From baby steps to giant leaps.
With connections to Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Inverness, Heathrow is the gateway to global markets for Scottish exports – like whisky from the Tomatin Distillery.

Expansion would double our cargo capacity and create new domestic and international trading routes, helping businesses in Scotland boost their exports.
DISCLAIMER The Scottish National Party has provided assistance in arranging exhibitions and fringe meetings by various organisations at Conference. This assistance does not necessarily imply any support of that organisation. Fringe listings and selection of speakers are wholly a matter for the sponsors and organisers of fringe meetings, and as such the content of the listings and the meetings may not reflect the views of the SNP. Likewise, the SNP does not endorse the products advertised in this guide or recommend any of the services advertised.

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Use our app to set a credit card spending budget

There’s Dan, Lunchtime Legend.

Mastercard credit card only. App available to Digital Banking customers with a UK or international mobile number in specific countries.
Welcome

Use our app to set a credit card spending budget.

There's Dan, Lunchtime Legend.

Mastercard credit card only. App available to Digital Banking customers with a UK or international mobile number in specific countries.
Nicola Sturgeon
Leader
Welcome to Conference, and to Scotland’s brand new state of the art events complex.

It is great to be back in the Granite City. Aberdeen has seen huge investment in infrastructure over the past few years under the SNP, from the new city by-pass to the construction of a new NHS elective treatment centre.

But future investment, here and around Scotland, have been put at risk by the Tories’ reckless Brexit plans.

We gather at a time of great uncertainty, and amid quite unprecedented political circumstances.

Never in my lifetime has politics been so turbulent, and never in that time has the threat to Scotland’s wellbeing and prosperity been so profound.

A Tory government led by a cabal of hardline extremists intent on pushing through Brexit, no matter the harm and damage it will cause, has led us to the brink of disaster.

The Tories failed in their disgraceful attempt to shut down Parliament, thanks to the courts.

But they have continued to try and railroad Brexit through at all and any cost – and have engaged in contemptible language in a bid to whip up division.

It seems inevitable now that we will soon face a general election.

We are more than ready for that contest, and we relish the opportunity it will bring to make Scotland’s voice heard louder and clearer than ever before.

Scotland said no to Brexit and we meant it.

That is a message the SNP will take into any forthcoming election – along with a crystal clear message that Scotland must have the right to choose independence, within the current Holyrood term of parliament, with the democratic mandate we already have.

Support for independence – and for a referendum – is on the rise across Scotland. But we must also reach outwards and engage those who are not yet persuaded of the benefits of independence.

While the UK government has been paralysed by the deepening Brexit crisis, in Scotland we have made important progress in creating a better and fairer country.

We are demonstrating global leadership in the battle against climate change. We have introduced the toughest framework of statutory targets of any country in the world and are committed to becoming a net zero society by 2045 at the latest – earlier than any other UK nation.

Meanwhile, Scotland’s new social security agency has, in its first year, supported over 91,000 people and introduced six new benefits.

These are just some examples of how the SNP is making life better for people and communities across Scotland.

We are delivering in government – and we are ready to give people the choice of a better future with independence.

D. Sturgeon
Achieving Net-Zero: How can industry work with policy makers to create a sustainable economy?
Sunday 13th, 12.30-1.30, Suite 2a
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS
with DREW HENDRY MP, Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy spokesperson and STEWART STEVENSON MSP, environment committee member

Social mobility: How business can bridge the class divide
Monday 14th, 9.00-10.00, Suite 2b
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS
with CHRIS LAW MP and JOHN SWINNEY MSP, education secretary

An Ageing Population in a Digital World: What role can engineering and technology play in improving quality of life?
Monday 14th, 12.30-1.30, Suite 2b
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS
with CHRISTINA MCKELVIE MSP, Minister for Older People and Equalities

Deposit Return Scheme: Can Scotland lead the way?
Monday 14th, 17.30-18.30, Suite 2b
FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND WINE
with MAIRI GOU GEON MSP, Minister for Rural Affairs and Natural Environment and ANGUS MACDONALD MSP, environment committee member

The Future for the Rural Economy
Monday 14th, 9.00-10.00, Suite 2a
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS
with KATE FORBES MSP, Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy and FERGUS EWING MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity

Creating a Workforce for the Future
Monday 14th, 12.30-1.30, Room 6
FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS
with JAMIE HEPBURN MSP, Minister for Business, Fair Trade and Skills

Building a faster, greener, more successful Scotland: What does the future hold for Scotland’s transport and infrastructure plans?
Monday 14th, 17.30-18.30, Suite 2a
FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND WINE
with MICHAEL MATHESON, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity

Economy Hub Reception
Monday 14th, 19.30-20.30, Suite 2a
FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND WINE
with DEREK MACKAY, Cabinet Secretary for Finance

The Big Public Health Debate
Sunday 13th, 17.30-18.30, Suite 2a
FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND WINE
with JOE FITZPATRICK MSP, Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing

The Health & Care Hub Reception
Sunday 13th, 19.30-20.30, Suite 2a
FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND WINE
with JEANE FREEMAN MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
Agenda

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The Health & Care Hub Reception
Sunday 13th, 19.30-20.30, Suite 2a
FOOD, REFRESHMENTS AND WINE with JEANE FREEMAN MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport in association with FRINGE EVENTS AT SNP CONFERENCE 2019
Climate Justice

Conference notes that the effects of climate change are felt most acutely by those in the Global South who are least responsible for its causes and welcomes the First Minister’s acknowledgement that countries which have become prosperous as a result of greenhouse gas emissions have a responsibility to help developing countries adapt to its effects.

Conference praises the bold leadership of the Scottish Government in establishing the world’s first climate justice fund separate from its international development fund in 2012 and calls on the UK Government to acknowledge climate justice as a useful framework for developing policies and programmes and, in line with the House of Commons International Development Committee’s recommendations, explicitly adopt the concept of ‘climate justice’ to guide its International Climate Finance spending.

Conference further calls on the UK Government to follow the example of the Scottish Government and establish a separate climate justice fund outside of its other international development spending and demands that the UK Government maintain its commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on Official Development Assistance.

HOWE OF FIFE BRANCH
LEITH WALK BRANCH
CHRIS LAW MP
RHUARAILD FLEMING, ELECTED MEMBER OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
02 Drug Policy

Conference notes that more than 1000 people died from drug related deaths in Scotland in 2018 and that most of these deaths were avoidable. Conference considers the ever-increasing death toll to be a public emergency.

Conference welcomes the Scottish Government’s 2018 drug and alcohol strategy, “Rights, respect and recovery” and applauds the decision to take a health focussed stance although it notes that the ability of the Scottish Government to act is constrained by the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act which is entirely reserved to Westminster.

Conference has previously called for immediate exemptions to legislation to allow for treatment interventions such as drug consumption rooms; now believes that the 1971 Misuse of Drugs Act is not fit for purpose in 21st Century Scotland; calls for urgent reform of this Act; and demands that drugs legislation be devolved to the Scottish parliament.

TOMMY SHEPPARD MP
NEWINGTON AND SOUTHSIDE BRANCH
RONNIE COWAN MP
ALISON THEWLISS MP

AMENDMENT:
Add at end: “to allow for decriminalisation of possession and consumption of controlled drugs so that health services are not prevented from giving treatment to those that need it.”

LEITH BRANCH
PORTOBELLO AND CRAIGMILLAR BRANCH

03 Environmental Impact of Ministry of Defence

Conference notes the environmental footprint of the Ministry of Defence, in particular, the dump sites around our coast where millions of tons of high explosive, chemical weapons and radioactive waste was dumped in the sea, the catalogue of nuclear safety events at Faslane and Coulport, and the firing ranges from Cape Wrath to Kirkcudbright.

Conference further notes that little to no monitoring of the environmental impact of these operations is undertaken and little is known about the impact of MoD activities, and calls for a full environmental audit of defence operations, current and historic, across Scotland’s land and waters as a precursor to environmental remediation and rehabilitation by the MoD.

DEIDRE BROCK MP
STEWART MCDONALD MP
04  Save Our Post Offices
Conference condemns the managed decline of our valued public services provided through the Post Office network by successive UK Governments who have set it on a path of privatisation; recognises that between 2002 and 2017, a quarter of Scotland’s Post Offices have closed and that many hardworking Sub-Postmasters are considering resigning due to poor pay while profits soar bringing the Post Office network to crisis point; supports Sub-Postmasters’ calls for proper remuneration for their work; opposes the mass closure of ‘Crown’ branches replaced with franchises resulting in fewer services, longer waiting times, lower accessibility and poorer working conditions.
Conference notes with concern that 550 Sub-Postmasters suing Post Office Ltd after ten years where many have faced fines, sackings, bankruptcies and imprisonments because of the allegedly faulty Horizon accounting software; notes that £18m of public funds have been so far used to pay for legal fees defending oppressive behaviour by Post Office Ltd; and calls on the UK Government to review their legal strategy.
Conference recognises the detrimental impact of bank closures to high streets and service access; recognises the economic and social benefits of Post Offices in communities; calls on the UK Government to improve financial inclusion, service accessibility and Sub-Postmaster pay by making branches ‘service hubs’ through expanding government service provision and mandating banks to provide their services through Post Offices.

Conference calls for the UK Government to protect the Post Office network and services by classing more Post Offices as ‘Community’ branches and extending the public subsidy; for Sub-Postmasters and trade unions to be given greater representation on the executive board and for union recognition to be compulsory for all franchise partners; and for Post Office Ltd to remain in public hands and for the return of Royal Mail to public control.

RENFREW & GALLOWHILL BRANCH
PAISLEY TANAHILL BRANCH
MOTHERWELL AND WISHAW CONSTITUENCY BRANCH
BARRHEAD, NEILSTON AND UPLAWMOOR BRANCH
CAROL MONAGHAN MP
MARION FELLOWS MP
GAVIN NEWLANDS MP
PHILIPPA WHITFORD MP
End Arms Sales to Saudi Arabia

Conference notes that more than 24 million people in Yemen are in urgent need of humanitarian aid and that 10 million people are on the brink of famine as a result of the ongoing conflict.

Conference believes that British arms sales to Saudi Arabia – worth £4.6 billion – are fuelling the crisis, and further believes there is an inherent contradiction between the UK Government’s attempts to negotiate a lasting peace while simultaneously providing weapons to a party in the conflict.

Conference believes the Conservative Government’s decision to sell arms to Saudi Arabia is morally unacceptable and unlawful and notes the House of Lords International Relations Committee report which found that the UK Government’s decision to sell arms to Saudi Arabia is “unconscionable” and “on the wrong side of the law”.

Conference welcomes the July Court of Appeal ruling which found that the Secretary of State’s actions in selling arms to Saudi Arabia were “unlawful” and calls upon the UK Government to immediately cease arms sales to Saudi Arabia for use in the ongoing conflict.

HOWE OF FIFE BRANCH
STEPHEN GETHINS MP
RHUARADH FLEMING, ELECTED MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Scottish Energy Development Agency

Conference welcomes new Scottish legislation committing us to net-zero by 2045. In the last five years strong falls in emissions from power and waste have helped almost halve Scotland’s emissions. But with the closure of our last coal plant at Longannet in 2016, the challenges of decarbonisation now move into transport, how we heat our homes and how we grow our food.

Conference wishes to see a national plan drawn up of prioritised energy schemes, timetabled to meet the Scottish Government’s energy and climate change targets. To enable transition, every Council needs equipping to scale up its planning and delivery. Complex expertise is required to develop new energy models, such as multi-technology district heating or to capitalise on any alternative local heat sources, like water bodies or flooded mine works.

Having set the most ambitious statutory climate targets in the world for these years, the Scottish Government is asked to consider the establishment of a Scottish Energy Development Agency to accelerate local energy system transformation by nationally directing and enabling the development of energy infrastructure, generation and sustainable fuel supply chains, and providing the expertise and finance to catalyse Local Authorities and others to undertake effective carbon reduction projects.
Racism and Unconscious Bias Towards BAME Citizens

Conference condemns racism in all its forms; acknowledges that in the wake of Brexit the number of incidents of racial abuse and prejudice across the UK has increased; acknowledges that whilst issues of xenophobic abuse towards Europeans has increased, it is the case that racism towards non European Black and Minority Ethnic citizens has also grown.

Conference calls upon all the governments of the UK to review ways of raising the level of understanding of unconscious bias against the many different cultures practised on these islands in order to halt this regression and to ensure an inclusive society for all who live here.

GLASGOW PROVAN CONSTITUENCY BRANCH

AMENDMENT:
Insert as new paragraph 3 the following: “Conference calls the SNP Equalities Conference to take the lead in directing a national political education and discussion programme within the party structures on racism and unconscious bias.”

BAME MEMBERS NETWORK
Scots Language Board/Board Fir The Scots Leid

Conference recognises the importance of the Scots Language in our shared cultural identity, especially in the UN Year of Indigenous languages. Conference understands that Scots is not fully recognised as an official language of Scotland, and notes the impact that this has on the ability of Scots speakers to learn or promote their native tongue. Further to this, as Scots is central to the identity of many communities across Scotland, it should be more widely taught, learned and promoted as part of Scottish Public life.

Conference calls on the Scottish Government to support the promotion of Scots language as part of celebrating Scotland’s linguistic diversity and to undoing the years of linguistic prejudice that the language has suffered.

Conference encourages the idea of a statutory Scots Language Board (Board fir the Scots Leid) to be explored on a similar basis as Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

The Colologue awns the importance o the Scots Leid in oor shared cultural identity, no least i the UN year o hamelt leids. The Colologue understauns at Scots is na fully recogneized as an offeicial leid o Scotland, an taks tent o whit this means for the ability o Scots speakers tae laern or forder their mither tung. Mairower, as Scots is at the hert o the identity o monie communities the lenth o Scotland, it shuid be mair widely laernt an fordert as airt an pairt o Scotland’s public life.

The Colologue caws on the Scottish Guivernment tae gie a heize tae the Scots Leid as pairt o a celebration o Scotland’s rowth o leids, an tae undae the linguistic ill-wull at the tung haes hed tae dree.

The Colologue encuirages a Board fir the Scots Leid tae be explored on a like basis tae Bòrd na Gàidhlig.

YOUNG SCOTCS FOR INDEPENDENCE
HOWE OF FIFE BRANCH
CRAIGENTINNY/DUDDINGSTON BRANCH
INVERKEITHING AND DALGETY BAY BRANCH
ARDROSSAN BRANCH
NORTH EAST FIFE CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION
STUART MCMILLAN MSP
MARTIN DOCHERTY-HUGHES MP
RICHARD LYLE MSP
Plastic Pollution

Conference applauds the Scottish Government for committing to the EU’s vision of phasing out single-use plastics by 2030, and welcomes moves towards this target, such as Phase 1 of the Business Case for a deposit return scheme for drinks containers, and the intention to ban plastic cotton buds, for which the consultation phase finished in April this year.

Conference believes plastic food packaging is one of the major contributors to single-use plastic pollution, and notes pledges from all the major supermarkets to make their plastics packaging reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.

Conference calls on the Scottish Government to explore the option of setting a target date of 2025 for all plastic packaging in Scotland to be easily reusable, recyclable or compostable, with appropriate regulations and legislation to ensure manufacturers, retailers and consumers all play their part; to ensure that reduction and reuse is at the heart of its approach to tackling plastic pollution, and that alternatives, where necessary, are sustainably sourced and managed.

Conference calls for disability experts to be consulted before any actions or recommendations are made, recognising that some disabled people rely on products such as pre-chopped fruit and vegetables to facilitate their independent living.

CRAIGENTINNY/DUDDINGSTON BRANCH
Conference notes that New Zealand has unveiled the world’s first wellbeing budget, to widespread praise from social agencies charged with looking after the country’s most vulnerable people.

Conference understands that New Zealand is one of the first countries in the world to design its entire budget based on wellbeing priorities and instruct its Ministries to design policies to improve wellbeing.

Conference recognises that the wellbeing budget emphasizes happiness and believes that measuring GDP alone does not guarantee improvement to living standards and nor does it take into account who benefits and who is left out.

As such, Conference welcomes the Scottish Government commitment to making wellbeing central to its next spending review – and will watch with interest the results of this new approach in New Zealand.

TOM ARTHUR MSP
KIRSTY BLACKMAN MP

AMENDMENT:
Insert at the end of paragraph 3:
“, nor the impact on long term sustainability.
Conference believes that linking Scotland’s budget to the National Performance Framework demonstrates commitment to our national outcomes including reducing inequalities and driving economic, environmental and social progress.”

CITY OF DUNFERMLINE BRANCH
12 Developing Maritime Trade

Conference notes the vital importance of maritime trade to growing Scotland’s economy and developing Scotland’s capacity to prosper. Conference is aware that the majority of Scotland’s international trade is routed via ports in the rest of the UK, which necessitates long and expensive haulage that not only increases the cost of imports and exports but also adds to road transport CO2 emissions.

Conference recognises there is an opportunity to realise the potential of Scotland’s natural assets and maximises global trade and calls on the Scottish Government to develop a maritime policy that will harness the opportunities of an independent Scotland as a maritime nation.

INVERNESS CITY BRANCH
DREW HENDRY MP

AMENDMENT:
Add at end:
“Therefore Conference suggests that the Scottish Government should set up a Maritime Policy Commission to study and draft a proposed long-term maritime strategy, suitable for the needs of an independent Scotland. Particular attention should be paid to carbon neutrality.”

LONDON BRANCH

13 State Pensions in an Independent Scotland

Conference notes that the existing UK State Pension is the worst State Pension of any major country according to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in their report of December 2017.

Conference further notes that it is an absolute disgrace that a UK State Pension only covers 29% of average UK wages, which is less than half of the OECD average of 62.9%.

Conference believes that as a minimum an independent Scotland should plan to meet the OECD average for a Scottish State Pension as a top priority for all of Scotland’s pensioners.

Conference supports the commissioning of a Scottish State Pension Plan to sustainably deliver financial security and wellbeing to the pensioners of an independent Scotland.

HELENSBURGH BRANCH
CHRIS HANLON, ELECTED MEMBER OF NATIONAL COUNCIL
Protecting Our Human Rights

Conference recognises the hugely positive impact the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) has across the Continent. Conference understands that the ECHR was drafted by the Council of Europe in 1950, coming into force in September of 1953 and now encompassing the 47 nations of the Council. Conference notes that the ECHR was drafted as part of the broad movement across Europe to ensure that the atrocities committed during the Second World War would never be repeated and has, among other things, helped protect press freedom, decriminalise homosexuality and protect against torture. Conference recognises the role the European Court of Human Rights plays in enforcing the ECHR.

In light of this, Conference utterly deplores the danger to the ECHR posed by this Brexit-obsessed UK Tory Government and their junior partners in the DUP.

Conference further understands that the UK Government failed to commit to protecting Scotland’s membership of the ECHR and have in the past committed to dragging us out.

Conference applauds the protection of individual rights and the promotion of the rule of law and peace brought about by the ECHR and European Council. Conference believes that there is nothing more important than the protection of our fundamental human rights and warns the UK Government not to use Brexit as an excuse to drag Scotland out of the European Convention of Human Rights.

CHRISTINA MCKELVIE MSP
ANGELA CRAWLEY MP
ALEX KERR, ELECTED MEMBER OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Session 4 – Internal

16h15 Internal Resolutions
17h00 Reports of Office Bearers, Groups and Affiliate Organisations
17h30 Close

AGM DATES

Conference resolves to make the following amendments with effect from 1 April 2020.

Amendments to Branch Rules:
Paragraph 9.6 – delete “either the February or March meeting” and substitute “the Annual General Meeting”.
Paragraph 11.1 – delete “September” and insert “February”.

Amendments to Constituency Association Rules:
Paragraph 9.1 – delete “October” and insert “March”.
Paragraph 18.6 – delete “either the February or March meeting” and substitute “the Annual General Meeting”.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
16 Selection Guidelines

Conference agrees to open the candidate selection process for the 2021 Scottish Parliament elections as soon as practicable with a view to having all constituency candidates in place in Spring 2020.

Conference reaffirms the requirement in the Constitution for an equality strategy which must aim for 50/50 gender-balanced representation and an increase in the number of candidates drawn from BAME and other under-represented groups.

Conference approves under Paragraph 7.4 of the Constitution the use, as the NEC considers appropriate, of the following specific mechanisms to meet the Party’s constitutional requirements at the 2021 elections:

- All-women shortlists in a constituency where the incumbent SNP MSP is standing down.
- The ability to add additional candidates who are BAME, women or disabled to a constituency where two or more valid nominations are received.
- The ability to apply a zipping mechanism to a regional list.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

17 Improving Our Representation

Conference recognises the immense contribution made to Scotland by the many diverse communities who have chosen to make this nation their home. Conference believes that we are at our best as a country when that broad diversity of voices and perspectives is reflected at all levels of Government.

Conference recognises the improvement in the representation of women that has resulted from adopting gender balance mechanisms in our selection process but notes with concern that BAME, disabled people, and other minority communities continue to be underrepresented in our national parliament. Conference believes it is unacceptable that in the lifetime of the Scottish Parliament there have been only four BAME representatives.

Conference believes we must do more to champion representation of all our communities. Conference notes with interest the use of reserved political positions which involves setting aside seats for minority communities who struggle to overcome barriers to political participation and calls on the National Executive Committee to investigate whether selection processes can be modified to improve representation with a specific focus on the use of reserved political positions on regional lists for the next Holyrood Election.

ALEX KERR, ELECTED MEMBER OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
HUMZA YOUSAF, MSP
YOUNG SCOTS FOR INDEPENDENCE
Conference in deeply concerned that children and pregnant women are still being detained at Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre, almost a decade after the practice was banned. Conference understands that at least 21 under-18s were held there between 2010 and 2018, and that one spent almost three months at the South Lanarkshire facility.

Conference notes the UK is the only country in the EU which has no cap on the length of time somebody can be detained under immigration powers. Conference believes that innocent families, women and children shouldn’t be held like this for months on end, especially almost a decade after the Home Office promised to end the practice of detaining children.

As such, Conference calls on the UK Government to urgently stop detaining children and pregnant women at Dungavel – a facility entirely unsuitable for people in such a vulnerable position.

