



LIBERAL  
DEMOCRATS

# Autumn Conference

## Bournemouth 19th – 23rd September 2009 Conference Extra

Updates to the *Conference Agenda* and *Directory*, information from the Conference Committee, timings for conference sessions, amendments, emergency motions and questions to reports. Please read in conjunction with the *Conference Agenda*.



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Make sure you pick up a copy of *Conference Daily* from the Information Desk as you enter the Bournemouth International Centre each morning. It will be vital to your understanding of the day's business.

### Advertise in *Conference Daily*

You can promote your organisation, event or message to thousands of conference-goers by placing an advert or notice in *Conference Daily*.

*Conference Daily* is published each day at conference - it replaces the old *Daily Announcements*.

To place an advert in *Conference Daily*, contact Carol Caruana, at [carol.caruana@libdems.org.uk](mailto:carol.caruana@libdems.org.uk), on 020 7227 1323, or at conference via the Information Desk in the BIC.

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# Directory and Fringe Extra

## Conference information

The following is an addition to the information in the *Conference Directory*.

### Delegate Discount Scheme

Bournemouth Tourism has kindly supplied all conference representatives with a discount card to use at a number of local businesses. Find your card in your delegate bag or pick one up from the Information Desk in the Windsor Foyer of the BIC.

To take advantage of your discount card, download your vouchers from:

[www.libdems.org.uk/www.libdems.org.uk/conference/conference-papers.html](http://www.libdems.org.uk/www.libdems.org.uk/conference/conference-papers.html)



During conference week, we will be tweeting live from the Auditorium.

For updates on who's speaking, when agenda items are about to start and how conference has voted, follow us at:

[www.twitter.com/LibDemConf](http://www.twitter.com/LibDemConf)

## Conference fringe guide

The following are additional meetings to those listed in the fringe guide in the *Conference Directory*.

Sunday 20th September

Early evening 18.15 – 19.30

### Liberal Democrats

#### *Penhaligon Membership Award Presentations*

Come along to see best-practice and proven membership recruitment and retention techniques. This year's short-listed local parties make their presentations to a panel to try and win the prestigious Penhaligon Award.

Bournemouth International Centre, Tregonwell Bar

Tuesday 22nd September

Lunchtime 13.00 – 14.00

### The Forum of Independent Day Schools

#### *The case for Independent Day Schools in national education*

Private day schools – outdated places for toffs or unexplored local potential for helping disadvantaged children to achieve? Two Heads from the private sector argue for greater use of private schools by the state.  
Highcliff Marriott, Old Harry's Bar

### The Conference Rally

## Liberal Democrats: Ready to Win



Floella Benjamin



Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP



Karen Hamilton



Charles Kennedy MP



Sarah Teather MP

Compered by Sarah Teather MP; Nick Clegg MP will be joined by Charles Kennedy MP, TV personality and campaigner Floella Benjamin, and PPC for Birmingham Perry Barr Karen Hamilton, to set out why only the Liberal Democrats can deliver a *different, better Britain*.

Saturday 19th September

5.30 – 6.15pm, Welcome drinks, Solent Hall, BIC  
kindly hosted by the Mayor of Bournemouth,

6.30 – 7.30pm, The Rally, Windsor Hall, BIC

**Conference photo pass required for entry**



# Conference Timetable

Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated.

If no page number is indicated next to a session or item of business, there are no changes or additional information to that in the *Conference Agenda*.

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## Saturday 19th September Morning

10.00–12.30 Consultation Sessions Quality of life; Localism; Disability

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## Sunday 20th September Afternoon

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## Monday 21st September Afternoon

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## Wednesday 23rd September Morning

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## Wednesday 23rd September Afternoon

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BOROUGH OF  BOURNEMOUTH

**LIBERAL DEMOCRATS PARTY CONFERENCE**  
**Saturday 19th – Wednesday 23rd September 2009**  
 THE MAYOR OF BOURNEMOUTH  
 (Councillor Beryl Baxter)

on behalf of the Council has pleasure in inviting you to a  
**C I V I C   W I N E   R E C E P T I O N**  
 Solent Hall, BIC, Bournemouth  
 Saturday 19th September 2009  
 5.30pm – 6.15pm

## New to conference?


*Unsure what Federal Conference is all about?*

Anyone unfamiliar with conference is invited to come and join this session aimed at helping you to get the most out of your first – and subsequent! – visits.

Location: Old Harry's, Marriott Highcliff  
 Time: 21.45 – 22.30  
 Date: Saturday 19th September

**Visit us online!**

Our new look website contains all the conference information you need. For details of motions and voting, registration and accommodation, participating in our fringe and exhibition, and much more, visit [www.libdems.org.uk/conference](http://www.libdems.org.uk/conference).




# Saturday 19th September afternoon

## 14.20 Party Business

### **F2 Report of the Federal Conference Committee**

#### **Q1 Submitted by Vera Head**

How many motions were sent in for this autumn conference and who were they from? Please give the breakdown for Local Parties, SAOs and ten conference representatives.

