A1 EC, DAC, GSC Reports

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Young Greens of England and Wales

Annual Committee Reports 2021

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Overview and Methodology

Information in Reports

All individuals elected in the Annual Ballot of the Young Greens of England and Wales must write four Quarterly Reports over the course of their term in office. These reports should detail any key activities undertaken in their respective role. Reports are written by all those on the Executive Committee, all those on the Democracy and Accountability Committee, and the Co-Convenors of the Green Students Committee. In addition, the Democracy and Accountability Committee as a whole compiles a report detailing any rulings made, as well as any minor textual amendments to the ruling documents. If representatives do not complete their reports: it will be made clear in this document and during the associated accountability sessions; and, if they are running for election, it shall be reported by the ERO at the final Convention Hustings.

Order of Reports

Committees are ordered in this document as they are in the Constitution - the Executive Committee established by Byelaw One, followed by the Democracy and Accountability Committee established in Byelaw Two, followed by the Green Students Committee established in Byelaw Three. Within each Committee, the reports of the Co-Chairs, Chair, or Co-Convenor come first, followed by the Treasurer or Complaints and Disputes Subcommittee Convenor if applicable, followed by other roles on each respective body. Within each role, names were selected completely at random to appear in the order in this document.

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Executive Committee (EC)

Rosie Rawle, Co-Chair

Despite the challenge of working under lock-down and covid, our team has achieved a great deal this year, and it's been a pleasure to have worked with them all. They're energy and positivity throughout has been so motivating and you can see the results in this annual report.

In terms of my own work this year, this has crossed over a number of projects:

Induction and taking on digital comms

Firstly, in welcoming the new team, I coordinated a light induction programme, strategy sessions so that we had agreement on group priorities, and worked with Rajiv to set a budget for the year. Since no non-portfolio officer stood on a ticket for Digital Comms, it was agreed at this early stage that I would run our social media accounts. I drafted a proposal for planning and signing off on digital comms work, implemented a new social media calendar on Airtable, and worked with others on the team to deliver an audit of our platforms, as well as managed the platforms day-to-day until the recruitment of Isobel earlier this year.

Political education

In December, I proposed we apply for some funding from the Federation of Young European Greens to deliver a new political education programme in the new year. Our bid was accepted and we received roughly £1,300 to deliver a project including: a four-part radical lecture series on why capitalism is broken and how we overthrow it, a series of online talks with external and internal speakers, a round table discussion on how we can pull these ideas together to support a new vision for a just transition, and two intensive activist training sessions. Throughout the project, 1,061 individuals registered for one or more of these events. My involvement in this work included drafting the initial bid, managing the comms for the programme, hosting some events, and managing the finances. Huge credit to our Political Education Officer Jane Robb for adapting to and coordinating this mammoth project.

Elections

With no officer responsible for Elections, and unfortunately an unsuccessful round of co-option interviews earlier in March, it was agreed that I would lead on this work. This left very little time to draft and deliver a strategy to support Young Green and Green target candidates. Covid restrictions also meant we were unable to deliver our usual project of mobilising Young Green activists across the country to campaign in winnable areas. Instead, we had to get creative! We launched a crowdfunder to pay the print and professional delivery of leaflets in wards where Young Green target and development candidates were standing (reaching our target in 24

hours!), we created sign up forms with automatic forwarding of volunteer details to local parties, we supported some regional Young Green groups to deliver phone rounds to local areas, and created a Whatsapp Buzz Group for election day to help give Young Green candidates a boost and make some noise online. I'm delighted that 9 Young Greens were elected to unitary authorities, bringing our total to 17.

Campaigns support

This year, I supported our new Green Students Committee Co-convenors with some campaigning work around the crisis in Higher Education and support to the rent strikers. This involved setting up a panel discussion with rent strikers and former core organisers of the 2010 anti-fees and cuts movement, some solidarity comms work, and the drafting and launching of a petition of demands to Gavin Williamson on #JusticeForStudents.

Ahead of and during Green Party Conference, I also worked with Kelsey and members of Greens of Colour, LGBTIQA+ Greens, and Jewish Greens to run an event on tackling transphobia, islamophobia and antisemitism, alongside some internal organising to encourage our members to vote in favour of progressive motions that would strengthen our party's stance on issues of liberation.

Finally, I have been working with Billy in the very early stages of developing a plan for the new Young Greens Corporate Finance Campaign, as agreed by Convention last year. This work has been slow mainly due to a lack of capacity, but we have developed a strong working relationship with People & Planet, who are launching a very similar campaign this year, which we will be encouraging our members to take part in as a first step towards this work.

Representing the Young Greens

As co-chair, I have also represented the Young Greens at a number of external and internal events, speaking at: Spring Conference 2021, a co-hosted event with the APPG on Hong Kong with Natalie Bennett and Stand With Hong Kong, YG Womxn's Activism Day, the North East Young Greens' launch event, Sian Berry's London Mayoral Campaign launch, and one of Bright Green's debates. I have also delivered external training in this role. First, a workshop on campaign strategy to the Albanian Young Greens and, and second, a digital organising workshop to an audience of Young Greens across Europe with the Federation of European Young Greens.

In my seat on the Green Party Executive (GPEx), I have been proactive scrutinising the party's finances and fundraising work, especially the political accountability of various outputs in this work area. I have also supported a proposal to make the party's spokesperson list probationary given the clear errors made in the process of selecting this list earlier in the year, and made arguments for a vetting process in future years. In my seat on the party's Political Committee, I have raised issues with how the main party responded in its comms to the Bristol riots following

Kill the Bill protests earlier this year. I challenged the approach taken which was to slam and shame protesters for supposed ‘acts of violence’ rather than the clearly violent policing of an originally very peaceful protest.

General chairing responsibilities

Generally, I have also carried out 121 calls with most of our officers throughout the year, checking in on their various work areas, managed agendas, and chaired meetings. I also meet fortnightly with our staff member to make sure we’re getting the best out of her time and that she’s happy with current plans, and will be coordinating the induction and handover programme for the new EC intake.

Lily Fitzgibbon, Co-Chair

I have greatly enjoyed my year as Co-Chair and am sad to now be taking a step back from the Young Greens. In spite of Covid we have managed to do work that I am proud of, and had the opportunity to make friends without even meeting in person! I do regret that being selected as a candidate (and subsequently being elected!) meant that my time available as Co-Chair decreased massively after Christmas, and wasn’t at all what I had envisaged at the beginning of the term.

