

D1 Young Greens Constitution 2020/2021

Organization: Democracy and Accountability Committee
Resolution date: 05/20/2021
Agenda item: D Amendments to Constitution/Standing Orders

1 Young Greens Constitution 2020/2021

2 Article 1: Name, Membership and Objectives

3 1.1 The name of the organisation is “Young Greens of England and Wales”.

4 1.2 The accepted abbreviations are “Young Greens” or “YG” and in all
5 publications this name and abbreviations shall be synonymous.

6 1.3 The geographical boundaries of the Young Greens are England and Wales.

7 1.4 The Young Greens aim to encourage young people to become active in politics
8 and within the Green Party of England and Wales.

9 1.5 The Young Greens consists of all members of the Green Party of England and
10 Wales: 1.5.1 aged 29 years or less;

11 1.5.2 full-time students regardless of age;

12 1.6 Membership of the Young Greens includes voting rights to all elections in
13 accordance with this constitution.

14 1.7 An individual’s membership of the Young Greens can be permanently terminated
15 by an absolute two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee with the
16 agreement of the Chair of the Democracy and Accountability Committee. Where the
17 individual is a member of those committees, they will not be able to vote on or
18 be required to approve the termination and the absolute two-thirds majority will
19 exclude that individual.

20 1.8 Termination of membership can only occur if their membership is considered
21 to be detrimental to the work of the Young Greens. Prior to that, however, the
22 Young Greens Complaints and Disputes Procedure should have been used, as
23 outlined in Article 5.

24 Article 2: Organisation

25 2.1 The Young Greens is composed of individual members, committees and
26 Affiliated Groups, whose constitutions, aims and values should be consistent
27 with those of the Young Greens and the Green Party of England and Wales.

28 2.2 The Young Greens will be run by an Executive Committee, defined in Byelaw 1.

29 2.3 There will be a Democracy and Accountability Committee with responsibility
30 for constitutional affairs and inclusivity, as defined in Byelaw 2.

31 2.4 There will be a Green Students Committee consisting of two Co-Convenors and
32 five Non-Portfolio Officers, defined in Byelaw 4.

33 2.5 The Executive Committee, Democracy and Accountability Committee and the
34 Green Students Committee Co-Convenors will be elected at the Young Greens Annual
35 General Meeting according to the provisions in Section D of the Standing Orders.

36 2.6 Subcommittees may be formed either by a member of the Executive Committee,
37 where a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee has passed, or by a
38 petition of 25 members to a General Meeting.

39 2.7 All other groups outside of the committees defined in sections 2.2-2.5 will
40 be named Affiliated Groups, including Groups for the Regions of England, Wales,
41 Local Groups, Liberation Groups, and Special Interest Groups.

42 2.8 Affiliated Group constitutions should state that they are a part of the
43 Young Greens of England and Wales and not contradict the Young Greens
44 constitution in any way.

45 2.9 For a group to be affiliated, they must be accepted by an absolute majority
46 vote of the Executive Committee.

47 2.10 The Executive Committee must keep a list of affiliated groups and review it
48 each year after Convention.

49 2.11 An affiliated group of the Young Greens can be disaffiliated by an absolute
50 two-thirds majority vote of the Executive Committee if they are in violation of
51 this constitution or if their membership is considered detrimental to the work
52 of the Young Greens.

53 Article 3: Amendment of the Constitution

54 3.1 This constitution may only be amended by a two-thirds majority vote at a
55 General Meeting.

56 3.2 The byelaws to this constitution which all have the status of parts of this
57 constitution may be amended, created or revoked by a two-thirds majority vote at
58 a General Meeting.

59 3.3 A minor change to the constitution and standing orders, for the purpose of
60 the editing power that is held by DAC, is defined as one where the meaning of a
61 clause, or outcome of a clause, has not been altered (although it may be
62 clarified), nor additional clauses introduced; and the change is for the
63 purposes of correcting errors or inconsistencies in typography, spelling, or
64 grammar; clarifying a meaning, or correcting the numbering of clauses.

65 Article 4: The Standing Orders

66 4.1 The Standing Orders is a document which governs any elections within the
67 Young Greens and the processes of Convention and a General Meeting.

68 4.2 The Standing Orders must be followed at all times. They can be amended by a
69 two-thirds majority at a General Meeting.

70 4.3 Where there is a perceived contradiction between the Constitution and
71 Standing Orders, the Democracy and Accountability Committee shall rule on the
72 correct interpretation with precedence given to the Constitution.

73 Article 5: Complaints and Disputes

74 5.1 There shall be a Complaints and Disputes Subcommittee (C&D) of the Democracy
75 and Accountability Committee.

76 5.2 C&D will be constituted of a permanent representative from the Democracy and
77 Accountability Committee (hereby known as the DAC Rep), who will chair the

78 group, as well as four volunteers from the Young Greens membership, to make five
79 total members. Two of these four spaces should be advertised first to the Young
80 Greens Liberation Group Co-Chairs, with priority given to Young Greens of Colour
81 and Young Greens Women of Colour, before being opened to the wider membership if
82 no volunteers step forward who are Liberation Group Co-Chairs. Where there are
83 too many volunteers, selection will be made by DAC; candidates may be put on a
84 reserve list that would be used when other members are recused (see 2.). Where
85 there are too few volunteers, the remaining membership will be drawn by lots
86 from: Co-Convenors of Groups of the Regions of England, and Wales; Green
87 Students Committee members; and Young Green Liberation Group Co-Chairs. At least
88 two members of C&D should not be self-defining men.

89 5.3. C&D should have 5 participating members for every case dealt with. A
90 reserve list of members may be created by DAC in order to ensure that this is
91 possible, as members may be taking leave of absence. It may also be that members
92 have personal interests in the outcome of a case, or possess personal or
93 professional relations, amicable or otherwise, with those involved in a case.
94 Applications for recusal may be made by members of C&D, DAC, EC any Young Green
95 directly involved within a case, and are submitted to DAC, and may be done so by
96 or on the behalf of a member of C&D. A majority vote from DAC determines if a
97 member is recused. If the DAC Rep is recused, C&D is to vote on an acting Chair
98 for a case, who must be a member of C&D. Recusal should happen before the point
99 of formal intervention (the implementation of Section B.3).

100 5.4 C&D membership will be from its initiation until the following Young Greens
101 Convention, after which C&D will be re-formulated following Article 5.2. It is
102 permissible to re-volunteer. Complaints and Disputes will be dealt with by a
103 single C&D only and will not be passed on between re-formulations (except in the
104 case of resignations). This may lead to persons carrying out C&D duties for as
105 long as a complaint of dispute takes to judge on.

106 5.5 Members are to submit complaints based on breaches of the Young Greens
107 Constitution, Young Greens Standing Orders, Green Party Constitution, Green
108 Party Standing Orders, Green Party Code of Conduct or any other organisational
109 policies of the Green Party of England and Wales and Young Greens, including
110 anti-harassment and Safe Space policies.