#### **Q2 Submitted by Ronald Heinrich**

Holding conferences in major cities and towns with high accommodation costs, geared to business conferences, will discourage members facing redundancy, pay cuts, part-time employment and pension losses, from attending. Financial disenfranchisement is undemocratic. Surely we need venues with a wide range of types of accommodation, and good public transport to the conference centres?

## 14.40 Policy Motion

### **F4 Real Women (Women's Policy Paper)**

#### **Amendment One**

*Hammersmith & Fulham*

1 *After B (iv) (line 19) insert:*

2 v) Play a full part in politics as voters and elected representatives.

#### **Amendment Two**

*Inverness East, Nairn & Lochaber*

1 *Delete 3 and 4 (lines 39–52) and insert:*

2 3. Proposals to challenge the often narrow portrayal of gender roles within the media, but  
3 recognising that this can best be done through a process of cultural change rather than by  
4 regulation by the state.

### **Shuttle bus**

Two free, timetabled shuttle bus services will be operating during lunch and early evening fringe meetings to assist those representatives who may struggle to move between meetings in time.

For more information, please pick up a timetable from the Information Desk in the Windsor Foyer of the Bournemouth International Centre.



Annette Brooke, MP for Dorset Mid and Poole North, will formally open conference at 14.20 on Saturday 19th September.

# Saturday 19th September afternoon continued

- 5 4. Proposals to empower young girls (and boys) to challenge conformity and to decrease  
6 their chances of developing eating disorders by encouraging schools and local authorities  
7 to develop age-appropriate lessons on body image and media literacy as part of Personal,  
8 Social and Health Education (PSHE) in schools.

## Amendment Three

*Women Liberal Democrats*

1 *After 5 b) (line 56), insert:*

- 2 c) Requiring public service television to provide coverage of the most important women's  
3 sports events and to support the movement to have netball included in the 2012 London  
4 Olympics.

*There will be a separate vote on 6 d) (lines 65–66).*

## 16.10 Policy Discussion

### F5 Campaigning on the Environment

Dr Doug Parr (Greenpeace) will be replacing John Sauven on the panel. Noreena Hertz (author and economist) will be an addition to the panel.



Norman Lamb MP (left), Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Health, will make a speech to conference at 10.35 on Sunday 20th September.



Edward Davey MP (right), Liberal Democrat Shadow Foreign Secretary, will make a speech to conference at 12.20 on Sunday 20th September.

Tesco is the UK's biggest retailer. We continue to support our customers by offering great products at low prices and helping them to tackle the issues that matter to communities and society including climate change, through carbon labelling to help customers make green choices, and regeneration, where we are creating thousands of jobs for the long-term unemployed.

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# Sunday 20th September morning

## 09.00 Party Business

### **F6 Report of the Campaign for Gender Balance**

#### **Q1 Submitted by Jo Christie-Smith**

So far, in getting an extra 83 women on the approved candidate list we have only achieved just over half our target before the next general election. This is a significant failure to achieve the target. I note the continuing work to encourage new people to come forward but what work is being done within the party to ensure retention and continuing interest of female candidates already approved?

### **F7 Report of the Diversity Engagement Group**

#### **Q1 Submitted by Andrew Hudson**

Evidence is increasingly growing that the most divisive issue now in Britain is economic inequalities and class. Will the diversity group also address this issue?

## 09.30 Policy Motion

### **F8 The Future of Devolution**

#### **Amendment One**

*Bermondsey & Old Southwark*

1 *After 2 (line 43), insert:*

- 2 3. Urgent initiatives to address the democratic deficit for England, and the replacement of the  
3 Barnett Formula for allocating funding to the countries of the UK with a needs-based formula.

## 10.55 Policy Motion

### **F11 *Thriving in a Globalised World – A Strategy for Britain* (Domestic Responses to Globalisation Policy Paper)**

#### **Amendment One**

*Islington Borough*

1 *At end (after line 59), add:*

- 2 Conference recognises that the UK's ability to respond effectively to the challenges of globalisation  
3 is strengthened by its membership of the European Union with its single internal market permitting  
4 free movement of people, goods, services and capital and its increasing capacity for coordinated  
5 international action; welcomes the EU's considerable success in resisting pressure for protectionism  
6 internally and externally in an economically difficult period and urges the continuation of an open  
7 European economy and society.

# Sunday 20th September afternoon

## 15.25 Policy Motion

### F15 Standing up for Civil Liberties

#### Amendment One

*Dover*

1 *After viii) (line 21), insert:*

2 ix) Defendants aged under 18 are currently denied the right to choose jury trial.

3 *After e) (line 31), insert:*

4 f) Human rights including the right to jury trial should be available to all regardless of age.

5 *After 16 (line 53), insert:*

6 17. Defendants aged under 18 to be able to choose jury trial if charged with any offence that can  
7 lead to a custodial sentence.

