

A24 Edinburgh Branch Support for Autumn 2024 Conference Motion 'Peace with Nature in a Written Constitution for Scotland'.

Proposer: Julian Caldecott (jca177663)

Motion text

- 1 The Edinburgh Branch supports the Policy Motion 'Peace with Nature in a Written
- 2 Constitution for Scotland' and agrees to this being noted in the submission of
- 3 the motion to Autumn 2024 Conference.

Reason

The draft Policy Motion on a 'peace with nature' constitution has been [available in the Members' Forum](#) since July 2023. It was discussed at a Policy Week session (recording available [here](#)), where Astri of the Policy Committee advised that branch support would help ensure that it is prioritised for debate at the Autumn 2024 Conference - hence this Branch Motion.

The Policy Motion seeks to amend policy (PRD 10.1.2) that calls for a written Scottish Constitution, by asking Greens to make the case for three linked ideas:

1. that principles of ecological sustainability exist at a higher level than human laws, and are binding in a different and inescapable way;
2. that conflict between those principles and human laws leads to danger for nature and people, so where it exists human laws must be corrected; and
3. that effective, accessible and fair ways are needed to identify and amend or strike down laws that violate safe [Earth system or 'planetary' boundaries](#).

The Policy Motion calls for these ideas to be articulated by declaring peace with nature within the Scottish Constitution, and for them to be put into effect by establishing a specialised constitutional court to hear and resolve public appeals against laws and practices that may violate Earth system boundaries.

The ultimate goal is to reverse the subordinate position of nature in recent centuries, and to enable the re-balancing of all laws and practices accordingly, against a vision of founding a viable successor culture by 2085. A key starting point is the influential 'Peace with Nature' policy of the Government of Costa Rica since 2007 (as described on the Members' Forum), which is why this particular phrase is used here.

Supporters

Sandra Carter (sca325983)

A25 Improving the visibility of party branches

Proposer: Boyan Karabaliev (bka237542)

Motion text

- 1 The Branch Committee is asked to prepare and submit a proposal to the Party
2 Council within the next six months, to include:
- 3 • The creation of a target, set by Council, for a certain proportion of
4 social media posts, website posts, and emails from the national Party to
5 focus on the work and achievements of branches, councillors and
6 representative groups. The target can be paused under specific
7 circumstances when topical communications are crucial, including Holyrood
8 elections, Westminster elections, and major party events such as our
9 status in government.
 - 10 • A request for the relevant communications team of the Party to create a
11 simple process by which these groups and branches can submit stories to be
12 promoted by the party's communications channels. These stories can be
13 simple, for example social media posts to be shared, or more detailed,
14 such as articles to be published on the party website.
 - 15 • A request for the Party Executive to report the progress on meeting this
16 target to Council six months after implementation.
- 17 The Branch Committee is asked to engage with branch members and councillors,
18 including members of representative groups, in the development of the proposal.

Reason

National communications in party emails, social media and the website usually focus on the successes of our MSP group. While their hard work is crucial in promoting our wider vision to the people of Scotland, this approach often leaves the achievements of our branches, councillors and representative groups unmentioned, and unfortunately, many party supporters and members have limited knowledge of these groups' activities. Giving more attention to the amazing work they do will show a wider audience that our actions go beyond our great work in the Scottish Parliament. This will strengthen us as a party, both at the national and at the local level.

Supporters

Susan Rae