

EC1 Amy Heley- Membership Officer (NPO)

Proposer: Amy Heley
Agenda item: A Reports

Report Details

- **Ratified and supported new Young Greens groups throughout the year:** For example; Huddersfield & Wakefield, Hull, Birmingham City University, Brighton & Hove, Wirral, Herefordshire, Reading, Luton, Aston amongst others! It's been great to see so many new Young Greens groups.
- **Rural YGs:** I helped to set up a new group for Young Greens who do not live in big/student cities. With some members of the Young Greens who live in rural areas, we created a Facebook group, advertised the new group via email and social media, and hope it will be ratified as an official Young Greens group soon. We hope it will create more campaigning and networking opportunities for rural young greens and help to make events more accessible.
- **A new membership strategy for the Young Greens:** Myself, Georgia, and other members of the executive committee developed a new membership strategy for the year. This included, but is not limited to; the partnering of Young Green groups, retention emails, the Young Green officer scheme, updating membership documents (e.g. groups guide) and encouraging the formation of new YG groups.
- **Buddying scheme:** We launched a buddying scheme for all young green groups with the aim to pair experienced groups with new groups, in order to share best practice and learn from each other. It was a challenging task, as the logistics of putting all our affiliated groups in contact with each other. It didn't prove to be hugely successful, as it relied on the groups taking the initiative to start the partnership, which didn't happen on such a wide scale as I had hoped. I think the Young Greens should definitely do this again- maybe with more preparation, and with measures in place to make sure the buddied groups initially get in touch to share best practice.
- **Reaffiliation process:** As a constitutional requirement, we had to undergo a reaffiliation process of all young greens groups. Me and Georgia contacted all affiliated groups to see if they were still active. As a result, a few groups were disaffiliated and were subsequently removed from the affiliated groups doc/excel and the website.
- **Affiliated group documents:** When I took on this role there seemed to be multiple documents with the details of our affiliated groups. I merged them so that we now have only 1 comprehensive excel sheet with all the information regarding YG affiliated groups- seems like a simple task, but was time consuming! It was worth it, as now it's much easier to find contact details.
- **Weekly emails to groups:** I've been sending weekly emails to the affiliated groups, as well as to Wales and the regions of England to make sure they are updated with everything that is going on in the Young Greens, from campaigns, events such as conference and convention, to organising freshers and sharing news.

- **Weekly emails to all members:** I also took on the role of Internal Communications officer, and have since been responsible for the all members emails, that usually go out once a week. I wrote many of these myself, but sometimes other members of the executive committee wrote these and myself and Georgia scheduled them.
- **Young Green officer scheme:** The Young Green Officer scheme is the project that I'm most proud of from the last year. As part of our new membership strategy, myself and Georgia launched a proposal to get a Young Green on every local party executive across England and Wales. We got the go ahead from Nick Martin, and so we started by sending an email to every chair and deputy chair, to tell them about the idea and to gauge interest. The responses were overwhelmingly positive, and it was fantastic to hear that many local parties already had YG officers in place! For the existing YG officers, we set up a [Facebook group for them](#), and worked with the senate co-chairs Vicky and Martin to help them get in touch with other YG activists in their area.

We then started reaching out to and working with the local parties who were keen to engage young people and students in their local area and interested in getting a YG officer on their local party executive. We used Civi to help them find the young green members in their area, as well as helping to draft emails to send to young greens to invite them to socials and events, and to tell them about this exciting new scheme.

We now have lots of YG officers signed up across England and Wales, but it is definitely an ongoing process. We are continuing the outreach and the support of those existing YG officers, as well as those who are interested and beginning the process.

- **Attended the FYEG GA, held in Utrecht in May, as the delegate from the Young Greens of England and Wales.**
- **Freshers fair preparation:** I helped Georgia with the task of setting up freshers packs, organising the delivery of them to students, etc.
- **New groups guide:** I rewrote the Young Greens groups guide, as it needed updating, and we also wanted to make it less exclusively focussed on student groups.

EC2 Isabella Moir - Equality & Diversity Officer

Proposer:	Isabella Moir (Mid Sussex, Crawley & Horsham)
Agenda item:	A Reports

Report Details

Main Works

Accessible Events Guide & Checklist

Once I was co-opted, one of my main priorities was updating the Accessible Events Guide found on the Young Greens website - this guide was put in place to ensure all Young Greens events are accessible and inclusive to all, not just physically. I wanted to ensure this guide targeted all groups in society and made everyone feel welcome and catered for when attending an event. To do this, I ran through each section and added some extra pieces, altered some language & changed the entire design layout of the guide. This made it more attractive to view and more accessible to read - I also reached out to liberation groups and EC for their comments, which helped shape the guide and give an alternative perspective. This was then signed off by EC to be put up onto the Young Greens Website.

Around half way through these alterations, alongside some others I discovered that the star system was difficult to understand and made this guide quite intimidating to those wishing to use it. I devised a "checklist" to work in cohesion with the guide, to make the scrutiny of events easier and more understandable. I believed this would make the guide easier to read and ultimately put into practise. By using a system of ticks and checks, everyone would be aware of how it works and how to create an amazing event. This checklist was split into sections, matching those of the guide - however at the top of the checklist is "general requirements." These have to be met when running an event - and this was quite challenging to narrow down! After conversation with EC, and personal thought, I think we have an amazing set of requirements that will create an amazing event. This guide was also signed off by EC but will be held privately until asked for!

Sexual Harassment Policy

Another priority, not only of mine but of the Young Greens as a whole, was to compile a Sexual Harassment Policy. I took charge of this, and with a lot of help from a lot of amazing people, started pulling together some bits and bobs to start it off. After getting the basics of the policy down, the notes were sent around to those who offered to help & SPC. This created a lot of amazing comments which were incredibly helpful, and after some more editing, it was at its second draft. This was then sent around again to make sure everything was in line with the Safe Space Policy, complaints procedure and general Green Party guidelines. After many months it was ready to be put forward to EC for comments & final ideas and checks.

Other works:

- Got co-opted onto the Executive Committee!

- Produced a statement for International Women's Day
- Compiled many posts / tweets in regards to current news
- Worked with EC to decide on merchandise types & designs
- Worked alongside Benedict & the rest of EC to promote & decide applications for the Active Greens Fund
- Worked alongside Sam to create a workshop at the January residential on Accessible Campaigning
- Worked alongside Georgia to create a workshop for the August residential on White Allyship & how to use our white privilege for good.
- Attended the People's Vote March on both 23rd June & 20th October alongside the Green Party.
- Worked alongside EC to compile the Wales Separation Report

- Attended the 30under30 Weekend in Brussels - all based around European Parliament and what our Green MEPs do

- Attended the majority of EC Meetings, PIP Subcommittee Meetings & one merchandise meeting

- Compiled an Accessibility Report for the 30under30 weekend in Newcastle University.

- Joined the PIP Subcommittee & compiled a survey to be used for general statistics surrounding the PIP application process.

EC3 Nate Higgins – External Communications Officer

Proposer: Nate Higgins (Newham Greens)
Agenda item: A Reports

Report Details

In mid-December 2017, I was co-opted in a job-share with Niall Pettitt as the External Communications Officer. Previously, the role had often been split as a “Press Officer” and a “Social Media Officer”, meaning that there was quite a lot of work for the two of us to do. In addition to this, Niall due to personal circumstances had to become less involved throughout the year and I have been fulfilling the duties of the role on my own since early Spring 2018. Therefore, I am writing this report on my own.

