



Standing Orders

Version 1.0. - Ratified 10th February 2026

1. Party Conferences

1.1. Scottish conferences shall be open to all members of Your Party Scotland to attend.

1.2. Scottish conferences shall be run in a hybrid manner where feasible, using digital conferencing software to allow members to attend and participate both in-person and online. Failing this, conferences should be available online via live broadcast or otherwise recorded and made available to members digitally as soon as feasible.

1.3. Voting on matters at party conferences shall be open to all members attending conference, whether in-person or online.

1.4. Votes at conferences are conducted by a simple majority of eligible voters except where votes affect the party's standing orders, where they shall be conducted by a two-thirds majority of eligible voters.

1.5. Motions to conference are brought by members via an online voting system, available year-round, with the most popular motions in each category being selected.

1.6. Motions to conferences shall not be longer than 400 words.

1.7. To ensure that multiple motions on a similar topic can potentially be put forward as a single motion to a given conference, a Policy Motion Compositing Committee for each conference shall be elected from and by all party members relevant to that conference.

1.7.1. This body shall decide where motions potentially overlap, and ensure the negotiations between motion submitters take place so they can potentially be combined into a composite to be presented to that conference.

1.8. To ensure that motions submitted to conferences do not fall short of basic expectations, as well as oversee the submitting of motions, including the timetable for those submissions, there shall be elected a Conference Policy Motions Committee for each conference.

1.9. This Conference Policy Motions Committee shall be elected by and from those members able to attend and bring motions to that conference.

1.10. This Conference Policy Motions Committee shall be tasked to ensure that motions to conferences are:

1.10.1. not contrary to the Constitution;

1.10.2. not retrospective in their effect;

1.10.3. not ambiguous;

1.10.4. not vague;

1.10.5. not trivial;

1.10.6. not requiring no consequential action by the party;

1.10.7. not seeking to re-present a motion proposal which has been debated and defeated at conference or in a party referendum within the last 12 months, except where an exemption is made for urgent policy by the Conference Motions Policy Committee.

1.11. Motion presenters at conferences, as well as attendees speaking for and against motions after they have been introduced, shall be allocated three minutes to make their arguments. No seconders shall be required from the conference floor for a conference attendee to speak on a motion.

1.12. The organisation of conference must be delivered in line with the values of the party, including consideration of workers' rights, environmental sustainability and accessibility for all members.

1.13. A short-life working group will be established in advance of each conference, consisting of ordinary members, and tasked with ensuring conference is accessible to all members.

2. Local Party Meetings and Assemblies

2.1 Alongside a number of standardised items set by regional and national party bodies, members shall be free to democratically set their local party meetings' agendas autonomously.

2.2. Endeavours shall be made to ensure local party meetings are hybrid events, with the ability for members to join and fully participate remotely via online link. The party should ensure all efforts are made to ensure all party meetings are accessible for disabled members.

2.3. Local party meetings shall occur at least once per calendar month.

2.4. All party members must be invited to local meetings, and should be invited at least fourteen days before any such local party meeting occurs.

2.5. Decision making at local party meetings must be made democratically by members, where feasible by simple majority.

2.6. The minutes and recorded decisions of all local party meetings shall be made available to their respective local members.

2.7. A component of local party meetings must be a focus on running a regular local assembly, wider community work and workplace activity, and any other matters that serve to embed the local party into the community.

2.8. Local party officers and members must be involved in the coordination and running of local assemblies. Their regularity and organisation shall be left up to those officers and members autonomously.

2.9. Local assemblies must serve the needs of local communities, while remaining true and adherent to the party's aims, objectives and values.

2.10. Any political decisions or work taken forward through local assemblies must reflect the overall democratic will of said assemblies.

2.11. Community members must be invited to local assemblies to the best of local members' abilities and capacity to do so, and must be invited at least 14 days before any such local assembly occurs.

2.12. Endeavours shall be made to ensure local assemblies are hybrid events, with the ability for community members and party members to join and fully participate remotely via online link.

