

THINK
GLOBAL
ACT
LOCAL

CONFERENCE

SCOTTISH
GREENS

Maryhill Burgh Halls, Glasgow 11th March 2017



Local authority key

- 1 Aberdeen
- 2 Aberdeenshire
- 3 Angus
- 4 Argyll and Bute
- 5 Clackmannanshire
- 6 Dumfries and Galloway
- 7 Dundee
- 8 East Ayrshire
- 9 East Dunbartonshire
- 10 East Lothian
- 11 East Renfrewshire
- 12 Edinburgh
- 13 Falkirk
- 14 Fife
- 15 Glasgow
- 16 Highland
- 17 Inverclyde
- 18 Midlothian
- 19 Moray
- 20 Na h-Eileanan Siar
- 21 North Ayrshire
- 22 North Lanarkshire
- 23 Orkney
- 24 Perth and Kinross
- 25 Renfrewshire
- 26 Scottish Borders
- 27 Shetland
- 28 South Ayrshire
- 29 South Lanarkshire
- 30 Stirling
- 31 West Dunbartonshire
- 32 West Lothian



Welcome to the dear Green place!

The world's been a whirlwind since we last met. This January, I saw friends, seeking solace from the terror of Trump and Theresa, and we realised it was two years since we'd met, through joining our branch committee. Campaigning with the Greens, I've met so many wonderful, committed people. So whenever you feel hopeless, look around you. We're all working to build a fairer, greener Scotland from the ground up. We've got 54 days left to campaign, so take today to recharge in the company of like-minded friends. Together, we can do this!

Kim Long, candidate for Dennistoun

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Welcome to Glasgow and our 2017 Spring Conference!



In just 54 days' time, communities all over Scotland will go to the polls.

Today is about ensuring we are as prepared as we possibly can be for May's local elections. We hope that you will find it useful, interesting and, most of all, energising. We wish candidates and local campaigns all the very

best, and look forward to celebrating success with you in May.

We are working towards what could be the biggest election in our history. Yes, we always say that! Every election is important, but we're now on track to see more Greens elected this May than have ever been elected in our party's history! With a strong group of Greens

in councils across the country we can make a real, positive difference to people's lives: fighting for social and environmental justice; safeguarding and investing in public services by securing decent pay and conditions for employees, and creating meaningful jobs; standing up for the most vulnerable members of our communities; harnessing the creativity and imagination of our citizens; and giving people power over the decisions that affect their lives.

This can be a frightening time in politics. Not long ago many people in Scotland felt motivated to get involved for the first time in their lives; now many are watching the news feeling troubled and anxious for the future. We have a responsibility – and an opportunity – to keep alive the belief in the power of democratic politics to

bring people together, to affirm the feeling of solidarity between us all, and to make the world a better place.

Let's believe ourselves capable of that, and let's convince our communities of their power too.

Maggie Chapman and Patrick Harvie, Scottish Greens co-convenors

The Electoral Reform Society

The Electoral Reform Society

Scotland is an independent campaigning organisation working to champion the rights of voters and build a better democracy in Scotland. We work across the political divide with all the parties, with local campaigners and with civil society to put voters at the heart of Scottish politics.

electoral-reform.org.uk

☐ Electoral
☐ Reform
☐ Society

SOCIAL MEDIA

Please share as much as you can from Conference.



CHILD PROTECTION AT CONFERENCE

As an organisation that has members as young as 12, we have a duty to inform and support all our members in upholding our child protection policy. We hope the following information will help you to know what to look for and what to do if you have any concerns during Conference.

What constitutes a risk?

- Witnessing an incident involving a child that causes you concern.
- A child tells you they are being – or at risk of being – abused or neglected.
- Someone tells you that a child is at risk of abuse or neglect, even if the child has no connection to the Scottish Green Party.

What do I need to do?

If a child tells you they are at actual or potential risk:

- Take them seriously.
- Do not ask unnecessary questions.
- Do not promise to keep the information confidential.
- Make a note using the child's words, and write the date on it.
- Contact your branch convenor, the Child Rights Volunteer or local social work department.
- Do not contact the child's parents/guardian.
- Do not attempt to investigate the situation.
- If you are concerned about the immediate safety of a child, contact the police.

If you suspect an adult or child is posing a risk to child protection:

- Contact your branch convenor or the Child Rights Volunteer
- If you are concerned about the immediate safety of a child, contact the police.

Fringe events & workshops

Full timetable on centre pages

12.15-1.15pm

CAMPAIGN TRAINING: CANVASSING

MAIN HALL

This session explains why canvassing door-to-door is a crucial part of winning elections. It will provide participants with the practical know-how and the skills and confidence to make canvassing a success.

LOOKING LOCAL RNIB

GARDEN ROOM

Join RNIB Scotland to discuss our manifesto for the local government elections and what Scottish Green councillors can do to ensure that blind and partially sighted people are supported to live independent lifestyles in their communities.