Before I begin my report, I want to use the opportunity to personally commend the work of Georgia Whittaker, Young Greens Organiser, and Hannah Graham and Ben Parker, Young Green Co-chairs. I came into the role relatively inexperienced in the structures of the Green Party and the Young Greens, and a little unprepared for the high-paced demand of the role, and it is because of the support these people gave, along with so many others, that I was able to be even moderately successful in the demanding role while maintaining any level of personal welfare. I also want to thank Hannah Clare and Fay Whitfield, who have both served as co-chair of the Young Greens Media subcommittee, and also Ed Fraser who has been of immense help, really stepping up as a member of the subcommittee where ever he could.

Youth Question Time

Niall & I were co-opted on a pledge to organise a cross-party campaign to pressure the BBC into producing an episode of Question Time with an audience of under 30s, with the topics of the episode focusing on issues that particularly affect young people. Representatives from the Young Greens of England and Wales, Scottish Young Greens, Plaid Ifanc, and the Young Liberals all signed the petition, as well as hundreds of other individuals from a wide range of parties across the political spectrum. We coordinated with the main party to ensure highly influential individuals like Caroline Lucas and Jonathan Bartley (both co-Leaders at the time) shared the petition. The petition was successful, and the BBC produced an episode of Question Time for Young People, bringing the issues that affect us to a higher platform, and holding politicians to account for their actions in this area.

The purpose of this was to gain attention for the Young Greens, and had Question Time invited a panel of young politicians like we had also requested in the petition, to generate media opportunities for the co-chairs of the Young Greens, Hannah Graham and Ben Parker.

Holistic Review

During my time on the Executive Committee, the main party held a consultation known as the Holistic Review Commission (HRC). The HRC was designed to rewrite the structures of the party in a holistic manner to make the Green Party a stronger electoral machine. As part of this, I met with the HRC in my role on the Executive Committee to give representation to them about what the Young Greens would seek out of this.

Unfortunately, this review did not, in my opinion, go in a positive direction for the Young Greens, with the

HRC proposing that the Young Greens be removed from the successor to the Green Party Executive, the Political Executive (PEX). In a personal capacity, but also informed by my experience on the Young Greens executive of how important this position is, I submitted an amendment to keep the Young Greens on PEX and argued strongly for it at conference. We were unfortunately not successful in this, but if re-elected I will continue to fight for Young Greens representation within the main party in my role on the executive.

In addition to this, I have submitted a paper to convention asking convention to give the Executive a mandate to produce a report guiding members through the upcoming HRC referendum on how this will affect the Young Greens as an organisation.

2018 Local Elections

During the 2018 local elections, I worked closely with Young Greens Organiser Georgia Whittaker in order to ensure coverage of Young Greens Candidates. This was in addition to standing as a Target To Win candidate myself. We enabled coverage for candidates from a wide range of organisations, including a BBC Article that began with a hero photo of two young greens target to win candidates. I also supported communications for action days Young Greens groups were organising across the country, including designing 6 different graphics.

Young Greens Media Subcommittee

Mid-way through my term on the executive I launched the “Young Greens Media Subcommittee”. This was designed to move the burden for communications away from solely myself and the Executive, who all had their own portfolios, to a group of people who had volunteered to work exclusively on communications. This was vital to ensuring my own welfare too. I want to thank Hannah Clare, Fay Whitfield, Ed Fraser, Alex Nettle, Daisy Holt, and Samy Rostron for joining this subcommittee and putting so much time and effort into the subcommittee. The launch of this subcommittee also enabled the relaunch of the fantastic Young Greens Podcast. I hope to see it continued during future executives and for them to take a stronger and stronger role in our media operation.

Other

- Creating a whole new sign off procedure for content production, allowing us to produce content more efficiently and react to breaking news more quickly.

- Appeared on the Guardian’s Instagram discussing tuition fees

- Appeared on the “Sorry, Wot?” political debate panel as the Green Party representative

- Wrote a speech for Hannah Graham to give at the Green Bloc in the first People's Vote March

- Wrote for Left Foot Forward on Nick Clegg's knighthood

- Wrote for the New European on Green/Liberal Democrats cooperation on Brexit

- Managed the media for the second 10:1 Fair Pay Campus report, including a viral video about Amelia Womack being blocked from addressing a university occupation

- Delivered social media training for 30 under 30

- Wrote an article for Green World about the future of the Green Party

- Designing an incredible amount of graphics and editing a large number of videos for various communications.

- Handled the Young Greens communications for a large number of events, including multiple People's Vote marches, the Green Party Leadership & Deputy Leadership elections, the Young Greens elections, two conferences, the Young Greens Candidate Community Launch, convention, and more.

- Organised the Young Greens roundtable at convention

- Attended two residentials, 30 under 30's trip to Brussels, the 30 under 30 press and media weekend, two conferences, convention, and countless debates, marches, and protests.

- Delivered a workshop to Young Greens residential on our values and how to communicate for the Young Greens

- Attended all but one meeting of the Young Greens Executive, as well as chairing Young Greens Media subcommittee meetings, and one meeting of the Young Greens senate. I also joined the Events subcommittee.

This is not an exhaustive report of everything I have done on the Executive Committee as that would not be possible. Please do check out my monthly reports for more detail on the members website.

EC4 Hannah Graham - Co-Chair

Proposer: Hannah Graham (Islington Green Party)
Agenda item: A Reports

Report Details

Young Greens Annual Report

Ben Parker & Hannah Graham, Young Greens Co-Chairs

It's hard to know where to begin with this report as there is so much for us to tell you about! Take what's below as a flavour of our activities over the year, but know that you can view all of our monthly and quarterly reports on the members' website [here](#) for further detail. A big shout out - and thank you! - must go to our full-time staff member Georgia, the Young Greens Executive Committee, Young Greens Senate, Structures and Procedures Committee, as well as all of our local reps and members, without whom the below wouldn't be possible.

Working with the main party

This year, we have tried to focus on finding further ways to work more effectively with the wider party, where appropriate. We have developed a positive relationship with GPRC and continued working with others on GPEx to streamline our efforts towards common goals. We have also inputted into the Holistic Review process and encouraged Young Greens participation there. We have fostered a strong relationship with the staff team at the Biscuit Factory, supporting each other with different projects. In particular here, we have worked very closely with the Young Greens Organiser, Georgia. Relating to Green Party members more widely, we have formally rolled out our Young Greens Officer scheme which aims to support local parties to attract more Young Greens, providing a further link between our work in the Young Greens with that of local parties on the ground. The scheme aims to increase engagement between local parties and Young Green members, increasing capacity and outreach. Where historically some relationships with other bodies within the party have fallen away, we have felt a shift in our working together this year which has been welcomed by all.

Young Greens of England and Wales also produced a substantial and in depth Wales Separation Impact Report, to weigh up the impact of Welsh Green Party separation. This can be viewed [here](#) and was disseminated to all Young Greens in Wales ahead of the Welsh referendum, in order for them to make a balanced choice in their vote.

Campaigns

Our campaign work has continued this year and we have enjoyed working with groups - both internal and external to the party - to bring these to fruition. Our priority campaign this year has been "Reform PIP!" raising awareness about, and encouraging the government to amend, the current process for claiming Personal Independence Payments. The campaign has been working on several different projects including: producing an informational video about PIP; writing a guidance document for individuals claiming PIP; writing a motion to conference to insert a statement about PIP into the party's Record of Policy Statements; writing a

report based on freedom of information requests about the PIP process. We have also continued our work on the 'People Not Numbers' campaign, attending Yarl's Wood demonstrations protesting against indefinite immigration detention, and looking at producing a report (again, based on freedom of information requests) into the hostile environment / forced deportations. The campaign has also further developed links with student organisations supporting international students. We also re-launched our 10:1 campaign this year, with a new report written and launch event held at Queen Mary University during their occupation as part of the UCU strikes. We've also been pleased to have several Young Greens on the main Green Party Campaigns Committee, working alongside the GPEX Campaigns Coordinator and others to synchronise campaigns.