111 5.6. Any complaints about another member of the Young Greens, or disputes that a
112 member feels they need help resolving, should go in the first instance to the
113 C&D. If for whatever reason a member does not feel comfortable approaching any
114 C&D member, they may go to Young Greens Staff, Young Greens Non-Portfolio
115 Officer with the Equality and Diversity Portfolio or to the Democracy and
116 Accountability Committee.

117 5.7 In the first instance when a complaint is lodged, a member of the C&D will
118 speak to involved parties and attempt to resolve the issue informally whilst
119 maintaining clear records, in accordance with Article 5.14.

120 5.8 Where any involved parties feel that hasn't worked, or where any parties
121 refuse the informal intervention, the complaint should be made in writing. All
122 involved parties will have equal chance to state their own case.

123 5.9 C&D Subcommittee will consider the complaint and make a judgment, in
124 writing, to all parties. Judgements should include a ruling on whether there

125 have been breaches of the Young Greens Constitution, Young Greens Standing
126 Orders, Green Party Constitution, Green Party Standing Orders, Green Party Code
127 of Conduct or any other organisational policies of the Green Party of England
128 and Wales and Young Greens, including anti-harassment and Safe Space policies.

129 5.10 After a judgement, C&D Subcommittee will make a recommendation of action to
130 either or both complainants. In cases where there is a need for disciplinary
131 action, to DAC or another relevant body where appropriate. These disciplinary
132 actions may include, but are not limited to:

133 5.10.1 Ban from Young Greens Events/Spaces, for a period of up to 12 months

134 5.10.2 Suspension of Young Greens membership, for a period of up to 12 months

135 5.10.3 Censure from holding a position within the Young Greens, for a period of
136 up to 12 months 5.10.4 Permanent termination of membership, as outlined in
137 Article 1.7

138 5.11 Where the case is deemed to be serious enough, C&D Subcommittee may
139 recommend a suspension for the period of the investigation and which must be
140 agreed by the Chair of the Democracy and Accountability Committee.

141 5.12 If the recommended action(s) following a judgment are not followed by the
142 involved parties, C&D should make recommendations of action to the EC or DAC.

143 5.13 If an individual; wishes to appeal a judgment made by C&D, they may do so
144 by communicating to DAC. The grounds for an appeal are if new evidence emerges,
145 or if C&D broke procedure. DAC should look over the evidence presented by the
146 appellant and may make a ruling on whether the appeals process should be
147 initiated. In this case, appeals will be heard by a new group formulated on the
148 same basis as C&D in 5.3 but excluding C&D members that made the original
149 judgment. This may be drawn from the list of reserve members.

150 5.14 There should be clear minutes and records of actions kept of all C&D
151 meetings. These may be disclosed beyond C&D at the discretion of C&D
152 Subcommittee, and a need for confidentiality and fair treatment must be
153 considered. C&D are to submit reports of each case to DAC. DAC will then include
154 a general, anonymous summary of these in their annual report.

155 5.15 A response to all initial complaints should be made to the initiator of the
156 complaint within 48 hours of receiving the complaint, in which the standard
157 process is outlined to them and how C&D intend to carry out the informal
158 mediation.

159 5.16 Informal mediation should start within 5 days of a complaint or dispute
160 being lodged.

161 5.17 A judgment should be made within 3 weeks of a complaint or dispute being
162 lodged in writing following informal mediation failing or where the written
163 statement refuses informal mediation.

164 5.18 Any requests for updates from any involved party should be responded to
165 within 72 hours. 5.19 Extensions to these deadlines should be sought from DAC in
166 extenuating circumstances

167 5.20 Malicious complaints made against a Young Greens member are serious and a
168 breach of the principles outlined in the Constitution as well as the GPEW Code

169 of Conduct. C&D Subcommittee will dismiss malicious complaints and may notify
170 relevant parties that a malicious complaint has been made.

171 Article 6: The Young Greens Record of Policy Statements

172 6.1 There shall be a Young Greens Record of Policy Statements (hereafter YG
173 RoPS) that contains contemporary policy statements from the Young Greens of
174 England and Wales.

175 6.2 Actions from Young Green bodies should not contradict statements in the
176 RoPS.

177 6.3 Statements may be submitted to the YG RoPS by a simple majority vote of a
178 motion submitted to Convention. Alternatively, statements may be submitted to
179 the YG RoPS by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee, with the
180 consent of SPC. All statements added between Conventions are to be reported to
181 the following Young Greens Annual General Meeting by DAC and recorded in DAC
182 monthly reports.

183 6.4 Statements may be removed from the YG RoPS by a simple majority vote of a
184 motion submitted to Convention. Alternatively, statements may be removed from
185 the YG RoPS by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee, with the
186 consent of DAC. All statements removed between Conventions are to be reported to
187 the following Young Greens Annual General Meeting by DAC and recorded in DAC
188 monthly reports.

189 6.5 After five years of a statement being entered into the YG RoPS, it is
190 considered to be in grace as recorded by DAC. This means that it will be
191 reported to be in grace to the following Young Greens Annual General Meeting by
192 DAC, who will give Convention the chance to vote on whether it should stay in
193 the YG RoPS, which requires a simple majority. This restarts the five-year
194 placement of that statement into the YG RoPS.

195 6.6 The YG RoPS should be publicly available.

196 Article 7: The Young Greens Record of Organisational Statements

197 7.1 There shall be a Young Greens Record of Organisational Statements (hereafter
198 YG RoOS) that contains organisational policies from the Young Greens of England
199 and Wales.

200 7.2 Actions from Young Green bodies should not contradict statements in the
201 RoOS.

202 7.3 Statements may be submitted to the YG RoOS by a simple majority vote of a
203 motion submitted to Convention. Alternatively, statements may be submitted to
204 the YG RoOS by a simple majority vote of the EC, with the consent of SPC. All
205 statements added between Conventions are to be reported to the following Young
206 Greens Annual General Meeting by DAC and recorded in DAC monthly reports.

207 7.4 Statements may be removed from the YG RoOS by a simple majority vote of a
208 motion submitted to Convention. Alternatively, statements may be removed from
209 the YG RoOS by a simple majority vote of the EC, with the consent of DAC. All
210 statements removed between Conventions are to be reported to the following Young
211 Greens Annual General Meeting by DAC and recorded in DAC monthly reports.

212 7.5 Each year EC will review the RoOS and bring a list of statements they judge
213 to be out of date to Convention for a vote of retention or removal.

214 7.6 The YG RoOS should be publicly available.

215 Article 8: Safe Spaces Policy

216 8.1 The Young Greens are committed to providing an environment free of racism,
217 sexism, ableism, homophobia, transphobia, religious discrimination or any other
218 types of oppression, including, but not limited to, oppression against non-
219 binary identities and sex workers.

220 8.2 The Young Greens are committed to providing an environment free of bullying,
221 name-calling or any forms of abusive behaviour.