LINDA FABIANI MSP
SANDRA WHITE MSP
RUTH MAGUIRE MSP

**AMENDMENT:**
Remove final paragraph and replace with:

“Conference further acknowledges the adverse health effects and human rights impact on detainees of all ages, and calls upon the UK Government to dismantle the immigration detention system in its entirety”.

GLASGOW PROVAN BRANCH
19 Urban Green Deal

Conference notes that quality greenspaces can benefit the health, wellbeing and environment of our people and communities, particularly in urban settings, but that it is often people in the most disadvantaged areas or communities who have access to the least greenspace.

Conference agrees that we must do more to ensure all communities are able to utilise this land. Conference therefore calls on the Scottish Government to work with public agencies and local authorities to increase the amount and quality of greenspace in our towns and cities. This should include commitments to turn more built space into green space which could be for growing food; improving air quality with “green breaks” of trees and hedges in school areas, playgrounds and parks; growing and maintaining more trees and urban woodlands; and plant roundabouts and verges for pollinators - and that supporting such developments in disadvantaged areas should be the priority.

Conference agrees that such an Urban Green Deal has the potential to enhance and improve people’s lives, as well as helping our environment.

FULTON MACGREGOR MSP
RONA MACKAY MSP

20 Abolition of Graduation Fees

Conference welcomes the decision taken by the University of Glasgow to scrap the fee charged to all graduates and acknowledges that many other institutions have recently followed suit or signalled their intention to do so. Further commends NUS Scotland on their research highlighting this issue. However, Conference understands that many other institutions still apply such administrative charges, which for many can be punitive.

Conference notes that the belief in the principle of free higher education based on student potential and not ability to pay in paramount. Conference believes that this principle should extend to graduation and that compulsory fees run contrary to this.

Conference calls upon all higher and further education institutions to abolish such administrative fees and to commit to ensuring financial support is available to students to ensure that all can achieve graduation regardless of personal financial situations.

SNP STUDENTS (FSN)
RONA MACKAY MSP
SANDRA WHITE MSP
ALASDAIR ALLAN MSP
JENNY GILRUTH MSP
Universal Credit and Protected Date of Claim

Conference understands that each month up to 200 Universal Credit claimants in Glasgow are unable to submit their UC application on the same day they open a claim online; that up until 31st March 2019 Glasgow City Council exercised ‘date of claim’ protections allowing applicants to have their claim backdated to the start of a claim if they were supported by a Council appointed welfare rights officer.

Conference condemns the withdrawal of these date of claim protections by the UK Government in what appears to be a cynical ploy to coincide with the rollout of its new ‘Help To Claim’ Universal Credit contract with Citizens Advice Bureaus on April 1st 2019.

Conference believes that no-one should lose out because of the DWP’s digital by default approach to UC, that the loss of date of claim protections will place some of the most vulnerable people in society at an increased risk of poverty and destitution and calls on the UK Government to urgently extend date of claim protections to Citizens Advice Bureaus, Council welfare support services and other welfare and advice services as appropriate.

MARYHILL AND SPRINGBURN BRANCH
BOB DORIS MSP
Legal Costs for Residency Orders

Conference notes that many children who reside with Kinship Carers are subject to Compulsory Supervision Orders (CSO) under the Scottish Reporters Administration as a result of them being at risk.

Conference notes that Kinship carers may seek to secure Residency orders but legal costs can be prohibitive. Local authorities may offer discretionary assistance, but this is not standardised and does not cover all costs. If a Residency order is not secured, children remain monitored by social workers through a CSO to prevent them being taken back by parents who may place them at risk. The result is that the children have to attend regular Children’s Hearings, which can cause them stress.

Conference believes that the Scottish government is aiming to improve the life chances of looked after children and also attempting to mitigate the adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) of all children. A standardisation of charges for Residency orders would be beneficial.

Conference further requests that the Scottish Government research the provision of grants or legal aid to children, who may benefit from a Residency Order, with the intention of removing obstacles to Kinship carers in terms of legal costs. This initiative would help so many children remain with family and avoid being placed in the care system. Kinship Carers do a remarkable job and should not be penalised financially for undertaking such an important role in children’s lives.

EAST KILBRIDE CONSTITUENCY BRANCH
**23 Women in Agriculture**

Conference welcomes the work being led by the Women in Agriculture taskforce and supported by the Scottish Government to ensure that the role that women play in farming and crofting is properly recognised;

Conference notes its disappointment that in 21st Century Scotland there are too few women in leadership positions in the sector.

Conference welcomes that the taskforce has now launched three pilot leadership and training programmes for and by women in agriculture; and notes too that women in agriculture will also be able to access the £5 million to support women to return to work following a career break, as part of the Gender Pay Gap Action Plan.

Conference further calls on the Scottish Government to drive forward the change in culture, practice and law which is needed to ensure that the significant contribution women make to farming and food production in Scotland is properly supported, developed and acknowledged.

MAUREEN WATT MSP
DEIDRE BROCK MP

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**24 Scottish Child Payment**

Conference welcomes the announcement that the Scottish Government will use new social security powers to introduce a new benefit for low income families to reduce levels of child poverty in Scotland.

Conference understands the Scottish Child Payment will be £10 a week, paid monthly to eligible families, and that around 410,000 children could benefit by the end of 2022. Strongly endorses the decision that the Scottish Child Payment will be delivered early to eligible children under six, who will benefit from 2021.

Conference expects the Scottish Child Payment to lift 30,000 children out of relative poverty altogether and reduce relative poverty rate by 3%, as well as increasing the family incomes of many tens of thousands more.

Conference notes the benefit has been celebrated by anti-poverty campaigners who have called the new benefit a “game changer”.

Conference condemns the fact that Scotland is facing a spike in child poverty as a result of welfare cuts imposed by the UK Government and recognises that without those cuts, the Scottish Child Payment could have a further impact on tackling child poverty.

As such, Conference firmly believes that the Scottish Child Payment on its own stands to be one of the most progressive policy decisions put forward since devolution; contributing to the aim of making Scotland the best place in the world to grow up.

BOB DORIS MSP
SHONA ROBISON MSP
NEIL GRAY MP
Conference Karaoke
Presented by Young Scots for Independence

Date:
Monday 14th October

Time:
19.30 til late

Location:
Aberdeen Beach Ballroom

Ticket Price:
Tickets cost £10

These can be purchased via our website at www.ysi.scot or from our stall at SNP conference.
The SNP Headquarters desk, situated in the main concourse of The Event Complex Aberdeen, is your point of contact for all general information and enquiries.

The SNP Store offers official SNP merchandise.

Visit or look online at: www.snpstore.org

Independence

Visit our Stand in the Exhibition Hall. Say hello or join up on the spot. We’re the Party’s own magazine and have raised thousands of pounds for the cause to date. One direct debit is all it takes to have INDEPENDENCE posted direct to your home every eight weeks. Join now!

Telephone: 0141 554 4496
E mail: bill@saltiregraphics.com

Aberdeen Donside Host Committee

We are delighted to welcome you back to Aberdeenshire for the 85th Annual National Conference. Come and say hello and purchase your tickets for the Comedy Night.
Aberdeenshire West CA
Aberdeenshire West CA is fundraising to help take on the Conservatives across Aberdeenshire. Please buy some draw tickets for this unique Declaration of Arbroath facsimile.

We’re the charity supporting people throughout Scotland who are Deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus to live the life they choose.

For details about our services, volunteering, fundraising and campaigning, contact us:
Telephone/Text/Facetim: 07388 227407

Our mission is to connect advice and information with the people who need it. We believe technology will allow us to address the huge unmet need for help and advice in Scotland. Impartial advice should be available to everyone in Scotland, at no cost, regardless of personal circumstance. Pick up the phone, ping off an email, talk to us via webchat or even send us a tweet – we are here for you whenever you need us.

£1bn tax cuts to support alcohol companies or funding 40,000 nurses? Visit the Alcohol Health Alliance (AHA) to share what you would choose. The AHA is an alliance of more than 50 organisations, campaigning to reduce alcohol-related harm.

Ahauk.org
APSE is dedicated to promoting excellence in the delivery of frontline services to local communities. Through the APSE network, local authorities and organisations are able to share information and expertise on vital frontline services, ask for advice, and develop new, viable ways forward in an effort to help one another.

**Please contact:** Lmelville@apse.org.uk for more information.

Bank of Scotland Foundation has distributed over £14m to more than 1,800 charities making positive change across Scotland, enabling over 600,000 people to benefit from a variety of much needed local services and personal support.

The Foundation’s annual donation from Lloyds Banking Group in 2019 was almost £5m as part of the Group’s commitment to Helping Scotland Prosper.

Visit the stall to find out more.

Visit the BBC broadcasting stand to hear about BBC Scotland’s distinctive, diverse and high-quality programmes and services. Join us to learn more about how we inform, educate and entertain audiences across Scotland with our world-class factual content.

The British Heart Foundation (BHF)’s vision is a world free from the fear of heart and circulatory diseases. We raise money to research cures and treatments, so we can beat heartbreak forever. Visit us at Stand 12.
Supporters of the Scottish Government’s Net Zero carbon target by operating and developing ‘next-generation’ onshore wind farms in Scotland. With a portfolio of 1.9GW of renewable projects we are powering Scotland with zero carbon energy; whilst supporting the Scottish onshore wind supply chain, investment, jobs and delivering significant economic benefits to our host stakeholders.

Website: communitywindpower.co.uk
Email: info@communitywindpower.co.uk

Cornerstone provides care and support for adults, children and young people with disabilities and other support needs. Across Scotland our support is based on four key areas – increased social inclusion, improved health, improved independence and improved wellbeing.

Contact: Telephone 0300 131 333
Email: enquiries@cornerstone.org.uk

British Red Cross is the movement that connects human kindness with human crisis, in the UK and around the world. Visit the British Red Cross stand to learn more about how we are supporting people in crisis across Scotland.

Contact
Ben Walker, Policy and Public Affairs Manager – Devolved Nations
benwalker@redcross.org.uk

Cancer Research UK is the world’s largest independent organisation dedicated to cancer research, supporting research into all aspects of cancer. Last year we spent around £38 million in Scotland on some of the UK’s best cancer research.

Email: ScotlandPA@cancer.org.uk
Guides Dogs provides services to support the independence of people with sight loss in the UK. Alongside our services, we campaign to remove physical and legal barriers so that people with sight loss can get around on their own terms. Current estimates suggest there are two million people with sight loss in the UK, of which around 360,000 are registered as blind or partially sighted.

Telephone: 0118 983 8162
Email: publicaffairs@guidedogs.org.uk
Inclusion Scotland works to achieve positive changes to policy and practice, so that we disabled people are fully included throughout all Scottish society as equal citizens. We do this by influencing decision-makers, and supporting disabled people to be decision-makers themselves.

Revive is a coalition of like-minded organisations working for significant reform of Scotland’s grouse moors. Coalition partners include Common Weal, Friends of the Earth Scotland, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland, OneKind, and Raptor Persecution UK.

Holyrood Communications is Scotland’s preeminent political communications company and the publisher of Scotland’s award winning political magazine, Holyrood. Holyrood is the most widely read publication amongst MSPs with them citing the magazine as being influential in their decision making.

Email: magazine@holyrood.com
Tel: 0131 285 1635

HM Government is once again delighted to be in Scotland and to share the experiences of both our countries to build on our strong ties. As Brexit unfolds we each have a different experience and our future no doubt lies in developing on these bonds economically and culturally.

Email: max@revive.scot
Moray SNP Malt Whisky & Gin Stall brings you the opportunity to become the proud owner of some of the Moray Speyside’s fantastic Malt Whisky and Gin. Our products travel well throughout the world with a reputation second to none.

**Website:** www.moraysnp.org
**Twitter:** @MoraySNP
**Facebook:** fb.com/MoraySNP

The No Third Runway Coalition was set up in March 2017, bringing together a number of community groups who are opposed to expansion at Heathrow. Our members include local authorities, residents groups, environmental campaigners, parliamentarians and trade unions.

NASUWT – the teachers’ union represents teachers and headteachers in Scotland and throughout the UK from early years to further education. NASUWT has secured significant improvements in pay and working conditions for teachers. Legal and professional services are provided by a network of national, regional and local offices.

www.nasuwt.org.uk
0131 226 8480
rc-scotland@mail.nasuwt.org.uk

People’s Postcode Lottery is an external lottery manager which operates charity lotteries on behalf of charitable organisations and grant-giving charitable trusts. To date, players of People’s Postcode Lottery have raised over £474 million for over 6,500 good causes.
The Scottish Police Federation is the staff association that represents over 99% of the police officers in Scotland; currently over 18,000 members. With a remit for both the welfare of our members and efficiency of the service we are the only statutory consultative body for the police service in Scotland.

Tel: 0300 303 0027
www.spf.org.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @scotspolfed

Royal Mail is investing £1.8bn in our UK business over the next 5 years. Our transformation journey has begun come to our stand to find out more. Daily postal collection, including parcels (except Sunday).

The Poverty Alliance – with over 230 member organisations – is the national anti-poverty network in Scotland.

CPAG in Scotland provides expert welfare rights advice, information and training and campaigns for policies that will end child poverty.

We were the first newspaper that supported the SNP. Why not visit our website at www.scotsindependent.scot which is updated weekly and where you can subscribe to the paper. Alternatively ring 01542 840551 for a subscription form.

Come and see us at our stall including new stock of Scottish books, soaps and flags.

The Scottish Police Federation is the staff association that represents over 99% of the police officers in Scotland; currently over 18,000 members.

With a remit for both the welfare of our members and efficiency of the service we are the only statutory consultative body for the police service in Scotland.

Tel: 0300 303 0027
www.spf.org.uk
Follow us on Twitter: @scotspolfed
Shelter Scotland helps over half a million people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through our advice, support and legal services. And we campaign to make sure that, one day, no one will have to turn to us for help. We’re here so no one has to fight bad housing or homelessness on their own.

Email: campaignsscotland@shelter.org.uk

Smart Energy GB is the campaign for a smarter Britain. It’s our task to help everyone in Great Britain understand smart meters, the national rollout and how to use their new meters to save money and energy.

SNP Friends of Palestine campaigns for a peaceful, just and equitable settlement for the Palestinian people. We believe in the universality of human rights, equality and justice and believe that they should be upheld and defended in the occupied Palestinian Territories and for the Palestinian people as they are here in Scotland.

SNP Conference Photobooth
- Get your photo taken at the SNP Conference Photobooth and remember to tag yourself and people you know when they appear on the SNP Facebook Page.
SNP Students is the student wing of the party. With societies in many of Scotland’s colleges and universities, we campaign for progressive student policies and promote SNP campaigns and values on campus.

Facebook: SNP Students
Twitter: @SNPStudents
Email: info@snpstudents.com

Sustrans is the charity making it easier for people to walk and cycle. We deliver infrastructure and behaviour change projects on behalf of the Scottish Government to connect people and places, create liveable neighbourhoods, transform the school run and deliver a happier, healthier commute.

The FBU sends solidarity greetings to all attending SNP Conference 2019. The Democratic and professional voice of firefighters across the UK.

Executive Council Member: Chris McGlone
Scottish Secretary: Denise Christie
Scottish Chair: Brian Cameron
Scottish Treasurer: Seona Hart
www.fbuscotland.org

UNISON is Scotland’s public services trade union. We represent UNISON members across local government; health; community and voluntary sector; the emergency services; housing; and higher and further education, among others. It gives us an unparalleled overview of public services and those who deliver them.
The WASPI Campaign - Women Against State Pension Inequality, is an action group campaigning against the unfair changes to the State Pension Age imposed on women born in the 1950’s.

Further information can be found on our website www.waspi.co.uk

Young Scots for Independence (YSI) is the youth wing of the SNP; for all members under the age of 30. The YSI leads the way in shaping ambitious and progressive policy making within the SNP and campaigns across Scotland.

Email: contact@snpyouth.com

The Learning Disability Alliance Scotland works to help people with learning disabilities and their families raise their concerns and worries with local and national politicians.

Out for Independence is the official LGBTQ+ wing of the SNP. Campaigning for a fair, equal and independent Scotland.
People from all walks of life and from all around the world think Scotland should be an independent country. They have a million reasons for wanting independence for Scotland. We are bringing these reasons together in the Million Reasons project so that everyone can read first hand, in people’s own words, the many reasons that all sorts of people support independence.

The National is a 7 day newspaper that strives to accurately portray Scotland’s people and its culture. Established in 2014, it’s the only newspaper that supports an independent Scotland. Purchase it daily from your local newsagent or sign up to a print or digital subscription.

Scottish Environment LINK is the forum for Scotland’s voluntary environment organisations, with over 35 member bodies representing a range of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society.

Email: information@scotlink.org
Telephone: 0131 225 4345

Come and visit the Women’s and Equalities stall, where you can find information about the different SNP Equalities groups.
WE’RE GREEN.
NOT GREENER, NOT GREENISH, TOTALLY GREEN.

ScottishPower is the first integrated energy company in the UK to generate 100% green electricity. Our focus is on wind energy, smart grids and driving the change to a cleaner, electric future and we’re investing over £7m every working day to make this happen.

We’re committed to speeding up the transition to cleaner electric transport, improving air quality and over time, driving down bills - to deliver a better future, quicker for everyone.

ScottishPower is a trading name of Scottish Power UK PLC, registered in Scotland (Company No. SC117120) with its registered office at 320 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, Scotland, G2 5AD
SNP DISABLED MEMBERS GROUP

Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 4, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
11h30 - 13h30

AGM and Meeting
We will be holding our AGM, to elect DMG Exec that will help move the group forward over the coming year.
We will have a session discussing what prevents our members going for elected office at all levels from branch officers to National Office Bearers and Local Authority to Holyrood/Westminster.
We would also like to try and come up with possible solutions that the Group or Party could help with.
Hope to see you there.

Chaired by: Angela Crawley MP, Spokesperson for Women and Equalities

SNP WOMEN’S FORUM

Sunday 13 October
Conference Suite 3, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

In addition to our keynote speaker, Christina McKelvie MSP, this is an opportunity to hear from the candidates for the new Women’s Convener role.

Speaker:
Christina McKelvie MSP, Minister for Older People & Equalities

Chaired by: Anne McLaughlin

SNP MEMBERS ONLY
Veterans Staying in Employment, Veterans Succeeding in Employment.

Poppyscotland is hosting a fringe event about our public policy priority – employability for vulnerable veterans.

Come along to hear from veterans and employers about what is required to support ex–Service personnel to sustain and prosper in a job.

Speakers:
Keith Brown MSP, SNP Depute Leader
Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Business, Fair Work and Skills

Achieving Net-Zero – How can industry work with policy makers to create a sustainable economy?

The energy transition is increasingly becoming a focus for both policy makers and the business community, but this is not a new phenomenon and work has been ongoing for some time to diversify our energy sources and embed sustainable practices within our national industries. With the Scottish Government’s recent Programme for Government placing the environment firmly front and centre of Scotland’s economic and strategic priorities, what work is already being undertaken by big business to meet this global challenge and how can industry and government adopt a collaborative approach to securing our collective futures?

Speakers:
Drew Hendry MP, Spokesperson for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
Stewart Stevenson MSP, Members of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee
Andrew Mennear, Director of UK Government Affairs BP

Chaired by: Mandy Rhodes, Managing Editor, Holyrood magazine
Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 7, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

Innovating for the Future – Challenges and opportunities for the financial and related professional services industry

Panel discussion with MPs and senior industry figures on the challenges and opportunities for the financial and related professional services industry.

The panel will focus on innovation in the industry, and how business can take full advantage of technological change, especially with regard to fintech and AI.

TheCityUK is the industry-led body representing UK-based financial and related professional services. We promote policies that drive competitiveness, support job creation and ensure long-term growth. FRPS accounts for 9.4% of the Scottish economy, the largest area contribution outside London.

Speakers:
Stewart Hosie MP, SNP Spokesperson for International Trade
Catherine McGuiness, Chair of the Policy and Resources Committee, City of London Corporation

Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 8, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

An informal drop-in session for Conveners and Secretaries with Member Support Convener, John Clark.

An opportunity for Branch and Constituency Conveners and Secretaries to meet with John, share your ideas, and ask him any questions you may have. Drop in anytime during the hour. No appointment required.

SNP MEMBERS ONLY
SNP Organiser Surgery

Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 9, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 – 13h30

A drop-in session for Organisers, with a chance to ask questions and discuss ideas with Stacy Bradley, Organisation Convener.

SNP Members Only

COP26: an ‘all society’ approach

Sunday 13 October
Stoneywood Suite, Ground Floor
Hilton Hotel
12h30 – 13h30

A roundtable to consider how society in the round can best contribute to the success of COP26. Discussion will look at how to leverage climate action from government, cities, business and civil society in the run up to the UN climate summit in November 2020.

Attendance is by invitation only but if you would like to attend please email Paul McNamee on pmcnamee@green-alliance.org.uk

Natural Solutions: Tackling the Climate Emergency & Biodiversity crisis in Scotland

Sunday 13 October
Exhibition Hall A, Ground Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 – 13h30

Join RSPB Scotland to learn more about how restoring Nature is key to solving our planet’s major challenges.
Countries considerably smaller than Scotland have the opportunity to set Europe’s agenda by being part of the EU, punching well above their weight on the international stage and representing national interests at the top table. Meanwhile, Scotland has been represented by a UK Government focused more on dancing to Ukip’s tune than in playing a constructive role in Europe.

Join Alyn Smith MEP, Councillor Susan Aitken and Professor Andrew Scott as they discuss the latest Brexit developments, the future of the EU, and the possible options for Scotland in a post-Brexit Europe.
Fringe Meetings
Sunday 13 October EVENING

Standing up for Palestinian rights under deepening Israeli and US attacks
The collective rights of the Palestinian people have come under intensifying attack since the election of Donald Trump. Emboldened by shifting US policy, Israel has further entrenched its 52-year occupation – with rapid expansion of settlements and demolitions of homes; a collapsing economy and healthcare system amid the illegal closure of Gaza; and threatening formal annexation of the Jordan Valley. Join us to hear about the role of international law in pushing back against these trends and ensuring freedom, justice and equality for the Palestinian people.