3. Conduct of Party Elections.

3.1. Voting System

3.1. Your Party Scotland elections should be conducted using the Single Transferable Vote method of voting.

3.2. Local Party Officers.

3.2.1. All local party members will have the right to vote for their local party officers.

3.2.2. Full notice of election must be sent to all local party members at least twenty-eight days before the date of local party officer elections.

3.2.3. Any local party member wishing to stand as a local party officer must be in good standing and must submit a nomination paper no later than fourteen days before the date of local party officer elections.

3.2.4. An all-candidate list must be provided to all local party members no later than ten days before the date of local party officer elections.

3.2.5. Candidates for local party officers can self-nominate and shall require at least one seconder from their local party membership.

3.2.6. Voting for local party officers shall take place on the basis of one member having one equal vote.

3.2.7. Local party officers shall serve a cyclical term of twelve months, after which all local party officer positions shall be up for re-election.

3.2.8. If a local party officer resigns or is removed in a recall-initiated vote part-way through their term, and time allows for this at the discretion of local party officers, a by-election for that position shall be held. If for reasons of time or capacity a by-election is not possible, a new officer shall be elected from the previous election's count, eliminating the resigning officer from said count. The newly elected officer shall serve no more than the remainder of the former officer's twelve-month term.

3.2.9. Members shall hold an individual local officer position for no more than three consecutive terms unless given special dispensation by the SEC.

3.2.10. Members shall have a right to recall their local party officers. If 40% of members in good standing within the local party sign a dedicated recall petition for an officer, then this will trigger a vote on that party officer's continuation in the role at the next possible local party meeting. Active recall petitions will be available on the party website for a period of 28 days.

3.3. Regional/National Party Officers

3.3.1. All party members will have the right to vote for their national and

regional party officers, including those national and regional officers making up the party leadership.

3.3.2. Full notice of election must be sent to all party members at least six weeks before the date of elections for national or regional party officers.

3.3.3. Any party member wishing to stand as a national or regional party officer must be in good standing and must submit a nomination paper no later than twenty days before the date of national or regional elections.

3.3.4. An all-candidate list must be provided to all relevant party members for those elections no later than ten days before the date of national or regional officer elections.

3.3.5. Candidates for national and regional officers shall require number of seconders, as determined by the SEC per officer election, from the membership they seek to be elected from, as determined by the election they seek to run in.

3.3.6. Voting for national and regional party officers shall take place on the basis of one member having one equal vote.

3.3.7. National and regional party officers shall serve a cyclical term of twenty-four months, after which all those party officer positions shall be up for re-election, including those that are leadership positions.

3.3.8. If a national or regional party officer resigns or is removed in a recall-initiated vote part-way through their term, and time allows for this at the discretion of the SEC or appropriate regional association, a by-election for that position shall be held.

3.3.9. If for reasons of time or capacity a by-election is not possible, a new officer shall be elected from the previous election's count, eliminating the resigning officer from said count. The newly elected officer shall serve no more than the remainder of the former officer's twenty-four-month term.

3.3.10. Members shall have a right to recall their national or regional party officers. If 40% of members in good standing within the relevant area sign a dedicated recall petition for that areas officer(s), then this will trigger a vote on that(those) party officers' continuation in the role via online systems. Active recall petitions will be available on the party website for a period of 28 days.

3.4. Candidates for Public Office

3.4.1. There must be a full candidates primary process, which includes democratic longlisting and shortlisting processes involving local party members.

3.4.2. These processes must be free from interference from party bodies other than the local party, except where disciplinary matters arise.