222 8.3 The Young Greens are committed to challenging these types of oppression
223 whenever they occur in Young Greens spaces.

224 8.4 The Young Greens are committed to having a victim centred approach when safe
225 spaces are jeopardised.

226 8.5 The Young Greens will follow guidance regarding safe spaces in the RoOS.

227 8.6 When it comes from outside of the Young Greens but within the Green Party,
228 individuals in the Young Greens are encouraged to report all forms of oppression
229 or discrimination including hate crime to the Green Party of England and Wales
230 through the standard complaints procedures for further investigation into these
231 matters. Individuals may contact the Young Greens Complaints and Disputes
232 Committee to receive support in doing so.

233 Article 9: Safeguarding

234 9.1 Young Greens EC shall appoint a Safeguarding Officer and Deputy Safeguarding
235 Officer. 9.2 The Safeguarding Officer and their Deputy have the duty to:

236 9.2.1 Lead on the development of safeguards for the Young Greens.

237 9.2.2 To promote the safety and welfare of children and young people in the
238 Young Greens. 9.2.3 Receive and record information from anyone who has concerns.

239 9.2.4 Assess the information promptly and carefully, clarifying or obtaining
240 more information where necessary.

241 9.2.5 Consult initially with a statutory child protection agency, such as the
242 local children's social care teams or the NSPCC with any doubts or concerns.

243 9.2.6 Make a formal referral when required to a statutory child protection
244 agency or the police.

245 9.3 It is not their job to decide whether a child or a young person has been
246 abused or not. These roles can be shared with other roles within the Young
247 Greens.

248 9.4 Young Greens will follow the guidance regarding safeguarding in the RoOS.
249 Byelaws of the Young Greens of England and Wales

250 Byelaw 1: The Young Greens Executive Committee

- 251 1.1 There shall be an Executive Committee (hereafter referred to as “the
252 Executive Committee” or “EC”) which shall consist of:
- 253 1.1.1 Two Co-Chairs, of which at least one must be not a self-defining man.
254 1.1.2 Treasurer.
255 1.1.3 The Green Students Committee Co-convenors, who shall be responsible for
256 the Green Students Committee.
257 1.1.4 Elections Officer
258 1.1.5 Digital Communications Officer
259 1.1.6 Press Officer
260 1.1.7 Campaigns Officer
261 1.1.8 Events Officer
262 1.1.9 International Officer
263 1.1.10 Equality and Diversity Officer
264 1.1.11 Activist Training and Political Education Officer
265 1.1.12 Liberation Officers (from each formerly constituted Liberation Group)
266 1.1.13 Under 18s Officer
- 267 1.2 EC Elections shall be carried out according to Section E of the Standing
268 Orders, following the procedures, timescale and gender balance rules described
269 therein.
- 270 1.3 The aim and responsibility of the EC is to:
- 271 1.3.1 Provide an overall direction and strategic planning.
272 1.3.2 Support all members and bodies within the Young Greens.
273 1.3.3 Represent the Young Greens externally, including running the website and
274 social media and representing the Young Greens at events.
- 275 1.4 EC members shall individually provide a quarterly report to the membership
276 which is made available for all members. A quarterly online question and answer
277 session hosted by DAC should follow and be promoted to all members with a call
278 for questions.
- 279 1.5 EC Members shall provide an end of year report to the Young Greens Annual
280 General Meeting
- 281 1.6 Vacant positions may be co-opted at any time throughout the year following
282 the procedure outlined in Section D6 of the Standing Orders.
- 283 1.7 The quorum for EC decisions is 50% + 1 of all EC members.
- 284 Byelaw 2: The Democracy and Accountability Committee
- 285 2.1 There shall be a Democracy and Accountability Committee (hereafter known as
286 “the Democracy and Accountability Committee” or “DAC”) which shall consist of:
- 287 2.1.1 Five members, where one member is selected within as Chair.

288 2.1.2 The Chair shall be selected at the first meeting of DAC after the Annual
289 Ballot.

290 2.1.3 The position of Chair may also be taken as a job-share between two members
291 of DAC who will then be Co-chairs.

292 2.1.4 If the Chair or Co-chairs resigns, DAC shall select a new Chair or Co-
293 chairs at their next available meeting.

294 2.2 Elections will be carried out according to Section E of the Standing Orders,
295 following the procedures, timescale and gender balance rules described therein.

296 2.3 The aim and responsibility of the Democracy and Accountability Committee is
297 to: 2.3.1 Uphold this Constitution, Byelaws and Standing Orders.

298 2.3.2 Oversee updates and clarifications to these, including through elections
299 and the Annual General meeting.

300 2.3.3 Make rulings on interpretations of this Constitution and to declare acts
301 constitutional or otherwise.

302 2.3.4 Make minor changes to the Constitution and the Standing Orders to ensure
303 it is standardised and accurate, as outlined in Article 3.3 of this
304 Constitution.

305 2.3.5 As part of this role, the Democracy and Accountability Committee will run
306 a General Meeting as described in Sections B and C of the Standing Orders.

307 2.3.6. Additionally, the Democracy and Accountability Committee is responsible
308 for ensuring accountability of the Young Greens at large.

309 2.4 The Chair of the Democracy and Accountability Committee has the right to
310 attend all meetings of the Executive Committee, but not vote, as a
311 representative of the Democracy and Accountability Committee and should be
312 consulted on major decisions.

313 2.5 The Democracy and Accountability Committee members shall individually
314 provide a quarterly report to the membership, which is made available to all
315 members, and an end-of-year report to the Young Greens Annual General Meeting.
316 These shall detail any minor changes made to the constitution and standing
317 orders.

318 Byelaw 3: The Green Students Committee

319 3.1 The Green Students Committee shall be led by two Co-Convenors, of which at
320 least one must not self-define as a man.

321 3.2 The Co-convenors shall be elected in line with Section E of the Standing
322 Orders following the procedures, timescale and gender balance rules described
323 therein.

324 3.3 The aim and responsibility of the Green Students Committee is to:

325 3.3.1 Ensure that the Executive Committee is kept up to date on issues effective
326 students and to lead campaigning on those issues.

327 3.3.2 Encourage Young Greens to stand for elected positions in relevant student
328 -led organisations, including but not limited to, their students unions, NUS, or
329 UCU (if they are eligible).

330 3.3.3 Support any Young Greens holding those elected positions in relevant
331 student-led organisations.

332 3.3.4 Ensure that the Young Greens are involved with campaigns run by the NUS,
333 and other relevant student-led organisations.

334 3.3.5 Liaise with external bodies that are relevant to student issues and
335 campaigning.

336 3.3.6 Promote campaigns and organisations relevant to the students movement to
337 the Young Greens membership.

338 3.3.7 Work with the Executive Committee to support the Young Greens Students
339 Societies and ensure their effective running.

