

Clearprint Conference Daily

Autumn Conference, Brighton Tuesday 22 September

Information from the Federal Conference Committee for Tuesday 22 September.
Please read in conjunction with the **Agenda & Directory** and **Conference Extra**.

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12.10–12.50	F39	Policy Motion: Feeding Britain: A Food Security Emergency	8
12.50–14.10		Lunch break and fringe	
14.10–14.30	F40	Party Awards	
14.30–15.30	F41	Speech: Sir Ed Davey MP, Leader of the Liberal Democrats	
15.30		Close of Conference	

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 & Directory or Conference Extra.

Please note that timings are approximate only. Some items of business may occur earlier than indicated. Members wishing to speak are requested to submit a speaker’s card as soon as possible.

Report back for Monday 21 September

F25	Policy Motion: A Fair Shot: Reforming Recruitment	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F26	Policy Motion: Introducing Anti-SLAPP Legislation	Passed
F27	Policy Motion: <i>Patient-Centred, Accessible and Preventive: A Liberal Vision for Primary Health Care</i> (Primary Healthcare Policy Paper)	Passed (Amendments One, Two, Three and Four passed)
F29	Policy Motion: Supporting People to Age Well	Passed (Amendment One passed)
F31	Policy Motion: Stopping Violence Against Women and Girls in the Digital Age	Passed (Amendments One and Two passed)
F32	Report: Parliamentary Parties	Received
F33A	Restoring Trans Rights	Passed
F33B	Britain's Wildfire Crisis	Passed

Emergency Motions

The ballot for the Emergency Motions was counted as an STV election for three. The total number of votes received was 727. The quota, based on the total votes cast, was 181.75.

At stage one, *Restoring Trans Rights* was elected with 190 votes.

At stage two, *Britain's Wildfire Crisis* achieved the required quota and was elected.

At stage three, *Trading with our Allies, Standing Up to Trump* achieved the required quota and was elected.

Left Luggage

There is no left luggage facility. Please leave any bags at the hotel where you are staying. Suitcases and large bags will not be permitted in the Brighton Centre. It will only be allowed in if it is no bigger than British Airways cabin baggage.

Lost Property

Any lost property should be handed in to the Information Desk in the foyer of BC.

Speaking and Voting at Conference

Applying to speak

To make a speech in a debate you must:

- complete a speaker's card, collected from and returned to the Speakers' Table at the front of the auditorium, an auditorium steward or the Information Desk; **or**
- submit an electronic speaker's card up to one hour before the start of the debate, online at:

www.libdems.org.uk/speakers-card

Completing a speaker's card

When completing a speaker's card, remember:

1 Submit your card well in advance.

The chair and aide team for the debate will meet well in advance to plan the debate – sometimes the previous day.

2 Fill in your card completely.

Complete the back of the card as well as the front. These sections are needed for the chair and aide to balance the debate, so they can call people with relevant experience and avoid a string of people making the same point.

3 Make sure it's readable!

Don't fill every square centimetre of the card, and write legibly – the easier you make it for the chair and aide to read the card the more likely you will be called.

Live Stream

The conference will be streamed live. In case you miss any sessions or want to watch again, go to www.LibDems.org.uk/conference-live

Tuesday 22 September

F34 Trading with our Allies, Standing Up to Trump

12 members

Mover: Joshua Reynolds MP (Spokesperson for Investment and Trade)

Summation: Al Pinkerton MP (Spokesperson for Europe)

1 Conference notes with concern that:

2 a) On July 23rd, President Trump hit dozens of countries, including the
3 UK, with new tariffs, after the Supreme Court ruled his previous
4 'Liberation Day' tariffs illegal.

5 b) The US Government has begun accepting refund applications from
6 businesses around the world for the legally void tariffs they paid,
7 with \$100 billion already refunded.

8 c) On August 22nd, the Trump administration escalated its trade war
9 against Canada by applying 50 per cent tariffs on \$20 billion of
10 Canadian imports.

11 d) In August, the White House threatened the UK with 100 per cent
12 tariffs over Britain's Digital Services Tax, levied on global tech giants,
13 with the Burnham Government reportedly being "open to discussing
14 US concerns".

15 Conference reaffirms Liberal Democrat commitments to championing
16 free trade and expanding the UK's multilateral partnerships with
17 counterparts whom Britain can rely on – particularly in Europe and the
18 Commonwealth.

19 Conference therefore calls on the Government to:

20 1. Immediately drop its red lines on Europe and negotiate a new
21 Growth and Defence Partnership with the EU, including joining the
22 Single Market and a new Customs Union.

