



# ENGLISH YOUNG LIBERALS

## EYL Executive 2023 Meeting - 5th November 2023 - Minutes

### Members Present:

<i>JN</i>	Joe Norris	he/him	EYL Chair
<i>RF</i>	Rowan Fitton	he/him	Vice-Chair for Membership Engagement
<i>HJ</i>	Huw James	he/him	Events Committee Representative
<i>JMN</i>	Josh Nightingale	he/him	East Midlands Regional Chair
<i>TJ</i>	Tom Jordan	he/him	East of England Regional Chair
<i>NOW</i>	Nicholas Orford-Williams	he/him	London Regional Chair
<i>TS</i>	Tom Sutton	he/him	North West Regional Chair
<i>TN</i>	Tom Nevill	he/him	South West Regional Chair
<i>NE</i>	Nathan Eve	he/him	South Central Regional Chair
<i>TH</i>	Toby Hawkins	he/him	Western Counties Regional Chair
<i>TM</i>	Tim Macy	he/him	West Midlands Regional Chair
<i>GS</i>	George Sykes	he/him	Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Chair

### Apologies:

<i>NA</i>	Noah Allerton	he/him	Vice-Chair for Elections and Campaigns
<i>JB</i>	James Bliss	he/they	Policy and Regional Engagement Officer
<i>TO</i>	Todd Olive	he/him	Devon and Cornwall Regional Chair

### Absent:

<i>HC</i>	Helder Costa	he/him	North East Regional Chair
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Agenda: [November 2023 Agenda](#)

Meeting opened at 3:00pm.

### 1. Welcome and apologies

JN welcomes the EYL Executive and took apologies.

### 2. Action points and matters arising

JN gave a status update about Actions Arising From Previous Minutes as in [appendix 1](#). Items ongoing included:

Action Point	Date Set	Person(s)	Status
Update the artworked action day guide.	5.3.23	JN	Not started
Contact Darryl Smalley (YLER from ALDC) to find out more about ALDC's diversity programmes.	11.6.23	JG/JN	In progress
Sort out dormant/locked social media accounts.	11.6.23	JN	In progress
Write a report from English Council	2.7.23	JN	In progress
Speak to Alison Rouse (Chair of the English Party) about getting YL RC on Y&H Exec.	6.8.23	JG & JN	In progress
Look into publishing diversity stats of EYL for the next EYL report to EC.	5.3.23	JN	Blocked

Questions and Comments included:

- NOW gave guidance on regions to set up a Region Specific YL Email in each region, asking the Regional Executives.
- RF commented on the ALDC Diversity Programmes, offering to pick up this action point.

### 3. Changes to Exec

JN welcomed new members, going through handovers, and onboarding / handover arrangements, including:

- Noah Allerton, as Vice-Chair for Elections and Campaigns
- Rowan Fitton, as Vice-Chair for Membership Engagement
- James Bliss, as Policy and Regional Engagement Officer
- Todd Olive, as Devon and Cornwall YL Chair
- Tom Nevill, as South East YL Chair
- George Sykes, as Yorkshire and the Humber Chair

Regarding Executive Regulations, the plan was to write these by December for January.

Current (out of date) Exec Regs are available online for EYL as are the parallel Federal Executive Regulations. Regional Chairs can help form these regs. For the new Vice-Chairs (Rowan and Noah), JN would like the VCs to write their own job specs for December.

**ACTION:** Role holders to get in touch to work on their job responsibilities, checking in with JN on these.

### 4. Regional Conferences

JN explained that regional conference packs were a focus for EYL last year.

#### **Feedback from Tom Sutton (NW) included:**

- Presentation on 'Winning in the General Election and Beyond with the Young Liberals' - what sort of issues matter to young people, how young people can help campaign, how do we find out what matters to young people in the local area.
- The kit was useful, it helped present YL as a professional and active organisation.
- Going to the Regional Conference helped build relationships within the party.
- People didn't take the leaflets but were appreciative that they were there.
- Advice given over Correx Board was:
  - Have separate Correx Boards as they are better for photos
  - But that the Correx Boards were good.

### **Feedback from Tom Jordan (EOE) included:**

- Their presentation on 'hope in politics' was really well received and 'inspiring'
- Lots of people came and asked how YL can help get young people more involved, and help activate local young members.
- Good for meeting stakeholder engagement, 1-1s etc with PPCs, party chairs etc.
- Stole Ed Davey's jacket and used it for leverage for photos.


Next regional conferences will be Yorkshire and the Humber (11th November), South East (11th November), West Midlands (18th November), and Devon & Cornwall / Western Counties (18th November), and South Central (25th).

