

Liberal Party Post Assembly Manifesto

October 2026

Introduction

The Liberal Party met at the Royal Clifton Hotel in Southport on Saturday 10th October 2026 for its 141st Assembly where members discussed various domestic and global issues affecting our communities.

We have distilled the most pressing issues into these 5 short policy statements for distribution and discussion.

Liberal Party Leader Post Assembly Statement

There is speculation an election may be called soon, even maybe whilst this post assembly manifesto is being published.

What Labour is hiding is the difficult decisions that need to be made.

The countries infrastructure for water supply has not moved in decades to catch up with an increased population.

Our electricity grid is near breaking point and cheaper electricity in the Highlands can't be used south of the border.

Our on shore reserve for gas supplies is perilously small.

What a contrast is the Liberal Leadership in Canada driving investments and collaborative partnerships in the development and logistics for defence and reducing their reliance on a chaotic USA who clearly did switch off Star Shield to Ukraine to allow Russian Ballistic missiles to destroy civilian housing throughout Ukrainian cities.

Driving forward energy infrastructure to enhance energy security.

Whilst in the UK our own Chemicals industry is seeing critical plants closing due to the most expensive energy costs in the G7.

Labour policies are driving forward the deindustrialisation of the UK leaving us vulnerable and destroying local communities.

At our annual assembly Liberals called out for real change to reinvigorate our economy, boost employment.

If and when an election is called we had a clear mandate from the annual assembly to call out the critical issues rather than labour who need a commission whilst decisions are thrown into the long grass.

Cllr Steve Radford, leader of The Liberal Party

Energy Affordability and Security

The UK has some of the highest energy prices which cripples business growth and increase the cost of living for the British people.

At the Liberal Party Assembly we called for:

Investment in the National Grid infrastructure to enable cheap hydroelectricity and electricity from wind turbines to be drawn down through central Scotland and into the English National Grid.

That the UK should continue gas and oil licenses in the North Sea instead of importing oil and gas from other countries and increasing their government revenues at the cost of ours.

It is absurd we are purchasing aviation fuel from India who is potentially sending us refined products using Russian oil undermining international sanctions.

The UK should reverse the closures of petro-chemical processing refining sites. The Chemical Industries Association reported 26 site closures since 2021. Each closure makes us more reliant on imports.

We need government to work with energy providers and industry to ensure a viable industrial base remains in this country.

International Trade and Security

The Liberal Party is committed to supporting and strengthening NATO. We also recognise the need to reassess international relationships so we are less dependent on the USA.

We welcome Britain's leading role and Canada's support for defence in the Baltic -Nordic area as well as Poland's Eastern Shield programme.

We should follow the lead of Mark Carney in Canada and strengthen military security arrangements, logistics and manufacturing between UK, Canada, Europe and Commonwealth counties.

Defence is not just about military forces but having the integrated and a sufficient supply chain to support them.

The UK and other European countries, especially Sweden, France and Germany have great potential to consolidate to our shared manufacturing capacity.

The UK Economy

Liberals called for more employment and investment friendly policies in the UK. Priority should be given to reversing increased National Insurance charges on employers, which is a detrimental tax on employment.

The VAT registration threshold for small businesses should be raised to £150k. Too many small businesses close in the UK as people are strangled by red tape.

We would repeal day one employment rights to enable employers to have a reasonable trial period, likewise employees should be given a trial period without facing the sanction of benefits being withheld should they not be employed after a trial period.

The British High Streets are being undermined by increasing business rates and local council using car parking charges as a "Cash Cow".

The UK economy has too many people of adult working age on benefits.

The National Debt

Government debt has now reached the value of £3 trillion pounds. The annual debt serving charge is in the region of £110 billion.

Without a clear plan to promote growth the country risks a further loss of credibility with the bond markets which is then translated into increase interest charges creating a dangerous feedback loop.

We risk saddling future generations with the liabilities and lost opportunities through the negative impact on public services and investment today.

The country needs a credible plan to create economic growth and employment, which in turn generates the revenue to fund our public spending without further costly borrowing.

Make Work Pay

The income tax threshold should be immediately raised to £15k and steps taken to allow those not working to study for more hours without having their benefits withdrawn.

Liberals recognise the triple lock is unsustainable long term however lower earning pensioners should benefit from an increased income tax threshold.

If we are to avoid spiralling debt maintenance and increasing interest rises government needs to reduce net expenditure. Those interest rates rises would push the country into further national debt borrowing costs, greater debt on mortgage holders and banking charges on business.

For more information on our beliefs and aims or to contribute to the debate contact us at: infotheliberalparty@liberal.org.uk

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