As the role was completely new to me, the handover period at the beginning of the year was crucial and incredibly helpful, and I spent the first month or so getting settled in. During this time I had one on one meetings (often with Rosie) with each member of the new EC to get a clearer idea of what they wanted to achieve over the next year. We also had a series of meetings with each of the co-chairs of our Liberation Groups, along with Kelsey (Equalities Officer). We then held an online “away day” to set out our group priorities for the year. I also took part in GPex handover meetings and a training weekend at this time.

As we were lacking an events officer, I helped create our comms for the Autumn event, meeting with Rosie and Faye to discuss messaging, sessions for the day and key speakers.

Working with Daisy, (and the GSC) we created a plan for a large online call for local groups and societies to take part in as part social, part movement building - one of our aims was to launch the South West Young Greens committee out of this. We had originally planned for these calls to take place monthly and to start just before Christmas, but unfortunately this clashed with several other online events the EC were running and we decided not to prioritise these. It also coincided with a time where people seemed to be suffering from “Zoom fatigue”. All of our plans are written out and could be implemented with the new EC if they wish.

The South West Young Greens committee was more successful, and had its first meeting just after Christmas. I had attended and spoken at the Autumn conference of the South West Greens and noticed a real lack of active young people in the region. With Sarah and Billy we reached out to activists in the South West who had expressed interest. We appointed a Youth Representative to attend meetings of the South West committee and put him in contact with the field organiser.

During this time I also worked to support Rent Strikes.I set up a meeting with interested members of Bristol Green Party (including Bristol Young Greens) and Billy to support the Bristol Rent Strikers. We used the GSC templates to create a petition to the Mayor, a letter to local rent strikers and a motion to the Council. I also submitted a question to the Mayor to further bring his attention to the issue.

Rosie and I continued to act as Spokespeople for the Young Greens, delivering a Speech to Green Party conference “Looking forward to a Green Future” which was received well in the wider party. More recently I acted in this role by signing an open letter supporting United Sex Workers (USW) union campaigning against a nil-cap on SEVs in Bristol, as this is in line with wider party policy.

I helped with the local elections campaign (although I was mainly a candidate) and I am blown away by the work (and the results) that Rosie Rawle managed to achieve. This involved providing funding to support candidates with extra leaflet deliveries that in normal circumstances we could have mobilised volunteers for. We saw amazing results in May, with 9 Young Greens elected, almost doubling our total number of councillors!

I want to thank everyone who was on the EC this year for doing so much and being so much fun to work with. And an extra special thanks to DAC and everything they do behind the scenes. Although I am not re-running this time, I hope to continue to be involved in the work of the Young Greens.

Rajiv Sinha, Treasurer

I have loved my time on the committee as well as my role as treasurer, despite the unique challenges of this past year. We have had to adapt to different ways of reaching people, such as online events, training, and socials, which have all been a great success. A large part of that has been the healthy budget that we have had this year and I am very glad to say that the next committee will have a healthy opening balance to work with too.

Due to the onset of the pandemic shortly before the start of our term as a committee, the Young Greens had accumulated a lot of money from cancelled events and other such costs that would no longer be incurred from the end of the previous term: our opening balance was £24,183.00.

This was a considerable sum, given that our grant from the Green Party is 2,200.00, which would come out to 26,400.00 over 12 months. This put us in a position of great financial security, allowing us to pursue our chosen goals as a committee with confidence during a period of uncertainty. I am pleased that, although of course we cannot be sure of the numbers yet, the next committee is forecasted to have an opening balance of more than £10,000, which, combined with various sources of income, will go a long way in furthering the Young Greens' activities as restrictions are lifted.

In creating the budget, I focussed on 3 key areas: at the top were our agreed goals as a committee, which reflected our overall priorities; I met with each committee member individually to get an idea of what plans people had in mind, and; I looked to last year's budget as precedent, although last year was obviously very different to ours. I recommend this approach going forward as the three factors can be brought together to make a very detailed forecasted budget.

No matter how detailed a forecasted budget is, the actuals will always come out differently. So it has been necessary throughout the year to return to the budget and make revisions and reallocations ad hoc. This year certain events and staff costs have been higher than originally estimated, but other events have come in far under budget.

It has been very important to maintain relations with the Finance team at the Green Party. They have access to our accounts (and are ultimately in control of them). The main reason to maintain these relations is so that we can get our actuals sent to us regularly. At the beginning of our term I set up meetings with the Finance team and laid out the committee's intentions with Daisy. They agreed to send us our actuals every month and we were on close terms. However, there were some personnel changes at the Finance team, which set us back a little. They forgot to send us our actuals for a few months despite my reminders. I could, however, have done a better job of pushing the Finance team for those actuals and I believe this should be a priority for the next treasurer.

Another priority for the next treasurer (and committee as a whole) should be fundraising. I organised a fundraising quiz near the beginning of our term, which was a success, raising £191 through 47 tickets and providing a much-needed opportunity for people to socialise, albeit still online. We are looking to run one more such event around the time of handover, but I would urge the next committee to try to run more than 2 of these events over the year as they are a good chance to raise money and spirits.

Finally, I am also proud of my work on the committee outside of the specific role of treasurer. I contributed to discussions and messaging, and I led a campaign against animal cruelty in the Autumn that received a good amount of publicity and response.

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I have learnt a great deal from this time and am so happy to have worked with all these amazing people in the Executive Committee and the Democracy and Accountability Committee. I hope to be able to contribute to the Young Greens again very soon.

Jane Robb, Executive Committee Officer

As a non-portfolio officer I was leading on the political education work for this year. At the start of the year I began by drafting out a detailed outline of what I foresaw the political education portfolio looking like, and having conversations with various members about how we could make it all happen. The plan then changed at the end of November when we applied for funding from FYEG to support work on moving towards a just transition, which encompassed some activities that fell under the political education umbrella.

Since we won the funding, I then worked on the development and implementation of the political education lecture series, a series of weekly talks and Q&As and two skills training events. These events, the lecture series in particular, turned out to be hugely successful with 746 people registering for the lectures, 465 registering for the weekly talks and 132 registering for the skills trainings. We also received lots of positive feedback from people who attended or watched the recordings.

To complement the political education live content we produced, I also created web pages on the Young Greens website to host additional reading, information and the recordings of the events for members (and non-members) to continue to access and learn from. Internally, I also worked on writing eight core scripts on each of the key areas we focused on exploring through the weekly series for the funding, to be built on by future committees and used for drafting future content.

Finally, at the very end of the year I put together a presentation looking back on the political education portfolio for the year, which looks at what went well and lessons learnt and can hopefully be used to inform the next committee when developing their own political education programme.

Sarah Sharp, Executive Committee Officer

No report submitted.