#### Amendment Two

*Liberal Youth*

1 *After viii) (line 21), insert:*

2 ix) That there are now an estimated 3500 'Mosquito Devices' in the UK, which are designed to  
3 emit a high pitched noise to deter young people from gathering in certain areas.

4 *After 16 (line 53), insert:*

5 17. The banning of all 'Mosquito Devices' following the advice of the Children's Commissioner for  
6 England.

The ASDA logo is displayed in a large, bold, green font.

ASDA are the sponsors of  
*Imagining New Britain:  
Forging a New National Identity,*  
Sunday 20th September, 20.00–21.00,  
De Vere Suite, Royal Bath Hotel.



Tavish Scott MSP,  
Leader of the Scottish  
Liberal Democrats,  
will make a speech  
to conference at  
14.20 on Sunday 20th  
September.

# Sunday 20th September afternoon continued

## **Amendment Three**

*Windsor*

- 1 *Delete 6 (lines 39–40) and insert:*
- 2 6. No record to be retained on the DNA database for any person arrested but not subsequently
- 3 charged with any offence.

## **Amendment Four**

*10 conference representatives*

- 1 *After 16 (line 53), insert:*
- 2 17. The protection of freedom of expression, by reforming the libel laws in England and Wales
- 3 to ensure that a better balance is provided between free speech, responsible journalism,
- 4 scientific discourse and the public interest on the one hand and powerful corporations,
- 5 wealthy individuals and vested interests on the other.

*Applicability: Amendments One, Three and Four are England and Wales; Amendment Two is England only.*

## 16.45 Policy Discussion

### **F16 Privacy Commission**

*The panel will now comprise David Heath MP, Sarah Ludford MEP and Simon Davies (LSE and Privacy International). Shami Chakrabarti is unfortunately unable to attend.*

## 17.25 Policy Motion

### **F17 Tidal Solution – The Way Forward**

#### **Amendment One**

*10 conference representatives and Islington Borough*

- 1 *Delete lines 1–3 and insert:*
- 2 Conference accepts the urgent need to tackle climate change and regrets the government's
- 3 lamentable progress towards the UK's modest target of 15% of energy consumption to come from
- 4 renewable sources by 2020, which is well below the EU average of 20% by 2020.

#### **Amendment Two**

*Forest of Dean*

- 1 *In 1 (line 22) after 'lagoons', insert: 'always taking care to provide against harmful effects from*
- 2 *upstream flooding'.*

# Monday 21st September morning

## 09.00 Policy Motion

### F18 Parliamentary Expenses

#### Amendment One

*Woking*

1 *After B (line 4), insert:*

- 2 C. That the first-past-the-post electoral system, by effectively rendering some 80% of MPs  
3 unaccountable to their electors, has been a major factor in creating and underpinning the  
4 culture of arrogance which has underlain the expenses scandal.

#### Amendment Two

*17 conference representatives*

1 *After 2 (line 25), insert:*

- 2 3. MPs not to be permitted to make future capital gains from the sale of second homes funded  
3 by the taxpayer – any such gains should go back to the public purse.

## 10.15 Policy Motion

### F20 Demanding the Truth on Torture

#### Amendment One

*Islington Borough*

1 *At end (after line 52), add:*

- 2 Conference welcomes the work of European parliamentarians, both MEPs and members of the  
3 parliamentary assembly of the Council of Europe, in highlighting the apparent complicity of up to  
4 a dozen European states in illegal abduction, rendition, imprisonment and torture, and demands  
5 a full accounting of their role which seeks to avoid any future similar lapse in European human  
6 rights and rule of law standards and resultant breach of the EU treaty and European Convention of  
7 Human Rights.



Vince Cable MP (left), Deputy Leader of the Liberal Democrats and Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, will make a speech to conference at 12.20 on Monday 21st September.



Tim Farron MP (right), Liberal Democrat Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, will make a speech to conference at 11.00 on Monday 21st September.

# Monday 21st September afternoon

## 14.20 Policy Motion

### **F24 Development in a Downturn**

#### **Amendment One**

*Brussels & Europe*

- 1 *At end (after line 48), add:*
- 2 Conference also notes that rapid increases in the price of food can aggravate poverty and political
- 3 instability and increase the pressures to migrate. Conference therefore calls on the EU to join with
- 4 other interested countries to establish a supranational system of reserve food stocks.

## 15.15 Policy Motion

### **F26 Our Natural Heritage (Natural Environment Policy Paper)**

#### **Amendment One**

*ALDC and 10 conference representatives*

- 1 *After 1 a) (line 23), insert:*
- 2       b) Strongly supporting the ‘waste hierarchy’: making waste reduction a priority ahead of
- 3       reuse, followed by household and business recycling then mechanical sorting of waste
- 4       for recycling, and finally obtaining energy from residual waste.
- 5       c) Encouraging the procurement of advanced technologies for waste treatment plants,
- 6       recognising that the investment required for such plants may require contracts of over
- 7       10 years to be commercially viable, but suggesting that where practicable contracts
- 8       should be written to allow the introduction of newer technologies if or when they become
- 9       available.

