



Green Party Autumn Conference 2013 Final Agenda

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Section A (Reports from Party bodies)

A01 Standing Orders Committee Report

Standing Orders Committee Convener; Rustam Majainah

Content of the First Agenda

There are 22 motions in Section C and 14 motions in Section D, there is 1 draft Voting Paper in section E. 2 motions have been ruled out of order, and are listed at the end of the agenda.

There are 18 amendments to 12 motions in the agenda. 8 of these amendments appear in Section C and 10 in Section D.

In order to differentiate the motion numbers between the First and Final agendas SOC have adopted the system of adding the Ω (Omega) symbol to the motion numbers for the final agenda. In the past the final agenda numbering has been continued on from after the first agenda numbers but this has been found to be confusing, so SOC are trialing an alternative. The first motion in section C now becomes C Ω 1. Please send any feedback on this to SOC@greenparty.org.uk.

Composites and consequentials

There are three composites in the final agenda. These have been composited for the following reasons.

C Ω 3 – Two motions on the same subject have been submitted for the agenda, there are elements of the PSS that are edited by both, and the two motions, if both passed, would end up with contradictory policy being passed. As such, they have been combined into a single motion to ensure that this does not take place, and that both motions appear in the same place on the agenda. The proposers of amendments in this composite will get the same amount of time to speak as the proposers of the motion

C Ω 9 – This has been composited as two motions on the same topic were submitted, one amending a small section of the same part of policy being amended by another larger motion. In order to ensure that all the discussion and change to the PSS on Animal Welfare are included in the same place on the agenda, these have been composited.

D Ω 2 – There are now three separate proposals for changing the way in which the party deals with the gender balance between Leader and Deputy Leader candidates, these have been composited together to ensure that the debate takes place as a single debate. The proposers of amendments in this composite will get the same amount of time to speak as the proposers of the motion.

There are two consequentials in the agenda. Some of the amendments to **C Ω 7** and **D Ω 1** are mutually exclusive and cannot both be passed by conference. The ordering of the amendments is done so that the amendment that makes the most substantial change to the motion is taken first, with the less substantial changes being second.

Errors in the Agenda

If you notice any errors in the first agenda please notify SOC for correction in the Final Agenda by emailing SOC@greenparty.org.uk

Summaries and Synopses

Conference Standing Orders state that all motions must be accompanied by a synopsis of not more than 50 words. If your synopsis is more than 50 words, it will probably be cut by SOC. Any instances in this agenda are identified by the words “[excessive length, cut by SOC]” after the truncated synopsis.

Contacts for motions in this agenda

The names of those signing motions are included after each motion, up to a maximum of 4 names, as only 4 are required. Where there are more than 4, then the first 4 are listed followed by "+ others". The principal contact for each motion is indicated by (**) after the name and contact details can be found at the end of the agenda before the prioritisation ballot.

Prioritisation Ballot

The SOCC state that SOC must conduct a ballot to assist in the prioritisation of the motions; the precise format is not laid out. This time SOC is using a ballot via the Borda Count Method to produce an ordered list of motions in sections C and D.

196 people took part in the ballot online, and 1 via post.

Andrew Waldie (Kent Green Party) made a request that the prioritisation ballot be extended by a week due to the members newsletter featuring an incomplete list of motions.

SOC want to apologise to proposers of motions who were not featured in this internal newsletter. SOC had decided not to include anything in this newsletter due to it falling too late in the month to have an impact on the agenda setting process (it was posted on the final day of voting, and the amendment deadline). As such the text was drafted without SOC involvement, and we were unable to check the accuracy of it.

SOC declined this request on the basis that the newsletter was sent to members on the day of the deadline, the prioritisation ballot had already received just under double the normal amount of votes, and as such the impact of missing some of the motions off the e-mail, whilst they remained on the text of the agenda itself, was unlikely to have an impact on the result.

Fast Track Motions

The following 4 motions have been recommended by SOC to be fast tracked;

CΩ20 Europe Policy, CΩ3 High Speed Rail, DΩ9 Fast Tracking of Motions & DΩ4 GPEx standing orders.

Committee Elections

Elections will take place at this conference for the 5 places on each of the committees of the Green Party.

For information on these elections please contact the SOC Convenor via e-mail on soc@greenparty.org.uk. Members are reminded that they may not serve for more than 5 successive years on any of these committees (3 years in the case of SOC.)

Rules for Motions & Emergency Motions

SOC would like to remind everyone that although Standing Orders are suspended when an emergency motion is discussed, it is only Section A that is suspended. This is the section that deals with the requirement to submit motions by the First Agenda deadline.

The section of the standing orders that deals with reasons for SOC ruling motions out of order is NOT suspended. This is Section C8 of the standing orders, which states:

"Motions or amendments to motions shall be ruled out of order on grounds of being one or more of:

- a) contrary to the Constitution,
- b) retrospective in their effect,
- c) ambiguous,
- d) vague,
- e) trivial,
- f) requiring no consequential action,

- g) substantially changing policy areas or having complex implications for other areas, without having passed through the agreed process of consultation
- h) seeks to significantly amend the principles passed in a policy motion or Voting Paper less than one year and nine months previously,
- i) seeks to re-present a policy proposal which has been debated and defeated at Conference less than one year and nine months previously (see Appendix A), except where it is proposed by Regional Council and agreed by SOC that the specific exception to that requirement shall be made in respect of an area of Party Policy for which urgent need to update or clarify the policy outweighs the normal consideration of procedure.
- j) seeks to overturn, or fundamentally amend, the result of a party-wide ballot held under the provisions of clause 11 (ii) or clause 17 (ii) of the Constitution, or to initiate a new party-wide ballot seeking to do so, within two years of the result of the original ballot being announced. An exception to this should be allowed if the motion is submitted by GPRC, having been supported by a 2/3 majority vote at a properly convened meeting of GPRC, on the grounds that GPRC believe that exceptional circumstances render it necessary to revisit the original decision in order to protect the well-being of the Party"

In addition, Section G1 of the Standing Orders states:

- b) Emergency motions shall only be accepted provided
 - i) the issue has arisen, or has substantially changed, since the deadline for motions
 - ii) the motion is consistent with the PfSS and neither changes nor adds to the text of the PfSS
- c) No amendments to the Constitution or Standing Orders are permitted under this suspension.
- d) An emergency motion shall not:
 - Commit the Party to expenditure of more than one hundred pounds without the approval of the relevant budget holders
 - Significantly alter the Party's agreed strategy.

Please bear these restrictions in mind when composing emergency motions.

Submission of Emergency Motions – deadlines at conference

There will be an Emergency Motions slots on both Saturday and Sunday, and also at the end of the Remaining Business session on Monday. The deadline for handing signed emergency motions to SOC for discussion the following day will be 6pm on the previous evening , i.e. by 6pm on Friday for the Saturday slot. This means that emergency motions will not be accepted on Monday (the final day) for discussion that day.

These arrangements enable SOC to make the necessary preparations for the emergency motion session. A member of SOC will be available between 4pm and 6pm outside the main conference hall for proposers to seek advice on the content of their motions.

The order in which emergency motions are taken is a beauty contest. The more members' signatures you obtain before handing your motion to SOC the more likelihood there is of it being discussed in your desired slot.

Presentation of emergency motions on screen at previous conferences was well received. SOC would particularly appreciate proposers who are able to supply an electronic version of their emergency motions, so that we do not have to type them up ourselves.

Otherwise, if you can provide SOC with a typed copy of the motion that would be greatly appreciated.

SOC Rulings

SOC has been asked to make 5 rulings since the last conference, the details of these are below.

Max Wallis (Cardiff Green Party) and **Sean Thompson (Camden Green Party)** both asked about the constitutionality of the recent expulsions of two members, Anne Greagsby and Mark France respectively.

SO attempted to open a dialogue with the Co-chairs of GPRC regarding the process used to ensure that it was clearly established which process was used. The Co-chairs of GPRC refused to communicate the constitutional basis of the process used. SOC discussed their response to this and decided that it would make the rulings on the basis of the available evidence.

SOC ruled that on the basis of Section 4, part ix, of The Constitution, which states:

“Disciplinary cases shall be heard without delay by a small Tribunal of three members, with a right of appeal to the next available meeting of the Regional Council against the Tribunal’s decision and recommended action.”

and

GPRC Standing Orders, specifically section 5.1, which states:

“5.0 Disciplinary Matters

5.1 Disciplinary matters shall first be considered by a Tribunal (Constitution 4vii)”

that due to the matters not being considered by a tribunal first, the expulsion of Mark France and Anne Greagsby were not in line with the constitution and relevant standing orders.

The full ruling is available on the members website here: <http://my.greenparty.org.uk/news/soc-rulings-expulsion-mark-france-and-anne-greagsby>

John Street (Bromley Green Party) requested a ruling on the use of demotion of candidates down a party list (e.g. Euro Elections List) as a sanction against misconduct, specifically with regards to the requirement for all candidates on the list to give their consent to the re-ordering, as outlined in GPEW Constitution bye-law [referred to in Clause 5(xiii) Selection of Party Lists] para ix) e):

“A Region may re-order its list after the ballot, or following any further ballots, recounts or appointments made in connection with vacancies occurring on the list, subject to the consent of all the candidates thereby affected.”

SOC made the following ruling:

Demoting a candidate for selection down a list is not an acceptable sanction for breaking electoral rules as there is no credible methodology which would allow you to arrive at a calculation for where they should appear. If there is a question as to the legitimacy of the process of the election, then it should be re-run. If there is a problem with the conduct of a candidate, then they should be disqualified and their votes re-distributed.”

To demote a candidate down the list, but retain them within it is to substitute the person or persons making the decision for the electorate, which isn't an acceptable position to take, and is not in the word or the spirit of what is contained within the constitution, nor was it explicitly allowed by what was ruled by SOC with regards the EET.

If there is a problem which is big enough to require a sanction, but not big enough for it to require being removed, then the candidate should be censured and the process re-run with notice given of censure to voters.

There should only be a small number of reasons why someone would remain on a list, but lower down than they were placed by the voters:

They might have been voted fairly high, but decide that they do not have the time to commit to campaigning, so wish to appear lower on the list to allow someone more active to take their place.

They might wish to allow someone else the profile of being high on the list for some other political reason.

Other than this, they would need to actually leave the list, they might become ineligible for election because of their employment, their residential status, party membership etc. they might be removed from the list as a sanction for breaking the electoral rules, or bringing the party into disrepute (the former via the EET process and either via the deselection process).

If a candidate* is no longer on the list then they wouldn't be able to veto a re-ordering.

(*“candidate” is the person selected to the list as a candidate for the European election, as it has already been selected to be making this decision, rather than a candidate for selection because this process has already taken place.)

John Street (Bromley Green Party) also requested a ruling on a motion that was ordered on to the agenda for a London Federation meeting which proposed that:

“That the Fed proceeds to annul the results of the first stage selection and proceeds to undertake a one stage selection for ALL 8 positions on the list.”

John asked if this proposal was constitutional in light of the ongoing Tribunal process.

SOC Ruled that the motion as written is in violation of the constitution, specifically the bylawes relating to Clause 5(xiii): Selection of Party Lists, Section v:

“g) Any appeal concerning a Tribunal decision shall be made to GPRC. Any GPRC member who has heard that case as a member of the Tribunal may not participate in the appeal process.”

SOC feels that a motion to restart the selection procedure is not the way to go forward from the EET ruling. Any appeals concerning the decision of the EET to not suggest the process should be rerun should go to GPRC.

Lisa Camps (University of York Green Party) asked for a ruling on the inclusion of Population Matters, formerly Optimum Population Trust at conference, as she was under the impression that they had been banned from a previous conference due to an offensive leaflet distributed. SOC investigated this and found that there was no evidence that either group had at any point been banned from holding a stall at conference or placing advertisements. The only controversy which SOC could find through investigation was that at the Blackpool conference in Spring of 2009 they were asked to remove a cartoon which had caused offense to some party members. This was closed without resolution.

Disciplinary Tribunal Standing Orders

Following from the publication of SOC ruling on the expulsion of Mark France and Anne Greagsby, GPRC have made public the basis of their decision to sidestep The Constitution and not hold a Tribunal. GPRC have cited Section 3 of the Disciplinary Tribunal Standing Orders (an appendix included in the GPRC Handbook) as their reason for doing so, the full text of that section is copied below.

Disciplinary Tribunal Standing Orders, Section 3.0:

“A Tribunal may be called by the Co-Chairs of Regional Council acting together and following consultation with the Chair of Disputes Resolution Committee, if, in their opinion, there is in existence:

- (a) a validly constructed complaint indicating a clear case to answer;*
- (b) other means of resolution are either exhausted or inappropriate.”*

It is important to note that this document is subservient to the constitution, and to the GPRC Standing Orders as noted in SOC’s original ruling, and as such must be interpreted along with them, rather than cited in isolation.

It is clear that this section does place specific limitations on when a tribunal should be called, specifically when there is no case to answer, or another constitutionally valid means of resolution is available.

An example of a constitutionally valid alternative means of resolution would be dispute resolution through the appropriate committee, although alternative mediation or dialogue based resolution would be acceptable. In this case, disciplinary sanctions were being considered and alternative resolution methodologies had either been exhausted or were inappropriate. In cases like this, The Constitution is clear, and the criteria within this section are fulfilled to call a tribunal.

Section 3.0 absolutely does not allow for an ad-hoc process to be enacted outside of those detailed in The Constitution and GPRC standing orders and this is what has happened in this case, there is no justification within Section 3.0 of the Disciplinary Standing Orders to justify the process which was used.

The Constitution

All bodies within the party are bound by The Constitution, deviation from the constitution is undertaken only by amending it, this can only be done by a 2/3rds majority vote at conference. This is essential for all bodies within the party to remember, and ensure that their activities are constitutional, specifically when they involve making decisions which involve significant impact.

The Role of SOC

SOC has a number of roles within the party, the most obvious is the collating and publishing of the agenda for conference, and providing administrative support and advice and guidance during conference proceedings. There is however another role which SOC provides. In addition to undertaking the administrative work of updating the constitution and relevant Standing Orders, SOC is also the final authority for interpreting them, as outlined in The Constitution:

"Standing Orders Committee.

Conference shall elect a Standing Orders Committee (SOC) which shall be the final authority for the interpretation of the Constitution and Standing Orders...[cut]"

(Extract from Section 10, part iii of The Green Party Constitution)

In light of this, where an ambiguity or perceived ambiguity arises with the interpretation of The Constitution, then to avoid any confusion or doubt, the decision on the final, authoritative interpretation of The Constitution lies with SOC, not any alternative body within the party.

When requesting a ruling, it is important to note the following standing order from the Standing Orders for the Conduct of Conference:

"SOC will receive requests for rulings from time to time. SOC should refrain from issuing rulings based on vague & hypothetical situations since this could lead to the application of rulings out of context"

(Extract from Standing order 12 of Standing Orders Committee Standing Orders, appendix C in the Standing orders for the Conduct of Conference.)

All of the rulings which SOC has made since the last conference meet this criteria, in that they all relate to specific concrete situations, and not to hypothetical or vague requests.

It is important to note that this is not something new, and has not simply been introduced by the current members of SOC. The wording from the constitution above is identical to that of the constitution as it was in 1989 (the oldest copy of the constitution SOC have been able to source, with credit to John Street) and over the last 5 conferences SOC have been asked to make 14 rulings within 3 of those conferences and this process has not at any time been challenged during that time.

Drafting Motions

SOC want to remind all members that they should be very careful when writing motions to ensure that they are spelled correctly, grammatically correct and as clear as possible. Vague or ambiguous motions don't help any one.

If anyone requires help with writing motions or the motion submission process then they should contact SOC via e-mail at SOC@greenparty.org.uk long before the First Agenda deadline. SOC are very happy to help advise the wording of motions and amendments before they are submitted.

Proxy Votes

Party members not attending Conference may mandate another member to vote on their behalf using a proxy voting card. Any member wishing to exercise this right should give written authority to the person they wish to vote for them. There is a form at the end of this agenda which can be used to provide such authority.

On production of this written authority at the SOC table, the bearer will be issued with a proxy voting card. Proxy voting cards can only be used when there is a card vote. They cannot be used when a vote is taken through a show of voting cards.

A01 Leader's Report

Natalie Bennett

I have received an enormous amount of support in my first year as leader from local parties, from members of GPEX, from many individual members and staff, and I would like to begin by offering my thanks to all of you. I'd particularly like to thank Caroline Lucas MP and her staff for their generous support.

Looking back, it feels like "the year of the train". I have visited every region, most a number of times, and have taken part in a wide range of events organised by local and regional parties, particularly in the run-up to the county elections in May. These ranged from public meetings and meetings with members to visits to local institutions from food banks to independent shops, farms to factories. The feedback I've had is that local parties have generally found this useful and boosting, and in some places it appears that I've helped to start or restart or maintain local parties. I'm keen to continue this work. And it's made me particularly passionate about our push to bring the railways back into public ownership.

Over the summer I've spoken at a number of festivals, from the Tolpuddle Martyrs Festival to Glastonbury to the Green Gathering. I've also done a huge range of events, from an Oxford Union debate on feminism to a debate on the same subject organised by Dialogue with Islam, the New Putney Debates to a Shift conference, opening the Oxford Green Fair and "Question Time-style" events and demonstrations almost beyond counting.

The year with the aim of trying to ensure that we were in the debate on the key issues of concern to voters, and we are gradually receiving more coverage on a range of issues from the economy, poverty and low wages, benefits, the NHS, transport, immigration and education, although it remains a struggle to get heard in the mainstream media on a range of issues. I've also focused with Caroline Lucas on issues such as fracking and Britain's energy future more broadly.

Media highlights included two Question Time appearances and one on Any Questions? Regional media has often proved receptive, with a 90-minute phone-in on BBC Radio Merseyside particularly sticking in my mind. The Huffington Post has also proved a very useful outlet. Broadly, with both Caroline and I available for media opportunities, we have achieved more coverage – in the week before the county elections, I was on Question Time and Caroline was on Any Questions.

I have also worked on building links with unions, NGOs and campaigners, with meeting including the PCS and CWU, Liberty and Campaign Against the Arms Trade, the Land Workers Association and the NFU, Friends of the Earth and the Carbon Trust, the Centre for Research into Economic and Social Change and the New Economics Foundation.

Two European Green Party leaders' meetings, and a two-day visit to Brussels when I briefly spoke to the Green Group of MEPs to attempt to explain Nigel Farage and David Cameron's European referendum promise, have expanded my knowledge of the EU and helped to increase our engagement with, and influence on, the European Green Party's efforts for the 2014 election.

In the coming year the challenge will be to balance travelling with London-based media work. A public meeting of 100 or so people, representing a fairly intense level of engagement and communication that can help boost a local party, and possibly local media coverage, has to be weighed against a short media interview on national radio or a Huffington Post blog in terms of investment of time and resources.

A02 Deputy Leader's Report

Will Duckworth

My work as Deputy Leader of the Green Party of England and Wales falls into a few different categories, many of which overlap:

1) Communication with the membership of the party

I have been active on various discussion lists, Twitter and Facebook and try to ensure that I reply to all messages sent to me personally, even though this has got me into trouble as personal e-mails have then been publicised. Despite this I shall try to continue to be as open and honest as possible whilst respecting

confidences.

2) Spreading good practice on the 'West Midlands Model'

I have visited North East, North West, Yorkshire and Humberside, West Midlands, East Midlands, Eastern, London and South East Regions. I have spoken to groups from Local Parties and to most Regional groups, up to three times in some cases. I have had very different receptions, from areas that want to adopt the practices immediately to those who spend a lot of time and effort explaining why it won't work in their area.

3) Supporting election campaigns

I have helped a number of Local Parties to campaign as the elections approached in May. It was very interesting to see how campaigning takes place in different parts of the Country. However in the past few months where people should have been working hard on campaigns for 2014 elections, there has been little demand for my assistance outside the West Midlands.

4) Attending and speaking at rallies and meetings

I have been privileged to talk to groups including University undergraduates, anti austerity activists, Trade Union events, religious gatherings and protest groups. I have shared a platform with Tony Benn and Lindsey German at one meeting and a Tory MP and UKIP MEP at another.

5) Contributing to Green Party meetings

After the breakthrough of finding my way to London and around the underground with the fabulous *oyster card* I have been attending GPEX meetings, although I did refuse to attend for a few meetings. I have also chaired Political Committee which has been an honour and quite a big responsibility.

6) Contributing to external media

I have had a few television appearances and a lot more radio interviews in the West Midlands. I have also had articles published in a couple of online newspapers and magazines.

7) Communicating with Trade Unions and the Green Party Trade Union Group

I have had many meetings with trade unionists at a variety of levels and have been heavily involved in the People's Assembly alongside many of them. Brighton has been a constant topic of discussion with them, even before the GMB dispute. I think there is a lot of room for working with the Trade Union movement but it really needs a dedicated person on GPEX soon.

A03 GPRC Report

GPRC Co-Chairs; **Miranda Meadowcroft, Nigel Rolland and Jill Mills**

Complaints and disputes procedures

We have begun the revision process of the Complaints Procedure, and will present the new version, with necessary constitutional amendments, to the Spring conference. We published an overall guide to the current Complaints Procedures and Code of Conduct on the member's website last year, and have now published a Local Party Complaints Procedure template and guidelines, which have now been taken up or amended for local use by several parties. We would ask local parties to please send us copies of any amended versions, as we will need to make sure that they are compatible with national procedures to avoid any difficulties in escalating complaints. We hope that these resources will strengthen local party autonomy and increase confidence in their ability to deal with disputes. Local parties will incorporate these procedures into their constitutions by agreement with local members, members should find the documents in Party in a Box—since they are resources, not National Procedures, they will not be sent to conference for agreement or inclusion in the National Party Constitution.

Conduct Policies

We have developed policies for local party use on Equalities, Whistleblowing, Harassment and Bullying. These are linked to policies in place which govern the Party's employment practice and are based on current law and guidelines. The policy on Child Protection is in progress, all these resources will be found on the members website and In Party in a Box. GPRC work within these guidelines when handling complaints.

Governance review

All institutions need to review their governance regularly, especially this Party, which is growing in membership and electoral representation. We may consider that our current institutional bodies- GPEX, GPRC, SOC, DRC, AGC, etc, need to change to reflect changing needs or realities. We have, in agreement with GPEX, set up a Governance Review Working Party which will present recommendations to the Spring conference 2014. This group will consult and receive comments from a wide section of the membership, including interest groups. If you feel you would like to be consulted, you can contact the Co-chairs of GPRC in the first instance who will forward your request/comments to the Working Party chair, Judy Maciejowska.

Electoral Selection Procedures

We have been reminded that GPRC were tasked with reviewing these this some time ago, before any of the current regional councillors were elected. We have now set up a Working Party which will report to us and we hope to present their recommendations to Spring conference 2014. We have been made aware of some difficulties local and regional parties have had with their electoral selection process and feel that a review of procedures , with clearer guidelines , would help to avoid conflict.

We have dealt with a number of selection procedure issues, ruling, respectively that non party members may not stand for Green Party European lists, and that local parties have the right to stand candidates in by-elections on their own judgment, but may not demand financial support from the National party if they are not a target constituency, though they may expect support in the form of guidance from party officers.

We would like to point out that several regions have carried out very successful selections according to best practice and the working party will consult them in due course for advice.

Communications

We have been pioneering Skype conferences with more success as we gain experience in this medium. We have very successfully enabled guest speakers to attend our GPRC meetings via Skype and hope to be increasing the use of such media- we would like to make maximum use of new communications technology to increase democratic participation in party activities. We would like to take the opportunity to remind members that they are entitled to attend GPRC meetings (with the exception of confidential complaints hearings) as observers. We publish the minutes of meetings on our website pages and have a discussion page for members to communicate with us. We would ask that members observe the Code of Conduct with regard to their online comments.