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Isobel Browne-Wilkinson, Executive Committee Officer

I was co-opted to the role of Comms officer this year in March. I have immensely enjoyed my time in the role as comms officer for the last few months, my role has mostly Included working closely with our staff member daisy, keeping ontop of social media channels, creating engaging content, and strategy from month to month.
The main projects and things I have worked on since March include:

- **Local elections,** Worked closely with the EC to create an effective election plan, this included creating an organized calendar to work on and fill in through the election period. Creating a strong movement online with our comms to ensure the Young Green community is involved and motivated by the election. Worked on a fundraiser with Rosie and Daisy to raise money for our Young Green Candidates around the country. The content I was creating were graphics, videos and images alerting our community of the elections and monitoring the success of different posts. And finally celebrating and creating engaging content to inspire and congratulate all elected Young Green Candidates!
- **Political Education**, I came into the role taking on the responsibilities of pushing our political education events. This included tweeting for sign ups to the events and learning the ropes of social media in general for the Young Greens, with much help from Rosie, and Daisy.
- **General posts**, over my term I have created graphics and posts highlighting the Young Green views on current events. This included #Killthebill campaign, Holding the conservative Government to account graphics, Palestine, and voting ID explained, as well as, celebrated holidays and international events. These posts were a great learning opportunity to what works well with our audience and getting me settled into the Comms Role.
- **Convention,** as the end of term comes around, convention means lots of comms work on reminding our members the importance of democracy and the Plans for the Young Greens over the coming year with a new committee. Along with the brilliant DAC and convention team we have created a cohesive comms calendar for Convention work, this has included graphics to be designed for all roles available for our members to apply for, husting reminders, videos being created to inform our members of the elections and how the convention will work, and getting as many members as possible to sign up for convention! This is ongoing work, and unfortunately along with university and a full time job I haven't been able to use my full energy into working on this, although now I feel I am ontop things outside the young greens, I feel I can put my full energy back into this.

Throughout my time in the role as Digital Communications Officer, I have attended every single EC meeting and worked closely with the EC, to hear ideas and feedback on comms work as well as certain topics to be pushed from EC members. I have really enjoyed working with this year's EC and DAC who are all lovely people, and hearing ideas and supporting each other through COVID. I have learnt so much through this role, and I have really enjoyed learning from feedback and tips meaning I can continue to develop the comms work as my term has progressed :)

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Kelsey Trevett, Executive Committee Officer

As the Equality & Diversity officer on the Young Greens EC this year, my priority has been to work alongside our liberation groups, many of which started the year with very little groundwork on which to build, in order to ensure the voices of traditionally-marginalised groups are heard both within the Young Greens, and externally, rather than being spoken over. I'm proud that this year, I'm finishing my term having supported the Young Greens Women liberation group to reach a position from which they were able to deliver several events, and begin to build and mobilise a membership which their new committee will be able to carry forward into 2021/22, with similar situations for the LGBTIQA+ Young Greens, and the Under 18s special interest group. Much of my day-to-day work has been coordinating with liberation group committee members, to ensure that they are well-supported from EC, that we can work together to deliver statements and work which is centred around liberation politics, and that they have a voice on the executive committee, especially when we have worked on issues relating to the groups they represent. Practically, this has involved Charing and/or joining meetings with individual committees, and groups from across the liberation group committees, and being available to answer questions, provide resources, and offer support between times.

Towards the start of the term, working with the Young Greens liberation groups was focused around our political strategy for the year ahead. I delivered a strategy session with the liberation groups, as we believe it's important that the liberation groups actively feed into the Young Greens strategy, rather than have it be dictated without their input. The process by which we did this definitely gave us the space to reflect, and I hope the lessons from this year — mainly relating to the format, which is made undoubtedly more difficult due to Zoom — can be learnt from going forward. On top of this, I was keen that the liberation groups had the autonomy to develop their own individual strategies, plans, and objectives too. I supported in this, in order to offer support and advice where appropriate, and to ensure that EC was doing everything possible to help as and where necessary.

Beyond this, I have developed relationships with the liberation groups in the wider Green Party, namely LGBTIQA+ Greens, Jewish Greens, and Greens of Colour, in order to increase awareness of the structural oppression experienced by these communities, how they intersect, and how we can work as a party to fight against them and act in solidarity. This resulted in an event in February, which I chaired, which brought together representatives from these three groups to deliver political education on liberation politics. From this, we mobilised at Green Party conference to ensure that party policy continued to support the rights of trans and non-binary people; from the Young Greens, I lead on this work. I hope that the relationships I've formed with these liberation groups are such that the next e&d officer, and the relevant liberation groups and liberation group officers, will be able to pick them up, and continue developing what I believe to be really powerful working relationships. I have also been attending the Equality & Diversity committee within the Green Party; whilst we don't get a vote on this committee, we are welcome to contribute to discussion. Recently, alongside Jane Baston, I have attended a GPEW accessibility panel, as a direct result of motions passed at Spring Conference.

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Naturally, as a member of EC, my work has not been limited to the scope of the e&d portfolio. Some, but by no means all, of the other projects to which I have contributed include:
Justice for students — drafting a statement in the autumn relating to university students returning to campuses
Federation of Young European greens — helping to plan an event for the FYEG assembly in June; I was to deliver this with Rosie and Isabel, but was unfortunately ill on this day
Representing the Young greens externally
Elections — coordinating input from liberation groups on the Young Greens local election strategy
Groups — attending several introductory meetings with newly-set-up groups, on behalf of EC
International — drafting a response to the Y7 summit which took place alongside the G7 summit in summer 2021
Kill the Bill — drafting a Young Greens statement in response to early Kill the Bill protests in March 2021
General — attending Zoom committee meetings, facilitating/attending smaller working group meetings as and when necessary, responding to emails, regularly checking-in with liberation groups between times of activity, etc

In addition, this past quarter, I have developed the work on digital participation at Young Greens convention. When I started this work, I aimed to have a report to present at this convention, however this has not been the case. The options explored have all had severe drawbacks, either in practical terms, or financial: I think the aim of digital participation should, first and foremost, be to make our democracy accessible to all, whether or not attendance at annual convention is possible. In light of the recent Green Party decision to host a hybrid autumn conference, I've reached out to the conference team, in hope that we can learn from them, rather than continuing this work in isolated parallel from the wider party. Thus, this project is by no means written-off, and I hope that when in-person events return, we'll be in a position to experiment with some alternatives.

Additionally, this quarter I've been heavily contributing to the handover strategy for the new executive committee. I hope that the work which is going into this strategy for the incoming committee will continue to be a helpful framework for future handovers, and that it will provide a really solid foundation for incoming committee members both to their specific role, and to the values and past experience of Young Greens. Earlier in the year, I also produced and updated content in regards to accessible communications on social media, accessible online events, and accessibility at in-person events, which I hope will serve both as a solid foundation in the coming handover, and will prove useful going forward, in our work to make the Young Greens as accessible and as inclusive as possible.

