



Liberal Democrat
Party Conference 2014
Technology Fringe Guide

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Party Conference
2014



Introduction

Even though technology issues or product announcements are front page news nowadays, the Party Conferences have traditionally mostly stayed clear of tackling technology. Things have changed this year, with the creation of [TechCentral](#) which will provide a dedicated technology space at all three party political conferences. TechCentral will bring together industry experts, delegates and political figures serving as the hub for technology thinking and policy debate in the last conferences before the general election.

We, alongside our new partners [Hotwire PR](#), are proud sponsors of TechCentral and this guide provides you with an overview of the key Liberal Democrats' Conference technology events that are taking place both at TechCentral and elsewhere.

Technology will also play a role in the main hall where the Liberal Democrats will discuss proposals for a digital bill of rights.

Sunday

Big Brother Watch: 'Civil liberties in a digital age'

09.30, TechCentral

- Norman Baker MP
- Julian Huppert MP
- Stephen Deadman (Vodafone)
- Emma Carr, Director, Big Brother Watch

TalkTalk: Big Technology Debate

13.00, TechCentral

- Emma Carr, Director, Big Brother Watch
- Mike Crockart MP
- Guy Levin, Executive Director, COADEC
- Iain Wood Public Affairs Manager, TalkTalk

COADEC: Digital and Business Panel

14.15, TechCentral

Microsoft: Kids and Coding, what's all the fuss about?

15.30, TechCentral

- Bill Mitchell, Director BCS Academy of Computing
- Kate Farrell, Chair CAS Scotland



Don't Spy On Us: Surveillance: how do we reform RIPA and protect civil liberties?

18.15, SWG3, *The Poetry Club*

- Julian Huppert MP
- Jo Glanville, English PEN
- Paul Johnson, *The Guardian*
- Jim Killock, Open Rights Group
- Eric Metcalfe, Monckton Chambers

Facebook: Campaigning with Facebook

18.15, *TechCentral*

- A presentation and Q&A on how to use Facebook on election campaigns

Monday

CentreForum and Microsoft: Balancing technology and privacy: what's the best way forward?

13.00, SECC, *Boisdale 2*

- Simon Hughes MP, Minister for Justice and Civil Liberties
- Baroness Ludford
- Hugh Milward, Director, Corporate Affairs, Microsoft

WDM: In whose interests? The EU-US trade deal and global big business

13.00, SECC, *Global Development Hub*

- As negotiations for the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership (TTIP) heat up, we ask whether this is a treaty for jobs and growth, or one which challenges Europe's hard-won social and environmental protections to benefit big business.

Prospect Trade Union: Raising our Sights, Realising the Potential of a More Diverse STEM Workforce

19.45, *Crowne Plaza, Staffa*

- Vince Cable MP
- Julian Huppert MP (Chair)
- Mike Clancy, General Secretary, Prospect
- Sarah Main, Director of CASE
- Dr Anna Zecharia, Science GRRL



Tuesday

NIACE, Association of Colleges and 157 Group: "The school curriculum does not prepare pupils for the 21st century." Discuss

08.00, SECC, Morar

Focusing on the skills that employers demand from our education system, participants will debate whether the curriculum, particularly for people aged 14-16, is fit for purpose in producing employable and entrepreneurial young people.

Liberal Democrats: Policy Motion: Pre-Manifesto Policy Paper including Digital Bill of Rights

09.50, Main Auditorium

Policy Exchange and Deloitte: How can we make Britain a dynamic, fast growth, entrepreneurial economy?

13.00, Crowne Plaza, Argyll 3

Ruth Porter, Head of Economic & Social Policy, Policy Exchange
Ian Stelle, Senior Partner for Scotland, Deloitte

Policy Exchange and Tesco: How can UK Plc innovate to help Britain win the global race?

18.15, SECC, Dochart 2

Kamal Ahmed, Business Editor, BBC (Chair)
Jeremy Browne MP
Steve Hughes, Deputy Head of Economic & Social Policy, Policy Exchange

NACUE and Santander: The Student Entrepreneur's Question Time

18.15, Crowne Plaza, Barra

Young entrepreneurs will have the chance to ask their questions to political decision makers, looking at how they can be supported to become the most entrepreneurial generation the UK has ever seen.

Creative Coalition Campaign: UK 2020: The role of intellectual property in building a creative nation

18.15, Crowne Plaza, Castle 2

Speakers will include senior figures from the creative industries and Liberal Democrat parliamentarians.

FE Week in partnership with OCR: What should Lib Dems further education and skills Manifesto promise?

18.15, Crowne Plaza, Shuna

Join education leaders and Lib Dem MPs for a panel discussion focusing on further education and skills - from apprenticeships to free meals, to UTCs and qualification reform.