working with partner parties and bodies abroad to safeguard hard-won LGBT+ rights against a right-wing culture war onslaught?

Q2. Submitted by Greg Webb

Given our party's long internationalist history, how do we ensure international engagement and the benefits of cooperation are front and centre in our party's messaging?

Q3. Submitted by Clare Delderfield

Against such a hostile environment how can we push for increased number of safe and legal routes for asylum seekers to come to the UK?

Q4. Submitted by Timothy Oliver

What work has FIRC undertaken with sister parties on LGBT rights in the last year?

F3 FIRC Representation

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

1 *Delete 1. b) (lines 9–10).*

F4 Constitutional Housekeeping and International Work

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

1 *After d) (line 17), insert:*

2 e) The wording of Article 16.3 A. could be read as imposing a one-year term limit on
3 FASC members, even though this was not the intention and is not how it has been
4 interpreted up until now.

5 *After 4. (line 34), insert:*

6 *In Article 16.3 A., before 'Federal Committee' insert 'other'.*

F5 Access to Dental Services

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

1 *Delete 4. (lines 50–52) and insert:*

2 4. The launch of an emergency scheme to ensure children, pregnant women, young
3 mothers, and those on low incomes have access to their free check ups on time.

4 *After 6. (line 56), add:*

5 7. A reversal of the government's cuts to public health grants to support preventative

6 dental health care, for example oral health programmes or promoting healthy
7 eating choices.

Amendment One

Twickenham & Richmond

Mover: Cllr Piers Allen.

Summation: Munira Wilson MP.

1 *After vi) (line 24), insert:*

2 vii) The underspend of the national dentistry budget by a record £400m this year 2022/23,
3 representing around 13 per cent of the £3bn primary dentistry budget; this is in spite
4 of the 'access crisis' and increasing demand for dentistry and has been ascribed simply
5 to practices working to a failed contract and with vacancies for dentists they can't fill
6 and/or a shortage of dentists willing to take on NHS work.

7 *After e) (line 45), insert:*

8 f) With integrated care systems (ICSs) taking over the commissioning of NHS dentistry
9 from NHSE in April 2023, there is an opportunity to redress the failures of national
10 government by local commissioning, with a focus on prevention, health equity, and
11 better access for the most urgent cases through wider and better integrated pathways
12 between primary and secondary care services, including prioritising an urgent dental
13 care system (that connects individuals from NHS 111 to a clinical triage and designated
14 urgent care provider) and more essential domiciliary dental care for residential
15 settings and for vulnerable groups.

16 *After 6. (line 56), add:*

17 7. Proper funding of ICSs to take on NHS dentistry commissioning, with a minimum of all
18 of the underspend in the national commissioning budget in 2021/22 and 2022/23
19 transferred to ICSs to target local need and demand.

20 8. Longer-term consideration of more major reform to put prevention first, with much-
21 need sustained investment for prevention and oral public health as part of the Public
22 Health Grant.

F6 Code of Conduct

Mover: Mary Regnier-Wilson.

Summation: Mark Pack.

F7 Selection of Motions for Debate

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

1 *In lines 40–41, delete 'has the discretion to' and insert 'should normally'.*

F8 The UK's Nuclear Deterrent

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

1 *After D. (line 56), insert:*

2 E. Halt plans to reduce the size of the regular Army from 82,000 personnel to 72,500 by
3 2025.

4 F. Urgently review the overall scale of all branches of UK armed forces in light of newly
5 established NATO commitments.

Amendment One

42 members

Mover: Keith Melton.

Summation: Baroness Sue Miller.

1 *After I. (line 3), insert:*

2 II. That each generation has a responsibility to protect the planet, its ecosystem and all its
3 peoples.

4 *Delete d) (lines 24–25) and insert:*

5 d) That the UK's nuclear weapons (less than 2% of the global weapon `stock`) are
6 declared for the defence of NATO, though nominally in control of the UK Government
7 in extremis.

8 e) The Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) includes a comprehensive
9 set of prohibitions on participating in any nuclear weapon activities. These include
10 undertakings not to develop, test, produce, acquire, possess, stockpile, use or threaten
11 to use nuclear weapons. The Treaty also prohibits the deployment of nuclear weapons
12 on national territory and the provision of assistance to any State in the conduct of
13 prohibited activities. Signatories should immediately remove them from operational
14 status, and destroy them as soon as possible, but not later than a deadline to be
15 determined by the first meeting of States Parties.

16 f) That the present UK Government and its predecessors have refused to sign and ratify
17 the UN Treaty and, instead, has prioritised developing a replacement for the Trident
18 nuclear weapons capability with a negative impact on conventional weapons spending
19 and the armed forces.

20 g) The failure of many NATO allies, including the UK, to properly resource their
21 conventional armed forces in order to be ready to respond to conventional military
22 attack.

23 *Delete i) to iv) (lines 29–39) and insert:*

24 i) Nuclear weapons do not make anyone safer and, in fact, pose an existential threat to
25 all.