It's been a delight to work alongside this team of incredible activists, and to support and be supported by them in the work we've been carrying out as a committee this year. Everything in this report could never have been achieved without them, and I've valued and enjoyed the

ability to contribute to such a wide range of other projects, campaigns, and pieces of work beyond the scope of my own portfolio.

Fay Whitfield, Executive Committee Officer

Initially I planned on using the first half of my year as a non-portfolio officer to focus on press work, and the second half of my year to focus on membership work. I have spent my full term as press officer following a decision made earlier this year.

The first part of the term involved making sure that the Young Greens can publicize their views and react to events quickly in shareable long-form media statements. I did this by creating a template, which any member of the EC can use to write a statement on something in their remit or expertise. As news developed I also used the template to write statements on behalf of the Young Greens which were published on the website. Another task was updating and reconfiguring our speaker network database, so that it was easier to find speakers by expertise rather than by location. In addition I wrote a new process for recruiting for the speaker network which will be implemented by the next executive committee if they so wish.

Sometimes it can be difficult to reach large news outlets with regular news, so I wanted to make it easier to generate engaging press content for smaller, regional news outlets. In the second part of my term I wrote a media pack which contains guides, how-to's and templates for many different forms of media. This media pack will help regional and university groups to create news for their local press outlets, giving us a good national spread of press coverage. It also means that if a local press officer leaves, their knowledge isn't lost but retained in the group through the media pack. This pack was then designed by the central Green Party design team. It will be up to the next press officer to distribute the packs to regional and university groups.

In the last part of my term I assisted with the local and mayoral elections by writing a press release, running phone banking sessions and assisting with promoting our fundraiser for candidates. I also secured speakers for press opportunities including an appearance on an LBC panel show.

Jane Baston, Co-Convenor of the Green Students Committee

This year has been a tumultuous one for everyone. The constantly changing guidelines and advice from the government has made the student experience particularly volatile and the Green Students Committee have done our best to stay up to date on these changes and respond to any particular news stories focused on students. This report covers the major work that the committee has untaken this year and areas that I have led on. There is likely other work

that we've undertaken that I've forgotten to include in this report but this will have been covered in my termly reports.

Rebuilding the Green Students Committee

This year the Green Students Committee was running again for the first time in two years. This has meant that a large portion of the work has involved rebuilding the committee, and deciding what direction that we wanted to take it.

The first step was co-opting a committee of five non-portfolio officers. We had over 15 brilliant Young Greens apply to join the committee, and after a difficult process we selected five to join us over the year. I created the process to co-opted our officers, including assessing applications, creating interview questions and deciding criteria. We did our best to ensure that all levels of education were represented, including college students, PhD students, and part-time students.

We inducted our new Officers into the committee and provided them with some background on the organisational structures. Throughout the year I've worked alongside my fellow co-convenor to ensure that links between the Executive and the Green Students Committee are strong and that decisions are effectively communicated between the two committees.

We enact regular meetings to take place so that we could check in on progress with work and make decisions as a committee. I have helped with arranging, chairing, minuting and writing agendas for these meetings.

Due to the committee's inactiveness throughout the past two years we have also worked as a committee to decide what areas of focus we want to work on throughout the year and key dates in the student calendar that we wanted to get involved with.

Working with Groups and Societies

A key focus for this year has been developing the support and links that we have with our university societies. After the co-option of our committee we started to focus on this work, with the committee reaching out to the groups we knew of offering support and letting them know that they could reach out to us if needed.

We decided to start a series of online events/workshops that could be used to bring together all of our activists to provide them with skills, give them a social space to connect with each other and to start building cross-group campaigns. This events series eventually became called "Building Group Power' and we ran four events over the last six months.

We ran three events in this series, each focusing on a different topic: Socialising and what we wanted to get from the series, elections campaigning, and how to start a new group. We had hoped to run another event in June focused on building campaigns but due to the capacity of the committee this was not possible. The first event in this series provided a huge amount of feedback about what types of events, training and opportunities our members would like to see

from the Young Greens which will be useful for Officers next year. We have also had six new groups that are likely to start as a result of the last event.

The feedback from these events has been incredibly positive with attending, valuing the opportunity to connect with others and to learn from each other. We hope that these continue throughout the next year to continue providing support to our groups.

Justice for Students

With a series of lockdowns and disruption for University students I lead on the work to create top-line messaging that the Young Greens and the main party could use when talking about student issues. This document collated together evidence and streamlined information relating to the university and college sector that was used in our messaging and was also shared with the main party.

In addition to this I supported other members of the committee with work to write template letters, council motions and committee motions for local parties to use. At the invitation of AGC I attended one of their regular meetings to present this work to our councillors and answered their questions while also offering any support they might want in regards to student issues.

I also helped with the creation of the Justice for Students petition. The demands were adapted from the top-line messaging document that had been created earlier in the year. We reached over 3000 signatories for the petition.

On-going Development

As a committee we've also been working on a number of different areas of development that we hope to see continue over the next few years. These include:

- Processes for starting a new group and ongoing support throughout their first year.
- Guides for Young Greens to engage in their Students' Unions democratic processes and elections.
- Preliminary work on Fresher Packs for societies.

I wrote motions that were submitted to the Emergency General Meeting in Autumn that helped to define the role of the Green Students Committee with updated language and gave the Co-convenors votes on the Executive Committee.

Other Responsibilities

I have also been involved with a number of projects on the wider Executive Committee. I've been a central part of our planning for the Young Greens Convention providing the link with our Democracy and Accountability Committee and working with our Communications Officer and Admin Support to run the communications. I've been an active member of the Executive Committee, attending all meetings, being involved in projects that other Officers have run.

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I'm thrilled at the progress we've made with the Green Students Committee and I'd like to express my huge thanks to our committee members for their commitment and the work they've done over the past year. A huge thank you also to the Executive Committee, and the Democracy and Accountability Committee.It's been wonderful to work with you all and I hope to see the power of our movement develop even more over the next year.

Billy Wassell, Co-Convenor of the Green Students Committee

First acknowledgement I'd like to make is that although Jane and I are accountable for all this work, 99% of this work listed would not have been possible without the hard work of our Green Students Committee. I am so grateful for Daron, Imogen, Jess and Lydia's commitment and enthusiasm. It has been such a pleasure to work with them.

