



Leading the way: Liberal Democrat Policy Direction in the Years Ahead

Consultation Session September 2024

To adopt a strategic, disciplined and focussed approach to renewing our policy, the FPC has decided to commission a major agenda-setting exercise for policy development over the next several years. The goals of this are to:

1. Identify the major challenges and opportunities facing the country over the coming 10 years, in relation to our vision of a fair, free and open society.
2. Survey the political landscape to understand how the public, the new government and other opposition parties are responding to these issues.
3. Review current party policy in the face of this analysis, particularly in light of the experience of the general election campaign and the Federal Board's work on developing the party's overall strategy, to identify areas most in need of development.
4. Using this framework and applying fundamental Liberal Democrat principles, map out a more detailed programme of policy development for the next Parliament. The FPC will draw up its schedule of policy papers based on this programme.

This consultation session is the first step in a broader programme of engagement with the party as part of this project.

During the session, party members are asked to make contributions which should i) set out what you see as the main policy challenges for the country and the world, ii) identify areas where the Liberal Democrats have strong

existing policies which will need only updating before the next general election, and iii) identify areas where you think we need to focus on making new policy.

The session will be structured into four broad topics:

Public Services

Including health and care, education, police, prisons, public transport, local government.

Boosting Economic Productivity

Including macroeconomic policy, taxation, science and technology, infrastructure, housing, skills, small businesses.

Other Domestic Policy

Including civil liberties, welfare, political reform, the natural environment, culture, media and sport.

International

Including foreign affairs, Europe, development, defence.

Please note there is another separate whole Consultation Session on Saturday at 10.35-11.50 on Climate Change. So we do not seek contributions specifically on Climate Change and Energy during this session (while recognising that most policy areas have some impact on climate change).