

YOUNG LIBERALS

CONFERENCE

CAMBRIDGE

15th – 17th August 2025

Agenda and Directory



Welcome to the Agenda and Directory for Young Liberals Summer Conference 2025.

Conference Venue

Cambridge Junction,
Clifton Way,
Cambridge
CB1 7GX

Further information,
including Conference
documentation in
alternative formats, is
available at:

youngliberals.uk/conference

Welcome to Cambridge from Harvey Jones and Lucas North	2
Agenda Information	4
Conference Venue Floorplans	6
Agenda Index and Timetable	8
Friday 15 th August	10
Saturday 16 th August	24
Sunday 17 th August	45
Fringe and Training Guide	58
Officer Reports	64
Executive Attendance and Report Submission	101
Federal Executive	118
Events Committee	120
Policy Committee	121
Conference Standing Orders	122



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Welcome to Conference

From Young Liberals Chair, Harvey Jones

Welcome to YL Summer Conference 2025! It's a delight to be back at Conference in person for the first time this year, and it's great to be in Cambridge after a stellar year for Lib Dems in the county.



After three fantastic victories in the General Election last year, Lib Dems took half of the seats in this years local elections - including four fantastic YL councillors in May (with a few others just out of our age range). YL really is winning here!

What other way is there to celebrate this success than bringing our Conference to the city. This weekend we'll be joined by a number of special guests, including our resident train expert Olly Glover MP, our new Women and Equalities Spokesperson Lisa Smart MP, and our Party leader, Sir Ed Davey MP!

Plus, YL's newest MP, Joshua Reynolds, will be hosting our first ever Conference Rally, and joining me for our conference quiz.

From a huge range of policy debates, to training from campaign experts and fascinating fringe talks, there is something for everyone this weekend.

Have a great Conference, and we hope to see you at Federal Conference in Bournemouth next month!

From Young Liberals Events Officer, Lucas North

To those who are attending your first YL Conference, **welcome!** And to everyone else, **welcome back!**



It's great to be back in Cambridge after 12 years away, and what a way to come back in style - with our largest Conference in years. For the first time at this Conference, we have a dedicated Fringe & Training timetable, running in parallel to democratic content. We have an amazing range of new commercial partners offering fringe sessions and contributing to making Conference something amazing, and we have a fabulous venue in Cambridge Junction.

I'm so excited to share this Conference with you all - this represents months of work from so many people, and as I write these words we're just a few short weeks away from welcoming you all in Cambridge. I'm confident that this Conference will offer something for everyone, from fringe and training sessions, to policy and business motion debates, we have a more varied agenda than ever before. And if you do feel like stepping away from Conference, we have an amazing range of cafes and restaurants on the doorstep, so do check them out.

Please do take the chance to try out everything Conference has to offer, whether you're attending online or in person, and make the most of the opportunities that Conference provides to connect, network, and engage with people from all over our Party - whether that's members from a different part of the country, to AOs running fringe and training sessions, or even our colleagues from overseas, who are here to see how we do things and share their own experiences with us.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the amazing people who have made this Conference happen, and make it such a special experience.

I hope you have a great time, and if you need any help, please do reach out to myself or other members of the Events Committee.

Agenda Information

Debates and Votes at Conference

Debates on policy and business motions are at the heart of Conference. It is through these debates that the Young Liberals set out our policy and decide on our future direction.

The structure of debate:

Proposer of the motion speaks



Proposers of any amendments speak in turn



Speakers called on all sides of the debate
with the Chair seeking to ensure balance



Summators of amendments speak in turn



The summator of the motion speaks



The Chair takes votes for and against the amendments and separate
votes (if any) in turn



A vote will be taken on the motion as a whole (as amended)

Amendments: all motions are open to amendment, and accepted amendments are included alongside the motions to which they relate. All amendments require a simple majority to pass, even if the motion itself requires a different majority.

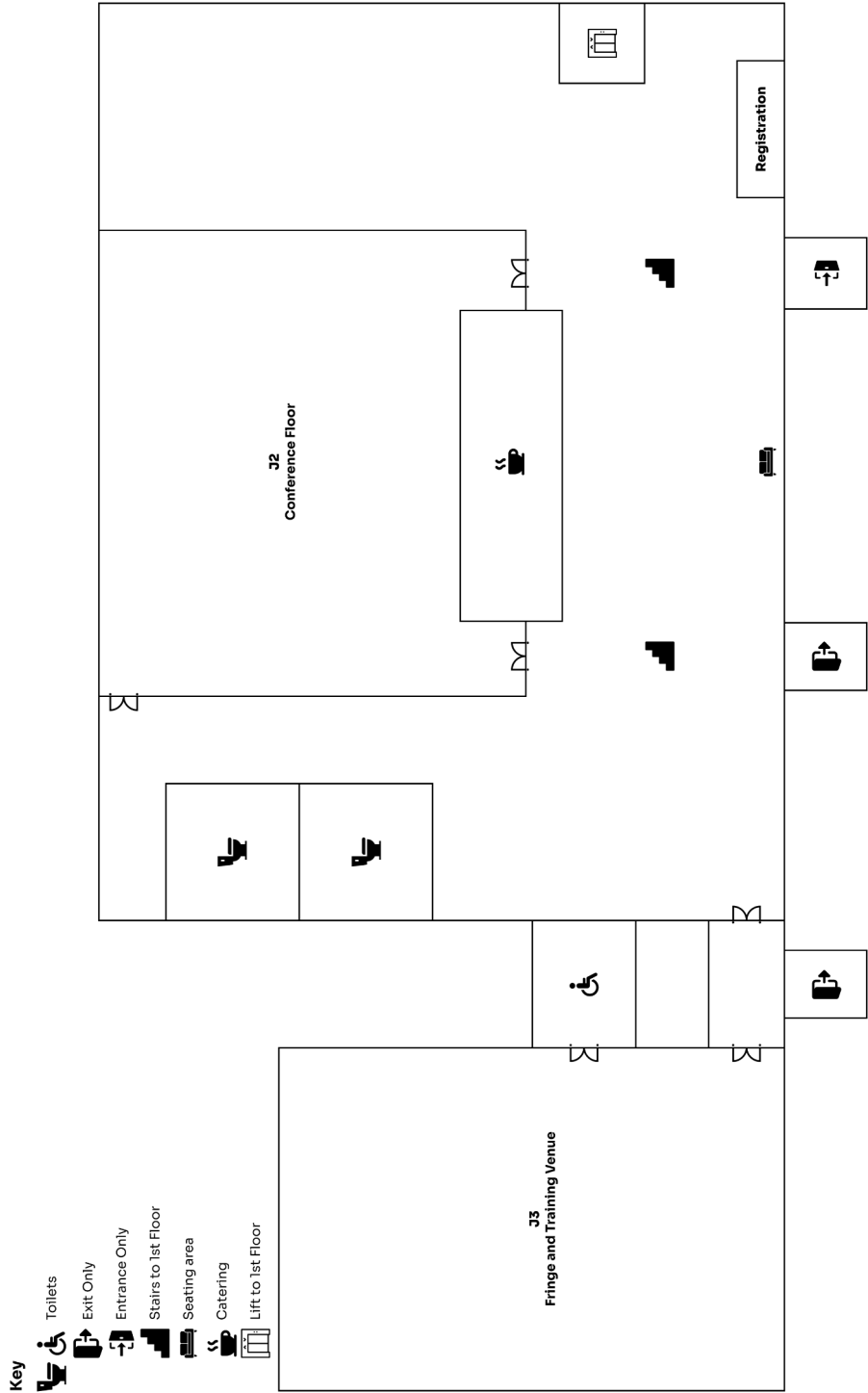
Voting: all votes will normally be held electronically, through our Conference App (in person attendees) or through Confera (online attendees). If you experience an issue while voting, please make this known to the Chair during the vote as we cannot change votes retrospectively.

Procedural motions and points of order: Procedural Motions are motions to change how Conference is running. Details of the procedural motions available at Young Liberals Conferences are available in the Standing Orders, found on pages **122 - 131**. Procedural motions should be submitted through the Conference App or Confera, as with all other speakers cards. Please ensure your speakers card is marked as a procedural motion so that it can be handled appropriately by the Chair.

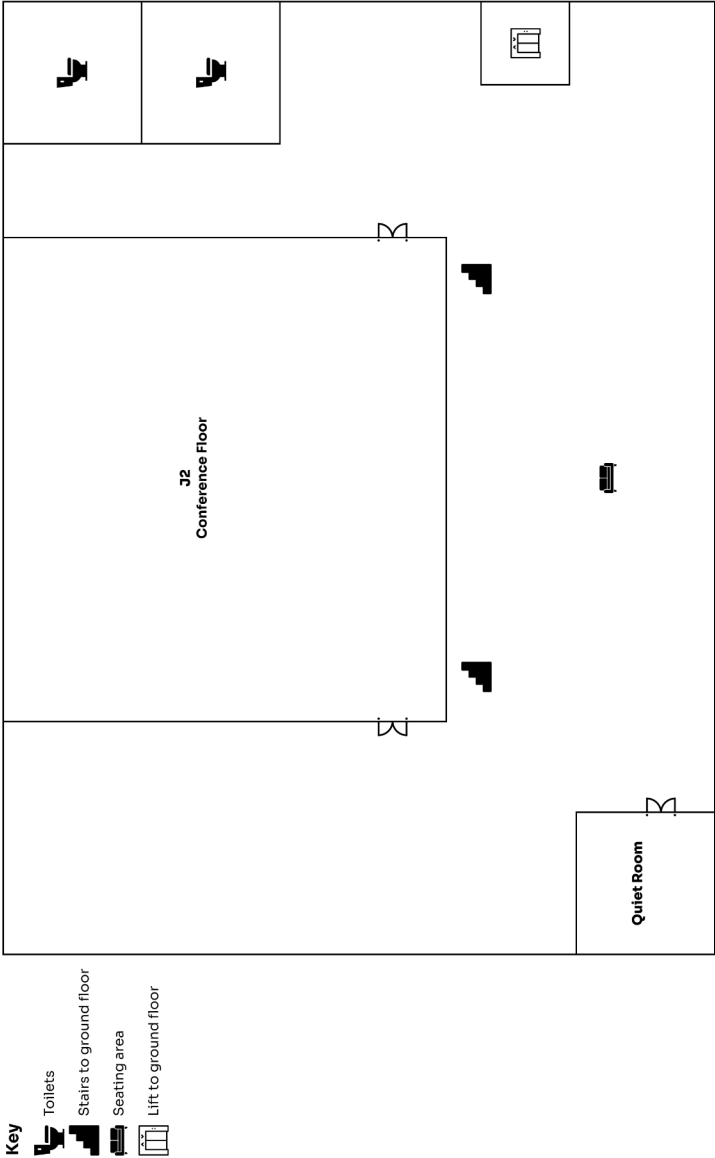
Eligibility to speak and vote: voting is open only to members of the Young Liberals. This will be provided based on the information you gave while registering. Speaking rights are open to YL members, associate members, and honorary lifetime members. Associate membership is open to members of our international sister parties who otherwise meet the age requirements for membership of the Young Liberals. If you think this applies to you, please speak to the registration desk who can arrange for you to have speaking rights.

Accessibility: there is a range of information about the accessibility features in place at the Conference Venue which can be found online, at <https://www.junction.co.uk/your-visit/accessibility/>. Please feel free to speak to the stewards, registration desk, or Conference team about any specific accessibility needs you may have, and we will do our best to assist you.

Ground Floor



First Floor



Agenda Index and Timetable

Friday 15th August

14.40 - 15.00		First Timers Training: Ulysse Abbate	10
15.00 - 15.15	F1	Welcome to Conference: Lucas North	10
15.15 - 15.45	F2	Policy: Representation Is Not Optional: Women at the Table	10
15.45 - 16.15	F3	Policy: Building a Holistic Liberal Democrat Psychoactives Policy	13
16.15 - 16.45	F4	Policy: A Liberal Future for Two States	16
16.45 - 17.00		Break	
17.00 - 17.45	F5	Sir Ed Davey MP	22
17.45 - 18.00		Break	
18.00 - 18.45		YL Conference Rally	22
18.45 - 19.30		Break	
19.30 - 21.00		Social: Conference Quiz, hosted by Joshua Reynolds MP	23

Saturday 16th August

09.00 - 09.15	F6	CA: Embracing Democracy	24
09.15 - 09.30	F7	CA: Counted Votes and Secret Votes	24
09.30 - 09.45	F8	CA: Cleaning up the Constitution: International	24
09.45 - 09.55	F9	Business Motion: Nobody Expects the Special Requisition	28
09.55 - 10.25	F10	Policy: 4 Day Working Week	29
10.25 - 10.55	F11	Policy: Adopt a Holistic Approach to Assessing the UK's Economy	30
10.55 - 11.10		Break	
11.10 - 12.00	F12	Cllr Carl Cashman, Leader, Liverpool Liberal Democrats	32
12.00 - 13.00		Lunch	
13.00 - 13.30	F13	CA: Branch Development Officer	33
13.30 - 14.00	F14	Policy: Towards a European Army	34
14.00 - 14.45	F15	Lisa Smart MP	36
14.45 - 15.00		Break	

Saturday 16th August (continued)

15.00 - 15.30	F16	Policy: Direct Lithium mining (DLE) the method that can avoid another climate catastrophe	37
15.30 - 16.00	F17	CA: Tidying up the constitution: Removing LDCRE Representative	38
16.00 - 17.00	F18	Questions to Officers	38
17.00 - 17.30	F19	CA: References Back	42
17.30 - 17.45	F20	CA: Shorter Elections & Cooptions	43
17.45 - 18.00	F21	CA: Procedural Motion Thresholds	44
18.00 - 18.30	F22	Policy: Emergency Motion	44
18.30 - 19.00		Break	
19.00 - 21.00		Social: Conference Awards & Quick-fire debates	44

Sunday 17th August

09.00 - 09.30	F23	Policy: Driving Forward: Road to Access	45
09.30 - 10.00	F24	Policy: Fusion energy: the power to save the world	47
10.00 - 10.30	F25	Olly Glover MP	49
10.30 - 10.50	F26	Policy: Abolishing Anti-Homelessness Architecture	50
10.50 - 11.00		Break	
11.00 - 11.30	F27	CA: Chairs, Aides, and Minute Takers	50
11.30 - 12.00	F28	CA: Lapsing Policy	54
12.00 - 13.00		Lunch	
13.00 - 13.45	F29	Lessons from Liberals Abroad	54
13.45 - 14.15	F30	Business Motion: Getting YL policies to reach more people	56
14.15 - 15.00	F31	Harvey Jones, Chair of the Young Liberals	56
15.00		Close of Conference	

Friday 15th August

14.40 – 15.00 First Timers Training

Join Young Liberals Policy Officer, Ulysse Abbate, and get all the inside knowledge on how to make the most of Conference. Designed for first timers, but Conference regulars might learn something new too - all welcome.

15.00 – 15.15 Opening of Conference

Speech: Lucas North, Young Liberals Events Officer



15.15 – 15.45 Policy Motion

Chair: Leo Dempster, Aide: Brendan Roberts

F2 *Representation Is Not Optional: Women at the Table*

Submitted by Katharine Macy

Conference notes that:

1. Women are significantly left out of decision making both in terms of representation through election and in consultations.
2. Women are more likely to rely on public transport
3. Women are more likely to have a significant caring role throughout their lives. The societal expectation, or Motherhood Penalty, placed upon women to fulfil care responsibilities alongside their careers has financial implications for the autonomy of women.
4. Many data sets are incomplete in terms of recognising gender.
5. When attempting to pursue careers in male dominated spaces, women are often subjected to discrimination, gaslighting, and bias making it harder to sustain these jobs and roles without it impacting their emotional and physical health.
6. Men's view of women matters and can delay equality, especially in the current contexts where leadership roles in Government, public bodies and private organisations are overwhelmingly held by men who are unwilling to hold space for women.

7. The gendered pay gap, at an average of £631 deficit per month, results in women being more likely to find themselves in financial poverty.
8. A significant number of people in financially vulnerable circumstances are women, with some figures showing a quarter of women of working age are economically inactive (often due to care arrangements and the cost of childcare) which can increase the debt risk and financial stressors in establishing financial independence.
9. Women without a private pension sits at a doubled figure compared with figures of men who do not have in place. In addition, the gap between gender's contributions is wide as the payments stemming from income are reduced with the imbalance of family leave between men and women, and the expectation upon women to often shift their work roles to prioritise child rearing.
10. That women from marginalised communities such as those coming from lower economic backgrounds and women of colour, are even more likely to experience these barriers.

Conference believes that:

1. Every person deserves equal access and equal rights regardless of their gender.
2. All genders should be empowered to achieve their best, independently.
3. Addressing these issues should not be the sole responsibility of the affected genders, but also lies with our male allies.
4. Intersectionality is integral to achieving gender equity and inclusion.

Conference calls for:

1. The Government to mandate that all government supported or funded focus groups, outside of situations where only other genders are relevant, must include at least 40% women, 40% men (and remaining 20% open to any identification) mix at leadership levels.
2. The Government to only provide funding where gender (and sex when relevant) are acknowledged and taken into account as a variable.
3. The Government to enforce a gendered lens on all policy assessment moving forward and encourage all providers and local governments to do the same.
4. The Government to mandate that all NHS training should acknowledge a gendered view of diagnosis and treatment, including but not limited to, studies, textbooks and examples.

5. The Government to provide support in educating men and other genders in supporting women, such as:
 - a. Ensuring that all school textbooks with images must include photos of all genders.
 - b. Encouraging schools to abolish gender segregation in lessons around sex and puberty.
6. The Government to reform financial policies by:
 - a. Introducing automatic pension top-ups for women who take extended family leave, to compensate for income-based contribution gaps.
 - b. Mandating that all pension providers report and publicly disclose gender disparities in pension savings, access, and outcomes.
 - c. Providing targeted financial education and pension support schemes for women, particularly those in caring roles or economically inactive due to unpaid labour.
 - d. Rebalancing tax reliefs and incentives to better support lower-income earners - especially women affected by the motherhood penalty and gendered work patterns.
7. The Liberal Democrats to recognise the impact on all genders in policy moving forward.
8. The Liberal Democrats to use All Women Shortlists whenever legal and pursue embedding this practice alongside training and changing practices to ensure women are able to engage
 - a. The Liberal Democrats should furthermore fight to ensure All Women Shortlists include all women, inclusive of trans women.
9. The Liberal Democrats to proactively ensure that candidates, campaigners and staff have access to and are provided with education on gender inclusivity to combat micro aggressions and bias within our own organisations.

15.45 – 16.15 Policy Motion

Chair: Harvey Thomas-Benton, Aide: Lucas North

F3 *Building a Holistic Liberal Democrat Psychoactives Policy*

Submitted by Jonah Weisz

Conference notes that:

1. The Liberal Democrats have a proud history of championing ethical consumption and harm-reduction strategies for the general population when discussing psychoactive substances. However, this policy approach is outdated, and overlooks the therapeutic potential of psychoactive substance research.
2. Recent neuropsychopharmacology research demonstrates that psychedelic treatments show promise for a wide range of conditions, including:
 - a. The Division of Brain Science at Imperial College London conducting studies on treatment-resistant depression and fibromyalgia; and
 - b. trials from around the world on cluster headaches, PTSD, anorexia nervosa and traumatic brain injuries
3. The failure of policymaking in this area has been widely covered, including within Westminster.
4. The lack of newly approved mental health treatments is stark, with government data showing almost ten times more cancer trial applications (29.4% of all trials) than mental health studies (3.3%) between 2019 and 2023. In 2023, over 19 people died by suicide per day in the UK, the highest rate since 1999.
5. The UK is being left behind despite establishing the first psychedelic research centre in the world. Other countries are taking steps to address this policy area, including:
 - a. Canada, Australia, New Zealand and parts of the US have legalised psychedelics for clinical treatments.
 - b. The European Medicines Association is addressing the mental health clinical trials imbalance, adopting new guidelines for depression trials, with a dedicated section on psychedelics.
 - c. The Czech Parliament has, in July 2025, passed legislation that paves the way for qualified psychiatrists to administer psilocybin.
 - d. The Ukrainian Ministry of Health has proposed legislative changes to facilitate national psychedelic research.