RE-ENERGISING 21ST-CENTURY TOWNS Scotland's Towns Partnership

ROOM G1

Join Phil Prentice and Andy Wightman to discuss how Scotland's towns can

become self-sustaining in the 21st century by harnessing renewable energy sources, innovation, and community leadership. In the process, quality employment can be created which will help revitalise local economies and communities. Come and hear about the Cumnock pilot to become Scotland's first "Green Town", and how 100 "Cumnocks" across the country could similarly benefit.

Listing of 12.15pm sessions continues on page 10

RNIB
Scotland

Supporting people
with sight loss

RNIB Scotland

The Royal National Institute of Blind People Scotland helps blind and partially sighted people of all ages live as fully and independently as possible. It provides advice, support, training, equipment and transcribes books and other materials. It also campaigns across Scotland to improve sight loss prevention.
www.rnib.org.uk/scotland

Power In Your Hands: 2017 SGP spring conference

Maryhill Burgh Halls,
24 Gairbraid Ave,
Glasgow
G20 8YE



		Main Hall	Garden Room	G1	F1R	Attic
10am	Registration and crèche open					
10.15am			Welcome to conference first-timers			
10.30am		Opening plenary				
12.15pm	External fringes and workshops	Campaign training: Canvassing	RNIB: Looking Local	Scotland's Towns Partnership: Re-energising 21st-century Towns	Policy Session: Local government and the social care system: how to better meet the needs of carers	Kurdistan – Revolution in Rojava and Oppression in Turkey
1.15pm	Lunch					
1.50pm	Gather outside for action					
2pm	Workshops	Brexit and Independence – what next for Green Yes?	Campaign training: organising leaflet runs (DORAS)	Women's Network	Policy session: Council Tax and Local Government funding	Fundraising for branches
3.30pm	Workshops	Policy Practice Hustings	Campaign training: working with local press	Campaign Countdown	Urban Community Right to Buy: process and possibilities	Green MSPs, Holyrood and You
5pm		Closing plenary, ends 5.30pm				
7pm	Social event: Siempre Bicycle Cafe, 162 Dumbarton Road, G11 6XE. Entrance opposite Kelvinhall underground station.					

12.15-1.15pm continued

POLICY SESSION 1: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND THE SOCIAL CARE SYSTEM – HOW TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF CARERS

ROOM F1R

Scotland's 32 councils currently spend £3.1bn on social care, but there are growing pressures on the system. Care professionals are underpaid and undervalued, and Scotland has a further estimated 788,000 people, primarily women, providing

YouthLink Scotland

YouthLink Scotland is the national agency for youth work, representing over 100 regional and national youth organisations from both the voluntary and statutory sectors. Our vision is of a nation which values its young people and their contribution to society, where young people are supported to achieve their potential.

www.youthlinkscotland.org



unpaid care to family members and friends. This workshop will take a look at how Scotland's local councils can push for better pay and conditions for carers, and better support those who care.

KURDISTAN – REVOLUTION IN ROJAVA & OPPRESSION IN TURKEY

ATTIC

In Rojava, Northern Syria, the Kurds have led a democratic, feminist revolution and established a society which lives out many of the Green movement's values. Little of this penetrates the media narrative of Syria as a war-torn country entirely under the grip of extremists and dictators. At the same time, the HDP in Turkey, representing the Kurdish people and including the Turkish Greens have gone from remarkable electoral success to sustained oppression from the Turkish state. Come along to find out more about these developments in Kurdistan and how we can support our progressive allies in the region.

2pm-3.15pm

BREXIT & INDEPENDENCE – WHAT NEXT FOR GREEN YES?

MAIN HALL

With the Brexit process only just starting and an independence referendum looking highly likely, this session is for members to steer the direction of our Green Yes campaign and our wider approach to these intertwined situations. With a larger, more professional party and wider public support, how can we ensure the next Green Yes campaign is even more successful than the last? How do we work with others in the Yes movement? What key Green messages need to be heard during an independence referendum? Come along and tell us.

CAMPAIGN TRAINING: ORGANISING LEAFLET RUNS (DORAS)

GARDEN ROOM

Find out more about the Scottish Greens' very own volunteer-developed & maintained campaign database. Doras was successfully used in the Holyrood campaign and can

help you prioritise, organise and deliver a winning ward campaign in May.

Learn how to:

- Create routes
- Update electoral rolls and marked registers
- Print canvass sheets
- Enter canvassing data
- Use simple reporting features

The League Against Cruel Sports

The League Against Cruel Sports campaigns against cruelty to animals in the name of sport.