*This amendment will be voted on in two parts.*



Sarah Teather MP (left), Liberal Democrat Shadow Housing Minister, will make a speech to conference at 14.55 on Monday 21st September.



Baroness Scott of Needham Market (right), President of the Liberal Democrats, will make a speech to conference at 10.40 on Tuesday 22nd September.

# Monday 21st September afternoon continued

## **Amendment Two**

*Colchester*

1 *After 3 c) (line 51), insert:*

- 2 d) Increasing the provision of urban planting and green spaces on all new developments  
3 through better use of the planning system, including increased powers for planning  
4 authorities and improved guidance to local authorities.

## **Amendment Three**

*Liberal Youth*

1 *After 4 d) (line 66), insert:*

- 2 e) Improving representation of local communities within the governance of environmentally  
3 protected areas, from SSSIs to National Parks, with a clear mandate to protect the  
4 interests and views of the local communities and general public.

*There will be a separate vote on the words 'ensuring that the money benefits forest communities and promotes sustainable forest management' in 7 d) (lines 90–91).*

## 16.55 Policy Motion

### **F27 Reaffirming the Military Covenant**

#### **Amendment One**

*Bermondsey & Old Southwark*

1 *After 3 (line 33), insert:*

- 2 4. Members of the armed forces and their immediate family to be entitled to housing, within three  
3 months of their last date of paid service, in the local authority area where they last lived before  
4 signing up, and to be offered apprenticeships, other training or employment; and a review by  
5 the Ministry of Defence of the social outcomes for personnel leaving the forces.
- 6 5. The families of deceased service personnel whose death is attributable to their military service  
7 to be entitled to the burial or cremation of their family member without cost in the place of  
8 family choice within the UK.

#### **Amendment Two**

*10 conference representatives*

1 *Delete 5 (lines 36–37) and insert:*

- 2 5. Proper medical provision for all current and former service personnel including:

# Monday 21st September afternoon continued

- 3 a) Post-conflict debriefings.
- 4 b) The availability of counselling by specialist trained counsellors at any time in life, with
- 5 particular emphasis on post-traumatic stress disorder.
- 6 c) Adequate facilities and funding for relatives to visit during hospital treatment and
- 7 recuperation.

## 17.30 Party Business

### F28 Report of the Federal Finance and Administration Committee

#### Q1 Submitted by Peter Hirst

On page 13 of Reports to Conference, under Environmental Activity, you mention recycling and waste management. The most cost-effective method of cutting carbon emissions is energy efficiency. What further action has been taken since the last Report to increase the energy efficiency of our headquarters, what evidence is there that this has been effective and what funding is ring-fenced for these environmental activities?

#### Q2 Submitted by Jennie Rigg

What procedures does the party possess to establish whether or not donations should be accepted? What happens if donations are subsequently found to be fraudulently obtained?

#### Q 3 Submitted by Gary Glover

Why is the membership form on [www.libdems.org.uk](http://www.libdems.org.uk) unable to accept payment by Switch/Maestro and when will this be resolved?

## Exhibition, Sponsorship and Fringe

### Exhibition

The diverse and vibrant exhibition provides reps with the opportunity to find out more about the services and activities of participating organisations. Whether it's health checks, a game of political coconut shy, a chance to test one's strength, or advice on the switch-over to digital (to name but a few!), there's something of interest to everyone in the exhibition halls.

### Sponsorship

Conference features a wide range of unique opportunities for sponsorship. Lanyards, conference bags, stewards' uniforms, receptions and the Internet café are just a few of the sponsorship options available to organisations who want to bring their brand to the attention of the Liberal Democrats.

For more information on exhibition and sponsorship, please contact Carol Caruana, Commercial and Exhibition Manager, 020 7227 1323, [carol.caruana@libdems.org.uk](mailto:carol.caruana@libdems.org.uk).

### Fringe

A dynamic line-up of fringe events at conference sees a huge range of animated discussions taking place around the clock. The fringe gives reps the opportunity to mingle with MPs, Peers and other leading Party members, attend receptions and take part in a series of lively debates. Sometimes controversial, never dull, there is always food for thought in the fringe programme.

For more information on hosting your own fringe event, please contact Siân Jenkins, Assistant Conference Organiser, 020 7227 1348, [sian.jenkins@libdems.org.uk](mailto:sian.jenkins@libdems.org.uk).



# Tuesday 22nd September morning

## 09.00 Emergency Motion

### **F30 Afghanistan and Pakistan Conflict**

*North West Leicestershire and Ethnic Minority Liberal Democrats*

1 Conference expresses:

- 2 I. Extreme concern and deep sorrow over the rise in the number of British soldiers killed and  
3 wounded in Afghanistan, mixed with admiration and gratitude to Britain's armed forces for  
4 their sacrifices and bravery; remembering too the military and civilian personnel and their  
5 families from other allied countries who have lost their lives.  
6 II. Our sympathies to the families of those civilians killed in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and deep  
7 disquiet over increasing civilian deaths caused by aerial attacks, which can further consolidate  
8 support for insurgent forces within Afghanistan and Pakistan.

