



YOUNG LIBERALS

MARCH OFFICER REPORTS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: 8PM 23 MARCH 2022

Welsh Chair

This month I have sent out an email to all the young candidates we identified in Wales to see how we can support them. I'm sending emails to those who have responded to help them plan action days and use social media as a candidate.

I also attended the Welsh Lib Dem Board meeting earlier this month, updating the Board on the excellent work of WYL members at Conference and on the campaign trail (particular shoutout to Leena Farhat and Preben Vangberg who are tearing up the streets of Aberconwy with surveys and canvass attempts at the moment).

To follow, I am in the process of contacting candidates who did not respond to my initial email to see how their campaigns are progressing and how we can help. I am also planning to finally organise the meeting with our HVP mentioned in my previous report, and thinking about the next Welsh Conference to see how we can fundraise to secure some extra money for future Execs to use.

Scottish Chair

report received late

As nominations for the local elections continue to be submitted, we are delighted to see more and more Scottish Young Liberals members standing in this years' local elections, and from wednesday we will be sure of how many.

We have finished the process of co-option for Treasurer, and have chosen Sean Dillon from Fife, who is also a candidate in the target of East Neuk & Landward.

English Chair

EYL Exec Meeting

The EYL exec are currently in the process of arranging a meeting to discuss the SE Co-option (have given applicants an extension till the end of friday to submit their statements), discuss plans for the general meeting and EYL reform at summer conference as well as to have a general check in before the May elections. I have also invited Alex Hartley to the meeting to see if there is anything the regional chairs feel they need from the new staff member. This meeting should be at some point next week.

Emergency English Council

On the same day as our executive meeting, there will be a meeting of the full English Council. This meeting will tidy up the standing orders, ratify some changes to selection rules, appoint a replacement vice chair to the EAP and receive reports from reps and officers. The candidate is Kian Hearnshaw, former English Party Vice Chair and of course Young Liberal. He will receive our backing. Young Liberal EC reps have been invited to a pre-meeting before the meeting on Saturday to discuss the agenda. I have been in touch with all our YL-elected EC reps and none seem to need any substitutes so I am expecting us to have 100% attendance again.

General Thank Yous

I also think it is fitting to echo a few thank yous again. Callum as vice chair continues to do an excellent job of the more involved role for vice chair that was suggested by Jack Worrall, and furthermore, as I am sure we all know from forum!, all regional chairs are doing an absolutely excellent job of action days

Miscellaneous others

- Have submitted Joe Norris as the EYL rep to the Joint Policy Committee of the regions
- Staffed the YL stand and chat moderated at conference
- Have opened a discussion with Jack for after may about the role of EYL and the regions in fundraising efforts
- Have discussed being chair of the upcoming drugs policy working group with Janey Little

Non-Portfolio Officer

➤ Held a discussion with Keiron Franks (Membership Development officer) on what was the best ways I could help them in regards to training at the then upcoming Spring Conference.

➤ Wrote a training brief for Spring Conference on the topic of "Why you should choose a YL Candidate."

➤ Met with Richard Cole from ALDC throughout the month to set the agenda and gather further information for our Exec away day ALDC HQ in Salford.

➤ Attended a meeting of the executive to discuss the situation regarding a Special Conference on the topic of Ukraine.

➤ Had a catch up meeting with Eleanor Kelly (Chair).

➤ Attended an introductory meeting with Alex Hartley (YL Staff Member) which consisted of discussing how we can best work together and he can lend a hand with my work as Non-Portfolio Officer.

Racial Equity, Diversity and Liberation Officer

Since taking up the role I have began to start my work on improving the racial diversity in YL. I have:

- Met with the co-communications officer to discuss the use of the BAME YL FB Group and how we can get more people engaged with the group.

-Reached out to Amna Ahmad, Vice President of the Liberal Democrat's, on meeting to develop a strategy to create a strategy for YL in improving racial diversity and promoting greater participation amongst ethnical minority members.

In the coming two months I hope to work further on creating a new strategy on this with LDCRE and Amna and present this to the executive.

Co-Accessibility, Diversity and Standards Officers

report received late

Conference:

- Lucy held a fringe session with Abigail on how to write diverse policy and take it to conference.
- Helped on the YL booth when needed.

YL Pride:

- Together, with Charlie (trans rep) and Niel (LGBA+ Rep) we met to discuss YL Pride this summer.
- We came to the conclusion that it will likely be held at the end of June (exact dates tbc), and cover one speaker session and one social event.
- We will reconvene again in the near future to formalise plans as well as get in touch with relevant officers.