340 3.4 Green Students Committee Co-Convenors shall individually provide a quarterly
341 report to the membership, to be published on the members' website, and an end-
342 of-year report to the Young Greens Annual General Meeting.

343 3.5 Vacant positions may be co-opted at any time throughout the year following
344 the procedure outlined in the standing orders.

345 3.6 The Green Students Co-convenors shall be members of the Executive Committee
346 as outlined in Byelaw 1.

347 Byelaw 4: Liberation Groups

348 4.1 Liberation Groups shall represent individuals who face current and historic
349 oppression, discrimination and/or are marginalised in wider society due to a
350 shared characteristic.

351 4.2 Liberation Groups shall ensure that the voices and perspectives of people in
352 marginalised groups are well represented and heard within the structures and
353 policies of the Young Greens and the wider Green Party.

354 4.3 Young Greens members are free to join any Liberation Group which they self-
355 identify as a member of. As such, these groups shall be organised and led by
356 self-identifying members.

357 4.4 The current list of Liberation Groups is as follows:

358 4.4.1 Disability.

359 4.4.2 LGBTIQ+.

360 4.4.3 People of Colour.

361 4.4.4 Trans.

362 4.4.5 Womxn.

363 4.4.6 Women of Colour.

364 4.5 A new group can be set up if the criteria in both 4.5.1 and in 4.5.2 are
365 met:

366 4.5.1 The proposed group face current and historic oppression, discrimination
367 and/or are marginalised in wider society based around a shared characteristic.

368 4.5.2 The proposer can demonstrate that at least 5 members will actively join
369 the group.

370 4.6 EC shall use their discretion in approving the creation of new Liberation
371 Groups between General Meetings and shall bring a paper of ratification to the
372 next Annual General Meeting, or to an Emergency General Meeting if this happens
373 to occur first.

374 4.7 Each Liberation Group shall elect from their membership at least two Co-
375 chairs, where no more than one self-defines as a man. If for any reason, the
376 Liberation Group cannot run the election, DAC will run the election on their
377 behalf.

378 4.8 The election should be organised by said Liberation Group using a system of
379 Single Transferable Vote, for which advice can be sought from DAC, to ensure
380 that the rules in 4.7 are satisfied. If for any reason, the Liberation Group
381 cannot run the election, DAC will run the election on their behalf.

382 4.9 Liberation Groups may be additionally led by a committee, with the number of
383 positions and the election or co-option timescale at the discretion of the
384 Liberation Group members.

385 4.10 Each Liberation Group will reserve a seat on the committee for their
386 Liberation Group Officer.

387 4.10.1 The Liberation Group Officer will be elected through the Annual Ballot in
388 accordance with Section E of the Standing Orders.

389 4.10.2 The Liberation Group Officer will not be able to also hold the position
390 as Co-Chair of the Liberation Group

391 4.11 The Liberation Group Co-Chairs, or Committee where appropriate, are in
392 charge of moderating any online spaces they group holds, organising training
393 days and meet-ups, upholding the Safe Space policy at all times, and
394 representing their Liberation Group concerns through the Liberation Group
395 Officer and to the Equality and Diversity Officer.

396 Byelaw 5: International Affiliation

397 5.1 The Young Greens of England and Wales is a full member organisation of the
398 Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG).

399 5.2 The Young Greens of England and Wales is a member of the Global Young Greens
400 (GYG) by virtue of its membership of FYEG.

401 5.3 As a member of both organisations, the Young Greens will endeavour to send
402 at least one delegate to the FYEG General Assembly or GYG Congress each year.

403 5.4 The first international delegate shall be a member of EC.

404 5.5 If there are to be any further delegates, they should be appointed from the
405 general membership by EC. 5.6 Additional observers for the General Assembly may
406 be appointed by EC.

407 5.7 In the event of the Global Young Greens Congress being held the same year as
408 the FYEG General Assembly, this election shall occur twice - all members,
409 despite any prior delegate status, are able to be a candidate in this election,
410 in line with Section E of the Standing Orders.

411 5.8 At the FYEG General Assembly, the first delegate and the elected
412 international delegate shall be given one vote each (as permitted by the FYEG
413 Constitution). The first delegate shall consult EC for advice on how to vote on
414 motions, but further delegates may vote independently; they can seek advice from
415 EC and indeed agree with the EC delegate vote.

416 5.9 If any member of the Young Greens of England and Wales wishes to run for
417 election to any roles within FYEG or GYG, they must consult and seek the
418 nomination of the EC.

419 Byelaw 6: Special Interest Groups

420 6.1 Members with concerns on a specific issue or set of issues, may form a
421 Special Interest Group in order to develop policy positions and pursue campaigns
422 within the structure and strategy of the Young Greens.

423 6.2 Young Greens members are free to join any Special Interest Group, in
424 accordance with any rules on eligibility as defined by the group.

425 6.3 The current list of Special Interest Groups is as follows:

426 6.3.1 Under 18s

427 6.3.2 Sex Workers

428 6.4 The proposer can demonstrate that at least 5 members will actively join the
429 group.

430 6.5 EC shall use their discretion in approving the creation of new Special
431 Interest Groups between General Meetings and shall bring a paper of ratification
432 to the next Annual General Meeting, or to an Emergency General Meeting if this
433 happens to occur first.

434 6.6 Each Special Interest Group shall elect from their membership at least two
435 Co-chairs, where no more than one self-defines as a man.

436 6.7 The election should be organised by said Special Interest Group using a
437 system of Single Transferable Vote, for which advice can be sought from DAC, to
438 ensure that the rules in 6.64.7 are satisfied. If for any reason, the Special
439 Interest Group cannot run the election, DAC will control the election.

440 6.8 Special Interest Groups may be additionally led by a committee, with the
441 number of positions and the election or co-option timescale at the discretion of
442 the Special Interest Groups members

D2 Young Greens Standing Orders 2020/2021

Organization: Democracy and Accountability Committee
Resolution date: 05/20/2021
Agenda item: D Amendments to Constitution/Standing Orders

1 Young Greens Standing Orders 2020/2021

2 Section A: Young Greens Convention

3 A1.1 The Young Greens Convention shall be held once per year in Spring.

4 A1.2 The Young Greens Convention will take place for two days during a weekend.

5 A1.3 The Young Greens Convention shall not be held twice in the same Region
6 Block, defined in A1.4, consecutively.

7 A1.4 Within each five-year period, as determined by DAC, the Young Greens
8 Convention must take place within the bounds of at least three of these four
9 Region Blocks:

10 A1.4.1 The South East, and the South West

11 A1.4.2 The North East, the North West, and Yorkshire and the Humber

12 A1.4.3 The Midlands, and Wales

13 A1.4.4 The East, and London

14 A1.5 Liberation groups will be allocated a session at convention where they will
15 provide a report to its membership on activities undertaken since last
16 convention and for any other purpose the group sees fit.

