

LIBERTY

AGM 2025

AGM PAPERS

OUR VALUES

WE ARE AN ANTI-RACIST, DISABILITY-POSITIVE, TRANS AFFIRMING ORGANISATION. WE DO NOT TOLERATE DISCRIMINATION ON ANY GROUNDS, INCLUDING CLASS, ECONOMIC STATUS, RELIGIOUS BELIEF, NATIONALITY, IMMIGRATION STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY, RACE, COLOUR, ETHNICITY, AGE AND DISABILITY.

WE TAKE THE SIDE OF THE MOST MARGINALISED, DEFEND MINORITISED GROUPS, CHALLENGE OPPRESSIVE PRACTICES AND FIGHT FOR SUBSTANTIVE EQUALITY. WE ARE NOT SWAYED BY POLITICAL AGENDA, PROFIT OR PUBLIC OPINION. WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO SPEAK UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTHS AND CHALLENGE INTOLERANCE, DISCRIMINATION AND ABUSE OF POWER WHEREVER WE FIND IT.

WE STRIVE TO RECOGNISE AND COUNTER THE STRUCTURAL AND HISTORIC OPPRESSION THAT PERVADES SOCIETY; WE CONSIDER THE POWER DYNAMICS OF ANY ISSUE OR SITUATION, WORKING TO REBALANCE THEM IN FAVOUR OF MINORITISED OR DISEMPOWERED GROUPS. WE DO NOT USE HUMAN RIGHTS OR CIVIL LIBERTIES ARGUMENTS TO SUPPORT ACTIONS THAT WOULD OPPRESS OTHERS OR SUPPRESS RIGHTS.

WE LISTEN TO PEOPLE CLOSEST TO A PROBLEM OR ISSUE AND RECOGNISE THAT EXPERTISE CAN BE GAINED FROM LIVED EXPERIENCE OF AN ISSUE, FROM RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC LEARNING, ALL OF WHICH WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT. WE ARE COMMITTED TO CREATING A POSITIVE, SUPPORTIVE, RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT WHERE PEOPLE ARE FREE TO BE THEMSELVES.

WE WELCOME RESPECTFUL CHALLENGE AND FEEDBACK, AND WE UNDERTAKE TO LISTEN, REFLECT AND LEARN AND RESPOND WITH RESPECT RATHER THAN ACT DEFENSIVELY OR WITH HOSTILITY. AS MEMBERS OF LIBERTY WE MUST LIVE LIBERTY'S VALUES AND BE COURAGEOUS IN CHAMPIONING LIBERTY'S MISSION INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY.

AGM PROGRAMME – 17 MAY 2025

Time	Session
10.00	Arrival
10.05	Tech briefing and housekeeping
10.10	Interim Chair's welcome (Ruth Breddal)
10.15	Introductory Comments – Shabna Begum and Francesca Klug
10.30	AGM – Business Matters <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confirmation of agenda 2. Approval of Minutes of the 2024 AGM 3. Interim Chair's Report 4. Director's Report 5. Executive Committee Report 6. Annual report and audited financial statements of Liberty for 2024 7. Appointment of Auditors 8. Report of the Conference and Appeals Committee (CAC) 9. Election of CAC members 10. Report of the Culture and Well-being Working Group on the implementation of Liberty's anti-oppression strategy
11.25	10-minute break
11.35	AGM – Business Matters- continued <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Result of the Policy Council Election 12. Report on the Business of the Policy Council 13. Report on the review of online AGMs 14. Implementation of 2024 Motions
11:55	AGM – Motions for debate part 1
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. First member motion – Graham Winyard
12:40	10-minute break

Time	Session
12:50	AGM – Motions for debate part 2 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Second member motion – Mazin Zeki 3. Third member motion- Makin Zeki 4. Fourth member motion- Mazin Zeki 5. Fifth member motion- Mazin Zeki
2.00PM	CLOSE

AGM OVERVIEW

Liberty's 2025 Annual General Meeting is being conducted on Zoom. All the formal processes will be carried out in accordance with Liberty's constitution and standing orders.

A team of Liberty staff members will be on hand in the Zoom meeting to assist with any issues that you may have. You will be able to identify them as they will have 'Liberty' after their name.

A full explanation of the running of the AGM will be given at the start of the meeting. A guide to AGM standing orders is printed at the end of these papers.