Young and Winning:

- Whilst not being able to attend the full meeting, Andrew attended part of the Y&W meeting to discuss the first round of applicants. It was fantastic to see many people apply, and wish everybody luck in their campaigns.

Women's Rep:

- With the new Staff Member now joining us, we look forward to working with him. One of our first aims is to re-open the co-option for womens rep which is still vacant, this will hopefully start over the next month.

International Officer

no report received

Policy Officer

report received late

We successfully passed our motion, F32 Criminal Records, at Sping Conference! Many thanks and congratulations go to Thom Campion and Alexandra Kimmons for proposing and summing the motion respectively.

Additionally, we passed an amendment to F33 Supporting Hospitality, Retail and Leisure in the Face of Omicron, calling for the introduction of preferential duty rates for draught beer. Thank you to Eleanor Kelly for summing the amendment.

Following discussion with the executive, I have written a brief and opened applications for a working group on Ukraine, which will support Peter Banks' LYMEC work on the issue. I am also tasking the working group with updating the policy paper for submission to YL summer conference afterwards.

I am currently working on the YL consultation responses to the FPC working groups, and will be encouraging individual members to put in their own responses too.

Following YL winter conference, I have updated the policy book and spoken to Policy Committee to begin work on the motions which were referenced back. This accompanied discussions about how we will approach and support policy submissions to YL summer conference and federal winter conference.

Co-Events Officers

no report received

Branch Development Officer

March has been quieter for working on projects than I'd have liked, given conference season and a heavy uni workload. Nevertheless I have been ticking along and have done the following:

Wrote and delivered a training session, 'Working with your local YL branch' at federal conference

Continued to work on maintaining branch information on the website

Continued to work on responding to inquiries for advice. Apologies if I haven't gotten to you yet, I'll try to reply as soon as possible! Thank you for your patience

Attended campaigns committee to continue to work on freshers, including choosing campaigns

Membership Development Officer

I have been ill for an extended amount of time during this month, as well as a busy period of work within my Student's Union, which has meant I haven't gotten as much done this month as I would've liked to but there has still been progress in a number of areas.

LD Spring Conference

Spring conference went well and I would like to thank all of the trainers who offered their help. Some training sessions were not as well attended as we would've hoped but this is a broadly similar situation to other AOs so it isn't something to be too concerned about.

ALDC Memberships

The process of reallocating these has finally gotten underway and current beneficiaries of YL-funded ALDC membership should expect an email within the next week asking if they wish to retain it and what benefit they feel have gotten from it so far. Regional chairs will take priority in getting ALDC membership and if there are any remaining at that point, they will be offered on an application basis.

Training Hub

Now that Spring conference season is out of the way, I am now in the process of setting up meetings with those Exec members who expressed interest to start working on the training hub in earnest, with the hope of launching by the end of this term.

Young and Winning

I'm in touch with Fergus and the new YL staff member as to what training support we can provide to successful Y+W recipients in the short period heading up to the 2022 local elections in May.

Age Change and Admin

The age change passed at Spring Conference is now in the process of being implemented on party systems. I have been in touch with HQ on this and we are working out the finer details of how this will work on a technological level. We also now have access to our membership information on some level, though not through Lighthouse - this is also being worked on by HQ.

Campaigns Officer

Young & Winning

On 10th March, we sorted through 23 applicants for Y&W and distributed £1500 across xxx people. There was a good few from across all states and a fairly diverse group of applicants. There was however, just one candidate that identifies as female again and two that identify as minority ethnic which we need to work on to achieve much better. Once Jack is able to get the banks sorted we will be able to pay everyone, hopefully before May!

Local Election

I hope everyone is excited for May. There's a lot of very important elections coming up and we are here to help as best as possible. I will be sending out good focus templates and hopefully deliver some training for candidates and activists. Please keep sending me action days as they are really good on the website and would be lovely to have it full.

Freshers

Campaigns team meeting will be wed 23rd to discuss the campaign topics for freshers this year, I will give a verbal update on what they are at the exec as this meeting is happening after I am writing this.

Elections overview

A list of elections at the moment or coming up:

Green List (Active Elections):

11 Local By-election Polling Days (LD cand. def in 2 of them so far)

Amber List (Potential Elections):

Nil

Current polling average (chg since last month):

Lab: 39% (-)

Con: 33% (+2)

LD: 10% (-1)

Green: 7% (+1)

Co-Communications Officers

It's been another busy month, with federal conference just ended and local elections on the horizon, we have been doing our best to support the Comms needs of the other officers on the Exec. As usual, we have split our report into our shared responsibilities, though it is worth noting that some things that only appear on one of our reports may still have been worked on by both of us.

