



# ENGLISH YOUNG LIBERALS

## EYL Executive 2023 Meeting - 11th June 2023 - Minutes

### Members Present:

<i>JG</i>	James Green (Chairing)	he/him	Co-EYL Chair
<i>JN</i>	Joe Norris (Minuting)	he/him	Co-EYL Chair
<i>MS</i>	Miguel Smith	he/him	Vice-Chair
<i>NOW</i>	Nicholas Orford-Williams	he/him	London Chair
<i>TS</i>	Tom Sutton	he/him	North West Chair
<i>NE</i>	Nathan Eve	he/him	South Central Chair
<i>TH</i>	Toby Hawkins	he/him	Western Counties Chair
<i>JW</i>	Jack Worrall	he/him	Yorkshire and the Humber Co-Chair
<i>WT</i>	William Tennison	he/him	East of England Chair, Co-Comms Rep

### Reps Present:

<i>NA</i>	Noah Allerton	he/him	Campaigns Rep
<i>HJ</i>	Huw James	he/him	Events Rep
<i>JB</i>	James Bliss	he/they	Policy Rep

### Apologies:

<i>HC</i>	Helder Costa	he/him	North East Chair
<i>JNi</i>	Josh Nightingale	he/him	East Midlands Chair

### Also Present:

N/A

### Absent:

<i>PG</i>	Patrick Gilbert	he/him	Yorkshire and the Humber Co-Chair
<i>SB</i>	Sean Bennett	he/him	Co-Comms Rep
<i>TM</i>	Tim Macy	he/him	West Midlands Chair

Agenda: [June 2023 Agenda](#)

Meeting opened at 5:00pm.

### **1. Welcome and apologies (JG)**

JG welcomed the meeting. Apologies were received from HC and JNi.

### **2. Action points and matters arising (JN)**

- a. See [appendix 1](#)

Nothing raised

### **3. Discussion to open co-options: (JG/JN)**

- a. South East Regional Chair
- b. Devon and Cornwall Regional Chair

The Executive unanimously voted to open co-options for the South East and Devon and Cornwall Regional Chair.

**Action:** JG/JN to open co-options for the South East and Devon and Cornwall Regional Chair

### **4. Reflections from the English Council Executive (ECE) meeting (JG/JN)**

JN gave updates from the last ECE meeting. There was a local elections wash-up session, where JN contributed the three things EYL learnt from the locals. These were that action days with university societies attending were the best, and that our communication with our members and local parties is hit or miss, and needs to be improved.

Additionally, JN is in talks with the English Party on organising 'Guerilla action days', where EYL will hold action days in underdeveloped seats to boost their campaigns, coordinated with the English Party.

The English Candidates Committee report revealed that YLers are overrepresented among approved and in-progress parliamentary candidates.

JG raised that, from a report given to ECE, ALDC run a number of diversity programmes which YL do not have sight of.

**Action:** JG/JN to contact Darryl Smalley, as vice-president of ALDC, to find out more about these.

### **5. Briefing on the upcoming English Council meeting (JG/JN)**

JG explained the purposes of the motions around two articles of the English Constitution:

Article 8: Relating to members who sit in council groups that oppose Lib Dem Council groups. Amendment clarifies rules and gives powers to remove the membership of qualifying councillors.

Article 9: Clarifying the rules around the appointment of English Appeal Panel (EAP) Vice-Chairs, following confusion on the process.

There is a paper on the reduction of the Federal Levy. There was a discussion around this, where members raised points for and against. A fuller discussion will happen at the YL EC Reps pre-meet later.

## **6. Reflection on Local Elections (JG/JN)**

As mentioned in the ECE update, three lessons learnt are:

Action days are best with uni branches nearby.

Communication between local parties and EYL is not the best.

Communication between EYL and its members could be improved.

Discussion was opened up to the floor.

For action days during the easter holidays, people being home and away from uni led to poor attendance on action days held during this time, where one would expect uni society attendance. This was counterbalanced by a good turn out on polling week, which was during term time.

Anecdotally, a YL councillor that was elected was not aware of YL support available (Young and Winning funding, action days, etc.) during the campaign. In future, making local parties and members aware of this support for YL candidates is important.

**Action:** Chairs to write a blog post detailing EYL's successes over the locals, with pictures of the better action days. Submit to LDV and/or the federal YL members' blog.

## **7. Newcastle Summer Conference Annual General Meeting (JG/JN)**

Proposal to hold the EYL AGM at 9am Saturday 12th August, during YL Summer Conference in Newcastle.

It was confirmed that the meeting would once again be made hybrid.

The Exec voted unanimously to call the AGM.