Elections

Following the successful model of years previous, the Young Greens Senate co-ordinated action days to support candidates in May's local elections and, amongst the Green successes more generally, it was pleasing to see several Young Greens elected this time round. We hope to see these numbers grow in years to come. To support Young Green candidates this May, with the support of the main party, we produced literature for some 'Target to Win' candidates and hosted a suite of training webinars too. At Spring Conference we also ran a full day of training for Young Green candidates which was well attended. Moving forward we are working with the Association of Green Councillors and Local Government Association to provide year-round support to candidates (and prospective candidates) as part of the 'Young Greens Candidate Community'. We hope to build on previous efforts to create a supportive network of Young Greens keen to be elected to public office, and to provide local parties with a pool of keen and clued-up members ready to stand for election. We launched the Young Greens Candidate Community at Autumn Conference with a panel made up of target to win candidates and elected Green Party councillors. We have started to gather a list of candidates and potential candidates to benefit from the community this following year. If you'd like to be added to this list, please email admin@younggreens.org.uk.

30 Under 30

We were overwhelmed with interest in our 30u30 training scheme this year, receiving 94 (!) applications for the 30 places available. Following a full week of interviews, 30 participants were selected and will finish the scheme at Autumn Conference. The training weekends are organised thematically - Campaigns and Elections (March, London); Policy and Structures (May, Newcastle); Press and Media (September, Nottingham) - and the scheme also includes a trip to the European Parliament in Brussels (July), a trip to Conference (October, Bristol) and a mentor scheme, where participants are matched up with experienced party members to learn more about aspects of the party / Green politics they are interested in. This year, we have attempted to incorporate further practical elements into the scheme including canvassing sessions during Weekend One, policy writing (and submission to conference) in Weekend Two and press writing and video recording in Weekend Three. We have also formalised aspects of the mentor programme this time round and have been delighted to see many members of this year's cohort already getting involved with party structures. The culmination of the scheme was at Autumn Conference where we enjoyed a mini-celebration with our graduates. Applications for next year's 30u30 will open in December/January. Please promote to Young Greens in your local parties and groups.

Events & Demos

We have organised a Young Green presence at several demos this year, both in conjunction with the main party and alone. We worked with the People's Vote campaign and main party to coordinate a big presence of Young Greens during the People's Vote March in both June and October and were pleased to work with the main party organisers during the Stop Trump demo this year too. Members also attended the Yarl's Wood demonstration earlier in the year. Events wise, elected representatives joined us for two residential weekends held in Brighton and London where we discussed our priorities for the year and learnt about regional organising, allyship and developments within the Young Greens, amongst much more.

Green Party Conference

As always, we've been extremely active at both Spring and Autumn Conference this year, with Young Greens meetups, 30 under 30 volunteers, our merchandise stall, the infamous Young Greens Quiz along with the launch of our Young Greens Candidate Community.

International Work

We have continued to grow our international presence this year with representatives attending the Federation of Young European Greens General Assembly, passing several amendments there, as well as seeing one member elected to the Federation of Young European Greens Executive Committee. We were excited to welcome the Macedonian Young Greens to Green Party Autumn Conference this year. We have also been pleased to see Young Greens involved in the main party International Committee and other members attending different Federation of Young European Greens events over the course of the year.

Media, press and social media

Our media subcommittee has continued to build our momentum on social media developing engaging content with lots of success. The Young Greens podcast continues to go from strength to strength and we have had episodes discussing our People Not Numbers and PIP campaigns, as well as lots of details about local groups / member activity too. We are also in the process of revamping the Young Greens website with the support of the main party staff team.

Finances

Lots of work has gone into stabilising the Young Greens finances this year, and we have worked closely with the party to track our income / expenses more effectively than in years previous. We applied for two trust funds this year but were unsuccessful. We are in the midst of devising a fundraising strategy to support our campaigns work, and training schemes like 30u30.

What's next?

The Young Greens timeline for the year closes at Young Greens Convention where the new committee will be elected. We wish the next team the best of luck.

If you have any questions for the Young Greens or want to get in touch with us about anything in this report, please email cochairs@younggreens.org.uk.

EC5 Ben Parker - Co-Chair

Proposer: Ben Parker (Harrogate and District)
Agenda item: A Reports

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EC6 Sam Bristow - Campaigns Officer

Proposer: Sam Bristow (Wandsworth Green Party)
Agenda item: A Reports

Report Details

Reform PIP

The EC priority of starting a Campaign focused on the injustice of Personal Independent Payments was set at Convention 2017. It was my key task at the start of my elected term to create the campaign strategy and form a subcommittee comprised of members with lived experience of the injustice of PIP and allies to the cause. Chairing with the priority proposer Violet Webb, we launched the subcommittee in the new year and formed a full subcommittee by spring of 2018.

Over the course of the campaign, the subcommittee looked into a number of ways to explore the following campaign aims:

- Highlight and raise the voices of young people who have had lived experience with PIP.
- Provide a platform for them to share their suffrage and their opinions on what think needs to be changed.
- Investigate the reality of how many young people are denied fair treatment and support.
- Provide a platform to discuss the particular difficulties those with mental health problems and other 'fluctuating' or 'invisible' health issues face when applying for PIP

I am extremely proud of the work this subcommittee have done, which includes:

- Producing a brilliant podcast with the Media Subcommittee discussing the realities of the PIP process from members with lived experience
- Submitting a RoPS motion to Autumn conference. Whilst this was not heard due the time needed to facilitate the holistic review, the strawpoll in the Workshop indicated that should this motion have been brought to plenary floor, it would have passed.
- An internal Guide to Personal independence payment for Young Green Members that that will be launched on the new Young Greens Website

We have also been focused on developing a video for a social media campaign, that would look to platform young people's experience of PIP and their view on what they believe needs to be changed. This would have not been inclusive to Green Party members, seeing the Young Greens becoming the initial voice to start the conversation on what PIP should become to truly deliver a just support to disabled people. Unfortunately, this was never realised due to time constraints.

Another priority was to produce a report, with myself and Georgia Whittaker, Young Greens Staff Officer, submitting an FOI to the Department of Work and Pensions. Frustratingly, the response we received was unusable, with the DWP rejecting almost all of our questions on the grounds that the cost of complying with our request would exceed the appropriate limit for central Government, set by regulations at £600. However, it was confirmed they do have the information and I recommend that the questions that were submitted are now asked individual by YGs.

There have been some struggles with this campaign. Over the course of the year, it has proven to be a challenge to find ways to bring to local groups into the campaign. The campaign has also encountered ageism and disbelief from external organisations, who did not believe as a subcommittee we have the grounds to suggest what a reform change should be for the process.

There has also been issues with capacity. It was of a great importance to myself and Violet that there was a representation within the subcommittee of members with lived experience, and the unfortunately downside to this was limited capacity due to committee members needing to that time for their own personal health and wellbeing (which the subcommittee has an outset fully supported). It is vital that their voices are the leading voices to the campaign and what is needed for this campaign to continue on is allied members coming forward and participating in the campaign. **This is a campaign issue that could at any time effect all of us. Disability is not discriminative, it can happen at any point to any individual. Fighting for the rights of disabled people should be at the forefront of our campaigning objectives, and our first step should be fighting the current injustice that is PIP.** Within this report I would like to call out for the membership to come forward and get involved with this campaign. Please visit: <https://younggreens.org.uk/campaigns/reform-pip!.html> to get involved.