Re-energising Green Students Committee

When Jane and I were co-opted, the Committee had not run for 2 years. This meant we were basically starting from scratch. I think remembering this and comparing where the Committee is now is a great source of pride due to the progress the Committee has made the past 12 months.

The major first step we took was to co-opt our committee. Applications were opened and Jane and I interviewed 15 wonderful candidates. With no co-option process written in Young Green governing documents, Jane and I came up with our own process which we felt was effective.

The Young Greens governing documents were out of date when it came to GSC so we proposed amendments to update the Committee's roles and responsibilities as well as a motion that gave the co-convenors voting rights on the Executive. This was necessary foundational work to bring the Committee up to date constitutionally.

Groups and societies

The Greens Students Committee took on the responsibility of catering for our groups as well as our university societies this year. We hosted, ran and launched a new series of online talks called *Building Group Power.* The aim was to hold an episode every month that focussed on organising and increasing the power and influence of our Young Green groups and societies. The episodes of the series included how to mobilise membership for local elections and how to set up and run a society/group from scratch. These were a huge hit and I really hope these carry on into next year!

Throughout the year, the Committee, along with Daisy, have had calls with various local groups on how best we can support them, giving them advice and any resources they needed.

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Student movement work

The rent strike movement was the main focus of my time in my role this year. The Committee created resources for local groups which included template letters and council motions that came out in support of local rent strikers. Jane delivered our work to a meeting of the Association of Green Councillors. I also met with Bristol Green Party to discuss how best they can support their student constituents as well as the Bristol rent strikers (which was obvs the reason they did so well in May!)

Our *Justice for Students* work was a real highlight of the year. The Committee and the Executive came together to deliver a petition to Gavin Williamson that set out our demands to achieve justice for students. It gained over 3,000 signatures. As well as the Association of Green Councillors, the Committee has also established a relationship with the NUS through their President, Larissa Kennedy (not least because I am the biggest fangirl of Larissa!). We hosted an event with her as a guest speaker and Jane and I were invited to an inaugural meeting of a coalition of student movement organisations set up by NUS. A personal highlight of mine was hosting our event that brought together 2010 student activists and the current rent strikers who compared and contrasted the student movement then and now.

Non-student related Exec work

Due to the Executive being a bit smaller this year, I took up some non-student related roles. This led to Greens Students work taking a bit of a back pedal over the last month or so of my term. Not least because I was part of the working group that supported Rosie with her wonderful local election planning!

Ditching Corporate Finance campaign

At the start of my term, I volunteered to be the lead on our *Ditching Corporate Finance* campaign. This started off really well, I had designed an action plan which was edited and signed off. Rosie and I then met the investigator behind the *Independent* article of Russell Group fossil fuel financing. Each time Rosie and I met, the scale of the campaign grew and grew which, in my opinion, made it difficult to push on with as we had limited capacity as a small Executive. However, there are very strong foundations for the campaign to be launched and we're in a very good position for the new group to pick up where we left off.

Conclusion

Through establishing a thorough co-option process, updating the Young Greens constitution regarding the Committee, establishing relationships within the mother party and creating a national platform for GSC, the Committee has worked tirelessly to get us back up and running. We've laid a really strong foundation for further development. The Committee hasn't run for two years so to reflect on the influence we've gained within these past 12 months is a real proud moment.

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Vacant, Executive Committee Officer

There are various vacant Executive Committee Officer positions.

Democracy And Accountability Committee (DAC)

Committee Technical Report

The Democracy and Accountability Committee upholds the Constitution and Standing Orders and oversees the internal democratic processes of the Young Greens.

The 2020 - 2021 Democracy and Accountability Committee consisted of Chair Isaac Searle, Complaints and Disputes Subcommittee Chair Heloise Hunter, Nick Humberstone, and until their resignation on 5th July 2021, Ria Patel.

All committee members regularly attended meetings and kept in contact throughout the year.

For the Annual Ballot, Ria Patel was initially appointed as the Electoral Returning Officer, after various organisational internal events, Ria resigned from this role on 5th July 2021 and DAC appointed Hannah Clare to the role of Electoral Returning Officer.

The Democracy and Accountability Committee made the following rulings:

Ruling on Regional Block Five-Year Period for Convention

DAC defined the five-year period for the running of the annual Convention to be from 2021 to 2025.

Ruling on EC Handover Period

DAC Chair Isaac Searle (IS) was asked by members of the former 2019 - 2020 EC and the new 2020 - 2021 EC about the role handover period mentioned in RoPS insert “Strengthening National Young Greens events and our Executive Committee election cycle” passed at Convention on 4/11/2018. IS advised that the former EC (2019 – 2020) cannot spend YG funds or hold responsibility for the budget as there is no mention of a handover period anywhere in the Constitution or Standing Orders, the RoPS insert fails to give any authority to the outgoing EC over fiscal responsibilities. IS also affirmed that could the former EC still spend funds for up to two months as is the period in the RoPS insert, there would be no accountability over this as they are no longer in post. IS issued this advice prior to consulting DAC on this matter but advised aforementioned members that they would consult the rest of DAC promptly. DAC concur with IS advice given on monetary and fiscal responsibilities during the handover. It was

noted that the relevant insert in the Record of Policy Statements was not comprehensive, there must be further clarification in the Standing Orders if there were to be a handover period of any significant substance. DAC agrees to uphold and implement IS advice from first paragraph into this ruling. It was noted that other aspects of the handover period and the nature of it as described in the Record of Policy Statements insert should be further discussed at a later meeting to determine a clearer structure and set of rules relating to this. In upholding this advice, DAC rules that the former EC (2019 – 2020) cannot spend YG funds or hold responsibility for the budget as there is no mention of a handover period anywhere in the Constitution or Standing Orders. DAC additionally rules that the RoPS insert fails to give any authority to the outgoing EC over fiscal responsibilities. DAC also rules that could the former EC still spend funds for up to two months as is the period in the RoPS insert, there would be no accountability over this as they are no longer in post – they do not have control over funds.

Rulings on Liberation Group Name Changes

Can Liberation Groups change the base name of the group?

DAC discussed Liberation Groups' ability to change names autonomously and agreed this was allowed. However, it was clarified that this group name change cannot alter the groups' membership nor past/future membership, unless this is proposed and ratified by the regular EC Liberation Group approval system.

Can Liberation Groups change the order of words in the name?

DAC agreed this was possible, but it must remain clear it is a Young Greens group, by including either 'Young Greens of England and Wales' or one of the accepted abbreviations 'Young Greens' / 'YG' in the title.