6. In a recent review of barriers to research, the government's Advisory Council for the Misuse of Drugs recommended an extension of Schedule II research rights (significantly-less burdensome in terms of administrative process and cost) to Schedule I substances. These recommendations from late-2023 remain unimplemented.

Conference believes that:

1. Disabled people and those suffering with mental health conditions deserve research into treatment to be unhindered by government regulation that is not fit for purpose.
2. Those living with physical conditions also deserve uninhibited access to breakthrough therapies that may ameliorate the psychological burden of navigating chronic health conditions.
3. We stand to gain economically from bringing policy in line with science. By securing innovative treatments for underserved conditions, benefit dependency can be reduced as physically disabled and mentally unwell people are able to rejoin the workforce.
4. To ensure equitable outcomes, access on the NHS will be necessary, especially as the burden of mental and physical disabilities disproportionately falls upon economically disadvantaged groups and minorities.
5. The UK can and should recapture its early-mover advantage in neuropsychopharmacology research.

Conference calls upon the government to:

1. Immediately accept and implement all of the recommendations and suggested further options in the ACMD's 2023 report, Consideration of barriers to research part 2: schedule 1 controlled drugs to ensure that research is no longer obstructed by unnecessary bureaucracy.
2. Accept and implement all of the recommendations of the Home Affairs Committee's 2023 Drugs Report, including:
 - a. to undertake review of the classification system and the scheduling system under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 and Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001 respectively,
 - b. to move psychedelic drugs to Schedule 2 in order to facilitate research on the medical or therapeutic value of these drugs
 - c. to urgently widen access to unlicensed cannabis-based products for medicinal use (CBPMs) available on the NHS and enable randomised controlled trials into CBPM use for chronic pain

3. Address structural issues of underfunding. Coordinate resources and research via a national Centre of Excellence for psychoactive research to restore our advantage and expedite innovation and progress.
4. Investigate routes to accessing psychedelic treatments through the NHS

Amendment 1

Submitted by Brandon Masih

In Conference Notes 1), omit “However, this policy approach is outdated, and overlooks the therapeutic potential of psychoactive substance research.”

And in Conference Believes, insert at the start, the following:

1. Liberal policy on Psychoactives should, in addition to harm reduction strategies, promote the therapeutic potential of psychoactive substance research.

In Conference Notes 6, omit “These recommendations from late-2023 remain unimplemented.”

Insert after Conference Believes v)

1. Conference welcomes, in part, the July 16th 2025 Government response to ACMD “Consideration of Barriers to Research Part 2: Schedule 1 Controlled Drugs” that:
 - a. accepts improvements to accessibility for the import/export Licensing System for first-time or infrequent applicants and to evaluate if any implemented policy change reduces barriers to research, and
 - b. agreement in principle on exempting supply of Schedules 1 substances by Research Institutions from licensing and exempting MHRA/MHA/REC approved clinical trials from further Home Office licensing

Conference, however, notes with concern from the July 16th 2025 Government response, the rejection of Recommendation 3, which recommends granting hospitals and universities the ability to supply Schedule 1 substances for research under the same license provided for schedules 2 to 5.

After Conference Calls upon iv), insert the following

1. set out a timeline culminating at the end of the 2024-29 Parliament, the implementation of the recommendations from both the ACMD “Consideration of Barriers to Research Part 2: Schedule 1 Controlled Drugs” report and the Home Affairs Committee 2023 Drugs Report.

16.15 – 16.45 Policy Motion

Chair: Ulysse Abbate, Aide: Harvey Thomas-Benton

F4 *A Liberal Future for Two States*

Submitted by Young Liberals International Committee

Conference affirms and acknowledges the strong policy positions that the Young Liberals have associated with on the issue of the conflict including: The Autumn 2021 Federal Conference motion F39, Towards a Lasting Peace, and the Autumn 2024 Federal Conference motion F32, The Israel-Gaza Conflict - an immediate bilateral ceasefire and securing two states. The 44th IFLRY General Assembly's motion, On the Future of Israel Palestine.

However it recognises the need for the Young Liberals to have its own, defined position on the conflict.

Conference notes:

1. That a two state solution has been the stated, consensus goal of the International Community since 1947.
2. Despite this consensus, there has sadly been no consistent, meaningful progress towards the long term establishment of a normalised, two state solution, with multiple conflicts resulting in 10,000s of deaths and the eventual occupation of much of the former Palestinian state by Israel.
3. That the Oslo process, meant to result in a two-state solution on the basis that Israel would halt the expansion of settlements in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that Palestinian groups would cease terrorist activities directed against Israel, failed as neither side honored these intentions.
4. The failure to justly resolve the Israel-Palestine question fuels extremism, violence and instability throughout the region and beyond.

5. Israeli and Palestinian civilians are the victims of this impasse, as demonstrated so cruelly by the murderous violence of both the ongoing occupation of Palestinian territories and the attacks of 7th October 2023.
6. That the illegal occupation of the Palestinian territories by Israel, the expansion of illegal settlements and mass forced displacement of Palestinians in the West Bank, the oppressive dictatorship of Hamas within Gaza, as well as the devastation caused by Israel's military operation in Gaza has led to Palestinians being unable to establish their own state or live free lives.
7. That none of this violent repression has brought lasting security to Israeli civilians from dangers posed by Palestinian and non-Palestinian militants.
8. That the continuation of the conflict and inability to find a lasting, peaceful two-state solution has led to erosion of civil society in both Israel and Palestine respectively; with Hamas capturing much of the state mechanism within the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli Government being dominated by corrupt, anti-democratic, pro conflict extremists who have used the continuation of the war as an excuse to erode Israel's democratic society.
9. Although the horrific conflict sparked by the October 7th massacre was briefly halted by a bilateral ceasefire, Israel violated it by resuming military operations in March 2025 and renewed its murderous war in Gaza leading to the collapse of all semblance of state based authority in the territory, whilst escalating its brutal policy of ethnic cleansing in the West Bank.
10. That Israel's blockade of humanitarian aid into Gaza has caused catastrophic hunger, medical collapse and suffering, with international agencies blocked from delivering life saving supplies; that the only way is to resolve this is to allow full unimpeded access to the UN and aid agencies, with an end to the dangerous US backed militarised aid delivery system.
11. The International Criminal Court has issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu and former Minister of Defence Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity, whilst other Israeli Ministers have been sanctioned by the UK government - three members of Hamas have also been prosecuted but have since passed away.
12. The decision of the International Court of Justice in January 2024 found that there are plausible grounds to believe that Israel is committing acts of genocide against Palestinians in Gaza; and that it ordered Israel to take immediate measures to prevent genocide, punish those who incite genocide and allow in humanitarian aid.

13. That the current Israeli government not only failed to take any steps to prevent genocide but has ramped up its activities and its rhetoric, which has led human rights experts to conclude that genocide is being committed.
14. That the UK and other western governments have failed to hold Israel to account, and are continuing to supply arms and provide military support to Israel, despite condemning the actions of the current Israeli government; including by providing training to Israel Defence Forces Personnel on UK soil and conducting surveillance flights over Gaza.
15. That the UK-Israel Trade and Partnership Agreement remains in effect despite explicitly including respect for human rights as an “essential element” in the agreement.
16. Hamas has still not released all of the hostages, let alone returned all of the bodies of deceased hostages, so cruelly taken on 7th October 2023, and that Israel has increased by thousands the number of Palestinians it has seized from Gaza and the West Bank and unlawfully imprisoned.

Conference believes that:

1. Since Israel has taken no steps to comply with the ICJ's January 2024 demands, provided no evidence to rebut the allegations or address its concerns, continues to be represented by ministers who regularly make unambiguous statements in support of the genocide of Palestinians and has been accused by huge numbers of respected human rights lawyers of committing genocide in the 18 months since the ruling; it is right that we now describe Israel's actions in Gaza as genocidal.
2. Only a political and diplomatic solution, not a military one, will resolve the future of the populations of Israel and Palestine in a way that will deliver lasting justice and peace.
3. While a two-state solution remains the best way to deliver the dignity and security which Palestinians and Israelis have a right to expect, it is the right of both peoples collectively to decide, if they wish, to alternatively agree to alternative democratic constitutional arrangements based on the principle of self determination.
4. Hamas must release the remaining hostages held in Gaza, as part of a long term ceasefire agreement that ends all military operations on a permanent basis.
5. The release of hostages by Hamas must be accompanied by release of the nearly 10,000 Palestinian prisoners currently held in Israeli jails who have not received a fair, or any trial, in violation of international legal standards.

6. There is no place in the Liberal Democrats for individuals who defend the unlawful taking of civilian life by State or Non-State Actors.

Conference calls on the Liberal Democrats and the Young Liberals to:

1. Continue working with partners across the Middle East and beyond who are pushing for a ceasefire, the creation of a sustainable two state solution and the rebuilding of Israeli, Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian Civic Society.

Conference calls on the UK Government to:

1. Work to bring about a durable ceasefire and an immediate end to Israel's atrocities in Gaza, including by demanding: a. The release of all remaining hostages held by Hamas and all Palestinian prisoners unlawfully detained by the Israeli authorities. b. The total and permanent cessation of Israeli military operations in Gaza. c. The unrestricted delivery of humanitarian aid through a UN-led corridor, replacing the failed and dangerous US-Israel aid distribution plan.
2. Immediately recognise the state of Palestine with de-jure territorial rights based on the 1967 border.
3. Ensure respect in full for the provisional measures the ICJ ordered in January 2024; respect the July 2024 ICJ advisory opinion on the unlawfulness of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories, and accordingly:
4. Introduce legislation to ban all trade in goods and services with illegal Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories.
5. Sanction any representatives or employees of the Government of Israel supporting or enacting illegal acts proposed or promoted by ministers who have already been sanctioned.
6. Immediately suspend the UK-Israel Trade and Partnership Agreement until a lasting, meaningful agreement has been reached between the two parties.
7. Cease all military and security cooperation with Israel until it brings itself in line with international law. Ban UK citizens from serving in the Israeli military.
8. Prosecute British citizens for whom there is credible evidence of their having committed war crimes in Israel & Palestine.

9. Make all possible efforts to ensure that as a State party to the Rome Statute, the UK upholds its obligations, by arresting individuals who are subject to arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court (ICC), and lobbying other countries to ensure that international arrest warrants are enforced against individuals entering their territory.
10. To provide funding and support to educational charities and organisations in the UK working to educate and promote positive dialogue about the conflict, as well as other conflicts, in British schools.
11. Launch a public enquiry into the British government's involvement in the conflict, specifically in regards to the possibility that Ministry of Defence assets and intelligence may have been utilised by the IDF when conducting military operations which violated international law.
12. Press for a just and lasting resolution, including by:
 - a. Working to establish an international peace process with mediation carried out by independent third parties under the supervision of the UN Secretary General.
 - b. Working with the international community to facilitate free political activity in Palestine, advocating for the release of potential candidates currently held in Israeli detention, working to facilitate elections among Palestinians as soon as possible including in occupied East Jerusalem.
 - c. Promoting a process of truth and reconciliation within the Two States.
 - d. Providing financial and political support to the rebuilding of civil society in Palestine; promoting robust liberal democratic institutions and encouraging young democratic leaders to come forward in both States.
 - e. Providing support to organisations within Israel and Palestine which promote co-existence, reconciliation, mediation, and democracy.
 - f. Advocating for a process of mediation, compensation and coexistence within the West Bank to ensure that displaced Palestinians are able to live free within their own country, whilst avoiding further forceful displacement unless necessary under international law, and avoiding violence at all cost.

Amendment 1: Consideration of the Status of Jerusalem

Submitted by Samuel James Jackson

After 16. of 'Conference notes', insert:

17. That Jerusalem:

- a. Has been divided into west and east since the 1948 Arab-Israeli War, with the former recognised as Israeli territory and the latter recognised as part of the Palestinian Territories by the international community.
- b. Is claimed by both Israel and Palestine as their capital.
- c. Is subject to conflicting national recognitions as the capital of Israel, Palestine or neither.
- d. Is of great shared religious significance to Christianity, Judaism and Islam.
- e. Was to be made an internationalised corpus separatum under the unrealised United Nations Partition Plan for Palestine.
- f. As a dual capital of Israel and Palestine was endorsed by the United Nations and the European Parliament in 2012.

After 3. of 'Conference believes', insert:

- 4. A lasting peace between Israel and Palestine can only be achieved through cooperation between the two nations, and not via a settlement imposed upon the two by outside powers.

After 12.f. of 'Conference calls for the UK government to', insert:

- g. Imploring Israel and Palestine to hold formal discussions to resolve the status of Jerusalem, namely its constitutional relationship with both countries.

17.00 – 17.45 Q&A Session

In conversation with Sir Ed Davey MP



18.00 – 18.45 Conference Rally

The first ever Young Liberals Conference Rally, hosted by **Joshua Reynolds MP**! Hear from Young Liberals who hold public office, are standing for public office in 2026, and who are local champions in their area.

19.30 – 21.00 Social

Join us for the **YL Conference Quiz**, hosted by Harvey Jones with special guest **Joshua Reynolds MP**! Open to all attendees.



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NLC is a private members' club with a difference: the perfect place to attend events on liberal politics, make new friends, and to work from when in London.



FIND OUT MORE

Join us for the 2025
yl conference
QUIZ!

with guest mc

**Joshua
Reynolds MP**
MP for Maidenhead



hosted by
Harvey Jones
YL Chair

Friday 15th August
7:30pm, J2

Saturday 16th August

09.00 – 09.15 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Ulysse Abbate, Aide: Harvey Thomas-Benton

F6 *Embracing Democracy*

Submitted by Lucas North

In the Conference Standing Orders, Remove Conference Standing Order 3.7

09.15 – 09.30 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Lucas North, Aide: Brandon Masih

F7 *Counted Votes and Secret Votes*

Submitted by Rebecca Jones

Delete and renumber appropriately:

7.8 Request a counted vote;

7.8.1 Any voting member may ask for a counted vote, either immediately before or after a vote. If such a request is made after a vote then the vote shall be retaken with the aide recording the count of the vote.

7.10 Secret ballot.

7.10.1 Any voting member may move for a vote to be taken by secret ballot. The mover shall submit in writing to the Chair the specifics of the request.

7.10.2 The request may be taken for a specific vote, for multiple votes on the current item of business or for the remainder of that session.

7.10.3 Secret votes shall be taken by passing out voting paper, with members indicating yes or no. The Chair and aide shall be responsible for collecting and counting the votes.

7.10.3.1 Votes that are illegible or unclear may be rejected by the Chair as spoilt ballots, the decision of the Chair shall be

final.

Insert new Standing Order 7.8 and renumber appropriately:

7.8: In cases where electronic voting is not used:

7.8.1. Request a counted vote;

7.8.1.1. Any voting member may ask for a counted vote, either immediately before or after a vote. If such a request is made after a vote then the vote shall be retaken with the aide recording the count of the vote.

7.8.2. Secret ballot.

7.8.2.1. Any voting member may move for a vote to be taken by secret ballot. The mover shall submit in writing to the Chair the specifics of the request.

7.8.2.2. The request may be taken for a specific vote, for multiple votes on the current item of business or for the remainder of that session.

7.8.2.3. Secret votes shall be taken by passing out voting paper, with members indicating yes or no. The Chair and aide shall be responsible for collecting and counting the votes.

7.8.2.3.1. Votes that are illegible or unclear may be rejected by the Chair as spoilt ballots, the decision of the Chair shall be final.

09.30 – 09.45 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Brandon Masih, Aide: Lucas North

F8 *Cleaning up the Constitution: International*

Submitted by Tom Jordan

In the Elections and Co-Options Regulations replace:

Section 4: International Delegations

1. For any Young Liberals delegations to international events or congresses the delegation shall be composed of: a. One reserved spot for the International Officer, or their substitute as chosen by the International Officer; b. One third (rounded down) of the delegation reserved for members of the International Committee, chosen by the International Committee; c. and. The remainder chosen via co-option.
2. Co-options for the remaining spots on International Delegations shall be open to all Young Liberals members, including International Committee members not chosen under 1.b.
3. The International Officer shall act as Assistant Returning Officer for the co-option and shall run the co-option, however any complaints, disputes or appeals shall be dealt with by the Returning Officer in accordance with Section 5 of these Regulations.
4. The Assistant Returning Officer shall publish a timetable for the receipt of nominations and voting for the co-option. a. The election timetable shall allow a nomination period of at least three weeks
5. Candidates shall be entitled to submit an application and/or address as determined by the International Committee.
6. The co-option shall be conducted via the Single Transferable Vote system with a vote of the International Committee.
7. If any opening on the delegation, except the International Officers spot, becomes available after the co-option process due to the number of delegates increasing or a delegate dropping out the spot should go to the next available person in the following order of precedence: a. Runners up in the co-option process. b. International Committee members. c. Any other member of the Young Liberals chosen at the International Officers discretion.

With

1. For any Young Liberals delegations to international events or congresses the delegation shall be composed of: a. One reserved spot for the International Officer, or their substitute as chosen by the International Officer; b. The remainder chosen via co-option.
2. Co-options for the remaining spots on International Delegations shall be open to all Young Liberals members. All Young Liberal members should have the opportunity to apply for the delegation over a period of at least two weeks.

3. If any opening on the delegation, except the International Officers spot, becomes available after the co-option process due to the number of delegates increasing or a delegate dropping out the spot is open to any other member of the Young Liberals chosen at the International Officers discretion.

In the Executive Regulations replace:

K. International Officer:

V. Coordinate and support the International Congress Delegates Committee in carrying out its duties.

With

V. Coordinate and Chair the International Committee in carrying out its duties.

In the Committee Regulations replace:

Section 6: International Committee

1. The Members of the International Committee shall be:
2. The International Officer, as chair of the Committee;
3. The three directly elected members; and

With

Section 6: International Committee

1. The Members of the International Committee shall be:
 - a. The International Officer, as chair of the Committee;
 - b. The four directly elected members; and

Reasoning:

This amendment removes unused, constitutional practice around the selection of a delegation to LYMEC and IFLRY events. The International Committee does not, and has not for some time followed this rules, instead exercising it's own discretion when selection delegations. This constitutional amendment seeks to empower the IC and the IO, codifying this flexible approach.