Speakers:
Dr Mustafa Barghouti, General Secretary of the Palestinian National Initiative
Joanna Cherry MP (invited)
Ben Jamal, Palestine Solidarity Campaign (PSC)
Rohan Talbot, Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP)
Chairied by: Nadia El-Nakla, SNP Friends of Palestine

Brexit: Where next for Scotland?
Countries considerably smaller than Scotland have the opportunity to set Europe’s agenda by being part of the EU, punching well above their weight on the international stage and representing national interests at the top table. Meanwhile, Scotland has been represented by a UK Government focused more on dancing to Ukip’s tune than in playing a constructive role in Europe.

It’s clear that smaller states benefit culturally, financially, and politically from EU membership. Join Alyn Smith MEP, Councillor Susan Aitken and Professor Andrew Scott as they discuss the latest Brexit developments, the future of the EU, and the possible options for Scotland in a post-Brexit Europe.

Speakers:
Alyn Smith MEP, Member of the European Parliament for Scotland
Councillor Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council
Professor Andrew Scott, Professor of European Union Studies, Co-Director of the Europa Institute
The Charter for Workers Rights for Scotland – The Way Forward

Chris Stephens MP and the SNP TUG are delighted to welcome The Institute of Employment Rights (IER) to our Conference for this year’s fringe. IER is a think tank for the trade union and labour movement and a charity. They exist to inform the debate around TU rights and labour law by providing information, critical analysis, and policy ideas through a network of academics, researchers and lawyers. Instrumental in helping Chris, with his Workers (Rights and Definitions) Bill, they have produced a Charter for Workers Rights looking at how Employment Rights can be improved in Scotland using Devolved and Reserved powers.

Speakers:
Keith Ewing Professor of Public Law, Kings College London and President of Institute of Employment Rights
Ruth Dukes, Professor of Labour Law, Glasgow University and IER Scotland
Lillian Macer, Convener UNISON Scotland, member of Fair Work Convention
Dee Flanagan, Thompsons Solicitors
Chris Stephens MP, Shadow SNP Spokesperson for Fair Work and Employment

Chaired by: Greg McCarra, Convener, SNP Trade Union Group

Challenging Poverty: The Big Ideas

In Scotland, over 1 million people in Scotland are currently living in the grip of poverty. This event – held during Challenge Poverty Week - will reflect on the progress made in Scotland to tackle poverty, including the new Scottish Child Payment, and look ahead at what the next ‘big idea’ for tackling poverty in Scotland should be.

Speakers:
Peter Kelly, Poverty Alliance
Aileen Campbell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government
Satwat Rehman, One Parent Families Scotland
John Dickie, CPAG in Scotland
Professor John McKendrick, Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit
Fringe Meetings
Sunday 13 October EVENING

Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 4, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

How can Scotland’s cities drive inclusive growth in an independent country

Core Cities’ ambition is to unlock the full potential of our cities to create a stronger, fairer, economy and a more inclusive society including neighbouring towns. We want all our cities to be fully empowered to shape their own future and help to deliver a more productive, inclusive and independent Scottish economy.

The fringe meeting will look at these issues and consider how everyone can benefit from Scotland’s vibrant and diverse city economies. In particular it will ask what the SNP should be doing more through its City Deal and other policies to realise Core Cities’ potential as engines of inclusive growth for an independent nation?

Speakers:
Jamie Hepburn, MSP and Minister for Business, Fair Work and Skills
Cllr Susan Aitken, Leader of Glasgow City Council
Cllr Adam McVey, Leader of Edinburgh City Council
Alison Thewliss MP, SNP Spokesperson for Housing, Communities and Local Government (Invited)

Chaired by: Gill Morris, Chief Executive, DevoConnect

Sunday 13 October
Conference Suite 2A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

The Big Public Health Debate

The Holyrood magazine Health & Care Hub – an initiative which brings together some of the leading organisations involved in health and social care from across Scotland – is back at SNP conference again for 2019. This year’s Health and Care Hub discussion forum will bring together senior figures from across the health and social care spectrum to discuss the key public health challenges facing Scotland and how policy makers, the health and care professions and the public, can work together to meet them.

Chaired by the respected health journalist Pennie Taylor, this session again promises to be a lively debate so be sure to join us for the audience Q&A.

Speakers:
Graeme Sneddon, Communications Officer, British Lung Foundation Scotland
Dr Lewis Morrison, Chair of BMA Scotland, BMA Scotland
Kenryck Lloyd-Jones, Public Affairs and Policy Manager, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy Scotland
Joe Fitzpatrick MSP Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing

Chaired by: Pennie Taylor, Journalist & Broadcaster
Fringe Meetings
Sunday 13 October EVENING

Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 6, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

Investing in a Just Transition to a net zero carbon economy: what needs to change?

The Local Authority Pension Fund Forum supports the SNP’s Climate Change Plan, and Programme for Government which includes a Green New Deal and reducing carbon emissions by 66%, compared to 1990 levels. Meeting this target has the potential to create thousands of new green jobs but also means a rapid move away from carbon intensive jobs and industries.

The fringe meeting will therefore focus on how a just transition will be delivered. How can investors, such as pension funds, as well as business act in a way that meets the financial imperatives of a net zero economy in a socially responsible way?

Speakers:
Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
John McNally MP, SNP Westminster Spokesperson for the Environment
Cllr Alasdair Rankin, Local Authority Pension Fund Forum Spokesperson
Hazel Gulliver, Head of Scotland and EU Policy, ScottishPower

Chair by: Richard Hardy, Just Transition Commissioner and Prospect’s National Secretary for Scotland

Sunday 13 October
Meeting Room 7, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

The Road to a ‘zero waste’ Scotland: How Government and Industry can work together to tackle Scotland’s food waste

A panel event which brings together leaders in the Food and Drink Industry to discuss how the SNP Government can work alongside them to tackle Scotland’s food waste crisis. Topics will include whether food redistribution is the key to reaching the Scottish Government target of reducing Scotland’s food waste by 33%.

Speakers:
Sally Wake, Company Shop Group
Cat Hay, Food and Drink Federation Scotland
Gavin Newlands MP
Cameron Brown, Managing Director of Loch Fyne Oysters
The SNP’s official magazine direct to your home

Independence Magazine reflects life in the SNP and the broader national movement

Enjoy our bi-monthly 44-page full-colour magazine, delivered direct

Subscribe today www.snp.org/magazine
SOCIAL JUSTICE & FAIRNESS COMMISSION

Sunday 13 October
Conference Suite 3, First Floor, The Event Complex Aberdeen
19h00 – 20h00

The new Social Justice & Fairness Commission, chaired by Shona Robison MSP, builds on the work of the Sustainable Growth Commission. Our focus is on using the proceeds of economic growth to deliver the real prize of independence – a truly rich society, with wellbeing at its heart. Come and hear about our plans and how to get involved.

Speakers:
Aileen Campbell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Communities & Local Government
Chelsea Cameron, Activist and Young Scot of the Year

Chaired by: Shona Robison MSP
A Bright New Future for the Energy Industry in the North Sea

The transformation to a zero carbon economy presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a fairer, more equal and socially just Scotland. Join us at this fringe event as we explore how we can transform the offshore industry in the face of a climate emergency while ensuring a Just Transition to decent green jobs in renewables and decommissioning.

There will be a presentation of the findings of the fringe organisers recent ‘Sea Change’ report as well as contributions from the broader panel and an opportunity for Q&A.

**Speakers:**
Tommy Sheppard MP
Joyce McMillan, Scottish Environment LINK President
Greg Muttitt, Oil Change International Research Director
Fiona Napier, Aberdeen Trades Union Council Secretary

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The Health & Care Hub Reception

The Holyrood magazine Health & Care Hub – an initiative which brings together some of the leading organisations involved in health and social care from across Scotland – is back at SNP conference again for 2019. This year’s Health and Care Hub Reception will serve as a celebration of some of the work of these outstanding organisations, as well as the health and social care community in Scotland at large.

With an introductory interview of the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Jeane Freeman MSP by respected health journalist Pennie Taylor, this event again promises to be one of the highlights of Conference.

**Speaker:**
Jeane Freeman MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport

**Chaired by:** Pennie Taylor, Journalist & Broadcaster
Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1B, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

**EU Citizens - the 3 Million**
The 3 million is the largest campaign organisation for EU27 citizens in the UK – a grassroots organisation formed after the 2016 EU referendum to protect the rights of people who have made the UK their home. They are an organisation for and of immigrants, working closely with the Scottish Government. This is the opportunity to understand the effect of Brexit on EU nationals living in Scotland and how best we can support them.

**Speakers:**
Christian Allard MEP
Nicolas Hatton, co-chair of the 3 million
Mireille Pouget, active member of the 3 million
Ben Macpherson MSP, Minister for Europe, Migration and International Development
Philippa Whitford MP

Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 7, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

**Public Interest Litigation: lost in the Highlands?**
Following the recent Cherry cases against the British Government and Serco lock-change litigation, this event will consider the role of strategic litigation and third-party interventions in assisting the Scottish people and holding public decision making to account. There is far less recourse to judicial review of this kind in Scotland than in England and Wales due to the narrower standing rules in the courts. Is this a good thing; are there other mechanisms through which authorities can be held to account, or should there be greater access to the courts?

**Speakers:**
Joanna Cherry QC MP
Jodie Blackstock, Legal Director, JUSTICE
Rona Mackay MSP

**Chaired by:** Paul Brown, Legal Services Agency
Scotland’s Energy Future: No Easy Options

With almost universal acceptance that the world needs to change to address the impending climate crisis, how can we keep the lights on while also reducing our carbon emissions? Can those who represent us develop policies which do not drive up the cost of energy for the most vulnerable; and do so in an ethical and sustainable way which does not adversely impact communities at home or abroad?

This panel discussion will address the key themes from the recent Royal Society of Edinburgh inquiry into Scotland’s Energy Future and debate how best Scottish energy policy can meet these competing challenges.

Speakers:
Professor Gavin Little, Professor of Environmental and Public Law, University of Stirling (RSE Energy Inquiry Committee Member).
Professor Raffaella Ocone, FRSE, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Heriot-Watt University.
Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands.
Hazel Gulliver, Head of Scotland and EU Policy, Scottish Power.

Chaired by: Sir George Reid FRSE, Former SNP MSP and Presiding Officer

The Future for the Rural Economy

The Future poses many questions for Scotland’s rural communities and economy. But for all the challenges thrown up by geography, Brexit, climate change or demographics, there are also economic opportunities and with 40% of the world’s population living in rural communities there is a significant opportunity for Scotland to become a global leader in developing innovative solutions to overcome the challenges faced by rural communities.

Speakers:
Kate Forbes MSP, Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy
Fergus Ewing MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy

Chaired by: Pennie Taylor, Journalist & Broadcaster
**Social mobility: how business can bridge the class divide**

Social mobility in the UK remains stubbornly unmoving, with people from better-off backgrounds still 80 per cent more likely to find their way to a professional job than those from working class backgrounds. Looking at the interlinked issues of pay, unemployment and health it is clear that too much of a person’s life is dictated by socio-economic background rather than merit.

In Scotland, as elsewhere, much focus has been on how gaps in educational attainment can be closed to level out the playing field early on in life. But what can the private sector do to help address the societal barriers working class people face, and how can a new approach to hiring and work culture in turn help diversify and enliven the world of business?

**Speakers:**
- Chris Law MP
- John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills
- Pauline Hawkes-Bunyan, Director of Business Risk, Culture and Resilience, Investment Association

**Chaired by:** Mandy Rhodes, Managing Editor, Holyrood magazine

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**National Secretary Hustings**

Open floor debate with all three candidates for National Secretary. Come along and grill the candidates for the one of the most important roles in the party.

**Speakers:**
- Dr Angus MacLeod
- Cllr Chris McEleny
- Morgwn Davies

**Chaired by:** Julia Stachurska, SNP Students National Convener

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**activate.snp.org SURGERY**

Drop-in and discuss your activate.snp.org queries with Lorraine Reid, SNP HQ.

**SNP MEMBERS ONLY**
Fringe Meetings
Monday 14 October LUNCHTIME

Scotland and Brexit: What next?
At this event, speakers will take stock of the latest developments on Brexit, reflect on the new Government’s strategy, and discuss the SNP’s approach and priorities for Scotland’s future relationship with the UK and Europe.

Speakers:
Stephen Gethins MP, Shadow SNP Spokesperson for International Affairs and Europe (Invited)
Professor Nicola McEwen, Associate Director, Centre on Constitutional Change
Professor Anand Menon, Director, UK in a Changing Europe

Chaired by: Russell Gunson, Director, IPPR Scotland

Brexit: Independence in the EU?
With the UK’s continued struggle with its departure from the EU we can see that the constitutional question remains strong and is perhaps more relevant than ever, and with repeated suggestions by SNP politicians that Scotland must leave the UK and decide its own future within the EU. We want to pose questions such as: How does the current devolution settlement handle the new powers inherited from the EU upon leaving? How would an independent Scotland negotiate its membership with the EU? How would Scotland manage its departure from the UK with an ongoing membership negotiation with the EU?

Speakers:
Michael Russell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations
Joanna Cherry QC MP, SNP spokesperson for Justice and Home Affairs in the House of Commons

Chaired by: Amanda Millar, Vice-President of the Law Society of Scotland
Monday 14 October  
Conference Suite 1B, First Floor  
The Event Complex Aberdeen  
12h30 - 13h00

**Scotland: Leading the world in responding to the global climate emergency**

This summer we saw the Amazon rainforest burn and extreme weather events across Europe that will become more and more common if we fail to rise to the global challenge of climate change. With the world facing a climate emergency, an international collective response is needed urgently. In September world leaders meet at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York ahead of the United National Climate Change Conference (COP25) in Chile in December to boost ambition and accelerate actions to implement the Paris Agreement. Scotland is rightly recognised as a world leader in setting challenging targets and taking bold, decisive measures to tackle climate change. Join Aileen McLeod MEP, Tommy Sheppard MP and Gavin Lundy of the YSI as they discuss Scotland’s climate ambitions and actions in response to the global climate emergency.

**Speakers:**
- Aileen McLeod MEP, Member of the Environment Committee of the European Parliament
- Gavin Lundy, Convenor of Young Scots for Independence
- Tommy Sheppard MP, SNP Spokesperson for Scotland
- Heather Roy, Member, SNP Brussels

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Monday 14 October  
Conference Suite 1C, First Floor  
The Event Complex Aberdeen  
12h30 - 13h30

**How to Upgrade our Democracy - Why Citizens’ Assemblies and Local Government Reform are part of the same future**

The Scottish Government says it is committed to deepening democracy in Scotland. This is vital and timely, as trust in democracy is at a very low ebb. In other places the response to social, economic and environmental spasms looks like populism and authoritarianism; we must act now to guard against that here. Radical action is required to remake Scotland’s democratic institutions so that they serve the people in the 21st Century. The Government’s innovative commitment to citizens’ assemblies and remaking of local democracy in the next parliament could make Scotland a world leader on reimagining and defending democracy. Come and discuss what’s happening and what should happen next.

**Speakers:**
- Lesley Riddoch, Journalist and Campaigner
- Cllr Ross Cassie, Aberdeenshire Council
- Gordon MacDonald MSP
- Alison Thewliss MP (Invited)

**Chaired by:** Jonathon Shafi, ERS Scotland
Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 2A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

**Grouse Moor Reform: Wildlife, ‘public Intimidation’ and the Climate Crisis**

Between 12–18% of Scotland is kept barren to maximise the number of grouse – so they can be killed for sport.

Members of the Scottish National Party have been at the forefront of the land reform movement but too many of our people still live with fear and intimidation. Untold thousands of animals die to protect grouse for shooting and the environmental damage the industry causes, flies in the face of the climate emergency declared by Nicola Sturgeon.

 Radical reform of grouse moors are key to transforming our least productive land into part of a ‘Green New Deal’ Scotland and the power is in your hands to do it – for our people, our wildlife and the environment.

**Speakers:**
Robin McAlpine, Director of Common Weal
Robbie Marsland, Director of League Against Cruel Sports Scotland
Councillor Julie Bell, Kirriemuir and Dean
Libby Anderson, Policy Advisor at OneKind

**Chaired by:** Stewart Stevenson MSP

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 3, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

**A New Heart Disease Strategy for Scotland**

Scotland is at a crossroads in our national focus on heart disease.

Currently the Scottish Government’s actions on heart disease are set out in the Heart Disease Improvement Plan (2014). However, the healthcare system and the policies that underpin it have changed substantially since then, and we are facing an even greater pace of change over the next ten years.

BHF Scotland believes that the time is right for a national conversation that is collaborative with Government, clinicians, patients and the third sector working together to deliver a heart disease strategy for Scotland that is ambitious and forward-thinking.

**Speakers:**
Kylie Strachan, Senior Policy and Public Affairs Officer, British Heart Foundation Scotland
Jeane Freeman MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
Climate Change Emergency: How are local authorities responding?

This fringe will look to explore both the policy aspects of climate change alongside practical issues which local authorities could adopt to respond.

**Speakers:**
Paul O’Brien, Chief Executive, APSE
Angus MacDonald MSP
Cllr Natalie Don, Depute Convener Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board, Renfrewshire Council
Cllr Mark Flynn, Depute Convener City Development, Dundee City Council

**Chaired by:** Cllr Les Sharp, APSE Scottish Chair

Where Next for Vaping in Scotland

NHS Health Scotland recognise that vaping is less harmful than smoking. What more should the Scottish Government now do to realise the potential that vaping offers? Brexit also presents new options for the Government to develop a framework that protects consumers, whilst making them aware that vaping presents a less harmful alternative to smoking.

**Speakers:**
Emma Harper MSP, Member Health and Sport Committee
John Mason MSP, Member Cross-Party Group on Independent Convenience Stores
Andy Morrison, Associate, New Nicotine Alliance
Doug Mutter, Director, VPZ

**Chaired by:** Dr John Lee, Head of Policy and Public Affairs, Scottish Grocers’ Federation
Fringe Meetings
Monday 14 October LUNCHTIME

Tax at Twenty
Holyrood has had tax raising powers for twenty years but has only recently used these to set Scotland on a different tax path from the rest of the UK.

What do these tax powers mean for Scotland? Is the social contract incentive to pay more? Or, will higher taxes for some be the inducement to head for Hadrian’s Wall? How is the interaction of tax decisions at Westminster and Holyrood working out?

Join us for a panel discussion as we reflect on the views from Holyrood and Westminster as well as a snapshot of what the public thinks. Hot buffet provided.

Speakers:
Kirsty Blackman MP, Depute Leader and Lead Economic Spokesperson for the SNP at Westminster
Tom Arthur MSP, Member of the Scottish Parliament’s Finance and Constitution Committee
Mark Diffley, Founder and Director, Mark Diffley Consultancy and Research
John Cullinane, Tax Policy Director, Chartered Institute of Taxation

Chaired by: Rachel Watson, Deputy Political Editor, Scottish Daily Mail

Securing more funds for local and national charities
Join People’s Postcode Lottery, leading parliamentarians and charity representatives as we discuss how charity lottery reform will enable more funds to go to good causes.

Speakers:
Deidre Brock MP
Ben Macpherson MSP & Minister for Europe, Migration and International Development
Nicola Killean, Director and CEO at Sistema Scotland
Daniel Adams, Executive Director of Mary’s Meals.
Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 4, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

The opportunities coming out of the Williams Rail Review – How can a New Partnership Railway help deliver for passengers, businesses and the economy in Scotland?

This event will focus on the opportunities that rail reform can deliver for Scotland, both in terms of routes to Scotland’s major towns and cities and other local routes. The panel will also discuss how the railway can be made more responsive to the needs of people and businesses and boost its contribution to the wider Scottish economy.

**Speakers:**
Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity
Alex Hynes, Chief Executive, ScotRail Alliance
Paul Plummer, Chief Executive, Rail Delivery Group
Rachel Skinner, Executive Director and UK Head of Transport, WSP (invited)

**Chaired by:** Robert Nisbet, Director, Nations & Regions, Rail Delivery Group

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Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 6, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

Creating a Workforce for the Future

The fourth industrial revolution presents Scotland with a wealth of opportunities as new industries emerge in the technology, sustainable industries and advanced engineering sectors but does Scotland’s workforce of today have the skills to realise them? And more importantly, are our next generation of scientists, engineers and programmers being given the skills to create the “unicorn” companies of tomorrow? This session will explore how policy makers, the education sector and industry can best work together create a workforce for the future in Scotland.

**Speakers:**
Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Business, Fair Work & Skills

**Chaired by:** Mandy Rhodes, Managing Editor, Holyrood magazine
An Ageing Population in a Digital World: what role can engineering and technology play in improving quality of life?

This engaging session will be exploring the ways in which the ever increasing pace of technology innovations presents multiple opportunities to enhance the lives of older people through improvements in health and care, communications, access to services, etc. How can policy makers, the public sector and the technology industry work most effectively together to ensure these benefits are realised and that the digital engagement gap can be bridged to ensure equal access to them regardless of social circumstances or geography?

Speakers:
Christina McKelvie MSP, Minister for Older People and Equalities Minister
Chris Catlin, Consultant Physician at NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
Dr Peter Bannister, The Institution of Engineering and Technology Healthcare Chair / VP Clinical Innovation, Mirada Medical

Chaired by: Pennie Taylor, Journalist & Broadcaster

Building Scotland’s Future: A global facing stock exchange

Work as if you live in the early days of a better nation” sums up the ambition of Project Heather. This event will update delegates on progress towards establishing a truly global facing stock exchange in Scotland. It will be world leading requiring companies to report on and demonstrate the highest of ethical, social and environmental standards. It will help transform capital markets. It is an ambitious and audacious project. All welcome. Bring your questions!

Speakers:
Tomás Carruthers CEO Project Heather
Drew Hendry MP
Joan McAlpine MSP
Michelle Thomson, former SNP MP
Roger Mullin, former SNP MP
Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 8, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

A Fall in Giving: Why are fewer people giving to charity and how can Government support the sector?

NCAF’s Scotland Giving Report 2019 showed that fewer people are giving to charity than in previous years. This is a worrying trend and SCVO’s manifesto highlights some key opportunities for the Scottish Government to support the sector in these difficult times. We would be delighted if you would join us for what will be a lively discussion.