17 Section B: Annual General Meetings

18 Part 1: Competency of the Annual General Meeting

19 B1.1 The Young Greens Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at Young Greens
20 Annual Convention.

21 B1.2 The Annual General Meeting is the highest decision-making body within the
22 Young Greens.

23 B1.3 There must be at least 25 members of the Young Greens at any General
24 Meeting for decisions to be binding.

25 B1.4 The AGM accepts/rejects/amends reports, motions, resolutions and changes to
26 the Constitution or Standing Orders, collectively referred to as 'papers'.

27 B1.5 The AGM ratifies decisions about joining or leaving partnerships and
28 membership within other organisations/networks.

29 B1.7 A General Meeting will be held at a bi-national autumn event.

30 Part 2: Organisation of the Annual General Meeting

31 B2.1 The Annual General Meeting agenda must be structured, organised and agreed
32 by the Executive Committee (EC) and Democracy and Accountability Committee
33 (DAC).

34 B2.2 DAC must appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair for each session of the Annual
35 General Meeting. The Chair and Deputy Chair must not be proposers of any Papers
36 or Amendments to the session of the Annual General Meeting that they are
37 chairing.

38 B2.3 DAC must ensure that all members respect the Constitution and Standing
39 Orders.

40 B2.4 DAC must take Annual General Meeting minutes of all official business
41 including recording any votes, important discussions, and decisions.

42 B2.5 DAC must keep a record of newly adopted/amended documents and email the
43 Young Greens' Co-Chairs a copy of newly adopted/amended documents as well as the
44 minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

45 B2.6 DAC must inform EC to take note of any newly adopted papers.

46 B2.7 A prioritisation ballot will occur, conducted by DAC, on the first day of
47 Convention for attendees at the Annual General Meeting in order to decide the
48 order of papers taken.

49 Part 3: Motions and Reports

50 B3.1 It shall be the role of DAC to compile submitted papers, which consist of

51 B3.1.1 Changes to the Constitution or Standing Orders

52 B3.1.2 Resolutions, which note the priorities of the Executive Committee for the
53 upcoming term

54 B3.1.3 Motions, which insert entries into the Record of Policy Statements or
55 Record of Organisational Statements

56 B3.1.4 Reports, as outlined in B3.2

57 B3.1.5 Emergency Motions, as outlined in B3.10

58 B3.2 The Annual General Meeting must take note of mandatory annual reports by
59 the: B3.2.1 Executive Committee Co-Chairs.

60 B3.2.2 Treasurer.

61 B3.2.3 Digital Communications Officer

62 B3.2.4 Press Officer

63 B3.2.5 Campaigns Officer

64 B3.2.6 Events Officer

65 B3.2.7 International Officer

66 B3.2.8 Equality and Diversity Officer

67 B3.2.9 Activist Training and Political Education Officer

68 B3.2.10 Liberation Officers (from each formerly constituted Liberation Group)

69 B3.2.11 Under 18s Officer

70 B3.2.12 Democracy and Accountability Committee.

- 71 B3.2.13 Green Students Committee Co-Convenors.
- 72 B3.3 Annual reports detailed in B3.2 must be submitted to DAC at least 1 week
73 before the AGM.
- 74 B3.4 Individual members, EC and Affiliated Young Greens Groups have the right to
75 submit papers and amendments.
- 76 B3.5 For all submissions, there must be a named proposer and at least 3 other
77 co-proposers or at least one other co-proposer if submitting on behalf of an
78 Affiliated YG Group or recognised committee.
- 79 B3.6 Paper copies of the Constitution, Standing Orders, Record of Policy
80 Statements and Record of Organisational Statements must be made available for
81 members attending the General Meeting.
- 82 B3.7 The timescale for the submission of papers and amendments shall be as
83 follows:
- 84 B3.7.1 At least 8 weeks before the Annual General Meeting, EC must send out a
85 call including guidelines for submission of papers, all relevant dates and where
86 to find papers once they are posted on the members' website.
- 87 B3.7.2 Submission for papers shall close exactly 4 weeks before the AGM.
- 88 B3.7.3 Following this, DAC must post all submissions at the earliest possible
89 moment. B3.7.4 Exactly 1 week before the AGM, submission of amendments to papers
90 will close.
- 91 B3.7.5 Amendments may not substantially change the intention of the paper and
92 nor may they require changes to another section of the Constitution or Standing
93 Orders.
- 94 B3.8 Exactly 5 days before the Annual General Meeting, DAC must ensure that all
95 members are emailed (regardless of Annual General Meeting registration status)
96 copies of all papers and amendments to both as well as the reports detailed in
97 B3.2.
- 98 B3.9 The only amendments which shall be accepted from the floor during the AGM
99 are minor textual amendments (e.g. grammatical corrections) and friendly verbal
100 amendments (i.e. where both the proposer of the original paper and the proposer
101 of the verbal amendment agree to an amendment).
- 102 B3.10 Emergency motions, defined as being brought due to an event occurring past
103 the original motion deadline, will be accepted up until 17.00 on the day before
104 the AGM.
- 105 B3.11 The text of Emergency Motions should be submitted electronically or by
106 paper copy and the list of proposers by email and/or paper copy, both to the
107 Chair of DAC .
- 108 B3.12 Emergency Motions shall be prioritised at the AGM by DAC on the basis of
109 the number of co-proposers to each Emergency Motion.
- 110 Part 4: Motion Voting Procedures
- 111 B4.1 When debating a paper or amendment at the Annual General Meeting, the
112 proposer will be asked by the chair to propose the motion or amendment by

113 explaining what the paper or amendment is for and then giving a brief speech in
114 favour of the paper.

115 B4.2 Following this the chair will open debate on the paper or amendment by
116 asking for a limited number of brief alternating speeches in favour and against
117 the paper, firstly against and then in favour of the paper or amendment until
118 either no one wishes to make a speech or there has been sufficient debate on the
119 paper or amendment.

120 B4.3 If it is unclear if there has been sufficient debate a straw poll will be
121 taken by raising hands with the options either for more debate or move to a
122 vote.

123 B4.4 At any point before the vote is taken, any member can ask for
124 clarification, raise points of information or propose procedural motions (e.g.
125 minor textual amendments, taking by parts).

126 B4.5 If a paper or amendment has received lengthy debate the proposer may
127 request a brief right of reply before the vote is taken.

128 B4.6 When voting on paper proposals the possibilities are 'yes', 'no' or
129 'abstention'.

130 B4.7 Depending on the nature of the proposal, the following types of majority
131 may be required for a motion to be passed.

132 B4.7.1 Simple majority: majority of the votes cast in person.

133 B4.7.2 Two-thirds majority: two-thirds of the votes cast in person.

134 B4.7.3 Absolute two-thirds majority: two-thirds majority of the votes cast by
135 the entire membership of the body.

136 B4.8 Amendments to the Constitution including accompanying Byelaws or Standing
137 Orders will be accepted with a two-thirds majority.