09.45 – 09.55 Business Motion

Chair: Ulysse Abbate, Aide: Brandon Masih

F9 *Nobody Expects the Special Requisition*

Submitted by Lucas North

Conference resolves that a Special Conference is to be held between the 1st and 21st of October 2025, to debate an endorsement by the Young Liberals for the role of President of the Liberal Democrats

Conference further resolves that the Executive may endorse any candidate or candidates for any other role to be elected in the Liberal Democrat internal elections 2025 on behalf of the Young Liberals, save that the Executive may choose to refer the decision of whether to endorse any specific candidate to the above Special Conference

Amendment 1: Avoiding perceived conflicts of interest

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

Conference resolves that the decision to endorse a candidate for the 2025 Liberal Democrat internal elections who is or has been a member of the Federal Young Liberals Executive between the 1st August 2025 and the close of the 2025 Liberal Democrats internal elections ballot shall automatically be referred to the above special conference, or an additional special conference if required, to avoid the perception of any conflicts of interest.

Rationale: this is incredibly precautionary, but aims to avoid any perception of any conflicts of interest around the Executive endorsing any of its members/previous members. Will mean that there's no risk that the integrity of their endorsement will be challenged!

09.55 – 10.25 Policy Motion

Chair: Brendan Roberts, Aide: Cormac Evans

F10 4 Day Working Week

Submitted by Katharine Macy

Conference notes that:

1. A four-day work week is considered to improve both work productivity and improve workers work/life balance
2. Sick leave and electricity usage is decreased, saving the business money and showcasing the benefit to wellbeing and productivity
3. Maintaining a five day business week would allow hours to be spread out to suit various lifestyles and provide the opportunity to engage in life admin within the work week more easily
4. A four-day work week increases recruitment opportunities for businesses
5. A four-day work week would greatly benefit liberation groups such as women and carers
6. A four-day work week for the majority of workers would increase sustainability and decrease carbon footprints
7. A four-day work week increases efficiency while decreasing hours spent at work on unnecessary tasks

Conference believes that:

1. A rebalance is needed for the majority of individuals' and sectors' work/life balance
2. A four day work week would invigorate the working population and increase economical outputs

Conference calls for:

1. The UK Government to move to a four day work week for all employees while maintaining a five day business week
2. The UK government to explore and then implement how to incentive businesses to move to a four day work week with a five day business week
3. All councils to move to a four day work week for all employees while maintaining a five day business week

10.25 – 10.55 Policy Motion

Chair: Brendan Roberts, Aide: Leo Dempster

F11 *Adopt a Holistic Approach to Assessing the UK's Economy*

Submitted by Samuel James Jackson

Conference notes that:

1. Key economic indicators considered by the UK Government include:
 - a. Gross Domestic Product and productivity.
 - b. Inflation and interest rates.
 - c. Earnings and employment.
 - d. Public spending, borrowing and debt.
 - e. Trade and exchange rates.
 - f. Retail sales and consumer confidence.
 - g. House prices.
 - h. Household debt.
2. The Office of National Statistics' tracking and assessment of the environment and net investments as factors in the UK's economic performance are sporadic.
3. There are multiple composite indexes – including Gross National Happiness, the Inequality-adjusted Human Development Index and the OECD's Better Life Index – which measure a nation's economic performance by considering in addition to conventional economic indicators factors including:
 - a. Physical and mental health.
 - b. Education.
 - c. Community.
 - d. The environment.
 - e. Good governance and democratic engagement.
 - f. Life satisfaction.
 - g. Safety.
 - h. Work-life balance.
4. The UK ranked thirteenth on the IHDI in 2023 at 0.869.
5. According to the latest YouGov polling from March 2025:
 - a. 81% of Britons said that the government was badly handling the cost-of-living crisis.

- b. 70% of Britons said that the government was managing the economy badly when responding to the Spring Statement.

Conference believes that standard economic indicators such as GDP and employment rates fail to adequately assess individual or community experiences of the UK economy, including regional wealth inequality, income inequality, work satisfaction, underemployment, and social mobility.

Conference reaffirms Liberal Democrat support for:

1. Creating good jobs and prosperity in every nation and region of the UK.
2. Fostering the stability, certainty and confidence that are vital for economic growth and investment.
3. Increasing investment in green infrastructure, including renewable energy and zero-carbon transport, industry and housing.
4. Making the tax system fairer and raising the money needed for our investment plans.
5. Ensuring the UK has the highest possible standards of environmental, health, labour and consumer protection, at least matching EU standards.
6. Tackling the productivity crisis by encouraging businesses to invest in training, take up digital technologies and become more energy efficient.
7. Unlocking British businesses' global potential, bring down trade barriers and use UK trade policy as a force.
8. Cutting resource use, waste and pollution by accelerating the transition to a more circular economy that maximises the recovery, reuse, recycling and remanufacturing of products.
9. Remaining committed to delivering the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in the UK and around the world.

Conference urges the UK Government to:

1. Adopt a model for economic policy formulation which, in addition to traditional indicators of economic performance such as GDP and employment rates, considers:
 - a. Additional economic factors including:
 - i. Work-life balance.
 - ii. Work satisfaction.
 - iii. Wealth inequality.
 - iv. Income inequality.
 - v. Regional economic inequality.

- b. Societal factors including:
 - i. Environmental quality and health.
 - ii. Physical and mental health.
 - iii. Education.
 - iv. Community and region.
 - v. Quality of governance and democratic engagement.
 - vi. Life satisfaction and happiness.
 - vii. Safety and crime.
- 2. Provide the ONS with the additional funding and staffing necessary for the tracking and assessment of such factors.
- 3. Promote a culture in which economic growth:
 - a. Is emphasised as a means of affording essential services.
 - b. Is not prioritised at the expense of:
 - i. The environment.
 - ii. Living standards.
 - iii. Employment protections.
 - c. Is not treated primarily as a mark of national prestige.

11.10 – 12.00 Speech

Cllr Carl Cashman, Leader of Liverpool Liberal Democrats



12.00 – 13.00 Lunch Break

See the Fringe & Training timetable for details of fringe events taking place during the lunch break, on pages **58 - 63**.

13.00 – 13.30 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Brandon Masih, Aide: Tim Macy

F13 *Branch Development Officer*

Submitted by Chang Liu

Conference Recognises that:

1. We are a Federal Organisation that recognises that the most effective decision making process is often a Federal, devolved one.
2. The Young Liberals currently lack a Branch across the majority of the UK, with very few Branches being currently active. It is clear we need a change.
3. Branches should be the lifeblood of our organisation.

Subsequently Conference amends the Constitution Documents to:

Remove all references to the 'Branch Development Officer' in the Constitutional Documents, Regulations and any other relevant YL Documents, as grammatically appropriate.

Amend the Accreditation Regulations to now read:

1. The purpose of the Accreditation Scheme, as laid out in these regulations, is to provide a means for recognising functioning branches in order to support and acknowledge them.
2. The State Executives have the primary responsibility for the administration and management of the Scheme. Decisions to grant or revoke accreditation to a branch must be confirmed by a simple majority vote of the relevant State executive over 24 hours.
3. Prospective branches may apply to be accredited by the Young Liberals. In doing so, they should provide the following information:
 - a. Local Party affiliation, if applicable
 - b. Student Union accreditation, if applicable
 - c. Name of Chair/President
 - d. A contact email address
 - e. A contact phone number
 - f. An estimate of membership and activity
 - g. Details of any website or social media pages
 - h. Student Union recognition requirements, if applicable
4. Prospective branches must agree to follow the Branch Code of Conduct, as follows:

- a. Take a zero-tolerance approach to discrimination, as per the protected characteristics of the Equality Act 2010.
 - b. Under no circumstances engage in activity that brings Young Liberals or the Liberal Democrats into disrepute.
 - c. Be committed to ensuring that they and their activities are accessible to all members.
 - d. The Constitution, Rules and Procedures of the Branch must be compliant with this Constitution and the constitution of the relevant State Organisation.
 - i. Where rules imposed on University Societies by Universities and Student Unions conflict those rules may take precedence.
 - e. The membership of the Branch must be open to all Young Liberals members within the relevant geographical area or University.
5. The State Executive must consider this application based on the following criteria:
- a. That they do not overlap with any previously existing branches
 - b. That there is no previous behaviour, actions or statements such that their accreditation at that point would bring disrepute to the Young Liberals
6. If a branch becomes defunct, violates the branch code of conduct, or at the discretion of the State, a vote may be requested of the State Executive in order to remove a branch's accredited status. This shall be done over 24 hours, and require a simple majority. The Federal Executive may also, in a circumstance where the State Executive has failed to vote on the removal of a branch, hold their own vote.

13.30 - 14.00 Policy Motion

Chair: Tim Macy, Aide: Ulysse Abbate

F14 *Towards a European Army*

Submitted by Harvey Thomas-Benton

Conference notes that:

1. NATO underpins the current security architecture of the United Kingdom.

2. The European Union has increasingly sought a security role within Europe in the post-Cold War era.
 - a. The United Kingdom left the Common Defence and Security Policy, PESCO and the broader European security architecture during Brexit.
3. Western Allies in Europe have been free riding the United States for its security in the post-Cold War world
4. The Trump Administration has increasingly made it clear that it is less interested in European security, including the defence of Ukraine.
5. The Trump Administration has made provocations to NATO allies, such as wanting to annex Greenland and Canada.
6. European militaries are currently divided, underfunded and have different security focuses.
7. Militaries in the EU use 178 different types of weapon systems (tanks/frigates/destroyers/fighter planes) compared to the US's 30.

Conferences believes:

1. The United Kingdom has a responsibility to support and deliver security in Europe.
2. European Security must be underpinned by countries with common liberal values and interests. European Security must be autonomous of the United States in order to avoid dependency.
3. The Trump Administration is an unreliable ally, which requires the UK and EU to strengthen their own capabilities.

Conferences welcomes:

1. The UK-EU Security Pact as the first step towards better cooperation with European allies in defence and security of the continent.
2. That the Security Defence Review recognises the importance of European security, and the UK's central role to it.
3. That the Security Defence Review recognises that the UK should play a greater role in nuclear defence and deterrence in Europe.
4. That the Security Defence Review calls for greater industrial partnership with European allies in developing our collective capabilities.

Conference affirms:

1. LYMEC's 'Defending Europe in times of need' policy

Conference calls for:

1. The UK and EU should work together to develop a new security and defence architecture which can defend Europe, autonomously from the United States.
 - a. In order to achieve this, the UK should be granted access to the Security Action for Europe Fund
 - b. The UK and EU should work together on a common procurement strategy for defence capabilities across European militaries
 - i. This should involve developing a continental industrial strategy which supports the European defence industry
 - ii. The end point should be standardising kit across european allies and their militaries.
 - c. The UK should be involved in PESCO missions, and seek to negotiate a deal with the EU for the UK to join PESCO.
 - d. The UK and EU member states should agree to increasing core defence spending to at least 3.5%.
 - i. Alongside this, increasing the number of personnel in militaries across Europe.
 - e. The UK and France to consider and negotiate implementing a new nuclear umbrella for Europe, underpinned by their nuclear weapons.
2. The UK and European NATO allies should maintain engagement with NATO, despite concerns for the Trump Administration

14.00 – 14.45 Speech

Lisa Smart MP



15.00 – 15.30 Policy Motion

Chair: Brandon Masih, Aide: Tim Macy

F16 *Direct Lithium mining (DLE): The method that can avoid another climate catastrophe*

Submitted by Rowan Pope

Conference notes:

1. Lithium is a fundamental resource that the modern world depends on which is now powering many vital green technologies such as electric vehicles, wind power and electric vehicles.
2. Lithium at this current point is being mined in a way that severely damages the ecosystem with whole lakes and communities having to suffer because of this.
3. This environmental problem must be solved rapidly so that we can avoid another climate disaster.
4. Direct Lithium extraction known as a DLE is more environmentally friendly than the current methods that we are using.

Conference believes:

1. The Young Liberals have expressed great need to protect the environment in past motions.
2. The Young liberals recognise the climate crisis is catastrophic and must be delayed and stopped in all aspects of society.
3. The Young Liberals proudly support local governments/ communities when it comes to concerns that are not being addressed.
4. The Young Liberals also champion the end of fossil fuels. This can be stopped by the introduction of better quality materials and produced in environmentally sustainable conditions

Conference calls for:

1. The Young Liberals to promote the use of DLE as the best way to mine lithium sustainably.
2. The Young Liberals to raise the concerns of harmful effects that current lithium mining methods are having on the environment when mining lithium.
3. The Young Liberals to work with other organisations such as the Cornish Lithium and British lithium to help guarantee that direct lithium extraction becomes the dominant mining method in the mining industry. Which will guarantee that this more sustainable method is being used.

15.30 – 16.00 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Harvey Thomas-Benton, Aide: Leo Dempster

F17 *Tidying up the constitution: Removing LDCRE Representative*

Submitted by Josh Lucas Mitte

In Article 6

1. Remove 1.o
2. In 4, remove “Other than the LDCRE Representative”.
3. Remove 4.a
4. In 6, remove “except the LDCRE Representative”

In Article 9

1. In 7, remove “and LDCRE Representative”

In Election and co-option regulations

1. Remove section 3

16.00 – 17.00 Questions to Officers

Chair: Caredig ap Tomos, Aide: Rowan Pope

F18 *Officer Reports & Questions to the Executive*

Members of the Federal Executive have submitted reports on their work, which can be found on pages **64 - 116**. Questions have been submitted in advance, which can be found below. If time allows, the chair of the session may allow additional questions from Conference floor. Details of how to submit questions can be found at youngliberals.uk/conference.

Q1 *Chair*

Submitted by James Smith

YL tends to have a culture of officers doing the bulk of the work in the AO and not being the ones to set the direction and goals and utilising the staff member as a resource to bring these projects and weekly activities to fruition - how do you go about changing this culture?

Q2 Chair

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

Balancing the role of chair of this organisation, and therefore being a member of the party's federal board and federal people and development committee, and still being an active and visible voice year round is a massive challenge - and I think you've done a commendable job of this.

What advice would you give to your successor around how they should manage their time or prioritise it to make the biggest impact on behalf of YL?

Q3 Chair

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

The federal board is an incredibly important part of our party, and making sure they understand and consider the challenges and views of young people is absolutely vital.

With the federal party's internal elections later this year, there will be a new board, and new faces on it.

What do you think the organisation needs to do over the next 6-12 months to make sure the new board members listen to and value young people's input, whoever they end up being?

Q4 Campaigns

Submitted by James Smith

What are your plans to hold action days for MPs in the final 2 summers of this parliamentary term?

Do you regret not holding summers of action in the first half of this parliamentary term?

Q5 Comms

Submitted by James Smith

How best can you use the staff member to draft weekly/bi-weekly emails to members or social media posts and graphics going forward?

Q6 Comms

Submitted by Cara Hermit

Its been no secret that we've taken a real step back from using X as an organisation, and I'm aware that there likely is an intentionality behind that, following the rightward shift of the platform. But I would like to raise that in our absence, the young liberal prescence on that platform has been filled by significantly further right-leaning accounts, ones that rarely align with our social liberal views. For members whos only social media is X, the main exposure they have to young liberal views is from these very socially conservative liberal accounts. These accounts parrot little England views, anti immigration rhetoric, and fear-mongering thats far from what we as an organisation stand for, and its our members that are being pushed this content, without and official presence to offer an alternative. We need to be a beacon of good-faith politics on what is an increasingly bad-faith platform, so will you commit to a return to X for the Young Liberals?

Q7 Events

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

Cambridge(shire) is an amazing place and it's great to see YL conference come to the East of England!

How were venues shortlisted for this conference, how did you find the process, and what advice would you pass on for future events officers?

Q8 *International*

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

It's been great to see lots of international opportunities promoted over the course of the year, and to see lots of YLers take up these opportunities.

How do you think international has been/could further encourage people contribute to international opportunities all year round? (such as engaging with ad-hoc events, writing for international newsletters etc)

Q9 *Membership Development*

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

Future Focus has been an interesting change in how YL has supported young council candidates, and it's been good to see YL review how it does this.

What do you think has been the top highlight and bottom lowlight of the process this year, and what would you recommend for your successor to tweak for next year?

Q10 *Secretary*

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

The YL WhatsApp is a new space, and it's good to see YL branching out when young people are less likely to use Facebook. What future plans are there for the WhatsApp and what consideration has been given to potential future expansion to other platforms (ie, Signal, Discord, or insert your favourite platform here etc) if appropriate?

17.00 – 17.30 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Cormac Evans, Aide: Lucas North

F19 *References Back*

Submitted by Josh Lucas Mitte

In 7.7.1, after "under debate" add:

“no later than 14 days prior to the opening of conference”

After 7.7.5, add:

7.7.6 Motions must be brought back to conference no later than 12 months or at the second conference following the reference back, whichever is latest.

7.7.6.1 If the motion has not been edited or worked on, the original motion must be brought back, and it may not be referred back again.

Amendment 1

Submitted by Rebecca Jones

Remove the following Conference Standing Orders:

7.7 Refer back (to the Executive or a committee);

7.7.1 A voting member may submit in writing, a request to refer back the motion under debate. The submission shall state to whom the motion is to be referred.

7.7.2 If more than one request is received, the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken with respect to any motion.

7.7.3 When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the request, and the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes.

7.7.4 The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at

which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

7.7.5 If the substantive motion is referred to the Executive, the Policy Committee or the Events Committee the appropriate Officer for that committee shall, in their report to the next meeting of the conference, state what action it has taken on the reference.

7.7.5.1 If elections take place before the next meeting of conference, the incumbent officer shall endeavour to inform their successor of their responsibilities under this Standing Order

17.30 – 17.45 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Leo Dempster, Aide: Brendan Roberts

F20 *Shorter Elections & Cooptions*

Submitted by Abrial Jerram

Replace 1 a of Section 1: Elections of the Election and Co-option Regulations with

The election timetable shall allow a one-week nomination period and a one-week voting period, with a week long gap in between.

Replace 1 of Section 2: Co-options of the Election and Co-option Regulations with

1. The Returning Officer shall publish a timetable for the receipt of nominations, which shall be a period of one week, and a discussion and voting period for the Executive of no longer than one week in total with the voting period being open for a minimum of three days.

17.45 – 18.00 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Brendan Roberts, Aide: Leo Dempster

F21 *Procedural Motion Thresholds*

Submitted by Rebecca Jones

Amend the following Conference Standing Orders to say:

7.3.1. 2 voting conference members may jointly, during any conference session, move, in writing, a motion to overrule a decision or interpretation made by the Chair.

7.2.1. 3 voting conference members may jointly, during any conference session, move, in writing, a motion to have no confidence in the Chair of the debate. The mover shall make the request known to the Chair, Policy Officer and Events officer.

18.00 – 18.30 Emergency Motion

Chair: Lucas North, Aide: Harvey Thomas-Benton

F22 *Emergency Motion Debate*

Emergency motions can be submitted until 3pm, on Tuesday 12th August 2025. See youngliberals.uk/conference for more information, including how to submit an emergency motion for debate.

The selected emergency motion(s) will be announced by Policy Committee once available.

19.00 – 21.00 Social

Join us for the **Conference Awards**, followed by quick-fire debates on the main stage. Our panel of debate Chairs will open up a range of topics for debate, and all are welcome to contribute.

Sunday 17th August

09.00 – 09.30 Policy Motion

Chair: Tim Macy, Aide: Harvey Thomas-Benton

F23 *Driving Forward: Road to Access*

Submitted by Mackenzie Gregory

Conference notes that:

1. Learning to drive is a vital life skill for many young people, particularly in rural and semi-rural areas where public transport is limited.
2. It is also especially important for many disabled people, for whom driving can offer greater independence, flexibility, and access to work, education, and social opportunities than relying on public transport.
3. The average cost of learning to drive, including lessons, tests, and insurance, now exceeds £3,000, according to QuoteZone's research.
4. Long waiting times for practical driving tests, often several months, are causing additional stress and financial strain for young learners.
5. The cost of car insurance for young drivers remains disproportionately high and often requires restrictive telematic policies (insurance plans that use a black box or mobile app to monitor driving behaviour, such as speed, braking, and mileage, in order to determine premiums).
6. Black box insurance policies often include curfews, speed monitoring, driving score tracking, and location surveillance, with limited transparency or accountability from insurers.
7. The DVSA practical driving test does not currently require experience with night-time driving, motorway driving, or adverse weather conditions, leaving many new drivers underprepared for real-world situations.