Disputes

We have had a number of very difficult disputes to deal with this year, some resulting in expulsions, to deal with these complaints GPRC used their standing orders- defined in the Handbook and available to all members, originally drawn up by the SOC and agreed by conference some time ago, with special reference to Section 3- Disciplinary Tribunals- which states that the Co-chairs of GPRC may call a tribunal, from a pre – arranged panel after discussion with DRC, if local resources are exhausted. There is no compulsion to call a tribunal and this has not been the preferred option in the majority of cases taken over recent years. This is because it has proved impossible to arrange a panel of members to take on tribunal work, despite frequent appeals for volunteers, and there is also a dearth of volunteers for DRC, in addition, where tribunals have been used in the past, they have been unable to formulate a recommendation and have instead presented the findings of their investigations to GPRC for a final decision-

GPRC also referred to the Party Constitution Section 6, which states that they have overall responsibility for agreed democratic processes within the party, which includes therefore the complaints procedure revised and

agreed by conference in 2012.

In addition, Section 3 of the Party constitution was used, which states that the GPRC has the power to expel or suspend any person from membership if it is in the Party's interest to do so.

GPRC Co-chairs has in recent times appointed an investigator to work with the co chairs in gathering evidence about the cases instead of a tribunal, but the reporting system remained the same report with recommendations to the next whole GPRC meeting, in which a decision will be made, with advice from on-call councillors between meetings. We would like to stress that the tribunals used in the past did not make decisions but make recommendations on the basis of evidence- all decisions rest finally with GPRC.

We would like to point out that all the documents we used are agreed by the membership at conferences past, and should be taken together when considering the validity of our decisions. If there are inconsistencies, the impact of the decision on the party and individual members should be considered when deciding which version is preferable- this requires a judgment related to the seriousness of misconduct and can not be taken by anyone other than the whole GPRC who are elected for that purpose.

We are concerned that recently, some parties to complaints –both defendants and complainants- have not respected the rights of other parties to their dispute and lobbied other members and party bodies without any consideration for impartiality or proper evidence, this has resulted in partisan campaigns online which are based on limited information and which have been at times abusive and harassing. One instance involved lobbying GPEX which led to the resignation of the chair although he had been exonerated of the allegations against him which were repeated without reference to our investigation or his evidence.

We are saddened that some members are willing to take a stand or make a comment without considering all the facts, or respecting the confidentiality of our complaints process, without which many members would not feel confident to make a complaint. We feel this has led to a culture of bullying in many areas of the party and at all levels, which it is our collective duty to address and eliminate.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind those members that all parties to complaints have rights and need fair treatment. We believe we have offered this to the best of our abilities and within the meaning and the letter of the constitution. We have also been mindful of the public image of our Party which we are asked to protect. We would like to end our report this year with a plea to all members to have some trust in each other- and in the officers they elect. We all do our utmost to protect you and our party from harm, without pay or favour, we all share a common goal- to gain political representation and do our best to look after the planet and its inhabitants via this route. Surely we can work together, address faults and make something better.

A04 Wales Green Party Leader's Report

Wales Green Party Leader; Pippa Bartolotti

No report submitted.

A05 GPEX Reports

Chair's Report

Acting Chair; Edward Milford

Following Tim Dawes' decision to stand down for personal reasons, I have been acting as interim chair since the start of May. As I did not have an electoral mandate for the role, I have simply sought to continue with agreed policies and ensure that existing strategies were maintained. With no main national elections, this has been a relatively quiet year for GPEX. The main objective has been to get the strategic plan (prepared by the management coordinator, finance coordinator and chief executive) adopted; the main elements of this are now in place, and this will provide a framework for both the new GPEX and the head office staff in which to work.

One large piece of work that is now underway but with which we have not had to involve ourselves much is the governance review; this very necessary task is something that the new GPEX will need to engage with.

A number of thanks are due; I'd like to thank Chantal Purchase for taking on the job of doing the agendas and minutes for GPEX, and her predecessor Elisabeth Whitebread who carried out this role until March. I'd also like to thank David Murray and the rest of the staff (both paid and volunteers) in the office who do so much to keep the Party running, and the many volunteers - specifically my fellow coordinators on GPEX, but also those on so many other Party bodies - for putting in the time and energy without which we simply could not function.

Elections Co-ordinator's Report

Elections Co-ordinator; Geoff Smith

No report submitted.

External Communications Co-ordinator's Report

External Communications Co-ordinator; Penny Kemp and Joe Williams

This year has been a busy year for External Communications. The local elections saw an overall increase in the number of councillors but also some losses, which is always disappointing. We commissioned Madwomen agency to produce the broadcast and we are glad to say we came in under budget. The broadcast was well received in the press and the comments from the public were encouraging.

Brighton has taken a lot of time and we are working on how to secure the re-election of Caroline Lucas. Regular meetings are taking place and we are looking at how to generate good publicity especially with the by election result in Hanover and Elm Grove.

We've completed a redraft of our spokespeople system, linked to promoting candidates in the European elections. This should help us build our media coverage by mirroring government departments and making sure we are represented in broad range of debates.

The media team, including Jean, Caroline, Keith, Darren and Jenny's press officers meet on a monthly basis to coordinate work and weekly telephone conferences take place with the leadership, policy officers and media. We are short on media capacity in the national office and are looking at ways to increase the capacity. We have one press officer and volunteers and we need another press officer for the European campaign. We are working with agencies and the Euro Elections team to look at messages and the media campaign.

We said goodbye to Melissa Gurumurthy, Caroline's press officer who has traveled to New York and welcomed Steve Harman, her replacement.

Yet again, we need to thank our hard working staff and the many volunteers around the country who give up their time to promote the Green Party. Without their efforts and commitment, our job would be impossible and we are immensely grateful to them.

Finance Co-ordinator's Report

Finance Co-ordinator; Michael Coffey

The 2012 Budget aimed to achieve break even, stabilising the Party's finances prior to the major election years of 2014 and 2015. The Budget setting process itself built on changes introduced in previous years. We have worked closely with the Electoral Commission to ensure that we satisfied Electoral Financing law.

Being our first full year in the new premises, cost budgeting was uncertain, and in fact, major variances against budget were in HQ expenditure. Better than expected membership income results offset this, and coupled with the impact of two large donations, the Party not only achieved its budget objective, but added to its reserves position. Progress so far in 2013 suggests that we now have a robust base expenditure budget.

My thanks are due to our Finance and Fundraising staff for their professionalism and dedication.

Internal Communications Co-ordinator's report.

Internal Communications Co-ordinator; Emma Pruen

The Internal Communications Co-ordinator is responsible for the members' website, the email lists/discussion boards, Green Activist, and national members' emails.

In this post I have emailed the members twice monthly, one with a longer email with news about upcoming elections, party events, members' campaigns, and wider Green issues, and the second two weeks later with urgent bullet points. I approach The Leader and Deputy Leader, GPEX and GPRC members, elected members and other GP Committees to request this information. Some people automatically cc Internal Communications on their emails and reports, and others are very willing to supply news to share with the members. GPRC have been harder to reach, so there has been a lack of information coming from GPRC to members during my tenure.

I planned, on arriving in post, to increase the number of members contactable by email. When I started as Internal Communications Coordinator the members newsletters/Green Activist went to approx 8500 members, meaning 6000 did not receive e notifications, and of these many addresses were out of date. Now it reaches 10435members (having gone up over 11,000 when the database still had ex members in it). This improvement is thanks to the hard work of Mark Cridge and Adam Stacey for which I am very grateful. For my part I have included information in the newsletters about how members can update their contact details themselves and worked with Adam Stacey in the National Party Office to amend others. I have contacted local parties; got a web manager in place where there was none, and encouraged that web manager to get the whole of his local party using the members' site. This has been something of an uphill struggle with so many parties preferring their personal e lists or mailman lists.

I hoped to get the members website able to offer elists for local party discussions (as they are contracted to do) so we could move away from mailman lists, some of which carry posts which contravene equalities law. This is still work in progress.

I produced a Green Activist quarterly, this was emailed to members in a pdf colour magazine format with live, interactive links.

I offered training in the use of the members' website and when invited visited local parties to share news and views and answer wide ranging questions about internal communications, communications strategy, National Party campaigns, etc. These visits were incredibly gratefully received and I would like it to have been possible to visit more parties. Sadly with no national funding available to pay for any of these visits it became too expensive for me to reach as many people as I would like to have.

My last goal was to reduce the number of posts on the members' website which were offensive. Working with my previous GPRC colleague we agreed a zero tolerance strategy and I emailed anyone making personal and offensive remarks immediately with the Green Party netiquette guidelines and where I thought they were being breached, and edited the postings. This worked extremely well and offensive flags have dropped to practically zero.

International Co-ordinator's Report

International Co-ordinator; Derek Wall

I set out with three goals as outlined in my candidates statement when I stood for GPEX for this post last year; to promote more green interaction with social movements and progressive states in Latin America, to increase the weight of the Green Party of England and Wales within the European Green Party and to provide more solidarity with indigenous campaigners.

I feel I have achieved some modest gains in regard to the first two but need to work on the third. I was very pleased that the Embassy of Ecuador provided a party conference fringe speaker on their work in tackling

climate change including the Yasuni project aimed at conserving an important part of the Amazon, reducing oil extraction, promoting an international oil tax and lobbying for bigger cuts in climate change gases during international negotiations. I have also spoken on Latin America and environmental politics for the Venezuelan solidarity conference.

There are significant policy differences between the GPEW and the EGP, I feel in the past we have not engaged with them fully. I feel that this has been changing for a number of years. I supported Steve Emmott in his bid to be re-elected, as a member of the GPEW, to the EGP committee, essentially the nine person executive that runs the EGP, and was pleased to see him re-elected. Representatives from the GPEW have attended EGP manifesto and campaigns working groups in Brussels. At the Madrid EGP council, a resolution from the GPEW on land grabs was passed and our proposal that two candidates representing gender balance would go into the EGP primary for the European elections personalisation process was passed. There is I feel respect for the fact that the GPEW has a number of policy differences from the EGP on European integration and that we are some what more to the left, rather than simple negativity. Respect for a diversity of opinions is valuable to my mind, as long as there is dialogue.

The EGP has also in the last year been more assertive in opposing austerity. Two EGP councils occur each year and we have four delegates, of whom at least two must be women, the delegates are elected by an STV vote by the International Committee and the International Coordinator. The next EGP council is in Brussels in November.

I feel that we are winning votes and making our voice heard. Both Natalie Bennett and Will Duckworth have been active at putting our point view at an EGP level, I would like to thank them for their hard work.

I have done less to promote links with indigenous than I had hoped, although I have put out press statements, against mining that threatens indigenous people in the Philippines. I need to work harder in this area, it would be good to be in touch with both NGOs like Survival International and self-organised indigenous campaigners. Of course the land grabs motion does promote customary property rights practiced by indigenous peoples.

The work load has potentially been over whelming but I have been very well supported by International Committee this year and must thank them for their efforts. International Committee meets four times a year and observers are welcome. Links have been made with the new Spanish Green Party Equo and I am hoping that the GPEW can support more fully Green Parties from other countries including the Australian Party who face important elections this year.

I have been impressed by the work of Steve Agnew in the Northern Ireland Assembly in his work promoting LGBT rights, a reduction in the voting age and opposition to sectarianism. I have also had the pleasure of meeting informally Scottish Green Party members, the party is supporting the yes campaign in the referendum and is doing excellent work in the Scottish parliament. We should be proud of the work of our sister party and I think it is a good that we are progressive enough to have long recognised the independence of Scottish Greens.

The Westminster Foundation for Democracy have continued to work with us on projects with Green Parties in Moldova and Tunisia. I am strongly of the opinion that the words democracy and Westminster do not sit easily in our system with an unelected second chamber, a lack of proportional representation at Westminster and other deficiencies. Nonetheless despite my caution I feel that the WFD projects have been a useful way of working with other Green Parties. I have also had the pleasure of taking part in a public meeting with the French Left Party, I think new left parties like Syriza in Greece provide some inspiration and that we should work with them where possible but I do feel the EGP both respects our differences with them in a number of areas and is moving rather closer to our vision of politics.

Our international work is varied and exciting but it is important to keep a focus on how to achieve success in green goals of tackling climate change and promoting alternatives to neo-liberalism, which is why I think dialogue with Latin American countries and social movements is so important.

Local Party Support Co-ordinator's Report

Local Party Support Co-ordinator; Emily Blyth

Since being co-opted to GPEX earlier this year, I have focused my attentions on looking for ways to support the smaller local parties and emerging groups. I know from conversations with people from all around the party that funding is always a challenge, so I have sought to develop ways of delivering low- to no-cost support for small groups, such as training resources. I am liaising with other members of GPEX as well as members from across the country in order to gain a clear understanding of what local parties need and will use, and I would welcome input from anyone who has ideas or help to offer in this project.

I attended a community event recently in Teesside as a Green Party representative, and was able to make contact with several un-branched members as well as supporters in the area. Working to build connections between Greens and other like-minded activists in areas where local branches do not exist is a major priority for me.

An ongoing issue has been the difficulties encountered by members in accessing resources such as rosettes and t-shirts, as the provision of the Green Shop has undergone changes, however this is in hand and we should have a functioning Green Shop soon.

I am committed to helping local parties attract and retain members, and a key aspect of this is ensuring meetings are as inclusive and accessible as possible. I will continue to work with my colleagues to raise awareness and generate ideas for ensuring this ideal is in action throughout the Party.

Management Co-ordinator's Report

Management Co-ordinator; Mark Cridge

This is my second year as Management Coordinator and again my main focus has been around improving the party's IT systems and putting in place an integrated digital campaigning platform. In the last 12 months we have completed the overhaul of our National and Regional websites and upgraded the majority of our IT systems on to new safe and secure servers.

Most importantly we have put our membership and supporter details into the hands of the people who can use it most in our local parties, preparing the ground for a big increase in our supporter and campaigning activity. To this end we have just started releasing access to CiviMail our free newsletter email software, which I hope many Regions and Local parties will adopt.

I'm indebted to the work of many volunteers most notably David Andrew and Paul Weaver who have together helped respond to over 250 support tickets from our new support site in the past few months. Over the next few months I'll be focusing on making much more use of the many offers of help we have had from volunteers across the country on a variety IT and website projects.

There is much still to do, notably tackling the Members Website and Mailman lists both of which require substantial maintenance work. However the biggest task will be tackling the wider rollout of Canvassing Software which has been a demand from local parties for many years - we now have three options appropriate for parties of various size and experience which I hope will be put to good use in the forthcoming European and Council elections in May next year.

Finally whilst it is too late for this conference I hope to soon put forward proposals for the formation of a Digital Committee to better support our online campaigning efforts and support.

Publications Co-ordinator's Report

Publications Co-ordinator; Edward Milford

With no main national elections, this has been a quieter year for publications. With the editor (Philip Sainty)

and ad sales coordinator (Shasha Khan) for Green World standing down after many years of excellent service to the party, we decided to revisit the arrangements for publishing the magazine. After calling for proposals, we awarded the contract to Resource, based in Bristol. This should provide a more robust system for publishing the magazine, and at a fixed cost making budgeting easier, with some upside for advertising revenue. Other initiatives with which I have been involved as publications coordinator have largely been under the leadership of other GPEX coordinators; one example of this is the 'Target to Win' manual which is a local party support initiative which I have been able to support to some extent.

However, with the number of posts on GPEX growing (for better or worse) and the need to keep it to a reasonable number to allow it to be an effective decision making body, I think the Party needs to give serious consideration to losing the post of publications coordinator on GPEX. The various elements of the role could be reallocated to other coordinators (eg campaigns, internal comms, elections etc) who are usually better placed to undertake them.

Young Greens' Report

The co-chairs of the Young Greens: Sam Coates & Ash Hayes

No report submitted.

A06 Campaigns Committee Report

Campaigns Co-ordinator; Howard Thorp

Since the last autumn conference I have been developing a campaigns strategy for the party. A key part of this is to join up the work of Campaigns to the work carried out by other GPEX coordinators. The strategy is a living document which is kept under review. An early priority was creating a campaigns page for the members' website, which gives details of how members can become involved in the campaigning work of the party, and which contains campaigns materials which members can download for their own use locally.

The first major activity campaigns became involved in was the TUC demo in London last October. 20,000 'Cut carbon, create jobs' flyers were printed for the demo, at least half of which were distributed on the day. We followed that by creating an online presence for campaigns with a Twitter account '@GPEWCampaigns' and a campaigns Facebook page. We have produced flyers for anti-austerity, benefit cuts, HS2 and posters for climate change, the badger cull, austerity, 'save our bees', Euro election, and the bedroom tax. We also updated and re-designed the party's 'joining leaflet'. So far in this year we have printed 1600 placards, 40,000 flyers, 5000 joining leaflets and 600 posters. There is a lot more work to be done, particularly around making campaigns materials more easily available and getting our members more involved in our campaigns.

A07 Disputes Resolution Committee Report

Chair of DRC: Owen Clarke

No report submitted.

A08 Equality and Diversity Committee Report

Equality and Diversity Co-ordinator; Shan Oakes

The Equality and Diversity Committee has been working on various aspects of E and D. Underlying the work is the need to engage with a much wider section of society than at present. We need to know who we are as a party, so, to this end, Charlie Kiss devised and ran a diversity survey. Other work has included:

- Continued attendance at the Home Office Equalities Unit 'Access to elected office for people with disabilities' (A2EO) meetings, disseminating this initiative on the web and through leaflets at

Conference.

- Running and coordinating fringes at Conference on E and D issues
- Working with conference committee to set up a 'card' system suggested at the women's fringe last time, which will encourage even more inclusive behaviour at conference.
- Discussions with the Local Party Support Coordinator to devise self-organising training ideas for local parties. For example, one simple suggestion to local parties is that they have revolving chairs so that no one gets 'stuck' in the chair, disempowering others.
- Support for individual members
- Contribution to tribunals
- General 'pushing' for E and D on GPEX and the running of the Party as a whole
- Suggesting to Green World that the party be invited to write about things which they have done which have worked in terms of including /respecting/acknowledging/ valuing/inviting people. If GW were more outward facing - a mag we can give to non-members – this would help us 'get out more'!

Another way to talk about equality and diversity is 'Politics can be different' (the name the Hungarian Greens -LMP- call their party). Green politics should be human. There is very strong feeling in the party about this, as there is in our most closely aligned environmental NGO , FOE, which is addressing the same issue

There are all sorts of ways for members to engage with the wider public. It's not just about leafleting or door-knocking. For example, one GP member has been asked to help a county Fire and Rescue service to set-up an internal lgbt group for serving firepersons. The diversity within the party can connect with the diversity outside the party. We need to join or engage with groups of all sorts to show that we are not 'just' environmentalists, but fighters for fairness.

We are cash poor, unlike other parties which are funded by unions or big business, so we must make the most of our people. Green policy aims to end discrimination, and all forms of oppression. This underlies all we Greens do, so without getting our act together on E and D we potentially waste enormous dormant or unheard potential in terms of people power...and this is our main resource.

I feel there has been a raising of expectation regarding E and D in the party as a whole, so we are making progress.

A09 Conferences Committee Report

Conferences Committee Convener:

No report submitted.

A10 Green World Editorial Board Report

Green World Editorial Board Convener; Matthew Butcher

It's been a year of change at Greenworld. After many years editing and improving the magazine Philip Sainty stood down from the team. The designer of the magazine, Steve Chadburn, and the advertising agent, Shasha Khan, also stood down after a number of years of successful work on Greenworld. A big thank you to all of them for their fantastic work over the years.

With our team stepping down at the beginning of the Greenworld board's term we spent quite some time recruiting new people to take Greenworld forward. We were fortunate that Thomas Williams, a Green Party member from Brighton, was able to work on the magazine in the interim period before we hired our excellent

new team at Resource Media. The magazine is now edited by Libby Peake and managed by Charles Newman, both of whom work for Resource.

It's fair to say that Greenworld has had its fair share of controversy. Some Green Party members were upset with the board's majority decision to reject an advert from Population Matters. We received huge amounts of correspondents on this issue, both in support of our stance and against. In response to the controversy we invited Population Matters to write a piece in the magazine.

The board took the decision to have more input in the content of the magazine than before. We've decided to focus a decent chunk of the page space to a single different issue each month. The first of these issues was an issue on young people, the second focused on immigration.

Part of our aim this year was to feature pieces from a more diverse group of contributors. We also aimed to work towards offering a digital version of the magazine, and we're still working on that.

Thanks are due to everyone who contributed to the magazine this year. It's a huge collective effort and we very much rely on the excellent writing given to us by Green Party members.

A11 Policy Committee Report

Policy Co-ordinator; Stuart Jeffery

Policy Committee has met regularly through the past year and has facilitated a range of individual policy motions for agreement at conference as well as a fast track review of the Europe chapter at the Spring Conference, which resulted in much needed updating of this chapter well in advance of the Euro elections.

Work has been ongoing on Energy and Climate Change rewrites. However these are very large areas and more time is required to bring these papers forward as voting paper. In response to issues raised and further to a fringe at the last conference Policy Committee will be presenting more detailed guidelines on writing policy and in particular voting papers. Please take time to read these if you are considering getting involved in reviewing policy. A draft voting paper on Industry is presented for discussion following discussions by the working group.

In addition to facilitating revised policy, we have recruited over 30 policy experts to help with briefings and statements. We have also revised the policy section of the member's website and encourage all members to take part in the policy debates on the various forums there. We have Consulted on spokesperson reform, continued to guide people through the policy process, assist them in writing policy and have created a list of suggested improvements for the policy forums.

Finally, we have been involved in the re-writing of the policy pages on the National Green Party website.

A12 Political Committee Report

Chair of Political Committee; Will Duckworth

Political Committee; known as PolCom is primarily a discussion group for Green Party Members who have been elected to public positions such as MP, MEP Assembly Members ad representatives of Councillors. I can find no constitutional reference to the group so one of the things I have had to do as the new chair is set out what it's terms of reference are and who is on it, unfortunately this has not been agreed at time of writing.

We meet in person just four times each year but have a lot of discussions via the internet.

The minutes are available on the members' web site.

We have advised Caroline and others on voting tactics when she has asked us on line and the 'Three Yeses' came from a meeting of the PolCom. We have spent a lot of time trying to ensure that we are as effective a political force as possible. We also advise different bodies such as Conferences Committee on the most appropriate action to take, but that tends to be reactive when we are asked for political position.

The make up and brief for PolCom is part of the Governance review.

Section B (Voting Papers)

There is no voting paper this conference.

Section C (Policy Motions)

CQ01 Rail and Public Ownership

Proposed by Darren Johnson(**), Jenny Jones, Charlie Kiss, Mark Douglas, Romayne Phoenix, Melissa Roaming, Martin Francis, Shahrar Ali, Jennifer Chan, Tim Summers, Jon Nott, Bob Steel

Synopsis

This motion reiterates our commitment to bringing the rail system back into public ownership and calls on the Government to transfer local commuter services which predominantly serve London, over to Transport for London when the current franchises end rather than handing them to another private rail operator.