Speakers:
Sir John Low, CBE, Chief Executive of the Charities Aid Foundation
Craig Wilson, SCVO
Aileen Campbell MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government

Chaired by: Jenny Gilruth MSP

Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 9, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

A Just Transition? Securing the future for workers in a green Scotland

Like the SNP, the trade union Prospect are committed to reducing carbon emissions and moving towards a sustainable, green, energy system that provides reliable supply for consumer. With thousands of members employed in Scotland’s energy sector – as scientists, engineers, managers and other specialists – Prospect has an essential role in this debate by representing the energy workforce and giving them a voice in the discussion. Key to this is how Scotland’s politicians and policy makers can ensure that the transition to a low carbon economy transition delivers a win-win for the environment, jobs and the economy?

Speakers:
Richard Hardy, Just Transition Commissioner and Prospect’s National Secretary for Scotland,
Paul Wheelhouse MSP and Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Hazel Gulliver, Head of Scotland and EU Policy, ScottishPower

Chaired by: Sue Ferns, Senior Deputy General Secretary, Prospect
**Diplomats Reception**
Kindly sponsored by CIA

**Invitation Only**
Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1B, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h00 - 18h00

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**Organiser Get Together**
Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 8, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 – 18h30

An opportunity to share new ideas, feedback on experiences, make connections and get advice from your fellow Organisers. Hosted by Stacy Bradley, Organisation Convener.

**All SNP Organisers welcome.**

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**Cuts, Crime, Cops & Communities**

This event will hear how Police Scotland has journeyed from being the SNP’s flagship policy to becoming a police service that’s service struggling to survive against relentless budget cuts. As violent crime has risen for the 5th consecutive year and is at its highest level in 7, delegates will get the chance to debate the true value of policing in Scotland as our service faces cutting up to 1,000 officers to balance the books. What does this mean for crime and our communities and does anyone really care?

**Speakers:**
Humza Yousaf MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Justice
Calum Steele, General Secretary Scottish Police Federation

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**Premier Fringe Event**

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1C, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30
Monday 14 October
Exhibition Hall A, Ground Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

**Addressing the climate emergency – a moral obligation and an economic opportunity**

Scotland’s Climate Bill passed last month, with ambitious targets and policy proposals. So, what’s next in our journey towards net zero? Join WWF Scotland in conversation with SLE, SCDI, and Scottish Power to discuss the role of different sectors in addressing the climate emergency. Speakers will reflect on what they are currently doing to address climate change, how they will adapt on the road to net zero, and how taking action on the climate emergency is an economic opportunity.

**Speakers:**
Lang Banks, Director, WWF Scotland
Stephen Young, Head of Policy, Scottish Land & Estates
Sara Thiam, Chief Executive, SCDI
Hazel Gulliver, Head of Scotland & EU Policy, Scottish Power
Stewart Stevenson MSP

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 3, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

**Scotland in Europe**

Dr Kirsty Hughes of the Scottish Centre on European Relations and Alyn Smith MEP will talk about how smaller states can benefit from EU membership culturally, financially, and politically. What lessons can be learnt from the past few years and how they see events including Brexit right now.

**Speakers:**
Alyn Smith MEP
Dr Kirsty Hughes

Monday 14 October
Kirkhill Room, Ground Floor
Hilton Hotel
18h30 – 20h00

**Making the case for the A75 and A77**

Making the case for the A75 and A77 Stena Line, P&O Ferries and Belfast Harbour invite SNP South West Scotland elected representatives, candidates and others with an interest in transport policy for drinks and a briefing on the case for significant improvements in the A75 and A77 ahead of the Scottish Government’s second Strategic Transport Projects Review.

**INVITATION ONLY**
Housing is a Human Right

Everyone should have access to a safe, secure and affordable home. Scotland has some of the most progressive housing legislation in the world, but for thousands, a safe, secure and affordable home is still out of reach. We believe that citizens need better protection to secure their right to a home. This isn’t just about legal rights: people don’t know what their rights are and public bodies, struggling under the weight of cuts in services and increases in demand, are sometimes unable to enforce them. Join us at this event to discuss housing rights in Scotland.

Speakers:
Gordon MacRae, Head of Communications and Policy, Shelter Scotland
Judith Robertson, Chair of Scottish Human Rights Commission
Fulton Macgregor MSP

Chairled by: Sally Thomas, Chief Executive, SFHA

What next for fox hunting in Scotland? The campaign to really ban hunting.

Join the League Against Cruel Sports as they ask what next for fox hunting in Scotland. The League will challenge why fox hunting wasn’t included in the Programme for Government and make the case for legislation as the only solution to close loopholes in the current law. Hear about what progress has been made in recent years, including the Bonomy Review, to move towards a law which actually works and watch video footage evidencing why change is needed urgently. The campaign to really ban hunting has never been more relevant.

Speakers:
Robbie Marsland, Director, League Against Cruel Sports Scotland
Christine Grahame MSP
Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 2A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

Building a Faster, Greener, more successful Scotland – What does the future hold for Scotland’s transport and infrastructure plans?

The recent Programme for Government placed sustainability at the heart of the government’s future economic plans. Ambitious plans to decarbonise Scotland’s railways and invest heavily in bus priority infrastructure to reduce congestion sat alongside announcements for a “Green New Deal”, a focus on renewable heat projects and other significant plans to tackle the growing climate emergency, whilst boosting the Scottish economy.

This discussion forum will explore how our transport networks and broader national infrastructure plans can drive economic growth that is sustainable for both the public purse and the planet.

Speakers:
Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity
Alex Hynes, Managing Director, Scotland’s Railway
Mari Tunby, Head of Policy, CBI Scotland

Chaired by: Mandy Rhodes, Managing Editor, Holyrood magazine

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Monday 14 October
Meeting Room 7, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
17h30 - 18h30

Improved access, sustainable investment, lifelong opportunities: how the Scottish government can secure a high quality post-16 education system?

After a decade of spending cuts and the damage of Brexit yet to come, what lies ahead for the post-16 education system in Scotland? How can we ensure our colleges and universities have the funding they need? How do we drive forward our widening access agenda to ensure opportunity for everyone? And how can we enable greater opportunities for lifelong learning? Our panel will discuss the way forward.

Speakers:
Richard Lochhead MSP, Further and Higher Education
Jenny Gilruth MSP
Liam McCabe, NUS Scotland President
Zamzam Ibrahim, NUS President
Professor Nigel Seaton, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Abertay University

Chaired by: Linda Somerville, NUS Scotland Director
Deposit Returns Scheme: Can Scotland lead the way?
The need to reduce our use of packaging, specifically plastics, is currently dominating the news headlines as we continue to learn more about the issue and the damage to our planet.
The ‘Blue Planet effect’ heralded an unprecedented moment of opportunity through increased public awareness and concern over plastic pollution, and ministers have now committed to establishing a deposit return scheme (DRS) that will include aluminium and steel cans as well as drinks containers made of glass and PET plastic with a 20p deposit. By increasing both the amount and quality of the materials being recycled and reducing litter, the system is expected to help combat climate change while offering benefits to industry and the public. Yet with legislation to establish a DRS now available for public comment, voices in the manufacturing and retail industry have expressed concern over how the scheme will work in practice.

Speakers:
Jim Fox, Associate Director, Public Affairs at Coca-Cola European
Mairi Gougeon MSP Minister for Rural Affairs & Natural Environment
Angus MacDonald MSP, Member of the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee

Chaired by: Liam Kirkaldy, Journalist, Holyrood Magazine

Impartiality Matters! Can the SNP trust the senior civil service?
The fringe meeting follows the launch of the Smith Institute’s collection of essays Impartiality Matters: Perspectives on the importance of impartiality in the civil service in a “post truth” world to which First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, contributed a chapter. The FDA, the union representing senior civil servants across the UK, are concerned about attacks on the civil service which have increased since the EU Referendum. The First Minister shared her support for the principle of impartiality but also highlighted the problem of a UK wide civil service now impartially serving the current pro-Brexit Government at a time when Scotland voted clearly to remain.

Speakers:
John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister of Scotland
Dave Penman, General Secretary, the FDA
Nicola McEwen, Professor of Territorial Politics, the University of Edinburgh and Co-Director of the Centre on Constitutional Change
Steve Barwick, Deputy Director, the Smith Institute and Editor of Impartiality Matters

Chaired by: Kenny Farquharson, Columnist and Senior Writer, The Times in Scotland
Fringe Meetings
Monday 14 October EVENING

**Holyrood Reception**

Kindly sponsored by

**INVITATION ONLY**

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1B, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
19h00 - 20h00

**Speakers:**
Mandy Rhodes, Managing Director, Holyrood Communications and Editor, Holyrood magazine
Derek Mackay MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Fair Work & Economy

**MEDIA RECEPTION**

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
20h00 - 21h00

**ALL ACCREDITED MEDIA WELCOME**

**Her Majesty’s Government of Gibraltar Reception**

HM Government is once again delighted to be in Scotland and to share the experiences of both our countries to build on our strong ties. As Brexit unfolds we each have a different experience and our future no doubt lies in developing on these bonds economically and culturally.

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
18h00 - 19h00

**INVITATION ONLY**

Refreshments will be provided.

**Speakers:**
Michael Russell MSP and Dr Joseph Garcia MP.

**Holyrood magazine’s Economy Hub Reception**

is the culmination of a programme of events running throughout Conference addressing some of the key challenges and opportunities facing Scotland’s Economy. Join Holyrood magazine, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Derek Mackay and our partners in toasting the future success of Scotland’s industries, present and future.

**Speakers:**
Mandy Rhodes, Managing Director, Holyrood Communications and Editor, Holyrood magazine
Derek Mackay MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Fair Work & Economy

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 2A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
19h30 - 20h30

**Her Majesty’s Government of Gibraltar Reception**

HM Government is once again delighted to be in Scotland and to share the experiences of both our countries to build on our strong ties. As Brexit unfolds we each have a different experience and our future no doubt lies in developing on these bonds economically and culturally.

Monday 14 October
Conference Suite 1A, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
18h00 - 19h00

**INVITATION ONLY**

Refreshments will be provided.

**Speakers:**
Michael Russell MSP and Dr Joseph Garcia MP.
Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 4, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

Empowering Women in Politics: What Scotland and Malaw can learn from each other

Malawi recently elected a record-breaking number of women to Parliament, as well as its first female Speaker. Scotland has a female First Minister and gender-balanced Cabinet. However, the fight for equality, particularly in political representation, is far from over. Two Malawian MPs join SNP representatives in a discussion of the issues facing women in politics, how female representatives can ensure their fair representation and what parties and other political institutions can do to support women.

Speakers:
Hon. Liana Chapota MP, Parliament of Malawi
Maureen Watt MSP
Fiona Robertson, SNP National Women’s & Equalities Convener

Chaired by: Hon. Lonnie Phiri MP, Parliament of Malawi

Tuesday 15 October
Conference Suite 1C, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

Understanding Open-minded Voters in Scotland

Polling and research organisation Progress Scotland will present new findings from their second large-scale opinion poll. Their inaugural poll from earlier in 2019 showed that one fifth of respondents have changed how they would vote on Scottish independence or their views have changed a bit and they are not sure about how they would vote on Scottish independence. ‘Brexit/EU membership’ is now the most important issue determining views on independence vote, up from 22% in 2014 to 43% today.

Progress Scotland aims at understanding the views of people who are open-minded or undecided about Scottish independence by conducting opinion polls, focus groups and other research.

Speakers:
Angus Robertson, Managing Director, Progress Scotland
Mark Diffley, Independent Polling Advisor
Fringe Meetings
Tuesday 15 October BREAKFAST

WITH CHRISTIAN ALLARD MEP

Tuesday 15 October
Conference Suite 3, First Floor,
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

The Fishing Industry and the EU
The fishing industry and the EU have been in the spotlight the last 3 years, this is the opportunity to hear Scottish voices from the industry telling us the challenges that the industry is facing, onshore and offshore.
In or out of the EU what is the future for our fishing communities and what is the SNP policy on fishing?

Speakers:
Christian Allard MEP
Elaine Whyte, The Communities Inshore Fisheries Alliance
Jimmy Buchan, Scottish Seafood Association
Mairi Gougeon MSP, Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment

Out for Independence! Building a Progressive Independent Scotland
Join the SNP’s official LGBTQ+ wing, Out for Independence, for our first conference since relaunching in the summer this year. We’ll be joined by members of the executive and a panel of special guests to discuss the achievements of the organisation, on-going initiatives (such as reforming the Gender Recognition Act), and future plans for the organisation. The panel will then be open to a Q&A session by attendees. All SNP members welcome!

Speakers:
Jenny Gilruth MSP
Cllr Rhiannon Spear
Cllr Karen Adam
Josh Mennie, Co-Convener, Out for Independence
Emma Cuthbertson, Co-Convener, Out for Independence
Finlay McFarlane, Vice Convener, Out for Independence
Julia Stachurska, Convener, SNP Students
Charlotte Armitage, Equalities Convener, Young Scots for Independence

WITH CHRISTIAN ALLARD MEP
TREASURER TRAINING

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 5, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

Treasurers Briefings
An opportunity to ask questions and to raise issues relating to Treasurer functions across the country. Briefings on key elements comprising the Central Treasury function such as Finance and Audit Committee, Affiliate Funding, Regional Structures and anything else we have time for.

Speakers:
Colin Beattie MSP, National Treasurer
Elizabeth Young, Assistant National Treasurer

SNP MEMBERS ONLY

SNP WEBSITE AND SNP MEMBERS’ HUB

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 7, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
09h00 - 10h00

The SNP website and members’ hub is here to help you to manage your membership, get campaigning and, if you’re an office bearer, communicate with members.
Come along and find out more about getting the latest news, supporting campaigns, joining interest groups finding the latest policy information, managing events and branch administration. At this session we’ll run through the most common activities, answer any questions and help you to get the most out of the new system.

SNP MEMBERS ONLY
Self-determination in a changing Europe

The European Free Alliance represents 46 political parties across Europe from stateless nations, emerging new states, linguistic minorities, regionalists and autonomists. Given the profound political changes in Europe, what are the challenges and the opportunities for those wanting to create a new Europe, bringing democracy closer to the people? From Scottish independence to the Catalan question, what lies ahead for those that believe in self-determination and a European Union that represents the true extent of its diversity?

Speakers:
Delyth Jewell AM, Plaid Cymru Shadow Minister for International Affairs and Culture
Lorena López de Lacalle, President of the European Free Alliance
Prof. Josep-Maria Terricabras, former Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya MEP and former EFA Group President
Alyn Smith MEP, EFA Group President

“Mind the Gap” - Health inequalities in Scotland

This event will explore how health inequalities impact the lives of people living with long term conditions in Scotland and the measures that can be taken to address them.

Delegates will learn about the difference being made by the Links Worker Programme in some of Scotland’s most deprived areas. The programme originated from a ground-breaking pilot funded by the Scottish Government. In addition, we will focus on the connection of diabetes and deprivation and how to identify and address the problem and look at the Scottish Government’s Type 2 Prevention, Early Detection and Intervention Framework.

Speakers:
Collette Mason, Community Links Practitioner, Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the ALLIANCE)
Sir Harry Burns, Professor of Global Public Health, University of Strathclyde

Chaired by: Councillor Dennis Robertson, Member of Aberdeenshire Integration Joint Board
Tuesday 15 October
Conference Suite 3, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

School Empowerment & Teacher Agency
An exploration of the Empowered School programme and how it may deliver improved pupil outcomes and greater teacher agency.

Speakers:
Bill Ramsay, EIS President
Alison Thornton, EIS Ex-President - Chair
John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills

WITH AILEEN McLEOD MEP

Tuesday 15 October
Conference Suite 4, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

Can Scotland be a beacon in the world to a wellbeing economy?
In 2018 Scotland, Iceland and New Zealand established the Group of Wellbeing Economy Governments to challenge the acceptance of GDP as the ultimate measure of a country’s success – the goal of economic policy should be collective wellbeing, how happy and healthy a population is, not just how wealthy a population is. Collective wellbeing, not GDP, should be the most important measure of a country’s success.

Join Aileen McLeod MEP, Christina McKelvie, MSP, Dr Katherine Trebeck and Jane Morrison as they discuss what a wellbeing economy is, what a wellbeing economy looks like, how we can get there, why governments should prioritise wellbeing and the actions Scotland is taking in this regard.

Speakers:
Aileen McLeod MEP
Christina McKelvie, MSP, Minister for Older People and Equalities, Scottish Government
Dr Katherine Trebeck, Wellbeing Economy Alliance (WEAll) and co-author with Jeremy Williams of “The Economics of Arrival: Ideas for a Grown-Up Economy”
Jane Morrison, WEAll Scotland, co-founding Member of Climate 2050 Group
Fringe Meetings
Tuesday 15 October LUNCHTIME

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 1, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

A Rubbish Event
Our ability to produce plastic far outstrips our ability to manage it. Tearfund, a Christian relief and development agency, is campaigning against the problem caused by large multinationals which drive the demand for cheap, single-use plastics in countries with inadequate waste management systems and no recycling facilities. Christians For Independence are concerned that we are failing in our stewardship of the planet; our Earth is a unique gift from God and we are called to look after it, but what if we don’t, can’t or won’t?

Speakers:
Dr. Hazel MacIver, Advocacy and Campaigns Manager, Tearfund Scotland: Plastic pollution and what we can do about it.
Dave Thompson, former MSP, Convener of Christians For Independence: Endangered Creation

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 2, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

What does the food and farming industry want to see in the Good Food Nation Bill?
Hear the agriculture and food and drink industry perspective on the Good Food Nation agenda, where we see the key opportunities to grow the food and drink industry in Scotland, with a productive and profitable agricultural industry at its heart.

Speakers:
David Thomson, CEO FDF Scotland,
Andrew McCornick, President NFUS,
Mairi Gougeon MSP, Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment

Chaired by: Kate Devine, Food Writer
Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 3, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

Safe, secure and affordable home for all:
What contribution could housing make to reducing child poverty by 2040?

Speakers:
Sally Thomas, CEO Scottish Federation of Housing Association
Jim McCormick, Associate Director, Joseph Rowntree Foundation
Aileen Campbell, Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Local Government MSP

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 4, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

Cleaning up the air we breathe
Air pollution is responsible for an estimated 2,500 deaths in Scotland each year. With Low Emission Zones are already starting, or about to get off the ground, in Scotland’s 4 main cities, we will examine what needs to be done to ensure that everyone in Scotland can breathe clean air with healthy lungs.

This fringe meeting will draw on a range of perspectives on the impact of air pollution in Scotland and examine the solutions put forward by local authorities and the Scottish Government to tackle this growing public health crisis.

Speakers:
Joseph Carter, Head of Devolved Nations, British Lung Foundation
Kelsey Gillies, Campaigns Coordinator, British Lung Foundation
Councillor Lesley Macinnes, The City of Edinburgh Council
Councillor Angus Millar, Glasgow City Council
Michael Matheson MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity

SNP MEMBERS ONLY

Organiser’s Surgery – A drop-in session for Organisers, with a chance to ask questions and discuss ideas with Stacy Bradley, Organisation Convener.
Monday 14th October
0900-1000 in Conference Suite 1B

EU Citizens - the3million

The 3 million is the largest campaign organisation for EU27 citizens in the UK - a grassroots organisation formed after the 2016 EU referendum to protect the rights of people who have made the UK their home. They are an organisation for and of immigrants, working closely with the Scottish Government.

This is the opportunity to understand the effect of Brexit on EU nationals living in Scotland and how best we can support them.

Hosted by Christian Allard MEP
Nicholas Hatton, co-chair of the3million

Dr Mireille Pouget
active member of the3million

Ben Macpherson MSP
Minister for Europe and Migration

Philippa Whitford MP

Refreshments: Teas/Coffees/Biscuits
Fringe Meetings
Tuesday 15 October LUNCHTIME

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 5, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

Back Their Future: The case for investing in higher education.

Our event, which is jointly hosted with UCU Scotland and NUS Scotland, aims to demonstrate the importance of a well-funded higher education sector to staff, students and to Scotland’s success as prosperous and inclusive nation. When we look to the future, we want to be positive about the position and performance of Scotland’s universities and ambitious about what they can deliver for Scotland. Speakers representing all three organisations will make the positive case for investing in higher education and will share their thoughts on why a well-funded sector is central to a successful Scotland.

Speakers:
Richard Lochhead MSP, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science
Professor Nigel Seaton, Principal, Abertay University
Mary Senior, Scotland Official, UCU Scotland
Liam McCabe, President, NUS Scotland

Tuesday 15 October
Meeting Room 7, First Floor
The Event Complex Aberdeen
12h30 - 13h30

The Low-Carbon Transition: How to Support Vulnerable Households and Meet the Climate Emergency

This event will focus on how government and industry can come together to deliver vitally important decarbonisation ambitions while ensuring that policies relieve rather than create or exacerbate fuel poverty in Scotland’s homes.

Speakers:
Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands
Norman Kerr, Chief Executive Officer, Energy Action Scotland
Charlotte Hartley, Member of 2050 Climate Group; Member of the Scottish Just Transition Commission; and Member of IPPR Environmental Justice Commission
Dr Jamie Stewart, Head of Markets, Citizens Advice Scotland
Barbara Whiting, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, SGN

Chaired by: Russell Gunson, Director, IPPR Scotland
Guide to Voting
INTERNAL ELECTIONS

Electronic voting is used for internal elections at Conference. All delegates with an email address on the membership system will be sent a link containing their voting code when Conference opens.

Delegates will be able to vote for the election of office bearers and committees. Delegates can take advantage of WiFi coverage within the venue to vote using their own devices.

For delegates unable to vote electronically during Conference, printed ballot papers will be issued from Headquarters desk from 14h00 on Sunday 13 October. Please remember you will need your delegate credentials card and current membership card. Once issued, ballot papers are the responsibility of the delegate. Ballot papers are best completed immediately after collection and placed in the ballot box.

This is the first conference where delegate will vote for Regional Members of the National Executive Committee. The ballot paper may include two lists. The first one is for the ‘all–female’ list. The second one is for the ‘open list’. The ‘all–female’ list will be counted first. The candidate elected on the ‘all–female’ list will be removed from the ‘open list’ contest. A candidate who is not elected in the ‘all–female’ list may be elected in the ‘open list’.