Ruling on the Initiation of the Appeals Process for a Disciplinary Matter

DAC received an appeal request for a disciplinary matter, under Article 5 of the Constitution. DAC ruled not to initiate the appeals process, under the power invested in us by Article 5 Clause 13 of the Young Greens Constitution. The grounds for appeal are if new evidence emerges, or if the Complaints and Disputes Subcommittee (C&D) broke procedure, evidence of these grounds had not been presented to DAC as of the time of this ruling. Thus, we did not initiate the appeals process. It was not necessary for us to determine at this stage whether or not individuals who have had their membership permanently terminated have a right to appeal, as the grounds for appeal were not met in the first case. Nor was it necessary for us to determine at this stage whether or not judgements made by an entity other than C&D can be appealed. However, these factors were discussed.

Ruling on Number of Safeguarding Officers

DAC rules that no more than one Safeguarding Officer may be in post after appointment by the Executive Committee each year. In addition, DAC rules that no more than one Deputy

Safeguarding Officer may be in post after appointment by the Executive Committee each year. DAC also rules that there must be precisely one Safeguarding Officer and precisely one Deputy Safeguarding Officer. These factors are made very clear under Article 9 of the Young Greens Constitution, which states that:

9.1 Young Greens EC shall appoint a Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Safeguarding Officer.

9.2 The Safeguarding Officer and their Deputy have the duty to:

9.2.1 Lead on the development of safeguards for the Young Greens.

9.2.2 To promote the safety and welfare of children and young people in the Young Greens.

9.2.3 Receive and record information from anyone who has concerns.

9.2.4 Assess the information promptly and carefully, clarifying or obtaining more information where necessary.

9.2.5 Consult initially with a statutory child protection agency, such as the local children's social care teams or the NSPCC with any doubts or concerns.

9.2.6 Make a formal referral when required to a statutory child protection agency or the police.

9.3 It is not their job to decide whether a child or a young person has been abused or not. These roles can be shared with other roles within the Young Greens.

9.4 Young Greens will follow the guidance regarding safeguarding in the RoOS.

<u>Ruling on Executive Committee Quorum</u>

The Quorum for the Executive Committee is 50% + 1 of all voting committee members. When there are 9 voting members, this means quorum is 6, as 50% would be 4.5, + 1 is 5.5 and so 5 would be less than Quorum. This is supported by Robert's Rules of Order.

<u>Ruling on Executive Committee Members on Complaints and Disputes Subcommittee</u>

Sitting EC Voting Members and Officers cannot be on the Complaints and Disputes Subcommittee (C&D) due to conflicts of interest in that C&D decisions may then be presented to the Executive Committee (EC) for further adjudication or implementation of specific sanctions, and this is not permitted. Members of EC who happen to be drawn in the lots due to the holding of other rules, shall be kept on the list in place, but shall not be put on the Subcommittee until they are no longer on EC, the same applies to Green Students Committee (GSC) Co-Convenors as they sit on EC.

<u>Ruling on Status of the Constitution and Standing Orders</u>

The active Constitution and Standing Orders are the ones adopted at the December 2020 Emergency General Meeting, which may have since been minorly textually amended by DAC. This applies for co-options, and for other purposes, when looking at the composition of a Young Greens body.

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Public Statements made by the Executive Committee

Under Byelaw 2.3.3 of the Constitution of the Young Greens of England and Wales, the Democracy and Accountability Committee has the power and agency to “Make rulings on interpretations of this Constitution and to declare acts constitutional or otherwise.”

Pursuant to this rule, the Democracy and Accountability Committee (DAC) issues the following declaration and related ruling, stating that the described actions taken by the Executive Committee (EC) were unconstitutional and contrary to the provisions laid out in the Constitution and ruling documents, and clarifying rules related to one specific area.

“DAC declares the EC issuing of the 22nd March statement on the events in Bristol to be unconstitutional, on the grounds that the statement was neither discussed nor approved by a quorate majority of EC.

“DAC notes the EC communications agreement which states that communications work may be handled, day-to-day, by a subset of EC. However, DAC rules that statements released which could reasonably be interpreted to be on behalf of the Young Greens at-large or the Executive Committee must meet quorum requirements established by the Young Greens Constitution for EC decision-making. These quorum requirements are “50% + 1” and any proportion less, including half, does not meet this threshold.”

Clarification from DAC Chair:

We have tried to word this in a way which avoids the case where everything is subject to quorum requirements. We do not think every post requires quorum.

We think that “statements” on behalf of EC/YG do require quorum, for example the statement we have declared to have been issued unconstitutionally was clearly a public statement.

An emoji shared with a news article would generally not “reasonably be interpreted” as being a public statement, nor would a Tweet getting people to sign up for an event, or celebrating councillor wins.

EC has its independence and unless we see something in future which clearly goes against this, I would hope that EC can rationally determine when something is, or could appear to be, a full on public statement type release on an issue, and therefore must meet quorum requirements.

Unless there’s another case where we think there has been a clear breach of what quorum requires, we want to leave EC to do it’s job on it’s own. But, we think that the issuing of the statement at hand clearly crossed the line in that a majority of the committee didn’t consent to it

being issued nor discuss it, and it fit the bill as a statement and could reasonably be interpreted to be on behalf of EC/YG.

Response from the Executive Committee:

While we find the term 'public statement' subjective, we feel that additional clarity from DAC would not override the fact that DAC does not have the power to make a ruling of this kind. This is based on our understanding that the constitution allows EC to:

> Make political statements in response to news stories whether or not these lines already exist in our record of policy statements
> Decide on our own ways of working and decision making processes, provided these protocols are agreed by a majority vote of EC.

Bylaw 1 of the constitution sets out:

> 1.3 The aim and responsibility of the EC is to:
> 1.3.1 Provide an overall direction and strategic planning.
> 1.3.3 Represent the Young Greens externally, including running the website and social media and representing the Young Greens at events.
> …
> 1.7 The quorum for EC decisions is 50% + 1 of all EC members.
> Since our comms protocol was signed off by 50% + 1 of all EC members, and this protocol was followed, we do not believe we have breached any clauses of the constitution.

As a team we have reviewed section 1 of 'Responding to a news story on social media' in our comms protocol, to see if there are ways in which we think it could be improved, either in relation to the case raised by DAC or any other. We have resolved to amend the process to read (change in bold):

If concerns are raised or the messaging is particularly complex, we may want to:

> reach out for external advice (e.g. liberation group, spokesperson, PolCom etc),
> grab a quick call in a small group to try and find consensus, or
> bring this to an EC meeting for wider discussion to get quorate approval.

We will also be reviewing the wider comms protocol to make sure we are happy with all elements of this over the coming weeks.

<u>Ruling on Electors for Executive Committee Liberation Officers</u>

All Members of the Young Greens may vote for EC Liberation Officers under current rules. There is no provision in the rules for anything other than this, and it would not be within our powers to alter who is eligible to vote in our internal elections in this manner.