9 Conference notes:

- 10 i) The shifting military and political objectives of the Western forces in Afghanistan since 2001.  
11 ii) The extreme centralisation of, and corruption within, the Afghan government – who,  
12 notwithstanding, have full control over only a minority of the territory of the country.  
13 iii) That more than half Afghan GDP is now related to the illegal narcotics business, the result of  
14 which is that UK streets are flooded with cheap heroin, causing deaths which are set to exceed  
15 1000 this year.  
16 iv) A decline in living conditions since 2001 and a recent deterioration in the legal position of  
17 women.  
18 v) The 'conflict-facilitating lawlessness' across the border in the Pakistani tribal areas, where the  
19 Pakistani constitution does not fully apply.  
20 vi) That public confidence in the recent elections was seriously undermined by widespread fraud.

21 Conference believes:

- 22 A. The primary and urgent security aim now should be to stop the killing on all sides, and put an  
23 end to the 30 years of continuous war which have created poverty, chaos and militancy.  
24 B. That the path to a positive end to the conflict lies in the orchestration of a regional peace  
25 agreement which takes into account the security and economic concerns of Afghanistan,  
26 Pakistan, and India and other countries involved or affected, under a UN framework.  
27 C. Progress towards peace should not depend on 'gaining the upper hand militarily' – since such  
28 a condition is hard to define, it will delay a peace settlement, and it effectively puts the potential  
29 for political progress in the hands of military forces.

30 Conference welcomes the decision by the United States under President Obama to adopt a new  
31 approach, the assessment by the new Commander of US and NATO forces in Afghanistan, General  
32 Stanley McChrystal, that a new 'Western' strategy is needed, and the call for a regional peace  
33 agreement from US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

34 Conference therefore calls for:

- 35 1. An end to the killing and to 30 years of war in Afghanistan, and the start of a regional peace  
36 process, not contingent on 'Western' forces 'having the upper hand militarily' – and the pursuit  
37 of a ceasefire, leading to a political and constitutional settlement within Afghanistan.  
38 2. The UK government to press the US government to end its 'military first' approach, and shift  
39 priority to the economic, political and social development of Afghanistan.

# Tuesday 22nd September morning continued

- 40 3. The necessary inclusion in the work towards a peace process of three key elements:  
41 a) A properly financed decentralised government.  
42 b) Support for the Pakistani government's desire to extend its constitution into tribal areas.  
43 c) Steps to develop economic cooperation and trade in the region with all countries  
44 neighbouring Afghanistan.
- 45 4. In particular, the UK Government to:  
46 a) Focus on concluding the Afghanistan mission and to report to Parliament in detail on  
47 progress towards a withdrawal.  
48 b) Present to Parliament on its return a series of public 'mission tests' that set out progress  
49 towards key security and governance goals, and progress with allies in steps to peace,  
50 against which Ministers can be held to account.

*Applicability: Federal.*

## 09.40 Policy Motion

### **F31 Rail Franchises**

#### **Amendment One**

*13 conference representatives*

- 1 *In 1 (line 32), after 'network', insert: 'with a view, based on its success, to considering bringing back*  
2 *of rail services into public ownership'.*

## 11.00 Policy Motion

### **F33 A Fresh Start For Britain**

#### **Amendment One**

*Federal Policy Committee*

- 1 *In line 26, delete: ', and', and insert: 'noting that, despite reports, the document neither abandons nor*  
2 *downgrades any existing policy commitments, and that the process of prioritising policy commitments*  
3 *will only be carried out in the preparation of the General Election manifesto. Conference'.*

#### **Amendment Two**

*Women Liberal Democrats, City of Chester and Leeds North West*

- 1 *In 2 a) (line 42), after 'people,', insert: 'raising the Income Tax threshold so that no one pays tax on the*  
2 *first £10,000 of their income and over four million more of the poorest people will pay no tax at all,'.*

#### **Amendment Three**

*Bermondsey & Old Southwark*

- 1 *In 2 b) (line 47), after 'Britain', insert: '; we will also support an extended youth service and activities,*  
2 *apprenticeships and training for young people between 14 and 21'.*

# Tuesday 22nd September afternoon

## 14.20 Policy Motion

### **F34 Child Protection**

#### **Amendment One**

*South West Devon*

1 *After e) (line 23), insert:*

- 2 f) A comprehensive health visitor service would strengthen the chance of the most disadvantaged  
3 children developing satisfactorily physically, emotionally and socially.

#### **Amendment Two**

*Streatham*

- 1 *In 10 (line 47), after 'care', insert: 'that will assist Local Safeguarding Children Boards to develop*  
2 *protocols on their local application in the light of their circumstances.'*

## 15.20 Policy Motion

### **F36 Energy and Climate Change**

#### **Amendment One**

*10 conference representatives*

1 *After k) (line 92), insert:*

- 2 l) Support for and investment in UK-based green technology.