CAPTIONING AND BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

The event will be live captioned and signed by two British Sign Language interpreters who will alternate each half hour throughout the meeting.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

SHABNA BEGUM AND FRANCESCA KLUG

As part of this year's AGM, we're excited to say Shabna Begum will be sharing some thoughts on the importance of human rights, joining Francesca Klug who will be making a few introductory comments, on the 25th anniversary of the Human Rights Act- both Shabna and Francesca will be speaking in a personal capacity.

Shabna Begum is CEO of the Runnymede Trust and a member of Liberty's Executive Committee. Shabna joined the Runnymede Trust in 2021 as a Senior Researcher and worked her way up to become Director of Research before taking on the Interim CEO position. Her work has been at the heart of all the Runnymede Trust's recent projects, including their research on police in schools, the cost-of-living crisis, the experiences of women of colour in the workplace, and racism in migration debates.

Francesca Klug, was Director of the Civil Liberties Trust from 1989-1992, and subsequently a member of the Trustee Board and Liberty Management Committee and Council for many years and remains a member and strong supporter of Liberty. Francesca is a former Commissioner on the Equality and Human Rights Commission and is a Visiting Professor at LSE Human Rights where she previously directed the Human Rights Futures Project. As a Senior Research Fellow at King's College London Law School, she advised the then Labour Government on devising and implementing the 1998 Human Rights Act, based on research originally provided for Liberty.

AGM BUSINESS

VOTING PROCEDURE

Voting will be carried out using the poll function within Zoom. For each vote there will be 'yes', 'no' and 'abstain' options that will appear on the screen. The result will be called by taking account only of the proportion of 'yes' or 'no' votes.

After each vote, the result will be called and officially noted in the minutes. The full process for voting will be outlined during the meeting.

2024 AGM MINUTES

The minutes of the 2024 AGM can be found [here](#).

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee is responsible for the governance of Liberty and during 2024 comprised of between eight and thirteen members. It met eight times since the last AGM, including an Away Day.

Council elections

This year, 18 people stood for the 18 available spaces on the Policy Council and as such there was no need for an election. A full list of Policy Council members is shown on page 12.

Preparation for the AGM

Five motions were put forward for debate at the AGM and all were ruled to be in order. No amendments or emergency motions were received.

CULTURE AND WELLBEING WORKING GROUP

Update on the implementation of the Anti Oppression plan during 2024

During the year the Culture and Wellbeing Working Group (CWWG) oversaw an equity review process which captured the impact of the difficult restructure process. As the organisation moved into the rebuilding phase after the restructure, the CWWG has played an active role in an externally facilitated process which is expected to last at least 9 months and seeks to redefine and strengthen Liberty's approach towards its anti-oppression objectives. The CWWG regularly monitors the organisations anti-oppression workplan which focusses on deeply embedding an effective anti-oppression approach across its internal functions and external work.

FINANCES

Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 were audited by MHA. An unqualified opinion was issued. A summary of the financial statement is given on page 9 and the Directors' annual report and financial statements for 2024 can be found [here](#)

AUDITORS

Following a comprehensive tender exercise, the Executive Committee recommend the appointment of HaysMac as new auditors for Liberty for 2025.

Thanks is offered to our outgoing auditors MHA for their many years of support.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2024

(an extract from the full annual financial statements)

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	RESTRICTED FUNDS	2024 TOTAL	2023 TOTAL
	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Donations	38,247	5,900	44,147	5,043
Legacies	227,294	-	227,294	56,829
Grant income	715,321	2,498,518	3,213,839	2,818,808
Membership subscriptions	764,813	-	764,813	779,085
Legal casework income	36,054	-	36,054	79,213
Other earned income	632	-	632	518
Bank interest	51,853	-	51,853	39,687
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	1,834,214	2,504,418	4,338,632	3,779,183
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Grants and Fundraising	104,042	389,377	493,419	427,529
Membership and Engagement	392,376	173,218	565,594	497,462
Strategic Litigation	305,788	410,929	716,717	585,370
Policy and Campaigns	248,131	573,202	821,333	832,918
Communications	473,431	402,494	875,925	828,574
Advice & Information	143,141	163,461	306,602	302,041
Liberty Investigates	232,981	113,640	346,621	308,548
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,899,890	2,226,321	4,126,211	3,782,442
Taxation	(9,852)	-	(9,852)	(7,540)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(75,528)	278,097	202,569	(10,799)
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER				
Fixed assets			114,588	157,927
Current assets			2,941,085	3,001,337
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			(298,274)	(604,434)
NET ASSETS			2,757,399	2,554,830
Restricted funds			416,521	138,424
Unrestricted funds			2,340,878	2,416,406
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER			2,757,399	2,554,830