Our current high-profile campaigns are on foxhunting, snares and against driven bird shooting, and we've been working with Green MSPs on those campaigns. We're delighted to be attending the Scottish Green Party conference.

www.league.org.uk/cruel-sports-in-scotland



2pm-3.15pm continued

SGP WOMEN'S NETWORK

ROOM G1

Interactive session focusing on discussing the women's networks' input into a sex-work policy review, changes to selection processes and how this could impact women candidates, and an overview of Scottish Women's Aid's "Good Practice in Commissioning Guide".

SFHA

The Scottish Federation of Housing Associations is the national representative body as well as the voice and advocate of Scotland's housing associations and co-operatives. The SFHA exists to lead, represent and support its members through lobbying decision-makers to bring about positive change.
www.sfha.co.uk



POLICY SESSION 2: COUNCIL TAX AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

ROOM F1R

Join Andy Wightman for an overview of our proposals concerning Council Tax and local government funding. It is aimed at enabling people to explain our ideas, and deal with questions like "How will you pay for that?" and "Will I be better off or worse off?" Bring the questions people have asked you, or that you think they might ask, and we will explore how to answer them.

FUNDRAISING FOR BRANCHES

ATTIC

This session will look at the basics of fundraising. It will include:

- How to run a local fundraising event
- Whom should I ask for a donation?
- How to ask for a donation?
- What support can the national party give me?

3.30pm-4.45pm

POLICY PRACTICE HUSTINGS

MAIN HALL

Please join us at our policy practice hustings to learn more about SGP policy, our local election manifesto and to see six of our candidates in action. You will get to see what a hustings is like and hear example answers to typical questions that we get asked at hustings and on doorsteps.

CAMPAIGN TRAINING: WORKING WITH LOCAL PRESS

GARDEN ROOM

What makes a good story for local press? How do you get your message across in local papers and on local radio? What are the pitfalls and what has worked well? Join Sean Lafferty of the media team and Green councillor Gavin Corbett for some tips.

CAMPAIGN COUNTDOWN ROOM G1

With the official start of the council election period on Monday 13th March, this is a good opportunity for candidates, election agents and

campaign teams to learn about planning the final weeks before election day. It is also a good opportunity to troubleshoot any problems you may be experiencing, or share what has been working well for you on the campaign trail.

Inclusion Scotland

Come find out about our Access to Elected Office Fund, how it is supporting disabled people and how it may support you or someone you know. Help us identify the impairment-related barriers that disabled people face when accessing politics, and feed into our future plans.
inclusionScotland.org



3.30pm-4.45pm continued

URBAN COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BUY: PROCESS AND POSSIBILITIES

ROOM F1R

Does the Community Right to Buy signal a sea-change in the relationship between communities and developers? We'll tell the story of Portobello's Action Party, that campaigned to take Bellfield Old Parish Church into community ownership – the first urban Community Right to Buy. As churches and public buildings are sold off, how can communities step up to the mark?

GREEN MSPS, HOLYROOD AND YOU

ATTIC

Join Mark Ruskell, Alison Johnstone and Ross Greer to learn more about what our MSPs are getting up to in Holyrood and their campaign priorities for a 20mph speed limit, healthier children and support for pupils with additional support needs. We'll also discuss the links between branch activity and the Parliamentary team.

The Poverty Alliance

The Poverty Alliance is a network of individuals and organisations across Scotland working together to combat poverty. Our aim is to combat poverty by working together to empower individuals and communities to effect change.

www.povertyalliance.org



EIS

The Educational Institute of Scotland is Scotland's largest teaching trade union with around 55,000 members employed in nursery, primary, special, secondary, further and higher education. The EIS represents over 80% of all teachers and lecturers in Scotland and campaigns to protect and improve their pay and conditions of service as well as seeking to promote "sound learning" across all sectors.
www.eis.org.uk/



Tomorrow: get active!

Recently, Scottish Greens Conferences have been over two or three days in the same venue. This year, as we enter the council

election period, we are asking you to take the conference home with you on Sunday with a national day of action.

We are asking that every branch across Scotland hold a campaign activity to build on the energy and enthusiasm from conference on Saturday.

With the election period officially

starting the next day, it would be great to have the Greens out in force across the country. Whether it is canvassing, leafletting, a street stall or a fundraising event, please get active in your area and share it on social media using the hashtag [#ActiveGreens](https://twitter.com/ActiveGreens)



Universities Scotland

Universities Scotland is proud to represent one of the best higher education sectors in the world. This January we launched "Scotland's Universities Welcome the World", a new campaign that celebrates the diversity and inclusivity of Scotland's universities. Come along to our stall to learn more and share the welcome!

www.universities-scotland.ac.uk



Thank you for attending!

Please let us know what you thought of conference. Look out for our online feedback survey, which will arrive by email straight after conference. By filling it in you can help make next year's even better!

Contact

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SCOTLAND

The Fire Brigades Union is the democratic and professional voice of firefighters across the UK. We send solidarity greetings to all Scottish Green Party delegates and wish them a successful conference.

www.fbu.org.uk