

Young Liberals Constitution

Young Liberals is a political organisation that exists to campaign on issues affecting young people and students. We have branches across the UK run by young people, for young people.

Young Liberals provides a platform for young people and students to have their voices heard and acts as a radical pressure group within the Liberal Democrats. Our aim is to fight for a society based on fairness, equality and freedom for all.

Section 1: Name & Objectives

1. The name of the organisation shall be Young Liberals.
2. The Objectives of the organisation shall be:
 - a. To represent the membership of Young Liberals to the Liberal Democrats;
 - b. To promote the Liberal Democrats amongst young people and students;
 - c. To develop members, branches and state and regional organisations to achieve these Objectives; and
 - d. To further the Objectives of the Liberal Democrats as set out in Article 1.2 of the Federal Constitution of the Liberal Democrats.
3. In pursuit of the Objectives, the organisation shall have the power to:
 - a. Raise and spend money;
 - b. Campaign in support of Liberal Democrat candidates or independent candidates supported by the party;
 - c. Campaign in referendums;
 - d. Campaign in support of its own policy or the policy of the Liberal Democrats, or on topical issues of concern to its members; and
 - e. Affiliate to external organisations that are in line with the Objectives.

Section 2: Structure

1. Young Liberals is the Specified Associated Organisation (SAO) of the Liberal Democrats for students and young people.
2. Provided that they adhere to the Objectives of the organisation, Young Liberals will recognise and support:
 - a. State Organisations for England, Scotland and Wales; and
 - b. Regional and local branches of those State Organisation
3. Young Liberals may affiliate to external organisations where this is in line with the Objectives, subject to the Affiliation Regulations.

Section 3: Governance

1. This Constitution may only be amended by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at Conference.
2. Any provision of this Constitution shall be considered null and void if it conflicts with the Federal Constitution of the Liberal Democrats or any regulations established under its authority governing SAOs.
3. Young Liberals shall be independent from the Liberal Democrats in all other regards.
4. No elected Officer or representative within Young Liberals shall be mandated
5. The Executive and all Committees shall exercise their powers by majority vote, except where explicitly provided for in the appended regulations.

6. There shall be the following regulations appended to this Constitution, which shall be considered to be an integral part of it:
 - a. Election Regulations;
 - b. Appeals Regulations;
 - c. Conference Standing Orders; and
 - d. Affiliations and Endorsement Annex.
7. The Executive shall adopt further regulations in relation to:
 - a. The conduct of its business (“Executive Regulations”);
 - b. The proper management of the organisation’s finances (“Financial Regulations”); and
 - c. Such other matters as the Executive considers appropriate from time to time.
8. Regulations made by the Executive shall be subject to this Constitution.
9. Changes to the executive passed at conference should take effect at the next election of the position, unless otherwise specified

Section 4: Legal compliance

1. The accounting period of the organisation shall be the year commencing 1 January and ending 31 December.
2. The organisation shall comply with the requirements of the Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000 (PPERA) and any successor legislation
3. All members of the Executive have a duty to ensure that the organisation’s resources are applied solely towards the Objectives and to ensure that the organisation’s financial obligations never exceed its resources.
4. The Executive shall appoint a Registered Treasurer and a Registered Second Officer (Registered Officers) to take on formal legal responsibilities under PERA. Such individuals need not be members of the organisation but shall be members of the Liberal Democrats in good standing and shall serve until removed or until they resign.
 - a. The Registered Officers shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and speak at all meetings of the Executive, but shall only be entitled to vote if they are voting members of the Executive by other means.
 - b. Either Registered Officer, on resignation, may submit a statement of reasons which shall be presented to the next Conference. A copy of any such statement shall be sent to the Chief Executive of the Liberal Democrats promptly upon receipt of the resignation.
 - c. Both Registered Officers shall be entitled to become signatories on any bank account or similar facility, and to examine any financial paperwork, but shall be bound by the Financial Regulations in respect of the exercise of their powers as signatories.
5. The Registered Officers shall ensure that a copy of the organisation’s financial statements for the previous year are laid before the Annual General Meeting.
6. The Executive may resolve to merge the organisation with another accounting unit of the Liberal Democrats, or with the central party, for the purposes of compliance with PERA. In this case, Articles 4.4, and 4.5 shall not apply and no Registered Officers need be appointed.
7. Unless the State Organisations inform the Registered Officers (if appointed) and the Executive that they have arranged to report under PERA via another accounting unit, the duties and powers of the Registered Officers (if appointed) shall extend to the State Organisations and the State Organisations shall be bound by the Financial Regulations

