



**ENGLISH
YOUNG
LIBERALS**

**English Young Liberals
Summer General Meeting 2023
Motions**

Contents

Business Motions.....	2
BM1: Election of Honorary Vice-Presidents.....	2
BM2: Improving Membership Engagement at the Regional Level.....	3
Constitutional Amendments.....	5
CA1: Adopting a New Constitution.....	5
Amendment 1.....	6
Amendment 2.....	6
Amendment 3.....	6
Amendment 4.....	7
Amendment 5.....	7
Amendment 6.....	8
Amendment 7.....	8
Amendment 8.....	8

Business Motions

BM1: Election of Honorary Vice-Presidents

Chair: Janey Little

Aide: Nathan Hunt

Submittor: EYL Executive

Proposer: Joe Norris

Summator: James Green

The English Young Liberals General Meeting notes:

1. The nomination of Prue Bray; Prue has been a steadfast champion of the English Young Liberals within the English Party and beyond. Prue has been awarded an MBE for services to politics, recognising her lifelong contributions to the Liberal Democrats in roles such as English Candidates Committee Chair, Vice-Chair of the English Party and currently as President of ALDC.
2. The nomination of Kian Hearnshaw; Kian, currently Vice-Chair of the English Party, has acted as a strong independent young voice in the English Party since first being elected to English Council in 2018, having previously served as East Midlands Young Liberals Chair. A member of the English Young Liberals, Kian is notable for his efficiency and tireless diligence in his role, commanding respect across the party.

The English Young Liberals General Meeting resolves:

- A. To elect Prue Bray to the role of Honorary Vice-President of the English Young Liberals for a term ending at the 2024 Summer General Meeting.
- B. To elect Kian Hearnshaw to the role of Honorary Vice-President of the English Young Liberals for a term ending at the 2024 Summer General Meeting.

BM2: Improving Membership Engagement at the Regional Level

Chair: James Green

Aide: Janey Little

Submittor: Rowan Fitton

Proposer: Rowan Fitton

Summator: Seàn Bennett

The English Young Liberals General Meeting notes with concern:

1. The small size of regional branches in many parts of England.
2. That there are vacancies on all regional executives in England, with often a majority of executive positions going unfilled.
3. The impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on university societies across the UK, including Young Liberal groups.
4. That there is a clear consensus around what a regional branch is responsible for within the English Young Liberals (EYL), but a lack of understanding around how a regional branch functions.
5. The difficulties currently associated with membership recruitment in many areas of England.
6. The lack of engagement with regional branch structures in the past.

The English Young Liberals General Meeting reaffirms the organisation's commitment to:

- I. Act as a voice for young people throughout England, no matter their geographical location.
- II. Ensure that individual members and local branches can engage with the work of EYL and its regional branches.
- III. Provide engaging and welcoming spaces for all EYL members.
- IV. Support the future growth of the Liberal Democrats as a political party in all regions of England and the inclusion of young activists within the party.
- V. Support regional chairs in carrying out their constitutional responsibilities, whilst allowing for flexibility in how they operate.

The English Young Liberals General Meeting calls for:

- A. The creation of a guidance document to support the work of new and existing Regional Chairs, with a focus on providing advice around membership engagement and recruitment. This document should contain:
 - a. standardised approaches to the use of social media;
 - b. encourage shared learning between Regional Chairs;
 - c. Advice on forming a Regional Executive, involving members within the Regional Branch and engaging with the Regional Party;
 - d. Other topics as deemed necessary by the EYL Executive.

- B. The creation of regional calendars of social events and membership development opportunities for each regional branch, as deemed necessary by the Regional Chair.
- C. English Young Liberals to ensure that all EYL members are linked to their regions by:
 - a. Providing Regional Chairs with regularly updated membership information for their regions;
 - b. Providing a central 'Contact Your Region' form via the EYL website for individual members.
- D. English Young Liberals to encourage participation within Regional Branches via their website and other means, and develop specific strategies to achieve this.

The English Young Liberals General Meeting encourages:

- A. Each Regional Branch to create, sustain and renew an online communication platform for all their respective members. This communication platform should be used to:
 - a. Advertise events and opportunities at the regional, state and federal levels;
 - b. Facilitate cooperation between local branches and societies;
 - c. Organise campaigning and enable effective communication within the region;
 - d. Promote group discussion on issues of the day.
- B. Each Regional Branch to organise 'Members' Meetings' at least once every two months, ensuring that:
 - a. Each meeting is 'hosted' alongside a local branch or society;
 - b. No two consecutive Members' Meetings are hosted by the same local branch or society;
 - c. Details of each Members' Meeting are shared with all members of the region;
 - d. Elected Liberal Democrat representatives are invited to attend Member's Meetings hosted by their local branch or society and provide a brief update on their recent work and activities;
 - e. Grassroots activists are able to engage meaningfully with the regional executive.

Constitutional Amendments

CA1: Adopting a New Constitution

Chair: Janey Little


Aide: Nathan Hunt

Submitter: James Green and Joe Norris

Proposer: James Green

Summator: Joe Norris

Draft Constitution:  FoEYL Constitution Draft

Explanatory Notes:  FoEYL-Constitution-Draft-Explanatory-Notes-2.pdf

Drafting amendments have been accepted and the draft constitution above updated to reflect this.

