

LIBERTY

AGM MOTIONS SUBMITTED

The following motions have been submitted to the 2024 Liberty AGM, which will take place on Saturday 11 May at 10am.

Motions submitted by members do not necessarily reflect the values of Liberty, which are written into our constitution.

MOTION 1 – Proposed by the Executive Committee **Seconded: A member of the Executive Committee**

Rules of Elections, Postal Ballots and the Annual General Meeting (Amendment to Standing Orders)

This AGM notes that the current version of the Rules of Elections, Postal Ballots and the Annual General Meeting was approved in 2004. Since then, substantial changes to the Constitution were approved in 2022 and 2023 - aspects of which impact on the arrangements surrounding/conduct of elections and AGMs.

This AGM resolves to revise the Standing Orders governing elections, postal ballots and the AGM to bring them in line with recent constitutional developments.

Accordingly, this AGM approves:

- (a) The additions represented at proposed Rules 1.3, 1.12 (e) and 3.3. It asserts that these additions are appropriate and balanced ways of supporting the anti-oppression values which were approved by this AGM in 2022;
- (b) The additions represented at proposed Rules 5.1 and 5.2. It asserts that these additions support the constitutional changes approved in 2023 by making appeal rights to the Conference and Appeals Committee more transparent; and by appropriately balancing the principles of justice and fairness against the need to ensure that elections/AGMs are held annually in accordance with the expectations of the wider membership.

This AGM further resolves to update these Standing Orders with minor amendments designed to address errors, anomalies, inconsistencies and gaps in the earlier version. Accordingly, this AGM approves amendments to Rules 1.2, 1.5, 1.9, 1.10, 1.12 (c), 1.12 (j), 1.14, 2.3, 2.7, 2.8, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5.

MOTION 2 – Proposed by Mazin Zeki **Seconded: John Blackburn**

This AGM declares that Liberty supports women, who have been identified (biologically) as such from birth, who request the provision of single- sex spaces.

MOTION 3 – Proposed by Mazin Zeki

Seconded: John Blackburn

After trans- affirmative insert 'anti-Lysenkoist and anti-logophobic, accepts the primacy of science and supports all philosophical beliefs which are worthy of respect in a democratic society.

MOTION 4 – Mazin Zeki

Seconder: John Blackburn

This AGM fully supports the Equality and Human Rights Commission and deplores the attacks on it from any quarter including from within the human rights community.

MOTION 5 – Mazin Zeki

Seconder: John Blackburn

AGM instructs EC that all future AGMs and EGMs will be held in hybrid form without exception during the months of March and April to ensure the highest possible participation by members.

MOTION 6 – Nataly Anderson

Seconder: Chris Reynard

Liberty affirms the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) as the legally binding framework for child rights in the United Kingdom.

All laws, policies and decisions taken by Government bodies in the United Kingdom must conform with the CRC. Yet many decisions, especially the removal of children from loving homes and their placement in care settings, violate the CRC and other domestic and international laws. One of the drivers of these decisions is perverse financial incentives.

Liberty proposes bringing children's social care back into the public sector to neutralise these incentives which are causing immense human and societal suffering.

Motion 7 – Nataly Anderson

Seconder: Chris Reynard

The institutional abuse of children and their parents, primarily mothers, in child custody cases, was raised at the UN Human Rights Council on 23 June 2023. The UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women found egregious miscarriages of justice reflecting systematic violations of human rights. This has also been repeatedly raised in the UK Parliament.

Liberty urges Parliament to formulate an urgent response to the deepening crisis in the family courts, including an emergency package of measures to redress miscarriages of justice.

Motion 8 – Nataly Anderson

Seconder: Chris Reynard

This AGM notes that law and government policy are influenced by a range of factors, including the lobbying activities of Think Tanks, NGOs, private companies, and powerful individuals.

Whilst it does not oppose such lobbying activities per se, this AGM asserts that they should be constrained by the principle of democratic accountability and by the obligation of the powerful to uphold the human rights of the most vulnerable in society.

Accordingly, this AGM resolves to take appropriate steps to hold to account lobbying groups whose activities are not carried out openly/transparently and/or are designed to bring about laws and government policies which act to the detriment of the human rights and well-being of the most marginalised.

Motion 9 – Nataly Anderson

Seconder: Chris Reynard

This AGM notes the declining respect for the principle of judicial independence in the UK and worldwide. In particular, it notes an increasing tendency of governments to evade judicial scrutiny, including by limiting avenues for judicial review.

Consistent with Liberty's defined areas of campaigning and strategic litigation, this AGM resolves actively to defend the principle of judicial independence, including by advocating for the justice system to be transparent, fair, navigable and accessible to all.