Motion

Insert into RoPS:

The Green Party reiterates its long standing commitment to bringing our rail system, including track and operators, back into public ownership. Our policy also recognises the need to ensure our rail services are more democratically accountable at local and regional levels. As such, we believe an easy and quick win in the process of bringing our rail network back into public ownership is for the Government to transfer local commuter services which predominantly serve London, over to Transport for London when the current franchises end; rather than handing them to another private rail operator. The Green Party notes the significant improvements in reliability, frequency, trains and stations for those services that have already been transferred to Transport for London as part of the London Overground network.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Alan Francis(**), Darren Johnson, Steve Dawe, Sean Thompson, Janet Alty, Tony Cooper.

Insert before last sentence:

"The interests of passengers outside London should be safeguarded by ensuring that there is a mechanism for their representatives to be involved in decision making."

CQ02 Keep the East Coast rail franchise in the public sector

Proposed by Alan Francis(**), Tony Cooper, John Street, John Lucas

Synopsis

Conference notes that the government-owned East Coast rail franchise, operated by Directly Operated Railways (DOR), has contributed £640m to the exchequer over the last 3 years, and requires less subsidy than any of the privatised long distance franchises.

Motion

The government proposes to re-privatise this franchise before the next general election. The Green Party opposes this and believes that the East Coast rail franchise should be kept in the public sector.

CQ03 Monetary and Banking Reform Composite

Proposed by Andrew Waldie(**), Matt White, Jay Ginn, Geoff Meaden, Robin Kinrade, Howard Porter, Brian

Lesley, David Aherne, Al Emery, Stuart Jeffery, Zeynep Kacmaz (Ozturk), Frances Long, Martin Whybrow, Brendan Marks, Denise Hay,

Synopsis

Two motions regarding this subject were submitted to conference, that which changes the party stance most significantly is proposed as the motion, with the less significant change outlined as an amendment. This has been done to ensure that conference can have a full debate on the issue without repeating itself.

Motion

Amend the Economy section of the PSS as follows:

i) Delete paragraphs EC661 to EC664 (inclusive) and replace with the following new paragraphs EC 661 to EC 664:

EC661 The Green Party believes that, as the means of exchanging goods and services, the stock of money is a vital common resource which should be managed in the public interest. Yet only 3% of our money supply currently exists in the form of notes and coins issued by the Government or the Bank of England. 97% of the money circulating in the economy takes the form of credit that is created electronically by private banks through the accounting processes they follow when they make loans.

EC662 The existing banking system is undemocratic, unfair and highly damaging. Banks not only create money, they also decide how it is first used – and have used this power to fund financial speculation and reckless mortgage lending, rather than to finance investment in productive businesses. Through the interest charged on the loans on which all credit is based, the current banking system increases inequality. It also regularly causes economic crises: banks create and lend more and more money until the level of debt becomes unsustainable, boom turns to bust, and the taxpayer bails out banks that are “too big to fail”. Finally, the need to service the growing mountain of debt on which our money is based is a key driver of unsustainable economic growth that is destroying the environment.

EC663 The existing banking system has failed and is no longer fit for purpose. The Green Party believes that the power to create money must be removed from private banks. The supply of our national currency must be fully restored to democratic and public control so that it can be issued free of debt and directed to environmentally and socially beneficial areas such as renewable energy, social housing, or support for community businesses.

EC664 A Green Government will therefore develop and implement a programme of banking reform based on the following principles:

- a) All national currency (both in cash and electronic form) will be created, free of any associated debt, by a National Monetary Authority (NMA) that is accountable to Parliament;
- b) The 1844 Bank Charter Act will be updated to prohibit banks from creating national currency in the form of electronic credit. To finance their lending, investment or proprietary trading activities, banks will have to borrow or raise the necessary national currency from savers and investors;
- c) The NMA will be mandated by law to manage the stock of national currency so that it is sufficient to support full employment, while avoiding general inflation in prices, and taking into account the development of local currencies (Ref. paragraph EC 678);
- d) Any new money created by the NMA will be credited to the account of the Government as additional revenue, to be spent into circulation in the economy in accordance with the budget approved by Parliament;
- e) The members of the NMA will be appointed – for fixed terms – by a Select Committee of Parliament;
- f) The independence and integrity of the NMA will be assured by law requiring NMA members and staff to be free of any conflict of interest; mandating full transparency of NMA decisions; and prohibiting lobbying or undue influence of NMA members or staff by government, financial institutions, corporations or any other private interest.

ii) Amend paragraph EC 665 as follows: Insert the following words at the start of the paragraph: “As an interim measure, before the programme of reform described in EC 664 has been implemented,”

- iii) Amend paragraph EC 676 as follows: Delete the following words at the start of the paragraph: "Since these restrictions on bank lending will severely restrict the money supply," and replace with the following words: "As an interim measure, before the programme of reform described in EC 664 has been implemented,"
- iv) Amend paragraph EC677 as follows: Insert the following words at the start of the paragraph: "As an interim measure, before the programme of reform described in EC 664 has been implemented,"
- v) Amend paragraph EC 678 as follows: Delete from the paragraph the whole of the fourth sentence that begins with the following words: "Community Banks will be empowered to create credit in the same way that commercial banks currently do..."
- vi) Amend Paragraph EC 512 as follows: In the first sentence of the paragraph, after the words "...local economic activity" insert a comma and delete the words "and empowered to create credit at interest rates sufficient only to cover administration when"

Amendment 1

Proposed by Peter McColl(**), Juliette Daigre, Maggie Chapman, Adam Ramsay, Sam Hollick.

Delete the text of the motion and replace with:

In E663, delete the following sentence:

"Their [banks] lending power should be reined in, enabling the emphasis of lending to be transferred to sustainable production."

And replace with a new sentence reading:

"Their lending power should be socialised, releasing capital for sustainable production, and avoiding the creation of asset bubbles like that in housing before the crash."

Amend E664 to read: "We will introduce social control on the financial sector to ensure that it serves the purposes of a sustainable economy. To ensure stability, we will socialise all financial instruments and direct institutions to ensure that they focus on investments that offer limited risk of financial destabilisation and are clearly beneficial. We will ensure there is stricter regulation of the banks, limiting them principally to the on lending of customer deposits and investment in environmentally sustainable physical and social infrastructure. We will require transparency in all financial trading, including that undertaken by private investment funds."

Amend EC669 to read: "A Green government would retain ownership of nationalised banks and direct these to create a permanent and genuinely national bank out of one or more of the currently 'nationalised' banks. This People's Bank would form an exception to the percentage-based size-restriction specified in EC668: it would be available as a guaranteed safe-haven to deposit money in for any and all citizens. Most citizens seek safety for their money, not a risky high rate of return, and the People's Bank would offer this in perpetuity. The People's Bank would offer current accounts and all other basic banking services. Its lending and other policies would ensure it acts as a non-profit, seeking where necessary to restrict or to relax credit in the national interest. It would in effect be a high street branch of the Bank of England. Its *raison d'être* above all would be to act prudently in the interests of all its depositors, to ensure that there was no risk of a bank-run ever endangering their money. This would be achieved by the People's Bank being constitutionally limited to low-risk activities and investment in environmentally sustainable social and physical infrastructure, and by the fact that it would be owned and guaranteed by the state. A Green government would seek to bring all banking institutions into social control."

Amend EC676 to read: "Since these restrictions on bank lending will focus the money supply on socially and environmentally sustainable infrastructure development, the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England will be instructed to monitor the need for increase (or decrease) in the money supply, based on maintaining delivering a socially and environmentally sustainable society."

C04 Land Grabs

Proposed by Derek Wall(**), John Street, Lucy Early, Samir Jeraj, Lynton North, Sean Thompson, Ricky Knight, Charles Gate, Nicole Haydock,

Motion

Insert into RoPS:

On Land Grabs

Background

With rising commodity prices and concerns over climate change, land has become increasingly valuable. Across the globe a new round of enclosure has resulted. Indigenous people and small farmers are often

removed from land that they either own privately or via customary communal right have access to. Seized land often benefits corporations, sovereign and pension funds and multinationals, which produce on large-scale agrofuels and other agricultural commodities for export instead of food for the local population.

There is a long history of commons being enclosed and taken from commoners both within Europe and as a result of European colonialism across the world. Millions of native Americans, Asians, and Africans were dispossessed of their lands and resources. Land grabbing has been justified by notions such as the 'tragedy of the commons' and ignorance of alternative systems of property rights. The work of the late Professor Elinor Ostrom, who was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in economics, for her research into common pool property, has shown that common pool property can be managed sustainably and fairly.

Green Party of England and Wales notes that there is a long history of environmental degradation and social injustice fueled by large scale land seizures. Affirms its support for indigenous peoples, peasants and their social movement allies in opposing land seizures.

Emphasizes that customary land rights include collective ownership and access rights which provide environmentally sustainable and equitable forms of ownership. Furthermore we note that trade agreements that do not acknowledge the variety of such property rights can act to dispossess communities from land. We oppose institutional support for land seizures both from the UK, European Union and other bodies.

In case of land-market free market mechanisms should always be overruled by the principles of sustainability and social justice. In addition, we oppose efforts at conservation or commercial land development that exclude the participation of local people.

We propose the following specific measures.

1. The UK government must adhere to the Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests, adopted in May 2012 by the 128 countries of the UN Committee on World Food Security as a first small step in a good direction. But, together with most NGOs and farmers' organisations, they underscore the voluntary nature of these guidelines as governments do not guarantee the cancellation of past land concessions and the continuation of such land grabs. The United Nations International convention on economic and social rights calls for protection from forced eviction regardless of person's land tenure status - whether it is formal or informal. States have to eliminate discrimination related to informal tenure and to prevent, prohibit and eliminate discriminatory practices.
2. The UK government must oppose the sourcing of imported biofuels from crops. Biofuels often come from land which has been seized from local people as is the case in countries such as Colombia and Indonesia. Biofuels are environmentally destructive and drive up food prices.
3. The UK should activate the 2004 EU Land Policy Guidelines which at present it largely ignores.
4. UK trade policy should provide concrete guidelines to avoid activities which lead to the dispossession of developing country communities of their farm or collectively held lands, and upon both of which their livelihoods depend. We oppose the imposition of the EU's Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) to ACP countries, must be opposed as they accelerate the dispossession of small family farmers as well as their very fragile small industries.
5. The UK should temporarily suspend trade preferences on agricultural products in cases where human rights abuses are identified in the framework of land concessions.

CQ05 Updating Mental Health Policy

Proposed by Sarah Cope(**), Benali Hamdache, Chris Cope, Rowan St Clair, Charlie Kiss, Sally Zlotowitz, Sarah Marks,

Synopsis

One in four people will experience mental health issues in any given year, although only a quarter of those people will receive any treatment or therapy. Following consultations with multiple mental health charities and professional bodies, this motion has been written to update our outdated mental health policy.

Motion

HE350 Delete first paragraph and replace with:

"The Green Party recognises that a wide range of factors contribute to mental health distress and difficulties. These include economic, social, psychological and biological factors. The Green Party recognises that evidence clearly shows that many of our economic and social policies would contribute to improved well-being for all, such as increased community participation, improved social justice and secure employment.

For individuals suffering from mental health distress, a range of evidence-based therapies and treatments will be readily available, based on the NICE guidelines. The Green Party would also ensure increased funding was made available for further research into the development of evidence-based therapies for provision through the NHS. Provision of talking therapies should be made more readily available either in addition to or as an alternative to medication.

The Green Party also recognises that there are health inequalities in terms of the groups of people who access talking therapies and other forms of NHS treatment. The Green Party would encourage more innovation within NHS services for reaching excluded and marginalised groups.'

Delete second paragraph of HE350 (The particular vulnerability...) and replace with 'The Green Party would encourage all Local Authorities to appoint a Mental Health Champion, to advocate on behalf of people with mental health issues with regard to housing provision, employment and education access and other local services. Their role will be also to represent the interests of those with mental health issues whenever decisions are made on a local level.

Delete third paragraph of HE350 ('The Green Party will legislate...') and replace with 'The Green Party recognises that there is much stigma surrounding mental health difficulties, and this adversely affects those experiencing these issues. Working alongside charities and organisations that work to challenge stigma, we would encourage several measures, including mental health awareness training within the public sector, workplace mentorship frameworks in order to support employees experiencing mental health difficulties, and would support people with lived experience of mental health difficulties sharing their experiences, encouraging a more open dialogue on the issue in wider society.'

'The Green Party recognises that there is a real value in the service user, wherever possible, having a degree of control over their treatment options, for example through personal budgets. This system needs to be improved through more information being made available about personal budgets to service users, carers, advocates and staff. Whilst personal budgets can play an effective role in empowering service users, they should not replace the core funding of key services, such as day centres and inpatient care. Accordingly, the Green Party would provide funding for research into the optimal ways for mental health services to be delivered.

The Green Party would also continue to encourage the co-production agenda within the NHS, in which opportunities for the employment or participation of service users and other experts by experience in creating, delivering and monitoring preventative and treatment services.'

Delete fourth paragraph of HE350 ('It will further legislate...') and replace with 'The Green Party recognises that many people working with those with mental health difficulties, such as mental health nurses, social workers and support staff, work long hours, in difficult conditions, on relatively low pay and often with insecure job tenure. We would seek to improve the conditions and pay as well as the status of these important roles. This would aid in the retention of staff and, as a result, in providing continuity of care.'

'The Green Party would legislate so that psychotherapists would be brought under the governance of the Health Care Professionals Council (HCPC). We would also oversee the setting up of an independent body that would investigate any deaths which occur under mental health detention.]

'The Green Party recognises that mental and physical health problems often go together. For example, 40% of the tobacco smoked in the UK is smoked by those with mental health problems. Holistic care and 'joined up' services are vital for better outcomes. We would increase the focus on partnership working and integrated care pathways. This would also aid early interventions when problems arise, which is also essential in improving outcomes.'

Delete paragraph in HE350 ('The Green Party will also legislate...') .

Delete paragraph in HE350 ('People using mental health services...')

Delete paragraph in HE350 ('We will procure the systematic...')

Delete paragraph in HE350 ('We will encourage a systematic...')

Delete paragraph in HE350 ('We will encourage research into positive...')

'The Green Party recognises that health services need to be sensitive to the needs of individuals on the basis of age, ethnicity, gender, sexuality and cultural and socio-economic background. We would encourage mental health practitioners to take leadership on these issues. For instance, reviewing the effectiveness of how services are structured, such as the transition age of 18 and how services are accessed.'

'Early Years Intervention has a vital role in securing good mental wellbeing throughout life. Parent and infant psychological services, along with peer support networks, should be available throughout the country to aid better and more enjoyable parenting. Schools should provide a supportive environment where mental health issues are discussed, stigma and discrimination is challenged and emotional and social education is central. We would stress the importance of a curriculum that includes ways of preventing emotional distress, such as teaching about healthy relationships.

[See also ED042].

Schools would also be encouraged to employ suitably trained counsellors, to whom children could talk in confidence. Overall, the Green Party aim will be for health and educational services to be more integrated both at a local and national government level.'

'LGBT people are more likely to have contact with the mental health system and are at much higher risk of mental health issues, self-harm and suicidal ideation than heterosexual people. They are also more likely to come up against negative reactions from mental health staff. The Green Party would therefore ensure that guidance for good practice is included in staff training. We would also ensure that LGBT community specific health programs are funded and able to identify and support at risk individuals.'

'BME individuals are another identified group that is also more likely to have contact with mental health services. Certain communities are more at risk of developing certain mental health conditions, like psychosis. The Green Party would fund initiatives to reduce barriers into receiving care, by instituting community specific outreach programs, focused upon raising awareness and reducing stigma of mental health problems. Equally we would more clearly make the link that deprivation and exclusion of certain communities is linked to prevalence of mental health problems, and addressing those issues is key to addressing mental health issues.'

'The Green Party recognises also that refugees, asylum seekers, and vulnerable migrants can be just as marginalised within mental health services as within other services in the UK. These groups are under-represented in terms of receiving mental health support, whilst at the same time Black males are over-represented in the UK's inpatient wards. The Green Party recognises the rights of all people using mental health services for whom English is not the first language to interpreters where needed, preferably carefully chosen (to be sure there is no tribal/cultural clashing) and face-to-face rather than by telephone. The Green Party recognises that talking therapies are particular to western models of thinking, and will encourage and support the training of counsellors in mother tongue languages. The Green Party will work to ensure that marginalised groups are able to access services through allocating funding to specialist services where it is clear that there are groups who are under-represented in accessing services.'

The Green Party would recognise the crucial, unpaid and difficult work done by those who are carers for people with mental health difficulties. We would improve the benefits system for carers as well as put systems in place to ensure they are supported and advised, as well as ensuring they get adequate respite from their caring responsibilities.'

'The Green Party recognises the high levels of mental health need within the population that come into contact with the Criminal Justice System. For example, one in three young offenders have an unmet mental health need at the time of offence. Young people who become involved in gangs are at further risk of suffering mental health distress.'

'Both social and health inequalities are correlated with contact with the Criminal Justice System. This further demonstrates the need for our social justice and early intervention policies. In addition, the current structure and delivery of NHS mental health services are limited in their ability to engage and reach this group.'

'The Green Party would support the use of innovative programmes and services to improve the health outcomes of people involved in (or at risk of) the Criminal Justice System and work to improve national access to such evidence-based programmes. We would also emphasise the importance of training staff working within the Criminal Justice System, such as the police, civil servants, judges or probation, on mental health issues and the underlying causes of these difficulties. We would ensure that health, policing and community safety are working together at a local and national level to meet the social, occupational and emotional needs of this group as a means of reducing crime and distress.'

[See also CJ345 and CJ381].

Delete HE341 ('The Mental Health Act...').

'The Green Party recognises that suicide is the biggest killer of young men in the UK. We would ensure that local authorities took preventative action in terms of well-known suicide spots. For example, installing barriers and anti-suicide nets on bridges where suicides have taken place. Research shows that when such action is taken, suicides from other surrounding high structures do not increase. In addition, we would support organisations and services aimed at reaching out to young men.'

'The Green Party recognises that mental health services in the UK are overstretched, that people are not being assessed quickly enough and many people needing treatment are not getting access to services at all. In addition, mental health inpatient services are being reduced by 1000 beds a year. We recognise that some people need inpatient care and we would work to reverse the decline in bed numbers. We would also stress the need to review treatment length, recognising that some patients require longer treatment programmes than others, and that fixed-term treatments are not always appropriate. In addition, we could ensure that people are aided in their re-integration into the community after a stay in inpatient care, such as through protecting funding for supported living environments.'

'The Green Party recognises that the current isolation that many people face contributes greatly to mental health problems. We would tackle this by protecting facilities such as community centres, which aid social cohesion, and could be used to provide specific resources for those faced with mental health difficulties.'

'The Green Party recognises the important role that Primary Care has in mental health services. We would encourage General Practitioners' Practices to employ a mental health specialist such a mental health nurse. They would be there to provide help and support not only to the person experiencing the mental health difficulties but also to the carers and families of those affected. There would also be an emphasis on increasing the mental health training of General Practitioners who currently act as gatekeepers to many services.'

Social welfare SW500 – SW511

Delete SW500 to SW511.

Insert sentence 'For mental health policy, see HE350'

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Lesley Hedges(**), Clive Lord, Will Duckworth, Alex Rendell, Siobhan MacMahon.

Delete LGBT in the two places where it occurs and replace with LGBTIQ.

C006 Banning Advertising Targeted at Children

Proposed by Rupert Read(**), Jonathan Kent, Caroline Lucas, Keith Taylor, Caroline Allen, Natalie Bennett, Peter Cranie,

Synopsis

This motion would make it Green Party policy to ban advertising targeted at young children.

Motion

Insert at the end of CMS201:

"Greens believe that culture, media and sport all have a role to play in challenging stereotyping and discrimination."

Delete existing CMS207 and replace with "CMS207 The Green Party recognises that not all freedoms may be appropriate for children. The Green Party would move to ban all advertising targeted at children of primary school age and under. A Green Government should also support teachers, parents and guardians in their efforts to protect children in their care from inappropriate material and may need to take action to reduce the likelihood of children accessing harmful material."

(The section currently reads: CMS207 The Green Party recognises that not all freedoms may be appropriate for young persons. Parents and guardians have a responsibility to protect those in their charge from inappropriate material. In the case of material targeted directly at children the relevant authorities may have a duty to control content in loco parentis. (in the place of a parent))

ED041 Add under 'and a learning environment':

n. That is free from advertising and marketing where the values and stereotypes employed in advertising and marketing can be explored, discussed and, where necessary, challenged.

C007 Revise Education Policy

Proposed by Martin Francis(**), Shahrar Ali, Philip Hood, Peter Murry, Brian Orr, Peter Allen, Matthew Bain, Will Duckworth, Jean Macdonald, Mike Shipley, Roy Sandison, Steve Wright,

Synopsis

The party education policy from pre-school to post-compulsory education is in need of a comprehensive re-write, particularly in light of the significant changes in education over the lifetime of the current government. This motion proposes the party do this and organise a special conference to facilitate this.

Motion

This Conference instructs Policy Committee to initiate a policy development process intended to bring a proposal for a redrafted PfSS section on Education to a future Conference.

In order to ensure the widest possible input to the policy process, a specific one day conference should be organised by policy and conferences committee in consultation with the relevant groups in the party (e.g. GPTU for trade union contacts) in the next 12 months to draw in input from educators, parents and students within the party and invited contributors from the relevant teaching unions and educators from outside the party and shape the policy review process.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Simon Hales (**), Nicole Haydock, Sean Thompson, Jimmy Sayle, Charlotte Rouxel.

Delete from: "a specific one day conference" to the end of the motion and replace with the following:

", contributions from educators, parents and students from across the party as well as contributors from the relevant teaching unions, educators and parents campaign groups from outside the party must be invited to

shape the policy review process. Where formal submissions are made by parents, teachers, campaigning groups and unions, these will be presented as briefing papers alongside the proposed policy papers to the wider party on the Members' Website."

Amendment 2

Proposed by: Policy Committee(**); Stuart Jeffery, Alan Francis, Benali Hamdache, Maya De Souza, Caroline Allen.

Delete the final paragraph which reads:

"In order to ensure the widest possible input to the policy process, a specific one day conference should be organised by policy and conferences committee in consultation with the relevant groups in the party (e.g. GPTU for trade union contacts) in the next 12 months to draw in input from educators, parents and students within the party and invited contributors from the relevant teaching unions and educators from outside the party and shape the policy review process."

[SOC note – if Amendment 1 passes, then Amendment 2 falls.]

CQ08 Progressive Council Tax

Proposed by David Walker(**), Davy Jones, Alex Philips, Ali Ghanimi,

Synopsis

No synopsis was submitted

Motion

Insert into RoPS

What Is It?

It is a means of reducing the cost of living for the working poor and increasing the cost to the minority well-off. It will then of course make it more affordable for those who want to return to work but do not earn high sums.

Why Do It?

This is a move in the progressive direction. The lowest earners suffer from disproportionately and cripplingly high overheads just to be able to survive; often forcing workers into poverty no matter how hard they work. This reduces democratic engagement, people's health and quality of life and community spirit.

This measure not only starts to tackle inequality but can also raise millions of pounds desperately needed by councils.

Where?

All councils interested.

When To Do It?

As soon as possible to fight the cuts and sustain local council services, and improve council revenues.

How to Implement?

This has been verified as possible by the Department of Communities and Local Government. There are 2 components:

1) Council Tax

2) Council's General Fund

1) Council Tax is increased (e.g. 100%) after a local referendum in favour.

2) The council adopts a Progressive Funding Policy and submits payments from the General Fund to Council Tax Accounts based on the policy.

E.g. using a sliding scale of gain, the poorest 60% of the lowest earners would be allocated funds that lower their liability. The minority wealthy 40% get a sliding scale of benefit limiting the increase and those above the threshold, get the full increase.