Conference reaffirms that:

1. Access to transport is a matter of social and economic justice, and no one should be locked out of learning to drive due to financial or geographical barriers, including young people, who are often among the most affected.

2. Public transport must be improved and expanded, but driving remains essential for upholding the freedom of many young people, especially in rural areas.
3. Privacy and autonomy should be respected, and the use of telematics in insurance should not be a condition of affordability for young drivers.
4. Improving access to high-quality driver education, testing infrastructure, and fair insurance options will enhance road safety and opportunity without relying on intrusive surveillance.

Conference calls for:

1. Urgent investment to expand DVSA testing capacity, including more examiners and new test centres in underserved areas.
2. A national bursary scheme to subsidise driving lessons and tests for low-income young people.
3. A formal review and reform of car insurance practices for under-25s, ending reliance on black box policies and improving pricing transparency, with regulated limits on policy price multipliers due to age.
4. Inclusion of real-world driving conditions like night and motorway driving in tests or training.
5. Nationwide driver education programmes in schools and colleges covering safety, costs, and driver rights.
6. Commitment to transport equity with accessible, affordable driving alongside improved public transport.
7. Giving 2% of Vehicle Excise Duty revenue to fund the Young Drivers Support Fund.
8. Reallocating £50 million annually from road safety enforcement to education and test access, which in turn will improve road safety.
9. Establishing public-private partnerships with insurers and driving schools to generate voluntary contributions and discounted lessons.

09.30 – 10.00 Policy Motion

Chair: Cormac Evans, Aide: Lucas North

F24 *Fusion Energy: The power to save the world*

Submitted by Rowan Pope

Conference notes:

1. The climate change crisis is an existential crisis that needs multiple types of revolutionary energy- creating methods for it to be solved.
2. The Labour Government is currently not doing enough to combat the climate crisis, with limited policies within the Autumn and spring budgets on it.
3. Fusion energy is seen as the most optimal form of renewable energy that is desired by many.
4. The recent breakthroughs in fusion energy such as the United States' breakthrough two years ago as well as the breakthrough of 22 minutes of sustainability made by Europeans just 2 years later this year shows that we no longer live in a world where this method is seen as fantasy.
5. Fusion industry is currently undergoing rapid growth which is speeding up its development and can also be a huge benefit for not just this country and its allies but for all of humanity. Therefore helping to reduce carbon emissions and avoid a climate extinction event.

Conference believes:

1. Whilst policy passed in 2023 by the Young Liberals recognises the potential of nuclear energy, the potential for fusion energy is even greater.
2. Nuclear Fusion energy creates more energy than any other method that is feasible at this time.
3. The adoption and implementation of fusion as a commercialised form of energy in the UK and allies would significantly reduce the threat of climate change.
4. The current rate of development for fusion energy is too slow and needs to rapidly increase in order to get the benefits as soon as possible.

Conferences calls for

1. The Young Liberals to support fusion energy in an effort to combat the climate crisis.

2. For The Young Liberals to demand further discussions on this revolutionary technology at a federal level.
3. To call for further investment into the fusion industry by the UK Labour government in order to speed up the technology's growing development and eventual commercialisation.
4. To encourage universities, colleges and schools to talk and teach more about fusion energy and its capabilities.
5. To encourage UK fusion companies to collaborate with international organisations that could benefit the UK in assisting its development of fusion energy.

Amendment 1: Tomorrow's Energy Technologies and Today's Climate Crisis

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

Amend motion title to "Tomorrow's Energy Technologies and Today's Climate Crisis"

Replace Conference notes with:

1. The climate crisis is an existential crisis that requires many sources of clean energy to be combatted.
2. The Government's target to achieve "clean power by 2030" for Great Britain's electricity system.
3. Nuclear fusion is widely seen as a potential source of clean, renewable, zero-carbon source of electricity generation.
4. Nuclear fusion has been in development since the mid-20th century, but has not yet been used to commercially generate electricity.
5. While recent breakthroughs have been made in fusion development and the wider industry, the technology has not yet been adapted to commercial use, and the timeline for this remains uncertain.
6. Other sources of renewable or low-carbon electricity, such as wind, solar, and nuclear fission are significantly more mature, have become a core part of our electricity system, and can be planned and developed with technological certainty.

Replace Conference believes with:

1. The climate crisis is here now, and real action is needed now - not the future.

2. The Labour Government is not doing enough to combat the climate crisis or achieve clean power by 2030, with Labour needing to go further and faster to meet the scale of these challenges.
3. There is no silver bullet when it comes to decarbonising electricity generation.
4. While fusion may play a role in future commercial electricity generation, and continued development should be supported, it is not a substitute for real action now.
5. Further deployment of tried and tested forms of renewable and low-carbon electricity are needed to meet the urgent needs of the climate crisis and decarbonise the grid.

Replace Conference calls for with:

1. Investment in and development of nuclear fusion to be maintained.
2. The UK Government to speed up the deployment of the next generation of renewables and low-carbon electricity generation sources, as a national priority.
3. Liberal Democrats to campaign for deployment for further renewables and low-carbon electricity generation sources, and their associated infrastructure.
4. Elected Liberal Democrats all levels to do what they can to facilitate further development of renewables across Great Britain.

Add at the end of the motion:

Conference also renews, reaffirms, and pushes back the lapse date of the YL policy "Avoiding Gridlock: Supporting Nuclear Energy", under which we call for the Liberal Democrats to reverse the party's longstanding "no new nuclear" policy for new fission sites.

10.00 – 10.30 Speech

Olly Glover MP



10.30 – 10.50 Policy Motion

Chair: Lucas North, Aide: Brandon Masih

F26 *Abolishing Anti-Homelessness Architecture*

Submitted by Tim Macy

Conference notes

1. That anti-homelessness architecture, such as slanted or divided seating, is commonplace in many local authorities in the UK.

Conference believes

1. That making an area inhospitable for rough sleepers is counter-productive, and helps to criminalise them rather than encouraging and allowing them to get help
2. That anti-homelessness architecture often also makes public seating less accessible for many disadvantaged groups.

Conference calls for

1. All local authorities, especially those run by the Liberal Democrats, to stop using hostile architecture and to combat homelessness compassionately.
2. The Liberal Democrats to campaign at all levels of government against anti-homelessness architecture and for improved funding to be spent on long term solutions to rough sleeping such as homelessness shelters, more efficient temporary accommodation, and solving the housing crisis.

11.00 – 11.30 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Leo Dempster, Aide: Tim Macy

F27 *Chairs, Aides, and Minute Takers*

Submitted by Tom Jordan

Constitutional Amendment to the Standing Orders Section 5.0 to read:

- 5.1. Policy Committee shall allocate a Chair, Aide and Minute Taker to each session

- 5.1.1. During a session, the Chair shall be responsible for the conduct of the debate.

5.1.2. During a session, the Aide shall assist the Chair and verify votes.

5.1.3. During a session, the Minute Taker shall ensure that votes, the outcome of agenda items, and whatever else they see fit is recorded

5.1.4. The Chair, Aide, and Minute Taker should not vote when presiding over a debate.

5.1.5. The Chair and Aide should not be members of the Executive.

5.2. Debates on motions shall be conducted in the following manner:

5.2.1. The Chair shall announce the time limits for speakers as determined by Policy Committee

5.2.2. The proposer, or their nominee, shall introduce the motion

5.2.3. Each amendment shall be introduced by its proposer or their nominee

5.2.4. Conference shall debate the motion

5.2.5. The proposer of each amendment, or their nominee shall summate the debate on that amendment. If the amendment has not been opposed, the Chair should decline to call for a summation on the amendment

5.2.6. The proposer of the motion, or their nominee, shall summate the debate on the motion. If the motion has not been opposed, the Chair should decline to call for a summation on the motion

5.2.7. Conference shall vote on the amendments, and then on the motion as amended

5.3. Policy papers and their accompanying Policy Motion shall be debated on as one item

Section 2.1 shall now read

2.1. Events Committee, in consultation with Policy Committee, shall set the agenda for Conference. The agenda for each conference, save a Special Conference, shall include time for:

2.1.1 The approval of the minutes of the last Conference

2.1.2. Policy motions, including policy papers

2.1.3. One or more consultative sessions; save that the Committee may decide that there are not consultations to be had

2.1.4. Emergency motions

2.1.5. An executive scrutiny panel

2.1.6. A business session, for the consideration and debate of business motions and constitutional amendments

2.1.7. Training sessions and any other business which the Committee thinks appropriate.

Sections 7.1-7.2 to read

7.1. Any member may rise on a point of order which shall be taken immediately except that, during a vote, no point of order shall be taken that does not refer to the conduct of the vote or the removal of the Chair. The Chair's decision on all points of order shall be final unless overruled.

7.2. No confidence in the Chair;

7.2.1. A voting conference member may, during any conference session, move, in writing, a motion to have no confidence in the Chair of the debate. The mover shall make the request known to the Chair.

7.2.2. The debate on the business at hand shall halt, the Chair and Aide shall temporarily hand over to two members of Policy Committee, or if not available, Events Committee, who shall conduct the vote on the procedural motion. Henceforth referred to as "Acting Chair" and "Acting Aide".

7.2.3. The Acting Chair shall read the request and shall allow the mover to speak, and the Chair to reply. The Acting

Chair shall have the discretion to allow other speakers. All speeches on the motion of no confidence will be limited to two minutes.

7.2.4. The motion shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current debate will temporarily adjourn until Policy Committee selects a new Chair and Aide for the debate

Insert Section 11

11. At each Conference, accurate minutes of all votes taken and items discussed must be recorded. It is the Secretary's responsibility to collect the minutes of the Conference from the Minute Takers, and then have them presented at the next Conference for approval. These minutes must be publicly available first in draft at earliest convenience, and then when verified for all YL members to access.

Reason:

This amendment, bundled as one, aims to improve the Conference going experience and make enhances YLs institutional strength through several changes.

The introduction of minutes at Conference, it is frankly bizarre that we as an institution recognise the need to take and publish accurate minutes of our Executive and Committee meetings - but not our Conference.

There are then some minors changes, tweaking and fixing language to ensure that the standing orders are more comprehensive and coherent. Additionally I have changed the instruction of Chairs from may to should when it comes to declining a summation on a policy without opposition.

Amendment 1

Submitted by Harvey Thomas-Benton

Amend 5.1.5 so that it reads that

The Chair and Aide should not be members of the executive, unless they are on Policy or Events Committee

11.30 – 12.00 Constitutional Amendment

Chair: Ulysse Abbate, Aide: Cormac Evans

F28 *Lapsing Policy*

Submitted by Harvey Thomas-Benton

Deleting the following lines:

9. Policies adopted shall lapse after 5 years, unless renewed.

a. Policy Committee may extend a policy motion for up to 12 months, by which time it must have been brought to conference in some form for renewal.

12.00 – 13.00 Lunch Break

See the Fringe & Training timetable for details of fringe events taking place during the lunch break, on pages **58 - 63**.

13.00 – 13.45 Panel

F29 *Lessons from Liberals abroad*

A chance to explore the experiences of Liberals from outside of Britain with our International Guests.

13.45 – 14.15 Business Motion

Chair: Brandon Masih, Aide: Leo Dempster

F30 *Getting YL policies to reach more people*

Submitted by Josh Lucas Mitte

Conference notes:

1. The Young Liberals Policy book has 205 pages and over 140,000 words
2. The Welsh Young Liberals produced a mini-manifesto ahead of the 2021 Senedd Elections
3. The policy book is a compilation of all policy passed in the past 5 years

Conference believes:

1. The policy book is too long as it stands, making it inaccessible to some new people interested in YL and/or members with a short attention span
2. More people would read a shorter, more digestible form of the policy book
3. The policy book, as an unedited record of policy passed in the past 5 years, has presented inconsistencies and outdated goals, such as net zero by 2025 in June 2024
4. There should be a policy document presenting our updated policy stances in a succinct, cohesive manner

Conference also believes:

1. Manifestos are more effective in getting across an organisation's beliefs and policy views
2. Manifestos are more effective in building up campaigns

Conference calls for

1. The Policy Committee to begin a process of creating a condensed, cohesive version of the policy book
2. To reaffirm that newer policy overwrites old policy by calling on the Policy Committee to:
 - a. ensure older policy overwritten by new policy is not included in the condensed policy book
 - b. update the condensed policy book after every conference
3. The Young Liberals Federal Executive, in collaboration with the Campaigns and Communications committee, to present a manifesto every 2 years or the year before the General Election, whichever is earliest, starting at the next scheduled Young Liberals Conference

Amendment 1: Delivering YL Policy through real local government

Submitted by Nathan Hunt

Add new Conference notes:

1. A number of policies in the YL policy book can be implemented through the mechanisms available within local government.
2. The significant power base of the Liberal Democrats in local government, and the notable number of YL councillors.

Add new Conference believes:

1. Getting YL policy implemented in the real world is a priority for the organisation, and local government can be used to achieve this.

Add new Conference also believes:

1. Manifestos can be used to support and lobby within our party, as well as externally.

Add new Conference calls for:

1. Policy Committee to develop a short-form, supplementary manifesto focused on YL policy that can be implemented via local government structures, and can be used to support and encourage Liberal Democrat councillors to implement YL policy - including the steps to implement the relevant policy.
 - a. Policy Committee to work with YL councillors where appropriate to develop this supplementary manifesto, and include case studies of successes if and where appropriate.

Reasoning: this amendment would also require Policy Committee to produce a manifesto dedicated to policy that can be implemented in local government - current campaigns from YL which could fall under this include drink spiking which comes under local licensing policy, and elements of other policies such as education policies, vape recycling, etc to name a few.

14.15 – 15.00 Speech

Harvey Jones, Chair of the Young Liberals



15.00 Close of Conference

Thank you for attending Young Liberals Summer Conference 2025. We wish you a pleasant journey home, and look forward to seeing you in Cardiff for Young Liberals Winter Conference 2026!

Join us for the 2025
yl conference
QUIZ!

with guest mc

**Joshua
Reynolds MP**
MP for Maidenhead



hosted by
Harvey Jones
YL Chair

Friday 15th August
7:30pm, J2

Intro to Fringe and Training

**From Young Liberals Membership Development Officer,
Will Tennison**



Welcome to the Young Liberals' first-ever in-person Fringe & Training Schedule!

We're so excited to have you join us for what promises to be a weekend full of energy and ideas. This is the first time we've brought together such a wide range of sessions in one place. With sessions delivered by our amazing members, guest speakers, and other AOs across the party, we can't wait for you to get stuck in.

Our fringe and training programme is designed to reflect everything the Young Liberals stand for: bold policy thinking, meaningful activism, and a commitment to making politics more accessible, inclusive, and youth-led. Whether you're here to sharpen your campaigning skills, explore big ideas in policy, or meet like-minded young people from across the UK, there's something here for you.

Expect thought-provoking conversations, hands-on training, and plenty of space to share your own experiences and views. From climate and education to inclusivity, leadership, and liberal values—this weekend is about learning from each other and building a stronger, more connected Young Liberals movement.

So grab your lanyard, bring your questions, and get ready to take part in something special. We're so glad you're here.

Fringe Timetable

Unless otherwise stated, Fringe events will take place in J3.

Friday 15th August

19.30 - 21.00 **YL Conference Quiz 2025** with YL Chair Harvey and Joshua Reynolds MP!
main room (J2)

Saturday 16th August

09.00 - 10.00 **Getting involved with student politics** with former SU President, Sarah Anderson

10.00 - 11.00 **Become a Councillor** with YL Cllr Nathan Hunt and the Local Government Association

12.00 - 13.00 **Votes at 16 and Our Democracy's Youth Crisis**

13.00 - 14.00 **Winning Against Labour** with ALDC

14.45 - 16.00 **Planning a Digital Campaign** with ALDC

17.15 - 18.15 **Standing Up, Speaking Out: A Guide to Being an Effective Ally** with former YL Diversity Officer, Dr Katharine Macy

19.30 - 21.00 **Conference Social: Speed Debating!**
main room (J2)

Sunday 17th August

09.00 - 09.45 **Where Next for Schools Policy:** Lib Dem Education Association in Conversation with Cllr Cheney Payne

10.30 - 11.00 **Be an Effective Youth Officer in your Local Party** with EYL Chair, Josh Mitte

11.00 - 12.00 **Chasing Unicorns (and other Government Strategies)** with LibSTEMM

12.00 - 13.00 **Women & Minority Genders Lunch** - *meet at J3 to go off-site.*

12.00 - 13.00 **Where Next? Britain's Relationship With Europe, Youth Mobility and Beyond**

13.00 - 14.00 **Palestine-Israel: Understanding the Conflict and Taking Action**

13.00 - 14.00 **Meet our International Guests**
main room (J2)

Fringe & Training Sessions

Unless otherwise stated, Fringe events will take place in J3.

Friday 15th August

19.30 - 21.00 **YL Conference Quiz 2025**

Join Young Liberals' Chair, Harvey and our guest MC, Maidenhead's Joshua Reynolds MP for an evening of Lib Dem trivia, political puzzles and a spot prize or two along the way! *Main Room, J2.*

Saturday 16th August

09.00 - 10.00 **Getting involved with student politics**

Want to get involved in student politics but unsure how or why? This session offers a look at the higher education landscape, what a liberal perspective brings, and why it matters.

10.00 - 11.00 **Become a Councillor**

Local Government Association

Interested in making a difference in your community? This session offers a brief introduction to the role, responsibilities, and impact of becoming a local councillor—perfect for anyone curious about standing for election. Join Huntingdonshire YL Councillor Nathan Hunt and expert Lib Dem Campaigner, Terry Stacy from the Local Government Association.

12.00 - 13.00 **Votes at 16 and Our Democracy's Youth Crisis**

Professor James Sloan joins us to discuss the changed role that young people play in democracy, and civic society needs to respond.

Saturday 16th August (continued)**13.00 - 14.00 Winning Against Labour***ALDC*

Labour are losing support left, right and centre and the next couple of years give us an amazing opportunity. Labour has over 6500 councillors and many will be defending in major local elections in 2026 and 2027. Join us to learn how to take on Labour and win!

14.45 - 16.00 Planning a Digital Campaign*ALDC*

Learn how to structure your digital outreach, refine your messaging, and choose the right tools to support your local campaign goals.

17.15 - 18.15 Standing Up, Speaking Out: A Guide to Being an Effective Ally with Dr Katharine Macy

Allyship is part of liberalism - we all have areas where we have privilege and areas where we do not. This session will explore how we can build our allyship work and ensure we support communities that need allies to the best of our ability. An interactive session, this training will provide you a strong groundwork to keep moving forward in your journey.

19.30 - 21.00 Conference Social: Speed Debating! - J2**Sunday 17th August****09.00 - 10.00 Where Next for Schools Policy: in Conversation With Cheney Payne***Liberal Democrat Education Association*

Hear Cheney Payne's thoughts on the future of schools policy and explore key challenges and opportunities facing the education sector today.

