



YOUNG LIBERALS

Meeting: 27th July 11am, online, [Agenda](#)

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Chair's Report

Overview

I would like to start my report with a huge thank-you to Harvey Jones (former Communications Officer), Emily Baker (former Accessibility, Diversity and Standards Officer), Kai Pischke and Sean Bennett (former International Officers), and Kobe Bibbon (former Trans Rep), who all stepped down from their roles recently. Each of them have contributed a huge amount to this organisation, not only on this executive but throughout their time involved in the Young Liberals and I wish them all the best.

I also extend a warm welcome to our new Women's Rep, Olivia Dunn, our new Fundraising Officer, Samuel Wilson, and to Josh Ruttly who is returning to the Federal Executive as Welsh Rep.

This report is going to give a very high-level overview of the things I've done since the election was called. I am going to save my more detailed discussion of how we operated and my reflections upon our efforts during the General Election for my conference report. Much of our work during the General Election took place over Slack or short phone calls with individuals, which is why there were not a large number of meetings internally throughout this period.

It was hugely challenging for me personally. I had 6 of my 8 final university exams – the exams which made up the entirety of my grade – during the General Election. Throughout my exam period, I remained active in the Young Liberals (including at some points responding to queries on Slack just before entering exams and taking phone calls or getting straight back on the next task on my way home from exams), and post-exams I dedicated significantly more time to the organisation. As a result, I am quite burnt out, and I am very grateful to the various members of the executive and other members of the Young Liberals who have helped me with various tasks during and after the General Election.

In sum, we were generally well-organised throughout the election, considering the surprise timing and the other commitments a number of executive members had during the election. I quickly brought papers on campaigning and comms strategies, drafted in collaboration with Elections Committee and regional chairs, as well as a paper on media strategy to the executive.

This helped to give us clarity on how we were going to work, who was responsible for what, and it gave us a structure based on the principle of “no single point of failure” – both to try to ensure efficiency and that things weren’t slipping through the net, and to try to ensure that there was room for people to be able to step away due to other commitments or simply needing a break. We have a lot of lessons to take forward but I think overall we did a good job.

There are definitely points of learning we can take forward, but overall we should all be incredibly proud of what we have collectively achieved. From getting the 380,000 housing target in the manifesto (huge thank you to Ulysse!), to the huge campaigning effort put in by Young Liberals in a vast number of target seats, to the role Young Liberals have played in roles across different levels of the party and as party staff, we should all recognise and be proud of ourselves for the impact that Young Liberals made in this election.

We now have a Young Liberals MP, Joshua Reynolds MP! Nathan Eve (South Central YL Chair) has helped us to get a first action day in the diary for Joshua Reynolds, so please pop 4th August in your diary and come to support him!

I have many people to thank. Firstly, the executive for coming together at a challenging time for all of us and having compassion for each other when we were under high stress and high pressure. Secondly, to those in other roles in YL, including the state executives and committees, who all worked hard during the election and collaborated with one another. Next, thank you to all the HVPs who have been a great source of wisdom and advice as well as personal support. I’d also like to give a shout-out to Christopher Johnson, who helped us significantly with the YL phonebanking sessions.

Finally, thank you to all the members of the Young Liberals. It was particularly lovely to see people getting involved in the party and in YL for the first time. YL members have contributed not only to the General Election itself, but to the years of the professionalisation and the development of the organisation, without which we would not have been able to make such a huge impact during the General Election and throughout the last Parliament. We are on course to make a real impact in the next Parliament.

Internal Meetings

Executive, 26th May: The executive met to discuss our strategy and organisation during

the General Election. I prepared a paper on campaigning and comms strategy in collaboration with Elections Committee and regional chairs, as well as a paper on media

strategy. These papers were agreed Women's Rep onboarding,

19th July: I had a call with our new Women's Rep, Olivia Dunn, to chat to her about her goals and ideas for her role and to get her set up to hit the ground running

External Meetings, Events, and Activities

Federal Board, 26th May: I attended this Federal Board meeting, dealing with items the Board needed to cover in light of the General Election Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) conference,

13th June: I was a panellist in a youth hustings at HEPI conference as a representative of the Liberal Democrats / the Young Liberals

LBC youth hustings, 20th June: I represented the Liberal Democrats at the LBC youth hustings chaired by Iain Dale

Campaigning in the short campaign: I campaigned in seats including Winchester, Taunton, Cheadle, and Brecon, Radnor & Cwn Tawe during the short campaign, and I organised and participated in phone banking within the Young Liberals (more detail on which will appear in my report to conference)

Federal Board, 2nd July: I attended the July Federal Board meeting

Coming Up

I'm looking forward to seeing lots of new and familiar faces at the party on Saturday and at summer conference in London! I'm also hoping to work on a Lib Dem Voice article to articulate YL successes during the General Election and our ambitions and priorities for the next Parliament, which Ulysse Abbate (Policy Officer) has very kindly been assisting me with. I'm also hoping to get stuck back into my work on the Federal People Development Committee (FPDC and keep on top of federal conference preparations.