138 B4.9 Unless otherwise stated in the Constitution or Standing Orders, everything
139 else will be accepted with a simple majority.

140 B4.10 DAC shall be responsible for counting the votes.

141 B4.11 Results of votes must be announced during the meeting.

142 Section C: Emergency General Meetings

143 C1.1 An Emergency General Meeting (EGM) may be called at any time by an absolute
144 two-thirds majority of EC, or by a minimum of 5% of the Young Greens membership
145 petitioning the EC for an EGM.

146 C1.2 The same procedure as for AGM paper submission, organisation and voting
147 shall apply to an EGM following Section B Parts 2,3,4, however the timescale
148 will be halved.

149 Section D: Autumn General Meeting

150 D.1 There will be a Young Greens General Meeting held in autumn.

151 D.2 The Autumn General Meeting consists solely of accountability sessions for
152 the following representatives elected in the annual ballot:

- 153 D.2.1 Executive Committee Co-chairs
- 154 D.2.2 Treasurer
- 155 D.2.3 Elections Officer
- 156 D.2.43 Digital Communications Officer
- 157 D.2.54 Press Officer
- 158 D2.65 Campaigns Officer
- 159 D2.76 Events Officer
- 160 D2.87 International Officer
- 161 D2.98 Equality and Diversity Officer
- 162 D2.109 Activist Training and Political Education Officer
- 163 D2.11 Liberation Officers (from each formerly constituted Liberation Group)
- 164 D2.12 Under 18s Officer
- 165 D.2.13 Green Students Committee Co-convenors
- 166 D.3 The Autumn General Meeting must take note of mandatory six-month progress
167 reports from those representatives.
- 168 D.4 The accountability session will take the form of a face-to-face Q&A with the
169 membership.
- 170 D.5 There must be at least 25 members of the Young Greens excluding employees at
171 any General Meeting for decisions to be binding.
- 172 D.6 Motions of no confidence may be put forward during the accountability
173 session and will pass with a two-thirds majority.
- 174 D.7 Motions of no confidence may be put forward during the accountability
175 session Censure and Commendations and will pass with a simple majority.
- 176 D.8 Every Young Green is eligible to vote at the Autumn General Meeting.
- 177 Section E: Internal Elections
- 178 Part 1: Candidacy
- 179 E1.1 All members of the Young Greens are eligible to be candidates for roles
180 within the Executive Committee, Democracy and Accountability Committee members
181 and the Green Students Committee Co-Convenors providing they abide by the rules
182 such as gender quotas, except in the case of Liberation Officers stated in E1.2.
- 183 E1.2 Only those Young Greens who self-define as belonging to a specific
184 Liberation group may be stand to be the Liberation Officer, Co-chair, or
185 committee member candidates for election for within that respective Liberation
186 group.
- 187 E1.3 Members who hold a position on the Democracy and Accountability Committee
188 may not be candidates for any position other than Member of DAC, except for
189 Affiliated Group roles, until they no

190 longer hold a position on DAC. Members of DAC with an active role in an
191 affiliated group must recuse themselves from business involving that affiliated
192 group.

193 E1.4 Candidates must have two nominees, who are members of the Young Greens in
194 accordance with Article 1 of the constitution, and may provide a candidate
195 statement, campaign video, and social media links if they wish.

196 E1.5 Members of the Young Greens may not: be a nominee for more than one of the
197 following positions at any one time; nor hold more than one of the following
198 posts at any one time in the Young Greens:

199 E1.5.1 Any EC role

200 E1.5.2 Democracy and Accountability Committee

201 E1.5.3 Green Students Committee Co-Convenor

202 E1.6 Members of the Young Greens may put themselves forward as a job share for
203 any of the following posts within the Young Greens annual ballot:

204 E1.6.1 Treasurer

205 E1.6.2 Elections Officer

206 E1.6.3 Digital Communications Officer

207 E1.6.4 Press Officer

208 E1.6.5 Campaigns Officer

209 E1.6.6 Events Officer

210 E1.6.7 International Officer

211 E1.6.8 Equality and Diversity Officer

212 E1.6.9 Activist Training and Political Education Officer

213 E1.6.10 Liberation Officers (from each formerly constituted Liberation Group)

214 E1.6.11 Under 18s Officer

215 E1.6.12 Member of the Democracy and Accountability Committee

216 E1.7 Should one part of the job share resign or be removed from their position
217 for whatever reason, their counterpart(s) will be able to either:

218 E1.7.1 advertise to co-opt a replacement for the exiting part of the job share

219 E1.7.2 continue to carry out their role without the exiting part of the job
220 share, without replacing them E1.7.3 resign from their role

221 Part 2: Term of Office and Accountability

222 E2.1 All roles shall be elected for a term of office of 1 year, which should be
223 completed should the officer no longer fit the requirements described in
224 Constitution Clause 1.5.1 or 1.5.2 during their term, accepting variations as
225 described below.

- 226 E2.2 For all roles elected at the AGM in the annual ballot, the term of office
227 shall run until the following year's AGM except in the cases of resignation or
228 removal by a vote of no confidence.
- 229 E2.3 A vote of no confidence shall occur for an individual role if the Democracy
230 and Accountability Committee are petitioned by 25% of the committee or other
231 body which the role is part of.
- 232 E2.4 A vote of no confidence may also be called for any individual role if the
233 Democracy and Accountability Committee are petitioned by 5% of the Young Greens
234 membership.
- 235 E2.5 If the role which a vote of no confidence is being petitioned for falls
236 within the Democracy and Accountability Committee, then it shall instead be EC
237 that is petitioned by the members of the relevant committee, body, or general
238 membership.
- 239 E2.6 Complete anonymity shall be maintained throughout by the committee which is
240 petitioned, both relating to the petitioners and the vote.
- 241 E2.7 No member may sit on the same body for more than 5 terms consecutively,
242 irrespective of election or co-option.
- 243 E2.8 No member may hold the same post for more than 3 terms, irrespective of
244 election or co-option. E2.9 EC voting members have a responsibility to attend EC
245 meetings and to stay accountable:
- 246 E2.9.1 Failure to attend four regularly scheduled meetings consecutively shall
247 either: initiate an automatic immediate committee-internal vote of no confidence
248 held via secret ballot by DAC, repeatable during a term; or result in the civil
249 resignation of the member at their discretion, prior to the vote of no
250 confidence.
- 251 E2.9.2 Failure to attend ten regularly scheduled meetings in total over the
252 course of one term shall either: initiate an immediate automatic committee-
253 internal vote of no confidence held via secret ballot by DAC, repeatable during
254 a term; or result in the civil resignation of the member at their discretion,
255 prior to the vote of no confidence.
- 256 E2.9.3 Failure to complete two individual quarterly reports in total over the
257 course of one term shall either: initiate an automatic immediate committee-
258 internal vote of no confidence held via secret ballot by DAC, repeatable during
259 a term; or result in the civil resignation of the member at their discretion,
260 prior to the vote of no confidence.
- 261 E2.9.4 Failure to complete a mandatory individual six-month progress report
262 shall either: initiate an automatic immediate committee-internal vote of no
263 confidence held via secret ballot by DAC; or result in the civil resignation of
264 the member at their discretion, prior to the vote of no confidence.
- 265 E2.9.5 Failure to complete a mandatory individual annual report shall result in
266 the ERO reporting this information at the final Convention Hustings if the
267 Candidate is standing for election again.