Statement from the Board of the National Council for Civil Liberties (Liberty)

These accounts are an extract of the full annual financial statements of The National Council for Civil Liberties for the year ended 31 December 2024, prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, and approved by the Board on 23 April 2025. The full annual financial statements have been audited and the auditors' opinion was unqualified. They are to be submitted to the Register of Companies. For further information, the full financial statements, the auditors' report and the Board's annual report should be consulted. Copies may be obtained by writing to Liberty House, 26-30 Strutton Ground, London, SW1P 2HR, by emailing agm@libertyhumanrights.org.uk or [here](#) .

CONFERENCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE REPORT

Sonali Naik KC, Sarah Hannett KC and Andrew Sharland KC all served on the Conference and Appeals Committee during the year.

Sonali Naik was appointed following a vote at the 2024 AGM replacing Caoilfhionn Gallagher KC.

Andrew Sharland KC is standing for election at the 2025 AGM.

There was one appeal made to a verdict reached by the Executive Committee regarding a set of four motions submitted by a member. This appeal was upheld.

POLICY COUNCIL ELECTION UPDATE

The following 18 candidates have joined Policy Council and will serve until 2027:

- Denise Ashurst
- Ruth Breddal
- Clive Browne
- Colean Camp
- Abraham Eiluorior
- Aidan Geary
- Becky Green
- Susannah Hagan
- Pierre Hausemer
- Angus McCallum
- David Mead
- Shanthy Milne
- Paris Nelson-Wallace
- Chris Purnell
- Dr R L Symonds
- Eveline Wee
- Michael West
- Matt Woodhead

They join 12 members who will serve until 2026:

- Nik Antoniadis
- Michael Attenborough
- Elena Auer
- Clive Baldwin
- Honor Barber
- Valerie Davies
- Ian Driver
- Sonja Jutte
- Qudsia Mirza
- Michael Schwarz
- Carina Tertsakian
- Patricia Tuitt

REPORT FROM POLICY COUNCIL

Liberty's Policy Council met on three occasions between the 2024 AGM and the 2025 AGM. In addition to its usual policy discussions, it has been busy reviewing its working protocols. As a result:

1. In June 2024, it gave final approval to a Code of Conduct applicable to Policy Council members governing interactions with each other, Liberty staff, media and external stakeholders. The text of the Code had been debated during previous meetings (November 2023 and March 2024).
2. This year, it has debated and approved an updated role description for its Chair and Vice-Chair, which will operate from June when the election for these roles is decided.

A summary of the policy topics discussed is given below.

June 2024: Facial Recognition Technology (FRT)

Liberty staff presented a paper on the need for Liberty to adjust its policy demands on facial recognition technology looking ahead to the prospective change in government with a possibility to discuss the regulation of the use of facial recognition technology. The paper discussed what interim reforms would protect the public from the worst harms of FRT. The aim was to provide a stepping stone in the fight towards achieving our overarching goal of a ban on the use of facial recognition technologies.

Policy Council were asked for their views on the key safeguards that have identified as relieving the worst harms of FRT, and opening a conversation about other measures we might call for.

Policy Council agreed that at a minimum, policymakers must urgently introduce safeguards via primary legislation to regulate how, when and where FRT is used. These include:

- Requiring judicial authorisation in order for police forces to use Live FRT
- Introducing restrictions on the use of FRT in particularly sensitive contexts
- Increasing the thresholds for FRT use
- Improving how the police notify the public of FRT deployments
- Introducing a requirement for police to disclose information to anyone stopped due to the use of FRT
- Deleting the data obtained during an FRT deployment and restricting the sharing of that data

November 2024: Identity Cards and Digital ID

Liberty staff presented a paper on ID systems and Digital ID. Opposition to ID cards was one of Liberty's flagship campaigns of the 2000s, and our advocacy can be counted among the reasons that Prime Minister Tony Blair's proposed compulsory universal scheme was first watered down, and then abandoned entirely not long after. However, new proposals are consistently floated in Labour circles.