Forms would be issued for each person in the household to complete, and they can authorise BHCC to keep the records up-to-date with information from HMRC (this can be done). If people do not want to authorise BHCC they could keep records up to date by submitting original documents themselves.

CQ09 Animal Welfare Composite

Proposed by Tim Turner(**) Ben Samuel, Alwynne Cartmell, Sue Baumgardt, David Collins, Louise Ryan, Ronald Lee, Mark Dawes, Patricia Tricker.

And

Caroline Allen(**), Patricia Tricker, Karen Varga, Susan Baumgardt, Alwynne Cartmell, Mark Dawes, Tim Turner, Brian Orr, Ronald Lee, Louise Ryan, John Davis, David Collins, Natalie Bennett, Charles Gate.

Synopsis

This composite brings together a combination of changes to policy on animal welfare.

Motion

Delete AR403-404 and AR406, replace with the following and renumber:

AR403 In the UK, close to a billion farm animals are slaughtered for food every year. Many of these animals are farmed intensively, kept in cramped conditions and denied the freedom to express natural behaviour. High levels of frustration, distress, injury and suffering are common and painful mutilations are routinely carried out to reduce risk of injury. Antibiotics are used routinely to prevent outbreak of disease, resulting in antibiotic resistance and threats to human and animal health. Animals are often transported long distances to slaughter and suffer inhumane conditions both during transport and at the time of slaughter. Besides the impact on animal welfare, high levels of consumption of meat, dairy and other animal products in developed countries are ecologically unsustainable and are linked to many chronic health conditions (See also FA650-FA666).

AR404 The Green Party will phase out all forms of 'factory farming' and support a transition to small free-range units, mixed rotational farming and extensive grazing (see FA660-661). We support the highest levels of animal welfare in farming and shall ensure that the 'Five Freedoms' listed in the Animal Welfare Act are applied to all farm animals. In particular we shall press for maximum stocking densities and appropriate environments for all farm animals in order to permit expression of natural behaviour. We shall prohibit all caged rearing of poultry, including 'enriched cages'. We shall prohibit all painful mutilations such as beak trimming of poultry and tail docking of pigs.

AR405 In recent decades, genetic selection has continually increased yields from farm animals, often resulting in endemic welfare problems, such as mastitis in cows and bone fractures in chickens. The Green Party will place limits on the 'genetic yield' of farm animals and will encourage farmers to use traditional breeds.

AR406 The Green Party will phase out routine and prophylactic use of antibiotics in farm animals. We shall maintain a ban on the use of growth hormones and imports of food from animals treated with growth hormones. We support a ban on the use of GMOs in animal feed and oppose all genetic modification of animals (See FA720 and [*SOC Note - renumbered*] AR420). We shall maintain a ban on the use of, and importation of products from, cloned animals and their offspring (See FA666). We shall press for EU and international rules permitting restrictions on imports from countries with lower animal welfare standards (See FA502(c)).

AR407 The Green Party will seek to minimise live transport of animals and will work through the EU and locally to end all live exports for slaughter and fattening. We shall prioritise smaller, local abattoirs, prohibit piece-rate payment of workers and otherwise improve market and slaughterhouse conditions. We support a ban with no exemption on slaughter without prior stunning.

AR408 Undercover footage has revealed significant animal suffering in UK slaughterhouses, including animals slaughtered for organic meat. Mandatory CCTV will be required in all slaughterhouses. This will act as a deterrent and provide evidence for animal abuse prosecutions.

AR409 Overfishing and the harmful effects of fish farming are devastating marine ecosystems. Several billion fish are killed annually to feed the UK population, often by methods causing extreme suffering, and millions of fish are kept in cruel conditions in intensive fish farms. The Green Party will work for an end to overfishing, practices harming the marine ecosystem and avoidable by-catches (see MC323-330). We shall prohibit intensive fish farming (see FA657, FA660 and MC341) and restrict the use of fishmeal for animal feed (see FA661). We shall extend the Animal Welfare Act to cover all fishing activities.

AR410 A reduction in the consumption of animal products would have benefits for the environment, human health and animal welfare. The Green Party will support a progressive transition from diets dominated by meat and other animal products to healthier diets based on plant foods, through the use of research, education and economic measures, coupled with support for more sustainable methods of production such as organic and stockfree farming.

AR411 The Green Party will ensure that high quality, nutritionally balanced vegetarian and vegan menu options are widely available and promoted in all public sector establishments such as schools, hospitals and care facilities (see ED190, FA222, HE322). We shall ensure that catering and nutrition for vegetarian and vegan diets is included in all catering certificates and that lessons in preparing nutritious vegetarian and vegan food are included in food technology courses.

Insert new [*SOC Note - renumbered*] AR19 and renumber

The Green Party will end puppy farming by banning the sale of young puppies and kittens unless the mother is present.

Insert into ROPS:

"The Green Party is opposed to shooting and hunting and would bring an end to these 'sports'. Until this happens The Green Party are calling for magazines that promote the shooting and hunting of animals to have blank wrapping and be kept out of the reach of children."

CΩ10 Europe Policy

Proposed by Policy Committee

Proposed by Stuart Jeffery(**), Benali Hamdache, Caroline Allen, Alan Francis.

Synopsis

In the recent revision of our European Policy we referred to "co-decision" as the decision making process of the EU and also to the European Court of Justice (ECJ). These terms have both been superseded and the policy should refer to "ordinary legislative procedure" and to the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) instead.

Motion

Throughout the Europe chapter of the Policies for a Sustainable Society replace each occurrence of "co-decision" with "ordinary legislative procedure", replace each occurrence of the "European Court of Justice" with "Court of Justice of the European Union" and replace each occurrence of "ECJ" with "CJEU".

CΩ11 Ethnic Minorities and Equality

Proposed by Benali Hamdache(**), Ryan Coley, Charlie Kiss, Alex Rendall, Siobhan MacMahon, Charlene Concepcion

Synopsis

The systematic exclusion of too many BME communities from opportunities the majority receive has

devastating effects on said communities. Poorer health outcomes, both physical and mental, can be attributed to the lack of opportunity in these communities. Equally evidence of hate crime towards these communities is all too prevalent.

Motion

PSS Workers Rights and Employment insert after WR333

WR334 - CVs should be anonymised during the hiring procedure to prevent pre-interview discrimination on the basis of an individual's race or gender WR335 - We would require public sector employers to adopt policies aimed at attracting and recruiting candidates from a wide range of minority groups. These should include proactive efforts to advertise in and reach out to minority communities, providing representative selection panels, and making reasonable adjustments throughout the process to empower minority groups.

WR343 - The Green Party would also support workers' rights to use their allotted holiday to observe religious holidays, cultural celebrations and secular observances that are important to them. The Green Party would also review how national holidays are currently set, with a view to recognising more national holidays in the annual calendar, to greater recognise and accommodate religious, cultural and secular celebrations in the year.

PSS Education Chapter amend EDO41 g) to

Learning at least one language from the age of 7 in addition to English (and Welsh within schools in Wales). Children should have a wide range of languages available for instruction, and school children who are not native speakers, or are multilingual, should have the chance to develop and share their languages at school.

and add the following after ED161

ED162 - The Green Party would investigate how best to ensure that schools are diverse, and not actively segregating ethnic or religious communities. Any such scheme should balance the need for a local school against making school a place where different communities' children grow up together. Where school catchment areas lead to de facto segregation in schools, the local authority and schools should facilitate the children mixing with other local schools. Schools with large minority and excluded populations should be given extra support and funding.

ED163 - We would introduce more targeted educational interventions for groups of students identified as vulnerable to not do well academically based on their demographics ED164 - We would grant schools greater freedom to recognise religious holidays, cultural celebrations and secular observations in the school calendar. Schools should have the freedom to mutually agree, between parents and teachers, ways of celebrating and accommodating time off for such yearly events

PSS chapter Crime and Justice after CJ350 Insert Equal Opportunities Policing as heading.

CJ351 - We will bring to an end the disproportionate targeting of ethnic minorities through stop and search

CQ12 An alternative Citizens Income / Basic Income Scheme

Proposed by South East Dorset Green Party

Proposed by Matthew Reina-Burgess(**), Mark Chivers, Helen Woodall, Ian Stannage, Barbara Reina-Burgess

Synopsis

Guarantees every citizen a decent basic income, without means-testing and to pensioners and those unable to work without further condition. Workers guaranteed a wage rate (equivalent to national mean work-age income per hour worked), for enough hours to equal that payment. Option to complete these hours in decent Government-funded jobs.

Motion

Delete existing EC730-EC733 and replace with:

EC730 A Citizen's Income sufficient to cover an individual's basic needs will be introduced, which will replace tax-free allowances and most social security benefits (see EC711). A Citizen's Income is an income payable to

each individual as a right of citizenship. It will not be subject to means testing

The level for an adult should be set at about £175pw as at Nov 2012, equivalent to the average personal JSA+housing benefit+council tax benefit package.. The only condition which a recipient citizen shall be required to meet is: that if they are of working age and capable to work, they shall be required to work for a total of 43 hours in a 4-week cycle^a. This can be for any legitimate employer, self-employment, or a socially or environmentally useful government guaranteed scheme^b -or a mix of these^c. Those unable to work, in legitimate full-time education (term-time), or beyond retirement age, will receive CI without conditions. Those in prison would be eligible for CI but would be required to pay a proportion as 'keep' to the prison -at least as much as an average citizen did in basic rented housing.

Workers would not be expected to do work that they had a moral objection to, although there should be plenty of non-controversial possibilities in the government-sponsored schemes. Those with a medical exemption would in no way be penalised for work they did manage to do (unless it was clearly impossible with the condition they'd declared)...and an exemption declaration should be able to specify 'this person may not be capable of reaching hours required for full CI, in which case they should be considered exempt from the time requirement'

See ^d for job-sharing.

a) This based on a wage-rate equivalent to that of the national mean income for a working person, currently ~£16.25ph. This is called the CI-wage rate (CIWR). The 43hrs/4-weeks are referred to as CI-time requirement (CITR). Where CIWR is greater than the contracted hourly rate, the difference is called the 'top-up rate', and is applicable for hours worked up to the CITR. Hours worked as self-employed would be assumed to be at minimum wage rate, and thus be eligible for the maximum top-up rate.

b) Govt. provided jobs would include valuable social and environmental jobs that aren't currently being done. They could be recommended and awarded via local councils or central Govt. *c. The Govt would pay CI to the citizen...this is to ensure everyone gets their CI, guaranteed and without delay. (exception: those fully self-employed would not make a CI contribution, but the Govt would only pay them the top-up part of CI.)

Employers would pay the Govt for the employee's contracted hourly rate up to the CITR –for a total up to the full CI. Employers would pay the employee direct for any hours worked above the CITR.

E.g : You are contracted for £8ph for 30hrs/week with employer 'X'. X pays the Govt £8x 10.75= £86 towards your CI. The Govt pays you £175 CI, effectively 'topping you up' by £89. You would receive a further £154 from your employer (as hours beyond your CITR, at your contracted £8ph). Total weekly income =£175(CI, non-taxable)+ £154(taxable).

If you got a pay rise to £20ph, X would pay the Govt the full £175pw, which would be passed on to you as CI, with no Govt top-up. By offering higher weekly wages, however, they should be benefitting from attracting high-calibre employees.

d) For employers with only one employee (includes self-employment), that job is considered as an entire job. So if they only work 15hrs/week, a Govt 'top-up' would apply for all but 4.25hrs of that. For employers with more than one employee: There should be an incentive for employers to allow job-sharing, but not to splinter into uselessly small jobs in order to gain maximum govt subsidy. Thus an employer of more than one person (at below the CIWR) would have to contribute more than the contracted wage rate towards employees' CI in certain circumstances:

Taking a full-time job equivalent (FTJE) to be 40hrs/week...an employer providing 80 hours' weekly work in total would be deemed to provide 2 FTJEs -so the Govt 'top-up' is allowed on 2 full CI equivalents. For fractional FTJEs, eg two employees working a total of 60hrs, the govt top-up would be for 1.5 CIs. The employer would have to pay the full CIWR on the remaining 0.5 of a CITR –to pay for 2 CIs.

So the Govt will pay CI 'top-up' for up to 10.75hrs of every 40 worked. However, by job-sharing, 4 employees could share a 43hr/wk job and each meet their full CITR, and each receive a full CI. The employer would simply have to contribute a bit more to each CI (reducing the Govt top-up) as described below...

An employer employing extra persons in the same job (ie job-sharing) would have to pay half the CI 'top-up' for the second employee, and three-quarters of the top-up for 3rd or 4th employees on the same job-share.

EC731 The Citizens' Income will eliminate the unemployment and poverty traps, as well as acting as a safety net to enable people to choose their own types and patterns of work (See EC400). The Citizens' Income scheme will thus enable people to engage in personally satisfying and socially useful work.

EC732 When the Citizens' Income is introduced it is intended that very few will be in a position that they will receive less through the scheme than they were entitled to under the previous benefits system. Children will be entitled to a reduced amount which will be payable to a parent or legal guardian. People with disabilities or special needs which require special provisions will receive a supplement according to need in their special circumstance. Single parents will be eligible for subsidised child care whilst working.

EC733 Housing (and council tax) benefit payments will cease. A vigorously enforced system of fair renting and decent housing standards will ensure that excessive rents are not charged (say something like equivalent to 16hrs of minimum wage as a current baseline for decent basic provision for 1 adult, to include council tax). There will be period when this could make landlords letting in very 'expensive' areas have to cut rents significantly. Some transitional relief could be given to such landlords who can demonstrate where they have invested significantly in order to provide such properties.

CQ13 High Speed Rail

Proposed by John Coyne(**), Janet Alty, Simeon Hart, Sarah Jennings, Lawrence Brown, Chris Padley.

Synopsis

Current policy (RoPS 2011) is to oppose the government's HS2 proposal. To assist clarity in campaigning against HS2 and because opinion on High Speed Rail is divided, the PSS policy on High Speed Rail should be retired.

Motion

Delete TR244

TR244 The Green Party believes that long-distance service provision should not concentrate on high speeds where this will affect local service provision or take up an excessive amount of limited resources. The Green Party supports the principle of a new north-south high speed line which would reduce the number of short-haul flights within the UK.

CQ14 Rewording Benefits

Proposed by Policy Committee

Proposed by Stuart Jeffery(**), Benali Hamdache, Caroline Allen, Alan Francis,

Synopsis

The current wording of our overall approach to benefits: "The Green Party supports the current position of benefits.." was probably correct when it was agreed but the recent assaults by the coalition on benefits mean that the wording gives the wrong impression. This motion provides clarity on our position.

Motion

Delete existing SW901 and replace with: SW901 The Green Party supports the principle of benefits to support those in need and would work towards streamlining them in the short and medium term and replacing them with Citizen's income in the long term.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Clive Lord(**), Deborah Fenney, Bluebell Eikonoklastes, Glen Jankowski.

Delete everything after "the principle of" and replace with:

"universal benefits to support those in need, and would work towards the removal of means testing and to that end would introduce the citizens income as soon as is feasible."

CQ15 Child Sexual Abuse

Proposed by Sarah Cope(**), Rebecca Findlay, RoseMary Warrington, Ruth Buckley, Shan Oakes, Chantal Frances (Purchase), Christine Clark, Lesley Hedges, Jill Weston, Yelena Lukomska, Jess Lee,

Synopsis

Child sexual abuse is an issue that affects the lives of many people, with an estimated one in six children being sexually abused. It is estimated the one in three women prisoners have been sexually abused as children and that 45% of sex workers have experienced the same. *[excessive length, cut by SOC]*

Motion

Delete SW314 and replace with:

SW314 The Green Party would develop and implement a comprehensive national strategy for the prevention of child sexual abuse which would include, but not be limited to, the following components

-Funding research into the causes of child sexual abuse, and also the possible treatment of abusers. The emphasis would be on preventing those who are sexually attracted to children from abusing in the first place, as well as rehabilitating offenders who wish to change their behaviour. There would be a big increase in the funding of effective treatment programmes for offenders in prison and support for prevention focussed projects such as the Quaker- supported Circles of Support and Accountability programme

-Running an on-going government public education campaign encouraging discussion of what is a taboo subject and a hidden problem, encouraging both perpetrators and victims to come forward for help.

-Ensuring that organisations providing help to the victims of sexual abuse, such as the National Association of People Abused in Childhood , receive Government funding, meaning they will no longer need to devote much of their valuable time to chasing funding.

-Ensuring that those coming into contact with children (such as teachers and medical staff) are effectively trained to spot the possible signs of sexual abuse and early, sensitive intervention will be encouraged as well as training on signs to look out for in adults who may be at risk of abusing

-Ensure children receive relationships and sex education including information about good and bad touch, good and bad secrets, knowing how to get help if something is worrying them and developing healthy relationships

-Develop and ensure consistent delivery of appropriate education for children through primary and secondary schools and youth services at key transitional stages about personal boundaries, emotional literacy and body safety in order to increase knowledge, improve self-esteem, influence behaviour and increase confidence in seeking help. -[See also ED042]

-As 'institutional sexual abuse' is a well-known problem, the Green Party would encourage institutions such as schools, businesses and faith groups to develop abuse prevention strategies, to include a structured and well-publicised process whereby abuse victims can report their concerns, be listened to and for appropriate action to be taken.

CQ16 An elected head of state

Proposed by Howard Thorp(**), Peter Allen, Lynton North, Stuart Neyton, Noel Lynch,

Synopsis

A monarchy has no place in a 21st century democracy. The British monarchy entrenches social division and privilege in our society. We need to replace the monarchy with a Head of State, elected by the British people, who will represent our country in a ceremonial role.

Motion

Motion Delete PA455 and renumber subsequent sections.

Insert a new PA601 and renumber subsequent sections:

"We will hold a two-part referendum on the abolition of the monarchy and whether to replace the role of the monarch with an elected Head of State. The role of an elected Head of State would be to represent the nation and to perform ceremonial duties on behalf of the people. The Green Party will campaign for abolition and an elected Head of State in this referendum."

CQ17 Amendment to the Philosophical Basis

Proposed by Caroline Bowes(**), Trish Marchant, Simon Marchant, Mary Smith,

Synopsis

Although explicit reference to the system and social and environmental justice is welcome, the recent amendment presents several issues that we feel urgently need resolving if we are to remain united as a party. These amendments seek to rebalance the recent changes, restore an ecocentric focus and retain Green politics.

Motion

At the start of PB001 insert: "For too long we have ignored our interdependence and interconnectedness with all life. We have seen ourselves as above the natural environment which sustains us, rather than a part of that environment. Human activity is now putting the planet and the life it supports under enormous strain".

At the first "we" in the first sentence of the current first paragraph of PB001 insert "and other life forms".

After the current first paragraph of PB001 insert new paragraph: "Politics which prioritises the accrualment of capital and relies on perpetual growth has failed us".

[SOC Note: A section of this motion has been ruled out of order and appears in the Out of Order Motions section of the agenda.]

After "democracy" in the current first sentence of the current second paragraph of PB001 insert " , and which recognises and values our interrelationship with the natural environment,"

After the first "of" in current principle 1 of PB001 insert "environmentalism,"

[SOC Note: A section of this motion has been ruled out of order and appears in the Out of Order Motions section of the agenda.]

Move current principle 1 of PB001 into the preamble between the text that reads "The Green Party isn't just another political party", and the text that reads "Green politics is a new and radical kind of politics guided by these core principles;" Retain the moved text as a separate paragraph. Renumber remaining principles so that they follow in the same order.

After the word "right" in current principle 4 of PB001 insert: "Additionally we believe in building an equal society that supports social and distributional justice. A fair distribution of resources will provide benefits for all".

After the word "theirs" in current principle 5 of PB001 insert: "or without concern for the protection of flora and fauna". Insert new principle 9 containing the text:

"Changing values in society to those which will protect our planet, flora and fauna, and produce a fair and more equal world, is central to the radical Green agenda".

And renumber so that principle 10 remains principle 10.

[SOC Note: A section of this motion has been ruled out of order and appears in the Out of Order Motions section of the agenda.]

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Caroline Bowes(**), Trish Marchant, Simon Marchant, Mary Smith,

Before "After the first "of" in current principle 1" in the motion, insert the following:

"After "many" in the first sentence of the current second paragraph of PB001 insert "diverse communities, populations and species that inhabit our planet".

After "few" in the first sentence of the current second paragraph of PB001 insert "wealthy and powerful individuals and corporations that benefit most from our current system. It".

Delete the current "and" before the second "would" in the current first sentence of the current second paragraph of PB001."

The relevant paragraph if all changes in the motion and amendment were agreed would read:

"A world based on cooperation and democracy, and which recognises and values our interrelationship with the natural environment, would prioritise the many diverse communities, populations and species that inhabit our planet, not the few wealthy and powerful individuals and corporations that benefit most from our current system. It would not risk the planet's future with environmental destruction and unsustainable consumption".

CΩ18 Updating our Justice Policy

Proposed by Kieran Anderson(**), Lewis Martin, Paul Valentine, Jessica Goldfinch, Shan Oakes,

Synopsis

No synopsis submitted.

Motion

Replace RR400 to RR404 with,

RR400 The Green party considers the rights and principles as fundamental to society. However it is insufficient to commit to these principles, without an effective means to enforce them. Therefore the Green Party is committed to the provision of effective enforcement mechanisms, such as the European Court of Human Rights and a functional system of legal aid.

RR401 The Green Party is committed to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights.

RR402 The Green Party supports the Human Rights Act and the continued direct access to Convention rights in the domestic courts, saving claimants the expense and difficulty of taking their cases to The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

RR403 In addition to the rights expressed in the Human Rights act, the Green Party supports a right to trial by Jury for any offence which carries a sentence of six months or greater.

RR404 In addition to the rights expressed in the Human Rights Act, the Green Party supports a right to refuse to kill and to conscientious objection to military service.

Rights of the Child

RR405 The Green Party supports the UK signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure.

RR406 The Green Party will incorporate into our domestic law the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Economic, Cultural and Social Rights

RR407 The Green Party supports the UK signing and ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights.

RR408 The Green Party will incorporate into our domestic law the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights.

Freedom from Torture

RR409 We will repeal s.134(4) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, we believe that there is never any justification or excuse for torture, and fully implement the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

RR410 We will establish a special, fully independent commission to investigate previous UK involvement with torture, especially with the program of extraordinary rendition, and bring forward appropriate legislation to ensure that anybody who committed or was complicit in torture, whenever the offence was committed will be brought to justice.

and renumber accordingly.

Create New CJ700

Squatting

C700 The Green Party does not support the criminal offence of Squatting in a Residential Property. Therefore we will repeal S144 of the Legal Aid and Sentencing of Offenders Act 2012.

Insert new NY540

NY540 – The Green Party does not support the Home Secretary being able to arbitrarily strip people of their Citizenship and we would repeal s.40 of the British Nationality Act.

Insert New RR1000 and RR1001

Justice System Reform

RR1000 The Green Party is opposed to the system of Closed Material Procedures (CMP) and would return to the use of Public Immunity Certificates.

RR1001 We would abolish the Special Immigration Appeals Commission (SIAC) and transferring its functions into the First Tier Tribunal Immigration Section.

Delete RR503 and RR504, and renumber accordingly.

Insert into ROPS

Criminal Legal Aid

This lawless Government's continuing assault on legal aid, depriving many people of access to any justice, has reached new lows. The current plans for dismantling criminal legal aid represent an utterly unacceptable infringement of ancient liberties and will lead to widespread injustice.