#### **Amendment Two**

*Bermondsey & Old Southwark and Streatham*



Chris Huhne MP (left), Liberal Democrat Shadow Home Secretary, will make a speech to conference at 15.00 on Tuesday 22nd September.



Lynne Featherstone MP (right), Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Spokesperson for Youth and Equality, will make a speech to conference at 11.10 on Wednesday 23rd September.

# Tuesday 22nd September afternoon continued

1 *At end (after line 92), add:*

- 2 4. Conference applauds the launch of the 10:10 campaign, aiming to reduce UK carbon  
3 emissions by 10 per cent in 2010. Conference calls on:
- 4 a) All local authorities run or influenced by Liberal Democrats to commit themselves to the  
5 campaign objectives.
- 6 b) All Liberal Democrats, and all other members of the public, to make similar personal  
7 commitments.
- 8 c) The government to make a national commitment to cut UK emissions by 10 per cent in  
9 2010.

## **Amendment Three**

*Lancaster & Fleetwood, Morecambe & Lunesdale and Welwyn Hatfield*

1 *After E (line 18), insert:*

- 2 F. That installed renewable energy capacity over the next 15 years is unlikely to do more than  
3 replace installed nuclear capacity, and therefore a significant reduction in the use of fossil fuels  
4 in the UK cannot be achieved without a limited programme of nuclear replacement.
- 5 G. Given the existing massive world-wide reserves of coal, the development of clean coal  
6 technologies is vital to the task of reducing global emissions.

7 *After 2 d) (line 56), insert:*

- 8 e) Continued support for the urgent development of Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)  
9 technologies, including the rapid development of a regulatory framework, and the setting  
10 of a price of carbon high enough to encourage investment.

11 *After 3 b) (line 68), insert:*

- 12 c) Support for a single phase of replacement of the UK's existing nuclear facilities, located  
13 on or adjacent to existing sites, where delivery of new installed capacity can be achieved  
14 by 2020.

*The two parts of this amendment (new F + new 3 c; and new G + new 2 e) will be voted on separately.*

*Applicability: Federal, except 3 e) (lines 75–76) which is England only.*

## 17.30 Party Business

### **F38 Report of the Federal Executive**

#### **Q1 Submitted by Jennie Rigg and Jo Christie-Smith**

Please could you detail the steps that the Federal Executive is carrying out to ensure that the Party Reform Commission leads to specific action and doesn't end up just another report on a shelf?

# Tuesday 22nd September afternoon continued

## **Q2 Submitted by Jennie Rigg, Jo Christie-Smith and Gareth Epps**

What is the remit and composition of the Chief Officers' Group and how often has it met? What percentage of the COG's full members are women? What percentage of the COG's full members are BME? Please summarise the work of the Chief Officers' Group during the 2008/9 period and explain why this information is not contained within the FE Report.

## **Q3 Submitted by Jennie Rigg**

The Federal Party has a remarkable number of bodies and offices with a responsibility for election strategy. In addition to the Federal Executive, Chief Officers Group and Campaigns and Communications Committee, there is a Chair of the General Election Campaign. On top of that, there is a staff structure, including the Chief Executive, Campaigns and Elections Director and, as of this Autumn, a Director of General Election Communications. How precisely do all these work together?

## **Q4 Submitted by Jennie Rigg**

What were the main conclusions of the FE's scrutiny work on:

- a) the European and Local Election Campaigns; and,
- b) Membership?

## **Q5 Submitted by Jo Christie-Smith**

How does the Federal Executive plan to implement the proposal of a 'Leadership Academy' as proposed by the Party Reform Commission? When is it planned to begin training?

## **Q6 Submitted by Jennie Rigg and Gareth Epps**

(a) What is the remit and composition of the Capability Board and how often has it met? Please summarise the work of the Capability Board during the 2008/9 period and explain why this information is not contained within the FE Report.

(b) What is the remit and composition of the Technology Board and how often has it met? Please summarise the work of the Technology Board during the 2008/9 period and explain why this information is not contained within the FE Report.

(c) What is the remit and composition of the Audit & Compliance Board and how often has it met? Please summarise the work of the Audit & Compliance Board during the 2008/9 period and explain why this information is not contained within the FE Report.

(d) What is the remit and composition of the Campaigns and Communications Committee and how often has it met? Please summarise the work of the Campaigns and Communications Committee during the 2008/9 period and explain why this information is not contained within the FE Report.

# Wednesday 23rd September morning

## 09.00 Emergency Motions

### **F41 Emergency Motions**

*There will be a ballot for two motions to be debated in this time slot as F41a) and F41b). Ballot papers will be published in Sunday's Conference Daily, and should be returned to the ballot box in the Auditorium between 09.00 and 13.00 on Sunday 20th September. No topical issues were selected for discussion.*

### **Emergency Motion 1: Decent Housing**

*Sutton Borough, Camden Borough and Streatham*

1 Conference notes the decision by the Government to take funding promised to council tenants  
2 across England to pay for investment in their homes to bring them up to Decent Homes standards  
3 and divert it into the 'Building Britain's Future' programme of new house-building in the run-up to  
4 the General Election.

