

Dr Sam Barratt (he/him)

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For Federal Conference Committee

Putting members at the heart of our Conference

There has been such a buzz at recent Conferences - winning control of more Councils and lots more MPs helps with that! It is a reminder of what makes this party special - and how Conference helps.

It is the fact that at the heart of our party are our members.

Conference is a chance to

come together, from right across the UK, to discuss the changes the country needs to see: the priorities of voters members are talking to in our communities.

They are an important shop window where media attention is focussed on us. We have a vital opportunity to connect with the voters, one we have used well over the years.

Why I'm standing for re-election

I've enjoyed putting in the work on FCC over the last three years.

I've been a strong voice for putting members at the heart of Conference and being focussed on making sure we are ready to fight - and win - elections at every level and in every nation.

Now, with so many more MPs elected - and councils being run by the Liberal Democrats - Conference remains a crucial part of our successes.

But I am ambitious for more.

I want to help make our Conferences something every *member* attending loves and is energised by.

I want to grow our Conferences more and show what Lib Dem MPs and Councillors are delivering for our communities.

With your support, I will keep working hard for our grassroots members on FCC. To win elections, showcase our values, and give members a voice.



About Sam

- Joined the party in 2001 because of Paddy Ashdown's campaign to put more money into schools, and Charles Kennedy's passion for social justice and freedom.
- A passionate campaigner ever since in Northampton, Leeds and London.
- A communication specialist who worked for the party including as Director of Communications from 2018-2020.
- Responsible for branding the 'B*locks to Brexit' 2019 European Election manifesto, part of a campaign that secured widespread coverage and helped the party's best ever EU elections result.
- Experience of working on 19 Federal Conferences on FCC or as HQ staff.

Get in touch: sam@sambarratt.com

Why we're backing Sam



Wendy Chamberlain MP

MP for North East Fife

"Sam works hard on FCC, knows what is needed to get media cut through and puts members first"



Cllr Hannah Kitching

Chair of Yorkshire Lib Dems

"Sam will make sure the issues that matter to voters are debated at Conference - helping us win elections"



Alistair Carmichael MP

MP for Orkney & Shetland

"Sam has the right blend of professional skills and is rooted in the party. He will contribute to a Conference that presents a professional face to the world and is still a member-led event."



Munira Wilson MP

MP for Twickenham

"Sam has the experience needed to make sure Conference attracts attention and gives members a voice: I trust him to stand up for that on FCC."

Liberal, accessible and relevant

We are a membership-led party and it is vital that Conference reflects that.

I want to make sure that grassroots members are able to engage more with all Conference has to offer, and look at new ways to break down barriers to people getting involved.

I think remote voting has had some successes, and the FCC should keep looking at how further hybrid elements could work as resources allow.

Being part of the Committee that took Conference back to Harrogate for the first time since 2006 is something I'm proud of - but I'd like us to be able to visit an even greater variety of places.

FCC should report on the diversity of keynote speakers across the three-year term. I would work with Eleanor Kelly, also standing for FCC, to consult with parents and improve support



for families in and around Conference.

Part of this will be to strengthen and better publicise the Conference Access Fund which provides financial support for those who need it, whether towards travel, accommodation, childcare costs, or caregiving costs

I also think there is a great opportunity for FCC to test how AI could

be used to help members draft motions.

Too many good ideas can be lost in poorly written motions, and I want the Committee to do all we can to support people in bringing forward great ideas for members to debate.

With so many Liberal Democrat led councils I think we need to make sure that this is properly showcased at Conference - whether that be in set-piece speeches, fringe sessions or on-stage discussions, and would work to make that happen.



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