There is no contest for Regional Members of the National Executive Committee in the Highlands and Islands and in North East Scotland. There is also no contest for the ‘all–female’ list in Lothian.

Voting closes at 10h30 on Tuesday 15 October. At that time, the electronic balloting system will stop accepting any more votes and Headquarters desk will cease accepting ballot papers.

It is anticipated that the results of the elections will be announced before the close of conference.
Scotland: Leading the world in responding to the global climate emergency
Monday 12:30-13:30 Conference Suite 1B

With the world facing a climate emergency, an international collective response is needed urgently. Scotland is rightly recognised as a world leader in setting challenging targets and taking bold, decisive measures to tackle climate change.

Join Aileen McLeod MEP, Tommy Sheppard MP, Councillor Susan Aitken, Heather Roy, and Gavin Lundy of the YSI as they discuss Scotland's climate ambitions and actions in response to the global climate emergency.
**CENTRAL SCOTLAND**

Airdrie & Shotts  
Coatbridge & Chryston  
Cumbernauld & Kilsyth  
East Kilbride  
Falkirk East  
Falkirk West  
Hamilton, Larkhall & Stonehouse  
Motherwell & Wishaw  
Uddingston and Bellshill

**LOTHIAN**

Almond Valley  
Edinburgh Central  
Edinburgh Eastern  
Edinburgh Northern & Leith  
Edinburgh Pentlands  
Edinburgh Southern  
Edinburgh Western  
Linlithgow  
Midlothian North and Musselburgh

**GLASGOW**

Glasgow Anniesland  
Glasgow Cathcart  
Glasgow Kelvin  
Glasgow Maryhill & Springburn  
Glasgow Pollok  
Glasgow Provan  
Glasgow Shettleston  
Glasgow Southside  
Rutherglen

**MID SCOTLAND AND FIFE**

Clackmannanshire & Dunblane  
Cowdenbeath  
Dunfermline  
Kirkcaldy  
Mid Fife & Glenrothes  
North East Fife  
Perthshire North  
Perthshire South & Kinross-shire  
Stirling

**HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS**

Argyll and Bute  
Caithness, Sutherland and Ross  
Inverness and Nairn  
Moray  
Na H–Eileanan an Iar  
Orkney Islands  
Shetland Islands  
Skye, Lochaber & Badenoch

**SOUTH SCOTLAND**

Ayr  
Carrick, Cumnock & Doon Valley  
Clydesdale  
Dumfriesshire  
East Lothian  
Ettrick, Roxburgh & Berwickshire  
Galloway & West Dumfries  
Kilmarnock & Irvine Valley  
Midlothian South, Tweeddale & Lauderdale
WEST SCOTLAND
Clydebank & Milngavie
Cunninghame North
Cunninghame South
Dumbarton
Eastwood
Greenock & Inverclyde
Paisley
Renfrewshire North & West
Renfrewshire South
Strathkelvin & Bearsden

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND
Aberdeen Central
Aberdeen Donside
Aberdeen South & North Kincardine
Aberdeenshire East
Aberdeenshire West
Angus North & Mearns
Angus South
Banffshire & Buchan Coast
Dundee City East
Dundee City West
EIS Fringe Meeting

Tuesday 15 October, 12.30pm - 13.30pm
Conference Suite 3, Event Complex Aberdeen

School Empowerment & Teacher Agency

An exploration of the Empowered School programme and how it may deliver improved pupil outcomes and greater teacher agency.

Speakers:

Bill Ramsay  
EIS President

John Swinney  
Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills

Chair:

Alison Thornton  
EIS Ex-President

Lunch and Refreshments Provided
Nominations

Speakers:
- Bill Ramsay
  EIS President
- John Swinney
  Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education & Skills

Chair:
- Alison Thornton
  EIS Ex-President

EIS Fringe Meeting
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Lunch and Refreshments Provided

School Empowerment & Teacher Agency
An exploration of the Empowered School programme and how it may deliver improved pupil outcomes and greater teacher agency.
National Office Bearers

PRESIDENT
Ian Hudghton       Forfar     UNOPPOSED

BAME CONVENER
Tasmina Ahmed Sheikh  Alloa
Graham Campbell       Glasgow Provan
Michelle Campbell     Renfrewshire Riverside
Qasim Hanif           Southside Central

DISABLED MEMBERS’ CONVENER
Morag Fulton         City of Stirling     UNOPPOSED

EQUALITIES CONVENER
Mercy Kamanja        Aberdeen Central
Finlay McFarlane      Leith
Fiona Robertson       Aberdeen Central

LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENER
Ellen Forson         Alloa     UNOPPOSED

NATIONAL SECRETARY
Morgwn Davies        Haddington
Angus MacLeod        Glasgow Shettleston
Christopher McEleny  Greenock & Inverclyde
NATIONAL TREASURER
Colin Beattie  Dalkeith & District  UNOPPOSED

ORGANISATION CONVENER
Stacy Bradley  Castle Douglas & Glenkens  UNOPPOSED

WOMEN’S CONVENER
Jen Layden  Glasgow Shettleston
Wendy Van Leeuwen  West Fife & Coastal Villages
Fiona Sarwar  Mid-Strathmore
Rhiannon Spear  Greater Pollock & Cardonald
Julia Stachurska  Motherwell & Wishaw
Colette Walker  Eastwood

NATIONAL COMMITTEES
TWO Ordinary Members of the National Executive Committee (Elected Parliamentarians eligible for nomination)
Clare Adamson MSP  Motherwell & Wishaw
Tommy Sheppard MP  Portobello/Craigmillar
Alison Thewliss MP  Glasgow Shettleston
Two ordinary members of the National Executive Committee from each Scottish Parliament Region. (One to be elected from an open list, one to be elected from all-female list)

Central Scotland

All-Female List
Lynne Anderson Coatbridge & Chryston
Elizabeth Barnes Braes

Open List
Lynne Anderson Coatbridge & Chryston
Ross Clark Larkhall
Cameron McManus Motherwell & Wishaw
Callum Timms Bo’ness

Glasgow

All-Female List
Christina Cannon Glasgow Maryhill & Springburn
Margaret Ferrier Cambuslang
Kaukab Stewart Glasgow Kelvin
Lauren Wards Glasgow Provan
OPEN LIST
Malcolm Balfour  Glasgow Anniesland
Graham Campbell  Glasgow Provan
Christina Cannon  Glasgow Maryhill & Springburn
Margaret Ferrier  Cambuslang
Qasim Hanif  Southside Central
Alexander Kerr  Glasgow Shettleston
Kaukab Stewart  Glasgow Kelvin
Lauren Wards  Glasgow Provan

HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS
Munro Ross  Inverness City  UNOPPOSED

LOTHIAN
ALL–FEMALE LIST
Roz Currie  Leith  UNOPPOSED

OPEN LIST
Andrew Diack  Gilmerton
Alex Orr  Meadows Morningside
MID SCOTLAND AND FIFE

ALL–FEMALE LIST
Cailyn McMahon  Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay
Mireille Pouget  Clackmannanshire East

OPEN LIST
Rhuaraidh Fleming  Howe of Fife
Cailyn McMahon  Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay
Mireille Pouget  Clackmannanshire East

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND

Douglas Daniel  Aberdeen South & North Kincardine  UNOPPOSED
Dorothy Jessiman  Central Buchan  UNOPPOSED

SOUTH SCOTLAND

ALL–FEMALE LIST
Heather Anderson  Tweeddale
Elizabeth Irvine  Kelso & Jedburgh
Janis Wilson  Preston, Seton, Gosford and Fa'side

OPEN LIST
Heather Anderson  Tweeddale
Rob Davidson  Dalbeattie
Allan Dorans  Ayr West
Elizabeth Irvine  Kelso & Jedburgh
Bill Mills  Wallace
Janis Wilson  Preston, Seton, Gosford and Fa'side
## WEST SCOTLAND

### ALL-FEMALE LIST
- **Caroline Bamforth**  
  Eastwood  
- **Amy Callaghan**  
  Clydebank  
- **Robyn Graham**  
  West Kilbride  
- **Emma Hendrie**  
  Paisley Burgh  
- **Paula McEwan**  
  Greenock & Inverclyde  
- **Colette Walker**  
  Eastwood

### OPEN LIST
- **Amy Callaghan**  
  Clydebank  
- **Robyn Graham**  
  West Kilbride  
- **Emma Hendrie**  
  Paisley Burgh  
- **Robert Innes**  
  Linwood & Craigends  
- **Gavin Lundy**  
  Paisley Tannahill  
- **Chris McCusker**  
  Eastwood  
- **David McDonald**  
  Eastwood  
- **Paula McEwan**  
  Greenock & Inverclyde
NINE Elected Members of the Member Conduct Committee

Malcolm Balfour  
Ann Ballinger  
Declan Blench  
Laura Doherty  
Allan Dorans  
Jérémie Fernandes  
Denise Findlay  
Ian Gallagher  
Stevie Graham  
Qasim Hanif  
Chris Hanlon  
Annette Ireland  
Kirsty Jarvis  
Gavin Lundy  
Scott McFarlane  
Cailyn McMahon  
Sam Nadeem  
Bill Ramsay  
Maggie Smith  
Owen Thompson  
Lauren Wards  
Janis Wilson  
Elaine Wylie

Glasgow Anniesland  
Cumbernauld  
Pollokshields East  
Glasgow Shettleston  
Ayr West  
Upper Banffshire  
Broughty Ferry  
Bearsden South  
Huntly & Alford  
Southside Central  
West Fife & Coastal Villages  
Eastwood  
Mid Fife & Glenrothes  
Paisley Tannahill  
Greater Pollock & Cardonald  
Inverkeithing & Dalgety Bay  
Paisley Tannahill  
Southside Central  
Glasgow Provan  
Bonnyrigg & Loanhead  
Glasgow Provan  
Preston, Seton, Gosford and Fa'side  
Blairgowrie, Rattray & District
SEVEN Elected Members of the Conduct Appeals Committee

Ken Andrew           Glasgow Kelvin
Murray Buchanan     Ayr West
Roderick Campbell   Meadows Morningside
Christina Cannon    Glasgow Maryhill & Springburn
John Cumming        Glasgow Kelvin
Ena Marie Hamill     Coatbridge & Chryston
Emma Hendrie        Paisley Burgh
Lachie McNeill       Glasgow Shettleston
Alan Morrison        Glasgow Anniesland
Morag Sievwright    Glasgow Provan
Biographies

CLARE ADAMSON
Holyrood Group Member of NEC since 2016, former member of the National Council and SOAC. Would be strong voice for equalities on NEC.

TASMINA AHMED SHEIKH
Previously National Women’s and Equalities Convenor and then Scotland’s first ever BAME Woman parliamentarian. Much work remains to be done for the Party and country.

HEATHER ANDERSON
Scottish Borders Councillor and Deputy Group Leader. ANC Events Convener, Policy Development Committee member and stood as EU Candidate in May. Branch Treasurer and farmer.

LYNNE ANDERSON

KEN ANDREW
As a sitting Councillor for Glasgow City Council I have extensive experience sitting on Appeal Panels both as a member and as the Chairperson.

MALCOLM BALFOUR

ANN BALLINGER
Retired Trade Union GS with extensive experience of Professional Conduct issues. A lifelong SNP Voter I have been actively involved since 2013.

CAROLINE BAMFORTH
Activist, Councillor in East Renfrewshire. Convener of Health and Social Care. Vice Chair of IJB. NHSGGC Board member. Member of Policy Dev Committee.

MURRAY BUCHANAN
Solicitor and Branch Officer, Ayr West.

AMY CALLAGHAN
Standing to be a strong voice on the NEC for members in the West of Scotland.

GRAHAM CAMPBELL

MICHELLE CAMPBELL
We need more BAME representation. As Convener, I will be a powerful voice for all BAME communities; ensuring strong representation amongst internal and elected representatives.

RODERICK CAMPBELL
Former MSP for North East Fife and current Convener of the Appeals Committee.

CHRISTINA CANNON
As an NEC member I would give a strong voice for Glasgow by using my experience as a local Councillor.

ROSS CLARK
YSI Central Scotland Vice-Convener. Youth & Media Officer at Branch. Experience of YSI NEC meetings and organising campaign days.
JOHN CUMMING
Age 19, John is a committed Branch activist. Current Convener of YSI Glasgow, the Glasgow Branch of the SNP’s Youth Wing.

ROZ CURRIE
Elected to the NEC in 2017 and 2018. Constructive voice for change, regional structure and support. Speaking up for members. Tommy Sheppard’s campaign manager.

DOUGLAS DANIEL
Former Political Education Convener and National Executive Committee member, I will personally ensure we deliver a YES vote in the North East in INDYREF2.

ROB DAVIDSON
With support for Independence rising we need strong voices from the South, bringing a unique perspective to how we view the next Independence Referendum.

MORGWN C DAVIES
Branch Secretary, CA Convener and Secretary of the SNP Trade Union Group. Retired so will have time to devote to the role of National Secretary.

ANDREW DIACK
An active campaigner for the Party since the referendum, including managing the recent leith Walk by-election victory. Currently convener of Edinburgh Eastern Constituency Association.

LAURA DOHERTY
Active campaigner since 2013. Two time candidate and sitting Councillor who will work hard to keep the Party focused and disciplined in campaign for Independence.

ALLAN DORANS
Convener Ayr West SNP Branch. Former Leader SNP Group South Ayrshire Council. Approved Parliamentary Candidate. Previously Convener Liaison Committee and PEO. Totally committed SNP activist.

JÉRÉMIE FERNANDES
Moray SNP Secretary.

MARGARET FERRIER

DENISE FINDLAY
Software engineer living in my hometown Dundee. Priority is Scottish Independence.

RHUARAIDH FLEMING
Experienced sitting NEC member. Worked to open candidate selections and keen to keep working on preparing the Party for our next referendum.

ROBYN GRAHAM
National Organiser of Young Scots for Independence and West Kilbride Women’s and Equalities Officer.

STEVIE GRAHAM
Lives with his wife and son. previously worked in IT for 31 years. Enjoys gardening, cars and walks in Scotland’s expanding forests with his dog.

ENA MARIE HAMILL
I am Treasurer of Coatbridge & Chryston Branch. I am a member of ENGENDER. MA Hons Sociology from Glasgow University. Parent Rep on Educational Appeals Committee.
QASIM HANIF
Having worked to promote BAME representation in the party for over 10 years, I have the knowledge, experience and passion to implement the changes required.

CHRIS HANLON
How we manage the inevitable conflicts of 125,000 volunteers is vital. We need to be kinder to each other to achieve our objectives.

EMMA HENDRIE
Vice Convener of Young Scots for Independence West. Paisley Buddie with experience representing regional party organisations at a local and national level. West is Best!

ROBERT INNES
As an ordinary SNP member myself, I will engage with all ordinary members in the West of Scotland to represent your views on our NEC.

ANNETTE IRELAND
Local Councillor. Eastwood Branch Vice-Convener. Chair of Planning and Education Appeals Committees and a member of the Employment Appeals and Audit and Scrutiny Committees.

ELIZABETH IRVINE
Willing & (reasonably) able to do my bit for the SNP. 66 year old wifey, active in my community & hopeful of a fair, civilised land.

KIRSTY JARVIS
I have been involved with the SNP for 4 years as MidFife & Glenrothes Branch Secretary & Mid Scotland & Fife Vice-Convener.

DOROTHY JESSIMAN
Active Member 31 years. Currently manning, researching, producing material for Talk Independence feature CA Summer Touring Stall. If elected would input this experience.

MERCY KAMANJA
From equality group. Work experience with asylum seekers and marginalized groups. Understand various inequality strands. Plan to ensure equal consideration of preferences; citizens interests and equal voices are applied.

ALEXANDER KERR
2019 EU Candidate. NEC Member. Convener of Glasgow SNP and Shettleston CB. Worked on pushing regionalisation of Party and making Glasgow’s voice heard on NEC.

JEN LAYDEN

GAVIN LUNDY
National Convener of Young Scots for Independence. Ayrshire grown/ Renfrewshire resident! Represented 6,000+ members on NEC for two years: Experienced representation for the West of Scotland.

ANGUS MACLEOD
A local campaigner with experience through 3 successful election campaigns as National Secretary. I will drive forward the modernisation of the rulebook en route to Independence.
DAVID MCDONALD
Political Education Officer for Eastwood Branch, trying to get around all the by-elections I can.

CHRISTOPHER MCELENY
Acting for members. I will give you better accountability of where your dues are spent and implement an appraisal system for the party Chief Executive.

PAULA MCEWAN
Currently Convener of my local Branch, NEC will give me the opportunity to widen my experience and influence.

FINLAY MCFARLANE
Committed Edinburgh SNP activist, National Vice Convener of Out for Independence and Attitude Magazine Pride Award recipient. For promoting, empowering and strengthening the SNP’s diversity.

CAILYN MCMAHON
Young Scots for Independence National Women’s Officer & previous MidScotland and Fife Regional Convener. Experience with Party NEC and YSI NEC used to effectively represent.

CAMERON MCMANUS

LACHIE MCNEILL
Advocate (Retired). Former Convener Glasgow Baillieston and Glasgow Shettleston CBs. First Convener of Disciplinary Committee under the 2004 Constitution.

BILL MILLS
Retired IT Consultant, experienced campaign manager, agent & trainer. Currently engaged in delivering workshops in Framing & Reframing the narrative for Independence throughout Scotland.

ALAN MORRISON
Previously Secretary and Political Education Officer of Glasgow Anniesland. Committed activist since joining Party in 2014.

SAM NADEEM
Joined 2013 and been active across Scotland ever since. Member of YSI, Disabled Members Group and BAME network. Passionate about equality and fairness.

ALEX ORR
As a former member of the NEC and having stood for election at all levels I would be delighted to have your support in this.

MIREILLE POUGET
Active member since 2014. Women and Equalities Officer. Heavily involved with the3million to work with Scottish partners and the Scottish Government to protect EU citizens’ rights.

FIONA ROBERTSON
I will continue my work on building shared solidarity, bringing an equalities focus to the structures and processes of the SNP.

MUNRO ROSS
Highly experienced highland activist. Current Member Conduct Committee and PDA member. Experience from SOAC. Active Trade unionist.
FIONA SARWAR
I am currently both my branch’s Equalities and Women’s Officer. I was elected to Perth and Kinross Council in 2017.

TOMMY SHEPPARD

MORAG SIEVWRIGHT
Born Johnstone. Community worker since mid 1990s, graduated from Northern College Dundee. Been privileged to work in some of the most disadvantaged areas of Scotland.

MAGGIE SMITH
Northern Rhodesian (Zambian) by birth. Spent teenage years in Glasgow. Worked as sub-editor on The Herald for 13 years. Single mother to a son now 30.

RHIANNON SPEAR
Previous NEC & SOAC member, Convener YSI 2015–17, equalities campaigner & feminist. Standing for a women’s caucus with a strong voice that can contribute to the success of the SNP & independence for Scotland.

JULIA STACHURSKA
Current member of the Policy Development Committee, National Equalities Convener of the SNP Students, keen activist, feminist and believer in equality.

KAUKAB STEWART
Working towards an Independent Scotland – nothing less will do!

OWEN THOMPSON
Once upon a time, former MP for Midlothian; Council Leader and Local Government Convener; Member of the previous Disciplinary Committee for a number of years and keen to continue.

CALLUM TIMMS
An experienced election agent, Callum has a proven record of delivering for the SNP. Callum is committed to being a strong local voice on NEC.

WENDY VAN LEEUWEN
As Women’s Convener I would prioritise a solid communication network between local women’s officers to encourage a team effort to support all women in Scotland.

COLETTE WALKER
First disabled woman on “Women For Independence Committee”, passionate about gender equality, balanced minority group representation, empowering women/most vulnerable in society – their voices matter.

LAUREN WARDS
Provan organiser and Activist.

JANIS WILSON
A committed Party activist, Convener of our local branch. I was a candidate in May 2017. An accredited agent and an approved parliamentary candidate.

ELAINE WYLIE
Office Manager to John Swinney & Pete Wishart. Member Conduct Committee Convener. Committed activist for 26 years. Let’s keep discipline in the Party.

WENDY VAN LEEUWEN
As Women’s Convener I would prioritise a solid communication network between local women’s officers to encourage a team effort to support all women in Scotland.
Independence Magazine St Andrew’s Awards Dinner

Music, Prize Draws, Surprises, Fine Dining and a night of celebration in keeping with the fine traditions of the Scottish National Party.

The SNP’s largest social event celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year and we want you to celebrate with us.

Tickets are priced at £75 per person. Independence magazine subscribers receive a discount on their first two tickets at £63 each.

Book your places at the Independence magazine stand at Conference.

Alternatively contact Bill Campbell on 07806 316 422 bill@saltiregraphics.scot or Jim Henderson at HQ on 0131 525 8904 jim.henderson@snp.org
Annual Awards Categories

- Branch of the Year
- Councillor of the Year
- Parliamentarian of the Year
- Activist of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Party members and subscribers may email one nomination for each category to jim.henderson@snp.org by 30 October, or hand nominations into the Independence magazine stand at National Conference.

Independence Magazine
St Andrew’s Awards Dinner

Music, Prize Draws, Surprises, Fine Dining and a night of celebration in keeping with the fine traditions of the Scottish National Party. The SNP’s largest social event celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year and we want you to celebrate with us.

Tickets are priced at £75 per person. Independence magazine subscribers receive a discount on their first two tickets at £63 each. You can book places at the Independence magazine stand at Conference or alternatively contact Bill Campbell on 07806 316 422 bill@saltiregraphics.scot or Jim Henderson at HQ on 0131 525 8904 jim.henderson@snp.org www.snp.org/dinner
Aberdeen SNP Presents

Comedy, music and more...

All proceeds towards the Aberdeen South election fund
(Help us elect a better MP!)

Sunday 13th October
Doors open 7:30pm for an 8pm start

Breakneck Comedy Club
22-24 King Street, AB24 5AX (Beside the Castlegate)

Tickets £10 per person
(Available from the Aberdeen Donside stall in the Exhibition Hall)
REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Dr Angus MacLeod, Convener of the Conference Committee

This report is for approval at 14h15 on 13th October 2019.