5 Conference further notes that council tenants across the county are subsidising the Treasury to the  
6 tune of hundreds of millions of pounds every year without benefiting from much-needed investment  
7 in council home repairs and maintenance.

8 Conference condemns the Government's betrayal of council tenants who have already suffered  
9 decades of underinvestment in housing by successive Conservative governments.

10 Conference therefore calls on the Government to:

- 11 1. Reverse the decision to abandon the 5% of the population whose housing is still not up to  
12 Decent Homes standards.
- 13 2. Make a firm commitment to deliver the funding promised to Arms Length Management  
14 Organisations (ALMOs) which meet the 2 star rating set by the Audit Commission.
- 15 3. Ensure that the current Housing Revenue Account review allows tenants and local authorities  
16 to have more control over the reinvestment of local council rents.

17 Conference recognises that this is the latest example of Labour's unfair policy on social housing  
18 investment and condemns the Government's ideological opposition to direct and accountable  
19 local authority management of council housing, which has led to tenants being deprived of any  
20 Decent Homes investment because they have not voted in support of an ALMO or stock transfer.

*Applicability: England.*

### **Emergency Motion 2: Defending Local Control of Social Services**

*23 conference representatives*

1 Conference notes:

- 2 i) That on 14 July the Government launched its proposals 'Shaping the Future of Care  
3 Together'.
- 4 ii) The centrepiece of these proposals is to create a National Care Service, which would take

# Wednesday 23rd September morning continued

- 5 some or all decision-making about local social care spending away from elected local  
6 councillors and up to national government.  
7 iii) The social care system in this country is already seriously over-centralised, with central  
8 government insisting on controlling most funding of social care costs at the national level .

9 Conference reiterates:

- 10 a) Its commitment to the core Liberal Democrat belief that decisions should be taken as closely  
11 as possible to the people they affect.  
12 b) That this commitment does not apply only to trivial or minor issues but if it is to be meaningful  
13 must apply also to important decisions, such as over social care.  
14 c) Its commitment that control over health and social care by people who are locally accountable  
15 should be extended, not reduced, and that the concept of national accountability for local  
16 health and care services is undemocratic, illiberal and quite clearly does not function in  
17 practice.  
18 d) That while a 'postcode lottery' is unacceptable, a 'postcode democracy', in which local  
19 people control local services, is the right and fundamentally liberal and democratic approach.  
20 e) Its belief that while this Government may talk the talk of promoting strong local communities,  
21 in reality its only commitment is to hollow out their power.

22 Conference therefore calls for:

- 23 1. Councils to retain control of decisions over social services spending in their area, appropriately  
24 informed by the spread of good practice at a national level.  
25 2. The matching extension of local accountability of the NHS by putting services under the  
26 control of elected local figures.  
27 3. The Government to abandon forthwith proposals to create a National Care Service.

*Applicability: England.*

## **Emergency Motion 3: Save the Pub**

*Greater Reading*

1 Conference believes that pubs provide many community benefits, from places to meet and  
2 socialise to venues for sport and providers of sports teams.

3 Conference notes:

- 4 i) The figures released on 22 July by the British Beer & Pub Association, showing a much-  
5 increased figure of 52 pubs closing each week in the United Kingdom, resulting in the loss of  
6 over 20,000 jobs in the last year.  
7 ii) The government announcement on 29 July of a consultation on revoking the Land Agreements  
8 Exclusion Order 2004 – a measure blamed by many for allowing anti-competitive practices  
9 run by many large pubcos.  
10 iii) The submission on 24 July by the Campaign for Real Ale of a consumer 'super-complaint' to  
11 require the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) to fast-track consideration of anti-competitive practices  
12 in the UK pub market which are resulting in high prices in pubs, lower amenity, restricted  
13 choice and pub closures; the OFT have to respond within 90 days of the complaint being  
14 submitted.

# Wednesday 23rd September morning continued

15 Conference deplores:

- 16 a) The market dominance of the largest pub management companies and the way some of  
17 them have skewed the tied system so hugely in favour of the property-owning company and  
18 against the small-business people actually operating the business.
- 19 b) The manner in which the tied tenancy mode (in particular the 'beer tie') is being operated by  
20 the large pubcos, in particular the manner in which the pubcos secure huge discounts from  
21 breweries but fail to pass these on to the lessees.
- 22 c) Restrictive covenants which prevent future purchasers from using the building as a pub and  
23 can often therefore deprive a community of a valuable resource.
- 24 d) The restrictive levels of rent which often prevent tenants from making a living – often imposed  
25 as a penalty on success.
- 26 e) The lack of access to the market for smaller and more local breweries which restricts customer  
27 choice.
- 28 f) The weak position of pubs in current planning law, treated as any other business with no  
29 provision for their status as community facilities.