People Not Numbers

It was my steer at the beginning of my elected year to keep the People Not Numbers campaign going through this elected EC's year. This was due to the strong positioning that the campaign has had through the previous year, along with relevance to membership and public interest. At the time, this was mainly driven by the continuing conversation and campaigning around Brexit, but as the year has progressed, we have seen continued relevance, with the fallout of the Windrush scandal, the continuing impact of the Conservative's Hostile Environment, the ongoing injustice within Yarl's Wood Detention Centre and the Stansted 15 trial.

My work within this campaign throughout the year has been the work that I have been most proud of, and I would like to opportunity to personally commendation for the work of Georgia Whittaker, Young Greens Staff Officer, who's work within this campaign has been not only a massive support to me, but also a key driving force to the development the campaign. I would also like to thank my fellow Sub-Committee Co-Chair, Arran Rangi, who's support, dedication and passion have been a huge support to myself and the campaign.

Campaign Aims update – On the formation of the new subcommittee, I proposed we updated the campaign aims. The only campaign aim to change was “The end of detention centre” which was update to “The end of detention centres and deportations”.

Reformed subcommittee – The subcommittee was reformed at the beginning of 2018. As Subcommittee Chair, I created new Job Descriptions and Terms of Reference for Subcommittee, along with organising a callout for new members. Over the course of the year, due to committee member external commitments, the subcommittee did not meet as regularly as decided. After reflecting on this, Arran and I decided to split our campaign aims between us, with him focusing on the international students and myself focusing on the campaign aims of Ending Deportation and Detention, which allowed us both to progress with campaign aims more productively.

Building wider connections – The campaign and built strong connections with organisations including End Deportations, Detained Voices, Universities Resist Border Control and Educating Beyond Borders. Our

connection with End Deportations has been a large strength for the main party, leading to Jonathan Bartley speaking at the Stansted 15 trail launch on the 1st of October.

Yarls' Wood – Due to controversies surrounding Movement for Justice, which started in October 2017, both EC and PNN subcommittee voted to cut ties with the organisation, and look to organise with other organisations. I penned, with the help of EC, the open letter to membership explaining this decision. I pushed to work with other officers on EC to build a larger event for the summer Yarls' Wood demo, but due to workloads, this was never realised.

FOIs and Report Launch – Georgia and I made the decision to submit an FOI request to the Home Office, with the intent to investigate how are young people affected by deportations and immigration detention. The information received was extremely concerning, and this has been built into a report which I am thrilled to announce will be launched on the 19th of November at a Panel event, including guest speakers Jonathan Bartley and representatives from End Deportations and the All African Women's Group.

Other Works

Panels – As part of my role on EC, I have organised two panels for convention 2018 on issue based campaigning. One panel will be focused on People Not Numbers and End Deportations, and will include two activists on Trial for the Standsted15 case. The other panel will be responding to the impact of and Plastic Pollution, with both Caroline Russell and Natalie Bennett speaking.

Merchandise and Fundraising – Myself and fellow EC member Benedict Allbrooke formed a subcommittee to address the current Young Greens Fundraising and Merchandise offer. Fundcomm produced a new digital donation form and, thanks to Benedict's work with digital and finance teams at Green Party HQ, was able to facilitate Direct Debits. Working with both Benedict and Ben Parker, Young Greens Co-Chair, I produced a new leaflet that on our fundraising offer, which we launched at Spring Conference. Heading up the Merchandise side, we looked at reviewing the whole of the merchandise offer, including the possibility of launching an online shop. The key outcome from this was a new merchandise offer of a tote bag, which included key YG campaign priorities. The strategic aim is to net a funding income of £500-800 profit. These were launched at Autumn Conference, however not as successfully as hoped, due to MEPs offering two free tote bags.

YG Branding and Graphic Design

YG rebrand – Over my year on EC, a side project has been reviewing the Young Greens brand and style. There was a discussion at the beginning of the year on EC to do a soft rebrand, focused on modernising the design work and giving Young Greens their own edge, but still be reflective of the main party branding. The project never materialised, however I do have a proposal ready, should the next EC wish to explore it. I have offered professional advice over the year, and I am happy to say that whilst a rebrand has not officially launched, Young Greens materials have adopted a cleaner, vibrant styling.

Design products – Over the year I have offered my skill set out to the committee and have designed a large amount of graphics and publications. My favourite will always be the Mariah Carey Christmas cover!

Training – I delivered training to Georgia on InDesign and design principles. Georgia now has a good foundation of using InDesign, which means she can now look to produce her own documents and grow her skillset.

EC7 Lucas North - Convention Officer

Proposer: Lucas North
Agenda item: A Reports

Report Details

General

I was coopted to Young Greens Executive Committee around halfway through the year, as Convention Officer. Since being coopted, I have attended Young Greens Residential and fortnightly EC meetings, as well as being active in the committee's general business such as social media sign-off and responding to events within the Green Party.

Being on EC has been difficult at times, especially when there have been tensions between the Young Greens and GPEW, as I held roles in both groups. This year also saw a stark rise in transphobia, prompted by the Government's consultation on reforms of the Gender Recognition Act, which has meant that large amounts of online transphobic abuse have been directed at me personally, and as (until recently) co-chair of LGBTIQ+ Greens, and more generally as Young Greens EC. I have been very active in combatting the rise of transphobia within the party which has at times been extremely damaging to my own wellbeing, and has affected my capacity to do work for the Young Greens.

At the most recent Green Party conference, I was involved in putting on the Young Greens quiz, and was also a member of standing orders committee throughout the event. This meant I was unfortunately unable to complete the volunteer shifts on the Young Greens stall which I had signed up for as I was called into last minute meetings around a number of topics, including the running of conference, responding to protests at conference, and a rescheduled meeting with Caroline Lucas about the consultation on reforms to the Gender Recognition Act. I am sorry that I wasn't able to devote more time at Conference to supporting the Young Greens, and the extra work other had to do as a result.

Convention

When I took on the role, there was no events subcommittee in place. Although I established an Events Subcommittee, levels of engagement were low and the group failed to hold an online meeting in it's first month of existence. I therefore took a more centralised approach to planning convention than in previous years, and have taken personal responsibility for most aspects of the event.

This year I produced a resource pack available to all young greens groups, and interested parties, to help them promote convention to their members. This included a copy of the central email schedule for Convention promotional emails, email templates, graphics, and a guide on how to effectively promote Convention to different groups.

I ran a session at Young Greens Residential about how to make sure Convention would be representative of our membership, taking into account the diversity of our members.

Digital

This year, I redesigned the Convention website, and set up and customised an installation of the software used by the Federation of Young European Greens for their AGM papers. This has greatly helped with the online aspects of Convention such as motion and nomination submission, keeping track of paper submissions, and being able to control these when previously they were under the sole control of the GPEW digital team.

Working with SPC, a number of guides were added to the website to provide information about Convention, the elections, and paper submission.

In response to budgetary pressures associated with the annual ballot, I built a ballot collection and vote counting platform which has been used in this years Young Greens elections. The system was designed in conjunction with the ERO and DERO, to ensure it met all the needs of the annual ballot. The system will be available to any groups wishing to use it for their own elections, and is powered by a graphical admin interface.

Venue

At the time I was coopted, bids to host convention were already being accepted, and one of my first acts as Convention Officer was to organise the EC vote on which venue would be chosen to host Convention. It came down to a decision between Brighton and Sheffield, and Sheffield won in a vote of EC members. The Sheffield bid was submitted after the deadline, but was accepted due to the low number of other applications.