The Conferences Committee would like to thank all branches and members who submitted resolutions for party conference. We appreciate that it is disappointing when resolutions are not accepted for the long list but we encourage engagement with the newly elected Policy Development Committee ahead of submission. Going forward, that interaction with the Policy Development Committee, with National Assembly, and with other interested parties, will help us to strengthen the detail of submissions, as the level of input and involvement in submissions will be far more comprehensive than it will often have been in the past. We are also issuing redrafted resolution guidance, which includes advice on amendments for the first time, for branches to consider when they are drafting motions. The best examples to take away from conference remain those resolutions that make the final agenda so do take heed of the format and structure of those resolutions. As ever, the Conferences Committee remain happy to offer feedback when resolutions are not successful.

The Committee is strongly of the opinion that, wherever possible, resolutions should be discussed and adjusted by other bodies of the party ahead of submission to conference. In this regard, we expect leadership to be shown by parliamentarians who should take their motions to their branch if at all possible, as well as following the path through the PDC and National Assembly as set out above. The party had been making good progress in ensuring branches were the predominant voice in policy development in the past few years and it would be regrettable to see a regression in this regard.

The Committee is also very strongly of the view that the formation of the agenda is an internal process and one that recognises both the rights of our members to shape the agenda, and also the elected bodies of the party. Committee members made it very clear to me that those who seek to use the press or their profile to attempt to influence the Committee inappropriately will see their motions considered in light of those efforts. The Committee’s role is fundamental to protecting the right of any branch to submit a competent grassroots resolution for debate at National Conference and the process of forming our conference agenda should not descend into a competition as to who has the loudest public presence. I would also endorse that view.

The Conferences Committee received a total of 123 resolutions and met to discuss
these on 10th July. We agreed amendments on 21st August ahead of the Delegates’ Choice vote commencing. The committee met again on 11th September to review the outcome of the Delegates’ Choice mechanism and agree the Final Agenda.

Standing Orders for National Conference have not been amended for some time. Indeed, there is a reference in Standing Orders to the National Convener, which some members might recall was the name of the post held by the Party Leader fifteen years and three constitutions ago.

Conferences Committee was elected at Spring Conference on an 18 month mandate and was given a specific role to keep under review the Standing Orders for National Conference. The Committee intends to review Standing Orders with a view to bringing revised Standing Orders to one of the National Conferences next year. In the meantime, minor textual revisions are being proposed to Standing Orders. The revised version is printed in the handbook.

These amendments revise the numbering conventions in line with other rules, replace references to the Standing Orders and Agenda Committee with references to Conferences Committee and make amendments consequential on National Council being abolished. They also revise the drafting in line with the plain English conventions adapted in the new constitution in terms of use of the future tense etc.

We would like to thank the HQ team of Jennie Gollan, Ian McCann and Scott Martin for assisting the committee this year.
REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE BEARERS AND OTHERS

These Reports are for information and questions during Session 4 (INTERNAL) at 17h00 on Monday 14th October 2019.

President
Business Convener
Local Government Convener
Member Support Convener
National Women’s and Equalities Convener
Organisation Convener
Policy Development Convener
National Secretary
National Treasurer
European Parliamentary Group
Scottish Parliamentary Group
Westminster Parliamentary Group
Association of Nationalist Councillors
Federation of Student Nationalists (SNP Students)
SNP Trade Union Group
Young Scots for Independence (SNP Youth)
REPORT FROM PRESIDENT

Ian Hudghton

Like many other SNP members, I enjoyed a weekend in Shetland campaigning in the by election. I was very encouraged by the responses on the doorsteps and the broad support for remaining in the EU. Our excellent local candidate led the campaign in exemplary fashion. I hope that similar enthusiasm and commitment will be applied to the various local government by election campaigns that are in progress.

At the time of writing, the Brexit chaos continues. The UK Government is providing us with a very clear demonstration of why we should be independent, as Scotland’s interests and views are routinely ignored in Downing Street and Westminster. Another Westminster snap election seems to be becoming more likely. All of the above bring challenges as well as opportunities for us. Every SNP vote in a ballot box helps to build and maintain the credibility and momentum which will be required to achieve our goal of independence for Scotland.

To be sure of winning the next referendum on Independence, whenever it is held, we will have to maximise the number of Independence conversations we have on the doorsteps with voters in every community and gather the essential data in Activate. The next few weeks and months will be testing, as we instigate Westminster candidate selections and campaign in Council by elections. Let us apply the maximum amount of energy to winning seats so that our progress towards independence is maintained.
REPORT FROM BUSINESS CONVENER

Kirsten Oswald

This is an extraordinary time in politics, and as Westminster has descended to new depths of inward looking turmoil, Nicola Sturgeon’s clear and principled leadership has stood in stark contrast. Our SNP Scottish Government has continued to deliver every day for the people of Scotland.

Thanks to our clear message, and the hard work and dedication of our SNP activists, working all across Scotland, more and more people are determined that an independent Scotland offers a better future. The campaign activity which takes place week in and week out is critical, and it has been a pleasure to be on doorsteps all over the country alongside SNP activists during this past year.

We won a historic victory in the EU Parliament election this summer. The results across the country and the election of a historic three MEPs were a testament to our members working so hard on the campaign trail. Our candidates campaigned tirelessly, and our clear, focussed message allowed voters to be very clear that they wanted the SNP to make Scotland’s voice heard loudly and clearly in Europe.

As we move forward over the coming months, the strength of our fantastic activists will even more vital, supported by the tireless work of the headquarters staff team. There is no doubt that there will be important campaigning opportunities in the months ahead, so please do get involved, because every one of us has an impact on the outcome.

It was a great privilege to chair Conference for the first time in April. I have no doubt that National Conference will bring more first class debate and discussion, and the opportunity for SNP members to spend time with friends from all around Scotland as we set our course for the future. I look forward to seeing the new internal structures come together, with an increased breadth of representation on NEC, to increase the geographic spread and the diversity at the heart of our party.

NEC has had a full and busy year, and it has been a pleasure to chair meetings. I am very appreciative of all of the hard work undertaken, and progress made. I am pleased that NEC has met in different areas of the country, which has enabled us to support many local election campaigns over the year.

I know that there will be many people attending conference for the first time. You are very welcome. It is a great strength of our party that we have members new and old, with a breadth of experiences and interests coming together to make decisions, consider ideas, and enjoy debate.

Our team, led by Nicola Sturgeon as Party Leader and Keith Brown as Depute Leader, work with determination and purpose, to make Scotland a better place and to secure our independence. Those members representing the SNP in council chambers, and parliaments, and those talking to voters, knocking on doors, and working behind the scenes all play a vital role.

As more and more people look to the opportunities independence offers, and recognise the potential for Scotland to forge a different and better path, we can all play a part in making this happen – have a fantastic National Conference!
REPORT FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENER

Cllr Ellen Forson

Following my election last October, I am pleased to present my second report as Local Government Convener.

It has been a busy first year in office, during which I have attended every NEC meeting – including those around the country to support by-elections. I particularly enjoyed visiting Shetland.

This seems to have been the year for local government by-elections with, at the time of writing this report, six having been called so far in 2019. We continue to perform well and increase our share of the vote. Importantly, we continue to add to our local government family of over 400 Councillors who are very often the frontline face of the Party and play a key role in making the case for independence.

Local Government is tasked with implementing many of the policies we agree, and it is important to ensure that this perspective is considered as policies are developed. Following his election, I spoke with our new Policy Convener, Alyn Smith MEP, to discuss how to ensure this happens and I look forward to further discussions.

We know that we achieve more when all our elected representatives work together – which can at times be challenging. At the time of writing this report, I have a meeting arranged with representatives from our Holyrood and Westminster Groups to discuss how we can strengthen relationships between Councillors, MSPs and MPs.

I have continued to work with the Association of Nationalist Councillors (ANC) to ensure the voice of Councillors is represented within the Party. I have enjoyed taking part in several conferences which have covered issues such as the Local Governance Review, working terms and conditions for Councillors, participatory budgeting and public health.

As part of an ANC sub-group, I have continued to work to review council group standing orders to ensure they are relevant, up to date and in-line with recent constitutional amendments. This is not a simple task and the hope is to consult with colleagues in local government shortly.

The ANC is a valuable forum for local government representatives and I would encourage all Councillors who haven’t done so already, to join and to consider attending future events.

I would like to finish off by thanking all the HQ staff who work hard behind the scenes supporting national office bearers, the NEC and the wider party membership.
REPORT FROM MEMBER SUPPORT CONVENER

John Clark

At April’s Conference in Edinburgh I was given the great honour of being elected by delegates as our party’s first Member Support Convener. I want to thank you for putting your trust in me to take forward and shape this new role.

Since taking on the position 5 months ago I have managed to visit over 25 branches right across the country; from Elgin to Dumfries, visiting all eight electoral regions in Scotland, racking up over 2,000 miles. Another 20 are in the diary for between now and early 2020.

As well as working to support Conveners and Secretaries and keep them updated regularly on any useful information, I have been working on a number of ideas raised with me by branches and also ensuring any feedback is directed to the relevant National Office Bearer or Committee.

In the coming weeks I will be issuing a toolkit for Conveners and Secretaries, which will also be available on mysnp for any member to access. This will consist of some of the information required to help in the day-to-day running of your branch, as well as ideas and FAQs based on the feedback and discussions I have had with members around the country so far.

I have also started to work with the National Secretary to develop short, fun and easy to view tutorial videos on how mysnp operates and how to use its functions. I hope this will make it easier for office bearers to navigate the email and contact system. This is an idea which came directly from a member at a branch I recently visited.

I am open to any suggestions which will help support office bearers in their roles. Please get in touch anytime and I am happy to have a chat to see if I can assist.

We stand on the verge of winning independence – our members, branches and local office bearers will be key to that victory. It is therefore vital we do everything we can to help make the daily running of our branches easier. I promise I will do everything I possibly can to support this.
REPORT FROM NATIONAL WOMEN’S AND EQUALITIES CONVENER

Fiona Robertson

It has been another busy few months since my last report. Out For Independence became a constituted, affiliated group with a new Executive Committee, and they have been going from strength to strength. I have assisted the Candidate Assessment Committees in checking their processes for biases. I have been working on the candidate selection balancing mechanisms, looking for ways to increase representation from marginalised groups in our elected representatives.

I have been offering peer support to members who have been the targets of abuse online because of their support for equalities. This abusive behaviour has, unfortunately, taken up a significant portion of my time as Convener. Ensuring that marginalised people feel safe in our party is the key priority for this role. I have offered advice to people running for the new Convener positions regarding what the personal cost is likely to be and how to protect themselves.

I have managed to travel to a number of branches to talk about Women’s and Equalities issues, where I have been able to meet some fantastic, insightful and decent people. A number of the plans I was working on have moved much slower than anticipated because of the chaos in politics right now, but I continue to work on the online space for organising, the equalities audit, anti-harassment code and much more.

I hope I am able to continue this work after Conference, but if not, it has been an enormous privilege to be the Women’s and Equalities Convener for the SNP. Though there’s always more I wish I could have done, I am proud of the work I’ve been doing. Thank you for the opportunity!
REPORT FROM ORGANISATION CONVENER

Stacy Bradley

My first year as Organisation Convener has been an exciting and varied one, filled with challenges and changes, the likes of which are unheard of in modern politics! In these changing times, my focus has been on ensuring the Party is active and campaign ready for any eventuality, that we are campaigning for Independence across the country at every opportunity, and that we have the best resources available to support our activists to achieve this.

Together, we’ve secured an historic victory by sending a record number of MEPs to represent us in the European Parliament. We have had many by-election successes, and we are learning from our experiences across the country to ensure that we win every future campaign we possibly can. We have also launched a new YES campaign and encouraged hundreds of thousands of others to pledge their support to the cause of Independence too. Congratulations and thanks to you all for working so hard and spreading our Party’s positive vision for Scotland’s future across the land.

With input from Organisers via our SNP Organisers Facebook page, by direct contact with me personally and through a successful series of Surgeries at Spring Conference, I’ve been working on new resources to help Organisers grow in confidence and knowledge of campaigning. The development of the Organiser’s Handbook has begun, and I hope that this resource will continue to grow and meet the needs that our Organisers have highlighted.

I have also been putting Organisers in touch with one another, visiting branches to speak and supporting local Organisers with specific issues when requested. While working with Depute Leader Keith Brown and the Campaign Committee to communicate your feedback and ideas, I recognise the need to develop an Organiser’s Committee to help with communications, training and sharing of expertise around the country. I have begun work on this and aim to create a team which will meet the needs of local Organisers in a dynamic and helpful way, and in turn contribute to Handbook and the Contact Directory too.

Given that we will be moving into the campaign period for the Scottish Parliament elections scheduled for May 2021, we will continue to work on campaign planning and the development of localised techniques, resources and training. This will include further Parliamentary Election Agents and Campaign Co-Ordinators (PEACC) assessments. We need to ensure we are ready for all possible election and referendum campaigns at any given time, and that Independence remains at the heart of all our activities. At the time of writing there are plans in the pipeline for an Organiser’s Day, which aims to encourage discussion around what Organisers really need in terms of support, input and resources to ensure that the plans we are developing together will be of greatest use for our future campaigns.
While I’ve been working on the things you’ve asked for I’ve also been running local by-election and EU campaigns, out knocking on doors and attending campaigning events wherever I’ve been able. I will continue to do this as I believe that it’s the best way to understand our changing campaigning needs, and that your Organisation Convener should ‘walk the walk’. It helps that I love campaigning too!

I reiterate my thanks to all colleagues and HQ staff who have been supportive and patient as I’ve got to grips with this role. It has been a busy year and an incredibly exciting time to serve as Organisation Convener of the Party. What an absolute privilege it is to work alongside such a capable, dedicated team, and I look forward to continuing to do so as we embark on the next phase of building our Independent nation together.
REPORT FROM POLICY DEVELOPMENT CONVENER

Alyn Smith MEP

I would firstly like to thank Members for their confidence in electing me Convener of the Policy Development Committee and I would pay tribute to the work of Doug Daniel as Political Education Convener, his work having proven that there was a need to expand the support and encouragement of our policy making. It has been an exciting effort getting the new structure moving. Where our existing structures have delivered, I believe it is right we find a new way to encourage policy development and activate the incredible resource we have in our ever expanding membership.

In order to ensure we do not reinvent the wheel I have met with the Trade Union Group, ANC and the Holyrood and Westminster Groups as well as briefed the Political Education Officers nationwide on how best to bolt the PDC into our existing structures in order to augment our policy making procedures and ensure the membership remains in charge.

We are meeting bi-monthly as a Committee, and I have been participating in the Conferences Committee also. The new structure phases in as of this Conference and we will spur the Policy Development across the groups and branches from now. The two reps from each Region are being active and engaged across their regions and spurring discussion of policy. We have proposed a National Assembly in the Autumn on European and International policy - there is plenty to discuss! Further announcements will follow as priorities emerge, and I would encourage members to engage with your branch or CA PEO for more information.
REPORT FROM NATIONAL SECRETARY

Dr Angus MacLeod

As National Secretary, I have continued to take forward a platform of party reform. This year I have overseen the election of new office bearers and committees of the party including the Policy Development Committee, the Conferences Committee and Regional Steering Committees. We have also greatly strengthened the role of our new affiliate organisations and I was delighted to see them all in attendance at NEC in September.

The Constitution and Rules as available on my.snp have been updated to reflect the changes agreed at the last conference and you can review the version history of any rulebook changes within that document. As we continue to update the numerous parts of the rulebook, it should continue to be interpreted in light of the Constitution adopted in October 2018 where any clashes of terminology arise. I am happy to advise any member who needs assistance in this regard.

The party has had to deal with the reality of shifting goalposts when it comes to a Westminster election throughout the year, as well as an unexpected European election in which we achieved our best ever result and the highest vote share of any party in Western Europe. Constitutionally, we are well placed to deal with a snap election or a regularly scheduled one, but the reality is that for most of the year we were somewhere between the two, with a snap election becoming an increasing likelihood. This led to an increased focus on Westminster selection, although you will note Holyrood selections feature in our internal resolutions. Throughout this evolving political process, we were keen to allow local members a voice wherever possible, even if the timescales meant that constitutionally power was vested in the National Executive, due to the imminence of an anticipated election.

In regards to member conduct issues, I maintain that the best form of discipline is self-discipline and the best resolutions to local disputes are found locally. I have continued to work for a party that recognises its duty to the independence cause is best served by focussing our attention outwardly at engaging with the public via campaigning, rather than on internal issues. The party must be a place where people can debate serious policy disagreements in good faith and in a collegial manner. There have been occasions this year where that has not been the case and I would urge members to ensure that they do engage constructively and directly with one another. Matters will not be resolved via social media, but if members do want to hear the views and experiences of others in person, and to learn from that, then both myself and the other national office bearers are always keen to facilitate dialogue.

My role as National Secretary is to focus on the internal reform to allow members and local office bearers the chance to make their branch the most effective campaigning force they can be. I am always happy to hear opinions from members of where further reform is required, and will continue to take forward practical and much needed reform whilst I remain National Secretary.

I wish you all an enjoyable conference.
REPORT FROM NATIONAL TREASURER

Colin Beattie MSP

In presenting the annual accounts as at 31st December 2018, I am conscious of the huge financial road we have travelled over the years. Our accounts look robust and we are benefitting from continued strong revenues from our membership. However, as you might expect from Scotland’s biggest political party, our outgoings are also substantial as we seek to maintain our position. The good news is that we are successfully fulfilling our obligations and meeting the ever increasing demands on our funds.

Members may at a cursory glance note the bottom line of our accounts and see that we made a substantial revenue surplus over expenditure. I would caution against drawing too many hopes from that. Regrettably the peculiar accounting requirements of the Electoral Commission mandate that we must include within that surplus anticipated income from legacies. These can take a very long time to come forward and do not represent cash in hand. I really would rather not anticipate benefitting from the demise of our members in this way and we deliberately do not formally budget for such.

I remain alert to the potentially very substantial impact on our revenues of implementing the regional structure. With the support of NEC all proposals which carry a cost to the party will require to be accompanied by a detailed business proposition which will include revenue sources. This will be carefully scrutinized before the financial element receives support.

The need for careful budgeting and prudent management of the party funds remains critical. In the coming months we will have the 2021 Holyrood Elections; possibly a Westminster Election; and hopefully an Independence Referendum to find the cash to fund. This amounts to a very large sum of money and, more than ever, at this critical stage of our moving down the road to independence we will be relying on our members and supporters to carry us forward.

I can assure the membership that strict financial controls are in place to ensure that every penny which we receive is well used and accounted for.

My thanks to Elizabeth Young who has ably carried out the duties of Assistant National Treasurer through the year. In particular my thanks to her for putting together the Treasurers Handbook which, while still in draft form, provides valuable guidance and insights for our Treasurers.

My thanks also to members of the Finance and Audit Committee for their support through the year.

Lastly, my thanks to Peter Murrell, CEO, and his team in HQ who have made my job much easier over the years and who give excellent support to my work.

Just a reminder that no branch or party organization may enter into any loan, mortgage, overdraft, guarantee or other obligation which might bind the party without sign off from the National Treasurer. Potentially this could breach Electoral Commission regulations.
REPORT FROM EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

Christian Allard MEP

3 is a magic number but it wasn’t magic who got us three there, it was a solid SNP vote and the greatest campaign ever for a European election from our SNP activists. It is voting SNP that will defeat Brexit in Scotland, voting SNP that will bring us independence.

And the message to Westminster is loud and clear, we have a new yellow map. This message is not lost in translation across Europe, our “chers collègues” in the European Parliament get it. They told us that they want the UK to stay in the EU and if the UK leaves, they reassured us that they want an independent Scotland to stay in the EU.

It was confirmed when our First Minister came to Brussels in June, the room was full of people from across the EU agreeing with every word she said about the future of Scotland and the future of the European Union.

With such support, we hit the ground running with Alyn Smith leading the European Free Alliance (EFA) Group and becoming, as the new EFA President, the Vice President of the Greens/EFA Group. Counting 75 Members from 16 countries, our group is the fourth largest group in the European Parliament.

With such clout and influence, we secured places in key committees. Alyn is on the Foreign Affairs (AFET) and the Agriculture (AGRI) committee. You won’t be surprised to learn that Aileen McLeod, former Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform, has been welcomed to the Environment, Public Health & Food safety (ENVI) committee. Aileen is also a member of the Constitutional Affairs (AFCO). I am on the Internal Market & Consumer Protection (IMCO) Committee as well as the Fisheries (PECH) committee, bringing my 35 years of experience in the Scottish fishing industry to Europe.

As you can see, when Scotland votes SNP, Scotland pushes well above its weight. We have been elected to stop Brexit, it was written on our lollipops, you know what I mean if you got involved in the European campaign.

We are very grateful to represent Scotland in the EU and we look forward to serve our full term, our full 5 year term.
REPORT FROM SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

George Adam MSP, Group Chief Whip

Once again it has been a very busy time for your SNP Scottish Parliament group. The Whips office have asked a lot of the group as the ongoing Westminster mess continues to grind that Parliament to a halt. There might be a new Prime Minister in number 10 but he still seem unable to make the UK Government function. As I write this our Scottish Government has announced their Programme for Government for 2019/20 and within that are 14 additional Bills on top of the 13 Bills already announced and progressing through Parliament. Let us not forget the 13 Bill passed during 2018/19. The contrast between Westminster and your Scottish Parliament are stark. Our Scottish Government continues to stand up for Scotland and deal with the Westminster mess that is Brexit. As you can see your Scottish Parliamentary Group has been very busy and still manage to build the arguments for the Independence of our nation.

We face and deal with events and tragedies others struggle to imagine.

We place ourselves in harm’s way so you don’t have to.

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Follow us on Twitter @ScotsPolFed

#itswhatwedo
REPORT FROM WESTMINSTER PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

Patrick Grady MP, Chief Whip

The deadline for submitting this written report to conference was just after the House of Commons began its summer recess in late July. By the time it appears in print, it is possible the political situation in Westminster will have changed significantly.