26 ii) Nuclear weapons cannot prevent armed conflict among states and heighten the risk of

- 27 miscalculation that could bring an ‘Age of Mass Extinctions’ leading to the end of
28 human life on Earth.
- 29 iii) We must accelerate our efforts to eliminate nuclear weapons.
- 30 *Delete A. to C. (lines 48–54) and insert:*
- 31 A. To meet its commitment under Article 6 of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to
32 pursue effective measures towards nuclear disarmament.
- 33 B. Immediately cancel the renewal of the Trident nuclear weapons system.
- 34 *In 4. (lines 67–68), delete ‘(while acknowledging that the UK cannot sign that Treaty)’, and
35 insert ‘– whilst undertaking to sign this UN Treaty within the life of the Parliament
36 following the next UK General Election’.*

F10 Solving the Energy Crisis for the Long Term

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

- 1 *Delete B. (lines 43-45) and insert:*
- 2 B. Convert the Energy Profits Levy into a 40% windfall tax and remove the associated
3 investment allowance, with both changes backdated to October 2021, thus ensuring
4 that gas and oil producers pay their fair share.
- 5 *Delete D. (lines 48–50) and insert:*
- 6 D. Introduce a one-off levy on the bonuses awarded to oil and gas executives, similar to
7 the bankers' bonuses tax in 2009/10 in the aftermath of the financial crisis which taxed
8 bank bonuses over £25,000 at 50%.
- 9 E. Cut the Energy Price Guarantee to £1,971 for the average household until April 2024 or
10 average prices drop below that level, whichever is soonest.
- 11 F. Continue the existing Business Energy Bill Relief Scheme for a further six months from
12 April.

Amendment One

North West Liberal Democrats

Mover: Andrew Haldane.

Summation: James Tattersall.

- 1 *After V. (line 20), insert:*
- 2 VI. No UK programme directly equivalent to the EU Green Deal, which is helping to
3 accelerate significantly the shift to renewables across Europe, has been put in place.
- 4 VII. Although Marine Energy could potentially meet around 20% of UK electricity demand,
5 we have no strategy for exploiting what is the richest Tidal Range Energy resource in
6 the world, and also lack ambition for the development of Wave Energy and Tidal

7 Stream Energy.

8 *After B. (line 45), insert:*

9 C. Allocate to the development of Marine Energy those revenues from Crown Estates' off-
10 shore wind licensing that are to be returned to the Exchequer by HM King Charles III
11 for use in the public interest.

12 D. Establish a not-for-profit company, British Marine Energy, with a task force to plan a
13 series of Tidal Range Energy schemes commencing with a "Pathfinder" project.

Amendment Two

60 members

Mover: Steve Mason.

Summation: Keith Melton.

1 *After K. (line 87), insert:*

2 L. Establish a Net Zero Delivery Authority sponsored jointly by the Department for Energy
3 Security and Net Zero and the Treasury to oversee the delivery of Net Zero; coordinate
4 cross departmental coordination; and facilitate the devolution of powers and
5 resources to local governments.

Amendment Three

ALDC

Mover: To be announced.

Summation: To be announced.

1 *In F. (line 56), after 'by 2030,' insert 'with a central role in delivering this programme being*
2 *taken by local authorities,'.*

3 *In 3. (line 100), after 'countries', insert 'to ensure that any such interconnectors are located*
4 *to avoid disruption to local communities and to minimise environmental damage'.*

F12 Towards a Fairer Society

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

1 *In 2. a) (line 65), after 'government', insert 'including funding for skills training'.*

Amendment One

13 members

Mover: Ellen Nicholson.

Summation: Charley Hasted.

1 *After e) (line 112), insert:*

- 2 f) Protecting the right to withdraw your labour, (the right to strike), whether that right is
3 exercised individually or collectively.

Amendment Two

12 members

Mover: Kevin Daws.

Summation: Richard Whelan.

1 *After e) (line 112), insert:*

- 2 f) Implementing the Disability Employment Charter to help create a level playing field for
3 disabled workers.

In voting on the three options in 1. b) (lines 48–59), a vote will be taken between options 1 and 2, and then a second vote between the winner of the first vote and option 3.

F14 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties

We have an unusually large number of questions to reports at this conference. In order to try to address as many of the issues raised as possible in the time available, questions will be grouped and the movers of reports will try to answer each group collectively. Supplementary questions will then be taken from the first questioner in each group.

Q1. Submitted by Andrew Hudson

Are the parliamentary parties opposing the strikes minimum services bill?

Q2. Submitted by Juliet Line

Last year Lord Strasburger challenged our unlawful debate-suppressing Definition of Transphobia. Will our Peers continue to promote freedom of speech within the party?

Q3. Submitted by Juliet Line

Do MPs support the new MoJ guidelines that help protect females in prison from violent male offenders, however those males identify?

Q4. Submitted by John Grout

How can Lib Dems best help Parliamentarians prevent the UK from back-sliding on LGBT+ rights, especially given the current right-wing culture war around trans rights?

Q5. Submitted by Timothy Oliver

What have the Lords and Commons groups done in the last year to promote the rights of all

LGBT people in Britain?

Q6. Submitted by Fraser Graham

What was the parliamentary party's response to the blocking of the Scottish GRR bill Section 35, and how do we prevent future abuse of Section 35?