23 2. Offset Trump's latest tariffs in the short term, by urgently securing
24 participation in the EU's 'Made in Europe' scheme, vital for our steel
25 industry; concluding an SPS agreement for food and agricultural
26 produce; and securing regulatory alignment in key areas, such as the
27 mutual recognition of professional qualifications.

28 3. Stand shoulder to shoulder with Canada, commit to closer trade links
29 with our Commonwealth allies and build an economic coalition of the
30 willing to end Trump's trade war.

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31 4. Launch a new initiative supporting eligible UK businesses in claiming
32 US tariff refunds, including raising awareness and providing
33 information and advice.

34 5. Defend British taxpayers against Trump by resisting US pressure to
35 water down or scrap the Digital Services Tax.

Applicability: Federal.

Background briefing

This motion updates and develops new policy. It builds on existing policy as set out in the 2024 General Election Manifesto, *For a Fair Deal*, policy paper 164, *Strength, Resilience and Partnership: Securing Britain and Defending Liberalism in Turbulent Times*, policy paper 157, *Liberal Values in a Dangerous World* (2024), policy motion *Trump and the Wider World* (2026), and policy motion *The UK's Response to Trump* (2025).

09.50 Spokesperson's Statement

F34A Spokesperson's Statement on Israel and Palestine

Calum Miller MP, the Spokesperson for Foreign Affairs, will make a statement in response to the announcements by the Foreign Secretary on 8 September 2026. This statement will be made under Standing Order 1.7.

F35 Sovereignty in the Age of AI

Summation: Helen Cross

Amendment One

14 members

Mover: Lord Clement-Jones (Lords Spokesperson for Science and Innovation)

Summation: To be announced

1 *In lines 89-91 delete 'ethical considerations, ensuring that AI systems are*
2 *developed to use data responsibly and do not entrench existing*
3 *inequalities' and insert 'frontier AI systems whose capabilities pose*

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- 4 material risk of national security harm, catastrophic harm, or significant
- 5 harm to individuals or groups, including through unsafe or rights-
- 6 infringing outcomes.'

Amendment Two

Lambeth Borough

Mover: Chris Lomax

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *In line 106, delete 'Confronting the AI energy dilemma...,' and insert:*
- 2 *'Ensuring that data centre development remains consistent with the UK's*
- 3 *objective of achieving net zero emissions by 2050, including ...'*

Background briefing

This motion develops new policies on artificial intelligence. It builds on existing policy as set out in the 2024 General Election Manifesto, *For a Fair Deal*, and policy paper 158, *Science, Innovation & Technology* (2025).

F36 Restoring our Waters: Britain's Water Company Crisis

Amendment One

Lambeth Borough

Mover: Jeremy Clyne

Summation: To be announced

- 1 *After line 37, insert new X.:*
- 2 X. The country faces a growing water shortage crisis, highlighted by
- 3 current supply restrictions, largely resulting from climate change, and
- 4 factors including emerging technologies and population growth, with
- 5 England predicted by the government to be short, by 2055, of 5
- 6 billion litres a day for public water supplies, and a further 1 billion
- 7 litres for the wider economy.
- 8 *After line 101, insert new 9.:*
- 9 9. Develop urgently a comprehensive strategy to deal with predicted
- 10 water supply shortages, including making full use of the latest
- 11 developments in sustainable and cost-effective desalination
- 12 technologies.

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Background briefing

This motion develops new policies on the water industry. It builds on existing policy as set out in the 2024 General Election Manifesto, *For a Fair Deal*, policy paper 156, *Tackling the Nature Crisis* (2025), policy paper 140, *Giving Consumers a Fairer Deal* (2021), and policy motions *The Clean Water Authority* (2024), *Are You Drinking What We're Drinking?* (2024), and *Ending Sewage Discharges* (2022).

F37 Alex Cole-Hamilton MSP, Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats

Chair: Sanne Dijkstra-Downie MSP

F38 Tackling Illegal E-Bikes and Dangerous Riding

Summation: Cllr Hina Bokhari AM

Amendment One

LD Friends of Walking, Wheeling and Cycling

Mover: Katrin Harding

Summation: Cllr Adrian Betteridge

1 *After line 33 insert new b):*

2 b) Legal E-bikes offer significant benefits for widening participation in
3 active travel – particularly for disabled people, older people and
4 those with longer commutes or caring responsibilities – and safe,
5 legal e-bike adoption should be encouraged.