- 3.4.3. All Party candidates will be chosen democratically by all-member meetings of the relevant branch or ward, except in specific exceptional circumstances;
- 3.4.4. These circumstances include genuine due diligence concerns relating to matters of clear personal misconduct;
- 3.4.5. The local party branch will have a representative on any committee or other party body overseeing due diligence;
- 3.4.6. This provision shall not be misused for political purposes.
- 3.4.7. The Party's SEC shall oversee candidate selections, but shall not unduly overrule branches or local members for political reasons.
- 3.4.8. All members in good standing who is a member in good standing shall be able to stand for selection unimpeded.
- 3.4.9. Any member can put themselves forward to be a candidate, so long as they are in good standing, and from the moment the party has had membership open for 12 months, has been a member of the party for 12 months or more. This 12-month rule will not apply in instances where a current public office holder joins the party from elsewhere.
- 3.4.10. Elected office holders will be disbarred from switching or choosing an alternative constituency or ward for matters of convenience or personal interest.
- 3.4.11. Voting for candidates for public office shall take place on the basis of one member having one equal vote.
- 3.4.12. All members in good standing in the relevant branches will be eligible to vote.
- 3.4.13. Members shall have a right to recall their elected representatives. If 40% of members in good standing within the local party sign a dedicated recall petition for a party public officer holder, then this will trigger a vote at the appropriate party body on that office holder's continuation as an elected representative of the party. Active recall petitions will be available on the party website for a period of 28 days.
- 3.4.14. Incumbent publicly elected party members shall be subject to cyclical primary reselection contests, to be held by the local party before the relevant scheduled public election.
- 3.4.15. For the purposes of selecting regional list candidates, the above processes shall be carried out by the Regional Association instead of the branch. Votes and meetings relating to candidate selection must be open to all members of branches forming part of the relevant Regional Association.

3.5. Term limits

- 3.5.1 An individual party member may not hold the same public office or national/regional party office position for more than two consecutive terms, and may not stand for or return to that same position before two of that office's terms have completed.

3.5.2. If a member is simultaneously a public office holder for the party and a party officer deemed to hold a leadership position, then their office term limit is put on hold until they have fulfilled that leadership mandate, after which that count of terms in public office then resumes.

3.5.3. The limit on public office holder terms may be overridden by a two-thirds majority of members at a meeting of the relevant branch in advance of the relevant election.

4. Policy Development, Local.

4.1. Policy development on a local issue is initiated and voted on democratically by

members at a meeting of their local party, affiliates or organised sections, after deliberation at the local party assembly.

4.2. Local policy is then developed by a team of the local branch, which could include at its establishment or during the course of its life-time:

4.2.1. Local branch members and officers.

4.2.2. Participants of the local assembly.

4.2.3. Representatives from affiliates organisations or organised sections.

4.2.4. Party members who hold a local public office.

4.3. Additionally, it could include in a non-voting/non-deciding capacity, at the local branch's discretion:

4.3.1. Expertise from local community organisations not affiliated to the party.

4.3.2. Members from other local branches to share ideas or solutions from other parts of the country.

4.4. The regional and or national party bodies shall provide assistance and additional expertise for the building of local policy, if requested by a local party.

4.5. Once a policy team arrives at the conclusion of its policy-creation process, local branch members have the final say on whether to accept or reject the policy proposal via a vote at a local party meeting.

4.6. A body of local branch members rejecting a piece of local policy work may choose to have it sent back for further work, and a new vote after review and revision, via an additional vote at that same meeting.

4.7. Upon acceptance of a policy by local branch members, a team of those members shall be elected or designated to regularly review its competence and relevancy, including in response to local and national developments.

4.8. All local and national policy shall be stored in an online location accessible to all members.

5. Policy Development, National.

5.1. Once a policy proposal at a party conference is approved by its eligible voters, national policy shall be developed by a Policy Implementation Group.

5.2. Each of these bodies shall be composed of directly elected members from the whole membership, elected by those members showing interest in that policy as declared by themselves, and members assigned as chosen from the relevant executive body.

5.3. Once a Policy Implementation Group has completed its work on a piece of national policy, approval or rejection of the policy shall be given by members in a final party-wide, online vote.

5.4. In that online vote, members may choose, via a simple majority vote, to have a piece of national policy work sent back for further work, and a new vote after review and revision, should they reject it.

5.5. Where local and national policy conflict with each other, branches may request dispensation from national policy by writing to the SEC, who will consider the local contexts and arbitrate where necessary.