Section 5: Membership

1. There shall be the following classes of membership:
 - a. Full members;

- b. Associate members; and
 - c. Honorary life members.
2. No individual shall be a member unless their name, email address and (where applicable) Liberal Democrat membership number are held by the organisation
3. Only full members shall be entitled to exercise any governance rights, including the right to propose and vote on motions at Conference and the right to stand or vote in elections.
4. Associate and honorary life members shall be entitled to attend and speak at Conference.
5. Full membership shall be open to:
 - a. Liberal Democrat members aged 25 or younger (youth members);
 - b. Liberal Democrat members who are students (student members); and
 - c. Liberal Democrat members aged more than 25 but no more than 30 (opt-in members).
6. An individual eligible to be a youth member or a student member shall be a member if:
 - a. They are included on a list of members received by the organisation from the Liberal Democrats; and
 - b. They apply directly to the Executive.
7. An individual eligible to be an opt-in member shall be admitted on receipt of an application and a subscription fee, as determined by the Executive.
8. Associate members need not be members of the Liberal Democrats and shall be admitted at the discretion of the Executive and subject to payment of a fee determined by the Executive.
9. Opt-in membership and associate membership shall lapse at the expiration of one year from the end of the month in which the member is admitted, unless renewed.
10. Honorary life membership may be conferred by a simple majority vote at Conference, under the same procedures as a policy motion, on any individual that Conference believes has significantly contributed towards the organisation or its Objectives, and shall be revoked automatically if the holder ceases to be a member of the Liberal Democrats

Section 6: Executive

1. The organisation shall have an Executive, which shall be composed of the following Officers:
 - a. Chair;
 - b. Vice-Chair;
 - c. Finance Officer;
 - d. Communications Officer;
 - e. Campaigns Officer;
 - f. Membership Development Officer;
 - g. Events Officer;
 - h. Policy Officer;
 - i. International Officer;
 - j. Welfare and Access Officer;
 - k. A representative from each State Organisation, as determined by that State Organisation; and
 - l. Non-Portfolio Officer.
2. The duties of each Officer shall be set out in the Executive regulations, which shall govern the conduct of meetings and the standards expected of Officers.
3. Only the Officers specified above shall be entitled to vote on a motion before the Executive.
4. The Executive shall be elected annually by all-member ballot, for a term of office commencing on 1 November and ending on 31 October.
5. Individuals may not hold more than one office on the Executive.
6. Job shares between two people shall be permitted for any of the roles set out in Article 6.1.
 - a. Individuals elected in a job share shall share one vote on the Executive.

- b. Individuals elected in a job share enter and leave office together and cannot resign or otherwise be removed separately.
 - c. In the event that only one half of a job share wishes to resign, the remaining half may serve in a temporary capacity until the vacancy is filled.
7. All Officers must be full members of the organisation. In the event that any Officer ceases to be a member they shall be considered to have resigned their post.

Section 7: Committees

1. In addition to the Executive, there shall be the following Committees, who shall conduct their business in accordance with this Constitution and any further regulations made by the Executive:
 - a. Campaigns Committee;
 - b. Conference Committee;
 - c. Policy Committee;
 - d. International Congress Delegates Committee; and
 - e. Further Education Working Group.
2. The members of the Campaigns Committee shall be:
 - a. The Campaigns Officer, as chair of the Committee;
 - b. Two full members, to be assigned portfolio roles by the Committee to support the Campaigns Officer in running Young Liberals' campaigns throughout the year elected by all member ballot;
 - c. One representative of each State Organisation, as determined by that State Organisation;
 - d. The Communications Officer (non-voting); and
 - e. One representative of the International Committee (non-voting).
3. The members of the Conference Committee shall be:
 - a. The Events Officer, as chair of the Committee;
 - b. Two full members elected by all-member ballot; and
 - c. One representative of each State Organisation, as determined by that State Organisation.
4. The members of the Policy Committee shall be:
 - a. The Policy Officer, as chair of the Committee;
 - b. Two full members elected by all-member ballot; and
 - c. One representative of each State Organisation, as determined by that State Organisation.
5. The Members of the International Congress Delegates Committee shall be:
 - a. The International Officer, as chair of the Committee;
 - b. Three full members elected by all-member ballot; and
 - c. Any Young Liberal or Liberal Democrat member who holds a position on the board of an International Organisation to which the organisation is affiliated (non-voting).
6. Members of the Communications Committee shall be:
 - a. The Communications Officer as chair of the Committee;
 - b. Two members elected by an all-member ballot;
 - c. The communications Officers for the state executives; and
 - d. The Campaigns Officer.
7. The members of the Further Education Working Group shall be:
 - a. A member of the Executive, selected by the Executive, as chair of the working group;
 - b. Two full members selected by the Executive for their experience and expertise in Further Education; and
 - c. One representative of each State Organisation, as determined by that State Organisation.