This paper's contention was that Liberty's existing policy on ID cards, updated in 2019 to reflect the shift to digital systems, remains sound, focusing on the relationship between the individual and the state, privacy and data protection concerns surrounding databases, discriminatory impacts, the potential for 'function creep', and practical drawbacks of the proposals.

Policy Council was invited to support the view that the most appropriate position for Liberty in the current debate over digital ID is to maintain a stance of principled opposition based upon our existing principles and provide support to other, more technologically-focused organisations in their work rather than seek to lead the debate.

Policy Council did not vote on the recommendation and further policy development work was suggested to get us to a technology-first position.

March 2025: Assisted Dying (AD)

Liberty staff presented a paper on assisted dying. Over the last year assisted dying has dominated public debate, with discussions that have been deeply personal, often painful, and at times highly polarised. Assisted dying legislation, namely the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, currently progressing through Parliament has reignited longstanding conversations about choice, protection and inequality, and has brought into sharp focus the real-life and wide-ranging experiences of those at the heart of this issue.

Liberty has engaged with assisted dying as a human rights issue at points throughout its history. Our 2002 legal challenge on behalf of Diane Pretty was a landmark case, and in 2008, our AGM formally endorsed a position of support for assisted dying legislation in principle, on the condition that any change in the law is accompanied by safeguards against coercion. As with any question of human rights and freedoms, people – including members of Liberty’s Policy Council and wider staff team – will approach this issue with different perspectives, shaped by their personal experiences and circumstances. We approach this issue with this in mind, recognising that people within Liberty hold different views, and that personal beliefs may not always align with our formal position.

The paper outlined how Liberty’s existing positions on assisted dying and the rights of disabled and other marginalised people have shaped our analysis of the current Bill before Parliament.

It asked that Policy Council reaffirmed the 2008 AGM position and endorsed the approach set out in the paper as the basis for any further scrutiny of assisted dying legislation

Policy Council affirmed Liberty’s existing positions on AD and the 2008 AGM motion.

REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF ONLINE AGMS

In 2024 the AGM passed the following motion regarding the review of the AGM process:

This AGM recognises the need to ensure the highest level of participation of members at the AGM as possible. It believes that this is best achieved by ensuring that arrangements governing AGMs are as flexible as costs and administrative resources will allow. Accordingly, this AGM resolves, through its Executive, to conduct a bi-annual review during which consideration will be given, among other things, to the appropriate timing and other practical arrangements relating to the AGM. The results of that review will be shared with members at the first AGM following the completion of the review.

Review

The review considered the practical arrangements around both the 2025 AGM and the 2026 AGM, including whether there are any potential benefits of changing the day, time or month of the AGM.

To support the review, the Governance Sub Committee (GSC) of the Executive Committee (EC):

- Discussed available research on online versus in person meetings.
- Sought feedback from Liberty staff on resource implications of various meeting options.
- Discussed findings at the GSC meetings on Tuesday 12 February 2025 and Wednesday 2 April 2025.

The EC has discussed and approved the recommendations of the GSC on 23 April 2025.

Findings

- 1) There is a significant cost burden of an in-person AGM or hybrid AGM in comparison to an online-only AGM.
- 2) A significant investment of staff time will be required for an in-person or hybrid AGM in comparison to an online-only AGM. This will have a corresponding negative impact on Liberty's abilities to focus on income generation and its external mission.
- 3) Available research regarding attendance and participation in online, hybrid and in-person AGMs is sparse. The GSC's attention was drawn to an article published in 2024 which contained some interesting findings. However, the GSC concluded that the article's research data-set (shareholders in Iceland) was not sufficiently relevant to Liberty's constituency. It will continue to seek relevant research as it conducts bi-annual reviews in the future.
- 4) The timing of the AGM is closely linked to other governance processes, and this together with the standing orders requirement for a 4 month notice period, meant it was felt a change of month would be difficult to implement without notable benefit. The day of the week the AGM is held on was reviewed and because of the 3+ hour time commitment required to attend the AGM, it was felt that continuing to hold the meeting on a Saturday would make it most accessible to as wide as possible group of members.