Secretary's Report

TLDR:

Aced the General Election - very tired now
Business as usual has 99% resumed

General Election

Were we expecting that? Nope. For those unaware, I work for HQ, as well as recently beginning a full time job, so during the GE I was working 7am-10pm most days, as well as volunteering when I could.

To begin the GE correctly, I encouraged everyone to follow the HQ pattern of not working more than 10 days in a row and having 1 day off every week. Burnout is a huge issue and I organised a spreadsheet so we could keep on top of this,=.

In my YL specific role, I worked hard to improve our relationship with HQ - this was hugely successful, multiple Campaign Managers cited YL as a saving grace, and I was even informed by some higher ups that they were expected us to be an issue, but instead it's clear where we've made a difference.

I provided the Elections Committee with guidance and up to date information around target seats, ensuring we were sending people to the correct place as my HQ role was about ensuring seat pairs were kept informed, meaning I was the first person to receive this information.

I believe I made around 500 calls in the name of YL, with around 100 being direct YL phone banking. Via this I've advertised conference as well. I helped Nicholas (co-elections) at both the Eastbourne and Honiton Action Days.

I made a spreadsheet to help us keep track of where YL Exec members had formally been, both before and during the short campaign to aim to get to most targets. I personally went to Winchester, South Cambridgeshire, Eastbourne, Honiton, Wimbledon, and Richmond and helped directly with Chesham & Amersham and Carshalton & Wallington in the Richmond offices helping with the election addresses.

I worked with Danny Chambers to produce a thank you email for our members.

I also made a spreadsheet and wrote about 60% of the personalised paragraphs for our new MPs – huge thank you to Lucas (Events) for doing the mail merge for me!

I ensured to get photos as and when possible for the YL Social Media.

I organised the Thank You Party alongside Will (MemDev), ensuring the presence of MPs, donations from MPs and helping with the nominations.

Business as usual

Minutes: These are fully up to date to the best of my ability

Constitution: After no one updating it after Newcastle, this is now up to date, mostly due to Ulysse (Policy) and is on the website, thanks to me! I also added the updated Policy Document. Teamwork :)

Forum Mods: The remaining Admins will be meeting on Friday to discuss appointing new Mods.

Committees: No one has updated me with their minutes since April – this has been chased, and I've had no confirmation either way if meetings have been held from most committees. Elections Committee provided me with their April minutes.

Covering the absences

I have been providing Lucas (Events) some ADS support in both my role as LDDA Chair (Disability Association) and my experience of ADS.

I have been messaging MPs to encourage donations to ensure the Thank You Party is a cost neutral (if not cost positive) event.

I have supported Will (MemDev) in proof reading comms to members.

I have been keeping an eye on the International emails to make sure important information is transferred.

Events Officer's Report

Brief one this month:

- we have now announced the dates and venue for YL summer conference
- if Exec members could please register for Conference, that would be great
- took part in discussions around the plans for Federal Conference and will be pushing for a way forward which allows as much YL involvement as possible

Co-Election Officers' Report

Report received late

Throughout the General Election, we have been working closely with local parties and organisers nationwide to guide our members on the best places to campaign.

Additionally, Miguel and Nicholas were on the ground supporting teams and young activists in several key locations, including Carshalton and Wallington, Chesham and Amersham, Eastbourne, Glastonbury and Somerton, Harrogate and Knaresborough, Honiton and Sidmouth, Wimbledon, and Winchester. We also ran phone banks to mobilise YL Members and contributed to the wider national maraphoning effort, as well as representing YL at various press events for HQ.

Communication Officer's Report

Role is absent - by-election in progress.

Policy Officer's Report

Since the last meeting, and with the small matter of the General Election, my work and that of Policy Committee was 'derailed' (or more accurately, re-railed to the fast-track to 72 MPs!). With an extreme focus on campaigning, our post-GE work has now shifted to YL Conference and Federal Conference.

General Election

I was pleased to work with the FPC to finalise the manifesto, which I was equally pleased to hear positive things from, from media, voters and activists! Key successes included strong commitments to trans rights, explicit commitment to building 380,000 homes, of which 150,000 would be social homes, and other commitments for young people including on education, internationalism and the environment.