268 E2.10 If an individual EC voting member invokes three of the actions noted in
269 E2.9.1 through E2.9.4, but remains on EC, then DAC shall have the following
270 options available:

271 E2.10.1 Initiate immediate informal mediation to find the causes of the issues
272 at hand and offer support and guidance on various options available.

273 E2.10.2 Initiate another immediate committee-internal vote of no confidence
274 within EC.

275 E2.10.3 Initiate an online ballot, to be held within one month of the DAC
276 decision, open to all Young Greens members where a majority of voting members
277 may vote to remove the EC voting member.

278 Part 3: Election Timescale

279 E3.1 All processes and the election timescale described between Clauses E3.4 and
280 E3.11 (inclusive) apply only to positions elected in the “Annual Ballot” at
281 convention, namely Executive Committee, Democracy and Accountability Committee
282 members, Co-Convenors of the Green Students Committee, and the Co-Chairs and
283 committee members (if any) of each Liberation Group.

284 E3.2 Co-Chairs, Committees, or other positions in Young Greens Affiliated Groups
285 shall be elected with a separate timescale to be decided by those respective
286 groups.

287 E3.3 The Elected International Delegate shall be elected in line with the
288 procedure below, with the process beginning three months prior to the event they
289 will be attending.

290 E3.4 At least 8 weeks before the AGM the Executive Committee must send out a
291 call for applications to all Executive Committee positions, all Democracy and
292 Accountability Committee positions, and Green Students Committee Co-Convenor
293 positions. This callout must set out the rest of the timescale and how to apply.

294 E3.5 Exactly 4 weeks before the AGM applications will close for all roles
295 elected at Convention except for roles that received no applications during the
296 initial period.

297 E3.6 As close as possible to 2 weeks before the start of the AGM a live online
298 video hustings will take place for all roles elected at Convention, which all
299 candidates for these roles are invited to take part in.

300 E3.7 Exactly 2 weeks before the start of the AGM voting will open in accordance
301 with Standing Order E4.3.

302 E3.8 At 17.00 the day before the AGM applications will close for roles covered
303 by E3.1 which gained no applications as of E3.5.

304 E3.9 A further in-person hustings shall be held at Convention; each candidate
305 has the right to participate in these as well as to submit a statement in
306 advance.

307 E3.10 Voting shall close during Convention between the in-person hustings
308 detailed in E3.9 and the announcement of results (the exact time to be at the
309 discretion of DAC). The time of this should be clearly identified on the
310 Convention Timetable and voting platform.

311 E3.11 The election of successful candidates shall be announced during
312 Convention.

313 Part 4: Electoral System and Gender Balance

314 E4.1 Every Young Green is eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting and
315 associated elections where they have 1 vote.

316 E4.2 All positions shall all be elected using the Single Transferable Vote (STV)
317 system with a provision for negative voting (re-open nominations, acronym RON).

318 E4.2.1 Single Transferable Vote quota for election is calculated as follows:
319 total valid vote divided by one more than the number of seats up for election
320 plus one (or rounded up) to avoid ties: $(TVV/(seats+1)) +1$.

321 E4.3 Voting will take place via secret, secure online ballot arranged by an
322 Electoral Returning Officer (ERO), appointed by the Democracy and Accountability
323 Committee (DAC).

324 E4.4 DAC, or the ERO if authorised to do so by DAC, is responsible for counting
325 the votes.

326 E4.5 The counting of votes and electing of successful candidates for the
327 positions of Executive Committee Co-Chair and Treasurer will take place before
328 the counting for EC Non-Portfolio positions so that the gender balance criteria
329 described in E4.6, E4.7, E4.8, E4.9, and E4.10 can be applied.

330 E4.6 The following rules will apply exclusively to the election of Co-chairs in
331 compliance with Clause 1.1.1 of Constitution Byelaw 1.

332 E4.6.1 The candidate with the highest number of first preference votes will be
333 elected in the first round in which a candidate passes the quota required by the
334 STV method.

335 E4.6.2 If the successful candidate is not a self-defining man, the second
336 candidate elected by the STV method will be elected to the second Co-Chair
337 position, regardless of gender identity.

338 E4.6.3 If the first successful candidate is a self-defining man, all other self-
339 defining men will be excluded from the vote and their further preferences
340 allocated to the remaining candidates from whom the second Co-Chair will be
341 elected.

342 E4.78 The election of Green Students Committee Co-Convenors will take place
343 following the same rules as laid out for EC Co-Chairs in D4.6.

344 E4.89 The selection of the International Delegate will ensure that no more than
345 one delegate self-defines as a man.

346 E4.910 The election of members to the Democracy and Accountability Committee
347 will be carried out such that no more than 3 of the places are taken by self-
348 defining men with places reserved, as necessary, to ensure this.

349 Part 5: Campaigning Rules

350 E5.1 Candidates for any role in Young Greens elections, and proposers of papers,
351 are entitled to campaign and must all follow the same rules except for E5.2
352 which shall only apply to roles explicitly mentioned.

353 E5.2 The amount spent on a campaign by a candidate in the Young Greens annual
354 ballot (EC, Democracy and Accountability Committee, Green Students Committee Co-
355 Convenors) must not exceed £30. This includes leaflets, online campaigning and
356 similar expenditures the candidate has incurred as a result of being a candidate
357 for this position within the Young Greens. It also includes expenditure incurred
358 by the supporters of the candidate. At least 50% of all spending will be
359 reimbursed by the Young Greens provided that receipts are given to the Young
360 Greens Treasurer within 30 days of the close of elections. The same amount of
361 money will be reimbursed for every candidate running for any one role.

362 E5.3 Candidates and proposers may use the contact details of people they know
363 personally to directly canvass for support, via their own networks, in the run
364 up to the election but must not use details of members they only know via
365 official Young Greens channels – for example those they have gleaned through
366 previously holding an elected position within the Young Greens or those they
367 have gained from mailing lists.

368 E5.4 Candidates and proposers may campaign online and use social media to
369 canvass for support but only strictly in a personal capacity.

370 E5.5 Candidates and proposers may not use official Young Greens or Green Party
371 communication channels such as administrative email and Facebook privileges.

372 E5.6 Each candidate is entitled to their submitted nomination statement being
373 circulated amongst the membership via email and posting on the Young Greens
374 website.

375 E5.7 Campaigns must focus on the benefits of the candidate they are supporting,
376 not the flaws of the candidates opposing them. Negative campaigning is not
377 permitted.