Recommendation

Following its review, the GSC recommended that the 2025 and 2026 AGMs should continue to be held only online and this recommendation was approved by the EC on the 23 April 2025.

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 2024 MOTIONS

The following updates are provided on the implementation of the motions passed at the 2024 AGM. The passed motions have been summarised below but should be read in their full context which can be found [here](#)

Motion 1- Change to the Election Rules

The agreed changes have been implemented.

Motion 4- As Amended- Standing publicly in support of those individuals and organisations striving to advance human rights and who are increasingly open to attack from various constituencies including governance ministers

This work is ongoing and is an integral part of Liberty's legal and campaigning work.

Motion 5- As Amended- Conducting bi-annual reviews to give consideration to the timing and other practical arrangements relating to the AGM with a view to ensuring the highest level of participation in AGMs, and to share this information with members

This review has been undertaken and shared in these papers on page 16 and 17.

Motion 7- 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.

As stated in its statement at the 2024 AGM, whilst sympathetic to the principles the motion espouses, the concerns fall outside of Liberty's core strategic area of campaigning and Liberty does not have the resources and expertise to support it in a meaningful way. As such it has not been the focus of Liberty's work during the year.

Motion 8- 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.

Whilst sympathetic to the principles the motion espouses, the direct concerns fall outside of Liberty's core strategic area of campaigning and Liberty does not have the resources and expertise to support it in a meaningful way. As such it has not been the focus of Liberty's work during the year.

Motion 9- 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.

This work is ongoing and is an integral part of Liberty's legal and campaigning work.

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Motion 1: Liberty's position on Assisted Dying

Proposer: Graham Winyard

Seconder: Marie Louise Papworth

This AGM reaffirms its support, originally passed at the 2008 AGM, for legalisation to give terminally ill adult patients the right and opportunity to die with dignity (full 2008 motion below).

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill, currently before Parliament offers the first realistic chance to achieve this objective for many years and we were puzzled and dismayed by the decision to oppose this Bill outright, without consulting the membership or the Policy Committee.

We call upon the Executive to:

- recognise the burden of suffering imposed on dying people by our current laws and the clear support from the membership for addressing this problem.
- support the current Bill, proposing amendments as necessary while recognising that it represents the most safeguarded set of arrangements for assisted dying in the world, even excluding people like Diane Pretty, whose plight was the stimulus for Liberty's policy.
- reflect on the legitimacy of its decision to abandon clear AGM policy without wider consultation.

2008 motion

"This AGM recalls the tragic cases of Diane Pretty and others (supported by Liberty) who were refused the right to die with dignity, and the recommendations of the special select committee of the House of Lords in 2005 on the Patient (Assisted Dying) Bill, and urges the Government to promote or support a Bill on the lines of Lord Joffe's lapsed bill, to give terminally ill adult patients the right and opportunity if they so wish to die with dignity – while providing the maximum safeguards to ensure that only those who have fully understood all the relevant issues may opt for assisted dying, and to avoid a culture in which people may feel pressure to take their lives."

Proposed amendment to motion 1

Proposer: Ruth Breddal

Seconder: Abraham Eiluorior

This AGM note the wording of its 2008 Motion on Assisted Dying as follows:

'This AGM recalls the tragic case of Dianne Pretty and others (supported by Liberty) who were refused the right to die with dignity, and the recommendations of the special select committee of the House of Lords in 2005 on the Patient (Assisted Dying) Bill, and urges the Government to promote or support a Bill on the lines of Lord Joffe's lapsed bill, to give terminally ill adult patients the right and opportunity if they so wish to die with dignity - while providing the maximum safeguards to ensure that only those who have fully understood all the relevant issues may opt for assisted dying, and to avoid a culture in which people may feel pressure to take their lives'.

It further notes:

- The November 2024 vote in support of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill at second reading in the House of Commons;
- The Assisted Dying for Terminally Ill Adults (Scotland) Bill proposed in the Scottish parliament;
- The Assisted Dying Bill in the Isle of Man which was approved in March 2025 and is now awaiting Royal Assent; and
- The unanimous decision of the Policy Council on 1 March 2025 to re-affirm the 2008 position on assisted dying and to endorse the approach represented in the MPs briefings and other documents which Liberty produced and disseminated as the basis for any further scrutiny of assisted dying legislation.