Sunday 17th August (continued)

10.30 - 11.00 **Be an Effective Youth Officer in your Local Party**
with EYL Chair, Josh Mitte

Are you a youth officer or considering it? Learn how you can use your position more effectively to help your local party grow and avoid becoming a token youth voice.

11.00 - 12.00 **Chasing Unicorns (and other Government Strategies)**

LibSTEMM

Learn about LibSTEMM's recent work on the DSIT portfolio and their response to the government's Industrial Strategy.

12.00 - 13.00 **Lib Dem Women Lunch**

Join Lib Dem Women for a offsite lunchtime social. Meet outside J3 and wander down to Pizza 1889.

Open to YL members who identify as women, non-binary or any other minority gender identity.

12.00 - 13.00 **Where Next? Britain's Relationship With Europe, Youth Mobility and Beyond**

Rowan Fitton will chair a discussion on the future of British-European relations, with a focus on the role of young people and the Liberal Democrats

Sunday 17th August (continued)

13.00 - 14.00 **Palestine-Israel: Understanding the Conflict and Taking Action**

Liberal Democrat Friends of Palestine

Speakers: Marwan Yaghi (Political Officer at the Palestinian Mission to the UK), Raphael Korber Hoffman (Research and Policy Manager at Yachad), and Will Forster MP.

Session description: Join us for a panel discussion exploring the current situation in Palestine, the actions being taken here in the UK, and the role of young people in pushing for change. The event will bring together expert voices to share insight, spark dialogue, and inspire meaningful action.

13.00 - 13.45 **Lessons from Liberals abroad** (*Main Room - J2*)

A chance to explore the experiences of Liberals from outside of Britain with our International Guests

Officer Reports

These reports have been submitted by members of the Young Liberals Executive to report back on the work they have done since Winter Conference. Members will also have the chance to ask questions to officers, see page **38** for details.

Harvey Jones, Chair

I am very excited to be heading to Cambridge for our Summer Conference! After venue issues stopped us from heading to Wales in February, I am delighted to see us back in-person and on track to have a brilliant range of fringe and training events and good attendance.

I would like to put on record my thanks to Lucas North, Events Officer and their Committee members for the work that they have all put in to ensure that this event is a success. I would also like to thank Ulysse Abbate, Policy Officer, and his committee for their work on developing our policy agenda for Cambridge.

As I did in Winter, I will structure this report around the three key areas of the manifesto on which I stood.

1. Executive Culture

Training

The Executive held two, in-person meetings which included an 'away-day' training portion. Sessions included team-building exercises, goal setting and reviewing sessions, and a training session on conflict resolution.

Jack Coulson, Head of the Commons Whips Office, joined our March Executive meeting to discuss the work of the Lib Dems in Parliament and how we can work with MPs and Spokespersons to achieve goals.

I discussed seeking other training sessions in my previous meeting. Sourcing trainers and finding sessions has been a continued issue.

Executive meetings

I have continued to award an Exec Member of the Month at every meeting to recognise the work our volunteers do. The winners since Winter Conference have been:

Lucas North (Events) for adapting Winter Conference so quickly, and their extensive work in planning Summer Conference..

Will Tennison (Membership Development) and Alex Gallagher (Elections) for their work on supporting candidates.

Rebecca Jones and Bex Foulsham (Accessibility, Diversity and Inclusion) for their work in responding to the Supreme Court ruling and subsequent developments and campaigns on trans rights.

Elin Kingston (Fundraising) for taking on and supporting numerous projects so quickly after her co-option.

I would like to remind all members that they are welcome to join all YL Exec Meetings. Our next two meetings will be virtual - 11am on Saturday 30th August and 27th September. We will then meet in person for the final Executive meeting of this term and handover to the next Executive on Saturday 25th October.

Chair Check-ins

All Executive Officers were offered a second one-to-one but owing to the busy time of year not all of these took place. I am hoping to hold 'exit interview' style meetings at the end of the term to allow Officers a chance to provide honest feedback on the way the organisation has run this year and to inform my handover.

2. Diversity

Progress on the diversity plan has stalled owing to a number of other issues that have taken up much of the time of myself and other volunteers I wanted to bring into the process. At the time of writing, I am scheduling a meeting with Bex Foulsham to discuss ongoing diversity issues, where we have not made progress, and what steps we can take to progress.

I am still hoping to provide a document for the Executive to ratify and adopt formally by the end of the term. I will work with my successor to ensure this is implemented.

I hope to work closely with Bex, Rebecca and Diversity Committee on

increasing the diversity of our candidates for the upcoming internal elections. Reports on this will follow in the usual monthly reports.

Federal People Development Committee

I have had to miss one meeting of the FPDC owing to a personal commitment, and I will have to miss the August meeting for the same reason as this has been rescheduled. My thanks to our Membership Development Officer, Will Tennison, for substituting.

There are no substantial updates to Wellbeing and Safeguarding working group since my last report. I have also joined the Membership Experience working group.

3. Engagement

Meetings and Outreach

The media management group is working well and allowed us to take up a number of bids, including on national outlets like LBC. I have also worked with Make Votes Matter to produce a podcast on youth engagement with politics.

My attention is now turning to our Autumn Conference, including setting up meetings with MPs and Peers, and providing substantial support to the Youth and Skills Day. This is being run in collaboration with a number of charity partners and will include a mini exhibition, Question Time style event, and an evening reception.

At the time of writing, I am planning a final promo piece for Conference for Lib Dem Voice, as well as a broader piece on youth issues, and working with Sarah Anderson (Comms Officer) on an article for another Lib Dem publication ahead of Conference.

I also joined Sarah and Ulysse for a panel event at Social Liberal Forum Conference in St Albans which was well attended (including by Olly Glover MP!) and went down well.

I am hoping to attend both Welsh and Scottish Lib Dem Conferences

in the Autumn.

Finance and Resources Committee

As Chair I sit ex-officio on FRC. There is nothing substantial to report.

Elections Committee

Chairship of the Elections Committee was amended at Winter Conference, meaning Alex Gallagher (Elections Officer) is now Chair.

The main bulk of work was the creation of a replacement scheme for Young and Winning, Future Forward. Time pressure meant the training element we had planned was substantially cut down, and there was pressure on delivering the financial support for literature. The scheme will be reviewed ahead of future years.

However, 4 out of the 6 selected candidates (across 5 wards) won: Ellie Hopgood, Lianna Konig, Toyah Overton, Rory Clark. There is therefore scope for the selection criteria to be amended, in my view, as the scheme did not likely have a major impact on these campaigns. Whether or not we should consider supporting candidates less likely to win as development opportunities for the next cycle, or in areas where an additional leaflet would make a difference, should be a question for next year's committee.

Reflections

This is my fifth term on an Executive or Committee within YL, and it is likely to be my last. I would like to thank those who have supported me and encouraged me along the way - including Chloe Hutchinson, Eleanor Kelly, Janey Little as the Chairs I have worked alongside, my former Co-Comms Officer Caitlin Richardson and our committees, and the countless friends I've made through YL who have supported me..

To finish, some words of advice for anyone thinking of standing:

1. **Do it** - the cliché about missing 100% of the shots you don't take is true. The worst that can happen is you lose; the best? You spend a year helping run the youth wing of a political party. It'll teach you a lot and looks great on your CV.
2. **Underpromise and overdeliver** - as an organisation, we are dreadful at recognising the limits of our volunteers, setting boundaries and not over-committing ourselves to work. Your election manifesto doesn't need to re-invent the wheel either. Just tell us who you are, what you're good at, and what you want to see YL do.
3. **Look out for each other** - politics, political volunteering and activism, can be combative, tiring and emotive for those involved. Check in with your colleagues, set your own limits for work, and learn to say 'no' to asks when you need to.

Enjoy Conference, enjoy Cambridge, and join us in sunny Bournemouth for another weekend of liberalism in September.

If you have any questions about my report and cannot make it to Conference, please do not hesitate to email me at harvey.jones@youngliberals.uk.

Harvey Thomas-Benton, Secretary

TDLR

- Thank you to members
- Regularly written minutes for the exec meetings
- Supported officers to getting their reports out on time
- Developed the Whatsapp Code of Conduct
- Attended committees when invited
- Handover when the NPO co-option happened
- Happy to talk to people about internal elections

Thank yous

Firstly, I would like to give a massive thank you to the members for electing me - this is my first big report to members, since I was

formally elected as your secretary. However, as many of you know, since our November Executive Meeting I took on the secretary responsibilities due to being NPO. I also want to thank the wider executive for helping me find my feet in this role.

Minutes

I have written minutes for every meeting of this executive, I would like to think they are clear, readable and a very accurate account of our meetings. They can be found on the website: <https://www.youngliberals.uk/about/exec-meetings>

I also want to thank Rebecca Jones for writing the July minutes, in my absence.

Exec Reports

I have attached below tables (**pages 101 - 116**) for each executive member for their term, their attendance and reports. Broadly speaking, I think people have been good at getting reports on time, and attending meetings. I have made a habit of reaching out to people, and regular messages on slack to remind them.

Whatsapp Moderation

Throughout the executive, we have regularly discussed concerns about Whatsapp. In recent months, I have worked with Harvey Jones (Chair), Will Tennison (MenDev) and the Diversity Committee on drafting a code of conduct. After revisions made at executive, this has been approved and published to members.

I have already seen an increased awareness in the executive about the whatsapp and our collective responsibility to keep an eye on it. A massive thank you to everyone on this.

Committees

I regularly attend the Diversity Committee and Policy Committee as a directly elected member of both. I have done my best to support and

help both committees. I want to thank Lucas North (Events) for regularly inviting me to attend their meetings, I have enjoyed them.

I want to give a special thank you to the International Committee and Diversity Committee for regularly publishing their minutes. I note that other committees have been less good at this. I think officers and the organisation should better consider delegation within committees, and committees should elect a minute taker.

Handover

When Tristan Paul was co-opted as NPO, we had a handover meeting for just over an hour. I outlined the job, how he can get involved in the organisation and pointed him in the right direction to other members.

Internal Elections

Soon we will be at the internal elections of YL! Any member is more than welcome to ask me any questions about being secretary, about NPO, about diversity committee or policy committee - given I have served in those roles. It would be lovely to see some new faces stand in the autumn.

Feel free to talk to me during Conference, or drop me an email at Harvey.Thomas-Benton@youngliberals.uk

Elin Kingston, Fundraising Officer

Summary

No matter what big ideas we have, or great people we find, without money we will always find our impact is limited. Funding the Young Liberals is one of the most important things we can do to support the future of liberalism in this country. My big aim during my short tenure is to bring us some of the way to having a secure, stable income that allows us to do more and to remain independent from the Party.

Since being co-opted in May, I've focused on making our

fundraising more sustainable and supporter-focused. That's included building up regular giving, improving communication with donors, and creating the first proper steps towards a long-term structure. I won't be re-standing in October, so I'd love to encourage others to think about taking on this role and building on what's been started.

What I've done

1. Focus on Regular Giving

From the beginning, it was clear regular giving was our best chance at stable funding. After discussions with the previous Fundraising Officer, Harvey (Chair), and Will (Membership), we decided to grow this through Friends of YL - a natural home for long-term donors.

We've now sent out the first Friends of YL newsletter, including a clear ask for the Access Fund. Huge thanks to Will for drafting and Tom for sending it out while I wait for MailJet access. Once I have access, I'll be able to track how the appeal did and improve our approach for next time. We're also preparing standing order forms for federal events to build regular support.

2. Stewardship & Supporter Care

One of my main goals has been to shift our approach from just "asking for money" to building real relationships with supporters. That means regular updates, saying thank you properly, and helping people see where their donation goes. We've laid the groundwork for this through Friends of YL, and I hope this can grow into a key part of how we fund our work.

3. Conference Prep

My input into conference prep has been more limited than I'd planned, but I've supported others on sponsorship and will help with merchandise during the second half of conference. Due to

the hard work of the rest of the exec we've made this conference one of the most profitable to date with many sponsorship agreements with partners!

4. Early Contact with Orpington Circle

I've had a useful conversation with a contact at the Orpington Circle (based at the National Liberal Club), who's open to future collaboration. It's still very early days, but it's something worth keeping an eye on. This particularly could be a good vehicle for the next Fundraising Officer to use for a fundraising event programme.

Get Involved

For fundraising to work well we all need to be involved! We need to believe in the work of YL, and at every chance we get be telling Local Parties and other contacts how they can support us. Especially in light of the vote being extended, we have a key role to play in the Party, and to do so we need a lot more resources!

If you're keen to learn more about fundraising, whether it's for your branch or on a regional / federal level, please do reach out - I'd love to offer some support! We need someone to think about how best to use the partnership with the NLC, this may well get passed onto the next Fundraising Officer, but if you're keen please do get in touch! Please encourage those in your local parties to sign up for Friends of YL. (and, ideally, to set up a standing order) Why not think about standing for Fundraising Officer in October - you don't need loads of experience, just energy, ideas, and a willingness to ask for support!

Thanks to everyone who's supported me since I started. It's been a real privilege to work on building up our fundraising, and I'm really hopeful that someone passionate will take this forward.

Sarah Anderson, Comms Officer

TL;DR

- Supported a young member (Johan) to appear on a TV panel discussing Votes at 16
- Collaborated with branches to publish a statement on the Online Safety Act
- Worked with ADS to produce a trans rights post and policy explainer
- Co-created an LGBT+ History Month series with Harvey TB
- Providing ongoing support for Conference Comms (pre, during, and post-event)
- Delivered social media training with Will
- Attended IFLRY's Young Communicators Network event in Düsseldorf
- Supporting Chang with the Freshers campaign
- Working with Harvey J on a Liberator article
- Continued comms support for action days

Reflections & Challenges

This year has been much busier than anticipated, and while I've prioritised core Comms responsibilities – such as supporting action days, promoting conferences, and amplifying the work of exec members and branches – some planned initiatives didn't get the attention they deserved:

- **Emails & Content Requests:**
Despite setting up a system for managing content requests and sharing job opportunities, I haven't kept on top of regular updates. This was partly due to the limitations of Mailjet, which is time-consuming and difficult to navigate. A more efficient platform would be helpful going forward.
- **Spotlighting Members:**
I had hoped to regularly spotlight amazing Young Liberals members and their work. This hasn't happened consistently, but I'd still love to hear about any brilliant members – please

flag them to me at conference so we can still shout them out!

- **Reels & Video Content:**

I didn't manage to create the number of Instagram reels I had hoped. Huge thanks to Prem for producing the reel from Spring Conference – I'm currently working on one for this conference and will happily support my successor in exploring TikTok (though I may be slightly too old to lead the charge myself!).

Press Engagement

- Supported Johan's appearance on TRT World's Westminster Watch to speak on Votes at 16
- Co-ran a media training session with Ulysse for him on key policy messaging and presentation
- Working with Harvey J on an article for The Liberator
- Exploring opportunities for a Young Liberals section in Lib Dem Voice, as suggested by Tom J, and encouraging more exec members to contribute

Social Media

- Worked with Teo and regional branches to create a joint statement on the Online Safety Act
- Continued to delegate to and collaborate with the Comms Committee – massive thanks to Prem for consistently excellent support, especially on the recent trans rights post and spring conference reel
- Delivered a party-wide social media training session with Will
- I have generally tried to reshare branch communications and event to ensure they feel like a part of YL more widely

Young Communicators Network (IFLRY)

- Attended the IFLRY Young Communicators Network event in Düsseldorf
- Gained insights into running relatable, focused campaigns – applied learnings to our Freshers campaign
- Networked with other international Young Liberal comms officers
- Gained huge insights through media engagement training on

traditional and digital press

Freshers Campaign

- Met with Chang, Will, and Tom to contribute to the Freshers strategy and packs
- Gave feedback on design concepts to HQ, bringing in Comms and Campaigns Committee
- Requested digital versions of Freshers materials to use throughout September and October

Conference

- I have scheduled a Comms and Campaigns meeting pre-conference so we feel prepared about how to approach the weekend - particularly around live tweeting
- I will be taking pictures throughout conference to use in publicity going forwards

Alex Gallagher, Elections Officer

YL had a successful set of local elections in 2025, with 4 of our Future Forward candidates successfully becoming councillors and a further 12 YL candidates winning their elections, totalling 16 new YL councillors (that we are aware of).

A further 17 YL candidates stood but were unfortunately not elected.

Currently I'm working on getting a head start for the 2026 local elections, looking to build on our 2025 successes. I'm working with English Young Liberals chair Josh Mitte and EYL Vice-Chair for Elections and Campaigns Adam Durbaba on organising Action Days around the country, and contacting Local Parties to identify young candidates ahead of time.

Please get in touch if you are aware of any Young Liberals standing in 2026, or if you'd like to know more about our 2025 local election results.

Will Tennison, Membership Development Officer

TLDR:

The Friends of YL mailing list has grown through conference and online promotion. I've continued as a forum moderator and took a lead role in organising the YL Summer Conference fringe schedule, securing sponsorships, and coordinating speakers. At Federal Autumn Conference, I secured a record eight youth-focused training sessions, and helped deliver another record number at Spring Conference, receiving strong feedback. I've increased HQ training contributions from four to seven sessions. I co-developed a WhatsApp Code of Conduct and ran conflict management training for the exec.

Friends of YL

The Friends of YL email list has continued to grow through advertisements at conferences and online.

Forum

I have continued with forum mod duties.

YL Summer Conference

Organising the Summer Fringe schedule has been one of my biggest tasks so far.

I liaised with external companies and other AOs about sponsorship opportunities for YL Conference, helping to secure these opportunities.

Created a timetable based on successful sponsorships, training submission forms and relevant portfolios.

Contributed to events committee for overarching conference plans.

Collected friendly faces for conference.

Created guest speakers welcome document

Federal Autumn Conference

I have secured a record number of training sessions at Autumn Conference.

These 8 session titles are:

- Retention, Not Just Recruitment: Keeping Young Members Active
- From Tokenism to Trust: Valuing Young Members
- Working with Young Liberals at Every Level
- Campaigning on policies that matter to young people
- Winning Young Voters
- Engaging Young People on Social Media

- Working with Young People: Safeguarding and Accessibility
- Supporting Young People into Elected Roles

Federal Spring Conference

I delivered a record number of training sessions at Autumn Conference.

Thank you to Sarah, Harvey and Nathan for helping to deliver these sessions.

We received some brilliant feedback from attendees through the HQ training department.

It was also noted how well attended our sessions were.

HQ Training

We were asked by the HQ training team if the Young Liberals could deliver some more virtual sessions as part of their regular training programme.

We have delivered three sessions so far, with four more to follow.

The sessions have been well attended and received good engagement and feedback.

This is an increase from four sessions last quarter to seven this time.

WhatsApp

Worked on WhatsApp Code of Conduct with Harvey Thomas-Benton.

As part of this ran a focus session with Diversity Committee on their views on the use of WhatsApp.

Exec Activities

Ran conflict management training for the exec

Created a YL email banner encouraging donations

Organised an exec social to go bowling

Chang Liu, Branch Development Officer

Here's a summary of what I have been doing since the Winter Conference. I have worked on setting up new branches, giving out branch development fund, freshers week campaigns, and finishing the branch development guide.

Setting Up New Branches

Two new branches have been accredited since February and one branch has been revived. This is a slowing down of new branches applying after 6 were approved earlier in my term. However, this could be a reflection of the variation in when people decide to set up branches throughout the year and doesn't happen uniformly

throughout the year. Several inactive branches have their accreditation removed, and I will continue to monitor and liaise with the regional chairs to ensure that we keep an up to date record of active branches.