The English Young Liberals General Meeting resolves to adopt the draft constitution, revoking all previous constitutional documents.

The following shall be included in the Committee Regulations once updated to correspond to these reforms:

"The duties of the individual members of the regional executive committee shall be as follows:

1. *Chair*
 - a. *act as the primary spokesperson of the branch;*
 - b. *act as the primary representative of the branch to:*
 - i. *the Regional Party Executive;*
 - ii. *the Executive; and*
 - iii. *other relevant bodies;*
 - c. *set and develop the overall strategy and direction of the branch in line with the organisation's policy and goals;*
 - d. *coordinate and oversee the activities of their regional executive committee;*
 - e. *support their regional executive committee in the fulfilment of their duties; and*
 - f. *chair meetings of the regional executive committee.*
2. *Campaigns Officer*
 - a. *represent the branch at the Campaigns Committee;*
 - b. *help implement the organisation's campaigning strategy within the region; and*
 - c. *organise campaigning activities, within the region, such as canvassing, delivery, clerical work or phone-banking.*
3. *Membership Engagement Officer*
 - a. *represent the branch at the Membership Engagement Committee;*

- b. *help implement the organisation's membership engagement strategy within the region; and*
 - c. *organise social activities, within the region.*
4. *Branch and Societies Representatives*
- a. *Represent their local branch or society on the regional executive committee; and*
 - b. *Support the work of the regional branch, the Organisation and the federal Organisation within their local branch or society."*

Amendment 1

Submitter: James Bliss
 Proposer: James Bliss
 Summator: James Bliss

Delete 4.6 and all dependents.

Note: This has the effect of removing job shares for all roles.

Amendment 2

Submitter: James Bliss
 Proposer: James Bliss
 Summator: James Bliss

Delete all references to "Vice-Chair for Campaigns" and insert in place "Vice-Chair for Elections and Campaigns"

Note: This renames the "Vice-Chair for Campaigns" to "Vice-Chair for Elections and Campaigns".

Amendment 3

Submitter: James Bliss
 Proposer: James Bliss
 Summator: James Bliss

Insert new 4.1.d "Policy and Regional Engagement Officer"

In 4.3.6. delete "4.1.c" and replace with "4.1.d"

In 8.2.d. delete "organisation's representative to Federal Young Liberals Policy Committee" and insert in place "Policy and Regional Engagement Officer"

Insert new 8.2d. "federal Young Liberals Policy Committee, which shall be held by the Policy and Regional Engagement Officer" and renumber accordingly.

The following shall be included in the Executive Regulations once updated to correspond to these reforms:

"Policy and Regional Engagement Officer

1. *Coordinate policy across the federal organisation, the Party in England, regional branches and Regional Parties;*
2. *Representing the organisation at the federal Young Liberal Policy Committee;*
3. *Representing the organisation at the Joint Committee of the Regions;*
4. *Work with Regional Chairs and regional executive committees to write and develop policy at a regional level and to make submissions to Regional Party Conferences; and*
5. *Coordinate the organisation's presence at Regional Party Conferences, alongside the Chair."*

Note: This creates a "Policy and Regional Engagement Officer" and sets out their role.

Amendment 4

Submitter: James Bliss
 Proposer: James Bliss
 Summator: James Bliss

Delete 1.3 and insert in place "Appeals of the Honorary President's verdict shall be referred to an Appeals Panel of the federal organisation, to be run in occurrence with the federal Organisations Appeals Regulations."

Note: This has the effect that appeals shall be considered by a federal YL appeals panel, rather than the English Party as in current practice.

Amendment 5

Submitter: Jack Worrall
 Proposer: Jack Worrall
 Summator: Jack Worrall

Delete 4.1b and 4.1.c; Insert new 4.1.b "the Vice Chair for Regional Development;" and renumber accordingly.

Delete 8.2.e and insert in place "federal Young Liberals [Communications /Campaigns and Communications] Committee, which shall be held by the Vice-Chair for Regional Development;"

Delete 8.2.f and insert in place "federal Young Liberals [Campaigns/ Elections and Candidates] Committee, which shall be held by the Vice Chair for Regional Development;"

Note: This amendment combines the two new Vice-Chair roles into one which shall represent EYL at both Communications Committee and Campaigns Committee.

Amendment 6

Submitter: Jack Worrall
 Proposer: Jack Worrall
 Summator: Jack Worrall

Delete the text of 5 and insert in place:

1. The Executive may establish sub-committees of itself or other working groups from time to time.
2. The "Committee Regulations" shall provide clear terms of reference for any bodies established under 5.1. These terms of reference shall include the composition of the relevant body and provide for Executive oversight of the relevant body.

In Election and Cooptions Regulations 3.1.a delete "5.4.a".

Note: This removes the Campaigns Committee and Membership Engagement Committee.

Amendment 7

Submitter: Jack Worrall
 Proposer: Jack Worrall
 Summator: Jack Worrall

Delete 10.4 and renumber accordingly.

Note: This removes the ability to create interim policy.

Amendment 8

Submitter: Jack Worrall
 Proposer: Jack Worrall
 Summator: Jack Worrall

Delete SO 8.3 and renumber accordingly.

Note: This has the effect of removing the English Council Reps Report from scrutiny at the General Meeting.