Accordingly, this AGM calls on the Executive to ensure that:

- Liberty continues to monitor developments on assisted dying in the UK and abroad with parliaments across the British Isles in line with Liberty's existing policy on assisted dying and its existing position on the rights of disabled and other marginalised people.
- Liberty's positions and ongoing work on assisted dying will continue to be informed and guided by previous AGM policy and Policy Council discussions and decisions. Where appropriate staff may seek further conversations with the Policy Council to discuss developments and interventions.

Motion 2

Proposer: 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.

EC statement

The EC will oppose this motion because it is identical to a motion that was debated by the members at AGM 2024 and rejected by a vote of 46 to 3 on the grounds that it represents an attempt to engineer ad hoc changes to constitutional principles that members affirmed as recently as 2022.

The EC asks members to note the practice whereby changes to the constitution have come about after careful, holistic consideration, and under the guidance of independent legal experts.

Motion 3

Proposer: 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.

EC statement

The EC will oppose this motion because it is identical to a motion that was debated by the members at AGM 2024 and rejected by a vote of 42 to 11 on the grounds that:

- a. Liberty's existing constitutional provisions provide an appropriate balance between the rights of cis and transgender women.
- b. The motion represents an attempt to engineer ad hoc changes to constitutional principles that members affirmed as recently as 2022.

The EC asks members to note the practice whereby changes to the constitution have come about after careful, holistic consideration, and under the guidance of independent legal experts.

Motion 4

Proposer: 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.

EC statement

The EC will oppose this motion because it is identical to a motion that was debated and amended by the members at AGM 2024. 55% of members who voted agree to debate the amendment shown below and that amendment was passed by a vote 29 to 9. The EC asserts that the amended version of the motion (reproduced below) continues to appropriately balance member participation at AGMs against operational costs and logistics. As required by the amended version, the EC has undertaken the monitoring exercise and has produced a report on the result of this exercise at page 16 of the AGM papers.

Amended motion adopted in 2024

This AGM recognises the need to ensure the highest level of participation of members at the AGM as possible. It believes that this is best achieved by ensuring that arrangements governing AGMs are as flexible as costs and administrative resources will allow. Accordingly, this AGM resolves, through its Executive, to conduct a bi-annual reviews during which consideration will be given, among other things, to the appropriate timing and other practical arrangements relating to the AGM. The results of that review will be shared with members at the first AGM following the completion of the review.

Motion 5

Proposer: 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.

EC statement

The EC will oppose this motion because it is identical to a motion that was debated and amended by the members at AGM 2024. 75% of members who voted agree to debate the amendment shown below and that amendment was passed by a vote 40 to 6. The EC asserts that the amended version of the motion (reproduced below) continues to appropriately express how Liberty should engage with individuals and organisations, including the EHRC, who strive to advance human rights.

