

LGBTIQ+ GREENS CONSTITUTION



1. LGBTIQ+ Greens are a Liberation Group within the Green Party of England & Wales, (hereinafter GPEW), set up under the rules of GPEW on the same basis as its other Liberation Groups (e.g. Green Party Women, Greens of Colour, etc.)
2. The aims of LGBTIQ+ Greens shall be to further good relations between GPEW and LGBT groups and organisations nationally and internationally, to promote the LGBT-friendly policies and approach of the party, and to work generally to promote sexual diversity and gender rights. It shall do this by putting forward relevant policy and campaign proposals to GPEW and promoting GPEW policies to LGBT groups. It shall campaign on behalf of GPEW by participating in LGBT and other political and cultural events and by drafting and distributing appropriate publicity materials.
3. Membership of LGBTIQ+ Greens and ability to formally vote at meetings shall be open to any member of GPEW who identifies as LGBTIQ+ and has a commitment to sexual and gender equality. LGBTIQ+ allies are welcome to attend meetings. The usual method of joining will be to join the LGBTIQ+ Greens members group on the Green Party members page. The Equality and Diversity Coordinator on the Green Party Executive (hereinafter GPEX) should be invited to all national meetings.
4. The LGBTIQ+ Greens Committee shall comprise the following core roles:
 - Chair(s)
 - Deputy/Vice Chair(s)
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer

Other Committee non-portfolio posts may be created by the Committee as necessary. The Committee shall normally be elected at the AGM, which will take place at the autumn national Green Party conference. A quorum for that meeting shall consist of a minimum of 10 voting members. A quorum for a committee meeting will be a

- third of committee members or four, whichever is greater, including at least two committee members elected at Conference. The LGBTIQ+ Greens Chair shall be responsible for the production of a quarterly written report to the membership, including a report for the AGM. This shall be sent to the membership no later than two weeks prior to this meeting.
5. An ordinary meeting of LGBTIQ+ Greens shall normally take place at the spring conference, with the Committee having the responsibility for ensuring that a fringe event is booked for the purpose (also for the autumn AGM) and an agenda sent around to members. Other meetings may be called by the committee as required. Every effort shall be made to reach decisions by consensus. In the absence of consensus, decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote. Contentious or tied issues may be decided by a poll of all LGBTIQ+ Greens members. Extra Ordinary General Meetings can be called by petition of 25% of LGBTIQ+ Greens members or 10 LGBTIQ+ Greens members (whichever is the larger). EGMs can consider and enact motions to re-elect the Committee.

Committee meetings shall take place if necessary between other meetings; usually, they shall be open to all LGBTIQ+ Greens and advertised as such. At these meetings, every effort shall be made to reach decisions by consensus. In the absence of consensus, decisions shall be made by a simple majority vote. Contentious or tied issues may be decided by a poll of all LGBTIQ+ Greens members. Committee members may take decisions or communicate on behalf of LGBTIQ+ Greens between ordinary meetings of LGBTIQ+ Greens on matters that arise during these times (wherever possible after consultation with members through the email list and the GP Member's Website); their decisions and communications shall be subject to ratification by a meeting of LGBTIQ+ Greens. An agenda for meetings will be circulated at least 24 hours in advance and draft

Constitution of LGBTIQ+ Greens as agreed at AGM 2017

minutes distributed following the meeting for approval at the next meeting.

6. LGBTIQ+ Greens may raise funds on its own behalf or for GPEW or for campaigns in line with GPEW policy. These should be spent on activities to promote the group's aims, as outlined above.
7. LGBTIQ+ Greens shall have the ability to affiliate regional LGBTIQ+ groups, subject to a formal written agreement and terms of reference agreed by both parties. Affiliated groups and local parties will be expected to produce a written report for consideration at the AGM and shall be sent to the LGBTIQ+ Greens Chair no less than three weeks prior to this date. The LGBTIQ+ Greens committee reserves the right to disaffiliate any group if it feels they are bringing the LGBTIQ+ Greens into disrepute. Any decision to disaffiliate a group would be open to appeal at the next national meeting of the LGBTIQ+ Greens.