Current plans will see lawyers no longer being paid for the work they do but instead being given a flat fee, giving a perverse incentive for lawyers to get their clients to plead guilty, loss of the right for a defendant to select and dismiss their own solicitor. Contacts are being designed to encourage large companies, these proposals will likely lead to the same out sourcing companies arresting, defending in court and finally imprisoning us.

The Green Party believes the current proposals are absolutely unacceptable and resolves to support those barristers proposing to strike and those solicitors firms planning to boycott the new scheme.

C19 Policing and Young People

Proposed by Jenny Jones(**), Darren Johnson, Caroline Allen, Sharar Ali

Synopsis

This motion advocates new police initiatives and training to seek to improve satisfaction levels and confidence in the police amongst 15-24 year olds, which was found to be lower in this age group than in any other recorded by the British Crime Survey.

Motion

Insert new clause in PSS in Crime Prevention and Justice:

CJ317 Policing and Young People The Police will devise youth-led training schemes for all new recruits on how to work with young people. This will be compulsory, either as part of a specific module or as part of each training strand. Those recruits who do not complete it will not be eligible to qualify as police officers.

All police officers in public facing roles will periodically undergo training in how to work with young people.

As far as possible, officers will be rotated between teams so that all officers spend time in neighbourhood teams and in schools. Youth training will be a compulsory element.

Officers will visit schools regularly, taking part in workshops and interacting with young people. They will become familiar as a part of everyday life so that young people have predominantly positive interactions with the police.

The police will maintain a list of youth projects and schemes within their regions. This would be a dynamic list that is updated every six months and used to link groups for information and support.

All Police and Crime Plans will include a specific aim to improve the confidence that young people have in the police.

More officers will be trained for public order policing, rather than relying on specialist units. Specialist units such as the Metropolitan Police's Territorial Support Group would be disbanded in order to free up funding to train a greater number of officers for public order situations.

CQ20 Stop the Fixed Odds Betting Terminals

Proposed by Benali Hamdache(**), Stuart Neyton, Ryan Coley, Charlie Kiss, Alex Rendall, Siobhan MacMahon, Charlene Concepcion

Synopsis

Fixed Odds Betting Terminals are electronic gaming machines. These machines allow for individuals to stake up to £100 every 20 seconds on a variety of casino games. These machines are addictive and mean that users are highly vulnerable to losing large amounts of money in a short amount of time. *[excessive length, cut by SOC]*

Motion

LP420: The Green Party would recategorise betting shops in a new planning use class, removing them from A2 financial services. The separate categorisation would be part of giving councils more powers to refuse planning permission to betting shops, and prevent clustering of such shops on high streets

LP421: The Green Party would cap the amount of money that could be placed on betting terminals in betting shops to £2 per bet. In addition roulette games would be removed from these terminals.

Insert into RoPS:

The Green Party in addition would work to be a signatory of the Stop the FOBT campaign.

CQ21 PSS Chapter Headings

Proposed by Policy Committee

Proposed by Stuart Jeffery(**), Benali Hamdache, Caroline Allen, Alan Francis,

Synopsis

Policy Committee would like to restructure the 34 chapters in the PSS without changing the policies or wording. We would like to propose fewer overall chapters with the current chapter headings becoming subheadings under the new groupings to help navigation and understanding. The number of chapters would halve.

Motion

Replace chapter headings in the PSS as below, grouping some existing chapters under new headings but leaving their titles as subheadings. The wording and numbering of the policies will remain unchanged. The new headings will be:

1. Animals
2. Citizenship and Population comprising current chapters of: Migration; Nationality; Population; Refugees; Responsibilities and Rights
3. Economy comprising current chapters (each with a section to be added on transition policies): Countryside; Economic Management (renamed from Economy); Food & Farming (rename from food and agriculture); Industry and Jobs (renamed from Industry); Media (separated from Culture, Media & Sport); Science and Technology; Tourism
4. Culture and Sport (separated from Culture, Media & Sport)
5. Education
6. Energy
7. Environmental Safeguarding comprising current chapters of: Climate Change; Pollution
8. Governance and Democracy (renamed from Public Administration)
9. Health comprising current chapters of: Disability; Drug Use; Medical Care (renamed from Health); Sport
10. International Relations comprising current chapters of: Europe; International; Peace & Defence
11. Natural Resources comprising current chapters of: Forestry; Land; Marine & Coastal; and Natural Resources and Waste Management (split and rename to Waste Use)
12. Public Protection (renamed from Crime and Justice) comprising current chapters of: Crime Prevention & Resolution (renamed from Crime and Justice)
13. Sustainable Communities comprising current chapters of: Housing; Local Planning;
14. Social Welfare
15. Transport
16. Worker Rights and Employment

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Deorah Fenney, Siobahn MacMahon, Lesley Hedges, Clive Lord, Andrew Pointon, Bluebell Eikonoklastes, Stuart Neyton, Manishta Sunnia.

Move the chapter "Disability" from heading 9 "Health" to heading 2 "Citizenship and Population".

CQ22 6X Voting System

Proposed by South East Dorset Green Party

Proposed by Matthew Reina-Burgess(**), Mark Chivers, Helen Woodall, Ian Stannage, Barbara Reina-Burgess

Synopsis

Once in 5 years we put one X (probably wasted) by somebody's name. Yet Thatcher's last victory and unchallengeable power came with under 1/3 of the electorate voting Conservative. They gained 183% of this proportion as Parliamentary seat share. First-past-the-post is clearly unrepresentative, AV didn't offer proportionality...time for something better!

Existing policy

PA303 The GP supports Electoral Reform in all levels of Government, with different systems being

appropriate for different levels of Government. Of the various electoral systems available, we would consider the Single Transferrable Vote and Additional Member Systems to be entirely acceptable, whilst First-Past-The-Post or Supplementary Vote Systems are not.

PA304 The most appropriate system for elections to the Westminster Parliament is the Additional Member System (AMS). Electors would vote on two ballots: one for the party of their first choice and the other for their constituency MP. MPs would be elected from constituencies as at present, but each party's representation would be topped up on a regional basis by additional members to bring its number of seats up to its proportion of votes polled, provided that proportion was above a minimum qualifying level of 3% of votes polled. There would be a requirement that each party's list has to be elected by a system of 'one member one vote' of the party's membership.

Motion

PA303: Remove "entirely" from the second sentence and add at the end: "For election of MPs, the GP prefers the '6X' system, which allows voters the option of weighted voting, open-list voting for individual candidates, and proportional representation for parties".

PA304: Remove and replace with:

The most appropriate system for elections to the Westminster Parliament is the 6X system. All constituencies would be of as similar population size as practical and return up to 3 MPs. Electors would have a ballot paper with up to 3 candidates per contesting party. Each candidate will have a box next to their name, and there will be at the bottom of the candidate list, 6 boxes for 'unused' votes. Electors would cast 6Xs on this paper – one for each chosen candidate – although they could place as many of the 6Xs as they wished in the boxes marked as 'unused'. They would also have the option to circle their favourite candidate, thereby scoring him/her an extra half-vote. Constituency MPs would be automatically awarded to parties for each 33% of the constituency vote they secure. Highest residual constituency votes %s (above 15%) would gain constituency MPs when 33% is not possible. Votes throughout the nation would be added so that each party's national representation would be proportional. After Constituency MPs are allocated, any MPs due to a party to reflect a nationwide vote will be awarded as 'Nationwide' MPs.

Section D (Organisational and other motions)

DΩ01 Greens in Local Government

Proposed by: John Coyne(**), Jonathan Essex, Andrew Cooper, Jon Lucas, Claire Stephenson, Lawrence Brown, Sam Riches.

Synopsis

This motion affirms the Party's choice to continue to help elect Greens in local government even in difficult times and recognises the role of the Association of Green Councillors in supporting that process. It calls for understanding of the tensions and perceived contradictions faced by Greens in office.

Motion

Conference recognises the tough challenges faced by Green councillors and Green candidates holding or seeking office in local government now.

Conference understands that there are risks as well as opportunities attached to fighting to win local elections and that the only way to avoid those risks completely would be to withdraw from local government until happier times arrive.

Conference also recognises that where Greens take or share control of a council, the other parties are likely to take every opportunity to highlight cuts that may have to be made in order to avoid setting an illegal budget.

Conference nevertheless endorses the choice for the Green Party to continue to campaign to win and hold office in local government and for councillors only to consider relinquishing office if they can see an advantage to their constituents in doing so. Conference calls on all members and groups within GPEW to accept and support that choice to seek and hold office.

Conference considers that constructive, informed criticism of Greens in office can be comradely and supportive, but that hostile or reckless criticism in the public arena is not.

Conference recognises that cuts to local authority budgets have imposed invidious choices on councils and councillors and calls on GPEW to lead a campaign to press any future government to commit to restoring and providing fair funding for local authorities.

Conference recognises the role of the Association of Green Councillors (AGC) in supporting our councillors and candidates and considers that AGC needs enhanced capacity to develop that support.

Conference therefore requests GPEW, regional and local parties to encourage all existing councillors and target candidates to become active members of AGC and requests local parties, when selecting target candidates, to ask them to state whether they will become fully paid-up members of AGC if elected.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Jimmy Sayle(**), Simon Hales, Lynton North, Mike Shaughnessy.

Replace Points 4 (beginning 'Conference nevertheless endorses the choice...') with

Conference endorses the choice for the Green Party to continue to campaign to win and hold office in local government where this offers a realistic prospect of advancing Green policies.

Conference reaffirms the Green Party's unequivocal opposition to the cuts currently being imposed by central government. Furthermore Conference recognises that a Green vote is often the only option for voters wishing to register their opposition to the cuts. It is therefore the duty of Green councillors to oppose these cuts.

Conference recognises that budgetary control is a prerequisite of real power in local government. Green administrations should therefore propose budgets that do not entail cuts, and should treat as confidence issues any attempts by other parties to impose budgets that do not meet this criterion.

Amendment 2

Proposed by: Peter Allen (**), Peter Murry, Sean Thompson, Stuart Neyton.

Replace point 4 (beginning 'Conference nevertheless endorses') with

"Conference endorses the choice for the Green Party to continue to campaign to win and hold office in local government, but recognises the serious damage done to its reputation as a principled anti-cuts party by any Green administration carrying out cuts on behalf of central government. This damage might outweigh any benefits of trying to make cuts in a caring and consultative manner. It is a situation which needs to be kept under review. An urgent review needs to take place in relation to Brighton & Hove, involving the local party and councillors and the wider party across England & Wales."

[SOC Note – Consequential; if Amendment 1 passes, Amendment 2 falls.]

DΩ02 Leader Roles and Gender Composite

Synopsis

Two motions regarding this subject were submitted to conference, that which changes the party stance most significantly is proposed as the motion, with the less significant change outlined as an amendment. This has been done to ensure that conference can have a full debate on the issue without repeating itself.

Motion

Proposed by: Rupert Read(**), Adam Stacey, Fiona Radic, David Eagar.

In section 8, para iv of the constitution, remove the words 'of opposite sexes'. In para vi, remove the words 'Candidates for Deputy Leader of the same sex as the newly elected Leader will then be disqualified.' In para x, remove the words 'of the same sex as the current postholder'.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Sarah Cope(**), Paul Cohen, Lesley Hedges, Caroline Alle, Jem Lindon, Rebecca Findlay, Shan Oakes, Chantal Frances, Alex Rendell, Moira Dunworth.

Delete the text of motion and replace with:

Delete first sentence of iv. 'Two members of opposite sexes may together stand for the office of Leader in order to hold the post as a job share' and replace with 'Two members, at least one of whom should not self-define as a man, may together stand for the office of Leader in order to hold the post as a job share.'

Delete second sentence of vi. 'Candidates for Deputy Leader of the same sex as the newly elected Leader will then be disqualified' and replace with 'If the Leader self-defines as a man, the Deputy Leadership candidates who also self-define as men will be disqualified.'

Delete second sentence in x. 'In the event of a similar petition to recall the Deputy Leader, a new election for that post only will be held, in which the current postholder and other members of the same sex as the current postholder shall be eligible to stand, subject to clause 8 (iii) above' and replace with 'In the event of a similar petition to recall the Deputy Leader, a new election for that post only will be held. The current postholder shall be eligible to stand. If the Leader self-defines as a man, only members who don't also self-define as men will also be eligible to stand. If the Leader does not self-define as a man, members of any gender will be eligible to stand. This is subject to clause 8 (iii) above.'

Amendment 2

Proposed by: Caroline Allen(**), Tim Turner, Caroline Russell, Charlie Kiss, Benali Hamdache

Delete the text of the motion and replace with:

Delete and replace section 8 part i) of the constitution with:

"There shall be a Leader and two Deputy Leaders of the party

The leader shall be a voting members of the Executive and the Deputy Leaders be treated as a job-share."

Delete and replace section iv with:

"The post of Deputy Leader will be held as a job share with two individuals of different gender, noting that gender is self-determined.

Two members of different gender may together stand for the office of Leader in order to hold the post as a jobshare in which case they shall be known as 'Co-Leaders'. In this case a single Deputy, the individual who polls the highest vote, regardless of gender, will be elected. Members standing to be Co-Leaders may not simultaneously be candidates as individuals for either Leader or Deputy Leader."

Delete section vi.

In the rest of The Constitution replace the words "Deputy Leader" with "Deputy Leader(s)".

DΩ03 Trade Union Liaison Officer

Proposed by: Roy Sandison(**), Steve Wright, Nicole Haydock, Sean Thompson, Stuart Neyton, Roger Hill.

Synopsis

The Green Party (GPEW) agreed at the Liverpool Conference in February 2012 by a big majority to the urgent need to have an elected Trade Union Liaison Officer.

Motion

"Following the passing of motion D05 at Liverpool conference, add to [the list](#) of GPEx roles in para 7ii) '(n) Trade Union Liaison Officer".

Conference suggests the following role description be adopted:

Suggested role and responsibilities of a Trade Union Liaison Officer

The Trade Union Liaison Officer would seek to build links at a national and regional level with the Trade Union movement and individual Trade Unions and also support local parties to establish links with Trade Unions in their locality with the aim to link up with possible joint campaigns – including seeking Green Party speakers on Trade Union led platforms and protests.

The Trade Union Liaison Officer would seek funding for Green Party campaigns and also seek possible financial support for Green Candidates from supportive Trade Unions.

The Trade Union Liaison Officer would work with and also give support to the Green Party Trade Union Group (GPTU) as requested by GPTU.

The Trade Union Liaison Officer will advice over local party TU involvement. Coordinate the collection of Trade Union info from Green Party membership list and offer and suggest training and support for member involvement in local TU work.

The Trade Union Liaison Officer will update GPEx on current developments within the Trade Union movement and how best the GPEW can build on our shared values and objectives with the Trade Union movement.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Roy Sandison(**), Romayne Phoenix, Peter Murry, Simon Hales, Peter Allen.

Before "Conference suggests", insert the following:

"In section 7. (iii) of the constitution, delete from "In order" to "will be" and replace with:

"The posts below will be elected in one group in the Annual Ballot, with all other GPEx posts up for election as a group during the alternate years."

Add "Trade Union Liaison Officer" to the list of posts.

Delete from "The other six" to "for two year terms".

D04 Review of Green Party Structure and Governance

Proposed by: Jo Steranka(**), John Street, Michael Coffey, Jon Nott, Jane Devlin.

Synopsis

The current Party governance structure of GPRC/GPEx is over 20 years old. It is widely felt that it isn't effective. This motion creates a working group to develop and present to Conference alternative governance models, with the preferred model put to the membership in a Party-wide ballot for final decision.

Motion

Conference instructs Standing Orders Committee (SOC) to constitute a working group as follows:

Membership: one representative from each of the Green Party Executive (GPEx), Green Party Regional Council (GPRC), SOC, Disputes Resolution Committee and two representatives in total from other committees elected at Conference. The group will also include 3 seats for representatives from special interest groups in the Green Party and 3 seats for interested Party members who are not members of any nationally elected or appointed body, to a maximum of 12 working group members.

The working group shall select its Chair from the representatives from special interest groups and interested Party members.

Remit: the working group shall prepare and publish terms of reference for its work, which shall include but not necessarily be limited to:

- a review of the governance structures of other political parties and relevant national NGOs for potential models for development of the Party's governance;
- a review of previous proposals for change to the Party's governance structures and incorporation of relevant previous work into the working group's final proposals;
- a review of national committees and their relationship to GPEx/GPRC;
- developing and presenting to Conference a minimum of 2 options for change to the current GPEx/GPRC model;

The working group shall consider amongst other things:

- revision of GPEx Co-ordinator roles in order to streamline the national management function;
- alternatives to the regional councillor model for accountability of the national executive function;
- the role of Young Greens, the Association of Green Councillors and special interest groups within Party governance;

Transparency: the working group shall make every effort to consult widely on options for change and make use of the Members' Website, the Members' internal e-mailings and other internal Party media to engage and inform the Party's membership of the ongoing debate.

Exclusions: this working group will not consider:

- delegate conferences;
- the policy-making process;
- the role of the Leader or Deputy Leader.

Timetable: within 3 months of this Conference, the working group shall publish a timetable setting out key milestones for achievement of this task. The working group is required to present a progress report in Section A of each conference agenda during the period of its work.

Decision: the working group shall present options for constitutional change for debate at Autumn Conference 2016 at the latest. In a non-binding vote, a plenary workshop at Conference shall identify the option most preferred using a proportional voting method that will order the options presented.

The preferred option will be put to the membership in a party-wide ballot as set out in clause 20(ii) of the

Green Party Constitution. The motion enabling this ballot is set out in the appendix below.

Passing this motion with the inclusion of the Appendix will trigger the party-wide ballot.

The mandate of this working group will expire at the end of Autumn Conference 2016.

Appendix: Motion enabling a party-wide ballot of members on Conference's preferred option for constitutional change:

This conference delegates the decision on the proposal for constitutional change of the Green Party's governance structures as outlined above to a party-wide ballot of the membership.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Jo Steranka (**), John Street, Michael Coffey, Jon Nott, Jane Devlin.

Delete "SOC" from the second paragraph.

Delete the Third paragraph starting "the working group..." and replace with: "The SOC Convenor shall chair the working group."

Amendment 2

Proposed by: Simon Hales (**),

Insert at the end of section headed "Exclusions":

"Conference calls on GPRC and GPEx to fully engage with this process, and instructs them not to initiate any addition review process of Green Party structure and governance whilst this review is ongoing."

Amendment 3

Proposed by: Simon Hales (**), Doug Copping, Eliot Folan, Nicole Haydock.

Insert new paragraphs between first and second paragraph under the heading "Decision":

"The working group will consider the preferred option in light of the discussion and debate at conference on it, and make any amendments it sees fit.

The preferred option will then return to the next conference as the draft proposal, and will be put to conference for approval and amendment as required. On consideration of the amendments, and voting to approve the draft proposal as amended, the draft proposal will become the final proposal."

In current second paragraph under the heading "Decision" delete "preferred option" and replace with "final proposal"

D05 Policy Motion Briefing Papers

Proposed by: Policy Committee

Proposed by: Caroline Allen(**), Stuart Jeffery, Benali Hamdache, Alan Francis, Charlie Kiss, Caroline Russell, Alex Rendell.

Synopsis

Some motions are overlong, contain background that is not suitable for the PSS and figures that go out of date. Creating a briefing paper allows detail without excess PSS content.

Motion

Add to the Standing Orders for Conference, Section D, part 1.

Policy motions should be succinct and should not contain excessive background detail.

A separate briefing paper can be submitted which should contain relevant background material, costings, research, consideration of counter arguments, relevance to campaigns etc (an optional template will be provided by Policy Committee). This paper will be made available on the Members' Website and at conference.

DΩ06 Intra Party Communication

Proposed by: Benali Hamdache(**), Charlie Kiss, Ryan Coley, Alex Rendell, Siobhan MacMahon, Charlene Concepcion, Ben Samuel.

Synopsis

The nature of UK elections often means that not every party is contesting elections at the same time. As a small party with limited resources pooling activists is vital. However efforts have been ad hoc and there is no national system to direct activists to winnable target ward action days.

Motion

We therefore call on GPEX to:

- a) Develop a system that enables every activist in the Green Party to find out where all the target wards across England and Wales are and how they can help.
- b) Develop a system for local parties with winnable target wards to fundraise from the national Green membership, carefully managed as to not deluge members with appeals.
- c) Work on creating a culture where reciprocal assistance between the regions is desirable, clearly defined and common practice.

DΩ07 Membership Rules

Proposed by: Romayne Phoenix(**), Martin Francis, Pete Murry, Sean Thompson, Lynton North, Stuart Neyton.

Synopsis

The appeal of GPEW can be significant amongst the UK international population, by barring membership to the party for those who are engaged in politics overseas, but not members of a Green Party in their home nation, we are closing ourselves off to a layer of potential activists.

Motion

In section 4, part i of the constitution, delete ", other than Green Parties abroad," and insert "which has stood candidates against Green Party candidates in elections in England and/or Wales"

DΩ08 Advance Constituency Scheme

Proposed by: Jon Nott(**), Richard Mallender, Gus Hoyt, Claire Stephenson, Ricky Knight, Emily McIvor.

Synopsis

This draft motion proposes that conference express its support for the Advance Constituency Scheme as developed by GPEX and offered to local parties. The motion will provide a chance for conference, as the party's chief democratic body, to discuss election strategy.

Motion

At the next General Election, it has been agreed that the focus of the party's election effort will have to be holding our current sole Westminster seat, Brighton Pavilion, and building our vote in Norwich South, where we got 15% of the vote last time.

But unless we work more broadly from now on in, we will risk getting to the 2020 general election little further forward in terms of realistic prospects of Westminster wins. Winning our first parliamentary constituency was always meant to be the first step of a process to becoming a truly national party, with significant national influence. To be sustainable, we need to grow the party across England and Wales.

Conference acknowledges that this is also critically important in supporting our 2014 European election campaign. We must not in concentrating on one or two regions, remove the chance of meeting our goal of significantly growing our number of representatives in Brussels.

Conference therefore supports the Advance Constituencies Scheme, with the aim of building a second tier of stronger constituencies in which we will work on a year-round basis to secure improved General Election results, with a longer term view of the 2020/2025 elections in mind. Ideally, if the Regional Party supports it, there should be at least one Advance Constituency in each region of the country.

The national and regional parties, and members, can channel person-power and attention to the seat, and it can provide a base in which skills and experience can be developed and from which electoral best practice can be shared with parties in that region and beyond.

Conference sees that this should be closely linked to efforts to build our number of councillors in each Advance constituency.

Conference acknowledges that there may be little or no financial resources available from the national party for the Advance Constituencies, but that support can be provided through publicity, training and promotion of these seats, and directs the Green Party executive the vigorously promote the scheme.

Amendment 1

Proposed by: Peter Allen, Peter Murry, Jimmy Sayle, Nicole Haydock, Simon Hales.

Add as an additional point at the end

"Conference recognises that the Green Party's best prospect of electoral success is as part of a broader coalition of those who share our opposition to all austerity measures, commitment to social justice and concerns for the environment. It therefore encourages Local Green Parties to approach such people and groups (including other parties), on a constituency by constituency basis, seeking broader support for a Green Party candidate where we believe that we are best placed to achieve a good result and offering support to a candidate from outside the party where we are not."

DΩ09 Fast tracking of motions

Proposed by: Standing Orders Committee

Proposed by: Rustam Majainah,(**) Doug Rouxel, Casper Drake, Ian McCulloch, Francis Williams.

Synopsis

Fast tracking of motions is something which already takes place with the agreement of conference, however it is not formally included in the standing orders for the conduct of conference. This formalizes the process already in use.

Motion

In Section F, part 5, Subsection e of Standing Orders for the Conduct of Conference.