Part of the bid process is agreeing that the group putting in the application is able to provide a suitable venue, with a minimum number of rooms available. On this occasion, after being awarded the bid, it became obvious that the requested number of rooms was not available. As a result, we have been unable to offer a dedicated quiet room, unable to offer a safe space room, and have not been able to secure rooms which I believe meet the needs of liberation group meet-ups. For this I am truly sorry, and have included in my handover guide to next year's committee that they should advise groups to book rooms at the point of putting in bids, where this is free, or that groups should be absolutely certain of being able to meet the bare minimum requirements before applying.

EC8 Benedict Allbrooke - Treasurer

Proposer:	Benedict Allbrooke (Brighton & Hove Green Party)
Agenda item:	A Reports

Report Details

I was elected to the role of treasurer at convention 2017 having been co-opted to the role of internal comms a matter of weeks earlier. I therefore had a small start on understanding the role of treasurer but it is one of a very different nature to the rest of EC and a large number of demands. I am also serving as ERO for the YG annual ballot, the details of which are covered in the SPC report. In addition to this I have participated in a range of general committee activity.

As part of my term I have got setup an online donation form which can be found at greenparty.org.uk/YGDonate which allows both one-off donations and direct debits. I would encourage anyone wishing to financially support the work of YGs to use this. This has also substantially increased our income.

Much of my work this year has focussed on improving the understanding of our own finances, improving procedures and documenting these. Treasurer is a somewhat odd role as it involves few individual projects and a large degree of being aware/across the different projects going on in the organisation as a whole. The broad tasks which fall into the role are to process all expenses, sign-off central expenditure, facilitate the organisation drawing up a budget, and working with others to enable their finance interactions.

Myself and Sam Bristow with support from Ben Parker formed a fundraising subcommittee to try to increase YG income. We did not have the available time and resources to make full use of this but generated a lot of useful ideas which I would encourage future committees to take forward. One area we were able to fulfill was to produce a physical donation form for use at conference and other events. Sam led on the merchandise side for which there are more details in Sam's report.

I feel I have achieved a large amount in this role, particularly in areas which will help the organisation in future terms. Unfortunately my ability to achieve things and in many cases even engage with YG activity has been diminished by the negative actions of others. I have also seen this borne out in abusive statements made about previous members of the committee - including severe ableism. A member of the committee this term left after being berated for not apologising "well enough". In my situation this has included bizarre incidents such as being abused by someone for recanting a decision they both voted for and even proposed.

For the majority of this term of office I've faced almost constant bullying from a small minority of others including (but not limited to) abusive statements, swearing, ganging up, shouting down, tone policing, gas lighting, undermining and general unrelenting criticism regardless of the situation.

At various points I raised the severely adverse effect this was having on my welfare and sought to address the situation. Despite this and the claims made this year around prioritising welfare, this was entirely disregarded and even the idea of raising my own welfare was dismissed.

During one EC meeting designated to address concerns around this issue, I raised the specifics of the behaviour and pointed to how this breaches the YG safe spaces policy. This was further dismissed and equivocations made by those responsible as to whether behaviour such as tone policing, explicitly forbidden in YG spaces, is a bad thing.

All this has meant that due to the end of my term I have been forced to disengage, for my own mental health, and faced further personal abuse for doing so. It is clear that for the YGs to match the values we publicly espouse there is much to do in improving internal behaviour.

Conference

One of the key ways in which YGs raise money is through activities at GPEW twice annual conferences. The YG stall allows for sales of merchandise and a hub for raffle ticket sales which along with the YGs quiz raise significant amounts. We have previously only recorded the total income rather than the breakdown between different activities so I formalised the recording of these and made sure we could report accurate totals for VAT liabilities on merchandise. For both the running of the stall and the quiz I produced guides which were further updated and refined.

The proposals within the Holistic Review for reducing the default number of GPEW conferences from 2 to 1 per year present a severe risk to YG finances.

Relationships within the party

One of the major difficulties in this role is that we are not in direct control of our bank accounts. All transactions have to be done through the GPEW finance team who hold YG money as a separate management account. This is understandable as the YGs are not a separate legal accounting unit, as local parties are, and so it is necessary for our money to sit within this for reconciliation of budget lines. I investigated with finance the possibility of a separate account early on in the year but this was concluded to be legally and logistically impossible.

To reduce the drawback of this arrangement I sought to build good working relationships with the GPEW finance team, consisting of 3 roles. I have had regular email contact with them, some phone calls and trip to the GPEW office to discuss things in person including a line-by-line walk through the previous accounts and budget tracking. There has however been a full turnover of GPEW finance staff during my term of office, with all 3 leaving the organisation and causing significant disruption on our side. During the changeover there was a long period of short-staffing where understandably our accounts became a low priority and following this the structure of our accounts changed somewhat. The GPEW finance team are a really capable group who it's been good to work alongside and they deliver extremely well for the organisation, especially given their small size in comparison to the size of the party.

Due to the difficulty in not managing our own accounts and the difficulty sometimes in getting copies of income/expenditure schedule from GPEW I've put a large degree of effort into proactively monitoring our own transactions. The detail of much of this can be found in the description of income/expenditure below.

During the 2018 local elections I worked up a budget proposal for YG to be given dedicated funding by GPEW for a TTW leaflet supporting YG candidates. This involved drawing up a proposal after being notified by the co-chairs on the same day as the deadline for submissions. This was granted by the party CEO and finance co-ordinator. The production of the leaflet was then passed on to YG staff member Georgia and other party staff.

One of the unexpected but very rewarding parts of the role was in helping local YGs groups, groups of the regions of England and student societies. I had a number of finance related queries which I was happy to help with regarding aspects such as access to SU funding, banking and general treasurer work.

International Activity

As a member of the Federation of Young European Greens we pay a membership fee at their annual general assembly. I produced a summarised copy of our realised budget for the last year so our membership fee could be calculated and arranged payment of this.

A proposal had been presented to the FYEG General Assembly which would have resulted in vastly increased fees in future years. Myself and Amy Heley worked to amend this to avoid this impact on YGEW and ultimately prevented it.

30u30

One of the more significant areas of activity the YGs carry out is in the 30u30 training scheme of which there will be more information in both co-chairs reports.

To support this I helped draw up a budget breakdown to help ensure all of the training weekends had adequate support and worked with both co-chairs to monitor this and adapt as needed. I took part in allocating Access Fund where this had gone a bit awry and processed all Access Fund claims for all claimants for all of the activities.

A major part of work for 30u30 was in arranging the trip to Brussels, generously funded by the office of Molly Scott Cato MEP. Strict rules govern the way that this funding can be provided and the trip is intended to be at zero cost to YGs. Money is only provided to fund this following the trip and not in advance.

We do not have the required balance on hand to book this so have to borrow from GPEW, paying back following the trip. This request for loan has to be authorised by the party CEO. To enable this I produced a detailed budget outlining the allowable amounts from technical EU documentation and obtained sign-off from the CEO.

As part of this it was imperative that at the time of booking we had the number of participants signed up for which we were booking for. The parliament do not reimburse for people who do not attend and this has caused an issue for the last few trips - losing money from the YG budget. I insisted on not booking until we had a full list of name and I'm pleased that this helped us not lose money on this trip for the first time in several years. Unfortunately this led to personal accusations of me delaying activity which was completely unfounded as both travel and accommodation were booked in a timely and well managed way.

