



James GURLING 1

Federal Conference Committee

As campaigns Chair and Federal Board / FE member I participated in the full functions of the FCC as our shop-window to the world, and the FPC in terms of the manifesto creation.

My record:

- ✓ Member of **Federal Council** and **English Council**
- ✓ Member of the **2024 General Election HQ team** in charge of strategic issues communication management
- ✓ **Chair of the Federal Communications and Elections Committee** and predecessor (2010-19) overseeing our external profile in federal media and campaigning in elections.
- ✓ Chair 2019 snap General Election **which secured over a million more votes** nationally.
- ✓ Negotiated the multiparty electoral agreement via **Unite to Remain in 2019** – the largest such agreement recently.
- ✓ Chair of the **2019 'B*lllocks to Brexit' European Election Campaign** electing 16 MEPs.
- ✓ Chair of the **2017 snap General Election** increasing the Parliamentary Party by 50%.
- ✓ Formally **reviewed every round of elections** between 2010 and 2015 making detailed recommendations to improve our communications and campaigning abilities.

To contact me

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🐦 @JGurling

“ James gets my 1st preference vote.

We need a campaigning conference as our shop window to the world. He has the combination of communications know-how, campaign expertise, and party experience to deliver it.

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**Baroness
Caroline Pidgeon**

*Chair,
English Lib Dems*

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We must make Conference a key part of our General Election campaign

The FCC has an enormous responsibility to present our party to the public.

Conference is our single greatest media exposure and I will work to make it our campaigning platform. We cannot afford it to be either a talking shop or an echo-chamber.

I have been a directly elected member of conference committee before.

I will bring my deep knowledge of the party's General Election campaigns to the committee's work.



“James' skills make him essential to the mix of members on FCC. He offers wise counsel born of long service through the good times and difficult times”



Willie Rennie MSP
*Former Leader,
Scottish Lib Dems*

From grassroots organiser and councillor...

- Joined the SDP via its student wing back in 1985 serving on its Executive to merger
- Councillor in Southwark 1998-2010 gaining from Labour and retaining ward twice
- Parliamentary Agent in Richmond & Barnes 1992
- Local election Agent / candidate in Hull, Wandsworth and Southwark
- Chair of Southwark's Planning Committee, Executive Member for Communications & Performance Improvement as well as Group Chair and Deputy Group Leader

...to HQ General Election team

- Press team support on Paddy Ashdown's 1997 General Election tour
- Leadership election agent to Charles Kennedy and member of his advisory team
- HQ General Election team member 2001, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2024
- Founder then Editor of *The Reformer* magazine and original Centre for Reform
- Past Master of the City of London's 'Company of Communicators'
- Executive Chair in a Communications Consultancy

“I've seen for myself that James chairs debates well, is a team player, and goes above and beyond to help FCC make our conference work.”



Cllr Mike Ross
*Former Conference
Chief Steward*

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