The Tory leadership contest and Boris Johnson’s appointment as Prime Minister have dominated events since the second Brexit extension was agreed in May. Legislation currently provides for the UK to leave the EU on 31st October and the Tory government has announced it is stepping up plans for leaving on a ‘no deal’ basis. The SNP Westminster Group has been clear it will support any parliamentary and cross-party efforts to prevent this scenario, and have already worked successfully on a number of such initiatives. Amendments to the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation) Bill will make it more difficult for the new Prime Minister to arbitrarily ‘prorogue’ Parliament and force a ‘no deal by default’. We are also seeking cross-party support, from a majority of MPs in the House, for a simple motion stating that prorogation should not happen before the end of October. We continue to support efforts for a ‘People’s Vote’, with the option to remain, and retaining the possibility of revoking Article 50 if Parliament cannot agree to a deal.

Our MPs continue to work on a range of other high-profile issues and campaigns, including an ‘opposition day’ debate in July calling for reform of the ‘hostile environment’ and various aspects of immigration policy. We always enjoy welcoming colleagues from the Scottish Parliament and Government to Westminster, and recent visitors have included SNP Depute Leader Keith Brown and Finance Secretary Derek Mackay, as well as Brexit Minister Michael Russell and the First Minister.

Our thanks as always to our dedicated staff teams in the leadership, press, research and whips offices, as well as to all our local members and activists. Knowing we have strong support at home while we are making Scotland’s voice heard Westminster is always a reassuring thought. Please do get in touch with your local or closest SNP MP if you are travelling to London and would like a look around. We’re all increasingly confident that the opportunities for such visits will not last long, as independence comes inevitably closer.
REPORT FROM ASSOCIATION OF NATIONALIST COUNCILLORS

Bailie Norman MacLeod, Convener

As Convener of the Association of Nationalist Councillors (ANC) it is my pleasure to submit this report to the Party’s 2019 Annual Conference.

I shall be most happy to hear from party members at any time, especially from fellow SNP Councillors. To contact me – Bailie Norman MacLeod – please e-mail:- norman.macleod@glasgow.gov.uk – or ‘phone or text me on 07881 282 650 (mobile); or ‘phone 0141 287 4880 (office).

I am pleased to report that the ANC is in good heart and continues to increase its level of activity and its effectiveness in seeking to serve our SNP Councillors, our Party and our Nation.

Our Executive Committee works very hard and I take this opportunity to thank all colleagues for their support and commitment. In addition to our monthly business meetings we have been much involved in organising a series of special events.

In March of this year we held a stimulating, successful and most enjoyable conference at Eddleston in the Scottish Borders.

Under the conference theme of - ‘Keeping our people well – health, welfare and wellbeing’ – our star contributor was Jeane Freeman MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport – whose address to us and subsequent informative question and answer session was of the highest calibre.

As well as Jeane Freeman – we heard also from Pete Ritchie, Director of Nourish Scotland; from Dave Liddell, Chief Executive Officer of the Scottish Drug Forum; from Simon Ritchie, Policy Engagement and Campaigns Officer for Age Scotland; from Jim Hume, Convener of the National Rural Mental Health Forum; and from Pattie Santelices of the Health and Wellbeing Team at the City of Edinburgh Council.

In April we held a fringe meeting on the Sunday morning of Spring Conference which again was of a very high standard. Thanks go to Local Government Convener, Councillor Ellen Forson, for arranging the event; and to the speakers – Aileen Campbell, MSP; Professor James Mitchell; and Councillor Graham Houston.

On Saturday, 15th June 2019 we held a most successful one-day conference in Elgin Town Hall in Moray. Once again we enjoyed a very high standard of participating contributor. The morning session - under the theme of the Future of Local Governance in Scotland - was led by Professor James Mitchell of Edinburgh University, supported by our own Councillor Graham Houston, Vice President of COSLA, whose focus was on the Changing role of Councillors. The afternoon saw us turn to the subject of Participatory Budgeting with presentations from Kelly McBride, Director for Scotland of the Democratic Society, followed by an inspirational address.
by Councillor John Alexander, the Leader of Dundee City Council. There was a fine 
attendance of Councillors from all over Scotland representing some 19 different 
Local Authorities. Our colleagues in Moray Council looked after us and made us most 
welcome with special thanks to Councillor Sonya Warren for her ‘tour guide’ duties in 
Elgin over the full two days some of us were there.

Thanks are due to all those colleagues whose hard work has made our special events 
such a success – especially to Councillor Heather Anderson from the Scottish Borders 
- who is our Conferences and Events Convener – most ably assisted by her Borders 
Colleague – Councillor Stuart Bell – and by our Associate Members – our Treasurer 
and former Councillor, Lynda Kenna, together with her husband Greg McCarra.

As I compose this report I am looking forward to our final event of the year being 
our AGM and one-day Conference to be held in be held in Stirling on Saturday, 28th 
September 2019. Principal speakers are to be Derek Mackay MSP, Cabinet Secretary 
for Finance, Economy and Fair Work; and Alyn Smith MEP, President of the European 
Free Alliance and Vice President of the Green/ EFA group in the European Parliament.

I am confident that our time in Stirling at the end of September will have been as 
successful and enjoyable as our previous events.

In closing I thank all SNP Councillors and SNP Council Groups for their support of the 
ANC which is most appreciated.
REPORT FROM FEDERATION OF STUDENT NATIONALISTS (SNP STUDENTS)

Michael Gibbons, National Convener

As I start my report, I give my best wishes to all students who I hope to have settled well into the new term. The start of the academic year is always the busiest for SNP Students with freshers’ fayres. It involves hosting stalls and events across the country in a very short space of time; my immense thanks are given to activists who staffed stalls and to branches for their help in running our activities. Freshers fayres form the core of how we grow and begin our societies. It gives us a chance to attract new members and engage with voters directly.

Our activists campaigned relentlessly for the election of our MEP team; right in the middle of exam season. We were delighted to welcome Aileen MacLeod and Stewart Hosie to our National Conference a few short weeks afterwards. Here we elected a committee to take the organisation forward with the implementation of a new constitution and to run our national efforts during freshers. We have spent the summer weeks working to lay the groundwork for the new semester and at by elections across the country. We led a delegation of SNP Students members to the Shetland Isles to campaign for Tom Wills. My immense thanks to our Equalities Officer Julia Stachurska for its organisation and my immense thanks to the staff of party headquarters for their facilitation of our activists.

We have also used our time to advance and protect LGBTQ+ rights. We have done this by assisting the National Equalities Convener in the relaunched Out For Independence group; the affiliated organisation dedicated to campaign for independence among the LGBTQ+ community and for the LGBTQ community in the party. We wish them every success in their promotion of equal rights and opportunities. We also attended Pride along with other organisations in our party. SNP Students remains fully committed to the reformation of the Gender Recognition Act 2004 to deliver on our manifesto promise of justice and respect to the transgender and non-binary communities. We will continue to oppose any transphobia, biphobia or homophobia that occurs in Scottish society and politics.

We eagerly look forward to playing our part in fighting and winning the next independence campaign on a platform of fairness, opportunity and inclusivity.
REPORT FROM SNP TRADE UNION GROUP

Greg McCarra, Convener/NEC Representative

In looking back over the year since Annual Conference 2018, the biggest single topic for the TUG has been the Sustainable Growth Commission Report. We held a Conference Fringe Meeting on the Report on 6 October, where the keynote speakers were George Kerevan (Journalist, Economist, Former MP), and Lynn Henderson (President, Scottish Trades Union Congress).

Three weeks later we continued our discussion of the SGC Report at a TUG Regional meeting in Edinburgh, where the keynote speaker was Jim Mather (former Enterprise Minister, and Member of Sustainable Growth Commission).

These meetings – and a few smaller, local ones – helped the TUG formulate its own stance on resolutions/amendments for conference decisions on the Report and allowed us to influence that debate in a constructive way.

Our Annual Conference and AGM was held in Glasgow’s Renfield St Stephens Centre on 30 March, with a keynote from Keith Brown MSP (Depute Leader), and with the AGM being chaired by Kirsten Oswald (Business Convener/NEC Chair). It also had sessions on Industrial Relations in Further Education (led by Bill Ramsay & Scott Donohoe) and on Fair Work (led by Chris Stephens MP, Shadow SNP Spokesperson for Fair Work and Employment).

Building on the success of our earlier meetings, we had a Fringe Meeting at Spring Conference (hosted jointly with Scottish Hazards) on the topic of Corporate Homicide, where the speakers were: Patrick McGuire (Legal Advisor to Scottish Hazards), Lynn Henderson (STUC), and Chris Stephens MP. Despite the usual competition from other major fringe meetings, the TUG one was very well attended and lively.

We had a stall at the STUC Conference in April – our first for some time – and which helped underline the increased significance that we believe the SNP now has within the trade union movement.

Discussions are underway regarding a further Fringe Meeting in October – check your Conference Handbook for details.

Meanwhile the TUG will continue to promote trade unionism within the SNP but – as we await the final outcome of the Brexit Boorach – we will work particularly hard to promote the benefits of Independence to trade union members throughout Scotland.
REPORT FROM YOUNG SCOTS FOR INDEPENDENCE (SNP YOUTH)

Gavin Lundy, National Convener

It has been an incredibly busy year for Young Scots for Independence, and we continue to be the most active and influential youth wing in Scottish Politics.

The YSI is driving the direction of policy in our party. At SNP Spring Conference we passed our Resolution calling for the Scottish Government to implement a School Leaver’s Toolkit policy; drawing from global best practice to ensure future generations of school leavers are ready to meet the challenges of adulthood and are well placed to live as engaged citizens.

At this Conference we are taking forward yet another excellent Resolution, this time on the establishment of a Scots Language Board – one of many debated at our largest ever Summer Conference back in June.

At this Conference we are Co-Hosting a Fringe Event with Aileen McLeod MEP on the global Climate Emergency. You can find the full details of this event in this handbook. We look forward to a healthy discussion on this most important issue of our time.

And make sure to get your tickets to our famous Conference Karaoke – full details also in this handbook – we hope to see you there!

This year we have officially created our first Equalities Groups; spaces where young SNP members with protected characteristics can get organised. Further to this, we have a group for our female members, as well as groups that work on specific policy areas. The YSI has been kept busy with the most important job SNP activists can do: knocking doors and delivering our party’s positive message across Scotland’s communities.

The SNP won a sensational victory in the European Elections. Scotland sent a strong signal that we will not accept being ripped out of the European Union against our will. This success was in no small part due to the work put in across Scotland by young SNP activists.

The YSI have provided boots on the ground in every Council By-Election this year. We will continue to do so should any further By-Elections arise.

We also gave our everything to the Shetland By-Election campaign. We sent three separate teams of YSI members to assist the campaign across the islands; right up to the close of polls. Although we didn’t win Shetland – we are deeply proud of the work put in by our activists throughout what proved to be an energetic and upbeat campaign which achieved a substantial swing in Scotland’s safest seat.

We’re fighting fit for a snap General Election and we look forward to helping to win seats for our candidates across our country.
YSI Central Scotland recently relaunched with a new committee taking things forward in the region. We’ve also been keeping up with the housekeeping; tightening up our standing orders according to our best practice and giving ordinary members an easy say in setting the agenda for our Conferences through Delegates Choice. We have implemented accessibility standards for our venues and have introduced RNIB clear reading standards in all our documentation.

The YSI is more than just a traditional youth activist wing, it provides training, undertakes policy development, and is an open social space for young SNP members. There has never been a better time to get involved.

I’d like to take this chance to personally thank all of our activists and office bearers for all of the work that they do to make the YSI work, it’s because of them that the YSI is what it is today.

Stop by our stall to see how you can do so or to see how you and your branch can work with and support us. We are happy to arrange visits from our Office Bearers to any branch in the country.
The European Free Alliance (EFA) and the Scottish National Party stand together in supporting the right of the Scottish people to self-determination. EFA fully respects and supports the democratic decision of voters in Scotland to remain in the EU. We will continue to work together with the SNP to help give a strong voice to Scotland’s interests in Europe, and to contribute more actively to EU policy making and reform.

EFA is Your European Political Party

www.e-f-a.org
Facebook: European Free Alliance
Twitter: @EFAparty

European Free Alliance

This project received financial support from the European Parliament. Sole liability rests with the author and the European Parliament is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.
WE’RE GREEN.
NOT GREENER, NOT GREENISH, TOTALLY GREEN.

ScottishPower is the first integrated energy company in the UK to generate 100% green electricity. Our focus is on wind energy, smart grids and driving the change to a cleaner, electric future and we’re investing over £7m every working day to make this happen.

We’re committed to speeding up the transition to cleaner electric transport, improving air quality and over time, driving down bills - to deliver a better future, quicker for everyone.
Achieving Net-Zero: How can industry work with policy makers to create a sustainable economy?

Sunday 13th, 12.30-1.30, Suite 2a

**Food and Refreshments**

*with Drew Hendry MP*, Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy spokesperson and *Stewart Stevenson MSP*, environment committee member

Social mobility: How business can bridge the class divide

Monday 14th, 9.00-10.00, Suite 2b

**Food and Refreshments**

*with Chris Law MP* and *John Swinney MSP*, education secretary

An Ageing Population in a Digital World: What role can engineering and technology play in improving quality of life?

Monday 14th, 12.30-1.30, Suite 2b

**Food and Refreshments**

*with Christina McKelvie MSP*, Minister for Older People and Equalities

Deposit Return Scheme: Can Scotland lead the way?

Monday 14th, 17.30-18.30, Suite 2b

**Food, Refreshments and Wine**

*with Mairi Gougeon MSP*, Minister for Rural Affairs and Natural Environment and *Angus Macdonald MSP*, environment committee member

The Future for the Rural Economy

Monday 14th, 9.00-10.00, Suite 2a

**Food and Refreshments**

*with Kate Forbes MSP*, Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy and *Fergus Ewing MSP*, Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity

Creating a Workforce for the Future

Monday 14th, 12.30-1.30, Room 6

**Food and Refreshments**

*with Jamie Hepburn MSP*, Minister for Business, Fair Trade and Skills

Building a faster, greener, more successful Scotland: What does the future hold for Scotland’s transport and infrastructure plans?

Monday 14th, 17.30-18.30, Suite 2a

**Food, Refreshments and Wine**

*with Michael Matheson*, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity

Economy Hub Reception

Monday 14th, 19.30-20.30, Suite 2a

**Food, Refreshments and Wine**

*with Derek Mackay*, Cabinet Secretary for Finance

The Big Public Health Debate

Sunday 13th, 17.30-18.30, Suite 2a

**Food, Refreshments and Wine**

*with Joe Fitzpatrick MSP*, Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing

The Health & Care Hub Reception

Sunday 13th, 19.30-20.30, Suite 2a

**Food, Refreshments and Wine**

*with Jeane Freeman MSP*, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
Standing Orders
01 Quorum

The quorum is as defined under the Constitution. A quorum count may be called for at any time during National Conference. Two minutes warning must be given before a count is taken. After this period the doors to the hall are sealed and no individuals admitted until the quorum count is completed.

02 Preparation of Agenda

2.1 Conferences Committee is responsible for the preparation of the Agenda for National Conference and has power—

a) to decide whether resolutions, amendments, nominations and other matters pertaining to the Conference are in accordance with the Constitution and Rules and Standing Orders of the Party;

b) to revise and amend resolutions and amendments or to incorporate in one resolution a number of similar resolutions from several notifiable bodies, and to rewrite the resolutions received, provided always that the principles underlying the resolution or amendment must not be infringed;

c) to categorise all resolutions received under the following headings—

(i) put forward unamended,

(ii) put forward amended for presentation purposes,

(iii) put forward composited,

(iv) rejected as existing policy,

(v) rejected in favour of other resolutions, and

(vi) rejected for other reasons.

This information will be held at Headquarters and supplied to notifiable bodies on request after publication of the final agenda;

d) to place resolutions and amendments on the agenda; and

e) to decide the order of business to be transacted, the placing of items on the agenda, and the approximate time to be allocated to items.

03 Undischarged Business

3.1 The Convener of the Session should endeavour to leave five minutes free of business prior to conclusion of each Session to allow all motions for which no amendments have been submitted and have not been discussed to be put formally to Conference.

3.2 However, business undischarged at the end of a Session may be put to a subsequent Session if time permits for discussion.
04 Order of Business

4.1 At the beginning of Conference, the motion to approve the report of Conferences Committee must be passed by a simple majority.

4.2 The order of any item on the agenda may be altered on a motion from the Chair, or the floor, passed by a simple majority of those voting.

4.3 The Convener of the Session is the sole judge of the order in which motions and amendments are put.

05 Emergency Business

5.1 Business not on the written agenda, other than topical and emergency motions defined in 5.2 and 5.3 below, may be discussed only by consent of a majority of two-thirds of those voting, except as provided for in 5.4 below.

5.2 Topical Motions must relate to matters currently topical during Conference, which could not have been foreseen at the time the Agenda was compiled. They must not relate to internal, disciplinary or constitutional matters. Topical motions are debated in the ordinary manner provided for in these Standing Orders.

5.3 Emergency Motions must relate to matters currently topical during Conference, which could not have been foreseen at the time the Agenda was compiled. Emergency motions, which are not subject to debate in the normal manner, must be of a non-contentious nature which are likely to achieve overwhelming acceptance by Conference.

5.4 Any member wishing to bring before Conference emergency business not on the written agenda must inform the National Secretary before the commencement of the daily meeting of Conferences Committee.

06 Convener

6.1 The Business Convener of the Party, in person or by delegation to another member of the National Executive Committee, convenes proceedings except as provided for in 6.10 below. The Party Leader retains the right to convene the meeting.

6.2 The Convener of the Session is in charge of the proceedings and conducts them in accordance with recognised procedure as amplified by Standing Orders.

6.3 All motions, amendments, speeches, points of order and other business is addressed to the Chair.

6.4 The decision of the Convener of the Session on procedure, on all points of order and on choice of speaker is final and conclusive, subject only to the challenge of a motion of No Confidence in the Chair as provided for in 6.10 below.

6.5 Only one speaker may speak or be on their feet at any one time, save that any member may interrupt a speaker on a point of order. The Convener of the Session rules on who has the floor and the other member must immediately resume their seat.
6.6 When the Convener of the Session rises, all members standing must resume their seats and maintain silence until the Convener resumes their seat.

6.7 Any member who, after being requested by the Convener of the Session to resume their seat and maintain silence, persistently refuses to do so, will forthwith be named by the Chair and without further discussion will be suspended from that Session and be requested to leave the Conference Chamber for the remainder of that Session. No motion, discussion, point of order, or interruption is permitted until the offending member has left the Conference Chamber.

6.8 If the member concerned persists in defying the Chair by refusing to leave the Conference Chamber or by contriving to speak or interrupt proceedings after the procedure in 6.7 has been invoked, they will be automatically suspended from that Session and from attending the rest of that National Conference, the National Executive Committee and of National Assembly for the next succeeding three calendar months. If they, subsequent to the National Conference at which the incident occurred, submit in writing to the Chair an unqualified apology and a specific assurance that they will in future obey the rulings of the Chair, the National Executive Committee, may, if it thinks fit, raise the suspension.

6.9 If any member is suspended from meetings of National Conference, the National Executive Committee or National Assembly more than once during any one year, the National Secretary must, at the next succeeding meeting of the National Executive Committee to that meeting at which the member was last suspended, formally name them for suspension from all meetings of National Conference, the National Executive Committee and National Assembly up to the next following National Conference.

6.10 Any member, not being the aggrieved member, may, on the Convener of the Session refusing to alter a ruling, move a motion of No Confidence in the Chair; If this is seconded by another member, other than the aggrieved member, a temporary Convener – the next in order respectively of the Depute Leader, whom failing the National Secretary, whom failing, another available member of the National Executive Committee – must take the Chair and without discussion put the motion to the meeting.

6.11 If the motion is supported by a simple majority of those voting, the temporary Convener continues in the Chair for that session. If the motion is not carried, the original Convener of the Session resumes the Chair.

6.12 Any member who has moved or seconded a motion of No Confidence in the Chair is not permitted to move or second another such motion during the same session.
Conduct of Debate

7.1 It is expected that members remain in the Conference Chamber throughout a Session. A member requiring to leave must do so between speeches, and with as little disturbance as possible.

7.2 The ruling of the Convener of the Session on the competency of any motion or amendment is final.

7.3 Each delegate who wishes to speak must complete a card — obtainable from the Stewards — in respect of each item on the Conference Agenda on which they wish to speak. This should be returned to the Stewards well in advance of the calling of the motion.

7.4 Movers of motions (including the direct negative) or Reports are allowed five minutes to speak and other speakers, including movers of amendments, are allowed three minutes. The mover’s reply is allowed time as provided for in 7.6 below. Additional time is given at the discretion of the Convener of the Session to movers of major policy resolutions or Reports and movers of amendments thereto.

7.5 It is open to any member to move that a speaker be further heard. The motion, if seconded, is put to the meeting without discussion and is carried if passed by a majority of those voting. When an extension of time is allowed, it must be for not more than three minutes.

7.6 No member is entitled to speak more than once on any one motion unless on a point of order, except that movers of motions and amendments may reply and be allowed two minutes for this, the movers of motions having the opportunity of closing the debate. In replying, members must strictly confine themselves to answering previous speakers and must not introduce new matter.

7.7 Motions or amendments, other than the direct negative, not seconded will not be discussed.

7.8 Points of order must deal with the conduct or procedure of the debate.

7.9 Any mover of a motion or amendment to the Constitution or the Rules and Standing Orders may accept an amendment or amendments to this with the consent of a seconder and with the agreement of the Conference.

7.10 Any mover may withdraw a motion or amendment with the consent of a seconder and with the agreement of the Conference.
08 Competent Amendments

8.1 Competent amendments and procedural motions are as detailed below.

8.2 Competent amendments to motions other than amendments to the Constitution or Rules are—
   a) to amend a motion by substitution, deletion or addition;
   b) to move the direct negative; or
   c) to remit the whole motion back to the proposer of the motion.

8.3 Competent amendments to amendments to the Constitution or Rules are—
   a) to amend a Constitutional Amendment or amendment to the Rules by substitution, deletion or addition; or
   b) to move the direct negative.

8.4 Competent amendments to reports of National Office Bearers and others presented to Conference for approval are—
   a) to note the Report;
   b) to amend the report by deletion of a part, providing notice of the amendment has been given to the Convener of the Session before the debate on that report has commenced. Such amendments will only be accepted at the discretion of the Convener of the Session; or
   c) to move the direct negative.

