



# ENGLISH YOUNG LIBERALS

## EYL Executive 2023 Meeting - 5th March 2023 - Minutes

### Members Present:

|            |                          |        |                          |
|------------|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| <i>JG</i>  | James Green (Chairing)   | he/him | Co-EYL Chair             |
| <i>JN</i>  | Joe Norris (Minuting)    | he/him | Co-EYL Chair             |
| <i>MS</i>  | Miguel Smith             | he/him | Vice-Chair               |
| <i>JR</i>  | Joshua Ruddy             | he/him | Devon and Cornwall Chair |
| <i>NOW</i> | Nicholas Orford-Williams | he/him | London Chair             |
| <i>TS</i>  | Tom Sutton               | he/him | North West Chair         |
| <i>NE</i>  | Nathan Eve               | he/him | South Central Chair      |
| <i>TH</i>  | Toby Hawkins             | he/him | Western Counties Chair   |

### Reps Present:

|           |               |         |               |
|-----------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| <i>NA</i> | Noah Allerton | he/him  | Campaigns Rep |
| <i>HJ</i> | Huw James     | he/him  | Events Rep    |
| <i>JB</i> | James Bliss   | he/they | Policy Rep    |

### Apologies:

|           |                  |        |                                     |
|-----------|------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>WT</i> | William Tennison | he/him | East of England Chair, Co-Comms Rep |
| <i>JW</i> | Jack Worrall     | he/him | Yorkshire and the Humber Co-Chair   |
| <i>SB</i> | Sean Bennett     | he/him | Co-Comms Rep                        |

### Also Present:

|           |             |           |                                    |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| <i>LN</i> | Lucas North | they/them | VCRD, Liberal Democrats in England |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|------------------------------------|

### Absent:

|           |                 |        |                                   |
|-----------|-----------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>HC</i> | Helder Costa    | he/him | North East Chair                  |
| <i>PG</i> | Patrick Gilbert | he/him | Yorkshire and the Humber Co-Chair |

Agenda: [📅 Agenda Mar 23](#)

Meeting opened at 5:00pm.

### 1. Welcome and apologies (JG)

Apologies received from William Tennison, Jack Worrall and Sean Bennett.

### 2. Action points and matters arising (JN)

| Action Point  | Person(s)     | Status        |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Anonymise and share the consultation results                                      | JG            | Completed ▾   |
| Prepare to undertake further consultation at Winter Conference                    | FoEYL, JG, JN | Completed ▾   |
| Explore potential speakers  | JN and JG     | Completed ▾   |
| Complete the regional checklist   | RCs           | In progress ▾ |
| Run co-options for the vacant regions according to the approved schedule          | JG and JN     | In progress ▾ |
| Produce and publish the agenda for the GM   | JG            | Completed ▾   |
| Draft a motion appointing Louise Harris to Honorary President, to bring to the GM | JG            | Completed ▾   |
| Write reports for the GM by 9am Thursday 16th February                            | All           | Completed ▾   |
| Ask respective regions for Connect access   | RCs           | In progress ▾ |
| Consult Harvey Jones about giving Mailjet access to WT and SB                     | LN            | In progress ▾ |
| Share documents from FoEYL  | JN and JG     | Not started ▾ |
| Share the text version of the Action Day How-To Guide                             | JN            | Completed ▾   |
| Artwork the Action Day How-To Guide   | JN and WT     | In progress ▾ |
| Create the EYL Style Guide following finalisation of the YL rebrand               | WT and JN     | In progress ▾ |
| Relay feedback from the Exec to YL Comms Committee on the rebrand                 | WT and SB     | Completed ▾   |

### **3. Reflections from the General Meeting (JG)**

JG invites comments on what went well from the EYL GM held at YL Winter Conference.

HJ says the hybrid elements for people joining online weren't working. JG observes this was the case throughout the conference, and not unique to the GM.

NOW notes that the GM ran over time, which didn't leave much time for scrutiny. JG notes that it ran over by 15 minutes, but that an ambitious amount of business was fitted into the 1 hour 15 minute period. JG and JN to request longer for the EYL GM at YL Summer Conference in Newcastle.

LN says that where the GM was on the agenda (9am Saturday morning) yielded a significantly better attendance than previous GMs, which tended to be early Friday afternoon.

JG notes that there was substantial debate throughout which was positive. NE states that there was enough advertising and awareness of the meeting.

MS left.

JR joins.

### **4. Discussion of Regional Chair co-options applicants (JG)**

Applications were received for the East Mids and West Mids Regional Chair co-options. No applications were received for South East Regional Chair.

Exec votes unanimously to move to closed business.

Exec votes unanimously to admit LN to closed business.

Exits closed business.

JN to open voting on the co-option of the East Mids and West Mids Regional Chairs.

### **5. Co-option of EC Representative (JG)**

Following the move of an English Council Representative from the YL delegation to their regional delegation, there is an EC Rep vacancy.

HJ notes that to increase the diversity of the EC reps, the vacancy should be advertised with language such as 'particularly welcoming applications from women and non-binary people'. Further observes it is highly effective to encourage people from underrepresented backgrounds to run on a one-on-one basis.

LN asks about considering pushing YLers for the other EC regional vacancies where there is a vacancy in their region, instead of taking the YL spot if it is avoidable.

JB enters.

JG asks if the South East Regional Chair Co-option should be run alongside the EC Rep co-option.