378 E5.8 Bribery, coercion and mistreating of members is strictly forbidden.

379 E5.9 Any member, regardless of candidate status, can report a suspected breach
380 of these rules to the Electoral Returning Officer in the case of electoral
381 breaches, Democracy and Accountability Committee in the case of motions, or,
382 where they feel that is inappropriate, to Young Greens Staff.

383 E5.10 Any suspected electoral breach of these rules shall be investigated by the
384 Electoral Returning Officer and the Democracy and Accountability Committee who
385 have the following options open to them:

386 E5.10.1 Suspension of a candidate from the current election, who is suspected to
387 have breached these rules, pending investigation by the Electoral Returning
388 Officer and the Democracy and Accountability Committee. If the investigation
389 cannot be completed by the AGM, the election will be re-run.

390 E5.10.2 Expulsion from the current election of a candidate found to have broken
391 these rules, by the Electoral Returning Officer and the Democracy and
392 Accountability Committee - the election shall otherwise continue as normal.

393 E5.10.3 Expulsion from the current election of a candidate where it has been
394 found that person(s) acting on their behalf have breached these rules.

395 E5.10.4 Additionally, Candidates removed from the current election due to the
396 actions of themselves or others will still be eligible to be a candidate for
397 future elections to any position within the Young Greens.

398 E5.11 Any suspected non-electoral breaches, during an election and by a
399 candidate, of the Young Greens Constitution, Young Greens Standing Orders, Green
400 Party Constitution, Green Party Standing Orders, Green Party Code of Conduct or
401 any other organisational policies of the Green Party of England and Wales and
402 Young Greens, including anti-harassment and Safe Space policies, shall be
403 investigated by the Democracy and Accountability Committee who shall have the
404 following options open to them:

405 E5.11.1 Suspension of a candidate from the current election, who is suspected to
406 have breached these rules, pending investigation by the Democracy and
407 Accountability Committee. If the investigation cannot be completed by the AGM,
408 the election will be re-run.

409 E5.11.2 Expulsion from the current election of a candidate found to have
410 breached these rules with the election otherwise continuing as normal.

411 E5.12 Following any action as described in E5.11.1 or E5.11.2, the Democracy and
412 Accountability Committee shall refer the case to the Complaints and Disputes
413 Subcommittee for full investigation as described in Article 5 of the
414 Constitution, from 5.6 onwards.

415 E5.13 Any suspected breach of these rules in relation to the proposal of papers
416 will be investigated by the Democracy and Accountability Committee who will have
417 the following options open to them:

418 E5.13.1 Suspension of a proposer suspected of breaking these rules may be
419 suspended from proposing the paper pending investigation by the Democracy and
420 Accountability Committee and an alternative proposer must be found by the
421 remaining co-proposers.

422 E5.13.2 For serious breaches of these rules, the Democracy and Accountability
423 Committee may rule the paper or amendment Out of Order and remove it from the
424 General Meeting agenda.

425 E5.14 A person is accountable to these rules from the opening of the nominations
426 period, however, may only announce their candidacy and begin publicly
427 campaigning after the close of nominations.

428 Part 6: Co-options

429 E6.1 Any vacant EC role may be co-opted by a majority vote of EC plus the
430 agreement of the Chair of the Democracy and Accountability Committee, after a
431 call out and a hustings has taken place.

432 E6.23 Any vacant DAC role may be co-opted by a majority vote of DAC, after a
433 call out has taken place.

434 E6.4 If it is not possible to co-opt for DAC roles in accordance with E6.3,
435 these roles may be co-opted by a majority vote of EC, after a call out has taken
436 place.

437 E6.35 Vacant Green Students Committee Co-Convenor roles may be co-opted by a
438 majority vote of the Green Students Committee after a call out by the Green
439 Students Committee has taken place.

440 E6.46 If it is not possible to co-opt for Green Students Committee Co-Convenor
441 roles in accordance with E6.5, these roles may be co-opted by a majority vote of
442 EC plus the agreement of the Chair of the Democracy and Accountability
443 Committee, after a call out and a hustings has taken place.

444 E6.57 Gender balance criteria as defined under section E4.5 through to E4.10
445 should also apply to any co-options.

446 Section F: Exceptional Democratic Accountability Measures

447 F1 The General Meetings defined in Sections B, C, and D shall all be held in-
448 person, with in-person democratic functions.

449 F2 In exceptional circumstances in-person functions may not be possible and when
450 this is the case these protocols shall be followed in order:

451 F2.1 No less than three voting members of the Executive Committee shall bring
452 forward a motion to a meeting of the Executive Committee, expressing intent and
453 reasoning to invoke Exceptional Democratic Accountability Measures (hereafter
454 referred to as "Exceptional Measures" or colloquially as "EDAM").

455 F2.2 The Executive Committee shall vote on whether or not to invoke Exceptional
456 Measures, invocation shall require a two-thirds majority.

457 F2.3 If Exceptional Measures are invoked, then the Co-Chairs of the Executive
458 Committee shall inform the Chair or Co-Chairs of the Democracy and
459 Accountability Committee of the decision, alongside documents which shall
460 provide all reasoning and minutes of debate.

461 F2.4 The Democracy and Accountability Committee shall thoroughly review the
462 declaration of Exceptional Measures and shall vote on whether or not to ratify
463 the decision, ratification shall require a simple majority of the whole
464 Committee.

465 F2.5 If Exceptional Measures are ratified, then the Executive Committee and the
466 Democracy and Accountability Committee shall move to F3.

467 F3 After ratification of Exceptional Measures, the Executive Committee and the
468 Democracy and Accountability Committee shall explore solutions of all nature and
469 produce official planning documents, all solutions must be permitted under the
470 conditions listed in F4. After a maximum of two weeks or after mutual agreement,
471 F4 shall be implemented.

472 F4 Following thorough exploration, investigation, and planning, the Executive
473 Committee shall inform the Democracy and Accountability Committee of any
474 decision taken immediately after a vote to:

475 F4.1 Postpone a General Meeting by up to 6 weeks after the normal period.

476 F4.2 Hold a General Meeting and all associated functions online in accordance
477 with regular timescales.

478 F4.3 Postpone a General Meeting by up to 6 weeks after the normal period and
479 hold the event and all associated functions online.

480 F4.4 Waive Exceptional Measures and carry out a General Meeting in the normal
481 fashion.

482 F5 Once the Democracy and Accountability Committee has been informed, it shall
483 vote to ratify or reject the decision that has been made.

484 F5.1 Should the decision be ratified by a majority, the agreed actions come into
485 effect immediately.

486 F5.2 Should the decision be rejected by a majority, the process shall return to
487 either F3 or F4, at the discretion of the Democracy and Accountability
488 Committee.

489 F6 The membership of the Young Greens of England and Wales must be informed
490 regularly of progress at the end of each set of processes outlined in F2, F3,
491 F4, and F5.