

## Why I joined the Liberal Democrats

I'm often asked why I first joined the Liberal Democrats and I have often answered with the word 'Brexit'. But whilst it was true that devastating result of the EU Referendum in 2016 was the catalyst for me joining the party, it really encompasses many wider issues that I wish to make a stand against.

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## Tomi Banwo – My First Ever Party Conference

On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018, I attended for the first time a party conference in Brighton with the Liberal Democrats. This is all thanks to an initiative set by the Patchwork Foundation which **encourages and funds young Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME), politically-minded people to attend party conferences** and encourages them to be engaged in political affairs.

It was amazing to see women in such a high position making an impact.

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## Sal Speaks: September 2018

Party Conference is over, and we have left Brighton after an excellent four days. Over the Conference we have listened, spoken, debated matters fiercely, and voted on party policy.

Over 300 members attended Conference for the first time, and many of them made their first speech in debates on the stage too, making excellent contributions. The Exhibition and Fringes were brilliant too.

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## Desperate displays of deluded defiance will only end in disaster

The more Theresa May tries to sound defiant, the more desperate she seems.

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## Conference – Monday Highlights

### Gina Miller's Speech

Gina Miller delivered an impassioned speech on the need to continue with a unified fight against Brexit.

Let's be clear, in the debate we had in 2016 about Europe, there was scant idealism. Lies were told.

Miller called on people to put the national interest ahead of political divisions:

"Even though I am now politically independent, **I am here to cheer you on**, and to walk side by side with you all as Liberal Democrats seeking to stop the decay in our democracy, to stop the politics of division, **to unite rather than to divide**, to offer hope and to recognise that we must defend liberal values founded on equality of opportunity, tolerance, respect and humanity. Above all things, humanity."

The Liberal Democrats are proud to have fought Brexit since the referendum, and we will continue to fight for an exit from Brexit.

## Jane Dodds' Speech

Leader of the Welsh Liberal Democrats Jane Dodds took to the stage today.

We demand a Wales free from discrimination and bigotry.

Dodds took aim at divisive identity politics running rife across Wales:

“Too much of our politics attempts to divide our identities, as if having more than one identity is a betrayal of all of them.”

More broadly, the Welsh Lib Dem Leader called for new reforms across the NHS, and developing a new green economy in the UK.

**“There is huge potential to build an innovative green economy** that provides clean, affordable and reliable energy for generations to come. However, the UK Government neglected this fact yet again and cancelled the Swansea Tidal Lagoon project.”



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