



ABRIAL FOR FEDERAL COUNCIL



LET'S GET SOMETHING DONE.

LET'S FIX OUR RACIAL DIVERSITY PROBLEM.

A Fair Deal for Young People

Those setting the parties strategy must not be allowed to forget what's at stake for young people. Europe shows us that when the centre-ground fails to make an offer to young people that matches the scale of the long term challenges we face, they turn to the extreme right and left. The Liberal Democrats must not allow this to happen here and I will do everything I can to make sure they don't.

5 reasons I will be effective on Federal Council

- 1 Precise and deliverable proposals**
I will always ensure that proposals that I put forward will be clear and specific.
- 2 Years of experience and knowledge**
I have been a member of the party for 13 years. In that time, I've picked up a lot on how the party works.
- 3 Building Good Relationships**
Using the hard power of Federal Council requires building strong relationships. Fortunately, I have strong relationships with a significant number of Federal Council members already. For example, working day after day in St Neots and Mid Cambs, I regularly worked with 3 members of Federal Council, including a vice chair.
- 4 Thorough scrutiny**
Those who know me will know that I never shy away from asking the difficult questions and asking them repeatedly until I get a proper answer.
- 5 Nerd who likes detail**
Like many Young Liberals, I am a nerd who can be relied upon to read through the fine print and digest the complexity of any matter put to me.

Plan to improve race diversity

However, you look at the problem with racial diversity in the Young Liberals, you can't avoid the fact that we are a part of the Liberal Democrats. Therefore, solving the problem in Young Liberals is fixing the problem in the Lib Dems. If the party is seen to be strong on racial diversity and equality, it will increase the number of ethnic minority young members joining us.

Background

The Lib Dems have many problems when it comes to groups being underrepresented in the Lib Dems such as women and minority genders, LGBT+, and disabled activists. Thankfully, in some areas we have made some progress. We have got away from the ridiculous situation of our parliamentary party elected in the General Elections of 2010 and 2015 having a 50-7 and 8-0 male to female ratio. In we recently elected a parliamentary party with a much more even 40-32 after 5 years with a female supermajority among our MPs. Though more is needed, it is clear that some progress has been made. **Far less progress has been made on the issue of racial diversity, which is still lacking in the party.**

Backing Racial Diversity Committee (RDC)

Lots of progress on Gender Balance in the Lib Dems has been thanks to the campaign for Gender Balance (CGB) with the support of Lib Dem Women. Their support of female and minority gender candidates is thorough and professional. This successful model was copied with the purpose of increasing racial diversity, with one significant difference, no funding. On account of this, Racial Diversity Committee has yet to see the dramatic results that the Campaign for Gender Balance has achieved. Though after years of effort RDC was finally given an annual budget, it was only for £5,000, not nearly enough to achieve the stated objectives. **I will attempt to make sure that Racial Diversity Committee has sufficient funding to match the results of the Campaign for Gender Balance, by building consensus on Federal Board and Council and by attempting to call in and overturn any Board decision which does not give RDC sufficient resources.**

A Better Public Face

Lib Dems in the media often have more confident answers on our core issues and less confident ones on issues that primarily effect ethnic minorities. As someone who did plenty of hustings training in the run up for the General Election, I believe that thorough training can solve this problem and will push for that



Dr Mohsin Khan
Chair of the Lib Dem Campaign for Race Equality

It's crucial that the party address ethnic minority diversity at all levels of the party, and ensure RDC is appropriately resourced. **Abrial has shown a great understanding of the need for this vital work and to push for this at the highest levels.**



Chris French
Chair of Racial Diversity Committee

As Chair of the Racial Diversity Campaign (RDC), I am deeply committed to addressing the underrepresentation of ethnic minority candidates, to become elected representatives across our party. Abrial has proactively reached out to me and demonstrated a clear vision and a strong commitment to improving racial diversity across all levels. His dedication make him an ideal advocate for the changes we need. I have no doubt that Abrial will be a powerful ally on Federal Council, and will help ensure our party becomes more inclusive and representative



Arthur Wu
YL BAME Officer (2021)

As a former BAME Officer, I am acutely aware that we have a serious racial diversity problem. Abrial has a clear and credible plan for positive change and the experience and knowledge to get it done. **If we, as Young Liberals, are serious about solving our racial diversity problem then we should back him.**