I have also responded to several queries asking for help to set up a new branch, where possible I have looped in the local regional chair to support them. I have offered support for areas including: North East Hampshire, Liberal Democrats in France, Middle Sussex, Farnham & Bordon.

Longevity is still a challenge for many of our branches which I have tried to provide some advice and support via a dedicated section of the new branch development guide. I am pleased to hear that some of our branches have outlasted other political party societies at their university, but this is also a reflection of the changing political landscape and interests in party politics amongst university students and young people. Keeping a branch alive requires a lot of effort and sometimes luck, do not be alarmed to see that some branches have stopped being active. The process of setting up a new one has been very easy on the Young Liberals (YL) side, the harder criteria to fulfil is usually from the university or the student union.

Branch Development Fund

I have agreed with the English Young Liberals (EYL) on how branch funding contributions will happen for all branches in England. Regional budget and EYL can both contribute to all branch development fund request awards from English branches. So far £80 has been awarded from the federal pot of money (total of £500) with a further £275 coming out of the federal pot for branches in both England and Scotland pending sufficient funds available for the transaction. No applications have been received from any Welsh branches at the moment, active effort has been made to encourage branch chairs to apply via advertising through group chats and direct messages. Direct emails have been sent to all newly accredited branches regarding the availability of the fund and how they can apply for it.

Training and Development

I have facilitated and delivered two sessions of How to work with YL at every level training organised by the Membership Development Officer for the LibDem HQ training team. Both sessions are recorded

and provide a detailed breakdown of the structure of Young Liberals and how people at different levels of the party can work together with us to better deliver our common aims.

Freshers Week

We have had some delays in getting Freshers Pack order form open this year, I am expecting by the time of the summer conference we will have the form online and ready to print. This shorter turnaround time is mainly due to problems with settling on the design and who to design the materials, once we finally agreed on that the process has been much more rapid. I would also like to thank Rowan Fitton for securing funding from LibDem European Group to cover some of the leaflets' printing costs. The trouble we had this year should make future years easier, as we have established a new way of working and decision making as well as with the help of our staffer sorting out a timetable for the future with checkpoints for each step of the process to ensure we will be more on track. The Policy Officer has also agreed to put together a cheatsheet for all the topics we will feature in the leaflets of the Freshers Pack to serve as an aide memoire for branches to use especially during Freshers Fair if they were approached about any of the leaflet topics. There will also be a Freshers page set up on the YL website which our leaflets will guide people to for further information about where we stand on the issues mentioned in the leaflets and to encourage people to join the party.

Branch Development Guide

I have completed the editing and writing of the guide, it has been available for people upon request. The content of the guide has been consulted with the Diversity Committee and individual representatives; with their feedback taken on board. The hope is that the artworked PDF version of the guide will be on the website updating the older version by the time of the conference. The guide tracks through the lifecycle of a branch, from setting up to recruitment and freshers week, to running regular events throughout the year and passing the baton on to the new committee.

Lucas North, Events Officer

This summer sees our largest Conference in years, and I'm so proud of the team that's come together to make this happen. I'd like to thank Events Committee, Policy Committee, and the members of the Executive who've supported the planning, promotion, and delivery of this event.

Young Liberals Conferences aren't just something that happen by coincidence twice a year - they take months of work from a team of people. Planning for this Conference started in February, within a week of Winter Conference ending. The venue was booked in April, comms started going out in May, and we've been working with suppliers, sponsors, and guest speakers ever since that first 'register for Conference' email was sent.

This Conference sees the introduction of a new and improved broadcast setup for the livestream, supporting a better experience for remote attendees, and better archiving of Conference for future reference. This has been funded by a private donation, for which we are grateful.

This Conference also sees us have a dedicated space for Fringe & Training sessions, for the first time at a YL Conference. I hope that the varied and exciting agenda, pulled together with the incredible support of Will Tennison, will offer everyone something they find interesting. I'm glad that members will now have a choice of which session to attend throughout the majority of Conference, with both timetables being available for remote attendees as well.

The Fringe agenda is made possible by our focus on commercial support for this Conference. Historically, Conference runs at a cost of several thousand pounds to the organisation. Thanks to the focus we have placed on commercial and sponsorship opportunities for this Conference, we've closed that gap significantly. I'm hopeful that this will provide a base for future events, and we can aim to make Conference more financially sustainable in future years.

Lastly, I want to turn to one more group of people without whom this Conference would not have been possible. Thank you to all of you, the members, who have registered and shown up to take part. Conference has never just been an event to attend - it is the heart of our democracy as an organisation. Thank you for getting involved, and shaping the future of our organisation.

Ulysse Abbate, Policy Officer

- 1. Thanks to Policy Committee, the Executive and Members**
- 2. Diversity (Annual Reflection)**
- 3. Membership Experience (Annual Reflection)**
- 4. Federal Relationships (6-Month Reflection)**
- 5. Campaigns (6-Month Reflection)**
- 6. Final Months as Policy Officer**
- 7. Recommendations for Next Policy Officer**

Thanks to Policy Committee, the Executive and Members

The life of a Policy Officer (PolOff) is filled with pomp and glamour. I get to talk about policy, join the FPC and otherwise secure a cool title for my LinkedIn. All of this is thanks to my Policy Committee (PolCom), the Executive and members for being supportive and understanding about the workload.

As volunteers, managing workload alongside professional and personal commitments can be difficult, and so I would sincerely like to flag my huge thanks to PolCom and the Exec who have been particularly supporting and members who have been understanding of my late emails!

Whilst all Exec and PolCom have been fantastic, I will make a special thanks to Lucas North (Events Officer) and Harvey Thomas-Benton (Secretary/PolCom) who have performed particularly well from a policy-supporting side of things.

Diversity

Diversity was something that many executive officers, including myself, rightly put as a priority for this year. Whilst diversity is something that the Liberal Democrats (and other political parties) as a whole struggle with, which should be taken under consideration, it is important that Young Liberals as an organisation are able to be attractive and inclusive of diverse young people, to help YL's own

activity, and to feed into the party for years to come.

Key points:

- Active outreach

Reaching out directly to people and more actively through channels is a good way to generally (ie not targeted to specific communities) improve diversity.

PolCom have been effective at doing this, but it requires resources, and I will be looking to formalise processes of outreach to help future PolOffs and PolComs (eg template emails or social media posts that can be easily amended)

- Earlier time periods

Moving drafting advice earlier and giving more time for people to submit motions has also been seen as a useful mechanism for diversity. Whilst we are constitutionally bound on most deadlines, expanding the Drafting Advice deadline did lead to some submitting motions in advance, which we hope was useful.

We have seen some uptick in diverse communities submitting motions, but are still limited and there is still work to do.

Federal Relationships:

Thanks to the fantastic work of previous Policy Officers (namely Janey Little and Rebecca Jones), YL has built up a big network and big clout within the Party. Our close relationship with HQ means that we are able to influence debate in a modest, but effective, way.

Key points:

- FPC

The securing of a constitutional place on the FPC for the YL

Policy Officer means we can continue to push the Party to be ambitious on policies, and be 'at the table' of decision making. Most of my efforts this year have been elsewhere from FPC, as there have been no particular 'battles to fight' in the Committee.

- Conference Motions

YL continues to support motions at Federal Conference, having secured two for this Conference (one on Space Policy, proposed and summated by two MPs, and one on Ukraine, proposed by an MP). Kudos must go to Rowan Fitton for leading on the latter motion. These motions, whilst potentially niche in scope, allow us to continue showcasing YL's abilities, and expand our network to MPs who may look to YL to help leading on other policy areas

- Outreach with MPs and HQ

Perhaps the most important relationships we have built up over the years have been with MPs and HQ (notably our Political Advisers Unit). Whereas other groups in the party do not have direct lines to MPs, we are often reached out to, by HQ/MPs, to discuss policies.

The best example of this is on the ongoing campaign supporting trans rights, where our relationship with former Spokesperson Christine Jardine MP and current Spokesperson Lisa Smart MP (both trans allies), has meant we can raise our concerns and that of our members, directly to spokespeople. These are important relationships which allow YL to go from a group who make noise online (which is rarely read by MPs/HQs and rarely leads to change), to a group who can tangibly and regularly affect Lib Dem policy and strategy.

- Youth and Skills Day at Conference

For the first time since the coalition, Federal Conference will have a Youth and Skills Day. I am particularly excited for this Day as an opportunity for YL to make some incredibly important connections with some of the biggest players in the youth-advocacy field, including big charities and companies. That is why I will be making a particular effort, alongside the wider exec (namely Sarah Anderson (Communications) and Harvey Jones (Chair)), to ensure that the Youth and Skills Day leads to tangible outputs that can in turn lead to more success for YL...

more to come on this!

Campaigns:

Campaigns is one of the areas I think I could have done better. One of the significant parts of policy is then turning that policy into a campaign, and whilst we have had some success, I would flag that this is something I would recommend for focus by the next PolOff.

Key Points:

- Freshers

Freshers will continue with a new format (being supported more directly by HQ, a decision I am very supportive of), which means our policy campaigns may have greater reach. As always, a particular thanks to Chang Liu (Branch Development), Sarah Anderson and the Commpaigns Committee for their leadership on this.

- Votes at 16

Following the announcement of Votes at 16, I am looking to lead on a campaign guide for MPs and other elected officials, on engaging with young people (notably, 16 year olds/those who would be 16-18 during a General Election). I would note that this YL project is currently in its infancy, and that I am looking to conclude it by the end of my term,

- Youth and Skills Day

See above for further details, but I want to note, in this section, the campaigning opportunity of this Youth and Skills Day

Membership Experience:

Membership experience with regards to Policy, in particular at Conference, continues (in my eyes) to be an issue. In particular, I am concerned about the consistent prevalence of Constitutional matters being discussed, at the expense of policy matters. Of course, I take large part of this blame, in particular in working with members to

ensure that policy motions are of high quality (mainly through Drafting Advice), but I would like to note my personal plea to those who have been in YL for a long time, to take it upon themselves to not engage in as much activity on the Constitution.

Of course, as members, anyone is welcome to submit policy on the area that is of interest to them, including Constitutional matters, but Constitutional discussions tend to be exclusionary (looking at the proposers of policy motions vs constitutional amendments shows a clear members vs exec divide). I would hope that, moving forward, those with interests in the Constitution and in particular those with experience in YL, could look for ways to engage in a more productive, less exclusionary way.

I appreciate this is a lightly confrontational message, and would therefore also note that it is my firm belief that no submitters of Constitutional Amendments have done so out of malice, and as Policy Officer, I am likely in a better place to spot where motion submissions are exclusionary. It is therefore not a personal accusation against any individual, with all those who have submitted Constitutional Amendments being exemplary YL members (apart from, of course, when they disagree with me on matters of Policy...)

Final few months

In the final few months of my officership (I will not be restanding for the Policy Officer election), I will be focussing on:

- Federal Conference

Ensuring our Motions are passed smoothly, defending on trans rights in particular, in the face of likely moves to undermine trans rights at Federal Conference, and supporting the Youth and Skills Day.

- Boring Administration

I am eager to get stuck into boring administrative tasks (eg formalising processes, website updates etc...) to leave a clean Policy Office to my successor (if anyone dares take up the mantle of the best job in the Executive!)

It has been a pleasure serving as Policy Officer, and as I continue

my policy-wonkery in the party, you are all welcome to reach out! As my successor outshines me, you will all realise very swiftly, what a mistake it was to elect me as Policy Officer for two years straight ;)

Rowan Fitton & Tom Jordan, International Officer

Introduction

Over the past few months, YL's international work has gone from strength to strength, especially in regard to our position in LYMEC and IFLRY and our links with partner organisations. Work still remains to be done on the diversity front and fundraising is also a key area for development which is being prioritised by the co-officers.

European Liberal Youth (LYMEC)

YL work with LYMEC has produced several notable successes over the course of Spring and Summer. Alongside key webinars, LYMEC reconstituted many of its working groups and several members of YL have taken on roles within these groups, providing them with key opportunities to develop and discuss policy with partners from across Europe.

At LYMEC's Spring Congress in Zagreb, held on 4th-6th April, YL sent a delegation of 6 members with Rowan acting as Head of Delegation. At this Congress an especially high number of policy motions were passed across a range of key issues. Including YL's resolution on Youth Peacebuilding in Europe, developed in collaboration with our colleagues from our Bosnian partner organisation, the Youth Forum of Naša Stranka. This resolution addressed concerns over the diplomatic withdrawal of the USA, as well as the dismantlement of USAID, and the implications this would have for the USA's role as a mediator in several key peace processes across Europe. The resolution was passed with overwhelming support and has informed significant work on a youth peacebuilding policy to be proposed by LYMEC at the next ALDE Congress in October, which Rowan has been leading on as one of the members of LYMEC's delegation.

There have also been several additional LYMEC funded events which individual members have been able to participate in thanks to our membership of LYMEC.

YL's Communications Officer Sarah Anderson, attended the 2025 Liberal Communicators Network event in Dusseldorf, held 16th-18th May 2025, which was hosted by ELF alongside LYMEC. At this event, Sarah received some focused training and exchanged best practice for communications with colleagues from across Europe.

YL Member Oliver Poyser also attended the Liberal Communicators Alumni event held around the same time, after he attended the 2024 edition of Liberal Communicators Network event.

International Committee member Sharan Virk also attended the 2025 Liberal Hack in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina which was held 13th-15th June 2025. This event was hosted by LYMEC with support from the European Liberal Forum (ELF). The weekend of sessions focused on developing policies around EU enlargement and Sharan's team worked on the issue of migration.

Applications to join YL's online delegation for LYMEC next digital assembly in August have also been opened. For more information and to submit an application for one of the five available places, please use the available google form available [here](#).

IFLRY

Since our last conference report in February, YL's work in IFLRY has produced historical successes which we are proud to celebrate. Tom led YL's delegation at IFLRY's 55th General Assembly, held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina 1st-4th May 2025 and supported Kai Pischke's successful campaign to be elected as IFLRY's Treasurer, which makes Kai the first Young Liberal in the Managing Bureau since Sir Graham Watson. Rowan was also invited to chair the GA, a rare honour for a sitting International Officer, which also reflects YL's historically large influence and prominence within IFLRY.

The GA also included several other notable achievements from YL's delegation. The statutes of IFLRY were entirely reworked thanks to heavy input from Tom working with International Officers from partner organisations. Whilst IFLRY's 'Manifesto' had a commitment to disability rights added following a YL proposal. Our Resolutions on Trans + Intersex Athletes, written as a collaboration between ourselves and the Young Democrats of America was also a broad success and passed with widespread support.

Beyond the General Assembly, YL members also participated in key seminars funded by IFLRY and its partners. International Committee

member and English YL Chair, Josh Lucas Mitte, attended the Wellbeing in Politics seminar focusing on mental health in campaigning, which was held in Berlin 29th May-1st June 2025.

Sharan Virk also attended the recent IFLRY Female Leadership Academy which, this time, took place 22nd May 2025-25th May 2025 in Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan in association with the Violet Organisation. Sharan shared details of her experience and the training she received in a report to the International Committee. Sam Cumber also joined IFLRY's second seminar on mental wellbeing in politics, as part of its Wellbeing Programme, which was held 17th-20th July in Warsaw, Poland.

FIRC

YL holds an ex-officio seat on the Party's Federal International Relations Committee (FIRC) and this is held by Rowan. Rowan attends the regular meetings and has ensured that YL's views on key issues are articulated.

In recent months, work on FIRC has focused on democratic backsliding across Europe, the ongoing humanitarian crisis and genocide in Gaza, and the war in Ukraine and ensuring the party's positions on these issues are strong and informed by relevant partner parties and our internationalist values.

The main success of Rowan's work on FIRC has been developing and submitting a motion on behalf of YL to be debated at Autumn Federal Conference on the rights of Ukrainian children residing in the UK. Through FIRC, Rowan was able to liaise with key stakeholders within the party, Ukrainian politicians and civil society activists in the UK. All of which played a key role in drafting a strong motion, focused on residency rights and access to education and support, which has been accepted for debate by FCC and will be discussed at the next Federal Conference in Bournemouth.

Both Rowan and Tom would like to express their gratitude to everyone who helped out and ensured the motion submission was a success. Especially Ulysse Abbate and Harvey Jones for their specific support at various points.

Through FIRC, Rowan was also invited to attend the recent ALDE Council Meeting in Helsinki, Finland held on 27th-28th June and ensured that youth perspectives were represented within the party's European delegation and built further on existing working relationships

with key international partners within the party and outside of it.

Rowan has also improved relations with the Lib Dem European Group, partially through cooperation on FIRC. Including securing an initial financial commitment to support part of YL's fresher's week activities this year.

Sister Party Relations

Tom and Josh Lucas Mitte attended Jonge Democraten's annual congress in Utrecht, Netherlands on 13th-15th June. They attended as a part of a large and varied group of international delegates and represented YL well, further cementing our relationship with one of our closest partners in LYMEC and IFLRY.

Tom and Kai had the opportunity to join Radikale Ungdom (Denmark) for their annual Summer Camp, a unique opportunity for YL as historically they have only ever invited Nordic Guests. It was an incredibly fun event, with social activities prioritised over politics. Tom has also come away from the week with several suggestions for how YL can build a similar close knit community to the one Radikale have built.

Tom also had a meeting in London with the Canadian Young Liberals in July to discuss our ongoing work together as partner organisations. Rowan and Tom are also due to participate in a meeting with Ógra Fianna Fáil (Republic of Ireland), Alliance Youth (Northern Ireland), and Young Liberals of Gibraltar (Gibraltar) at the start of August to discuss ongoing issues related to Brexit and potential problems arising from recent tariff agreements with the US.

Campaign for a Youth Mobility Scheme

Earlier this year, there were several updates in the news about a potential Youth Mobility Scheme with the EU being considered by the government. As this has been a long-standing area of campaigning, both for YL and the party more broadly, we were keen to ensure we took this opportunity to progress our work on this issue and communicate YL's support for a Youth Mobility Scheme.

Given YL's previous work on this issue, both Harvey Jones and Rowan had multiple opportunities to speak about youth mobility in radio interviews on LBC. Which were used to boost YL's exposure and advocate for our pro-European values and our support for young people in the UK having access to work and training opportunities

across Europe.

Rowan has continued work on this issue to date and is currently looking into the prospect of organising a panel on Youth Mobility at some point in the next few months to ensure this issue remains at the top of the European policy agenda within the party.

Fundraising

This is a key issue for YL's international work to ensure that we remain sustainable and can continue to offer international opportunities to all our members. Rowan and Tom trialled an increased presence at Harrogate Conference using literature and an online donation link, in order to develop a better 'direct-ask' approach to fundraising. This helped identify particular challenges which are being worked on ahead of Autumn Federal Conference, where Rowan and Tom plan to take advantage of opportunities to potentially make more direct asks to raise funds and attract donors for YL's international work.

Both Rowan and Tom are also exploring the prospect of using international-themed events aimed at wider party members as a way to attract potential donations and funding partners, whilst also platforming youth voices and discussing youth issues related to international politics and global affairs.

Committee

There has been a change to the Young Liberals International Committee since the last conference, with Elsie Gisslegård being co-opted by the Executive to fill a vacated place.