The Budget

The Young Greens budget is traditionally set at the first residential consisting of EC, SPC, representatives of Wales and the regions of England, Lib Group co-chairs, and Green Students. Due to the late starting of this EC's term it was impossible to have a residential until after Christmas. Due to this and to enable the residential to actually happen, I prepared a short term budget to carry us over until the residential consisting almost entirely of residential spending with a small degree of contingency for funding necessary activity which might come up. This was presented to and agreed by EC.

For the major budget for the year I took the approach of setting it for January to November given the uncertainty of convention timing at that point and to avoid an abrupt cliff edge at the change over of ECs. I have since pulled the short term and full budget together into full year budget tracking.

To draw together the list of income & expenditure items needed in the budget I looked through the preceding few years of budgets and consulted fully with the rest of EC for feedback. During the December and very early January period before the residential I had conversations/meetings to discuss these with members of EC including Ben Parker & Sam Bristow to discuss fundraising, Hannah Graham & Emily West to discuss events (including convention), and Hannah Graham and Ben Parker to discuss 30u30 and many other over-

arching aspects of the budget including the EC travel budget designed to ensure EC members were present to push fundraising at GPEW conferences and enable attendance of affiliated groups' AGMs.

I also discussed the constitutionally required items such as the annual ballot with the Structures and Procedures Committee to ensure we were in a position to meet these requirements at the end of the year.

There was lack of final budget income/expenditure totals available previous years so it was difficult to come up with initial budget proposals from these. I therefore used what was available and made various estimates for existing and new budget lines. By tracking these through the year I hope YGs in future years will be more able to make use of this to allow for easier initial budget setting. The proposed totals were produced in consultation with those involved whilst also ensuring a balanced budget which did not suffer from adverse cash flow issues. It was necessary to reduce the proposed amount budget for some items due to recent reductions in income and also set moderately ambitious fundraising targets.

The budget was presented and discussed to the residential which resulted in one proposed amendment. I formalised this with those proposing it. Both amendment and full budget, including the terms around each budget line, we approved unanimously by the residential attendees.

A very large hole appeared in the budget due to the lack of a trust fund grant - plus a few income areas under-delivering. We applied for two but both were turned down. The realised budget has still remained more or less balanced as a number of budget lines have under spent.

A tracked copy of this budget is shown, with some items grouped together, attached to this report. As the budget runs until the end of November there is a current total showing what we have in to date and the expected totals where there is known income/expenditure coming. Some summary comments are included here but I am also happy to answer more detailed questions.

Income

- Regular donations includes some long standing standing orders and a decent amount of direct debits enabled by the new form I had setup. Not all the avenues of regular donations planned have materialised but a number of ideas have been generated for handover to the next treasurer.
- There has been a drop-off in donations with joining due to a change in the GPEW joining form which I raised with the co-chairs so it could be addressed at GPEx level but for which there has been no resolution yet
- We have one large donation promised and pending but which has so far not been transferred
- Spring conference came in below expectation due to the snow reducing greatly the number of attendees. The amount raised is very positive considering the numbers present. This is also offset by the amount of EC travel used due to some members of EC sadly being unable to attend due to weather.
- Autumn conference was close to budget despite the lack of stall on the first day and the lack of promotion of the quiz in the conference agenda. Those involved did very well to still bring in this total.
- No other events have been run so no income or merch sales there

- YGEW did not get any Workers Beer money through London YGs, coming as it would have done just after an Active Greens bid was turned down, but GPEW TU group provided £200 thanks to the kind and hard work of Paul Valentine.
- In a previous year we were banned from Workers Beer involvement but this has since been lifted. Two members of the committee were made aware of this ban being lifted in November but did not make myself or other members aware of it which has probably led to the loss of activity which would typically generate several hundred pounds, up to about £1000 of income. I was only very recently made aware of this directly.
- Both trust fund applications were unsuccessful as described above
- The campaign crowdfunder was planned to support a 2nd stage of the PIP campaign and as it was tied directly to this there is no hole created in the budget

Expenditure

- Our membership of the Federation of Young European Greens is not done in quite the way their documents suggest so came in slightly higher than budgeted.
- There were residual commitments to LYG Bees campaign, PNN and Burnley fees carried over from last year but Burnley did not end up making any spend
- Budgeted campaigns spend included PNN and PIP for this year for which PNN are expected to full fulfill their expenditure but PiP will not - this detail is described in Sam Bristow's report
- Publications and printing is a little under due to the work Georgia has done in getting the majority of freshers pack sent out for free and us using largely existing materials. Next year there will need to be more investment in new materials
- Convention is largely unspent as yet but it is strongly expected it will all be used (including separate social media budget which has already been spent)
- Residentials have come in under budget largely due to people who had applied for, and been allocated AF, not attending and there was in the end no EC away day
- EC travel is below expected due to the snow at spring conference and a reduced number of events requiring travel than expected. It was expected that much of this would be required for Georgia's attendance of events but an alternative arrangement is now in place
- The budgetted amounts for ballot and motion software are not required thanks to the excellent work Lucas has done in setting up and hosting the platform for this
- 30u30 has come in slightly below, only requiring a small amount of the contingency set aside
- None of the approved Active Greens funds events called upon the funding allocated, either due to events not happening or the expenditure for which the fund was allocated not being used

Attachments (If required) [PDF]

EC8 Benedict Allbrooke - Treasurer

<u>Income</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Expected</u>
Small and Regular donations	£1,610.00	£1,833.00	£1,953.00
Big one-off donors	£300.00	£0.00	£350.00
Spring Conference	£800.00	£650.09	£650.09
Autumn Conference	£1,200.00	£1,112.99	£1,112.99
Other Events income	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00
Separate Merchandise (not at conference)	£200.00	£0.00	£50.00
Worker's Beer	£400.00	£200.00	£200.00
Trust Funds	£1,500.00	£0.00	£0.00
Campaigns Crowdfunder	£150.00	£0.00	£0.00
Total	£6,260.00	£3,796.08	£4,316.08

<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Expected</u>
FYEG Subscription	£58.35	£65.19	£65.19
Carried over campaign commitments	£342.64	£192.64	£192.64
Campaigns	£550.00	£17.10	£250.00
Printing/Publications/Postage/Misc Admin	£430.00	£234.08	£274.08
Social Media Ads	£20.00	£20.00	£20.00
Convention	£1,000.00	£265.69	£1,000.00
Other Events	£50.00	£0.00	£0.00
Residentials/Away Days	£690.00	£393.10	£393.10
EC Travel	£750.00	£274.70	£274.70
Annual Ballot/Motions	£400.00	£0.00	£90.00
30u30	£1,500.00	£1,380.05	£1,380.05
ActiveGreens	£350.00	£0.00	£0.00
Merchandise seed money	£200.00	£199.98	£199.98
Total	£6,340.99	£3,042.53	£4,139.74

Operating Profit

Total	£	(80.99)	£	753.55	£	176.34
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Balance

Opening Balance	£1,931.64	£1,931.64	£1,931.64
Cashflow	-£80.99	£753.55	£176.34
Closing Balance	£1,850.65	£2,685.19	£2,107.98

GSC1 Arran Rangi- Student Co-convenor

Proposer:	Arran Rangi (Ashfield Green Party)
Agenda item:	A Reports

Report Details

This year has been a momentous year for the student movement with the strikes. We as Young Greens students have re-established ourselves and reinvigorated links to other student groups.

Internally, we have set foundations for the committee going forward and are pushing forward with our two main campaigns. We are also in the process of setting up "How to" guides to help lesser established societies to operate within their universities. Further to this we have set up the basic foundations to help Green groups for NUS campaigns and are hoping next NUS conference we will have a coordinated group of Young Greens.