8. Committees shall hold office for the same terms as the Executive.
9. All Committee members must be full members of the organisation. In the event that any Committee member ceases to be a member they shall be considered to have resigned their post.
10. Job shares shall be permitted for Committees on the same terms as for the Executive.
11. No individual may hold more than one voting position on any one Committee.
12. The role of the Campaigns Committee shall be:
 - a. To promote the organisation and the Liberal Democrats to students and young people;
 - b. To support Liberal Democrat campaigning in recruiting and campaigning for students and young people;
 - c. To organise campaigns as decided by Conference; and
 - d. To organise the annual Freshers campaign.
13. The role of the Conference Committee shall be:
 - a. To organise Conference, both in advance and on site; and
 - b. To make recommendations to the Executive regarding activity at Liberal Democrat events, and to organise this if approved.
14. The role of the Communications Committee is to:
 - a. To support the Communications Officer in their role;
 - b. To promote the Young Liberals, our events, and campaigns; and
 - c. To work as a media response team for any pressing news item or agenda.
15. The role of the Policy Committee shall be:
 - a. To draft policy for Conference;
 - b. To draft policy for Liberal Democrats Conferences;
 - c. To ensure policy is consistent;
 - d. To commission working groups to explore policy areas;
 - e. To provide drafting advice to members wishing to submit policy motions and amendments to Conference; and
 - f. To select motions for debate at Conference, within the time constraints set by Conference Committee.
16. The role of the International Committee shall be:
 - a. Assist the International Officer in managing the international relations and international activities of Young Liberals, at the discretion of the International Officer;
 - b. Serve as delegates to Young Liberals international affiliate's congresses;
 - c. To promote the international activities of Young Liberals; and
 - d. To make recommendations to the Executive, to be taken to conference, regarding affiliations with International Organisations.
17. The role of the Further Education Working Group shall be:
 - a. To support the Executive and the Policy Committee to improve the Further Education policy of the organisation and of the Liberal Democrats; and
 - b. To improve the organisation's engagement with Further Education students.
18. All Committees shall arrange for minutes of their meetings to be kept. A copy shall be provided to the Chair of the organisation.

Section 8: Honorary Officers

1. The following Honorary Officers shall be elected by all-member ballot:
 - a. Honorary President; and
 - b. Six Honorary Vice-Presidents.
2. Honorary Officers shall serve for two-year terms commencing on 1 November and finishing on 31 October two years later.

3. Honorary Officers need not be members of the organisation but must be members of the Liberal Democrats. In the event that any Honorary Officer ceases to be a member of the Liberal Democrats they shall be considered to have resigned their post.
4. Honorary Officers shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and speak at Executive meetings unless the Executive resolves otherwise in a particular case. Honorary Officers shall not be entitled to vote.
5. Honorary Officers shall offer support and advice to the Executive and, if requested, Committees.
6. Honorary Officers who are members may not hold any other office within the organisation.

Section 9: Elections

1. All elections shall be conducted in accordance with the Election Regulations.
2. The Executive shall appoint a Returning Officer at their first meeting, or when a vacancy arises, who shall not be a member of the organisation but who shall be a member of the Liberal Democrats.
3. If a vacancy arises on the Executive, on a Committee or amongst the Honorary Officers during the term of office, the Executive shall have the power to fill the vacancy by co-option as set out in the Election Regulations.
4. Co-options shall not be used if the role of Chair is vacant, or if there is more than one executive position vacant. In this case, a by-election shall be held in accordance with the Election Regulations.
5. All elections and co-options will take place by secret ballot using the Single Transferable Vote system.
6. All those wishing to stand for the positions of Chair, Finance Officer, International Officer or Welfare and Accessibility Officer must be 18 or over on the day their term starts.