With the manifesto having been finalised and launched within the first few weeks, the rest of the weeks were spent campaigning.

Young Liberals Conference

We have been working with Events and Campaigns committees and their respective officers to deliver YL's Summer Conference. At the time of writing, we have not yet finalised selection of policies, but are optimistic about the number of policies submitted. We have, however, seen a huge decrease in diversity of those submitting policies, in particular surrounding gender and ethnic diversity.

I will take responsibility for this, with it being likely that the policy creation process was not inclusive enough, and I will work to actively look to make it more inclusive. For instance, I am aware that I did not engage sufficiently (or at least, likely could have engaged more) with members on how to create policy. My defence is that there have been lots of competing priorities recently.

I look forward to welcoming you all to the Conference with many great policies to debate!

Federal Conference

YL has accepted to resubmit its policy on reforming Sunday Trading Laws to Federal Conference, and is in discussion with other AOs and party activists to join forces in submitting other motions. We expect conference to be largely

focussed on celebration, and will ensure that we hit the ground running in setting the newly-empowered Liberal Democrats on a path that befits our preamble.

Other

Alongside Janey Little and Rebecca Jones, we are planning on meeting with Christine Jadrine to discuss the Party's activities on Trans Rights

I plan on attending a joint YL - CDP (our Japanese Sibling Party)

Fundraising Officer's Report

Skim

Opening and thanks

Planning

Conference

Main Report

I'd like to thank the whole exec for coopting me into this new role. This is something I really look forward to getting going on. Firstly however I want to thank Josh Ruddy for taking over from me as Welsh Rep. I think its fantastic to have so many WYL members on this exec brining a stronger voice from our states. I'd also like to that Lucas for helping with onboarding, their guidance on top of their other roles has been really helpful and I look forward to working with them more as I get into the role.

Within my new role I have gotten to work right away, networking and developing ideas and working with a range of members across the states and organisation to bring new merch ideas to life, ensuring that we can maximise opportunities such as YL and Federal Conference. Ultimately, I will also look to start working with some of the new MPs and their teams and LP chairs to fundraise, I recognise many of the challenges that will be presented. However, it is an important avenue that needs to be explored appropriately. I also plan to work with state Chairs and other points of contact to work on how best to explore different fundraising opportunities.

In the conferences, I hope to bring out some new T-shirt/hoodie designs – although I understand the limitations of time and opportunity and I accept that for YL conference, this will be a challenge.

Thanks very much,
Diolch yn fawr iawn

Report by Samuel Wilson,
Federal Fundraising Officer; Welsh YL Campaigns officer

Membership Development Officer's Report

General Election

I created a training document that brought together resources from ALDC and HQ into a single source of truth on party training.

I worked with members of diversity committee to review this training guide and make sure it was as accessible as it could be for its first edition.

Thank you party

After an overwhelmingly successful General election it seemed right to give our members the thank you they deserved. I've worked closely with our secretary to help make this event at the scale we wanted.

- Put together an initial brief of ideas, accessibility requirements and communications.
- Designed and ordered medals for awards
- Designed and ordered badges for attendees
- Sent initial invite email
- Sent out safeguarding forms to attendees
- Sent out confirmation email
- Set up Google Forms for award nominations and event sign ups
- Advertised the event on Facebook groups, WhatsApp Chats, Slack and to individuals.
- Organised refreshments for the event

Federal Conference

I've managed to secure an additional training slot at federal conference. This takes our number of sessions to 3.

The three sessions are:

Youth Led Policy Campaigning
Engaging Young People on Social Media
Working with Young People of All Levels

I'm especially looking forward to the working with young people of all levels session as this brings BDO, Regional chairs and University Societies together.

I have explored potential fringe events but this looks tricky from a financial perspective

Young Liberals Conference

I have supported events committee to help explore different venues.

The timetable has been confirmed and session titles will be posted shortly.

Miscellaneous

Completed Forum Spring Clean removing old moderators and pinned posts.

Branch Development Officer's Report

1. Obviously lots of GE stuff
2. Lots of branch Meetings
 - New Epsom and Ewell Branch
 - New Sevenoaks Branch
 - Bristol Uni Lib Dems
 - Royal Holloway
 - KCL Lib Dems
 - Yeovil Young Liberals
 - Welsh Young Liberals
 - Warwick Lib Dems
3. Freshers Materials
 - Circulated for comment before Meeting
4. Non-Society Freshers
 - Conversations with young liberals in lots of areas without active branches (very early still) to get in (and get local parties to pay for) access to freshers fairs
5. New Branch Development Guide
 - Circulated for comment before Meeting
 - WIP

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yjhhPwVOqkUjoi0EC9Q5wpi3wv2HcGfbwkFQibUreJE/edit>
6. Updates to the website
 - Front page cleaned up
 - Navigation Cleaned Up
 - Branch Sections all updated

Accessibility, Diversity & Standard's Officer's Report

Role is absent - co-option has been voted on.