Q7. Submitted by Joe Toovey

In this climate of increasing hostility to LGBT+ and specifically to trans rights, what work are the Parliamentary Parties currently planning in this area?

Q8. Submitted by Richard Gadsden

Following the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal in Forstater vs CGDE, the Equalities Act is being interpreted to protect discriminatory and transphobic beliefs if disguised as "gender critical". What are the Parliamentary Parties doing to amend the Equalities Act to overturn this disgraceful decision?

Q9. Submitted by Greg Webb

With our diminished Parliamentary presence, what's the best way to maximise the audience for our pro-European policies as Brexit's damage becomes clearer?

Q10. Submitted by Katherine Macy

In the lead up to the next election cycle how can we make sure we're championing liberal policies like trans rights and pro international policies and not just being an anti Tory party?

F15 Diversity on Party Committees

Summation: Juliet Line.

Sunday 19 March

F17A Federal Board Report

We have an unusually large number of questions to reports at this conference. In order to try to address as many of the issues raised as possible in the time available, questions will be grouped and the movers of reports will try to answer each group collectively. Supplementary questions will then be taken from the first questioner in each group.

Q1. Submitted by Andrew Hudson

When are we going to see an end of meetings conducted by zoomocracy?

Q2. Submitted by Judith Bailey

Does the Board consider the proposed 6.4B presents any risk of imposing sanctions improperly with the lack of opportunity for real dialogue through a hearing?

Q3. Submitted by Lucas North

The Young Liberals are the only enrolling body who don't have meaningful access to our membership data. When will this be fixed?

Q4. Submitted by Lucas North

When and why was the decision made that the Young Liberals would not have access to Connect, and so cannot use Fleet to host petitions or surveys?

Q5. Submitted by Lucas North

We've heard a lot about one of the benefits of Fleet being that petition data will flow into Connect. Why are the Young Liberals excluded from this?

Q6. Submitted by Gareth Epps

With six weeks to go until the biggest round of English local elections, where is the promised compelling and distinctive narrative?

Q7. Submitted by Greg Webb

Given we are the only opposition party polling below our 2019 result, what is the Board's view of the Party's strategy to correct this?

Q8. Submitted by Greg Webb

Given our party's current low polling in spite of specifically targeting the Conservatives, what does FCEC believe is failing in the current Party strategy?

Q9. Submitted by Katherine Macy

How can we make sure we are championing liberal policies such as trans rights and pro internationalism and not just being the anti Tory party?

Q10. Submitted by James Green

Why are we failing to promote a liberal vision that supports house building, trans rights and workers rights in favour of just being anti-Tory?

Q11. Submitted by Zoe Hollowood

Will FB dissociate the Party from incendiary assertions by a Party committee that gender-critical beliefs are "equivalent to...white supremacist or anti-semitic views"?

Q12. Submitted by Jennie Rigg

In light of the ruling in B Randall Vs Trent College are Board going to refer so-called "gender critical" members to the Prevent programme to be de-radicalised before the party becomes even more of a hostile environment for trans people?

Q13. Submitted by Alana Mullen

In light of the B Randall vs Trent College ruling, will Board adopt a stronger policy against transphobia that protects trans people not hate mongers?

Q14. Submitted by Toby Keynes

Does FB recognise the rights of members holding gender critical beliefs to be consulted about matters – including the Transphobia Definition – directly affecting them as members?

Q15. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

What are Federal Board doing to manage the issue of transphobia in the party? How are you keeping trans members safe from harassment/abuse at conference?

Q16. Submitted by Jon Ball

How is the Federal Board ensuring that the party remains a safe place for trans members and how is it engaging with the concerns of many trans members over the ongoing transphobia problem?

Q17. Submitted by Timothy Oliver

When will the Federal Board complete work on a definition of transphobia that LGBT members

of this party can have confidence in?

Q18. Submitted by John Grout

How does Federal Board intend to improve communication with SAOs around the decision making process?

Q19. Submitted by Mark Johnston

How many vacant positions remain on the Federal Appeals Panel? What is the break-down of FAP vacancies under each federal and state party category?

Q20. Submitted by Gareth Epps

As there has not been a Conference for a whole year, how can there be less to report, and why is the report shorter than usual?

Q21. Submitted by Gareth Epps

Does the Federal Board now see itself as accountable to the new Federal Council, rather than to Conference?

Q22. Submitted by Olly Craven

How are you ensuring that disadvantaged groups can take part in your committee without being discriminated against or subjected to discriminatory rants from other members?

Q23. Submitted by Olly Craven

How can we improve our membership recruitment and engagement in Labour facing areas? Are there policies/campaigns that are already party policy that might cut through?

Q24. Submitted by Chris Northwood

The new rebate system for online donations/tickets is causing major cashflow issues for local parties. Was this considered when setting it up, and what will be done to address this going forward?

Q25. Submitted by Joe Toovey

How do we motivate demoralised campaigners worried that core liberal issues - Europe, drug policy, trans rights - are being deemphasised in our campaigns due to fear of controversy?

Q26. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

Does the Board recognise how demoralised many members are at our lack voice on progressive Liberal issues for fear of upsetting potential Tory swing voters?