Section 10: Conference

1. Conference shall be the sovereign body of the organisation and shall have power to determine the policy and direction of the organisation, subject to this Constitution and the [Constitution of the Liberal Democrats](#).
2. Conference shall take place at least once per year
 - a. Further Conferences may be called by the Executive.
 - b. A Special Conference shall be called within two months of the receipt by the Chair of the organisation of a requisition signed by not fewer than 200 full members, including at least 15 members of each State Organisation.
 - c. A Special Conference shall debate the business specified in the requisition. At the discretion of the Executive, other business may also be taken.
3. At least one Conference must be held between May and October, which shall be the Annual General Meeting of the organisation.
4. The timing and organisation of Conference shall be managed by Conference Committee.
5. Conference shall run according to the Conference Standing Orders.

Section 11: Policy

1. The organisation shall have policies on matters of interest or importance to its members. Such policies shall be independent of those of the Liberal Democrats.
2. Policy powers shall be exercised by the State Organisations unless expressly provided by this Constitution. Each State Organisation shall set policy relating to the corresponding state of the United Kingdom under its own procedures.
3. Policy which necessarily crosses State Organisation boundaries shall be set by Conference under this Constitution unless the constitutions of the relevant State Organisations together provide for a joint policy process.

4. Policy which relates to the UK as a whole, to Northern Ireland or to international affairs shall be set by Conference under this Constitution.
5. Policy which would usually be assigned to a State Organisation shall be set by Conference under this Constitution if no relevant State Organisation is recognised.
6. A State Organisation may, by provision in its constitution, designate some or all of its policy powers to be exercised by Conference under this Constitution.
7. The Executive may adopt interim policy on any matter where Conference is entitled to set policy, subject to ratification by Policy Committee. Interim policy shall lapse at the end of the next Conference at which the matter could be debated.
8. The policy of the Liberal Democrats may be treated as this organisation's policy where it does not contradict established policy.
9. Policies adopted shall lapse after 5 years, unless renewed.

Section 12: Appeals and Disputes

1. Membership of full members may be revoked by the Executive on one or more of the following grounds:
 - a. Material disagreement, evidenced by conduct, with the fundamental values and objectives of the Liberal Democrats;
 - b. Conduct which has brought, or is likely to bring, the Liberal Democrats into dispute;
 - c. Standing against the candidate of the Liberal Democrats in any Parliamentary or European Parliamentary election;
 - d. Standing against the candidate of the Liberal Democrats in any local authority election;
 - e. Membership of or support for another political party in Great Britain;
 - f. Conduct that amounts to bullying or harassment of another person in connection with the business of the Liberal Democrats, including this organisation; and
 - g. Conduct that amounts to discrimination against another person on the basis of a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010.
2. Members must treat others with respect and must not bully, harass or intimidate any member, member of staff, member of parliamentary staff, volunteer or member of the public. Such behaviour will be considered to be bringing the Liberal Democrats into disrepute.
3. If the organisation has the power to apply sanctions under the membership rules of the Liberal Democrats (or any state party thereof), the relevant Liberal Democrat procedures shall be followed in connection with any such action. In the event of a conflict, these procedures shall take precedence over this Constitution.
4. Membership of associate and honorary life members may be revoked at any time if the Executive believes that not to do so would be prejudicial to the interests of the organisation.
5. No class of membership shall be revoked unless the member has been notified of the grounds on which revocation is to be considered and has been given a reasonable opportunity to reply. In cases of urgency the Executive may suspend membership while revocation is being considered.
6. Any person aggrieved by such a revocation shall have the right of appeal to the Appeals Panel, which shall investigate the original grounds for suspension and the Executive's decision, and which shall have the power to reinstate the member.
7. Any person whose membership of the Liberal Democrats is suspended or revoked by the Liberal Democrats shall be automatically suspended or expelled (respectively) from this organisation unless the Executive shall, in exceptional circumstances, decide otherwise.
8. The Appeals Panel shall adjudicate any dispute over the interpretation of this Constitution or any claim that rights under this Constitution have been infringed.

9. The Appeals Panel shall comprise four ordinary members nominated by the Honorary President, one of whom shall be designed as chair of the Appeals Panel. The Honorary President may self-nominate as a member of the Appeals Panel unless otherwise barred from doing so.
10. Membership of the Appeals Panel shall not be open to any individual holding any other office within the organisation (including State Organisations), except for Honorary Officers.