Sakeena

- Made graphics for Action Days in run-up to locals
- Continued oversight of and posting on YL Instagram & Facebook
- Liaised with BBC journalist looking for a pre-university young person from the East Midlands to talk to (if you fit this bill please contact me ASAP)
- Organised and co-chaired Comms Committee
- Held discussions with various people about how to engage newer members in comms
- Held similar discussions about how to engage members outside of Facebook
- Invented Diamond of the Week (no, that name will not be changing) to highlight campaigners/branches going above and beyond heading into local elections
- Been in touch with branch and society chairs to ask for nominations for Diamond of the Week (will be launching shortly)

Caitlin

- Continued oversight of and posting on YL Twitter
- Responded to DM enquiries over Twitter
- Worked with Charlie Moore to promote West Midlands YL AGM next Monday (primarily via email, there will also be a tweet closer to the time)
- Ongoing work with Charlie Moore (as EYL Comms rep) to update the EYL exec page on the YL website

- Worked with Janey to upload newest version of YL Policy Book to Documents page on website
- Attended part of campaigns committee to discuss Young and Winning (started having signal problems halfway through as I was travelling, so unfortunately couldn't attend whole meeting)
- Revived and sent out first new edition of the YL Monthly Newsletter, this month's highlighted upcoming action days, and introduced Keeran as the new REDL Officer and Alex as our new staff member
- Represented Comms at campaigns committee to discuss freshers plans
- Co-chaired and took minutes for Comms Committee, and distributed said minutes
- Liaised with Lucas, Eleanor, and Matt to get YL's voting recommendations onto the website (with a big shout-out to Matt for getting this done whilst I was at work)
- Helped publicise YL's positions on key federal conference votes via Twitter

Finance Officer

report received late

Accounts 2021

Please find the accounts attached to the agenda.

We will need to approve these in the meeting and then they will have to be signed by the previous chair and treasurer. If the previous treasurer doesn't get back to me, I will just sign them.

Bank Accounts

RBS 361 - Jack Worrall 1 - that's right I have finally secured a win against RBS. I have got access to the bank accounts and have started to make payments. I have gotten through all but 1 2020-2021 term payments that were given to me (waiting for bank details). I have made progress and paid ½ of the Young and winning fund and some other payments that are due.

I will make more progress on Young and Winning payments and then make a start on the access fund for edinburgh and executive expenses.

David Rendall fund

They are going to use the £2300 to hire two interns for a months to learn to become organisers.

Vice-Chair

Minutes: I would like to thank our NPO Daniel for taking minutes during the previous meeting as I unfortunately needed to send my apologies. These were kindly forwarded on to me by our Chair Eleanor on the evening of the meeting. After making some edits to bring the minutes into line with the usual formatting these were circulated at 23:35 on the evening of the meeting. I would like to

apologise for the late hour of this. A vote was called and the minutes approved after a period for review. The minutes were then uploaded to the website and posted on Forum.

Comms Committee: In addition to my attendance at committee meetings I assisted the comms officers in the creation of a new page for Federal Conference.

Miscellaneous: I assisted our MemDev with the running of a training event at conference on the topic of young liberals on local party executives,

Chair

report received late

External and Internal Meetings

- Chaired exec meeting on 23/02/2021
- Chaired meeting of exec to discuss constitutional and logistical questions raised by special conferences
- Attended catch up with party president, Mark Pack
- Attended campaigns committee meeting to discuss freshers

Staff Member

- Worked with JA and CA to interview applicants for the new YL Development Officer.
- I'm very pleased to welcome Alex Hartley to the team as our new YL staff member

Federal Conference

- As a result of the board reforms passed at conference, we have retained our seat on the new, smaller Federal Board and have 3 additional seats on the new scrutiny council. I will make arrangements for these to be elected in line with our usual annual elections
- As promised in my hustings/chairs Q&A I took the opportunity to put in my first (as well as my second and third) speakers cards at conference.
- I want to say well done to everyone who represented YL at conference, whether in training, at fringes or in debates. I've had some very positive feedback on our presence there.

Admin

- Further assisted JW in his work to solve our current banking issues.

I'd like to apologise for the brevity of this report. I'm currently very busy and so will have missed out some of my work from the last month.

Please feel free to contact me if you've any questions.