**Action:** JG/JN to prepare documents for the AGM to come to the July Exec Meeting in line with standing orders.

#### **8. Regional Conference Kit (JG/NE)**

*Item postponed until the next meeting.*

#### **9. GE Planning and By-Elections (JG)**

JG and JN have attended two meetings of the YL GE Planning group.

Discussions have surrounded a rough plan for Federal YL action days, EYL action days, EYL Guerilla action days, by-elections, and other things around planning for the GE.

The current idea is for Federal YL to have an action day towards the start of each month, generally in 'advanced' seats, and EYL to have action days towards the end of the month, generally in 'moving forward' seats.

Given the sudden flurry of by-elections that the party is fighting, there was agreement that GE action days will be delayed, and resources focussed on Mid-Bedfordshire and Somerton and Frome.

It was noted that by-elections are a good opportunity to train people on campaigning for the GE, and an even better one to engage people and recruit activists.

It was observed that the two by-elections we are prioritising are in the south, and that the north could do with an action day or two for those who are unable to travel far.

**Action:** JG, JN and WT to plan an online comms campaign targeting people interested in the by-elections.

Phone banking was mentioned as a way to allow more people to campaign in the by-elections. JG stated that we're currently waiting on the Federal Party to set these up.

WT offered to set up an EoE phone bank. Raised the prospect of running a competition or something to make phone banking more fun.

**Action:** JG and WT to meet to discuss phone banking for Mid Beds.

## 10. Matters arising from Reports June 2023 Reports

Verbal report given from JB. JB is attending a manifesto consultation meeting between YL and Dick Newby. Requests that people raise topics that they want brought up that aren't regular YL topics. YL Policy Committee are currently sorting out submissions to Federal Conference, and are submitting a load of things for drafting advice. The Joint Policy Committee met for the first time, where JB gave apologies. Discussion included devolution policies and what policy each region is working on.

## 11. AOB

Reminder that anyone should be mindful of what they tweet, specifically around the recent arrest of Nicola Sturgeon.

JG and JN request that members reach out for one-on-one meetings so that they can be supported.

**Action:** Members to request one-on-one meetings with the chairs.

Reminder that Regional Chairs should be attending or giving apologies to meetings of their Regional Executives.

JG flagged that boundary discussions are going to be coming up on Regional Executives.

It is a good time to encourage YLers to go for selection, as PPC selections are currently paused.

**Action:** JG to explore Federal YL pushing for YLers to go for PPC selections.

## 12. Date of Next Meeting - 5pm, Sunday 2nd July 2023

Meeting closed.

**E&OE**

## Appendix 1: Action Points from Last Meeting

Action Point	Date Set	Person(s)	Status
Complete the regional checklist	Prior to March	RCs	In progress ▾
Ask respective regions for Connect access		RCs	In progress ▾
Create the EYL Style Guide following finalisation of the YL rebrand		JN	In progress ▾
Look into publishing diversity stats of EYL for the next EYL report to EC.	5.3.23	JN	In progress ▾
Produce graphics for advertising action days.	5.3.23	JN	Completed ▾
Help with the EYL organised action days.	5.3.23	All	Completed ▾
Continue organising action days.	5.3.23	JG, JN, MS and NA	Completed ▾
Finalise a date for the EYL Speaker Event.	5.3.23	JG	In progress ▾
Update the artworked action day guide.	5.3.23	JN	Not started ▾
Consult Federal re: Training for Members on Canvassing (MiniVan), Running to be a Candidate, etc.	02.04.23	JG	Completed ▾
Explore 'regional conference kits' and report back to the EYL Executive after the local elections.	02.04.23	JG	Not started ▾
Explore GE-focussed action days.	02.04.23	JG & JN	In progress ▾

## Appendix 2: Action Points from This Meeting

Action Point	Date Set	Person(s)	Status
Open South East and Devon and Cornwall Chair Co-Options	11.06.23	JG/JN	Not started ▾
Contact Darryl Smalley (YLER from ALDC) to find out more about ALDC's diversity programmes.	11.06.23	JG/JN	Not started ▾
Chairs to write a blog post detailing EYL's successes over the locals, with pictures of the better action days. Submit to LDV and/or the federal YL members' blog.	11.06.23	JG/JN	Not started ▾
Prepare documents for the AGM to come to the July Exec Meeting in line with standing orders.	11.06.23	JG/JN	Not started ▾
Plan an online comms campaign targeting people interested in the by-elections.	11.06.23	JG, JN, WT	Not started ▾
Discuss phone banking for Mid Beds.	11.06.23	JG, WT	Not started ▾
Members to request one-on-one meetings with the chairs.	11.06.23	All	Not started ▾
Explore Federal YL pushing for YLers to go for PPC selections.	11.06.23	JG	Not started ▾