Delete "following" insert an "s" at the end of "procedure" and "outlined in sections f and g" after "procedure. In the second sentence of section e, delete "this" and replace with "the basketing procedure outlined in section f"

Insert "f) Basketing" above sections i - iv

Insert the following after the new subsection f

"g) Fast Tracking

- i) Fast tracked motions are defined as motions which are not contentious, do not require expenditure in excess of £100, are consistent with already existing party policy and will potentially not get heard due to their position in the agenda.
- ii) Motions proposed for fast tracking will be identified in the SOC report to conference, by accepting the report in its entirety, conference agrees to the fast tracking of these motions.
- iii) Fast tracking will take place only by unanimous agreement. Any opposition raised to the fast tracking of motions will automatically cause the motion to be ordered into its original position on the agenda.
- iv) Fast tracked motions will be voted on directly after the SOC report.
- v) The motions will be proposed formally from the chair, and there will be no speeches in support or against the motions."

DΩ10 MP's Remuneration

Proposed by: Derbyshire Green Party

Proposed by: Peter Allen(**), John Youatt, Jean Macdonald, Mike Shipley, Sue Ledger, Tony Youens.

Synopsis

To ensure that MPs' remuneration and expenditure is transparent. To refer budget decisions openly to MPs' constituency offices, including the employment of staff. To enable candidates to set an example by making a pledge and to challenge other candidates to follow it.

Motion

Conference resolves:

To adopt a policy ensuring transparency in dealing with remuneration , including salary, allowances, expenses, sponsorship and any other income, and expenditure;

That on being elected, an MP will be encouraged to make a contribution from salary and other income to a constituency office. A report should be published regularly in a manner that is open to public scrutiny and comment and displayed transparently;

On being selected as a as a parliamentary candidate, a Green Party member would be asked to make the following pledge and encouraged to invite other candidates to do likewise.

Remuneration pledge : MPs' use of public money and other income

If elected:

I will ensure that, in the interest of transparency, a report is prepared in which all allowances, other related income and expenses will be included, at least twice yearly. This report will be submitted to a local constituency body in a way that is open to public scrutiny, with receipts and justification for all expenses.

I will invite the local party to discuss with me a donation to it of a percentage of my salary. The local party will determine the use of all other income which will primarily be used to fund support staff.

I will advertise all positions within my constituency office. Positions would be filled to industry-standard terms and conditions for conducting interviews and making appointments. Family members would only be employed

through that open recruitment process.

DΩ11 Record of Organisational Statements.

Proposed by: Standing Orders Committee

Proposed by: Rustam Majainah(**), Doug Rouxel, Casper Drake, Ian McCulloch, Francis Williams.

Synopsis

The party regularly passes motions at conference that have an organizational impact, ranging from affiliating to campaigns, or starting a review process. This addition to the constitution would ensure that members are able to keep track of the outcomes of these motions.

Motion

Insert new point under section 10 of the constitution after point V and re-number accordingly.

v) SOC will maintain a Record of Organisational Statements which will be available to all members through the members website. This will record motions passed by conference that commit bodies within the party to undertake a particular organizational action. When preparing their reports to Autumn conference party bodies tasked to take action appearing on this record will ensure that progress on these motions will be covered in their reports. Once the requirements of motions have been satisfied entries will be removed from the record. Where the motion is not time based (for example affiliation to an organization) removal from the list will be on the basis of a specific vote of conference.

DΩ12 Deputy Chair

Proposed by: Michael Coffey(**), Maya De Souza, Sam Riches, Gus Hoyt, Cathryn Symons.

Synopsis

Currently, should the GPEX chair be incapacitated or unable to carry out their duties for any reason, there is no person identified to act in that role - particularly as line manager of the chief executive, or in calling GPEX meetings. GPEX could share the role around if it wished.

Motion

Insert after Item 7 xi of the constitution and renumber

xii) The Executive shall elect annually from among its elected members a deputy chair, to assist the chair in his/her duties, and to act in the role of the chair at any time when the chair is unable to do so.

DΩ13 Selection process for parliamentary constituencies that are covered by more than one local party

Proposed by: Jon Lucas(**), Jonathan Essex, Joy Irving, Bob Irving.

Synopsis

Because many parliamentary constituencies straddle local party boundaries, there is confusion as to who has responsibility for selecting their general election candidates. This motion clarifies that the regional party should liaise with local parties to ensure agreement on this, and where there is no agreement, that they can take responsibility.

Motion

Insert into Constitution in the list of bye-laws in section entitled: 'referred to in clause 5(xii): Selection of candidates for the House of Commons', after paragraph 4 new paragraph 5 and renumber:

Where more than one Local Party covers a Parliamentary Constituency, the relevant Regional Party has responsibility for ensuring that the local parties agree amongst themselves the following matters.

Which Local Party is to take a lead in:

- a) organising a discussion to decide whether to contest or not,
- b) running a selection procedure
- c) setting deadlines for these matters.

There will also need to be agreement on paying the deposit and any other funding associated with the electoral campaign.

The Regional Party will then notify the national party's Election Agent of these agreements before any selection process is undertaken.

In the event of no agreement, or failure to meet the agreed deadlines, the Regional Party may take responsibility for initiating, and if necessary, managing these processes, including appointing a Returning Officer."

DΩ14 GPEx Standing Orders

Proposed by: Jo Steranka(**), John Street, Alan Francis, Michael Coffey, Emma Pruen.

Standing Orders of the Green Party Executive

Conference agrees all of the changes to the GPEx standing orders approved at the GPEx meeting of 14th January 2012 detailed in appendix 1.

Section E (Draft Voting Papers)

Industrial policy draft voting paper

Proposed by: Stuart Jeffery (**), Maya de Souza, Natalie Bennett, Caroline Allen, Benali Hamdache, Alan Francis.

1. Introduction

INI.1 This policy presents an overall Green industrial strategy for UK productive activities (excluding agriculture, including construction). It also relates to imports to the extent that UK consumption impacts upon the nature and scale of production elsewhere.

[Background to INI.1:

INI.1-B1 Modern industry is using resources and creating pollution at unsustainable rates, putting the stability of the climate system and natural environments that sustain us at risk of collapse.

INI.1-B2 Industry is often supplying poor quality products (from new buildings to throw-away household purchases): too few of which are neither repairable nor reusable, have short lives and are disposable.

INI.1-B3 The privatisation and/or concentration of ownership and control of many key industrial sectors gives communities little or no say in decisions that affect them. This stems not only from corporate structures but also from the legal institution of property on which they are based.

INI.1-B4 The UK has experienced destruction of many of its traditional industries, which has starved most regions of investment and left many areas dependent on ever fewer industrial activities.

INI.1-B5 Investment is dominated by a preoccupation with short-term profits and increasingly reckless banking practices enabled by deregulation under successive governments over the last 30 years. These systemic flaws have led to the British economy becoming increasingly unbalanced and dominated by the finance and service sectors, including speculative property development and industrial research and development (R&D) focused on securing and exploiting intellectual property.

INI.1-B6 Modern industry is now shaped by global competition and dominated by multinational corporations. This has fueled a worldwide growth in consumption, well beyond the limits that our planet can support. Global marketing seeks to maximise global demand and promotes unsustainable consumer aspirations.

INI.1-B7 Many markets now are dominated by small numbers of huge firms that exploit producers and workers and manipulate markets to maximise profits and/or to avoid taxation, often causing poverty, environmental degradation, political corruption and violence. Multinationals heavily influence the policies of all governments including that of the European Union and are largely unaccountable to them.]

INI.2 Sustainable industrial activity is defined as meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. This does not mean increasing consumption but instead making better use of existing resources and doing things differently in ways that lead to sustainable communities, rather than simply doing more of a given activity.

2. Principles of a Green industrial strategy

IN2.1 **Start now.** Decent working conditions, quality of life and fair pay can be afforded today while respecting the Earth's environmental limits and our fellow species. We must recognise the inherent instability and injustice of our current economic system and move towards a steady state economy that provides wellbeing for all within the limits of the natural environment on which we depend. Therefore, this policy does not separate short-term and long-term measures.

IN2.2 **Accept and communicate limits to growth.** UK climate change commitments are incompatible with short to medium-term economic growth. Future overall economic growth will continue to be prevented by the environmental limits of our planet (including but not limited to climate change impacts and the ongoing biodiversity collapse/mass extinctions), the laws of thermodynamics, unsustainable private debt and

constraints on energy supply. Through underpinning the banking crisis, these limits have already brought economic growth in the UK to a standstill. The Green industrial strategy accepts and embodies these limits to growth, the urgent imperative to deindustrialise certain sectors of our economy and the considerable opportunities of creating an economy that delivers improved quality of life for all, while overall economic activity and resource consumption are decreased to sustainable levels. A Green government will accept fundamental limits to growth, communicate them with honesty to the public and industrial stakeholders and design policy accordingly. It will replace the primary political focus on clearly unsustainable economic growth with the need to reduce inequalities that are detrimental to the wellbeing of everyone in our society and transition to a society and economy that flourish in harmony with the natural world.

IN2.3 Price in the full costs of consumption. Allowing fossil fuels and other finite resources to be priced well below the full social and environmental costs of their consumption has resulted in crises of climate change, species extinction, environmental damage and poverty. Green industrial strategy will ensure that such 'externalities' are included within the costs of consumption wherever possible.

IN2.4 Reduce the scale of production and consumption. For a long-term sustainable economy we need to reduce highly polluting and resource intensive production and the scale of our consumption of such goods.

IN2.5 Meet basic needs. Every individual should have access to food, shelter and the resources to meet his or her diverse material and social needs. The purpose of industrial production should be to meet the real needs of society in a sustainable manner.

IN2.6 Prioritise zero carbon, zero waste, local solutions.

- **Zero carbon.** Industrial production should minimise embodied carbon emissions, operational carbon emissions (including maintenance) and end-of-life carbon emissions (waste), in part through inspiring and empowering new community and user behaviour. Investment to reduce carbon emissions should prioritise demand reduction then energy efficiency, and distributed zero carbon (including embodied carbon) and low carbon systems before centralised systems such as fossil fuel power generation.
- **Zero waste.** Industrial production should follow the waste hierarchy and deliver zero waste without incineration (see natural resources policy): it should focus on waste reduction and reuse, repair and refurbishment, high-value recycling, composting and anaerobic digestion, before downcycling (material recovery), energy-from-waste (including incineration) or landfill.
- **Localise as far as practicable.** Industrial production should be organised at the scales and in the locations that use energy and physical resources as efficiently as possible, while maximising benefits to local communities and minimising any harmful effects on the environment; in other words, the principle of subsidiarity should apply.

IN2.7 Socially equitable. Benefits should be spread equitably between different communities, between different sections in those communities and between all levels of the workforce.

IN2.8 Democratically accountability. Industries should be accountable to their workforces, to the communities in which they operate and to wider society as a whole. This cannot be achieved within the current system of corporate ownership and control.

IN2.9 Minimise real unemployment and underemployment by creating new socially and environmentally beneficial jobs.

IN2.10 Cross-cutting solutions. Industry must be designed to minimise short-term negative impacts while lasting for the long-term. Green industrial solutions are systemic in nature, valued qualitatively as well as quantitatively, and employ behavioural and organisational change alongside technological solutions. They will minimise embodied carbon and value workmanship. They will apply principles of the circular economy, the natural step framework, industrial ecology and permaculture.

[Background to IN2.10:

IN2.10-B1 Green industrial policy takes a systemic approach. It does not just consider individual industries, but the whole supply chain from resource extraction, through producer to consumer. These should be redesigned to become closed loop systems, operating within environmental limits.

IN2.10-B2 Industrial policy from a Green perspective will apply permaculture principles of caring for people and nature, and providing fair shares of production for everyone in order to develop a society that flourishes in harmony with nature. The way in which we 'make better use of what we have already got' and deliver sustainable consumption - which in turn requires sustainable production - ensures we look to the long-term. The principles of permaculture will be applied to our approach to planning, energy generation and use, construction and to manufacturing.]

IN2.11. **Incentivise local production and sustainable design.** To create a new industrial climate which supports development that increases local and sub-regional self-reliance in food and energy production, and incentivises sustainable industries. Products should be designed and made to last, to use fewer resources and less energy to make, and to be cheaper to repair than throw away.

[Background to IN2.11:

IN2.11-B1 Industrial production shall be valued in terms of how it maximises social benefit and the limits the total impact of all we consume (including wholesale, retail, transport and end-of-life waste or reuse) and its production (including securing resources and using energy for manufacturing etc.) is within environmental limits – not in terms of its financial contribution to the economy.]

3. Objectives

IN3.1 The assurance of meaningful employment and a life of dignity, wellbeing and modest comfort for all within environmental limits.

IN3.2 The development of a zero carbon industrial infrastructure as a basis for a zero carbon society. This will free the UK economy from a reliance on the impossibility of endless growth in commodity production and consumption and in financial activity.

IN3.3 Industrial production will be based on social needs rather than the maximisation of profit and ever increasing consumption. It will aim to maximise quality of life for all within environmental limits and availability of employment.

[Background to IN3.3:

IN3.3-B1 A sustainable productive economy will ensure that everyone is able to meet their needs, within environmental limits (one planet living) and with a fair share of productive labour (one person living). Thus as the carbon embodied in production is reduced, the limited availability of human labour will lead to embodied workmanship to be more highly valued. As a result it is anticipated that we will consume a lower number of higher value, more durable products, which each have a lower environmental impact due to reduced use of non-renewable resources and increased renewable resources. The overall scale of consumption will also be reduced through increased mutualisation of ownership, both of land, property and consumer goods.]

4. Approach

Three Elements: Pick winners, incentivise green industry, localise solutions

IN4.1. The UK Green industrial strategy combines three elements:

1. **Picking winners** focused on environmentally and socially sustainable solutions to deliver a sustainable steady-state economy in the long-term. Example: support for renewable energy generation and energy efficiency to deliver zero carbon future along the lines of the Energiewende in Germany.
2. **Incentives for sustainable production (industries) and consumption (behaviour).** Example: remove Renewable Heat Incentive, Renewable Obligation Certificate and Private Finance Initiative funding for incineration and instead create incentives for better quality products, reuse and repair and high-value recycling.
3. **Supporting local communities** to choose their own transition path, to both become more self-reliant, reflecting local history, natural environment and needs. New sustainable social enterprises will vary from place to place, will enable local/regional identities to be recovered, developed and maintained, and support industries that enable skills to be developed and jobs to be created locally.

Three Approaches: de-industrialisation, transition and entrepreneurship.

IN4.2 The UK Green industrial strategy recognises that different approaches are also needed for different businesses and industrial sectors: for those that will need to be reduced in scale, for those can be transitioned to become sustainable and for those that need to be rapidly expanded to deliver a sustainable society. These are summarised as follows:

De-industrialisation

IN4.3 The scale of industrial production worldwide must reduce if we are to live within UK and global environmental limits. This principle is established in recent research¹.

IN4.4 Some UK industrial sectors - such as those which are most polluting, resource and energy intensive - must reduce in scale. The historical practice of 'picking winners' based on UK financial comparative advantage or economy of scale has resulted in our economy becoming too concentrated on specific sectors such as speculative finance, leaving us with gaps in skills and lower resilience. However, some industries are important but must be radically altered, for example, the defence and chemical industries (see PD312-PD313). Other industries can never be sustainable and will be phased out, for example the nuclear industry (see EN600).

IN4.5 Reduced industrial production of highly resource intensive activities (e.g. traditional concrete, steel and mineral extractive industries) will be needed as fewer resources are wasted (e.g. reclamation and salvage displacing construction demolition) and better maintenance extends the life and flexible use of products and built environment (buildings and infrastructure).

Transition

IN4.6 The nature of some industrial sectors must change, such as from resource extraction to the 'circular economy'. For example, landfill and incineration will shift to reuse, repair and high-value recycling. Similarly, fossil fuel extraction will be replaced (not supplemented by) investment in renewable energy solutions. This will effect the nature of the markets for some products – such as increased leasing and extended product warranties. Unsustainable industries will be discouraged by using green taxes, enhanced regulations and standards and ecolabelling.

IN4.7 In some cases production shall be shifted to more environmentally sustainable and socially useful products, while retaining skills and employment. For example, the defence industry could be transformed into a remanufacturing sector to make otherwise disregarded products useful again.

5. Infrastructure to support a Green Industrial Strategy

IN5.1 A massive infrastructural investment and retrofit programme will require us to prioritise the rapid development of three key sectors:

- renewable energy generation and transmission (electricity, heat and transport fuels);
- local transportation; and
- transformation/retrofit of our existing built environment.

[Background TO: IN5.1

IN5.1-B1 Electricity generation and transmission, transport and the heating and cooling of buildings between them account for 80% of greenhouse gasses (CO₂e) emitted in the UK annually. If we are to reduce emissions as rapidly and drastically as we need to then transforming these sectors must be of the highest priority. These three sectors provide the fundamental underpinnings of all other productive sectors and the essential foundations for the overall infrastructural and social renewal that is vital to our society. A planned major programme of public investment and employment in these sectors will also, if properly planned, lead to rapid growth in R&D in sustainable and socially useful technologies and stimulate demand for new skills and/or training in other sectors.

IN5.1-B2 The approach taken to transform these sectors must minimise both embodied carbon as well as that

¹ <http://withbotheyesopen.com>

involved in industrial, business and household use of electricity, heat and transport.

IN5.1-B3 Specific energy, transport and construction (including housing) policies are covered elsewhere in Policies for a Sustainable Society (PSS).]

6. Planning and jobs-rich investment

Introduction

IN6.1 A Green government will produce a Green industrial strategy that combines a national jobs strategy and a national spatial strategy. This will link the need to coordinate nationally for new local developments with the imperative to reduce overall environmental impact. It will also support the development of locally and regionally self-reliant and sustainable economies across the UK - through developing the skills, entrepreneurs and incentives for local 'green jobs' and 'climate jobs' to flourish. The national jobs strategy will be closely tied with the national spatial strategy to regenerate our declining rural communities, and reduce the economic reliance upon (and commuting to) London and the South East. This will reduce inter-regional inequality across the UK.

[Background to IN6.1:

IN6.1-B1 This industrial strategy is not focused on investing capital in resources to generate a financial return. Instead this strategy focuses on the development of sustainable livelihoods: it leads by developing the skills and enterprises to create more sustainable communities across the UK. This requires long-term incentives for sustainability, as opposed to 'speculative' development. As social and environmental outcomes are prioritised, a national jobs strategy and national spatial strategy are required.]

National jobs strategy

IN6.2 The national jobs strategy will ensure that new industries are developed and existing industries transformed to maximise quality of life and provide fulfilling employment within environmental limits. This will focus on home retrofit and other sectors such as agriculture and transport. It will also shift UK manufacturing and retail jobs up the waste hierarchy through reuse, repair and remanufacturing. A Green government will support companies to choose legal structures that maximise environmental sustainability and employment.

Employment, training and redeployment

IN6.3 A Green government will guarantee alternative employment and/or training for all workers with no loss of wages. Such a commitment will include guarantees on the provision of satisfactory housing for redeployed workers, should they have to, or choose to, move away from their homes to take up new jobs.

IN6.4 A Green government will create a National Industrial Training Council to develop and implement a national industrial reskilling strategy. Such a body would be run jointly by representatives of trade unions, relevant sector skills councils, educational institutions and industry, along with public sector coordination, and would operate across.

IN6.5 In order to encourage high quality training and work, new qualifications needed to implement a Green industrial strategy will be accredited according to National Occupational Standards.

IN6.6 Funding for continuing professional development will be provided to ensure trainers and trainees maintain an up-to-date awareness of new technologies and their applications.

IN6.7 By guaranteeing universal free access to tertiary level education, technical education (vocational or industrial training) will be better valued and funded. The false division between 'brain work' and 'hand work, and between 'vocational' and 'non-vocational' education will be broken down.

IN6.8 Training and appropriate funding will be prioritised and commissioned in accordance with climate change and other social and environmental objectives relating to the transition to a sustainable society. Research² by Build Up Skills UK suggests that existing professions (and skills) for priority training should include: energy advisors/assessors; architects (low carbon design skills; whole life costing); planners (understanding of energy efficiency targets); civil engineers (understanding of low carbon materials and

2 Pye Tait Consulting (2013), *BUILD UP Skills – United Kingdom 2020 Skills Roadmap and Action Plan*

installation processes; knowledge of energy efficiency targets); surveyors (understanding of energy efficiency targets and impacts of energy efficiency measures); building services engineers; facilities managers; and site supervisors (understanding of the processes and quality standard of completed work needed to meet low carbon requirements).

National spatial strategy

IN6.9 The national spatial strategy will ensure individual planning and investment decisions add up to a national plan that is socially and environmentally sustainable.

IN6.10 The national spatial strategy will replace the current failed market mechanisms with a planning system that it is accountable locally and democratically, not to banks or speculative financial institutions. This will prioritise retention of agriculture, commonly owned land and wild spaces in the UK. We support extension of these land designations in the UK (rather than reclassification to reduce them, such as being proposed for the Green Belt in many locations). This strategy will focus on urban regeneration, reversing the current trend to convert rural sites to industrial and urban areas. It will fill the void created by the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategies, so that the 'Duty to Cooperate' principle extends to a national level, ensuring that the overall nature of development is both socially and environmentally sustainable.

IN6.11 The national spatial strategy will include incentives to financially prioritise refurbishment of existing buildings and brownfield sites, and support the transition of rural communities from commuter towns to areas of new investment. New green jobs will be created by prioritising development of sustainable rural livelihoods and locally sustainable enterprises across the UK using tax incentives that promote clustering of zero carbon, zero waste enterprises in new social enterprise zones. These zones will encourage sustainable enterprises to replicate and co-locate.

IN6.12 Social enterprise zones will be supported at two levels: city/regional level (to support innovative and nationally appropriate regulation for transformation of critical infrastructure and local supply-chains) and at industrial park/cluster level to incentivise development of local supply chains, product shifts in traditional energy intensive industries and SME innovation. We propose 1000 zones to be designated, each to create 1000 socially useful jobs.

IN6.13 Social enterprises will be granted a new right of first refusal on vacant land or disused industrial premises, for social enterprises.

7. Policies

Local and Regional Investment Policy

Regional Investment Policy

IN7.1 On grounds of social equity, local ecological sustainability and climate change, a Green government will seek to reverse the tendency for the population and for industry to become ever more concentrated in London and the South East of England. We will introduce policies to redress the balance, including restrictions on further development in the South East, assistance to industry to locate and re-locate elsewhere, and subsidies or tax breaks for investment in some areas outside the South East.

[Background to IN7.1:

IN7.1-B1 It has long been the case that there has been too much economic activity in the south and east of the UK as compared with the north and west. Governments since the 1980s have simply accepted this unbalanced situation, permitting more development in the South East of England and doing little to promote it elsewhere. Before the 1980s, governments had regional policies designed to redress the balance.

IN7.1-B1 Climate change provides another reason to reconsider whether regional policy is required. While the impact of climate change in different regions will vary considerably, the broad effects of climate change in the UK are likely to be increases in average temperature, increased annual rainfall but with drier summers in the south east, and sea level rise, especially on the east coast. This will be accompanied by more extreme weather events: higher incidence of flooding, storms and high winds, and - in the south east in particular - summers inducing drought conditions, will increase.]

IN7.2 Every region needs to measure how successful it is. Current national indicators measure this solely in terms of profitability. Gross domestic product (GDP) fails to account for important priorities such as pollution minimisation or quality of life. A Green government will adopt national and local sustainability indicators to give a more realistic picture of progress in areas that really matter to society (see policy EC311).