Q27. Submitted by Daniel Jones

Given increasing penetration of conspiracy and extreme ideas into the mainstream, what is the party doing to ensure candidates at all levels are properly vetted?

Q28. Submitted by Greg Webb

With Brexit support collapsing, Conservatives tainted and Labour split - why have we stopped talking about our policy when it so massively outpolls our Party?

Q29. Submitted by Jared Jeyaretnam

How can we ensure local parties stick to our national values when it comes to tackling the housing crisis or stopping pollution?

F17B Federal Campaigns and Election Committee Report

Q1. Submitted by John Grout

How is FCEC planning to help PPCs and local parties in the upcoming election handle the current right-wing culture war, especially as it relates to vulnerable minorities (asylum seekers, trans people, etc.)?

Q2. Submitted by Mark Johnston

Measured in net seat gains as compared to 2019, what is your (or your committee's) minimum definition of success in the next general election?

Q3. Submitted by James Bliss

Other federal committees (like FB formally and FPC on an ad hoc basis) have a seat on the committee for the Young Liberals, would you support adding one for FCEC to help with engagement of young party members and to help develop the next generation of committee members?

Q4. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

What is the party doing to ensure we have a distinct narrative, that extends past just being "anti-Tory" going into the next GE?

Q5. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

How can we best support members wanting to campaign but unable to participate in physical activities such as canvassing/door-to-door?

Q6. Submitted by Sean Bennett

Despite the hard work of our comms professionals, the party's voice isn't being heard by the public. What are we doing to change that?

Q7. Submitted by Jon Ball

What are you doing to ensure that campaigns and federal messaging is relevant to Labour-facing areas as well as Blue Wall seats?

F17C Federal Council Report

Q1. Submitted by John Grout

After its first few months of full operation, how does FC see its role developing over the rest of its first term?

F17D Campaign for Gender Balance Report

Q1. Submitted by John Grout

How does CGB intend to work with women's organisations such as the WI to rebut the misogynistic and transphobic narratives emerging in the current right-wing culture war?

Q2. Submitted by Fraser Graham

Do you agree that Non-Binary individuals being included in internal election quotas is not a threat to creating gender balance within our party committees?

Q3. Submitted by Greg Webb

How are CGB working to ensure all women and non-binary people can succeed, unhindered by small but vocal groups of 'gender-critical' people?

Q4. Submitted by Tara Foster

Does the panel agree that the way the NHS currently "cares" for trans people is inherently transphobic?

Q5. Submitted by Tara Foster

Does the panel agree that a liberal party should not entertain non-inclusive views within its membership?

Q6. Submitted by Lucy Tonge

What specific actions is CGB taking to ensure we're supporting intersectionality/diversity of candidates beyond just cis, white, abled women?

Q7. Submitted by Hina Bokhari

What support or training will be provided for women from ethnic minorities to become PPCs and councillors?

F18 A More Caring Society

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

1 *After V. (line 18), insert:*

2 VI. Failure to address the unnecessary occupancy of thousands of acute hospital beds by
3 people awaiting a suitable care package with consequential ambulance delays,
4 hospital treatment delays and unnecessary suffering, with sometimes tragic
5 consequences, for hundreds of people each week.

6 *After 3. (line 28), insert:*

7 4. Establish the UK as a leader in the sensitive use of emerging assistive and telecare
8 technologies, harnessing. IT, robotics, and AI to improve the quality of care and
9 prolong independence.

Amendment One

11 members

Mover: Munira Wilson MP.

Summation: Baroness Tyler.

1 *After C. (line 6), insert:*

2 D. Children in care or at risk of being taken into care also deserve a great start in life so
3 they have the support, relationships, skills and knowledge they need to succeed.

4 *After V. (line 18), insert:*

5 VI. Their failure to grasp the scale of the crisis in children's social care, committing less
6 than a tenth of the more than £2 billion that the Government-commissioned
7 Independent Review of Children's Social Care says is necessary for whole system

8 reform.

9 *After 7. f) (line 57), insert:*

10 8. Conference further calls on the Government to support the 150,000 children in
11 England being raised by grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings, other relatives or friends
12 (known as kinship carers), by:

13 a) Providing all kinship carers with a weekly allowance for each child they care for,
14 equivalent to the national minimum weekly allowance for foster carers.

15 b) Giving kinship carers the right to paid employment leave when a child starts living
16 with them on terms equivalent to those for adoptive parents.

17 c) Supporting the education of children in kinship care, such as by making them
18 eligible for Pupil Premium Plus and amending the school admissions code so that
19 children in kinship care are given a higher priority when a school is oversubscribed.

20 d) Creating a statutory definition of kinship care and establishing a passporting
21 process through which kinship carers may prove to a public body that they are
22 entitled to the support listed above.

Amendment Two

North West Liberal Democrats

Mover: Andrew Haldane.

Summation: Sam Al-Hamdani.

1 *After 5. b) (line 34), insert:*

2 c) Utilise local partnerships to develop short-stay convalescence and rehabilitation
3 provision in community hospitals, or other transitional care centres, sufficient to end
4 unnecessary acute bed occupancy and better prepare patients to return home.