It is for the Membership, through Convention, to alter any voting rights if they the Membership believes something other than this should be the case. It is for us to interpret and enforce the rules as they are currently written.

END OF RULINGS

DAC made the following minor textual amendments to the Constitution and Standing Orders:

DAC approved every instance of change of SPC to 'DAC', and of 'Structures and Procedures Committee' to 'Democracy and Accountability Committee'.

On alterations in Article 5:

> In 5.1, It was noted that the C&D committee should be referred to as a sub-committee and as such all references to committee have been changed.
> In 5.6, the Equality and Diversity Portfolio officer was considered specific language. It was suggested that the Equality and Diversity Non-Portfolio officer should be explicitly included in 1.1.3 of Byelaw 1 of Byelaws of the YGs and has been added.
> In 5.13, 'appealer' was altered to 'appellant' and this change was approved. Byelaw 1 alteration of ' Section D' to 'Section E'.

Capitalisation of 'Byelaws' and 'Constitution' was agreed upon in all cases, as was the addition of 's' to indicate plural features.

In Byelaw 2.1.3, 'referred to as co-chairs' was changed to 'co-chairs'.

In Byelaw 3, NUS was changed to National Union of Students.

In Byelaw 4, minor changes in grammar and clarifications were approved. The holder of the 'Equality and Diversity' portfolio was considered to be a permanent essential portfolio position and this was clarified in 4.10.

In Byelaw 5, minor changes in grammar and clarifications were approved.

In Section A, B, C, D, E, F, DAC approved of every instance of change of SPC to 'DAC', and of 'Structures and Procedures' to 'Democracy and Accountability'.

Minor changes in spelling, grammar, acronyms, and clarifications were approved. All references to 'roles' in E.3. were changed to 'positions' and this was approved.

E.3.1. was further clarified. E.5.10, E.5.11, E.5.12, E.5.13, was further clarified. E.5.13.1 reference to ERO was changed to be solely DAC as stated in enabling Clause E5.13. Numbering in Section F of SO was discussed and agreed upon to remain unaltered.

END OF MINOR TEXTUAL AMENDMENTS

Emergency General Meeting Report Voting Outcomes and Censures and Commendations: Report Voting Outcomes, EGM December 2020 - results are in the format For Against Abstain Rosie Rawle: 17 0 1. Lily Fitzgibbon: 15 0 2. Rajiv Sinha: 17 0 0. Jane Robb: 16 0 2. Kelsey Trevett: 16 0 1. Sarah Sharp: 16 0 0. Annabelle Van Dort: No report. Fay Whitfield: 15 0 2. DAC Technical Report 14 1 0. Isaac Searle: 17 0 0. Heloise Hunter: 15 1 0. Nick Humberstone: 13 2 1. Ria Patel: 14 0 0. Billy Wassell: 16 0 0. Jane Baston: 14 0 1.

Commendation Voting Outcomes, EGM December 2020 - results are in the format For Against Abstain

EC, GSC, DAC 11 0 2:
Name: George Morris
Local Party: Manchester
Person or Body being Commended: Executive Committee, Student's Committee and DAC
Text of Motion:
The pandemic has been a very challenging time, the Young Greens recognises the great work both bodies have done in the very difficult circumstances.

EC 10 3 2:
Name: Dylan Lewis-Creser
Local Party: (North) Northamptonshire Green Party
Person or Body being Commended: Executive Committee
Text of Motion: The work that the 2020-2021 EC has done has been very challenging, and the fact they've done this with not all roles filled is an even greater achievement.

Jane Baston and Billy Wassell 17 0 1:
Name: Chris Jarvis
Local Party: Oxfordshire Green Party
Person or Body being Commended: Jane Baston and Billy Wassell
Text of Motion: For reviving the Green Students Committee and rebuilding links within the student movement after a number of years of it being dormant.

GSC NPOs 13 1 3:
Name: Chris Jarvis
Local Party: Oxfordshire Green Party
Person or Body being Commended: Jane Baston and Billy Wassell
Text of Motion: For reviving the Green Students Committee and rebuilding links within the student movement after a number of years of it being dormant.

END OF EGM INFO

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DAC notes that there are entries in the Records of Policy and Organisational Statements which were entered on 9/10/16, although 2016 is five years ago, under the relevant section in the Standing Orders “After five years of a statement being entered into the YG RoPS, it is considered to be in grace as recorded by DAC. This means that it will be reported to be in grace to the following Young Greens Annual General Meeting by DAC, who will give Convention the chance to vote on whether it should stay in the YG RoPS, which requires a simple majority. This restarts the five-year placement of that statement into the YG RoPS.” - as five years have not been met, but rather around four years and three-quarters, the entries are not yet in grace, and will be brought to a vote at the next AGM.

As this year was condensed, and a full twelve-month term not completed, the first reports at the Autumn General Meeting were classed as the sixth-month reports for accountability purposes, since then there have been two other sets of reports.

Declaration of Exceptional Democratic Accountability Measures:

Exceptional Measures are defined under Section F of the Standing Orders of the Young Greens of England and Wales and allow, in exceptional circumstances, a General Meeting to be held online, or be delayed by up to six weeks, or both.

Under Standing Order F2.2, Exceptional Measures were declared by the Executive Committee at their meeting on the 15th of April 2021, and I (Isaac Searle) was informed as the Chair of the Democracy and Accountability Committee. The provided grounds for the declaration were due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

Under Standing Order F2.4, the Democracy and Accountability Committee ratified the declaration of Exceptional Measures at our meeting on the 21st of April 2021.

Under Standing Order F3, planning was undertaken. Under this same Order, the process moved automatically to Standing Order F4 on the 5th of May 2021.

Under Standing Order F4, the Executive Committee voted to implement F4.3 Postpone a General Meeting by up to 6 weeks after the normal period and hold the event and all associated functions online.

Under Standing Order F5, the Democracy and Accountability Committee ratified the agreed actions, which therefore come into effect immediately.

<u>Ria Patel’s Letter of Resignation</u>

Dear Democracy and Accountability Committee and Young Greens of England and Wales,

This is notification of my resignation as Electoral Returning Officer for the 2021 Executive Committee, Green Students Committee, and Democracy and Accountability Committee, as well as officer for Democracy and Accountability Committee. My last day in both these positions is 05/07/2021. I am extremely disappointed to have to resign, as I was enjoying supporting candidates and upholding election rules, as well as working in DAC. As such, this decision was not made lightly at all. However, I feel that for my role as ERO to effective, I have to be respected.