Election Regulations

1. The Returning Officer shall publish a timetable for the receipt of nominations, dispatch and return of ballot papers and the counting of the votes for each election covered by these regulations.
 - a. The election timetable shall allow a one-week nomination period and a two-week voting period, with a week-long gap in between.
 - b. Campaigning may occur from the opening of nominations until the close of voting. c. In the case of a co-option, the voting period may be shorter than two weeks but not shorter than three days.
2. Any eligible individual may nominate themselves to be a candidate. Nominations must include the following details:
 - a. Name;
 - b. Membership number;
 - c. The post to which election is sought;
 - d. Email address;
 - e. Telephone number; and
 - f. A statement of consent to nomination, which shall constitute specific agreement to abide by these regulations.
3. Candidates shall be entitled to supply an election address to be circulated by the Returning Officer when voting opens. Election addresses must reach the Returning Officer by a date and in a format specified by the Returning Officer.
 - a. Candidates shall be responsible for supplying material to verify, to the satisfaction of the Returning Officer, any statement in their election address that claims endorsement by any individual or organisation. If this supporting material is not provided, the election address shall not be circulated.
4. Candidates shall conduct their campaigns in a manner respectful of other candidates, of members and of the law.
 - a. No candidate may incur, or directly or indirectly authorise or cause to be incurred, any further expenses on campaigning at any time before or after the close of nominations. Candidates may make use of free social media.
 - b. Candidates must not engage in treating.
 - c. Candidates who hold such information must not make use of membership lists and other information covered by the Data Protection Act in order to promote their campaigns.
 - d. No material published or circulated by or on behalf of a candidate may defame explicitly or implicitly any other candidate, and no candidate may so defame any other candidate in the course of personal canvassing.
5. All elections shall be conducted under the Single Transferable Vote system
 - a. In the case of an all-member election, ballots shall be sent to all members.
 - b. In the case of a co-option, ballots shall be sent only to members of the Executive.
 - c. All ballots shall be electronic unless the Returning Officer and Executive agree otherwise.
 - d. In the case of an electronic ballot sent by email, if two members share an email address then the Returning Officer may determine that only one ballot should be sent. The member whose ballot is not sent may require that a ballot be sent to another email address not shared with another member.
6. Any member may lodge, in writing, a formal complaint of infringement of election regulations upon becoming aware of such infringement.

- a. The complaint should be addressed to the Returning Officer and should specify the nature of the infringement and must be received before the expiration of 21 days after the declaration.
- b. The Returning Officer shall decide whether there is sufficient evidence to uphold the complaint but shall not do so without offering any candidate concerned the right to make representations.
- c. The Returning Officer shall have the power to disqualify before or after the declaration of the result any candidate who is found to be in breach of these regulations.
- d. Appeals against the decision of the Returning Officer should be directed to the Appeals Panel.

Appeals Regulations

1. The Appeals Panel shall meet (either in person or by electronic means) within 21 days of receiving an appeal.
2. The Appeals Panel shall:
 - a. Have regard to relevant matters only;
 - b. Accept submissions from all interested parties;
 - c. Provide any accused individual with full details of complaints against them and offer a right to reply; and
 - d. Record its decision in full.
3. No person shall sit on the Appeals Panel if that person has a prejudicial interest in the matter.
 - a. If it is alleged that a member has improperly failed to recuse themselves, this shall be raised as a separate appeal.
4. If the Appeals Panel determines that a previous Appeals Panel reached a ruling dubiously, they may make a new ruling on the original matter.
5. Appeals shall in the first instance be directed to Honorary President.