Emergency Motions Ballot

One of the following motions will be selected by ballot to be debated at F16 on Sunday 19 March. Ballot papers will be printed with Saturday's Conference Daily and the ballot box will be open in the Auditorium between 09.00 and 12.50 on Saturday 18 March.

Emergency motion 1: A Better Alternative to the Small Boats Legislation

10 members

- 1 Conference notes with concern the Conservative Government's alarming Illegal Migration
2 Bill, which was introduced to Parliament on 7th March.
- 3 Conference further notes that:
- 4 i) Under this policy, anyone who enters the UK via a small boat crossing will be
5 immediately detained and deported to another country as soon as possible.
- 6 ii) An analysis of Home Office statistics by the Refugee Council showed that in 2022 48%
7 of those who crossed the channel were from just 5 countries, all with asylum grant
8 rates over 80% – Afghanistan, Eritrea, Sudan, Syria and Iran.
- 9 iii) The 1951 Refugee Convention, of which the UK is a signatory, confirms that asylum
10 seekers have a right to not be penalised for illegal entry to a country.
- 11 Conference believes that the Government's plans to stop small boats:
- 12 A. Are immoral, ineffective and incredibly costly for taxpayers.
- 13 B. Will do nothing to address the criminal gangs responsible for arranging these
14 dangerous crossings, and instead punishes the victims of human trafficking.
- 15 C. Betray the UK's proud tradition of providing sanctuary to refugees fleeing war and
16 persecution, and breaches our commitments under international law.
- 17 Conference further believes that the best way to stop these dangerous crossings and
18 tackle smuggling and trafficking is to provide safe and legal routes to sanctuary for
19 refugees.
- 20 Conference calls on the Government to:
- 21 1. Immediately scrap the Illegal Migration Bill.
- 22 2. Fix the broken asylum system by taking powers away from the Home Office and
23 establishing a new, dedicated unit to make decisions quickly and fairly.
- 24 3. Provide safe and legal routes to sanctuary for refugees from all countries, including:
- 25 a) An expanded, properly-funded refugee resettlement scheme.
- 26 b) A new scheme to resettle unaccompanied child refugees from elsewhere in Europe.

- 27 c) Reuniting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in Europe with family members
28 in the UK.
- 29 d) Expanding the scope of refugee family reunion, including enabling unaccompanied
30 child refugees in the UK to sponsor close family members to join them.
- 31 e) Humanitarian visas that would allow asylum seekers to travel to the UK safely to
32 proceed with their claims.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency motion 2: Brexit, food shortages and the Northern Ireland Protocol

44 members

- 1 Conference notes the growing evidence of the negative impacts of the UK's withdrawal
2 from the EU, including:
- 3 A. Recent shortages of fruit and vegetables, due to the UK's exclusion from EU supply
4 chains, alongside other underlying causes.
- 5 B. An estimated shortfall of 330,000 people in the UK labour force, comprising 460,000
6 fewer EU citizens, not compensated for by 130,000 additional non-EU workers.
- 7 C. The loss of trade and business investment, causing the UK economy to be an
8 estimated 5.5 per cent smaller than it would have been in the absence of Brexit, in
9 turn leading to an annual loss of tax revenue of £40 billion.
- 10 D. The sharp rise in numbers of asylum-seekers and immigrants risking their lives
11 crossing the Channel since the end of the Brexit transition period in 2020, because of
12 the absence of a returns agreement.
- 13 Conference welcomes the agreement on the Windsor Framework, as easing the tensions
14 round the implementation of the Northern Ireland Protocol and paving the way for
15 improved relations between the UK and EU.
- 16 Conference notes, however, that this package is intended to deal only with a limited range
17 of the effects of Brexit in a single part of the UK, and will do very little to address the
18 major negative impacts of Brexit on Great Britain.
- 19 Conference therefore reiterates its support for the roadmap to re-establishing good
20 relations between the UK and EU set out in policy paper 144, *Rebuilding Trade and*
21 *Cooperation with Europe*:
- 22 i) Immediate unilateral UK initiatives to repair the UK–EU relationship.
- 23 ii) Rebuilding confidence through seeking to agree partnerships or associations with EU
24 agencies and programmes.
- 25 iii) Deepening the trading relationship, including negotiating a veterinary agreement for
26 trade in food and livestock and mutual recognition agreements.

27 iv) Once the trading relationship between the UK and the EU is deepened, and the ties of
28 trust and friendship are renewed, aiming to place the UK–EU relationship on a more
29 formal and stable footing by seeking to join the Single Market.

30 Conference recognises that these steps are necessary both to undo much of the
31 economic damage caused by Brexit and to maximise the chances of the UK ultimately
32 rejoining the EU, which remains the Liberal Democrats' objective.

33 Conference calls on:

34 1. The Federal Policy Committee to ensure that party policy on UK–EU relations features
35 prominently in all relevant future policy papers, the pre-manifesto paper and the
36 forthcoming general election manifesto.