The committee has also decided to determine international portfolios for each member with the following roles assigned:

Trystan Lloyd - International Secretary

Sharan Virk - IFLRY-Responsible Member

Elsie Gisslegård - LYMEC-Responsible Member

Josh Lucas Mitte - Communications Lead

The International Committee also agreed that Events and Engagement would be shared flexibly with members taking it on as needed and when time/capacity allowed as several members were

interested in this area.

In addition to this, the International Committee has also had several discussions on gender disparity within YL's international work at its meetings and how this, as well as other diversity issues can be tackled. Rowan and Tom are exploring several different areas of work which we hope will help increase the diversity of those involved in YL's international work and hopefully the committee will be able to play a key role on this.

Rebecca Jones & Bex Foulsham, Accessibility, Diversity and Inclusion Officer

Joint

Over the past few months, the vast majority of myself and Bex's work has been taken up by formulating the Young Liberals (YL) response to the UK Supreme Court (UKSC) Ruling in the For Women Scotland v Scottish Ministers case. As this is a deeply personal issue to us we took some time for ourselves to recover in the immediate aftermath of the ruling. Since then we have had numerous meetings with the Women and Equalities spokespeople, formerly Christine Jardine and now Lisa Smart.

The first actions we achieved from the party was to update our statement to be a stronger one. Our 3 goals for statements on it were for the party to say the following:

- 1 We accept the ruling (NOT welcome it).
- 2 We don't believe this has brought clarity.
- 3 We now believe the law needs to change.

We believe this was the most productive way of achieving change in the party. We also spoke with our concern around eds statements on the subject as he had originally fallen fowl of the above 3 requests, and has since been hailed by anti-trans groups within the party as being on their side. We worry for the damage this may do to Ed's legacy as he has been a huge advocate for trans inclusion within the party.

We have been having regular dialogue with them since, most recently with Lisa Smart where our top concern remains the impending EHRC

guidance. She has requested that we keep in touch with any further concerns we may have, and we will do so.

Rebecca

I've been doing lots of work with Lib Dem Women over the past few months, I have been assisting with the Lib Dem Women twitter account as well as helping with Lib Dem Women's upcoming conference motion. I also wrote Lib Dem Women's 4000+ word response to the Equality & Human Rights Commissions consultation. I'm also going to work to develop a LDW amendment to the hospitality motion.

I also wrote a motion for federal Lib Dem Conference on trans rights in light of the UKSC ruling, whilst unfortunately this was not selected we are looking at next steps.

We also wrote a similar motion we tried to take to YL Conference on the same topic, but unfortunately this was also not selected.

I also brought a fairly comprehensive motion on trans healthcare to federal Lib dem conference earlier in the year which I was delighted to see pass with flying colours.

I've also been doing some side work challenging the recent rule changes of the NHS Blood and Transplant service which risks causing an unintentional ban on trans people donating blood. Their rules of changed to ignore trans people's medical transitions and exclusively treat them as their sex assigned at birth, this is deeply worrying as we know that trans people's Haemoglobin count changes upon starting HRT and assessing them against the wrong gender could seriously endanger their health or ban them from donating as their iron levels will likely not fall within the correct ranges. This risks anemia being misdiagnosed in trans women, and missed in trans men. As such I wrote to them to express my concerns, and they clarified that they were looking at guidance from JPAC. This guidance directly contradicts their current stance, so I have submitted an ombudsman complaint and a Subject Access Request.

I have since also written to Lisa smart about how the party can prevent anti-trans policies from being implemented at conference such as around gender quotas and bathrooms. Currently we are still working on this.

Bex

This year has been a bit crazy for me - alongside YL and being YL's rep to Plus, I've started hormone therapy and graduated from uni!

However I've managed to get some significant work done, particularly in the area of LGBTQIA+ rights, spending time in the run up to Harrogate liaising between YL and Plus on our voting strategy on motion F9 'Free to be Who You Are', with the clear majorities in favour of the motion and YL and LDW amendments resulting as a huge success. Following the Supreme Court ruling, I've been involved in cooperative work between all the diversity AOs calling for the resignation of Bridget Phillipson and Baroness Falkner.

I attended the Mass Lobby for Trans Rights, where I was delighted to see countless other young people meeting their MPs, both trans and allies, and a positive turnout from Lib Dem MPs that day as well, particularly Pippa Hayling and Tim Farron who I got a chance to speak to and thank for their support.

As YL's rep to the LGBT+ exec, I've attended every exec meeting of Plus this year and provided a short report on my work at each meeting. I'm happy to announce that Plus have welcomed me with open arms, and supported me in beginning to make arrangements for YL to attend student pride in 2026, although I am waiting to hear a response from the organisers of student pride.

Unfortunately I have not been able to work with Diversity Committee as much as initially hoped - due to the immense personal toll of the UKSC ruling, finishing up my degree and undergoing major life changes in recent months, we haven't been able to have the frequency of meetings initially planned. While I regret this, I do feel that my wellbeing left little space to accommodate the energy required to put into the committee to be effective, and I hope to close out the year with more regular meetings before handover.

Post-Script from Bex: As we were in the closing stages of writing this report, me and Becca were hit with news that we, alongside other trans+ members of the exec, were misgendered directly and publicly in an evidence submission to the Women and Equalities Select Committee. We are grateful to have been supported both personally and politically by not only other members of the YL exec, but also people in Plus and Lib Dem Women, and Rebecca has herself taken action through the appropriate and official channels. I can confirm that this news, while emotionally difficult, will not deter either of us from continuing the work we've been doing over the past few months.

Akachukwu Ogazi, Racial Equity, Diversity and Liberation Officer

It is with great pride and a sense of purpose that I submit this report ahead of the August Young Liberals Conference which also marks my first ever national conference with the Young Liberals. I look forward to connecting with members from across the UK, exchanging ideas, and building momentum for an inclusive and representative future. I am particularly excited to meet many of you in person and continue the work we've begun together.

Since submitting my first report and sharing updates during the Executive Committee meeting held on the 26th of July, I have continued to advance a programme of strategic work aimed at uplifting racially and ethnically marginalised young people within our movement, while also strengthening youth participation at the grassroots.

Update on Current Initiatives

Mentorship Scheme – Advancing Diverse Leadership

Following our last discussions in the executive meeting, I've continued draft on a good plan for a structured mentorship programme to connect experienced Liberal Democrat members with young people from underrepresented backgrounds. The goal is to develop emerging leaders, support their political ambitions, and equip them with the tools needed to thrive in internal elections, policy work, and activism. The framework will be shared for consultation in the coming weeks, and I invite collaboration from members across all regions to ensure broad participation and impact.

Young Liberals Survey at Conference

During this conference, I will be launching a VOLUNTARILY short survey targeted at young attendees to capture their lived experiences, concerns, and policy priorities around race, education, policing, mental health, and immigration. The findings will inform policy proposals, strengthen internal debates, and ensure that our motions reflect the real and current needs of our membership especially those

from marginalised communities.

Regional youth outreach and visibility

I lead the Wolverhampton Young Liberals and Work is underway to grow Young Liberals activity in Wolverhampton and the broader West Midlands region. In collaboration with local Liberal Democrats and student unions, I am planning a series of campus outreach events during the 2025/2026 induction period. The aim is to raise awareness, recruit new members, and energise local youth participation particularly in areas where our presence remains limited.

Emerging priorities for the months ahead

In listening to young people across various platforms, a number of key issues have emerged that will shape my focus for the next quarter:

- **Mental health & racial trauma:** Many racially minoritised young people continue to experience heightened mental health challenges, exacerbated by discrimination in education, policing, and everyday life. I intend to work with members and policy leads to explore how we can advocate for trauma-informed youth services within party policy.
- **Anti-racism in Education:** There is a pressing need to champion anti-racism education and decolonised curriculums, particularly at secondary and university levels. I will be working to draft motions and build alliances to push this agenda forward within party .
- **Intersectional Inclusion:** Our work must better reflect the lived experiences of those at the intersection of race, gender identity, sexuality, disability, and class. I aim to support liberation campaigns within the Young Liberals and advocate for greater synergy across liberation portfolios.

Support and collaboration requests

To deliver effectively on these strategic priorities, I am seeking:

- Amplification of Young Liberals-led outreach events through the central communications team
- Access to party-wide networks for community engagement and national collaboration
- Funding for speaker honorariums, accessibility resources, and creative outreach materials
- Participation from fellow Young Liberals in co-developing racial justice policies and campaigns

Final Note

As we gather at this important conference, I am reminded of the power we hold as a generation committed to social justice, equity, and radical inclusion. I am confident that with continued collaboration, accountability, and compassion, we can build a Young Liberals that not only reflects the diversity of our society but actively shapes the future we all deserve.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to seeing many of you in conference and working alongside you to create lasting change.

Tristan Mark Paul, Non-Portfolio Officer

No report received.

Josh Lucas Mitte, English Young Liberals Chair

EYL Executive

Benjamin Glover has resigned as Vice-Chair for Membership Engagement as he takes on new adventures abroad. I thank him for his work and support, especially for his support at meetings, and wish him the best in his future endeavours.

At the time of submission, the Executive does not have plans to meet before the Conference, but more details on the next steps for this vacancy will come later.

Meeting minutes and more of EYL's plans can be found at youngliberals.uk/england/exec-minutes

Campaigning

As a third party which currently relies on hyperlocalism, campaigning is core to our existence and has been a personal priority. Policies matter little if we don't have people elected to implement these, incl. YLers at the local level, and I believe YL should continue to be a stalwart in the party's campaigning machinery.

I supported the Elections Committee with the 'Future Forward' scheme, delivering part of the welcoming session to give an overview of possible campaign-related training, and obtaining a low-cost print option for potential targeted letters, though due to time constraints this is not the approach we took.

I supported the coordination of campaigning efforts between Alex Gallagher and Regional Chairs ahead of the 2025 local elections. More recently, I have encouraged Regional Chairs to start identifying YL candidates standing in 2026 as it is far easier to do a little regularly, with the aim of being able to have Action Days in the months ahead, when people are more mobile and there are fewer events crossing over. I'll continue to encourage members to attend campaigning events, and remind the party how beneficial appealing to young voters can be.

English Party

I have developed a good relationship across the executive and have tried to be more active on the committees I sit on. Most of following meetings lasted c. 2hrs:

English Council	20th February	Attended
English Council Executive	27th March	Attended
English Finance and Administration Committee	24th April	Attended
English Council	22nd May	Apologies - 'Chairs' incl. EYL's not allowed substitutes.
English Finance and Administration Committee	Thursday 19th June	Attended
English Council Executive	Thursday 17th July	Attended

Key points

- English Council (20/02) approved new candidate rules, unrelated to F10, which YL had supported at previous meetings.
- English Council (22/05):
 - Rejected, by voting by a majority but with less than 2/3s, on a constitutional amendment (CA) that ratified F10 (passed at Harrogate).
 - Although as the CA fell so did amendments to it, I'd like to note I supported two amendments, the first by being a signatory, which added added the English Party's Diversity Lead to the English Candidates Committee, and the second in spirit, which would give flexibility on whether parliamentary approval was necessary for other large-seat selections, such as a paper borough mayor.

Key takeaways from ECE/EFAC meetings:

- **Internship** - the Vice-Chair for Regional Development (VCRD - Hannah Kitching) suggested the idea of a national intern to support campaigning staff, which there was largely a consensus in principle but pending more details. This idea is yet to be developed, and I will work with

- **Rebalancing resources** - the VCRD has also made it a priority that the English Party supports regions which have fewer resources due to a smaller number of MPs and/or members. I advocated in favour of the recent staff expansion joint-proposal from the 3 Northern regions in England (North East, North West, and Yorkshire and the Humber), and will support efforts as the Midlands is looked into next.

Looking ahead

I am delighted that there has been a greater effort of coordination and collaboration between the federal and state executives. We can always do more, and I hope in months to come EYL can work with Federal Officers to reactivate the membership engagement we saw last year with phonebanking.

I've seen an increasing demand in support from YL, especially to set up branches, due to the announcement of votes at 16 as well as growing involvement of young people in our held seats. I think YL should now take a proactive approach to avoid historic issues of unsustainable short-lived branches. As executive members may not be able to respond to every unique request, I thank the Policy Officer for kickstarting part of a youth strategy which EYL will contribute to. Any feedback and questions (I could write more!) are welcomed at josh.mitte@youngliberals.uk

Leo Dempster, Scottish Young Liberals Convenor

In October we elected 3 officers to the committee and have since co-opted 2 more and lost one.

We held a successful AGM which resulted in some changes to the constitution.

We have organised a campaigners register in Scotland which will allow Scottish campaigns committee greater access to SYL campaigners

SYL raised £210 this year from our quiz at Inverness conference, which also saw a variety of first time SYL speakers and participants.

The SYL exec term will run until December this year due to constitutional changes and I do not intend to seek a fourth term as Convener.

Sam Wilson, Welsh Young Liberals Chair

No report received.

Executive Attendance and Report Submission

Chair
Harvey Jones

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	0	8/8 (100%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	0	8/8 (100%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

Secretary

1st Nov-16th February
Oliver Jones-Lyons

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
3/3 (100%)	0	0

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
2/3 (66.6%)	1/3 (33.3%)	0

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Absent	No Report Received
21st December	Apologies	No Report Received
1st February	Absent	No Report Received

22nd March-Present
Harvey Thomas-Benton

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	0	4/4 (100%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	1/4 (25%)	3/4 (75%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
29th March	Present	Report On Time
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Apologies	Report On Time

Fundraising Officer

1st Nov-8th March

Callum Littlemore James

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
1/4 (25%)	2/4 (50%)	1/4 (25%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
1/4 (25%)	2/4 (50%)	1/4 (25%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Apologies	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report Received Late
1st February	Apologies	Report Received Late
1st March	Absent	No Report Received

4th April-Present

Elin Kingston

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	1/3 (33.3%)	2/3 (66.6%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
1/3 (33.3%)	0	2/3 (66.6%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Absent	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report Received Late

Communications Officer
Sarah Anderson

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
1 (12.5%)	1 (12.5%)	6/8 (75%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Apologies	No Report Received
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report Received Late
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

Elections Officer**Alex Gallagher**

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	3/8 (37.5%)	5/8 (62.5%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	3/8 (37.5%)	5/8 (62.5%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report Received Late
1st March	Apologies	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Apologies	Report Received Late
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Apologies	Report Received Late

Membership Development Officer
Will Tennison

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	2/8 (25%)	6/8 (75%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	2/8 (25%)	6/8 (75%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Apologies	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report Received Late
1st February	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Apologies	Report Received Late

Branch Development Officer**Chang Liu**

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report Received Late
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Apologies	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

Events Officer
Lucas North

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report Received Late
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Apologies	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

Policy Officer
Ulysse Abbate

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	0	8/8 (100%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	0	8/8 (100%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

International Officers
Rowan Fitton & Tom Jordan

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Absent w/o Apologies [RF TJ]		Apologies Received [RF TJ]		Present [RF TJ]	
0	0	1/8 (12.5%)	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Meeting	Attendance [RF TJ]		Report
28th November	Present	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Apologies	Apologies	Report Late
26th July	Present	Present	Report On Time

Accessibility, Diversity and Inclusion Officers

Bex Foulsham & Rebecca Jones

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	2/8 (25%)	6/8 (75%)

Absent w/o Apologies [BF RJ]		Apologies Received [BF RJ]		Present [BF RJ]	
0	0	1/8 (12.5%)	3/8 (27.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)	5/8 (62.5%)

Meeting	Attendance [BF RJ]		Report
28th November	Present	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Present	Report Late
1st February	Present	Present	Report Late
1st March	Present	Apologies	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Apologies	Verbal Reports
24th May	Present	Present	Report On Time
28th June	Apologies	Apologies	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Present	Report On Time

Racial Equity, Diversity and Liberation Officer

1st Nov-16th February

Timi Jibogu

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
3/3 (100%)	0	0

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
1/3 (33.3%)	1/3 (33.3%)	1/3 (33.3%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	No Report Received
21st December	Absent	No Report Received
1st February	Apologies	No Report Received

4th April-Present

Akachukwu Ogazi

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
2/3 (66.6%)	0	1/3 (33.3%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	0	3/3 (100%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
24th May	Present	No Report Received
28th June	Present	No Report Received
26th July	Present	Report On Time

Non-Portfolio Officer

1st Nov-22nd March
Harvey Thomas-Benton

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	0	4/4 (100%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	0	4/4 (100%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Report On Time

4th April-Present
Tristan Paul

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
1/3 (33.3%)	0	2/3 (66.6%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	1/3 (33.3%)	2/3 (66.6%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
24th May	Present	No Report Received
28th June	Apologies	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

English Young Liberals Chair

Josh Lucas Mitte

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
0	0	8/8 (100%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
0	1/8 (12.5%)	7/8 (87.5%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	Report On Time
1st March	Present	Report On Time
29th March	Present	Verbal Reports
24th May	Apologies	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report On Time
26th July	Present	Report On Time

Scottish Young Liberals Convener

Leo Dempster

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
2/8 (25%)	3/8 (37.5%)	3/8 (37.5%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
2/8 (25%)	1/8 (12.5%)	5/8 (62.5)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report Late
21st December	Present	Report On Time
1st February	Present	No Report Received
1st March	Absent	Report Late
29th March	Present	Verbal Report
24th May	Apologies	Report On Time
28th June	Present	Report Late
26th July	Absent	No Report Received

Welsh Young Liberals Chair
Sam Wilson

No Report Received	Report Received Late	Report On Time
4/8 (50%)	1/8 (12.5%)	3/8 (37.5%)

Absent w/o Apologies	Apologies Received	Present
5/8 (62.5%)	2/8 (25%)	1/8 (12.5%)

Meeting	Attendance	Report
28th November	Present	Report On Time
21st December	Apologies	Report On Time
1st February	Apologies	Report On Time
1st March	Absent	Report Late
29th March	Absent	Verbal Reports
24th May	Absent	No Report Received
28th June	Absent	No Report Received
26th July	Absent	No Report Received

Join us for the 2025
yl conference
QUIZ!

with guest mc

**Joshua
Reynolds MP**
MP for Maidenhead



hosted by
Harvey Jones
YL Chair

Friday 15th August
7:30pm, J2

Federal Executive



Harvey Jones
Chair



Harvey Thomas-Benton
Secretary



Elin Kingston
Fundraising Officer



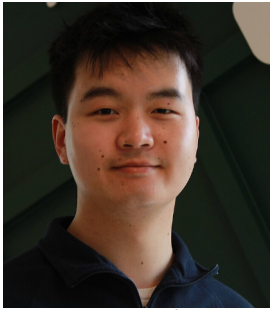
Sarah Anderson
Comms Officer



Alex Gallagher
Elections Officer



Will Tennison
Membership
Development Officer



Chang Liu
Branch Development
Officer



Lucas North
Events Officer



Ulysse Abbate
Policy Officer



Rowan Fitton
International Officer



Tom Jordan
International Officer



Rebecca Jones
Accessibility, Diversity
and Inclusion Officer



Bex Foulsham
Accessibility, Diversity
and Inclusion Officer



Akachukwu Ogazi
Racial Equity, Diversity
and Liberation Officer



Tristan Mark Paul
Non-Portfolio Officer



Josh Lucas Mitte
English Young Liberals



Leo Dempster
Scottish Young Liberals



Sam Wilson
Welsh Young Liberals

Events Committee



Lucas North
Events Officer



Ulysse Abbate
Policy Officer



Will Tennison
Membership
Development Officer



Tim Macy
Directly Elected



Josh Tompsett
Directly Elected



Bex Foulsham
Accessibility, Diversity
and Inclusion Officer



Tom Jordan
English Young Liberals



Artie Khovanov
Scottish Young Liberals



David Leigh-Waters
Welsh Young Liberals

Policy Committee



Ulysse Abbate
Policy Officer



Cormac Evans
Directly Elected



Harvey Thomas-Benton
Directly Elected



Brandon Masih
Directly Elected



Tim Macy
English Young Liberals



Leo Dempster
Scottish Young Liberals



Brendan Roberts
Welsh Young Liberals

Standing Orders

1. Events committee shall set the dates of Conference, inline with the constitution, and shall arrange for the location, dates, registration procedures, and deadlines to be communicated to members.

