

Papers for Young Fabian AGM 2019

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New Executive committee

Hi everyone,

Hope you've all had a good week.

The Young Fabians are a brilliant group that has the potential to change policy and influence at the highest level. I am privileged to have been re-elected for another year and I cannot wait to get started.

I have two touch stones for the year ahead that will guide the decision we as a committee will collectively make:

- Creating a training ground for young people looking to get into politics and policy influencing roles
- A voice for young people on the left

I want to welcome you to the new committee with positions agreed at our constitutional meeting on Saturday Nov 9th and some of the plans we have for the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow (Saturday 16th) at the AGM;

Committee

Chair - Adam Allnutt

No Chair Project, focus on supporting the running of YF, establishing partnerships, fundraising

Vice-Chair - Carolina Saludes

Overall branding, key events and messaging, plus fundraising

Secretary - Leon

Logistical Support for the committee, establishing the Liberation Advocacy Groups, project work

Treasurer - Mhairi

Project on the Climate Emergency, moving to a different bank account, establish the Friends of the Young Fabians

Regional Co-Ordinator - Mo Ahmed

Regional and International partnership work with events and policy, open day in Manchester or Liverpool

Antics Editor - Henna Shah

Re-design Antics, focus on new voices, supported by the committee in themes and pieces, led on partnership with outside organisations

Antics Assistant-Editor - Nathaneal Amos-Sansam

Assist with themes, production, messaging of Antics and getting pitches and articles submitted for the magazine. Co-led the online blog (with Matt), assist with network liaising (with Mark).

International Officer - Hollie Wickens

Regional and International partnership work with events and policy, open day in Cardiff

Policy Officer - Becky Montacute

Led a policy project on Access to Politics for people with Lower Socioeconomic Backgrounds

Networks Liaison - Mark Whitaker

Help Policy Networks with AGMs, projects and events

Communications Officer - Matt Dickinson

Website editor, co-led the blog, handle communications to members including the monthly newsletter

Students Officer - Isobel Housecroft

Outreach to university societies, higher education institutions and Labour Clubs for events and policy work

Programme of work for the year

- **Members Survey**

We will survey our members to find out what our members want us to do

- **Friends of the Young Fabians**

Patrons Programme: create a facility for regular giving from individuals

Money will be used for the general running of YF and the establishment of a small grants programme open to all YF members and Networks for events and projects

- **60th Birthday Fundraising Celebration in March 2020**

Celebratory event with Fabians, young and old

- **Three to Five Embassy Events**

Reception events at embassies with notable speakers

- **Three+ Open Days**

One new year open day inside London and two outside London

- **Partnership work with the Senior Fabians**

Collaboration on blog posts, project work, Friends of the Young Fabians and events

- **Become full members of the Young European Socialists**

Closer ties to youth movements across the EU

- **Monthly Newsletter**

Updates from committee and networks, events for the month, and blog highlights

- **Reenergise the blog**

Weekly takeovers by committee members, network execs, notables and outside organisations including SERA, Another Europe is Possible, Progress etc

- **Branding Review and Harmonisation**

Complete review of all the Young Fabian branding for the committee and networks

- **Establishing Liberation Advocacy Groups**

Alongside the networks establishing the constitutional footing for Liberation Advocacy Groups, starting with the BAME Group. This will allow in the future, if there is appetite, the creation of further policy groups

- **Charity of the Year**

We put a call to members to gather ideas, then put the top three to five back to the members to pick a charity

One or two charity dinners or events, with possibly an organised run or challenge event

Option to conduct some policy work and analysis on the charity's area of work

- **Trip to the European Parliament**

Arrange a weekend trip to Brussels in the new year

- **Project: Access to Politics for people with Lower Socioeconomic Backgrounds**

Policy project led by Becky

Motion for a Climate Emergency Review of the Young Fabians

Sponsors - Jack Parker, Mhairi Tordoff

The Young Fabians Believe:

1. We are living in a time of climate crisis. Our planet has already warmed 1oC and unless radical action is taken globally in the next 11 years, we will push our planet beyond the 1.5oC tipping point. The world's scientists are clear. If this happens, it will be irreversible and will bring with it extreme weather events, food shortages and force hundreds of millions into climate related poverty.
2. The Young Fabians have already been at the forefront of calling for action on climate change. We have the ability and therefore the responsibility to be a strong voice for young people in the Labour movement to prevent climate catastrophe, and we need to be a training ground for future leaders to promote this message further.
3. To be a credible voice on the climate, we need to get our own house in order and reduce our environmental footprint as an organization.

The Young Fabians Resolves:

1. To undertake a Climate Emergency review. This is to urgently assess how we can reduce the carbon impact of our own activities.
2. The first step should be divesting the Young Fabians bank account from fossil fuel. Our money is currently helping to support the more than £66bn big banks have lent to companies around the world engaged in oil and gas extraction. We need to divest as a matter of priority.
3. That the Young Fabian Executive request The Fabian Society to conduct its own climate impact review, including switching to a bank account divested of fossil fuels, and exploring the feasibility of switching to a green energy provider for its headquarters at 61 Petty France

Liberation Groups Amendment

The Young Fabians resolves to add the following article to the Society's constitution.

9. Liberation Groups

9.1 Definition

Liberation Groups are sub-sections of the group devoted to and responsible for advocating on behalf of members with specific protected characteristic(s) (as defined in the 2010 Equalities Act), both in terms of policy making and access to the organisation. The creation of or winding up of a Liberation Group must be proposed to the Annual General Meeting. Members who self-identify as possessing the relevant protected characteristic(s) then vote on the matter. If no member possessing the relevant protected characteristic(s), other than the proposer and seconder, are present the Young Fabians Executive may accept a petition signed by 10 current member possessing the relevant protected characteristic(s) after the AGM.

The proposal must include evidence that individuals with a particular protected characteristic are underrepresented or disadvantaged within the Fabian Society and set out how the formation of the Liberation Group will attempt to tackle these issues.

9.2 Membership

Membership of Liberation Groups shall be open to any full member of the Young Fabians who: a) notifies the Chair and/or Secretary of the Liberation Group that they wish to be a member of the Group; & b) possesses the relevant protected characteristic(s)

Additionally the Liberation Group shall have discretion to recruit members from outside the Young Fabians who have experience of or a professional or personal interest in the area the Liberation Group is devoted to, subject to Rule 2 of the Fabian Society.

Only full members of the Young Fabians possessing the relevant protected characteristic(s) may sit on or vote for the members of the Liberation Group's steering committee.

9.3 Steering Committee

Any member of a Liberation Group who is also a full member of the Young Fabians may sit on the Group's steering committee. Each Liberation Group must hold an AGM within three months of the Young Fabian's AGM at which they will elect a Chair, Secretary and at least one other to form the network Steering Committee. The committee may decide other roles as it deems appropriate.

Members who wish to sit on the steering committee may do so after the AGM. To do so they must notify the Liberation Group's secretary in writing of their intention and attend two steering committee meetings as an ordinary member of the Group. At the second meeting an

election shall be held to approve of their accession to the steering committee by its existing members.

The steering committee must meet a minimum of once every three months and meetings shall be open to all members of the Liberation Group. Members shall have the right to speak and propose motions at all meetings, but only the steering committee proper may vote on motions.

The time and place of all meetings must be advertised a minimum of fourteen (14) days before the meeting is held.

9.4 Responsibilities

Liberation Groups shall be responsible for the running of events, publications, discussions, delegations and other member-led activities within policy areas affecting the protected characteristic(s) to which they are devoted.

Liberation Groups should also take an active role in promoting inclusion and accessibility for members possessing the relevant protected characteristic(s) to which they are devoted.