NE thinks as they would be side by side it would make sense.

TS observes that continuously re-opening co-options has actually produced results in filling positions.

JN expresses the view that we shouldn't wait to open for the South East.

JR thinks we should leave the South East and wait until the EC co-options are over, giving more time to recruit candidates and doesn't waste time.

Exec votes unanimously for opening the EC co-option on Monday 6th March.

Exec votes by majority to open the South East co-option on Monday 6th March, with some votes against.

JG and JN to open co-options for South East Regional Chair and an EC Representative on Monday 6th March.

## **6. Discussion of the 4th March English Council Meeting (JG and JN)**

JN delivers verbal update on the English Council Meeting from Saturday 4th March.

JB and LN expand upon the discussions around the Federal Levy.

JG highlights the EAP vacancies and to encourage suitable applicants to apply.

LN encourages people to get PPC approval and to encourage other people to stand for selection as candidates.

HJ says it's never been easier to get candidate approval. Highlights that Candy Piercey gave an overview of the disciplinary process at EC. Proposes Candy giving a similar Q&A for YL members, given YL members may disproportionately be involved in the process. Notes that YLers were well organised at EC.

LN said the Candy Piercey talk could happen at the Federal level.

JG observes it was brilliant to see so many YLers there, and thanked all that came.

JB leaves.

HJ points out the question that was asked to the EYL Chairs about diversity stats in their next EC report.

JN explains his response to the question.

LN points out that due to the limited access granted to YL, it is not possible to get diversity stats on the membership.

JN and JG to discuss how they will approach diversity stats for the next EC report.

## **7. Updates from Campaigns Briefing (JG and NA) &**

### **8. EYL Campaigns Strategy**

JG delivers verbal update.

Highlights from the Campaigns Briefings included councils that we could take control of, which lead to the development of the EYL Campaigns Strategy.

JG and NA developed the Campaigns strategy.

JG highlights the first round of planned action days on the 11th March.

NE raises that an action day is happening in Winchester organised by the local party on the 11th March, clashing with the other action days.

JG says Harvey Jones will be sending emails for the action days.

JN shares the website of campaigns on Fleet:

<https://www.youngliberals.uk/england/campaigns>.

JR requests a list of the councils that were identified as targets. JG refuses because of a request of confidentiality from the Campaigns Briefing, but offers to have discussions with people on individual bases.

NOW says he is running a YL action day on the 25th March, organised by the London Region and asks for it to be advertised. JG is cautious to advertise it as there are no local elections in London.

NOW to send more JG and JN more information on the 25th March London Action Day.

TS asks about the Surrey Heath action day, given the vacancy of the South East chair in that region, whether work can be delegated to someone else. NE observes him and NOW are probably best placed, given their geographical proximity. JG notes that Surrey Heath's station is Woking which is direct out of London. NE offers his help with this action day.

HJ asks about campaigning in the Cotswolds for Joe Harris who is a Young Liberal, and the only Young Liberal who is a leader of a council. TH observes that the Cotswolds are planned for the 8th April action day.

JG highlights that regional chairs are not expected to attend all four action days.

NA notes that the next campaigns briefing is tomorrow.

NA encourages that people reach out for help with any action days.

HJ highlights that if attendance is looking low for an action day, it is best to cancel it to avoid burning relationships with local parties. JG will monitor the typeforms and will cancel if attendance is looking low.

**9. Update on EYL Speaker Event (JG and JN)**

JG has approached and received a provisional agreement for a speaker for EYL. JG is looking at an end of March/beginning of April date for the online speaker event. Asks for specifically preferred dates.

NA suggests a Thursday not two weeks before polling day.

JG to coordinate with the speaker for a date on a Thursday not two weeks before polling day.

**10. Update on Action Day Guide (JN)**

JN recaps progress on the action day guide. Plain text version has been reviewed and approved by various people, including NA.

JN has shared the artworked version with WT, but has not received feedback yet.

JN to update the artworked version with new style.

**11. Update on Style Guide (JN)**

JN states that now the federal rebrand has been implemented, work will begin to produce the EYL style guide.

JN and WT to produce an EYL style guide.

**12. Matters arising from Reports - Link**

No matters raised.

**13. AOB**

No AOB raised.

## **Action Points**

| Action Point  | Person(s)         | Status        |
|---|-------------------|---------------|
| Open votes for co-options of the Regional Chair vacancies for 24 hours.                           | JN                | In progress ▾ |
| Open co-options for the EC Rep vacancy and South East Regional Chair vacancy on Monday 6th March. | JG & JN           | Not started ▾ |
| Look into publishing diversity stats of EYL for the next EYL report to EC.                        | JG & JN           | Not started ▾ |
| Send JG and JN info on London Action Day on the 25th of March.                                    | NOW               | Not started ▾ |
| Produce graphics for advertising action days.   | JN                | In progress ▾ |
| Help with the EYL organised action days.  | All               | Not started ▾ |
| Assist with organising South East action days.  | NE                | Not started ▾ |
| Continue organising action days.  | JG, JN, MS and NA | In progress ▾ |
| Finalise a date for the EYL Speaker Event.  | JG                | In progress ▾ |
| Update the artworked action day guide.  | JN                | Not started ▾ |
| Produce the EYL style guide.  | JN and WT         | Not started ▾ |

Next meeting will be the 2nd April at 5:00pm.

Meeting closed at 5:58pm.

**E&OE**