6 *In line 49 after 'apps' insert '..., including by ensuring that pay structures*
7 *and work-allocation algorithms do not incentivise riders to exceed safe*
8 *speeds or use illegal vehicles.'*

9 *In line 54 after 'safety limits.' insert '..., and close the loophole permitting*
10 *such vehicles to be marketed and sold under the pretence of off-road-*
11 *only use when routinely ridden on public roads.'*

12 *After line 65 insert new 5. and 6.:*

13 5. Require delivery platforms to reform per-delivery pay structures so
14 they do not incentivise riders to exceed safe speeds or use illegal

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- 15 vehicles, and to publish regular algorithmic safety assessments.
- 16 6. Work with industry to establish a government-backed e-bike safety
17 kitemark, enabling landlords, transport operators, and insurers to
18 distinguish legal, safe e-bikes from illegal machines to avoid
19 unnecessary blanket restrictions on e-bikes.

Amendment Two

ALDC

Mover: Cllr Darryl Smalley

Summation: Cllr Hina Bokhari AM

1 *After line 45 insert new e):*

- 2 e) Illegal e-bike use and dangerous riding are also a local community
3 safety and antisocial behaviour issue, directly affecting residents and
4 communities and requiring effective partnership working between
5 local authorities, police forces and other relevant agencies.

6 *After line 71 insert new 7.:*

- 7 7. Strengthen support for local authorities and Community Safety
8 Partnerships to tackle the antisocial behaviour associated with illegal
9 e-bikes and dangerous riding, including through improved
10 information-sharing, joint enforcement activity, prevention and
11 community engagement.

Background briefing

This motion creates new policy on illegal e-bikes.

F39 Feeding Britain: A Food Security Emergency

The Conference Committee has agreed to make the following drafting amendments to the motion:

1 *In line 70, delete 'binding'.*

2 *In line 76, delete 'requiring', and insert 'for'*

3 *After line 102, insert new 11.:*

- 4 11. Recognition of the vital role of local authorities in tackling food

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5 poverty, including through the delivery and coordination of free
6 school meals, holiday food provision and other local programmes
7 supporting children and families experiencing food insecurity, and
8 ensuring that councils have the resources necessary to deliver these
9 services effectively.

Amendment One

14 members

Mover: Caroline Voaden MP (Spokesperson for Schools)

Summation: To be announced

1 *After line 22 insert new H.:*

2 H. Holiday hunger is a growing crisis for children dependent on free
3 school meals, who receive no equivalent support during school
4 holidays, leaving many vulnerable young people without reliable
5 access to nutritious food.

6 *After line 42, insert new VI. and VII.:*

7 VI. Children cannot learn when they are hungry, and food security for
8 young people must be treated as an educational and public health
9 priority alongside a national security one.

10 VII. Local food procurement for schools strengthens the connection
11 between communities and the farms and growers in their area, cuts
12 food miles, and ensures children benefit from fresh, seasonal
13 produce.

14 *After line 102 insert new 11. and 12.:*

15 11. Protection of existing school food voucher programmes from cuts or
16 closure, recognising the safety net they provide for families already
17 facing food insecurity.

18 12. Support for local authorities to develop Local Food Plans for schools,
19 mapping local supply chains and connecting schools with nearby
20 producers of fruit, vegetables and other fresh foods, prioritising
21 seasonal and low food-mile produce.

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Amendment Two

13 members

Mover: Duncan Brack

Summation: To be announced

1 *After line 74, insert new 2.:*

2 2. Support for the production of alternative proteins, allowing for
3 reduced dependence on imports, particularly of low-quality meat.

4 *After line 102, insert new 11.:*

5 11. Comprehensive preparations for major disruptions to food supply
6 chains, including national contingency planning for major supply
7 disruptions, better coordination between government, retailers and
8 food producers, establishing regional distribution centres and giving
9 local authorities powers and resources to develop local emergency
10 stockpiles and emergency strategies.

Amendment Three

LDDA

Mover: Katharine Macy

Summation: To be announced

1 *After line 102 insert new 11.:*

2 11. Local Food Plans to liaise with local NHS services to ensure those
3 with allergies or food-related disabilities or illnesses such as diabetes
4 are supported to receive the food they require.

Separate Vote

Delete lines 75-78 (as amended by the drafting amendment):

3. A national food security target for the UK to produce at least 75% of its own food by 2035, with targets around locally produced food.

Background briefing

This motion develops new policies on agriculture and rural affairs. It builds on existing policy as set out in the 2024 General Election Manifesto, *For a Fair Deal*, and policy paper 154, *Food and Farming* (2023).

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