Although we have had quiet spells and for a long time were dormant, we are proud of the work we have done and believe the next committee can build on our work.

SE1 Victoria Elliott - Senate Co-Chair

Proposer: Vicky Elliott (Haringey Green Party)
Agenda item: A Reports

Report Details

I joined the Young Greens Executive Committee as Senate Co-Chair by co-option in March this year and have enjoyed working with Martin, the rest of the Executive Committee and the Senate on Young Greens stuff for the past seven months.

Senate work has remained challenging, but we did implement regular meetings and see some good knowledge exchange between reps from different regions, as well as fill some empty spaces. I helped with some AGMs and enjoyed the experience of meeting people at events, supporting the South East Young Greens with their amazing Summer Gathering, for example.

My main contribution has been as an active member of the committee, participating in decision-making and helping keep things afloat. There's a lot of admin work that goes on behind the scenes, and a lot of decisions that have to be made under pressure, so I was happy to be part of many discussions and I provided some helpful and even inputs to discussions.

I also participated in lots of green-adjacent activism, making sure to represent the Young Greens, taking photos and videos for our social media and writing things up too.

I've loved working with everyone on the committee and, though I'm not re-standing, I look forward to seeing what everyone does next year!

SE2 Martin Osborne - Senate Co Chair

Proposer:	Martin Osborne (Brighton & Hove Green Party)
Agenda item:	A Reports

Report Details

It's been a eventful year as Senate Co-chair, a position that is not always easy but always rewarding nonetheless! It has been a pleasure to work with keen activists in Wales and the different regions of England and also to learn more about organising events and supporting projects. Furthermore it has been a wonderful opportunity to work more closely with other members of the EC and especially the amazing Vicky, who joined as the other Senate co-chair after Spring conference.

During the year my main aim has been to set up the regions in order to establish a stronger mechanism for engaging with the grassroots and to ensure that there is an intermediary body who can facilitate an ongoing conversation between the local young greens members and the EC. When I took over in Nov 2017, the Senate had become slightly inactive for a few months and so firstly we got things started up again. Although working as the sole Senate Co-chair as there was no other interested person in sharing the role until later, we still were able to fill positions. Several regional officers were appointed during the end of 2017 and start of 2018, some being co-opted directly by the Senate after a call out to the membership, others elected by the areas themselves. Some areas proved more difficult to fill, however, with a lack of engagement from call outs or challenges with communication to the current Senate representatives meaning that progress in those areas was stalled.

After getting young greens in position, the next step has been to build a committee to help run the region/nation. We tried to get AGMs arranged in each area and there has been some success with this. The South East, North East and London were all reasonably well attended but Yorkshire and the Humber and East of England ended up being below quoracy. Attempts to organise AGMs in the other regions have been stalled for a number of reasons and has relied heavily upon the expertise of previous young green activists to organise these events. In areas where communication has been less well established and where there is a lack of previous event organisation know how, it has been a huge challenge to get this event organised. Organising an AGM is a big event and requires a lot of planning, engaging with membership etc. which can take time. More certainly can be done in ensuring that all future Senate members have the skills and feel confident in organising an AGM and this should be one of the things that should be added to an official Senate training programme which I'd like to recommend that any future Senate develops.

In addition, the plan has been to bring motions to the regional AGMs to get the new regional constitutions ratified. The older constitutions were brought in when the groups were originally affiliated but have become outdated. SPC helped to draft a template constitution and this was adopted by the South East, North East and Yorkshire and the Humber. The other regions need to accept this when they hold an AGM.

Senate meetings have been held for most of the months and have mainly been a chance for the Senate representatives to share best practice/ideas and for the Senate co-chairs to pass on information. The atmosphere has been friendly but an important tool to use in developing the region/nation. It is recommended that these meetings continue to provide an open platform to discuss issues and because different Senate representatives are always at different stages in their membership journeys and can learn from the experiences of the others.

In my opinion, what the next Senate needs to do is focus on replicating the successes of the South East.

They have been able to really activate the membership by regularly engaging with them through social media, emails and phone calls and following up with a series of special events, opportunities to train and action days. The tour of panel discussions and the summer gathering have been specific examples of incredibly successful events and part of the "South East model" which should be adopted by all areas. Details about this model and documentation have been produced by the South East Young Greens committee and include in a Google drive which all Senate representatives can access.

In order to try and help out with some of the issues I've put a motion in for convention which is aiming to amend the standing orders and allow the selection of Senate representatives for any vacant areas at convention so long as the amount of young green members from the area is above quoracy threshold. This will hopefully enable the Senate to have a more complete body that represents all of the membership and mean that effort isn't wasted in continually sending out messages to try and co-opt whenever a role becomes vacant.

Going forward there is a real need for coordinated action with the rest of EC. The two bodies have traditionally been considered as two separate bodies, with the overlap as the two co-chairs sit on EC. The Senate have been left to do a lot of the ground work including membership engagement, arranging action days/events and running the regional social media accounts. However, the Senate would make much more progress if EC took local organising as the main priority. There is still room for Senate to flourish but it needs alot of TLC from EC to relaunch it in a success form. It is pleasing to see that next years EC will be made up of many former Senate members and so now is an ideal chance to push forward. Best of luck to the next Senate co-chairs and I'll happily be in contact and ensure a smooth transition to the next Senate occurs.

SPC1 Structures and Procedures Committee

Proposer:	Structures and Procedures Committee
Resolution date:	10/27/2018
Agenda item:	A Reports

Report Details

People

There have been a variety of people on SPC throughout this year. We began with Hannah Clare, Liam McClelland, George Scrogings and Chandler Wilson.

Throughout the year we had resignations from the latter three and co-opted Alex Price, Reece Stafferton, Megan Banks and Vicci Jennings. Reece later resigned as they were potentially to put themselves forward in the Young Greens elections.

The reasons people resigned are varied but were mostly personal/health related. Thank you to everyone who sat on SPC this year.

General Duties

The role of SPC is to safeguard our constitutional documents and help others understand it. Throughout the year SPC has perhaps been more active than previous SPCs have, partially due to the nature of working with a new Constitution and Standing Orders.

Our main duties are outlined below, however there are some duties which have not fit into those categories that we thought right to include here:

- Supporting EC with counting votes for co-options

- Supported EC with Vote of No Confidences (VNC), due to new confidentiality in Standing Orders

- Wrote an example constitution for groups of the regions of England and nation of Wales to adopt and supported some groups with adopting this

- Wrote guides to the responsibilities each committee have and to various parts our constitutional documents
- Provided an SPC induction to new members of EC to ensure they were aware of their responsibilities
- Supported with AGMs, including acting as ERO for some
- Hosted quarterly Q&As
- Made attempts to increase engagement in Q&As and reports
- Compiled and uploaded monthly and quarterly reports (with next to no missing reports)
- Kept our team action plan up to date
- Ensured consistent delivery of monthly and quarterly reports, with barely any gaps from non-submission

Minor Edits to Constitution and Standing Orders

We are required to report any minor edits to the Constitution or Standing Orders, as per our power outlined in Article 3.3 of the Young Greens Constitution. These are as follows:

- Clarification in standing orders that 'one year term' is inclusive of whether you no longer fulfil the requirements for YG membership as defined in Article 1.5 of the constitution e.g. are no longer a student or turn 30
- Standardisation of punctuation in constitution and standing orders
- Deleted duplicate 5.1 in liberation group section of constitution
- Added a space between two words in Article 5.14 and again in Byelaw 1.2
- Amended reference to 'subsection 1' in Article 5.4 to reference Article 5.2 which is where this now lies
- Amended list of roles in Article 2.6 so it reflects those listed in Standing Orders D1.5
- Amended Article 5.5 so it lists the same policies as those listed in Article 5.9

- Removed the redundant term 'Policy Papers' from the Standing Orders

Rulings

Please find all rulings responded to this year below:

Are job shares allowed for Young Greens positions?