2. Conference Agenda

- 2.1. Events Committee, in consultation with Policy Committee, shall set the agenda for Conference. The agenda for each conference, save a Special Conference, shall include time for:
 - 2.1.1. Policy motions, including policy papers
 - 2.1.2. One or more consultative sessions; save that the Committee may decide that there are not consultations to be had
 - 2.1.3. Emergency motions
 - 2.1.4. An executive scrutiny session
 - 2.1.5. A business session, for the consideration and debate of business motions and constitutional amendments
 - 2.1.6. Training sessions and any other business which the Committee thinks appropriate.
 - 2.1.7. At one conference per calendar year, the presentation of the Emily Price Award for Extraordinary Service
- 2.2. Motions and amendments shall be submitted as set out by Policy Committee and shall state the proposer and summator.
- 2.3. Right to Submit Agenda Items
 - 2.3.1. Business motions, constitutional amendments and amendments to Business Motions and Constitutional Amendments may be submitted by any individual member, in the name of the Federal, State or Regional Executive, or a Committee
 - 2.3.2. Policy motions and amendments to policy motions may be submitted by any individual member, a State or Regional Executive or by Policy Committee
 - 2.3.3. Emergency motions may be submitted by any individual member
 - 2.3.3.1. Amendments to emergency motions may be submitted by policy committee or any individual member
 - 2.3.4. Policy Papers and their accompanying policy motion may only be submitted by Policy Committee
 - 2.3.4.1. Amendments to policy papers and their accompanying policy motion may be submitted by any individual member
- 2.4. Submission deadlines shall be as follows:
 - 2.4.1. Policy and business motions and policy papers: 30 days prior to the opening of Conference
 - 2.4.2. Constitutional Amendments: 30 days prior to the opening of Conference
 - 2.4.3. Policy and business motions and policy paper amendments: 14

days prior to the opening of Conference

2.4.4. Amendments to constitutional amendments: 14 days prior to the opening of Conference

2.4.5. Emergency motions: 72hrs prior to the opening of Conference

2.4.6. Emergency motion amendments: At Conference, as agreed by Policy Committee

2.4.7. Candidates for the Emily Price Award for Extraordinary Service: 14 days prior to the opening of Conference (if awarded at that Conference)

2.5. Late submissions may be considered at the discretion of Policy Committee

2.6. Policy Committee shall offer drafting advice for submissions to conference. The committee should open up submissions for drafting advice 21 days prior to the submission deadline, and may at their discretion set a drafting advice submission deadline

2.7. In the case of motions on officers, the submission may be made directly to Policy Committee or, if announced in advance, to the chair of the Executive Scrutiny session.

3. Selection of motions and amendments

3.1. Policy committee shall select the motions to be debated and the order of debate from amongst those submitted and within the number of slots and parameters set by Events Committee

3.1.1. When choosing which motions to select or not, Policy Committee should prioritise motions on matters not recently debated by Conference, issues of particular relevance or importance to Young Liberals Campaigns, breadth of opinion within the Young Liberals, variety of topic areas at Conference and issues that are most relevant to bring forward to Federal Conference

3.2. Motions may only be outright rejected on the following grounds:

3.2.1. Late submission;

3.2.2. Conflict with the Constitution;

3.2.3. Being incomprehensible, frivolous or ambiguous;

3.2.4. In the case of an emergency motion, the lack of any matter of substance in the motion that arose after the non-emergency submission deadline

3.2.5. The motion is on a matter that is already Young Liberals or Liberal Democrat policy and does not add or deal with any new or substantive matter

3.3. If two conflicting motions on the same topic are received, the Policy Committee may liaise with the proposers to draft a composite motion or may select one motion and reject the other, inviting the proposer of the rejected motion to move an amendment

3.4. Policy committee may reject amendments to policy motions, business motions and policy papers on the following grounds:

3.4.1. Insubstantial

- 3.4.2. Incomprehensible, frivolous or ambiguous
- 3.4.3. Outside the scope of the motion
- 3.5. Policy Committee shall provide written reasoning to the proposer of a Motion or an amendment to a policy motion, business motion or policy paper that is outright rejected under 3.2 or 3.4 or if it has not been selected under the provisions of 3.1 and 3.1.1
 - 3.5.1. Appeals should be directed to Policy Committee and any such appeal shall provide reasons why, in the opinion of the proposers, the expressed reasons for rejection or non-selection are not valid.
 - 3.5.2. If the appeal is allowed, the motion or amendment shall either be accepted as an ordinary submission or treated as an emergency motion or late amendment according to the stage of the agenda-setting process at which the appeal is allowed. The motion may further be not selected for debate under the the basis of the constraints set by Events Committee as set out in 3.1
- 3.6. Constitutional amendments may be rejected if they would conflict with the Constitution of the Liberal Democrats or the Law.
 - 3.6.1. Proposers who's constitutional amendments have been rejected under these grounds may appeal to an Appeals Panel conducted in accordance with the Appeals Regulations
- 3.7. Policy committee may decide, if more than five constitutional amendments have been submitted and are not outright rejected, to impose a limit on the number of constitutional amendments to be debated at conference to no fewer than five constitutional amendments. Policy committee should prioritise items of high importance to the Organisation.
- 3.8. Policy Committee may approve or make drafting amendments to motions, which will not be required to be passed by conference, in the run up to the debate so as to improve expression, remove inaccuracy or superfluity, take account of new developments or any such other amendment that does not fundamentally change the meaning or substance of a motion. Policy Committee should consult with the author of the motion when doing so, and opportunity should be given to reverse any such drafting amendment if it is contentious.

4. Special Conference

- 4.1. The Committee shall, as soon as practicable after the requisitioning of a special meeting of the conference, fix a date for the meeting, draw up the agenda and, if appropriate, specify a date for the submission of amendments. The meeting shall deal only with the business stated in the notice of requisition, unless other business is approved by the Executive as set out in the Constitution
- 4.2. In setting dates for the submission of motions and amendments and giving notice thereof and of the conference itself the Committee shall endeavor to follow the timescales laid down elsewhere in these standing orders but, where this is not practicable, the Committee shall set such dates as it sees fit

5. Chair and conduct of debate

- 5.1. Policy Committee shall allocate a Chair and Aide to each session
 - 5.1.1. The Chair shall be responsible for the conduct of the debate.

- 5.1.2. The Aide shall assist the chair and shall be responsible for recording the votes.
- 5.1.3. The Chair and Aide may vote only if the vote is held by secret ballot or electronic voting.
- 5.2. Debates on motions, except for executive scrutiny, shall be conducted in the following manner:
 - 5.2.1. The chair shall announce the time limits for speakers as determined by Policy Committee
 - 5.2.2. The proposer, or their nominee, shall introduce the motion
 - 5.2.3. Each amendment shall be introduced by its proposer or their nominee
 - 5.2.4. Conference shall debate the motion
 - 5.2.5. The proposer of each amendment, or their nominee shall summate the debate on that amendment. If the amendment has not been opposed, the Chair may decline to call for a summation on the amendment
 - 5.2.6. The proposer of the motion, or their nominee, shall summate the debate on the motion. If the motion has not been opposed, the Chair may decline to call for a summation on the motion
 - 5.2.7. Conference shall vote on the amendments, and then on the motion as amended
- 5.3. Policy papers and their accompanying Policy Motion shall be debated on as one item

6. Voting at conference

- 6.1. Votes shall be taken by such electronic means as decided by Events Committee.
 - 6.1.1. Where it is not possible to implement a satisfactory form of electronic voting, Events Committee may by exception decide to hold votes by a show of voting cards or hands, unless a request for a vote by secret ballot has been approved.
- 6.2. Constitutional amendments shall require a two-thirds majority vote
- 6.3. Motions of no confidence shall require a two-thirds majority vote
- 6.4. All other motions shall require a simple majority vote
- 6.5. Majorities shall be calculated by reference to those present and voting, excluding any abstentions.
- 6.6. A separate vote may be taken on a part of a motion or amendment:
 - 6.6.1. On the direction of Policy Committee.
 - 6.6.2. At the discretion of the chair.
 - 6.6.3. As a result of a procedural motion under Standing Orders
- 6.7. Policy Papers and their accompanying Policy Motion shall be voted on together as one item

7. Points of Order and Procedural Motions

- 7.1. Any member may rise on a point of order which shall be taken

immediately except that, during a vote, no point of order shall be taken that does not refer to the conduct of the vote. The chair's decision on all points of order shall be final.

7.2. No confidence in the chair;

7.2.1. A voting conference member may, during any conference session, move, in writing, a motion to have no confidence in the Chair of the debate. The mover shall make the request known to the Chair, Policy Officer, and the Events Officer.

7.2.2. The debate on the business at hand shall halt, the Chair shall temporarily hand over to their aide or a member of Policy Committee, who shall conduct the vote on the procedural motion. Henceforth referred to as "Acting Chair"

7.2.3. The Acting Chair shall read the request and shall allow the mover to speak, and the Chair to reply. The chair shall have the discretion to allow other speakers. All speeches on the motion of no confidence will be limited to two minutes.

7.2.4. The motion shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current debate will temporarily adjourn until Policy Committee selects a new Chair and Aide for the debate.

7.3. Overrule a decision of the chair;

7.3.1. A voting conference member may, during any conference session, move, in writing, a motion to overrule a decision or interpretation made by the Chair.

7.3.2. The Chair may recuse themselves, in which case their Aide shall take over Chairing while the procedural motion is dealt with.

7.3.3. The Chair shall read the request and allow the mover to speak, and the Chair may reply to defend their decision.

7.3.4. The motion shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If the motion is carried, then the decision in question shall be reversed.

7.4. Suspend standing orders;

7.4.1. A voting conference member may, during any conference session, move, in writing, a motion for the suspension of standing orders.

7.4.2. The Chair may reject a request if it is deemed frivolous, unnecessary, ambiguous or too broad.

7.4.3. The chair shall read the request and, if the suspension is allowable in the terms of this standing order, allow the mover to speak and a representative of the Committee may reply. The chair shall have the discretion to allow other speakers. All speeches on the motion to suspend standing orders will be limited to two minutes.

7.4.4. A motion to suspend standing orders shall only be carried if supported by at least two-thirds of the conference members voting. If the procedural motion is carried all standing orders shall remain in force except only for the purposes set out in the motion.

7.5. Move to next business;

7.5.1. A voting member may, during any full conference session, submit, in

writing, a request that conference move to next business.

7.5.2. If more than one request is received the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken in respect to any motion or report.

7.5.3. When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the request, and the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes.

7.5.4. The proposal shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting being to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

7.6. Move straight to a vote;

7.6.1. A voting member may, during any full conference session, submit, in writing, a request that conference move straight to a vote on the current agenda item.

7.6.2. If more than one request is received the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken in respect to any motion or report.

7.6.3. When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the request, and the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes.

7.6.4. The proposal shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting being to be passed. If it is carried then conference shall move to vote on the current agenda item without any further debate or discussion.

7.7. Refer back (to the Executive or a committee);

7.7.1. A voting member may submit in writing, a request to refer back the motion under debate. The submission shall state to whom the motion is to be referred.

7.7.2. If more than one request is received, the chair shall decide which to take. No more than one request may be taken with respect to any motion.

7.7.3. When the request is to be taken, the chair shall read the request, and the person who made the request may speak and the mover of the substantive motion, or their nominee, may reply. The chair may allow other speakers. All speeches under this standing order shall be limited to two minutes.

7.7.4. The reference back shall require a simple majority of those voting to be passed. If it is carried the current agenda item shall be abandoned without any further debate or vote and, at the discretion of the chair, either the next agenda item shall be taken or there shall be an adjournment until the time at which the next agenda item was due to be taken.

7.7.5. If the substantive motion is referred to the Executive, the Policy Committee or the Events Committee the appropriate Officer for that committee shall, in their report to the next meeting of the conference, state what action it has taken on the reference.

7.7.5.1. If elections take place before the next meeting of conference, the incumbent officer shall endeavour to inform their successor of their responsibilities under this Standing Order

7.8. Request a counted vote;

7.8.1. Any voting member may ask for a counted vote, either immediately before or after a vote. If such a request is made after a vote then the vote shall be retaken with the aide recording the count of the vote.

7.9. Vote separately on a section / vote in parts;

7.9.1. A voting member of conference may request, in writing, that the chair take a separate vote on a part of a motion or amendment. The motion shall be carried if supported by a simple majority of conference members voting.

7.10. Secret ballot.

7.10.1. Any voting member may move for a vote to be taken by secret ballot. The mover shall submit in writing to the Chair the specifics of the request.

7.10.2. The request may be taken for a specific vote, for multiple votes on the current item of business or for the remainder of that session.

7.10.3. Secret votes shall be taken by passing out voting paper, with members indicating yes or no. The Chair and aide shall be responsible for collecting and counting the votes.

7.10.3.1. Votes that are illegible or unclear may be rejected by the Chair as spoilt ballots, the decision of the Chair shall be final.

7.10.4. A motion to vote by secret ballot shall only be carried if supported by a simple majority of conference members voting.

7.11. Chair's Ruling

7.11.1. Any voting member may request for the Chair to make a ruling on a matter which pertains to the item under debate, the conduct of the debate, or other such matter as may be relevant to the conduct of conference. The Chair shall consult with the Events Officer and Policy Officer as needed in making such a ruling.

7.12. If no member present wishes to oppose a procedural motion, it shall pass without a vote.

7.13. Valid procedural motions shall be dealt with immediately upon receipt by the Chair, except that a member speaking at the time shall not be interrupted before the end of their time.

7.13.1. The Chair, with the agreement of the Policy Officer, may reject all procedural motions with the exception of No Confidence in the Chair and Overrule the Decision of the Chair, Secret ballot and Counted vote, if they believe that the use of procedural motions is vexatious. Where the Chair is the Policy Officer, then agreement must be sought from Policy Committee.

- 7.13.2. Any procedural motion under 7.4, 7.5, 7.6, 7.7, 7.9, 7.10 or 7.11 may be requested in advance, in writing, to the Policy Committee or, if announced in advance, the chair of the relevant session. The chair of the relevant session in consultation with policy committee shall decide the timing of when the request shall be taken during the debate.

7.14. No procedural motion can be moved during a vote.

8. Executive Scrutiny Session

- 8.1. There shall be a Questions to the Executive session, to which members of the Executive, including Representatives from each State Organisation, shall answer questions asked by members of the organisation.
- 8.1.1. The Events Officer is encouraged to allocate one hour of the conference schedule for this session, although this duration can be varied if the Events Officer believes this is necessary.
- 8.1.2. For the Questions to the Executive session at the organisation's Summer Conference, Executive members shall submit a report to conference.
- 8.1.2.1. The order of reports shall be in the order set out in Section 6.1. of the Constitution with further reports taken subsequently.
- 8.1.2.2. At the conclusion of all the reports, a vote shall be held to accept the reports of the executive as a whole, passed by simple majority.
- 8.2. The session will have a moderator, who shall not be a member of the Executive or of a Committee.
- 8.2.1. The moderator will be selected by Events Committee at least one month before the opening of conference.
- 8.3. The session will be held in a panel format
- 8.3.1. Executive members shall make reasonable effort to make themselves available for the session
- 8.3.2. No less than five individuals who are members of the Executive shall be part of the panel (physically or virtually) at any time.
- 8.3.2.1. For the purposes of 8.3.2 only, both co-officers who share a portfolio are considered to be individuals who are members of the Executive in their own right.
- 8.3.3. In the event of a fully virtual conference, the Events Officer, in consultation with the moderator, shall make reasonable arrangements so that the provisions of 8.3 are met to a reasonable standard.
- 8.4. Voting members of the organisation may ask a question to all or some of the members of the Executive.
- 8.4.1. Any Officer who is unable to attend the scrutiny session, but who has received a question directed specifically to them, should endeavour to provide a written response that will be read out by the Moderator.
- 8.4.2. If a question directed towards a specific officer (or officers) cannot be answered due to the absence of both the specific officer(s) and a written reply, then the question shall be answered at a later date in writing.

8.5. Questions should be submitted to the moderator at least 24 hours ahead of the session, with the full list of submitted questions being shared with the Executive in advance of the session.

8.5.1. The questions to be asked will be selected by the moderator using their discretion.

8.5.2. Questions may be rejected by the moderator if they believe that they are vexatious or abusive. The moderator shall mark any rejected questions as such on the list of questions that is shared with the Executive.

8.5.3. During the session, the moderator will invite the individual asking each question to ask their question to the panel, or the moderator may ask the question on the individual's behalf if they are not present or would prefer for the moderator to ask the question.

8.5.4. The individual who asked the question (or the moderator, if the question was put by them) may ask a supplementary question following the answer to their question.

8.5.4.1. The supplementary question must relate to the original question or the answer given to the original question.

8.5.4.2. The moderator may reject a supplementary question if they consider it to be vexatious, abusive, or outside the scope of 8.5.4.1.

8.5.5. Any submitted questions that have not been rejected by the moderator, but were not asked during the session, may be answered in writing by any relevant member(s) of the Executive. Written answers will be circulated to members no later than one week after the close of conference.

8.6. At their discretion, the moderator may allow additional questions to be asked without notice by voting members of the organisation who are attending conference, or individuals who are present at conference who are not voting members of the organisation.

9. All motions shall be effective immediately, except that constitutional amendments (including amendments to these Standing Orders) shall take effect from the close of Conference.

10. The Emily Price Award for Extraordinary Service

10.1. The Emily Price Award for Extraordinary Service was created in 2018 to commemorate Emily's work and is to be awarded at one conference per year.

10.2. Any member may nominate another member for consideration of the award.

10.2.1. Any nomination period must be at least 14 days in duration and close no later than 14 days prior to the opening of conference.

10.2.2. The method of nominations is to be decided by the Events Officer.

10.2.3. Members shall be given the opportunity to submit a written statement in support of their nomination for the panel's consideration.

10.3. The recipient of the Award shall be selected by a panel consisting of:

10.3.1. The Honorary Officers of the Young Liberals, to include the Honorary President as Chair of the panel who shall inform the Events Officer of the panel's choice.

10.3.2. Three members of the Young Liberals Executive to be chosen by the Honorary Officers, excluding any nominee and any member who has submitted a nomination.

10.3.3. The quorum of the panel shall be 5.

10.4. The panel shall select a winner for the award based on their 'extraordinary service', including but not limited to, service to Young Liberals or the Liberal Democrats at a local or national level, local or national politics, work in their community, volunteering organisations, or any other commitments which the panel feel appropriate." and renumber accordingly.

11. Ambiguities in these regulations shall be settled by the ruling of the Chair of the session.

A large, stylized graphic of a leaf or flame shape, composed of several overlapping, curved segments in shades of orange, red, and pink, filling the background.

YOUNG LIBERALS

CAMBRIDGE

15th – 17th August 2025