8.5 Procedural motions are—
   a) to adjourn the debate;
   b) to put the question; or
   c) to move “Next Business”.

8.6 Procedural motions under 8.5 may not be moved or seconded by a delegate who has previously spoken in the debate and must be put to Conference without further discussion, except that under 8.5(b) the Convener of the Session may submit the motion to Conference only if satisfied that due balance has been observed in the debate and must allow the proposer of the original substantive motion to exercise their right of reply (under Standing Order 7.6) on making a claim to do so.

8.7 Amendments under 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4, and procedural motions under 8.5(a) and 8.5(b) are carried if passed by a majority of those voting and procedural motions under 8.5(c) are carried by a two-thirds majority.

8.8 The Convener of the Session may at their discretion permit a vote without discussion on an oral amendment to any motion, provided that the amendment does not alter the sense of the motion.
09 Voting

9.1 All members of National Conference specified under the Constitution are entitled to vote on any matter before National Conferences.

9.2 All members of National Conference have an equal entitlement to vote, except that the Convener of the Session has a casting vote.

9.3 Each member entitled to vote at National Conference is issued with a credential card bearing their name and indicating their status.

9.4 The Chief Steward or Depute Chief Steward, appointed by the National Executive Committee, is responsible for the counting of the votes for and against motions and amendments and report to the Convener of the Session, who announces the result to the Conference.

9.5 The Convener of the Session may instruct a recount to be taken or, on a motion for a recount being passed, a recount must be taken. On a recount being called the doors to the hall are sealed and no individuals admitted until the recount has been completed.

9.6 If no recount be demanded, or when a final count has been taken, the Convener of the Session declares that the motion has or has not been carried, and no further discussions is permitted.

9.7 Voting by proxy is not permitted.

10 Dissent

It is open to any member to have their dissent recorded from any decision or ruling.

11 Suspension of Standing Orders etc.

11.1 Any motion to suspend Standing Orders is carried if seconded and if supported by two-thirds of those voting. A suspension of Standing Orders is for a fixed period of time or for one item of business only.

11.2 The Conference has the right, by majority vote, to ask any member to withdraw from the meeting.

11.3 When the Convener of the Session formally leaves the Chair, no further business can be discharged during that Session.
Join Dr Kirsty Hughes of the Scottish Centre on European Relations and Alyn Smith MEP as they discuss how smaller states can benefit from EU membership culturally, financially, and politically. What lessons can be learnt from the past few years and how they see events including Brexit right now.
Alyn Smith MEP:

Member of the European Parliament for Scotland

Dr. Kirsty Hughes:

Director of the Scottish Centre on European Relations

Join Dr. Kirsty Hughes of the Scottish Centre on European Relations and Alyn Smith MEP as they discuss how smaller states can benefit from EU membership culturally, financially, and politically. What lessons can be learnt from the past few years and how they see events including Brexit right now.

Monday 17:30-18:30

Conference Suite 3
Music, Prize Draws, Surprises, Fine Dining and a night of celebration in keeping with the fine traditions of the Scottish National Party.

The SNP’s largest social event celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year and we want you to celebrate with us.

Tickets are priced at £75 per person. Independence magazine subscribers receive a discount on their first two tickets at £63 each.

Book your places at the Independence magazine stand at Conference.

Alternatively contact Bill Campbell on 07806 316 422 bill@saltiregraphics.scot or Jim Henderson at HQ on 0131 525 8904 jim.henderson@snp.org
SNP Annual Awards 2019

Annual Awards Categories

- Branch of the Year
- Councillor of the Year
- Parliamentarian of the Year
- Activist of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement Award

Party members and subscribers may email one nomination for each category to jim.henderson@snp.org by 30 October, or hand nominations into the Independence magazine stand at National Conference.

Independence Magazine
St Andrew’s Awards Dinner

Music, Prize Draws, Surprises, Fine Dining and a night of celebration in keeping with the fine traditions of the Scottish National Party. The SNP’s largest social event celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year and we want you to celebrate with us.

Tickets are priced at £75 per person. Independence magazine subscribers receive a discount on their first two tickets at £63 each. You can book places at the Independence magazine stand at Conference or alternatively contact Bill Campbell on 07806 316 422 bill@saltiregraphics.scot or Jim Henderson at HQ on 0131 525 8904 jim.henderson@snp.org www.snp.org/dinner
Tuesday 15th October
0900-1000 in Conference Suite 3

The Fishing Industry and the EU

The fishing industry and the EU have been in the spotlight the last 3 years, this is the opportunity to hear Scottish voices from the industry telling us the challenges that the industry is facing, onshore and offshore.

In or out of the EU what is the future for our fishing communities and what is the SNP policy on fishing?

Hosted by Christian Allard MEP
Elaine Whyte, Communities Inshore Fisheries Alliance

Jimmy Buchan
Scottish Seafood Association
Maree Todd MSP
MSP Highlands and Islands

Refreshments: Teas/Coffees/Biscuits
ADMISSION

Conference sessions will be taking place in the Arena of The Event Complex Aberdeen. Please use the venue’s main entrance on arrival.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exhibition Area</th>
<th>Conference Session Morning</th>
<th>Conference Session Afternoon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 13 October</td>
<td>11h00 - 18h00</td>
<td>14h00 - 17h00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14 October</td>
<td>09h00 - 18h00</td>
<td>10h30 - 12h30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15 October</td>
<td>09h00 - 16h30</td>
<td>10h30 - 12h30</td>
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The Event Complex Aberdeen operates a security check at the main entrance, where attendees bags will be checked. You may save yourself time by leaving any non-essential bags at home. If you do have a bag with you, please allow for an extra few minutes to get through this additional security step. Please also be aware that you may be asked to deposit bags in the cloakroom.

Please note: Admission to conference is subject to attendees having the relevant pass. Passes must be worn and visible at all times. If, for any reason, you have registered for a pass and do not have it with you, please make your way to the SNP Box Office located outside to the left of the main entrance where a staff member will be available to assist you.

FRINGE EVENTS

Fringe meetings are an ideal way for members to take part in more intimate discussion around topical issues or policy with key stakeholders and are an important part of SNP Conference.

The timetable for Fringe Events is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakfast</th>
<th>Lunchtime</th>
<th>Evening</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 13 October</td>
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<td>12h30 - 13h30</td>
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Venues for Fringe events will vary. Please refer to the full Fringe Events timetable in your Conference Handbook to confirm the venue of your chosen meeting. The Maps section of the handbook will help guide you to the required room. Otherwise, you can ask a member of the team at the SNP HQ desk in the main concourse if you require further assistance in finding a fringe event.
SECURITY & SECURITY PASSES

There will be security staff present at all times throughout the Conference venue. In addition to assisting with arrangements, security staff will be checking credentials and membership cards on entry to each conference location.

Please follow these simple security guidelines:

• Cooperate with all security staff, allowing your credentials to be examined at entry points to each location.
• Suitcases and large rucksacks are permitted into the venue but should be checked into the Cloakroom on arrival. All bags may be subject to a search by security staff.
• Take all of your belongings with you and do not leave bags unattended at any time.
• Report anything suspicious to the nearest steward or member of staff.

Remember: Onsite stewards will also be asking delegates to show their accreditation and membership cards to allow access to the Main Arena.

FIRE SAFETY PROCEDURE

As advised by the venue, in the event of an evacuation there will be both audible and visual alarms. The PAVA system will instruct persons to leave the venue via a pre-recorded message. Upon hearing this you must leave the building immediately, following the directions from stewards to any specified exits. Please proceed to the designated assembly point as directed by the stewards.

HEADQUARTERS DESK

The SNP Headquarters desk will be situated in the main concourse. Staff will be on hand to assist you with any questions or queries regarding conference.

WIFI

There will be free WiFi available throughout the complex as provided by The Event Complex Aberdeen. On entry to Conference, you can connect by logging into the venue’s namesake and following any instructions.

QUIET ROOM

The Quiet Room is situated in Box 2 on the first floor of The Event Complex Aberdeen. This is an open access room that conference attendees can use for a variety of purposes. You may just need a break from the sensory load of Conference, or somewhere to use for contemplation or prayer. Whatever your purpose for using the room, all attendees are welcome.

If you are in the quiet room, please be respectful of other room users. The idea of the room is to keep noise to a minimum. Mobile calls and noise from electronic devices is strictly forbidden and conversations should be conducted quietly. If you do have to make or take a phone call, please move outside the room before calling or answering.
FACILITIES
The Event Complex Aberdeen is fully accessible across all levels. There are also a number of accessible facilities to assist conference visitors with individual requirements. These include:

- **Changing Places**: There is a spacious and accessible toilet and changing space located on the concourse level. This space includes changing facilities and feeding chair for parents with young children to make use of if they prefer a more private environment.
- **Accessible Toilets**: Located throughout the venue on all levels. These are clearly marked and signposted.
- **Accessible Parking**: Located on the ground and subterranean levels.
- **Induction Hearing Loops**: Available on site.
- **Accessible Seating**: Please speak to a steward or member of staff if you require assistance.
- **Assistance Dogs**: Assistance Dogs are welcome at the venue. Please contact a member of staff if you require further assistance.
- **Quiet Room**: Located in Box 2 on the first floor of The Event Complex Aberdeen. This is an open access room that conference attendees can use for a variety of purposes.
- **Designated Wheelchair Areas**: There are lifts and additional public areas designated for wheelchair use onsite.

FIRST AID
First Aid posts are clearly marked throughout the Conference venue. If you require medical assistance please notify the venue stewards who will be able to assist you further. If a First Aid professional is needed, a steward or member of staff will be able to facilitate this.

LOST PROPERTY
The lost property point is located at the security office. Please make your way to the main reception if you have found or have an enquiry regarding any lost property.

SMOKING
The Event Complex Aberdeen is a no-smoking building, this includes the use of e-cigarettes and vaping. There are designated smoking points outside the building for those who wish to smoke.

ACCESSIBILITY
We aim to make SNP Conference as accessible as possible for all members and visitors. If you require additional assistance in any regard, headquarters staff are situated at the SNP HQ Desk in the main concourse. Please do not hesitate to ask for support at any time throughout your Conference experience.
Conference Sessions
There are a number of provisions in the main arena to help ensure that conference sessions are as accessible as possible for everyone attending conference. These include:

• A British Sign Language (BSL) interpreter on stage at all times.
• Induction Hearing Loops located throughout the venue and in the Main Arena.
• On screen subtitles on the large screens in the Main Arena during all debates and speeches.
• A range of accessible seating. If needed, please let either a steward or a member of the SNP Headquarters team know your requirements.

DELEGATES/SPEAKERS
If you require assistance filling out a speakers card, please inform a steward or a member of the SNP Headquarters team. There are a number of stewards present in the main arena and can usually be found standing along the edges of the room toward the front. SNP Headquarters staff can be found at the SNP Headquarters desk situated in the main concourse.

TOPICAL AND EMERGENCY RESOLUTIONS
Topical and Emergency Resolutions for consideration must be submitted by 09h30 each morning by email to national.secretary@snp.org or by lodging at the SNP Headquarters desk in the main concourse. Resolutions should be submitted by the Convener or Secretary of a delegating body, or by two Elected Members or Parliamentarians.

Topical and Emergency resolutions will be displayed on the large screen during the conference session in the main arena and read out loud by the Business Convener from the stage.

LOCAL INFORMATION
Travel
Car: The Event Complex Aberdeen is located just off Aberdeen’s Western Peripheral Route. Car parking charges will apply. More information on parking can be found further down in the ‘Parking’ section. Please also be aware that the drop off and pick up maximum wait time is 30 minutes and parking charges may apply if you exceed this time limit.

Cycling: Bicycle parking is available in both the overground and underground car parks and all spaces are accessible 24/7.

On Foot: The Event Complex Aberdeen is 1.5 miles from both Aberdeen International Airport and Dyce Train Station and is approximately 5 miles from Aberdeen City Centre.

Bus: The Jet Service 727 takes passengers directly to The Event Complex Aberdeen. This regular service runs from Aberdeen City Centre (Broad Street) via Great Northern Road and takes approximately 30 minutes from the City Centre. This service accepts both cash and card.
Parking
There is extensive overground and underground parking situated onsite. Car parking charges will apply and can be paid for with both card and cash. Payment is taken by entering your car’s registration number on exit.
You can also pay by the APCOA app up to 1 hour after you have left the venue. For more details on this method of payment, please visit the venue’s website via: www.pandjlive.com.

CASH FACILITIES
There are no cash machines available within The Event Complex Aberdeen. Contactless payments are welcome if you are purchasing from The Event Complex Aberdeen facilities. However, cash may be required if you are purchasing from any of the Conference Exhibition stalls. The nearest cash machines to the venue are:
• Co–Op, Sclattie Park Shopping Centre, Bucksburn, Aberdeen AB21 9QR
• Aberdeen International Airport, Dyce, Aberdeen, AB21 7DU
USEFUL NUMBERS

Taxis

ABERDEEN TAXIS
5 Crown St, Aberdeen
AB11 6HA
01224 200200

RAINBOW CITY TAXIS LIMITED
Rainbow House, Craigshaw Rd, Aberdeen
AB12 3AS
01224 878787

ABERDEEN TAXIS 4 U
1 Silverburn Cres, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen
AB23 8EW
01224 909090

TAXICALL ABERDEEN
01224 516615

CENTRAL TAXIS ABERDEEN
54 Hareness Rd, Aberdeen
AB12 3LE
01224 890089

ABERDEEN TAXI CENTRE
Burnside Dr, Dyce, Aberdeen
AB21 0HW
01224 793540

Nearby Restaurants

DYCE FARM – DINING & CARVERY
1A Dyce Drive, Aberdeen,
AB21 0AF
01224 968605

FOUR MILE INN
Inverurie Road, Aberdeen,
AB21 9BB
01224 712588

THE CRAIGHAAR HOTEL & RESTAURANTS
Waterton Road, Aberdeen,
AB21 9HS
01224 712275

OFFSHORE BAR & GRILL
2 International Gate, Aberdeen,
AB21 0BE
01224 608350

JURYS INN ABERDEEN AIRPORT
- KITCHEN & BAR
Argyll Road, Dyce, Aberdeen,
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NEWCOMER GUIDE

National Conference is the ultimate decision-making body of the SNP. As an SNP member, you have the unique opportunity to take part in this exciting process. With so much packed into just three days, we understand that for first time attendees there is a lot of new information to take in. We hope that this brief guide will help you on your way to becoming a seasoned conference veteran in no time.

ARRIVING AT CONFERENCE

Make sure that you have your delegate or member visitor pass and your SNP membership card as you will need both to gain entry into Conference. Upon entry into the conference venue, you will have the opportunity to pick up a lanyard and pass holder to enable you to display your pass. Your pass must be visible at all times as it will be checked regularly throughout the venue and every time you enter the main arena.

If, for any reason, you have registered for a pass and do not have it with you, please make your way to the SNP Box Office located outside to the left of the main entrance where an SNP HQ staff member will be available to assist you.

OVERVIEW

There are three main elements to Conference:

- **The plenary sessions** located in the main arena are where delegates debate and vote on policy resolutions and listen to keynote speeches from party leaders. Although only delegates can contribute and vote in these debates, member visitors are also welcome and encouraged to observe these sessions.

- **Fringe meetings** are located at varying times and locations throughout the conference. They are an ideal way for members to take part in more intimate discussion around topical issues and policy with key stakeholders. The format generally follows a keynote speech from a representative from the sponsoring organisation and another from an elected SNP member. This is usually followed by a question and answer session between the fringe panel and the audience. Both delegates and member visitors can take part and contribute to these discussions. More details on individual fringe events can be found in the Fringe Programme section of the Conference Handbook.

- **The Exhibition Hall** is host to a number of organisations, both internal and external to the SNP, all of whom are there to engage with SNP members. Conference attendees are strongly encouraged to visit this area as it is a lively and essential part of the Conference experience.
RESOLUTIONS

There are four types of resolution which are debated in the plenary sessions:

• **Policy Resolutions** are the most common type of resolution at Conference, and they propose a policy position to be considered by delegates. If accepted, the resolution becomes SNP policy.

• **Constitutional Resolutions** take place during internal sessions, which only SNP members can attend. They concern the procedures by which the SNP is governed such as matters relating to the SNP’s constitution, rules or standing orders. These resolutions require a super-majority of two-thirds to pass.

• **Topical Resolutions** are based on subjects that have arisen after the deadline for submitting resolutions has passed.

• **Emergency Resolutions** are based on issues that have arisen during the Conference itself.

SPEAKING AT CONFERENCE

To speak on a resolution during Conference, you must be a delegate. If you are a delegate and wish to speak in a debate, please follow the guidelines below:

• Collect a “speaker card” from one of the stewards as early as possible. You can easily identify a steward as they will be walking up and down the aisles in the main arena.

• Fill out the card with your details and the details of the resolution you wish to speak on. Remember to tick the box to let us know that you are a first time speaker.

• Ensure that you have outlined whether you are speaking for or against the resolution and whether you are forwarding or seconding.

• Return the speaker card to the steward ensuring that you show them your delegate pass. Your card will then go to the Chair of the session – usually the Business Convener.

• It is advisable that you make your way to the side of the stage at the beginning of your chosen resolution debate so you are ready to ascend the stage if called.

• The Chair of the session will call out those who have indicated they wish to speak in the debate. Please be aware that speakers do not always get called, this is often dependent on the number of people who have submitted cards and the time left in the session.

Please note: Speakers are given a maximum of 3 minutes to speak on a resolution. This is extended to 5 minutes for anyone who is moving a resolution or moving a direct negative. It is perfectly normal for speakers to have prepared a speech beforehand so please don’t be hesitant about taking your own notes onto the stage.
VOTING AT CONFERENCE

As previously noted, only delegates can vote on resolutions. All votes are taken by a show of delegate cards, with a simple majority required to pass resolutions, amendments and “remit back”, unless the vote is on constitutional amendments which requires a two thirds majority.

Depending on the cards that have been submitted to the Chair, resolution voting may take place as follows:

• Amendments to the resolution
• The remit back
• The resolution itself, whether amended or unamended dependent on how the first vote went
• A direct negative may also be voted on opposing the resolution

Please note: If there have been no amendments or cards put in against a resolution, the Chair may ask delegates to pass the resolution by acclaim.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Conference season is a fantastic opportunity to meet and interact with fellow SNP members, not only at the Conference itself, but at the various social events surrounding it. There is something for everyone as branches and affiliate organisations alike will often plan various entertainment and social functions in the evenings of conference. These events often double as a fundraising effort so it’s always a good idea to try and support them.

To find out what events are happening this year, have a look in the conference handbook for any adverts, or browse the Exhibition Hall where SNP organisations will often be selling tickets on stands.
Can Scotland be a beacon in the world to a wellbeing economy?

Tuesday 12:30-13:30 Conference Suite 4

In 2018 Scotland, Iceland and New Zealand established the Group of Wellbeing Economy Governments to challenge the acceptance of GDP as the ultimate measure of a country’s success - the goal of economic policy should be collective wellbeing, how happy and healthy a population is, not just how wealthy a population is. Collective wellbeing, not GDP, should be the most important measure of a country’s success.

Join Aileen McLeod MEP, Christina McKelvie, MSP, Dr Katherine Trebeck and Jane Morrison as they discuss what a wellbeing economy is, what a wellbeing economy looks like, how we can get there, why governments should prioritise wellbeing and the actions Scotland is taking in this regard.
Aberdeen SNP Presents

Comedy, music and more...

All proceeds towards the Aberdeen South election fund
(Help us elect a better MP!)

Sunday 13th October
Doors open 7:30pm for an 8pm start

Breakneck Comedy Club
22-24 King Street, AB24 5AX (Beside the Castlegate)

Tickets £10 per person
(Available from the Aberdeen Donside stall in the Exhibition Hall)
Conference Karaoke
Presented by Young Scots for Independence

Date:
Monday 14th October

Time:
19.30 til late

Location:
Aberdeen Beach Ballroom

Ticket Price:
Tickets cost £10
These can be purchased via our website at www.ysi.scot or from our stall at SNP conference.
The SNP’s official magazine direct to your home

Independence Magazine reflects life in the SNP and the broader national movement

Enjoy our bi-monthly 44-page full-colour magazine, delivered direct

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The European Free Alliance (EFA) and the Scottish National Party stand together in supporting the right of the Scottish people to self-determination. EFA fully respects and supports the democratic decision of voters in Scotland to remain in the EU. We will continue to work together with the SNP to help give a strong voice to Scotland’s interests in Europe, and to contribute more actively to EU policy making and reform.

www.e-f-a.org
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BABY BOX PRESCRIPTION CHARGES SCRAPPED FREE TUITION WORLD-LEADING CLIMATE TARGETS RECORD HEALTH SPENDING AND 13,200 MORE NHS STAFF 1,000 MORE POLICE 928 SCHOOLS BUILT OR REFURBISHED FREE PERSONAL CARE EXTENDED TO ALL UNDER 65 WHO NEED IT QUEENSFERRY CROSSING AND BORDERS RAILWAY CHEAPER COUNCIL TAX SIX NEW BENEFITS, OVER 91,000 PEOPLE SUPPORTED AND £190 MILLION PAID OUT TO FAMILIES FIRST COUNTRY IN WORLD TO MAKE SANITARY PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FREE TO ALL PUPILS AND STUDENTS SMALL BUSINESS BONUS 87,000 AFFORDABLE HOMES COMPLETED 230,000 MODERN APPRENTICESHIPS ABERDEEN BYPASS AND DUALLING A9 PERTH-INVERNESS PROTECTING THE FREE BUS PASS AND PERSONAL CARE FOR PENSIONERS LEADING THE WORLD ON ALCOHOL PRICING LEADING EUROPE ON LGBTI EQUALITY LEADING THE UK ON FAIR PAY CREATING THE FIRST LIVING WAGE TOWNS CITIES AND REGIONS VOTES AT 16 IN HOLYROOD AND COUNCIL ELECTIONS DISCOVER ALL THE WAYS WE’RE IMPROVING EVERYDAY LIFE: www.snp.org/record