

# NWLD Elections for 2016

**Elections will take place following the Regional Conference** for the North West Liberal Democrats executive for 2016. The executive is made up of 42 members of the party from across the region who are elected annually to lead the organisation, along with a President elected every two years, Parliamentarians representing the region, a representative from Liberal Youth, and up to five co-opted members.

The executive comprises:

- President (serves a 2 year term, not up for election in 2015)
- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- 7 Vice Chairs, who lead the sub-committees: Campaigns, Candidates, Conferences, Fundraising, Membership & Diversity, Policy, Standards & Practice.
- 8 Ordinary members
- 24 County members to ensure geographic balance

The Executive meets 4-5 times a year on Saturdays, most often in Bolton but also at other venues across the region. Executive members are involved in subcommittees, and Officers (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Chairs) have additional responsibilities. Elections will also be held to elect a number of regional representatives to the party's English Council. The regional chair is also a representative, ex-officio. There will also be the election of four members of the Regional Candidates Committee.

**Nominations must be submitted by the close of the conference.** They must be in writing and nominations must be proposed and seconded for any position with signatures to show support of nomination. Election artwork is invited in support of candidacy: the specifications are over the page and timetable below. It may be submitted electronically (RTF or PDF only) or as a printed item ready to be copied from.

Nominations and artwork should be submitted to the Returning Officer, Bob Charlesworth - for details see right.

If artwork is submitted as hard copy, it should be sent to The Returning Officer, Liberal Democrats North West, 23 New Mount Street, Manchester M4 4DE. If submitting by email, send to [bothoffice@northwestlibdems.org.uk](mailto:bothoffice@northwestlibdems.org.uk) and [bob\\_charlesworth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bob_charlesworth@yahoo.co.uk)

Endorsements are permitted by text or photo but any endorsements must have hard copy by the person giving the endorsement, (not email) to Liberal Democrats North West, 23 New Mount St, Manchester M4 4DE by 12 noon, Monday 2 Nov 2015. Any artwork with endorsements without hard copy will not be printed. The Returning Officer or any member of staff will not chase up any artwork or hard copies of endorsements.

Nomination forms must be submitted by the close of Regional Conference in Lancaster, Saturday 24th October 2015.

**The new executive will take office from 1st January 2016.**

Nominations may be posted to *The Returning Officer, Liberal Democrats NW, 23 New Mount Street, Manchester M4 4DE*, or directly to *The Returning Officer, Bob Charlesworth, 10 Garden Road, Eastwood, Nottingham NG16 3FW* or posted in the nominations box at regional conference.

The Returning Officer can also be contacted by phone (0779 242 8564) or email ([bob\\_charlesworth@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bob_charlesworth@yahoo.co.uk)).

**The timetable below is subject to change in the event of issues such as postal strikes. In case of doubt please contact the Returning Officer.**

<b>Election Timetable</b>	
Annual General Meeting	12.30pm, Sat 24th October 2015
Deadline for receipt of nominations	4.30pm, Sat 24th October 2015
Deadline for receipt of manifesto artwork	12 noon, Monday 2nd November 2015
Dispatch of manifestos and ballot papers	Wednesday 4th November 2015
Deadline for the return of ballot papers	Wednesday 18th November 2015
Declaration of result on website	Friday 20th November 2015
First meeting of the new committee	Saturday 14th January 2016 (to be confirmed)

# North West Liberal Democrats Election Rules

*These are the Election Rules adopted at Regional Conference October 2003 and as amended at the Regional Conference October 2004.*

## 1. Conduct of Election

- 1.1 'Single Transferable Vote' means the method set out in "How to Conduct an Election by the Single Transferable Vote" (third edition) published by the Electoral Reform Society of Great Britain and Ireland of 6 Chancel Street, London SE1 0UU or any new edition of the same.
- 1.2 The Returning Officer appointed under Article 10.6 of the Constitution must be a party member from outside the North West Regional Party
- 1.3 Elections will be called by the distribution to the relevant electorate of written notice enclosing nomination forms and giving at least:
- a) a brief description of the position or positions to be filled;
  - b) the closing date for nominations;
  - c) the last date for receipt of literature (see 2.4 below);
  - d) the closing date for receipt of completed ballot papers; and
  - e) the date, time and place at which the count is to be made.

- 1.4 Copies of these rules will be distributed with nomination forms.
- 1.5 A list of names, addresses and (where available) telephone numbers of Conference Representatives entitled to vote will be available by email or post to validly nominated candidates upon request to the returning officer.

## 2 Canvassing and literature

- 2.1 No canvassing is permitted before the nominee has been informed that his/her nomination is valid.
- 2.2 Person-to-person canvassing is permitted, including telephone contact and individual personal letters that are not reproduced for multiple distribution. The returning officer may at his/her absolute discretion disqualify any candidate whom he/she considers to have contravened this rule, or may retrospectively declare void the election of any such transgressor.
- Note: It is the opinion of the Regional Executive that postings to internet newsgroups, conferences, web-pages or distribution lists, the sending of emails to multiple addresses or even the sending of several individual emails containing essentially similar passages of text would contravene this rule; and

- that so would advertising, articles, letters or reports in newspapers or other publications or the use of radio or television.
- 2.3 Each candidate is permitted one distribution of promotional literature, prepared at the candidate's expense. The form and content of such literature are subject to the returning officer's approval. Such literature will be printed and distributed by the returning officer or his/her nominee, together with those of other candidates, at the expense of the Regional Party.
- 2.4 Such literature must be in black and white on one side of paper. Artwork is allowed 'camera ready' or in readily reproducible form acceptable to the returning officer. Sizes are limited as follows:
- a) for regional officers – one side of A4 'portrait' and margins of not less than 12 mm all round;
  - b) in all other cases – one side of A5 'landscape' and margins of not less than 12 mm all round;
- 2.5 A candidate for more than one post may use only one of these facilities. A candidate may choose to use a lesser facility than the one to which he/she is entitled.

## Nomination Form: 2016 Executive / English Council / Candidates Committee

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ Local Party \_\_\_\_\_

### Position for which you wish to stand:

**PLEASE NOTE one position per nomination paper only** You should submit separate nomination forms if standing for more than one position.

**I consent to nomination:** signed \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominated by (1)

Name	Membership Number	Local Party	Signature

### Nominated by (2)

Name	Membership Number	Local Party	Signature