

B2 Strengthening National Young Greens events and our Executive Committee election cycle

Proposer:	Rosie Rawle (Oxfordshire)
Agenda item:	B Motions (Policy and Organisational)
Status:	Modified

Synopsis

Synopsis: Currently, Convention is our only national event of the year to both mobilise new and existing members, and allow the membership to carry out formal and binding processes of accountability. The fact that Convention is also a single event held in the autumn also means that our elected representatives oddly come into position after the start of the academic year, and with little time to prepare for upcoming local and national elections. This motion seeks to do three things:

1. Move Convention to spring, and mandate EC to create and coordinate a new national political mobilising event in the autumn
2. Mandate that the autumn event should involve a General Meeting, that will comprise of an accountability session with motions of No-Confidence, Censure and Commendation
3. Put in place a handover period between elected representatives to ensure a smooth transition

Motion Text

1 **Young Greens notes:**

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1. That Convention is our largest event of the year, and only one of its kind.

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2. That Convention is the only face-to-face national event involving democratic and accountability processes.

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3. That other youth-led organisations and networks operating in the higher education sector hold two national events per year – one in which the primary focus is democracy, and the other, mobilising new and existing members.

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4. That the academic year begins in early Autumn, but our elected Executive Committee, Structural Procedures Committee and Senate Co-Chairs are elected in late Autumn.

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5. Many democratic organisations have established an election process that allows for a handover period between outgoing and incoming representatives.

16 **Young Greens believes:**

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1. That face-to-face national annual events can be inspiring and exciting introductions for new members, and vital energisers for active campaigners.

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2. That to build a strong and active network of Young Greens across England and Wales, the NEC need to be organising effective events for mobilising political engagement.

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3. That since representatives elected in the annual ballot are elected by the national membership, they need to be accountable to the membership

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4. That for the membership to hold its representatives to account effectively, there need to be multiple entry points and opportunities available throughout the year.

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5. That robust democracy and accountability requires formal mechanisms through which the membership can commend, reprimand and, if necessary, remove from office elected representatives.

32 **Young Greens resolves:**

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1. To amend Article A1.1 in the Standing Orders from:

“The Young Greens Convention shall be held once per year in Autumn” - to -

“The Young Greens Convention shall be held once per year in Spring”

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2. To coordinate an annual national political organising event, to inspire, train and mobilise the membership.

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1. To insert Article B1.7 in the Standing Orders, that reads:

1. “A General Meeting will be held at a national autumn event”

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2. To insert a new byelaw 1.6, and renumber accordingly:

1. "EC members shall individually provide a six month progress report to the membership and take part in a face-to-face accountability session with members at the annual autumn event."

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3. To insert a new byelaw 2.8:

1. "SPC members shall individually provide a six month progress report to the membership and take part in a face-to-face accountability session with members at the autumn event."

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4. To insert a new byelaw 3.10:

1. "Senate Co-Chairs members shall individually provide a six month progress report to the membership and take part in a face-to-face accountability session with members at the annual autumn event."

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5. To insert a new byelaw 4.6, and renumber accordingly:

1. "Green Students Campaign Committee members shall together provide a six month progress report to the membership and take part in a face-to-face accountability session with members at the annual autumn event."

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6. That elected representatives will have a handover period of two months at the end of their tenure, in order for the representative-elect to observe and support their work through the election season.

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1. To insert the following in the Standing Orders, and renumber accordingly:

60 **Section D: Autumn General Meeting**

- 61 1. There will be a Young Greens General Meeting held at the autumn
- 62 2. The Autumn General Meeting consists solely of accountability sessions for the
63 following representatives elected in the annual ballot:
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- Executive Committee co-chairs
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- Treasurer
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- Non-portfolio EC members
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- Region Senate Co-Chairs
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- Green Students Committee
- 69 3. The Autumn General Meeting must take note of mandatory six-month progress
70 reports from
- 71 4. The accountability session will take the form of a face-to-face Q&A with the
72 membership
- 73 5. There must be at least 25 members of the Young Greens excluding employees at
74 any General Meeting for decisions to be binding
- 75 6. Motions of No-Confidence may be put forward during the accountability session
76 and will pass with a two-thirds majority
- 77 7. Motions of No-Confidence may be put forward during the accountability session
78 Censure and Commendations and will pass with a simple majority

79 8. Every Young Green is eligible to vote at the Autumn General Meeting

80 9. Young Greens employees have no voting rights