37 2. Party spokespeople in Parliament and the party leadership to argue strongly for
38 improving the UK–EU relationship, through following the steps set out in the roadmap
39 above, as a necessary solution to issues such as the cost-of-living crisis, shortages of
40 workers in both the commercial and public spheres, and declines in environmental
41 quality, such as the uncontrolled discharge of sewage into rivers and seas.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency motion 3: Detoxifying Public Debate and protecting minority groups

LGBT+ Liberal Democrats

1 Conference notes that:

2 i) We have recently seen a number of disturbing attacks against people from a variety of
3 marginalised communities.

4 ii) Over 150,000 hate crimes were recorded in England and Wales in 2022 – a 26%
5 increase over 2021 and nearly 400% over the last decade.

6 iii) Dehumanisation is step 4 of the ten steps of genocide policy model developed by
7 Gregory Stanton of Genocide watch, this frequently comes in terms of referring to
8 members of marginalised groups in ways calculated to draw associations with criminal
9 behaviour or vermin; at the same time the Government is calling refugees and asylum
10 seekers 'swarms' and 'illegal migrants'.

11 iv) The Government has been accused of stating that it will use 'culture war' to distract
12 from its mismanagement of the country.

13 Conference believes that:

14 a) Dehumanising and hateful words create environments in which those seeking asylum
15 and people from minority communities feel unsafe and threatened.

16 b) These words, used by those in positions of power can embolden those who wish to
17 harm minority groups.

- 18 c) Rhetoric used by the Government and media attacking marginalised communities has
19 a direct effect on the way those communities are treated.
- 20 d) Freedom of Speech is essential but it carries a responsibility not to use it to cause
21 harm to others.
- 22 e) The media and people with power have a duty to lessen hate in the world.
- 23 Conference resolves to:
- 24 1. Continue our calls to make misogyny a hate crime.
- 25 2. Ask our representatives to continue actively combating hateful and false rhetoric
26 about minority groups.
- 27 3. Support and celebrate minority groups in our communities and to stand in solidarity
28 with them when they come under attack.
- 29 4. Improve the powers of bodies such as Ofcom or any successor bodies to challenge
30 and censure misleading, false or malicious rhetoric in the media regarding minority
31 groups.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency motion 4: Gender Recognition and Scottish Devolution

11 members

- 1 Conference notes that, on 17th January 2023, the Conservative Government made an
2 order under Section 35 of the Scotland Act 1998 to block Scotland's Gender Recognition
3 Reform Bill from becoming law.
- 4 Conference further notes that:
- 5 i) The Bill was passed by the Scottish Parliament by 86 votes to 39, with support from
6 MSPs of all parties, after extensive consultation and debate.
- 7 ii) Gender recognition is a devolved matter within the legislative competence of the
8 Scottish Parliament.
- 9 iii) This is the first time that Section 35 has ever been used.
- 10 Conference believes that:
- 11 a) Nothing in the Bill would undermine hard-won rights and protections for women.
- 12 b) None of the reasons claimed by the Conservative Government justify its
13 unprecedented use of Section 35 to block the Bill.
- 14 c) Recklessly undermining the devolution settlement plays into the hands of the Scottish
15 National Party, who are seeking to tear our family of nations apart.

- 16 Conference reaffirms that trans men are men, trans women are women, non-binary
17 people are non-binary, and trans rights are human rights.
- 18 Conference condemns the Conservative Government's decision to block the Bill, and calls
19 on it to:
- 20 1. Negotiate with the Scottish Government to allow the Gender Recognition Reform Bill
21 to become law.
 - 22 2. Uphold the rights and dignity of trans and non-binary people.
 - 23 3. Work to strengthen the future of our United Kingdom, instead of jeopardising it.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency motion 5: Responding to the Emergency in Ukraine

Twickenham & Richmond

- 1 Conference notes the rapidly changing military situation in Ukraine, including:
- 2 A. The killing – in Europe, in 2022 – of between 20,000 and 22,000 people (mostly
3 civilians) in one city, Mariupol and Russia's near victory in Bakhmut.
 - 4 B. Russia's partially implemented emergency draft of 300,000 military reservists, amid
5 Putin's nuclear threats.
 - 6 C. Russia's deployment of Iranian attack drones to target critical energy infrastructure.
 - 7 D. By late January 2023, Ukraine had liberated around 54% of the territory Russia seized
8 since February 2022, according to the UK Ministry of Defence.
 - 9 E. Russia's new offensive has already begun, though with little to show for it so far.
 - 10 F. Russia's intensive manufacturing of ammunition, new tanks, new planes and new
11 ships, necessitating urgent additional support for Ukraine from allies.
- 12 Conference further notes:
- 13 i) The threat which Putin's warmongering poses to Europe's future security, including to
14 non-NATO countries Sweden and Finland, unless Russia is strongly opposed.
 - 15 ii) The heroic courage shown by Ukraine's people in defending their country from the
16 aggressor.
 - 17 iii) The US is on red alert about China starting to supply advanced weaponry to Russia.
18 With Ukraine's current limited war machine, this could well tip the balance.
 - 19 iv) Volodymyr Zelensky's speech to the UK Parliament in February 2023 in which he
20 pleaded for fighter jets.
 - 21 v) The recent cross-party plea (supported by all UK Liberal Democrat MPs) to Germany to