Unfortunately, my current decisions are not being respected, with much pushback, which is likely to be detrimental to the campaigns candidates are running. In order to ensure that this election is fair, I feel it is only right for me to step down.

I have been cooperative throughout recent discussions, allowing for a compromise, but the continual challenging has not been appreciated. I recognise the frustration the Executive must be feeling, however, that does not allow for election rules to not be followed. Equal platforming of candidates must be given, to ensure a fair election.

This on top of ongoing internal conflicts, has added a great amount of additional stress. Although this stress has already manifested, I do not have the capacity to deal with the any additional stress that may come, as I now must put my own wellbeing first.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my role on DAC and am so thankful to the support that the committee members Isaac Searle, Nick Humberstone and Heloise Hunter have given me throughout this past year. Also, I am sorry that the accessible versions of the ruling documents, that I have been working on all year, have not been completed in time for my resignation. I hope that someone can work on this next year to aid the accessibility of our democracy and accountability procedures for the Young Greens membership.

I wish the next ERO the best of luck in their role, hope the remainder of the campaigning period is more positive, in line with Green values, and that next year's Democracy and Accountability Committee are more greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,
Ria Patel

END OF LETTER
DAC Technical Report compiled from DAC Records and Archive by DAC Chair Isaac Searle.

Isaac Searle, Chair

This term as Chair of the Democracy and Accountability Committee (DAC), I have been an advocate for openness, transparency, open democracy, and a genuinely kind and tolerant organisational culture, all whilst upholding our internal rules set by the membership. I've done this by attending the vast majority of regularly scheduled Executive Committee meetings, and by chairing Democracy and Accountability Committee meetings which have generally been held fortnightly, and even weekly during busy periods.

Having been on the Democracy and Accountability Committee / Structures and Procedures Committee for two terms now, I can safely say I commend the ethic of all committee members

for remaining committed to their roles right through to the end. Of course, Ria Patel made the principled decision to resign from their position as a Member of DAC and as the Electoral Returning Officer (ERO) - this is a decision that I wholly support as Chair, having seen the reasons behind it, though I am frustrated that Ria had to resign due to relations with certain bodies outside of our committee, and the feeling that decisions were not being respected by some outside of DAC.

Throughout the year, I have chaired a DAC which has been firm but fair, at all times upholding the Constitution and Standing Orders of our grassroots organisation to the absolute best of our ability, knowledge, and understanding. This has not been an easy task at times, though I am confident that at all times we have maintained the utmost ethical and organisational standards.

I am thankful to those others who have been on DAC this year: Heloise Hunter, Ria Patel, and Nick Humberstone for maintaining and striving for a committee culture and environment wherein all committee members can speak their thoughts on constitutional issues without fear or favour, where open debate is always present, and where despite disagreement or initial deadlock, the highest levels of calm and serenity are maintained during debate. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on DAC this year due to this.

I organised and facilitated the running of the December Emergency General Meeting, alongside fellow DAC Members and some on the Executive Committee (EC) - I also chaired the democracy sessions at the EGM. It was a successful event that allowed for numerous changes to be made by the membership to our rules and structures.

I have supported our Liberation Groups, Special Interest Groups, and other Affiliated Groups throughout the year with advice on constitutional matters. I also got in touch with all groups to arrange Liberation and Special Interest Group presence at our AGM, and to facilitate their elections.

During this busy period, I assisted many members with queries relating to motion or amendment submission, election candidacy and other matters relating to the 2021 AGM. I worked with other DAC members and EROs on this. I have supported and backed up our properly appointed EROs in fulfilling their duties to the best of their abilities.

I have completed reports, uploaded relevant Minutes to the members' website at intervals during the year, and fulfilled my duties as a Member and Chair of DAC. This includes offering a wide range of constitutional advice, in addition to that which may have contributed to Rulings in the Technical Report.

I believe that we have been a cooperative and just DAC and I thank all involved and supportive of our goal to uphold the highest possible standards within our organisation, to further the organisation's goals and objectives. Thank you to all involved in Young Greens structures at any level for all of your hard work in this very difficult year.

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Heloise Hunter, Committee Member and Complaints & Disputes

I have attended all bimonthly DAC meetings. During these sessions, I contributed to discussions with other DAC members. I also took part in a wide range of rulings, and have attended numerous supplementary DAC meetings when called.
I have helped support other members of DAC in organising democracy-related events.

In my role as Complaints & Disputes Representative, I recruited outside volunteers for the Committee. I also recruited internal members to complete the C&D committee. Happily, the C&D committee has received no queries or complaints in the current period.

Ria Patel, Committee Member until 5th July 2021

- Attended all bimonthly committee meetings, and supplementary meetings.
- Discussed and contributed to rulings made by DAC.
- Helped in the planning of the Spring Conference
- Worked on creating an accessible, more simplified version of the constitution and standing orders, so that more members can become involved with internal democracy. This will be passed onto the next committee to complete.
- Attended some EC meetings
- ERO of EC, DAC, and GSC elections until resignation. Helped Nick and Isaac with the technical side of Discuss.Greens, checking through candidates, and confirming supporters of candidates.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with Isaac, Nick and Heloise on this committee, as a team. I would like to give my thanks to them for introducing me to this role so well, and supporting me throughout the year.

Nick Humberstone, Committee Member

This year has been really good for DAC, with a committee of 4 members (out of a total 5) for the whole year, and a group of people that are really good at making decisions as a team. Often we would disagree on an issue, then talk it out, and come to an agreement where everyone was either happy or impartial to the decision. That's how decisions should be made and I want to thank the other members of the committee for collectively creating that environment.

Throughout the year, I have worked with the rest of the committee on rulings, and occasionally attended EC meetings to support Isaac, the DAC chair, for some of the more difficult discussions.

Individually, my work has mostly been focused on the behind the scenes stuff when it comes to our democratic processes. This includes setting up Discuss.Green the democracy platform, setting up Electrr the voting platform, and utilising ActionNetwork for collecting the data for voters. The democracy platform and the voting platform are reasonably big projects when it comes to the initial setup, particularly with Electrr which I had to set up a private server for and then configure it so that the website that voters use to vote in elections would work. Re-using these projects for Conventions, Emergency General Meetings (EGMs), and Internal Elections should be a lot less work in comparison to this initial set-up and hopefully free up more time for members of DAC to work on their own personal projects that continue to improve the democraticness and accessibility of our procedures in the Young Greens.

Green Students Committee (GSC)

The elected Green Students Committee Co-Convenors, Billy Wassell and Jane Baston, sit on the Executive Committee and their reports can be found there. Co-opted Members of the Green Students Committee do not need to write an Annual Report according to the Standing Orders.