30 Conference therefore calls for:

- 31 1. A reasonable limit for the number of pubs owned by a pub management company to be set  
32 (the maximum applied to breweries in 1986 was 2,000).
- 33 2. Tenants to be offered the opportunity to choose between a tied tenancy and a rental tenancy  
34 by seeing the two proposals, including figures, side by side.
- 35 3. Action to be taken to regulate the inflated prices that pub companies can charge for their  
36 product to tied tenants, through the right to sell a minimum of one cask ale outside the tie.
- 37 4. A mandatory code of practice that creates transparency, a register of rental values and an  
38 agreed form of profits-based valuation that takes account of the real costs of the tenant.
- 39 5. The use of restrictive covenants (preventing pubs being sold with restrictive covenants  
40 prohibiting their future use as pubs) to be outlawed.
- 41 6. Existing lessees to be given the right to buy the freehold of their pub if the owner puts the  
42 premises up for sale, at a value to be determined by an independent mediator.
- 43 7. A separate planning use class for pubs to be created, with planning guidance recognising the  
44 role of pubs as community facilities and requiring planning permission for demolition.

*Applicability: 1 to 4 and 6 (lines 32–39 and 42–43) are Federal; 5 and 7 (lines 40–41 and 44–45) are England only.*

## **Emergency Motion 4: Tackling Youth Unemployment**

1 Conference notes:

- 2 i) The number of qualified school leavers and adults looking to retrain who have been unable to  
3 attend university this year, currently estimated as in excess of 50,000, due to a shortage of  
4 places.
- 5 ii) That the number of young people not in education, employment or training rose to nearly one  
6 million by the end of August.
- 7 iii) That unemployment across the country currently stands at around 2.5 million.
- 8 iv) That funding additional student places would enable universities to avoid redundancies, and  
9 may lead to additional recruitment.

# Wednesday 23rd September morning continued

10 Conference reaffirms its belief that all young people should have the best possible opportunities in  
11 education and training, regardless of their socio-economic background and local environment.

12 Conference further believes that:

- 13 a) The disappointed students this year are most likely to be from less privileged backgrounds,  
14 where access and use of information is more limited, help is less available and applications  
15 are likely to have been made later.
- 16 b) Even in the event of a sustained turnaround, the condition of the job market for school leavers  
17 is likely to remain poor for at least another year; this, combined with a large output from  
18 schools, and any disappointed candidates from this year who reapply, will lead to an even  
19 greater problem next year.
- 20 c) An economic downturn provides an opportunity to train and equip the workforce with the  
21 skills the country needs upon entering recovery, and such an opportunity is currently being  
22 missed.
- 23 d) The response of the Government to this crisis has been insufficient and poorly planned.
- 24 e) Some Universities, particularly in the post-92 category, are prepared to accept students up to  
25 the start of term in October, should conditions change.
- 26 f) Alternatives to higher education should also be encouraged and supported, such as  
27 apprenticeships and vocational training.
- 28 g) Youth unemployment represents under-utilisation of talent and means that government money  
29 is being spent for negligible economic benefit.
- 30 h) The Government's VAT cut has produced little or no benefit for the estimated £1 billion per  
31 month which it is costing.

32 Conference therefore calls on the Government to:

- 33 1. Fund 10,000 extra University places and invest additional resources into Foundation Degrees,  
34 to be paid for by scrapping the wasteful VAT cut.
- 35 2. Fully fund the off-the-job costs of apprenticeships for over-18s, diverting the necessary  
36 funding from the 'Train to Gain' programme.

*Applicability: England and Wales.*

## 09.50 Party Business

### **F42 Reports of the Parliamentary Parties of the Liberal Democrats**

#### **Q1 Submitted by Peter Jones**

What has the Parliamentary Party done to progress towards legislation party policy suggested by local parties and approved at the 2008 Bournemouth conference, specifically the motion *Safe Standing at Football Matches*?

#### **Q2 Submitted by Andrew Hudson**

Is the Parliamentary Party in the Commons committed to repealing the legislation that requires structural changes to principal local authorities in England?

# Wednesday 23rd September morning continued

## Q3 Submitted by Ronald Heinrich

As the media widely revealed in detail MPs' inappropriate parliamentary expenses, why did the Fees Office massively censor the published information on MPs' expenses? Did the Parliamentary Party and/or MPs object to this and insist on more details being made public?

## Q4 Submitted by Ronald Heinrich

The report is silent on any action taken by the Party to promote the radical reform of parliamentary procedures, constitutional and electoral reform apart from MPs' expenses. Why?

## 11.30 Policy Motion

### F45 *Are We Being Served?* (Consumer Policy Paper)

#### Amendment One

*Barnet Borough*

1 *After 6 a) (line 62), insert:*

- 2           b) Encouraging and promoting the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) as an  
3 alternative to court; where ADR is used, the scheme should be approved by the  
4 ombudsman and be subject to testing for its independence, impartiality and fairness, and  
5 the cost of ADR and ombudsman approval should be borne by the firm or industry.



Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP will give his keynote Leader's speech to conference on Wednesday 23rd September between 14.30 and 16.00.

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