- 22 send Leopard tanks to Ukraine.
- 23 vi) The latest crisis in the war is Russia's activity in their annexed (pro-Russian) territory of
24 Transnistria, in Moldova, where they are fomenting political trouble to justify a new
25 front on Ukraine's south western flank; this will potentially let Russia cut off Ukraine
26 from Odessa and access to the Black Sea, and, combined with similar tactics from
27 Belarus, would oblige Ukraine to spread out its soldiers and weaponry even more
28 thinly.
- 29 vii) Other countries, including the UK, persuaded Ukraine, in the Budapest Memorandum
30 of 1994, to give up its nuclear weapons in return for security assurances.
- 31 viii) The effect of Russia's invasion, combined with Brexit and the pandemic, on the
32 mounting cost-of-living crisis in the UK.
- 33 Conference believes that:
- 34 a) The defence of freedom, human rights and the rule of law lie at the heart of liberal
values.
- 35 b) Liberal Democrats should send a clear message that affirms their commitment to
36 forcefully standing up to Putin in defence of these.
- 37 c) As an investment in Western security, it is worth depleting the UK's own weaponry to a
38 limited extent, to send more to Ukraine – the West's front line.
- 39 d) This conflict will determine the future of freedom and democracy in Europe, and
40 Europe's standing on the world stage.
- 41 e) The value of passing this motion is that it demonstrates the cross-party strength of
42 British support for Ukraine, and that support will continue despite changes of prime
43 minister or government.
- 44 Conference calls on the UK Government to:
- 45 1. Do all it realistically can, in view of Putin's horrific actions, to help arm Ukraine,
46 including with longer-range precision weapons, as well as provide regular ammunition
47 and artillery, tanks etc., and the military training it needs to defeat Russia.
- 48 2. Since British arms have already made a real difference, it is essential that these efforts
49 are continued and strengthened, boosting the arms supply coming from EU countries
50 and, still more, the USA.
- 51 3. Strive to establish formal cooperation mechanisms on foreign and security issues with
52 the EU.
- 53 4. Pursue vigorously the freezing of Russian oligarchs' assets in the UK.
- 54 5. Ensure that any aid the UK supplies is not at the cost of cutting international
55 development funding to other countries by restoring the International Development
56 budget.

Applicability: Federal.

Emergency motion 6: Tackling Food Shortages

10 members

1 Conference notes with concern that:

- 2 a) On 21st February ASDA and Morrisons began limiting the purchases of certain fruits
3 and vegetables, including tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers, with Tesco, Lidl, and Aldi
4 also introducing limits. This was caused partly by the weather in Spain, with some
5 growers warning that shortages could last until May.
- 6 b) High energy costs in the UK has led to British growers reducing their plantings of fruit
7 and vegetables for the coming season - tomato plantings in the UK are at their lowest
8 level since 1985.
- 9 c) The Government is phasing out the Energy Bill Support Scheme meaning farmers are
10 likely to see significant increases in their bills.
- 11 d) A long-term lack of fairness in retail supply chains has meant UK farmers and growers
12 often not receiving a fair price for their produce.
- 13 e) There is a significant shortage in seasonal workers to pick UK produce due to the
14 Conservatives' botched deal with Europe leading to unpicked food rotting in fields.
- 15 f) The government's response to the Avian Flu outbreak has been lacklustre which
16 coupled with the cost of energy, feed and other factors has led to a shortage of eggs.
- 17 g) Farmers Basic Payments are being phased out when the replacement Environmental
18 Land Management Scheme (ELMs) is not yet accessible or workable for everyone.
- 19 h) The Conservative government's trade deals with Australia and New Zealand are
20 actively undermining UK farmers and the values of UK consumers.
- 21 i) The Conservatives' deal with Europe has erected trade barriers and red tape, making
22 our food supply chain significantly more complicated and expensive.
- 23 j) The Conservative Government's lack of engagement and poor communication with
24 farmers about food shortages and supply chain issues.
- 25 k) The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Thérèse Coffey is failing
26 to take the issue seriously and is clearly out of her depth.

27 Conference calls on the Government to:

- 28 1. Produce a comprehensive national fruit and vegetable strategy covering both the
29 growing and consumption of these important foods.
- 30 2. Extend the Energy Bill Support Scheme for a further six months and treat farmers as
31 "Energy Intensive" businesses to ensure they get the support they need.
- 32 3. Strengthen the Grocery Code Adjudicator to ensure farmers are treated fairly by
33 supermarkets and other intermediaries.

- 34 4. Work with farmers and their organisations to ensure that the sector can access
35 sufficient labour harvest crops , including implementing a farming workforce plan.
- 36 5. Delay the phase out of existing farm payments until the replacement is fully
37 operational and accessible.
- 38 6. Legislate to protect British farmers by ensuring that imported food in trade deals
39 meets UK standards of animal welfare and environmental protection.
- 40 7. Strengthen the role of the Trade and Agriculture commission, to allow it to review the
impact of international trade deals prior to Parliament approving deals.
- 41 8. Work with the EU to agree a new veterinary agreement and alignment on Sanitary and
42 phytosanitary (SPS) standards to reduce red tape and unnecessary costs.
- 43 9. Replace Thérèse Coffey as Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Applicability: Federal; except 1. (lines 28–29) and 4. & 5. (lines 34–37), which are England only.