It is the opinion of SPC that job shares are permissible in the Young Greens Constitution, under the following conditions:

? The job share would share one vote

? The quota of EC would remain 50%+1 counting if they were one person

? Due to the current gender identities of members of EC, both parts of the job share would need to be filled with someone who is not a man, unless it is a three-way job share, in which case a man can fill one third.

? If one part of the job share votes, it is assumed the job share is in agreement until it is said otherwise. If votes are contradictory, then they will be cancelled out.

? One part of the job share voting will count for quoracy

Can candidates apply for more than one of the roles outlined in D1.5 of the standing orders in a co-option process?

SPC ruled that the rule of D1.5 also applied for co-options and therefore they could not do so.

Can reports to the membership have sections marked confidential?

SPC discussed this issue and concluded that there is no provision for confidentiality in the reporting requirements outlined for various elected committees, defined in Byelaws 1-4 in the Constitution. SPC advised that if elected representatives wish something to be dealt with as confidential they should not report this in their report. If they wished to whistleblow, they should follow the complaints and disputes procedure outlined in Article 5.

Can hustings be completed as text only hustings?

SPC is of the opinion that hustings refer to hosting a verbal hustings at a defined time, which can take place in person or online. However, to ensure this process is as accessible as possible, this does not exclude written submissions being made to these hustings where people are unable to attend, feel uncomfortable or unable to ask in response to any questions that will be asked.

Where there are co-options to empty roles while there are other empty roles which would be required to be filled by non-men to fulfil the gender balancing of the full committee, how does Byelaw 1.2 of

our Constitution and Section D4.7 apply? As no candidates have applied for the current vacant position of Senate Co-chair (which cannot be filled by a man as set out in Section D4.6 of the Standing Orders) would there be a requirement on the gender of the person co-opted to fill the vacant Internal Comms role (for which there are applications) to ensure that the whole Committee is not more than 50% men

SPC is of the opinion that the gender rules in the standing orders, Section D Part 4.7 must be abided by as far as possible. There will be occasions where resignations mean that there are more people who self-define as men on the committee. However, where the Executive Committee takes any action as a whole, e.g. through co-option, they must ensure their action does not lead to more than 50% of the committee self-defining as a man. This is similar to how elections would work where there are more candidates who self-define as men elected - one position would instead remain unfilled. It is of the opinion of SPC that the executive committee took an action in their co-option of an internal communications officer that was unconstitutional. Although there was a vacant position on the Executive Committee that must not be held by someone who self-defines as a man, the co-option of a man meant that more than 50% of filled positions on the Executive Committee defined as a man. In this occasion, we believe the committee should not have co-opted until the reserved role had an applicant, to ensure that Section D Part 4.7 was not breached.

Can members of EC use their Young greens email to propose motions to conference?

SPC is of the opinion that our constitutional documents do not restrict people from using their Young Greens email to propose and support motions to Green Party conference. However, it does note that the Standing Orders Part D, Section 5.5 denies the right to use Young Greens 'administrative email' for motions and elections in the Young Greens AGM. Therefore, SPC advises that members who have a Young Greens email should consider the use of this for other matters.

Do members co-opted as a job-share remain a member of EC where their job-share partner resigns?

The job share was co-opted together and if one part resigns, the whole job share resigns. In line with D6.1, a new co-option therefore would need to take place. The standing orders are quite clear that a co-option can only take place after a call out and hustings.

Can a member of EC co-opt a job share?

SPC have made two previous rulings on job shares. These have been considered when producing this ruling. One previous ruling asked if the whole job share needs to resign if one part wishes to no longer be a member. We consider this a similar situation. We would like to state that job-shares are an interpretation and not codified in the constitution at present. The choice of voting for a job-share is different to voting for a person in a role by themselves. As a result, if one part of a job share resigns or someone wishes to add someone to a job share, this is a new officer. Therefore, to add a job-share or take one away, the person remaining in post or the new job share will need to be co-opted in line with Standing Orders D6.1. The standing orders are quite clear that a co-option can only take place after a call out and hustings. However, the Standing Orders do not specify the length of time this call out needs to be advertised for. EC could therefore in theory open a call out for a short period of time and vote to co-opt following this.

Can job shares put themselves forward in the Young Greens elections?

SPC have concluded that previous rulings regarding job shares apply for the election. From an ERO point of view, they are accountable to the spending limits as a joint candidate, as detailed in the election rules

Can job shares run for Co-Chair?

SPC is of the opinion that the Co-Chair position, while elected separately, is a job share. This is because the

role is a shared portfolio of responsibilities. In addition to this, in external bodies where the co-chairs hold a seat, they tend to share a vote and are therefore considered a job-share within the party.

Does B3.9 in the Standing Orders mean that any proposer can propose any amendment to their own paper at convention, provided it can be explained verbally, because the amendments would have to be considered friendly?

SPC is of the opinion that this is the case.

Complaints and Disputes

Complaints and Disputes Committee this year was comprised of a variety of volunteers. Originally Liam McClelland chaired the committee and later Vicci Jennings.

Thank you to those, along with Badger T Hill, Reece Stafferton, Isabella Moir, Molly Arthurs, Lucas North, Amy Heley, Tino Bere for serving on C&D or helping with complaints.

There have been two cases this year. At the time of writing, the latter is yet to be resolved. This is in breach of the constitution and SPC submitted a formal apology to the complainant on behalf of C&D for this.

The former case was in regards to a potential safeguarding matter that could bring the party into disrepute (separate from the widely reported case in the press). This was considered and investigated by C&D and they recommended a termination of Young Greens membership to the Executive Committee and that the case was referred to the Green Party Complaints Procedure. EC voted to terminate their membership and the person later had their membership of the Green Party of England and Wales removed.

Elections

This year SPC sought to use a piece of software to manage nominations to the Young Greens Elections. This is one used by the Federation of Young European Greens. We also wanted to ensure a robust and free online voting system.

We want to issue a huge thank you to Lucas North, Convention Officer on EC who supported hugely with this aim, including building the voting system. We hope this has made the process of submitting nominations easier for users and certainly made it easier for us to process.

We appointed Benedict Allbrooke as Electoral Returning Officer this year and Hannah Clare as Deputy Electoral Returning Officer. We wish to offer a huge thanks to Benedict for his work on this, in particular in face of a number of requests and questions from people that he faced personal comments for, despite the decisions being those of the ERO team. As an ERO team they have ensured the elections remain fair and in line with the Standing Orders.

At the time of writing, the ERO team along with SPC have completed two investigations into candidates. In both cases these were upheld with no action taken.

Finally, we sought to ensure that we provided ample guides to potential candidates so that the roles available were clear (thank you to previous SPC's who this was largely derivative from). We also hosted two training webinars for candidates to make the rules clear to them. We hope candidates have found all of the above helpful.

Papers

While we had a new constitution and standing orders this year, some things remained unclear and a large part of this was the different types of 'Motion' to convention. We took an interpretation which clarified these as follows:

- Resolutions - Priorities for the Executive Committee
- Motions - Policy or Organisational
- Changes to the Constitution or Standing Orders - self explanatory
- Emergency Motions - Motions passed the deadline

As a whole we have referred to these as papers. We are pleased this has been clarified with a Paper to Convention, cementing this in future.

We wrote guides to each type of paper and supported those who approached us. We also produced videos on how to submit them.