### **5. Feedback and Reflections of the Year**

JN explained that the outgoing Executive gave feedback on a feedback form. The Executive then discussed this feedback. Topics included:

- **Working with Chairs:** chairs are proactive, albeit full on - cautioned not to burn themselves out.
- **Experience of Working as an Exec:** good, but a need to communicate and collaborate more proactively as a team, and as an all male executive, a need to be inclusive and to tackle 'lad'ishness.
- **Experience of Exec Meetings:** Some of the meetings have more of a chair downwards report than maybe a discussion of RC reports.
- **Your Experience in your Role:** Exec will work on continuously improving onboarding / training for new regional chairs, Exec can use their initiative to find things to do to improve their areas and England as a whole, regional chairs to engage with regional stakeholders and build relationships within their region; and exec to work on building a winning team within their region.
- **Campaigning and Events:** Action Days with a branch in mind is helpful, transitioning to target seat campaigning may change these things a little. NOW: we're good at getting people to an interesting place, but less so attracting them to less interesting action days. RF: we need more membership engagement to attract people to action days / campaigning, and we need to make sure we do this when campaigning.
- **Regional Conferences:** Prior planning (organise policy, fringes or training in advance); more merch, correxes; recognition that we were doing very well at this.
- **General Meetings:** inadequate time allotment, ambiguous purpose, given the conference dead slot.

## 6. Matters arising from reports

 November 2023 Reports

TN asked about ALDC membership - YL Federally currently have spare ALDC memberships, ask the new Membership Development Officer for more information.

## 7. AOB

- a. Compliance Update:  
<https://www.aldc.org/2023/10/election-law-changes-digital-imprints-and-postal-votes/>
- b. Discussion about the difficulties of regional, city and university branches.
- c. Goldsmiths University had banned political affiliations / societies - students unaware of this rule as a whole.
- d. North East co-option: RF and JN to reach out to potential candidates regarding a North East co-option in November.

Date of Next Meeting - Sunday 3rd December 2023 (new Executive for 2024 pre-meet).

Meeting closed at 4:32 pm.

**E&OE**

## Appendix 1: Action Points from Last Meeting

Action Point	Date Set	Person(s)	Status
Ask respective regions for Connect access.	Prior to March	RCs	Cancelled ▾
Create the EYL Style Guide following finalisation of the YL rebrand.	Prior to March	JN	Completed ▾
Look into publishing diversity stats of EYL for the next EYL report to EC.	5.3.23	JN	Blocked ▾
Finalise a date for the EYL Speaker Event.	5.3.23	JG	Cancelled ▾
Update the artworked action day guide.	5.3.23	JN	Not started ▾
Contact Darryl Smalley (YLER from ALDC) to find out more about ALDC's diversity programmes.	11.6.23	RF	In progress ▾
Members to request one-on-one meetings with the chairs.	11.6.23	All	Cancelled ▾
Sort out dormant/locked social media accounts.	11.6.23	JN	In progress ▾
Write a report from English Council	2.7.23	JN	In progress ▾
Talk to Callum and Emily (Federal Co-Branch Development Officers) about engaging uni student members with local parties.	6.8.23	JG	Completed ▾
Speak to Alison Rouse (Chair of the English Party) about getting YL RC on Y&H Exec.	6.8.23	JG & JN	In progress ▾
Find out when their regional conferences are, and if they are doing policy motions.	6.8.23	RCs	Completed ▾
Tell JG and JN the date of the next Regional Party Executives meetings	17.8.23	All	Completed ▾
Update website following GM	17.8.23	JN	Completed ▾
Update the directory	17.8.23	JG	Cancelled ▾

Tidy up EYL Google Drive	17.8.23	JG	Cancelled ▾
Local party survey	17.8.23	JG	Cancelled ▾
Enquire with Regions about getting a YL stall.	31.8.23	RCs	Completed ▾
Draft literature for regional conferences.	3.9.23	JG	Completed ▾
Update Exec wrt confirmation of RO.	3.9.23	JG/JN	Completed ▾
Update Exec wrt confirmation of election timetable.	3.9.23	JG/JN	Completed ▾
Circulate graphics regarding the duties of the new roles before publication of Exec regs.	3.9.23	JG/JN	Cancelled ▾
Call a vote of the Exec to confirm appointment of NA to Federal YL Elections Committee and WT to Federal YL Campaigns and Communications Committee in October.	3.9.23	JG/JN	Cancelled ▾

## Appendix 2: Action Points from This Meeting

Action Point	Date Set	Person(s)	Status
Ask Regions to set up regional YL emails	5.11.23	RCs	Not started ▾
Investigate ALDC diversity programmes relating to young people	5.11.23	RF	Not started ▾
Role holders to get in touch to work on their job responsibilities, checking in with JN on these	5.11.23	All	Not started ▾
Ask YL Membership Development Officer about ALDC memberships	5.11.23	TN	Not started ▾
Compliance with new social media digital imprint guidance	5.11.23	All	Not started ▾

Reach out to potential candidates for North East co-option	5.11.23	JN and RF	Not started ▾
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