Local Investment Policy

IN7.3 Small businesses in the UK find it difficult to get timely access to external funds and affordable interest rates. We will support the creation of community banks to fund local businesses and community enterprises and cooperatives (see policy EC512).

IN7.4 Community banks would give local firms and cooperatives access to funds managed locally and supplied at preferential rates. This would favour activities identified by the Local Government Local Development Plan. The allocation of funds would make use of environmental impact analysis but be simple enough to be widely understandable.

National Policy

National Climate Targets for industry

IN7.5 The UK's Climate Change Act should be reviewed in light of the latest research and its thresholds to avoid dangerous climate change updated (see climate change policy). These thresholds for overall emission reduction, should be viewed as a cast-iron commitment, and treated as maximum emissions scenarios.

IN7.6 Greenhouse gas emission reduction targets shall be set below this level (so that the actual targets will not be exceeded due to accounting errors, business/delivery lagging policy, carbon leakage and offsetting errors). No allowance should be made for grid decarbonisation or carbon capture and storage and cross-sector programmes until they are in place.

IN7.7 Industrial investment decisions should be scrutinised by the Committee on Climate Change, and the fiscal framework and incentives adjusted to ensure that businesses operate within the climate targets set.

Taxation

IN7.8 The Green Party supports green taxes which would reduce resource use, limit pollution and discourage wasteful economic growth whilst promoting equality, decentralisation and creative patterns of work (see policy EC780s). These green taxes would allow the full environmental costs to be reflected in the prices of goods.

IN7.9 New green taxes would be balanced by reductions in other taxes. In particular, the introduction and expansion of eco-taxes would be accompanied by a phased abolition of VAT (see policies EC770-771). This would increase the price of non-renewable resources and waste disposal, while the price of goods and services that do not use such resources would fall - therefore not stimulating overall inflation.

IN7.10 Current land rights encourage unsustainable industrial activity (see LD203-6). A Green government will implement a Land Value Tax to address this problem (see policies LD400-3 and EC791-3).

Citizens' Income Scheme

IN7.11 Sustainable industrial activity tends to be more labour intensive. For example, if one large incinerator processing 400,000 tonnes of waste/year were replaced by reuse and recycling, this would create around 10,000 jobs. The introduction of a Citizens' Income would reduce the cost of labour to industry without pushing people into poverty (see policy EC730). The Green Party supports a national minimum living wage - set at a level that enables basic living costs to be met - until a Citizens' Income scheme has been fully introduced.

Company Standards and Regulation

IN7.12 Company law should encourage greater community accountability. A Green government will legislate to require annual accounts of companies with financial turnovers above an annually-revised limit to include a separate ecological balance sheet showing costs over the complete industrial cycle. It would include all 'externalities' such as the emission of pollutants (see EC513).

IN7.13 A Green government will regulate to ensure that the UK prioritises the waste hierarchy and carbon

reduction and energy efficiency before low and zero carbon technologies in the UK.

IN7.14 Regulation will be precautionary. Standards will be kept up to date to ensure that best available techniques are adopted. A Green government, in partnership with industry, will fund research into sustainable industrial activity such as product reuse.

IN7.15 Pollution licences and the size of penalties will reflect environmental costs and be limited in time. Fines for persistent offenders will be in excess of the cost of cleaning up (see PL420-432).

IN7.16 Ecolabelling for all products will provide a mechanism for indicating the quality of a product and enforcing minimum quality standards. Ecolabelling will also encourage companies to provide real product information rather than generating artificial demand for unnecessary products.

IN7.17 Product quotas will be used to deter poor quality imports. In extreme cases products will be banned. This will apply where resources are near exhaustion, where environmental damage is unsustainable, or where countries persistently abuse human rights.

IN7.18 Environmental dumping will be discouraged by allowing legal action in any country against activities carried out elsewhere. The governing law in the country where the action is brought would apply.

Research and Development

IN7.19 The paucity of properly planned and funded long term R&D in low carbon technology - particularly in the manufacturing and construction sectors - is putting our future prosperity in jeopardy. To ensure the UK fulfils its potential for a low-carbon transition, a Green government will establish a zero carbon sustainability research council. This will focus on linking different technologies, behaviour change expertise and our existing built environment. It will support the transition of existing industry and the establishment and replication of new industrial enterprises. Such a body would be, like the other major research councils, funded by central government but independent of it.

IN7.20 Where research and development is publically funded, the resulting intellectual property rights will be publicly owned. Current patenting practices will be revised to increase public access and to enable poorer countries and individuals to retain control over their own resources, ideas and inventions.

Transnational Corporations (TNCs)

IN7.21 Both the free market and central planning have a bad track record. The EU has combined many of the worst features of these outdated forms of economic regulation. A Green government would lobby for the EU to become a Confederation of Regions (see EU302) providing a framework for local and regional sustainable economic activity.

IN7.22 The lack of transparency of TNC policies, structure and ownership must be addressed. A Green government will legislate to ensure that the identities of board members are publically available and will lobby for TNC policies adopted at the EU or national level to be extended to global institutions.

IN7.23 We will require reserve stock levels of TNCs to be detailed in order to reduce transfer pricing and annual reports to be subdivided by subsidiaries and affiliates.

IN7.24 We will ensure all banking transactions (including foreign exchange) are separated from production activities by requiring TNCs to establish separate financial organisations that will have to publish transparent accounts.

IN7.25 We will lobby for a strong EU monopoly commission that can control large scale EU mergers. It must have clear rights to corporate information. We will lobby to end the tendency to grant exceptions to antitrust legislation for banks and export cartels. It is important that mergers in the EU do not allow any country to degenerate into a satellite economy. We will therefore consider advocating quotas for national shares in markets.

8. Corporate Governance, Structures and Ownership

IN8.1 Businesses should be run in the interests of society, not vice versa. We will require corporate governance structures to reflect the interests of the different stakeholders who contribute to the success of businesses and who are affected by their actions. Such stakeholders include employees, customers, suppliers and wider

society, not just the tiny constituencies of wealthy executives and fund management institutions – acting on behalf of shareholders – who currently exert a disproportionate and often pernicious influence over major UK corporations.

Corporate Governance Policies

IN8.2 Two-tier board structures will be required for all large UK businesses, comprising an executive board for day-to-day running of the company and a supervisory board providing oversight.

IN8.3 We will require at least 50% of a supervisory board to be comprised of elected representatives of the company's employees.

IN8.4 The remaining supervisory board members will have to reflect a wide range of professional backgrounds, with a given company compelled to detail in its annual report how it has sought to incorporate perspectives from outside a traditional business background onto the board.

IN8.5 Executive pay will be set by the supervisory board. A maximum pay ratio of 10:1 between the highest and lowest paid employees of a company – including contracted staff and the supply chain – will be introduced.

IN8.6 The 2006 Companies Act will be revised, with the focus on the duty of directors 'to promote the success of the company in the interests of all shareholders' replaced with a requirement to sustain and enhance the conditions that enable the company to flourish over time, in the interest of all stakeholders including employees, customers and wider society.

IN8.7 Large companies will be required to produce a 'triple bottom line' account, gauging the cost or value of their social and environmental impact, as well as their profit and loss. Corporation tax will be calculated using the 'triple bottom line' rather than the cruder profit and loss measure.

IN8.8 'Triple bottom line' will also inform the Government procurement code and contracts. We will require national public procurement to be carbon neutral (using local offsets) and to favour socially and environmentally beneficial enterprises.

IN8.9 To safeguard against potential conflicts of interest between auditors and corporations, no firm of auditors will be able to provide more than one audit for a single corporation every three years. A contracted auditor will also be barred from offering other services (e.g. consultancy services or recruitment/remuneration advice) to a corporation for a period of up to three years.

IN8.10 We will require a minimum 50% of all board members to be women.

Corporate Legal Structures

IN8.11 Sustainable industries are most likely to be small businesses, not-for-profit enterprises, charity or community-based organisations, publicly owned or mutuals. Scaling up could be through social franchises, with local ownership and control. Corporate structures of larger companies that transition to sustainability are likely to localise and adopt different governance structures (e.g. as a result of monopoly taxation).

IN8.12 Some industries provide for basic human needs and are so crucial to the well-being of society that communities must hold a stake in them. Industries which will be returned to full public ownership under a Green government include the NHS, the water industry (see NR428) and the railways (see TR230).

Industrial democracy and equality

IN8.13 All employees of limited liability companies will have the right to ballot on whether they wish the company to be mutualised (transformed into a cooperative). The costs of such a mutualisation could be met by funding from a national pension and investment fund, which would hold some of the equity of the new cooperative in the form of a 'golden share' to reflect and protect the community interest.

IN8.14 Democratically controlled workplaces would be much less likely to tolerate discriminatory or grossly unequal working practices or wage rates. A Green government will establish an independent equality audit service which could be called in by any group of employees in any workplace, and whose assessments would be legally binding, would protect the rights of women, disabled people and any other group facing disadvantage in the workplace.

IN8.15 Current trends such as part-time working and subcontracting are eroding employment rights and adversely affecting the most disadvantaged in society. A Green government will legislate to prevent short-term contracts being used to avoid statutory rights (see WR332).

Composited motions

Comp A Banking Reform

Proposed by Andrew Waldie(**), Matt White, Jay Ginn, Geoff Meaden, Robin Kinrade, Howard Porter, Brian Lesley, David Aherne, Al Emery, Stuart Jeffery, Zeynep Kacmaz (Ozturk), Frances Long, Martin Whybrow, Brendan Marks, Denise Hay,

Synopsis

This motion proposes a programme of reform to remove the power to create money from private banks. The supply of our national currency must be fully restored to democratic and public control so that it can be issued free of debt and directed to environmentally and socially beneficial areas.

Motion

Amend the Economy section of the PSS as follows:

i) Delete paragraphs EC661 to EC664 (inclusive) and replace with the following new paragraphs EC 661 to EC 664:

The Green Party believes that, as the means of exchanging goods and services, the stock of money is a vital common resource which should be managed in the public interest. Yet only 3% of our money supply currently exists in the form of notes and coins issued by the Government or the Bank of England. 97% of the money circulating in the economy takes the form of credit that is created electronically by private banks through the accounting processes they follow when they make loans.

The existing banking system is undemocratic, unfair and highly damaging. Banks not only create money, they also decide how it is first used – and have used this power to fund financial speculation and reckless mortgage lending, rather than to finance investment in productive businesses. Through the interest charged on the loans on which all credit is based, the current banking system increases inequality. It also regularly causes economic crises: banks create and lend more and more money until the level of debt becomes unsustainable, boom turns to bust, and the taxpayer bails out banks that are “too big to fail”. Finally, the need to service the growing mountain of debt on which our money is based is a key driver of unsustainable economic growth that is destroying the environment.

The existing banking system has failed and is no longer fit for purpose. The Green Party believes that the power to create money must be removed from private banks. The supply of our national currency must be fully restored to democratic and public control so that it can be issued free of debt and directed to environmentally and socially beneficial areas such as renewable energy, social housing, or support for community businesses.

A Green Government will therefore develop and implement a programme of banking reform based on the following principles:

a) All national currency (both in cash and electronic form) will be created, free of any associated debt, by a National Monetary Authority (NMA) that is accountable to Parliament;

- b) The 1844 Bank Charter Act will be updated to prohibit banks from creating national currency in the form of electronic credit. To finance their lending, investment or proprietary trading activities, banks will have to borrow or raise the necessary national currency from savers and investors;
- c) The NMA will be mandated by law to manage the stock of national currency so that it is sufficient to support full employment, while avoiding general inflation in prices, and taking into account the development of local currencies (Ref. paragraph EC 678);
- d) Any new money created by the NMA will be credited to the account of the Government as additional revenue, to be spent into circulation in the economy in accordance with the budget approved by Parliament;
- e) The members of the NMA will be appointed – for fixed terms - by a Select Committee of Parliament;
- f) The independence and integrity of the NMA will be assured by law requiring NMA members and staff to be free of any conflict of interest; mandating full transparency of NMA decisions; and prohibiting lobbying or undue influence of NMA members or staff by government, financial institutions, corporations or any other private interest.

- ii) Amend paragraph EC 665 as follows: Insert the following words at the start of the paragraph: "As an interim measure, before the programme of reform described in EC 664 has been implemented,"
- iii) Amend paragraph EC 676 as follows: Delete the following words at the start of the paragraph: "Since these restrictions on bank lending will severely restrict the money supply," and replace with the following words: "As an interim measure, before the programme of reform described in EC 664 has been implemented,"
- iv) Amend paragraph EC 677 as follows: Insert the following words at the start of the paragraph: "As an interim measure, before the programme of reform described in EC 664 has been implemented,"
- v) Amend paragraph EC 678 as follows: Delete from the paragraph the whole of the fourth sentence that begins with the following words: "Community Banks will be empowered to create credit in the same way that commercial banks currently do..."
- vi) Amend Paragraph EC 512 as follows: In the first sentence of the paragraph, after the words "...local economic activity" insert a comma and delete the words "and empowered to create credit at interest rates sufficient only to cover administration when"

Comp B Monetary Reform Policy Motion

Proposed by Peter McColl(**), Juliette Daigre, Maggie Chapman, Adam Ramsay, Sam Hollick,

Synopsis

A key cause of the financial crisis has been the creation of credit by private, rather than socialised banking institutions, meaning that the public has no control over money creation. This motion addresses these issues, building socialised and local control, and mutuality into the Party's banking policy.

Motion

Amend E663 to delete the following sentence:

"Their [banks] lending power should be reined in, enabling the emphasis of lending to be transferred to sustainable production."

And replace with a new sentence reading:

"Their lending power should be socialised, releasing capital for sustainable production, and avoiding the creation of asset bubbles like that in housing before the crash."

Amend E664 to read: "We will introduce social control on the financial sector to ensure that it serves the purposes of a sustainable economy. To ensure stability, we will socialise all financial instruments and direct institutions to ensure that they focus on investments that offer limited risk of financial destabilisation and are clearly beneficial. We will ensure there is stricter regulation of the banks, limiting them principally to the on lending of customer deposits and investment in environmentally sustainable physical and social infrastructure.

We will require transparency in all financial trading, including that undertaken by private investment funds."

Amend EC669 to read: "A Green government would retain ownership of nationalised banks and direct these to create a permanent and genuinely national bank out of one or more of the currently 'nationalised' banks. This People's Bank would form an exception to the percentage-based size-restriction specified in EC668: it would be available as a guaranteed safe-haven to deposit money in for any and all citizens. Most citizens seek safety for their money, not a risky high rate of return, and the People's Bank would offer this in perpetuity. The People's Bank would offer current accounts and all other basic banking services. Its lending and other policies would ensure it acts as a non-profit, seeking where necessary to restrict or to relax credit in the national interest. It would in effect be a high street branch of the Bank of England. Its *raison d'être* above all would be to act prudently in the interests of all its depositors, to ensure that there was no risk of a bank-run ever endangering their money. This would be achieved by the People's Bank being constitutionally limited to low-risk activities and investment in environmentally sustainable social and physical infrastructure, and by the fact that it would be owned and guaranteed by the state. A Green government would seek to bring all banking institutions into social control."

Amend EC676 to read: "Since these restrictions on bank lending will focus the money supply on socially and environmentally sustainable infrastructure development, the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England will be instructed to monitor the need for increase (or decrease) in the money supply, based on maintaining delivering a socially and environmentally sustainable society."

Comp C Animal Welfare in Farming and Fishing

Proposed by Tim Turner(**), Ben Samuel, Alwynne Cartmell, Sue Baumgardt, David Collins, Louise Ryan, Ronald Lee, Mark Dawes, Patricia Tricker,

Synopsis

This motion improves policy on animal welfare aspects of food supply. It adds new policies, for example, on expression of natural behaviour, limiting 'genetic yield' and slaughter without stunning. It cross-references policies in Food & Agriculture and Marine & Coastal, where environmental aspects of farming and fishing are primarily addressed.

Motion

Delete AR403-404 and AR406, replace with the following and renumber:

AR403 In the UK, close to a billion farm animals are slaughtered for food every year. Many of these animals are farmed intensively, kept in cramped conditions and denied the freedom to express natural behaviour. High levels of frustration, distress, injury and suffering are common and painful mutilations are routinely carried out to reduce risk of injury. Antibiotics are used routinely to prevent outbreak of disease, resulting in antibiotic resistance and threats to human and animal health. Animals are often transported long distances to slaughter and suffer inhumane conditions both during transport and at the time of slaughter. Besides the impact on animal welfare, high levels of consumption of meat, dairy and other animal products in developed countries are ecologically unsustainable and are linked to many chronic health conditions (See also FA650-FA666).

AR404 The Green Party will phase out all forms of 'factory farming' and support a transition to small free-range units, mixed rotational farming and extensive grazing (see FA660-661). We support the highest levels of animal welfare in farming and shall ensure that the 'Five Freedoms' listed in the Animal Welfare Act are applied to all farm animals. In particular we shall press for maximum stocking densities and appropriate environments for all farm animals in order to permit expression of natural behaviour. We shall prohibit all caged rearing of poultry, including 'enriched cages'. We shall prohibit all painful mutilations such as beak trimming of poultry and tail docking of pigs.

AR405 In recent decades, genetic selection has continually increased yields from farm animals, often resulting in endemic welfare problems, such as mastitis in cows and bone fractures in chickens. The Green Party will place limits on the 'genetic yield' of farm animals and will encourage farmers to use traditional breeds.

AR406 The Green Party will phase out routine and prophylactic use of antibiotics in farm animals. We shall

maintain a ban on the use of growth hormones and imports of food from animals treated with growth hormones. We support a ban on the use of GMOs in animal feed and oppose all genetic modification of animals (See FA720 and [*SOC Note renumbered*] AR417). We shall maintain a ban on the use of, and importation of products from, cloned animals and their offspring (See FA666). We shall press for EU and international rules permitting restrictions on imports from countries with lower animal welfare standards (See FA502(c)).

AR407 The Green Party will seek to minimise live transport of animals and will work through the EU and locally to end all live exports for slaughter and fattening. We shall prioritise smaller, local abattoirs, introduce CCTV in abattoirs, prohibit piece-rate payment of workers and otherwise improve market and slaughterhouse conditions. We support a ban with no exemption on slaughter without prior stunning. [Note to SOC, "introduce CCTV in abattoirs" could be removed if detailed motion on CCTV is passed"]

AR408 Overfishing and the harmful effects of fish farming are devastating marine ecosystems. Several billion fish are killed annually to feed the UK population, often by methods causing extreme suffering, and millions of fish are kept in cruel conditions in intensive fish farms. The Green Party will work for an end to overfishing, practices harming the marine ecosystem and avoidable by-catches (see MC323-330). We shall prohibit intensive fish farming (see FA657, FA660 and MC341) and restrict the use of fishmeal for animal feed (see FA661). We shall extend the Animal Welfare Act to cover all fishing activities.

AR409 A reduction in the consumption of animal products would have benefits for the environment, human health and animal welfare. The Green Party will support a progressive transition from diets dominated by meat and other animal products to healthier diets based on plant foods, through the use of research, education and economic measures, coupled with support for more sustainable methods of production such as organic and stockfree farming.

AR410 The Green Party will ensure that high quality, nutritionally balanced vegetarian and vegan menu options are widely available and promoted in all public sector establishments such as schools, hospitals and care facilities (see ED190, FA222, HE322). We shall ensure that catering and nutrition for vegetarian and vegan diets is included in all catering certificates and that lessons in preparing nutritious vegetarian and vegan food are included in food technology courses.

Comp D Updating animal policy

Proposed by Caroline Allen(**), Patricia Tricker, Karen Varga, Susan Baumgardt, Alwynne Cartmell, Mark Dawes, Tim Turner, Brian Orr, Ronald Lee, Louise Ryan, John Davis, David Collins, Natalie Bennett, Charles Gate,

Synopsis

The Green Party has very strong policies on Animal Protection. These additions are designed to further strengthen that policy and signal our support to campaigns outside the Green Party.

Motion

Insert new AR407 and renumber:

Undercover footage has revealed significant animal suffering in UK slaughterhouses, including animals slaughtered for organic meat. Mandatory CCTV will be required in all slaughterhouses. This will act as a deterrent and provide evidence for animal abuse prosecutions.

Insert new AR413 and renumber:

The Green Party will end puppy farming by banning the sale of young puppies and kittens unless the mother is present.

Insert into ROPS:

"The Green Party is opposed to shooting and hunting and would bring an end to these 'sports'. Until this happens The Green Party are calling for magazines that promote the shooting and hunting of animals to have blank wrapping and be kept out of the reach of children."

Comp E Gender Balance and Leader Roles

Proposed by: Rupert Read(**), Adam Stacey, Fiona Radic, David Eagar.

Synopsis

Elections for Leader and Deputy Leader were introduced in 2008 with a gender-balance rule. In every election since, this has been a barrier to women standing for the post of Deputy Leader.

This motion prevents the risk of an absurd situation such as occurred in the 2010 leadership elections.

Motion

In section 8, para iv of the constitution, remove the words 'of opposite sexes'. In para vi, remove the words 'Candidates for Deputy Leader of the same sex as the newly elected Leader will then be disqualified.' In para x, remove the words 'of the same sex as the current postholder'.

Comp F Leadership Gender Balance

Proposed by: Sarah Cope, Paul Cohen, Lesley Hedges, Caroline Allen, Jem Lindon, Rebecca Findlay, Shan Oakes, Chantal Frances, Alex Rendell, Moira Dunworth.

Synopsis

Following a discussion at the Women by Name session at Autumn conference in 2012, 44 out of 54 attendees voted in favour of changing the leader and deputy leader (or co-leader) gender rules, making it possible for two members who do not self-define as men to occupy both these roles.

Motion

Constitution – Section 8 – Party Leader and Deputy Leader

Delete first sentence of iv. 'Two members of opposite sexes may together stand for the office of Leader in order to hold the post as a job share' and replace with 'Two members, at least one of whom should not self-define as a man, may together stand for the office of Leader in order to hold the post as a job share.'

Delete second sentence of vi. 'Candidates for Deputy Leader of the same sex as the newly elected Leader will then be disqualified' and replace with 'If the Leader self-defines as a man, the Deputy Leadership candidates who also self-define as men will be disqualified.'

Delete second sentence in x. 'In the event of a similar petition to recall the Deputy Leader, a new election for that post only will be held, in which the current postholder and other members of the same sex as the current postholder shall be eligible to stand, subject to clause 8 (iii) above' and replace with 'In the event of a similar petition to recall the Deputy Leader, a new election for that post only will be held. The current postholder shall be eligible to stand. If *the Leader self-defines as a man, only members who don't also self-define as men will also be eligible to stand. If the Leader does not self-define as a man, members of any gender will be eligible to stand. This is subject to clause 8 (iii) above.'

Out of order motions

001 Climate Change

[SOC ruled this motion out of order on the basis of Section D, Part 8, Subsection f: 8. Motions or amendments to motions shall be ruled out of order on grounds of being one or more of: [...] f) requiring no consequential action.]

Proposed by: Pete Murry(**), Romayne Phoenix, Sean Thompson, Sue Tibbles.

Motion

In view of the recently reported increase of carbon (CO2) to unprecedented levels measured at 400ppm in

the atmosphere, we call on GPEW to campaign against fracking, deep sea oil drilling and all other new means of extracting and burning fossil fuels not just in terms of possible dangerous side effects (eg drinking water pollution, oil spills etc), but mainly because these energy sources continue CO2 dependence and make vast new fossil fuel sources available.. GPEW should therefore also be calling for a massive investment in renewable and/or sustainable energy generation technologies on a similar level, in real terms, to that made in the UK nuclear power industry in the 1950's & '60's. Greens will make use of the latest 350 / Bill McKibben film Do the Math to build awareness of the growing crisis and the need for practical constructive responses.