Conference Standing Orders

1. Conference Committee shall set the dates of Conference and shall arrange for the location, dates, registration procedure and deadlines to be communicated to members.
2. Motions and amendments shall be submitted as set out by Conference Committee and shall state the proposer and seconder.
 - a. Deadlines shall be as follows:
 - i. Policy / Business motions: 30 days prior to the opening of Conference;
 - ii. Policy / Business motion amendments: 14 days prior to the opening of Conference;
 - iii. Emergency motions: 72 hours prior to the opening of Conference;
 - iv. Emergency motion amendments: at Conference, as agreed by Policy Committee;
 - v. Constitutional amendments: 30 days prior to the opening of Conference; and
 - vi. Amendments to the Constitutional amendments: 14 days prior to the opening of Conference.
 - b. Late submissions may be considered at the discretion of Policy Committee.
 - c. In the case of motions on Officers, the submission may be made directly to Conference Committee or, if announced in advance, to the chair of the motions on Officers session.
3. Policy Committee shall select the motions to be debated and the order of debate from amongst those submitted.
 - a. Motions may only be rejected on the following grounds:
 - i. Late submission;
 - ii. Conflict with the Constitution;
 - iii. Being incomprehensible, frivolous or ambiguous; and
 - iv. In the case of an emergency motion, the lack of any matter of substance in the motion that arose after the non-emergency submission deadline.
 - b. If two conflicting motions on the same topic are received, the Policy Committee may liaise with the proposers to draft a composite motion or may select one motion and reject the other, inviting the proposer of the rejected motion to move an amendment.
4. There shall be an Executive Scrutiny session, to which members of the Executive shall submit reports and during which motions on Officers shall be debated.
 - a. The chair of this session shall not be a member of the Executive or of a Committee;
 - b. The following motions on Officers may be debated:
 - i. Motion of commendation;
 - ii. Motion of censure; and
 - iii. Motion of no confidence (which shall have the effect of removing the subject from office, as set out in the Constitution);
 - c. Motions on Officers shall be moved by the proposer, or their nominee;
 - d. The Officer or Officers to which the motion relates may respond; and
 - e. Other speakers may be taken at the discretion of the Chair, provided that the Officer or Officers to which the motion relates are given a fair right of reply to any points raised
5. Conference Committee shall allocate a Chair and Aide to each session.
 - a. The Chair shall be responsible for the conduct of the debate.
 - b. The Aide shall assist the Chair and shall record the votes.
 - c. The Chair and Aide may vote only if the vote is held by secret ballot.

6. Debates on motions, except for motions on Officers, shall be conducted in the following manner:
 - a. The Chair shall announce the time limits for speakers as determined by Conference Committee;
 - b. The proposer, or their nominee, shall introduce the motion;
 - c. Each amendment shall be introduced by its proposer or their nominee;
 - d. Conference shall debate the motion;
 - e. The proposer of each amendment, or their nominee shall summate the debate on that amendment. If the amendment has not been opposed, the Chair may decline to call for a summation on the amendment;
 - f. The proposer of the motion, or their nominee, shall summate the debate on the motion; and
 - g. Conference shall vote on the amendments, and then on the motion as amended
7. Members may submit procedural motions and points of order to the Chair or Aide.
 - a. A point of order, which may be raised from the floor, shall be ruled upon immediately.
 - b. The following procedural motions may be moved.
 - i. No confidence in the chair;
 - ii. Suspend standing orders;
 - iii. Move to next business;
 - iv. Move straight to a vote;
 - v. Refer back (to the Executive or a Committee);
 - vi. Request a counted vote;
 - vii. Vote separately on a section / vote in parts; and
 - viii. Secret ballot.
 - c. Procedural motions (i) - (iv) shall require a two-thirds majority; other procedural motions shall require a simple majority.
 - d. If no member present wishes to oppose a procedural motion, it shall pass without a vote.
 - e. Procedural motions shall be dealt with immediately upon receipt by the Chair, except that a member speaking at the time shall not be interrupted before the end of their time.
8. Votes shall be taken by a show of voting cards unless a request for a vote by secret ballot has been approved.
 - a. Constitutional amendments shall require a two-thirds majority vote;
 - b. Motions of no confidence and motions of censure shall require a two-thirds majority vote;
 - c. All other motions shall require a simple majority vote; and
 - d. Majorities shall be calculated by reference to those present and voting, excluding any abstentions.
9. All motions shall be effective immediately, except that constitutional amendments (including amendments to these Standing Orders) shall take effect from the close of Conference.
10. Ambiguities in these regulations shall be settled by the ruling of the Chair of the session

Affiliation and Endorsement Annexe

1. The organisation is affiliated to the following organisations:
 - a. LYMEC - European Liberal Youth; and
 - b. IFLRY - International Federation of Liberal Youth.
2. New affiliations must be approved by Conference by amending this annexe, which shall constitute an amendment of the Constitution.
3. Interim affiliations may be approved by the Executive, but these shall lapse at the end of the following Conference unless added to this annexe.
4. Members of the Liberal Democrats seeking election to an internal party position may seek official endorsement by petitioning the Executive.
 - a. If the endorsement is not judged to be contentious, the Executive may vote to approve the endorsement.
 - b. If the endorsement is judged to be contentious, the Executive shall either propose the matter as a business motion at Conference or deny the request.