International Officer's Report

Role is absent - by-election in progress.

Non-portfolio Officer's Report

I've been very busy with elections as I'm sure everyone has! I stood in Hackney north and came 4th. Plus I was out helping out target seats, mainly Wimbledon (LDEM GAIN) and Harpenden and Berkhamsted! (LDEM GAIN)

Otherwise nothing to report!

Racial Equity, Diversity and Liberation Officer's Report

Since the general election has been called I have been actively campaigning in target seats in the East of England, including South Cambridgeshire and St Neots and Mid Cambridgeshire. The work on membership experience survey has been picked up again. I have shared the initial report published in the May exec report with LibDem Campaign for Race Equality as well as the Diversity and Inclusion manager of LibDem HQ. Taking on their feedback the report is now in its second iteration which is attached below. I have also got in touch with members who offered to chat to me about their experience within YL which will be adding a final iteration for the report.

England Chair's Report

A lot of normal activities were suspended over the GE, so there's not a tonne to report! I'd like to give a huge thank you to everyone on the EYL Executive for the work they did over the course of the GE campaign, and to all members who got stuck in in any way they could.

EYL Exec: We didn't meet in June, but met on the 14th July. Reports and minutes from this meeting will be published soon. Most of the meeting was looking ahead to the rest of the term, with topics of discussion including Freshers, Regional Conferences, planning for English and Regional elections, next year's locals, exploring a funded project from the English Party to aid with membership recruitment, phonebanking, and the AGM at Summer Conference. Co-options for the Events Representative and English Council vacancies will ensue shortly - these were delayed due to the GE.

English Party: With the GE being called, scheduled English Council and English Council Executive meetings were delayed, with each being rearranged for the near future. Unfortunately, the brilliant English Party Chair Alison Rouse is stepping down for personal reasons following the conclusion of the GE. I'd like to give a huge thank you to Alison for her brilliant work as Chair, for being such a great ally to YL, and a personal friend to myself. She'll be sorely missed on the ECE! However, the English Party will continue to be in safe hands, as our very own Lucas North is set to become the Interim Chair of England following a confirmatory vote at an emergency meeting of the English Council Executive this week, stepping up from their position as Vice-Chair Regional Parties Committee. I wish them all the best in taking up this challenge, and look forward to continuing to work with them in the English Party.

AGM: Our AGM will be held on the Friday of Summer Conference, set to be in the afternoon before the formal opening of Conference. Further details to be announced shortly!

Welsh Reps' Report

Report received late

Hello Exec,

I first of all want to say what a privilege it is being back working with all of you again.

Unfortunately due to the speed of which WYL is running at the moment the report will not be available bilingually. However, a Welsh translation can be provide soon request for any report and WYL will provide it to any person who requires it. For Welsh Correspondence please email Wales@youngliberals.uk

A special thank you to Lucas for allowing me back into the IT and therefore to all of you on Saturday! And thank you to Joshan for already meeting with me regarding freshers in order to allow us a greater working relationship over the new academic year.

Since the last report we have elected 72 MPs across Great Britain and one in Wales. I want to thank every Young Liberal that helped throughout the UK but especially to those across Wales who worked really hard in and out of Wales.

Congratulations to Sam for his cooptions and I know I have big shoes to fill for the last few months of exec!

WYL had attempted to produce literature for the RWS however with the timings of the election and members commitments we where unsuccessful on this occasion but we still have a strong presence at the show.

We are hoping to provide some literature and stickers for the national eisteddfod.

Looking forward to Welsh Conference confirmed for November this means that we will not be holding our AGM at conference this year in order for us to comply with our constitution. This means that we are exploring other options for our AGM outside of that timeframe.

Many thanks
Diolch Yn Fawr

WYL co chair Josh

Scottish Chair's Report

Report received late

The time since the last report has proved both wonderful and disappointing for myself, shortly before the GE my appendix ruptured and I was unfit to work in my role and my responsibilities were transferred to other members of the Scottish executive, however I am also happy to welcome on Arran HIBBERT the new policy officer of SYL, Doubling the size of the SYL exec.

Also happy to confirm SYLs first AGM in a few years, at summer conference this year!

Apologies for the lateness