Emergency motion 7: Türkiye and Syria Earthquake

10 members

- 1 Conference notes:
- 2 a) The terrible earthquake in Türkiye and Syria on 6 February 2023, which has caused
3 widespread destruction with a death toll of over 50,000.
- 4 b) That response efforts have been hampered by the sheer scale of the disaster, terrible
5 weather, and subsequent aftershocks, as well as the difficulties of delivering aid to
6 Syria.
- 7 c) That the Diaspora here in the UK have been desperately trying to find out what has
8 happened to their family and friends in Türkiye and Syria.
- 9 d) The generosity of the British public, who raised over £50 million in just two days in
10 response to this humanitarian disaster.
- 11 e) The UK Government's limited response to the earthquake, failing to set up a scheme to
12 allow people with family in the UK to come here (which Germany and the Netherlands
13 have done), and only promising to match £5 million in UK aid match.
- 14 f) The decision to abandon the international development target of 0.7% of GNI, which
15 has hampered the UK's ability to respond to humanitarian emergencies like this one.
- 16 g) That the Liberal Democrats enshrined the 0.7% of GNI target in law in 2015 and that
17 we are the only major UK political party to oppose the decision to abandon it.
- 18 Conference reaffirms the Liberal Democrats' commitment to the 0.7% of GNI target for
19 international development spending.
- 20 Conference calls on the UK Government to:

- 21 1. Work closely with European and international allies and agencies to respond to this
22 humanitarian disaster.
- 23 2. Increase the level of consular support available to British nationals and their families
24 left stranded on the ground.
- 25 3. Set up a visa sponsorship scheme, so those who've been affected by the earthquake
26 with family in the UK can get the support they need.
- 27 4. Take all steps possible to ensure the delivery of aid into Syria.
- 28 5. Increase the scope of UK aid match for this disaster significantly, so that the UK
29 government matches the generosity of the British people.
- 30 6. Accordingly, restore the 0.7% of GNI target for international development spending –
31 with increased aid made available for the response to this emergency with immediate
32 effect.

Applicability: Federal.

The Federal Board



Mark Pack,
Party President



Amna Ahmad,
Vice President
(Ethnic Minorities)



Ed Davey MP,
Leader



Alison Rouse,
Chair, English
Party



Jenni Lang,
Convener,
Scottish Party



Tim Sly,
President,
Welsh Party



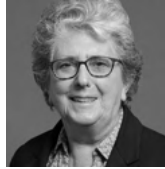
Jeremy
Hargreaves,
Vice-Chair, FPC rep



Nick da Costa,
FCC Chair



Chris White,
Principal Local
Authority
Councillor



Kath Pinnock,
FCEC Chair



Mike Cox,
FFRC Chair



Janey Little,
Young Liberals
Chair



Neil Fawcett



Joyce Onstad



Lucy Nethsingha

The Federal Conference Committee



Nick
da Costa,
Chair



Cara Jenkinson,
Vice Chair



Jon Ball,
Vice Chair



Mark Pack,
Party President



Dr Sam Barratt



Duncan Brack



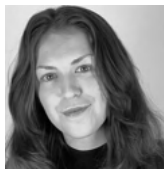
Belinda
Brooks-Gordon



Wendy
Chamberlain MP



Alison Jenner



Eleanor Kelly



Hannah Kitching



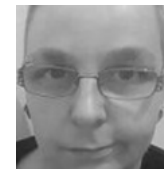
Chris Maines



Paul McGarry



Simon McGrath



Jennie Rigg



Alison Rouse



Darryl Smalley



Alex Wagner

FCC non-voting members:

Mike Dixon, Federal Chief Executive
Esther McGee, Staff Rep

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	18 March	10.30-12.30
Saturday	18 March	14.00-16.00

Federal Conference Committee helpdesk

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

Friday	17 March	17.00-18.00
Saturday	18 March	09.00-10.30
Saturday	18 March	14.00-16.00

The Federal Policy Committee



Ed Davey MP,
Chair



Lucy Nethsingha,
Vice Chair



Jeremy
Hargreaves,
Vice Chair



Lord Dick Newby,
Vice Chair



Mark Pack,
Party President



Duncan Brack



Belinda
Brooks-Gordon



Christine Cheng



Layla Moran
MP



Tara Copeland



Chloe Hutchinson



Helen Cross



Janey Little



John Shreeve



Keith Melton



Luke Richards



Ben Rich



Mark Johnston



Elizabeth Jewkes



Susan Juned



Mohsin Khan



Martin
Horwood



Baroness Claire
Tyler



Baroness Julie
Smith



Baroness Judith
Jolly



Peter Thornton



Sally Bunnell



Kirsten Herbst-
Gray

FPC non-voting members:

- Nick da Costa, FCC rep
- David Chalmers, FIRC rep
- Humaira Sanders, LDCRE rep
- Rebecca Jones, YL rep