002 Sections of C017 Amendment to the Philosophical Basis

[SOC have ruled these elements of this motion out of order on the basis of Standing Orders for the conduct of Conference, Section D, Part 8, Subsection h – 8. Motions or amendments to motions shall be ruled out of order on grounds of being one or more of: [...] h) seeks to significantly amend the principles passed in a policy motion or Voting Paper less than one year and nine months previously.]

Delete “prioritise the many, not the few, and” from the first sentence of the current second paragraph of PB001 and insert “work in the interests of all. It”.

Delete “part of the same problem, and recognise that solving one of these crises cannot be achieved without solving the others” from the second sentence of current principle 1 of PB001 and insert “interlinked and may be impossible to solve in isolation”.

Delete “consumerism” from the first sentence of the current first paragraph of PB001 and insert “consumption”.

Appendix 1

Amendments to GPEx Standing Orders

1. General provisions

1.1 Terms - In these standing orders, 'Party" means The Green Party, "Conference" means a Party Conference. "Executive" means the Green Party Executive, "Council" means the Green Party Regional Council, "Returning Officer" means the Electoral Returning Officer, and "the constitution" means the Party Constitution.

Amendment 1: *In 1.1 change 'Regional Council' to 'GPRC' throughout these Standing Orders.*

Amendment 2: *In 1.1 change 'the Executive' to 'GPEx' throughout these Standing Orders.*

1.2 Constitution - These standing orders are made under the constitution. They are to be read and applied in conjunction with the relevant provisions of the constitution. Nothing in these standing orders shall contradict any provision of the constitution, and in the event of any conflict between these standing orders and the constitution the latter shall prevail.

1.3 Standing orders - These standing orders shall apply at all times. They shall apply not only to the members and meetings of the Executive but also to anyone engaged in activity for which the Executive have a responsibility. These standing orders may not be suspended.

Amendment 3: *Insert new clause 1.4 and renumber accordingly:*

"1.4 GPEx Business: GPEx should conduct its business in accordance with all relevant sections of the Green Party Constitution. The Green Party is committed to open and accountable decision-making, but recognises that confidentiality is required in certain, limited circumstances."

1.4 Silence - Where these standing orders are silent, the Chair of the Executive shall make a ruling. Such a ruling shall be provided to the Executive, and may be changed by a decision of the Executive.

Amendment 4: *Insert new clause 1.6:*

'1.6 Quorum - a quorum of GPEX shall comprise a majority of its membership eligible to vote. (Green Party Constitution, section 7(ix))"

Amendment 5: Insert new clause 1.7

"1.7 GPEX Handbook - The GPEX Chair shall maintain a Handbook providing GPEX members with information about the how GPEX conducts its business, agreed strategies and polices and any other documents."

2. Responsibilities and accountability

2.1 Job descriptions - The Executive shall agree job descriptions for each of its members, which shall be provided to the Council and the Returning Officer. and made available to Party members on request.

Amendment 6: In 2.1 add at end:

"GPEX Co-ordinators shall review and update their job description at the end of the first year of their two-year term."

2.2 Secretary - The Executive shall appoint a Secretary, who shall be responsible to the Executive, and between meetings to the Chair, for the Secretary's duties laid down in these Standing Orders and such other duties as the Executive may determine.

Amendment 7: In 2.2 add at end:

"GPEX shall agree a role description for the GPEX Secretary, which the GPEX Chair and the GPEX Secretary shall review annually prior to the last meeting in the GPEX annual cycle of meetings. The GPEX Chair shall propose revisions of the role description for GPEX agreement at that final meeting."

2.3 Accountability - The Executive shall seek to ensure that a clear line of accountability exists for every decision for which the Executive or any of its members are responsible. A clear distinction shall be made between decisions for which the Executive are responsible collectively, and those for which an individual member of the Executive is responsible. A member of the Executive who does not wish to be accountable for a collective decision shall register his or her dissent from it at the time the decision is made.

Amendment 8: Insert new 2.4 and renumber accordingly.

"2.4 GPRC may request with reasonable notice any member of GPEX to attend its meetings to report on their area of responsibility. GPEX members should normally agree to attend. Constitution 6(xiii)"

2.4 Consultation- In taking decisions and acting in their particular area of responsibility members of the Executive will take the likely opinion of other members into consideration and, where appropriate, consult with them in advance.

2.5 Record keeping - Members of the Executive will undertake to copy significant documents, minutes etc., including notes of all decisions taken by the Executive severally or collectively to a main file held in Party Office. The Secretary will ensure the safe-keeping and eventual archiving of this file.

3. Meetings of the Executive

3.1 Responsibilities - The Chair and Secretary shall be responsible for arranging meetings of the Executive. The Chair shall arrange and obtain agreement of the date and place of meeting, prepare the agenda to be taken, approve the draft minutes for submission to the Executive, and chair the meeting. The Secretary shall make all other arrangements, circulate the agenda, minutes and papers, and take the minutes.

Amendment 9: In 3.1 add after 'place of meeting': " at the first meeting of the annual cycle of meetings"

3.2 Business to be discussed at meetings of the Executive shall normally be published in advance to its members in an agenda. Emergency business may be considered if this is agreed by the Executive. No other business which has not appeared in the agenda shall be discussed.

Amendment 10: In 3.2 delete the final sentence and replace with:

"Only issues or events which have arisen or taken place since the publication of the agenda shall be discussed as Any Other Business."

3.3 Minutes shall be taken of Executive meetings. The minutes shall record attendance, decisions and votes,

and such supporting discussion as is considered worthy of record. Draft minutes of each meeting shall be provided to the following meeting for approval. Proposed amendments of the draft minutes shall normally be provided in writing.

Amendment 11: *Delete 3.3 and insert the text below, renumbering remaining sections accordingly:*

- "3.6 Minutes shall be taken of GPEX meetings. The minutes shall record attendance, decisions and votes, and such supporting discussion as are considered worthy of record. Following the meeting, the GPEX Secretary will issue the draft minutes to the GPEX Chair for approval.
- 3.7 Within 7 days of a GPEX meeting, the GPEX Secretary shall circulate draft minutes to GPEX members, with a request for amendments in writing. The GPEX Secretary shall collate amendments into the draft minutes, identifying any requests for amendments where there is a difference of opinion on the discussion or decision taken. Proposed amendments to the draft minutes shall normally be provided in writing."
- 3.4 Papers - All papers for meetings are to be dated, signed, and marked prominently with their purpose: for decision, information, discussion etc.

Amendment 12: *Delete 3.4 and insert the text below, renumbering remaining sections accordingly:*

- "3.3 Papers - The GPEX agenda will be divided into section A (which will contain papers and/or minutes for information and agreement only) and section B which will contain papers, minutes or agenda items for discussion. GPEX members will inform the GPEX Chair into which section their papers should be allocated. The GPEX Chair shall decide on the structure of the agenda, taking into account the time available and the relative requirements of the business on the day.
- 3.4 Public and Confidential Sessions - The GPEX agenda will be divided into a public session, which Party members may attend and a confidential session from which Party members may be excluded, subject to the provisions in section 4 below.
- 3.5 At the beginning of the public session of the GPEX agenda, GPEX shall confirm, by majority vote, the distribution of agenda items between the public and confidential sessions."
- 3.5 Timetable - Business for the agenda shall be notified to the Chair not later than two weeks before the meeting. The agenda, draft minutes of the previous meeting and other papers to be circulated with that agenda shall be provided to the Secretary not later than eight days before the meeting. The agenda and papers shall be dispatched to members of the Executive not later than four days before the meeting.

Amendment 13: *Delete 3.5 and insert the text below, renumbering accordingly:*

- "3.8 Timetable in advance of meetings - GPEX members will provide the Chair with minutes, papers and items for the agenda no later than 10 days before a meeting. No later than 5 days before a meeting, the GPEX Secretary shall circulate disclosable and confidential papers to members of GPEX and load the disclosable papers to the Members' Website.
- 3.9 Timetable after meetings - The Secretary shall circulate minutes for amendment within 7 days of a GPEX meeting. The final version of the draft disclosable minutes shall be circulated to the GPEX e-list and published on the Members' Website within 18 days of the previous GPEX meeting. Minutes of closed sections of a GPEX meeting shall not be published on the Members' Website, but circulated to GPEX members privately."
- 3.6 Attendance - Members of the Executive shall normally attend all its meetings, and shall provide a sufficient apology in advance if absent. The Executive shall invite representative(s) of the Council and such other Party members as they wish to attend.
- 3.7 Speaking - Members of the Executive shall have the right to speak at meetings. Speaking rights shall normally be extended to representative(s) of other Party bodies invited by the Executive. Others present may speak at the discretion of the Executive. The number and order of speakers shall be at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair shall seek to ensure that debate is fair, informed and expeditious.
- 3.8 Making decisions - Every effort shall be made to reach decisions by consensus. In the absence of

consensus, decisions shall be made by voting on proposals. The Chair may call an indicative vote which is not binding, a "straw poll", to ascertain the level of support for possible decisions.

3.9 Proposals - A proposal may be put by any two members of the Executive or from the Chair. When more than one proposal has been tabled, the order in which they are taken shall be at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair shall have discretion whether to take a procedural proposal, and whether to take a proposal which conflicts with a previous decision of the meeting.

3.10 Voting shall be by show of hands. Each voting member of the Executive shall have one vote. The Chair shall have a casting vote if there is a tie in which the Chair has not voted for or against. For a proposal to be carried, it must have more votes for than against, and more votes in favour than to abstain. A proposal for which there are not more votes for than against is lost.

3.11 No smoking - There shall be no smoking in meetings.

Amendment 14: *Delete 3.11 and renumber accordingly.*

3.12 Dates published - The dates of all meetings of the Executive shall normally be published in the Party's newspaper, local party and activists mailing, unless they have been called at insufficient notice for that to be possible. In the latter event other opportunities to inform local parties and activists shall be taken if available.

Amendment 15: *In 3.12 delete 'in the Party's newspaper, local party and activists mailing' and replace with 'on the Members' Website, Activists Mailing and the Members' Update'*

3.13 Papers available - The agenda, minutes and other papers for meetings of the Executive shall be made available by the Secretary to Party members on payment of appropriate fees to cover the resources required to provide them.

Amendment 16: *Delete 3.13 and insert the text below, renumbering accordingly:*

"3.16 The GPEX Secretary shall make available on the Members' Website disclosable reports, papers, minutes and other agenda items."

3.14 Reports - The Chair shall ensure that reports on the work of the Executive are provided to the Annual Conference and meetings of the Council, and that articles on the work are provided to the Party's newspaper, local party and activists mailing.

Amendment 17: *In 3.14 delete 'the Party's newspaper, local party and activists mailing.' and replace with 'Green World, Activists Mailing and other publications'.*

Amendment 18: *Insert new section 4.0 and renumber the following sections accordingly.*

4.0 Openness and Confidentiality

4.1 GPEX will make every effort to conduct its business in public. However, the Green Party's Constitution (section 12(ii)) recognises that confidentiality is required in certain limited circumstances. If certain business were to be made public, this could potentially compromise the successful day-to-day management of the Green Party, its strategies, campaigns and other business. For this reason, the GPEX Agenda is divided into public and confidential sessions (section 3.4).

4.2 The public section of GPEX meetings are open only to Green Party members as observers. Normally, non-members are not admitted. However, by a majority vote GPEX may invite someone who is not a Party member to attend for all or part of a meeting.

4.3 In line with Constitution 12(iv), a Party member may be excluded from observing all or part of a meeting because:

* GPEX is contractually required to maintain confidentiality because of the subject matter, such as staff terms and conditions or procedures for competitive tendering;

* the party member has not given reasonable notice of their wish to observe its meeting, and there is not room to accommodate them at the venue;

* the member's current continuous period of membership of the party has lasted for less than a year.

Additionally, GPEX may decide to exclude observers to protect the Green Party from external damage if the subject matter became public in accordance with the following principles:

* the business relates to a strategy or plan the publication of which would undermine the achievement of the Green Party's stated Aims (Constitution, section 3).

* the business is of a financial or political nature where, if the subject matter were made public outside the Green Party, this could damage the Green Party, regional parties or local parties and elected representatives.

* the decision relates to distinguishing between different candidates for a role, allocation of limited funding between applicants or other comparison where frank discussion in front of observers could embarrass individuals concerned.

* the decision relates to individual behaviour where frank discussion in front of observers could embarrass the individuals concerned.

4.4 The GPEX Chair shall organise the agenda for each GPEX meeting in accordance with these principles.

4.5 A decision to exclude a party member or members from observing all or part of a GPEX meeting requires the assent of two thirds or more of GPEX members present at that meeting. However, the decision to exclude those designated and notified by GPRC as its observer(s) requires the unanimous assent of the Executive members present. (Constitution, section 12(vi))

4.6 Business from which observers have been excluded to ensure confidentiality shall nonetheless be fully minuted. Confidential minutes shall record the overall discussion. The public minutes shall indicate the decisions taken in the confidential session."

Amendment 19: *Add new section 5.0 E-votes and renumber accordingly.*

"5.0 E-votes

5.1 GPEX may vote between meetings on matters that require resolution before the next GPEX meeting.

5.2 The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will maintain an e-mail list ('e-list') to which all GPEX members can post items. GPEX members must therefore ensure that Party Office has a current email address and telephone number for them. E-votes on public agenda items will be taken using this list.

5.3 GPEX may also vote in a confidential vote of all GPEX voting members on items which would normally be taken in the confidential section of the GPEX agenda.

5.4 Any GPEX meeting may decide to hold an e-vote before the next GPEX meeting. Between meetings, the GPEX Chair will have the sole discretion to determine whether an item is suitable for decision by e-list with the exception of a vote of no confidence in the GPEX Chair which can only take place at a face to face meeting of GPEX. Before doing so the GPEX Chair should consider the complexity of the decision in hand and the ability to have a proper discussion via the e-list. Generally, it is anticipated that prior to a request for a formal decision by e-mail, a discussion about the issue would take place on the e-list or the confidential list. This will assist the GPEX Chair in reaching his/her decision.

5.5 Once the GPEX Chair has decided to use the e-list s/he should post a simple email covering each decision to the list stating in the subject 'Decision by dd/mm/yy on [subject]'. In the text of the email the GPEX Chair should explain the decision to be made and confirm the deadline for a response. The deadline for response should be no less than 24 hours. Further, if the deadline is less than 72 hours the GPEX Chair should attempt to alert the GPEX members of the vote by telephone.

5.6 Members of GPEX should vote by simply replying to the list 'for' 'against' or 'abstain'.

5.7 The GPEX Chair will list any decisions taken by e-vote in their report to the next GPEX meeting, reporting the number of votes cast 'for', 'against' and 'abstain'."

Amendment 20: *Add new section 6.0 Telephone Conferences and renumber accordingly.*

"6.0 Telephone Conferences

6.1 GPEX members may ask the GPEX Chair to set up a telephone conference to discuss an aspect of GPEX

business that requires resolution before the next GPEX meeting. The GPEX Chair may not refuse this request.

6.2 GPEX members will be informed of the telephone conference and the item to be discussed at least 72 hours in advance of the telephone conference. GPEX members can request, and the GPEX Chair will invite relevant people to participate in the conference.

6.3 Where the item to be discussed would normally be taken in the public section of the GPEX agenda, requests from members to 'listen in' will normally be accepted. However such members have no automatic right to actively participate in the discussion.

6.4 Sections 3 and 4 of these standing orders will apply to telephone conferences.

6.5 Section 1.6 of these standing orders applies to telephone conferences.

6.6 The GPEX Chair will list any decisions taken in a telephone conference in their report to the next GPEX meeting, reporting the number of votes cast 'for', 'against' and 'abstain'."

4. Committees

"Amendment 21: Insert new 4.1 and renumber accordingly.

4.1 GPEX may create such committees as it considers necessary for the efficient conduct of its business and shall determine their terms of reference, powers, duration and composition, retaining responsibility for the conduct of such Committees and accounting for the conduct of those Committees to the Annual Conference. Committees of GPEX shall be distinguished from committees elected at Conference that support the work of GPEX."

4.1 Policy Committee - This section shall apply to the Policy Committee only where agreed by that committee, because it is not a committee established by the Executive.

Amendment 22: Amend existing 4.1 to read:

"4.2 Committees Elected By Conference - This section shall apply to committees elected by Conference only where agreed by that committee, because they are not committees established by GPEX."

4.2 Normal arrangements - The Executive shall agree a set of normal arrangements for committees, which shall cover remit, delegation of powers, composition, voting and administration. These arrangements shall be based on section 3 above where appropriate. They shall also provide that the convenor of each committee be elected by and from the Executive, that the Council be invited to nominate at least one member, that the quorum for meetings be at least three members of the committee of whom at least two shall be voting members, that minutes shall be taken of meetings, and that meetings be open to Party members and advertised.

4.3 Each committee - A decision of the Executive shall be required to establish each committee. The committee shall have no executive powers except any specifically delegated by decision of the Executive. The Executive shall agree a specific remit for each committee, describing its role, any delegated powers, its membership, its convenor and which members of the committee shall be allowed to vote.

Amendment 23: Delete existing 4.2 and 4.3 and insert the text below, renumbering accordingly:

"4.2 Committee Authority - GPEX shall agree Terms of Reference for each committee which shall cover remit and the specific powers delegated to the committee by a decision of GPEX. GPEX shall review the Terms of Reference of its committees at the last meeting of the GPEX year.

4.3 Committee Membership - The Terms of Reference shall specify the composition of the committee, which shall have a minimum of 2 voting members of GPEX. They shall also provide that the convenor of each committee be elected by and from GPEX. GPRC shall be invited to nominate at least one member of the committee.

4.4 Voting - The voting membership of the committee shall be specified in the Terms of Reference. Committee decisions shall be taken in accordance with sections 3 and 5 of these Standing Orders.

4.5 Committee Meetings - The business of committee meetings shall be in accordance with section 3 of these standing orders. The quorum for meetings be at least three members of the committee of whom at least two shall be voting members. Meetings shall be open to Party members and advertised. Minutes shall be taken of

meetings."

4.4 Reports to the Executive - Notice and minutes of each committee meeting shall be circulated to all members of the Executive. All committee convenors shall report to meetings of the Executive.

4.5 Information - The formation and role of committees shall be advertised in the Party's newspaper and local party and activists mailing. The normal arrangements for committees and the specific remit of each committee shall be made available to Party members on request.

Amendment 24: *Delete existing 4.4 & 4.5 and insert the text below, renumbering accordingly:*

"4.4 Accountability to GPEX - Notice and minutes of each committee meeting shall be circulated to all members of GPEX. Committee convenors shall submit minutes and provide a report on the activities of their committees to the next GPEX meeting after the committee meeting

4.5 Information - The formation and role of committees and their Terms of Reference published on the Members' Website.

5. Finance

5.1 Standing orders - The Executive shall have the power to agree procedures relating to finance which shall have effect as if part of these standing orders.

5.2 Authority No-one shall commit the Party to any expenditure, loan or contract without proper authority to do so. Anyone who does so without proper authority knowingly or recklessly shall be held personally liable; anyone who does so without proper authority otherwise may be held personally liable. Unless covered by a general or specific delegation, matters exceeding the limit set from time to time by the Executive shall be considered by a meeting of the Executive.

5.3 Record - All expenditure, loans and contracts on behalf of the Party shall be properly recorded in writing, and shall be signed by those responsible.

Amendment 25: *Add new section 6 and renumber accordingly:*

6.0 Job-Shares and Co-options

6.1 Job-shares - from time time time, two people may be elected to GPEX as a job-share. Each job-share is for a single role. The rights and responsibilities of that role are shared equally between both people. A position that is a job-share shall have one vote. There is no provision for fractional votes.

6.2 If one member of a job-share resigns, is suspended (section 11.1) or otherwise is unable to carry out their role, the other elected member may choose to continue in the role. In this case, the rights and responsibilities of that person shall be the same as those of any GPEX member not elected as a job-share and no further action is required.

6.3 Co-options - In the event that no-one is elected to a GPEX post, or where a GPEX member or both members of a job-share resign or are otherwise no longer able to carry out their GPEX role, GPEX shall co-opt to fill that role. Co-opted members of GPEX do not have a vote.

6.4 Co-option Process - The process for co-option to vacant GPEX posts must be agreed by GPRC."

6. Changes of Executive

6.1 Taking office - Those declared elected as members of the Executive shall be notified by the Returning Officer forthwith. Each member shall take office on receiving that notification. There shall be a two week handover, in which the member and their predecessor shall liaise; the predecessor shall advise and assist the member, who shall be responsible for decisions.

6.2 The first meeting of the Executive shall normally take place within one month of the Annual Conference.

6.3 Term of decisions - Decisions of previous Executives continue to apply, unless they are changed or suspended. A new Executive may change or suspend decisions of its predecessors.

6.4 Appointments and committees - The appointment of officers, and the remit and membership of existing committees, shall be submitted to the first meeting of each new Executive for confirmation. If such a decision is deferred, the status quo will continue until it is made.

Amendment 26: *Add new section 7 and renumber accordingly:*

"7.0 Conduct

7.1 GPEX shall agree a Conduct Policy for GPEX members, which shall be included as an appendix to the GPEX Handbook. This Policy shall incorporate and develop a procedure for clause 7(xiv) of the Green Party Constitution regarding suspension of GPEX members."

7. Amendment of Standing Orders

7.1 By conference - These standing orders may be amended by the Annual Conference or by another conference to which power to do this has been specifically delegated by the Annual Conference.

7.2 Modest temporary amendments of these standing orders may be made by the Executive, and the amendments so made will stand until the next Annual Conference to which they can be proposed for approval. If the temporary amendments are not brought before that Annual Conference, or are not approved by that conference, the standing orders will revert to the unamended version. Any temporary amendment not brought before the Annual Conference or rejected by that conference may not be made as a temporary amendment during the following year.

7.3 Implementing constitutional amendments - If the constitution is amended without necessary and appropriate amendment of these standing orders, by agreement with the Executive the Standing Orders Committee may amend these standing orders as required to accord with the amended constitution, without further authorisation.

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Proxy Voting Form

This form has been created and approved by the Standing Orders Committee for use by members who will not be attending Conference but who wish to authorise a member who will be attending Conference to vote in any card votes on their behalf.

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PROXY GIVER

Name of proxy giver (Capitals)

Address

Phone

E-mail

Proxy giver's signature

Date

I give this proxy vote on the understanding that I shall not be attending the forthcoming conference myself. I recognise that no policing of the use of my proxy will occur. I trust my proxy holder to exercise this vote in line with the wishes I have expressed to them. I would like this vote to be exercised in relation to any card votes (procedural, suspension of Standing Orders, amendments or substantive) under the following sections or motions (tick or complete one of either 1 or 2 or 3):

1. All conference business: Yes/No

2. All conference business under the following sections only:

Section A (Reports, including SOC): Yes/No

Section B motions: N/A for this conference.

Section C motions: Yes/No

Section D motions: Yes/No

Emergency motions: Yes/No

Other: Yes/No

3. Specific motions only (list final agenda numbers):

TO BE FILLED IN BY THE PROXY HOLDER

Name of proxy holder (Capitals)

Address

Phone

E-mail.

I undertake to the proxy donor to exercise this proxy vote in line with their wishes:

Proxy holder's signature Date

Bring this form to the SOC table at conference. One person can hold a maximum of FIVE proxies.

Vote holders and givers need to be national Green Party members.