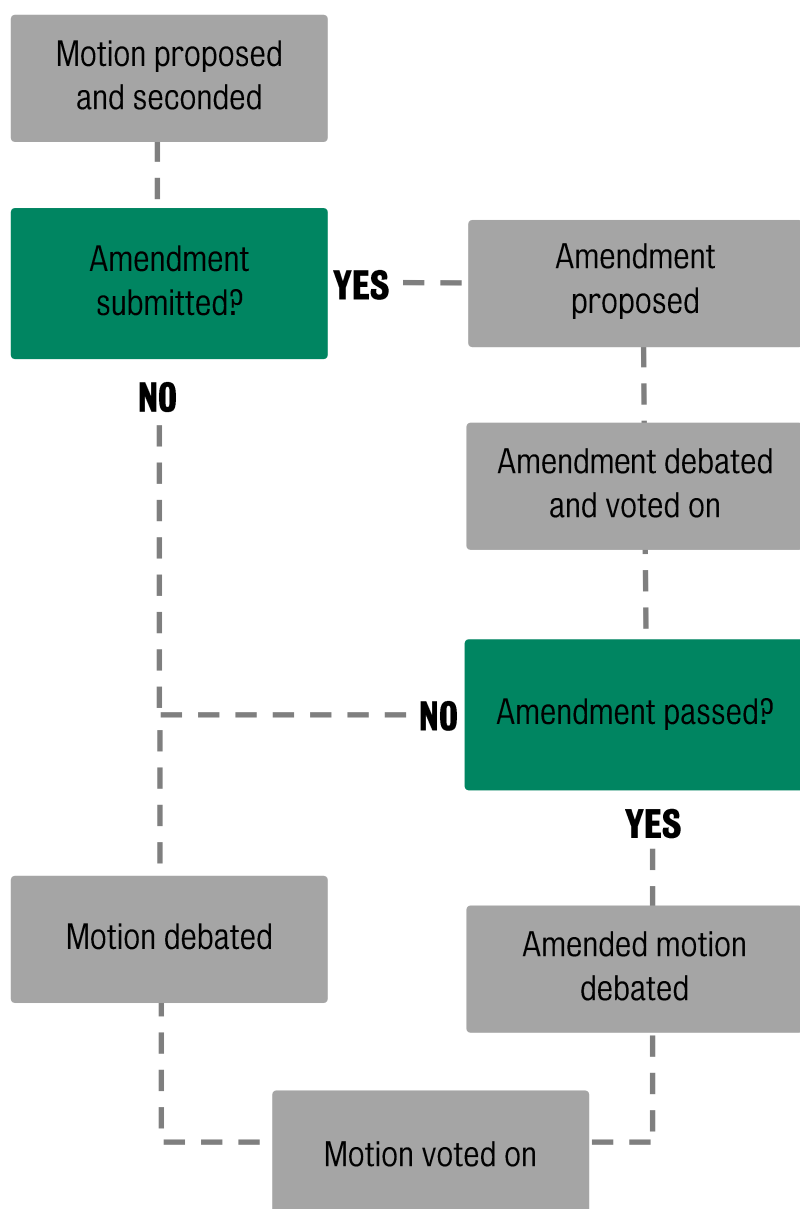
Amended motion adopted in 2024

This AGM recognises that the current political climate is one in which organisations and individuals who strive to advance human rights are increasingly open to attack from various constituencies, including government ministers. Without diluting its core mission to defend the most marginalised in society and consistently with the principles that guide Liberty in its approach to human rights matters, which have been endorsed by the Policy Council, this AGM resolves to stand publicly in support of such organisations and individuals.

GUIDE TO AGM STANDING ORDERS

Debate of motions and amendments must be in accordance with the Standing Orders. A guide to Standing Order essentials is set out below.

MOTIONS AND AMENDMENTS: FROM PROPOSAL TO VOTE



Speaker conduct

Speakers should state their name before speaking. Proposers of motions may speak for five minutes. All other speakers may speak for three minutes.

Right of Reply

The proposer of a motion (but not an amendment) has a Right of Reply. The Right of Reply may only be used once. The Right of Reply is lost once the motion is amended.

Points of Order and Information

Points of Order can be raised with the Chair in relation to procedure. The Chair rules on Points of Order with no debate. Points of Information can be offered in relation to any speaker other than one exercising a Right of Reply.

Remission of Motions

A motion to remit the motion can be moved at any time in the debate and is voted on before the substantive motion.

Moving to a Vote

Anyone who has not spoken in the debate can move that a vote be taken. If seconded, a vote on whether to vote takes place.

Count of Votes

The count will be taken from the polling function within Zoom. It will be called to ensure that it is a matter of record.

THANK YOU

Thank you for taking part in the 2025 AGM and for supporting Liberty's work.

Over the last more than 90 years, Liberty has achieved incredible things – from fighting cases of injustice and abuses of power, to standing up to governments when they try to erode our freedoms. Thank you for being a part of Liberty and making this work happen.

OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT US

Take action

Every year thousands of supporters sign our petitions and write to their MPs to help us challenge the latest threats to people's human rights.

You can find all our latest campaign actions [on Liberty's website](#) – from defending the right to protest to demanding the Government protect us all from unrestricted police use of facial recognition technology.

Spread the word

Follow Liberty on social media and share our posts with friends and family. Search for **@libertyhq** on Bluesky, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and X (formerly Twitter).

Write your will for free – and protect the future of human rights

A gift in your will – however small or large – will make sure Liberty is ready to challenge injustice and abuses of power long into the future.

Liberty's free [gifts in wills guide](#) includes lots of information about the process of writing a will and our free will schemes.

If you'd prefer a paper copy of the guide through the post, please contact Jenny at jennyg@libertyhumanrights.org.uk or call 020 7378 3650.



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