

WLD is an organisation which exists to represent women within the party, to work for changes to boost opportunities for women within the party, and to represent the Liberal Democrats to outside groups concerned with women and womens issues. Our main responsibilities include:

## WLD's Role

- providing support for women taking up roles within the party
- providing many networking opportunities
- aiming to ensure that key policy issues are discussed and considered
- being consulted by the Party on national policy

We are often asked why we still need a women's organisation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century – the answer is simply that we have not got equality yet.

- A recent report from the Equal Opportunities Commission found that almost 30 years after the Equal Pay Act made it illegal to pay women less than men for doing the same job, women working full time earn on average **£559 less** per month than men do.
- Only 18% of MPs at Westminster are women, which is sadly even lower on the LibDem benches.

Until we do have equality we will continue to need a separate organisation to fight for equality – but we don't discriminate, we have many male members (including Charles Kennedy MP) and have had men on our committee in the past.

WLD and GBTF (Gender Balance Task Force) work very closely together. Some people do not understand why there are two organisations within the party which have such similar roles. The fact is that there isn't! The GBTF was set up in 2001 in order to support, encourage and train women who are interested in standing for Parliament. WLD has the much wider role explained across the page.

## WLD & GBTF

### More about GBTF

GBTF's approach is to develop skills with individuals based upon their aspirations. They have an extensive network of mentors, who work with women one to one to develop personal development plans, identifying aspirations and training needs. We have mentors all over the country and we can also put women into clustered groups for 'kitchen table' training. To contact GBTF and see what they can do to help you, contact:

**GBTF Administrator – Francesca Marritt**  
tel 07870 171708 - [gbtnf@libdems.org.uk](mailto:gbtnf@libdems.org.uk)

**Chair – Baroness Angie Harris,**  
[harrisa@parliament.uk](mailto:harrisa@parliament.uk)  
**Vice Chair – Candy Piercy**  
[candypiercy@cix.co.uk](mailto:candypiercy@cix.co.uk)  
**Vice Chair – Jo Swinson MP**  
[jo\\_swinson@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jo_swinson@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.gbtf.org.uk](http://www.gbtf.org.uk)

WLD is run by a committee which is elected annually by WLD Members. Currently it is:

## WLD Exec

### Officers

**President** - Sue Doughty

**Chair** - Miranda Piercy - [miranda.piercy@wld.org.uk](mailto:miranda.piercy@wld.org.uk)

**Vice-Chair** - Vera Head - [vera.head@wld.org.uk](mailto:vera.head@wld.org.uk)

**Vice-Chair** - Lizzie Jewkes - [lizzyjewkes@wld.org.uk](mailto:lizzyjewkes@wld.org.uk)

**Treasurer** - Clare Hamblen -

[clare.hamblen@wld.org.uk](mailto:clare.hamblen@wld.org.uk)

**Membership Secretary** - Sheonaidh Cumming -

[sheonaidh.cumming@wld.org.uk](mailto:sheonaidh.cumming@wld.org.uk)

### Executive Members

Rathy Alagaratnam - [rathy.alagaratnam.wld.org.uk](mailto:rathy.alagaratnam.wld.org.uk)

Sheena Cameron - [sheena.cameron@wld.org.uk](mailto:sheena.cameron@wld.org.uk)

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Miranda Whitehead - [miranda.whitehead@wld.org.uk](mailto:miranda.whitehead@wld.org.uk)

**Head of Office - Debbie Enever**

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**e-mail: [women@libdems.org.uk](mailto:women@libdems.org.uk)  
website: [wld.org.uk](http://wld.org.uk)**

# WLD MEMBERSHIP FORM

Title Name  
Address  
Postcode Tel Nos  
Email  
Party Member No  
Membership Fee (*Please tick the appropriate amount*)  
 £20.00 (recommended)  £7.00 (minimum)  
 Other £  
 I would like to pay by Cheque/Cash (payable to: Women Liberal Democrats)  
 I would like to pay by Standing Order (see below)

## BANKERS ORDER FORM

To The Manager (Name of bank)  
Acct No Sort Code  
Branch Address

Postcode  
Please Pay: £ Annually/Quarterly  
starting on

**Please make any missed payments immediately and cancel any previous standing orders to WLD.**

**To: The Women Liberal Democrats-4 Cowley St.-  
London-SW1P 3NB**

**Account No: 71574175 Sort Code 15 30 00**

**Royal Bank of Scotland - London Victoria A Branch  
119/121 Victoria Street - London SW1E 6RA**

Name of Account  
Address of Account Holder

Postcode  
Signature Date

**Please return to WLD, 4 Cowley Street,  
London. SW1P 3NB**

Membership of WLD has many benefits including:

What do I get?

- ◆ a glossy quarterly newsletter
- ◆ regular e-mail updates
- ◆ many opportunities to network and meet other members at regional events across the country
- ◆ the chance to vote for the executive or even stand yourself
- ◆ the ability to participate in policy debates within WLD and the wider party

And probably most importantly, by supporting WLD you will give us an increasingly loud voice



within the party! WLD gets a small grant from the Federal Party so we have to raise the bulk of the budget ourselves - so membership



subscriptions are key to our very existence, The more time and money you can give us, the more we can achieve to help more women within the party!



# Women Liberal Democrats

Why join WLD?



**“Women Liberal Democrats are absolutely essential to the future of liberal democracy!”**

***Sue Doughty,  
President of WLD.***