

Scottish Young Greens

Council Positions up for Election – 2015

These are the positions on Scottish Young Greens council up for election this year. The elections shall be carried out by members attending our AGM on the 11th of April in Glasgow. These roles are essential to the running of SYG, so we urge as many people as possible to come forward for them! To be eligible for one of these positions, you must also be a member of the Scottish Green Party.

Candidates for these positions should ideally be able to come along to the AGM to make a short statement and answer questions from members. Don't worry if you can't make it, however – you can also submit a candidate statement which will be provided to attendees of the AGM.

The SYG are committed to gender balancing council, and provision is made in our new constitution for a 40% quota. Should this provision pass at AGM, then of the nine members of council listed below at least four should be non-male. This may result in a "balancing" mechanism being invoked in the officer elections. Should we need to balance for one member, then a suitable candidate with the smallest margin (in % terms) between them and the winning male will be considered elected.

If you want to put yourself forward for one of these roles, then send an e-mail to convenor@scottishyounggreens.org along with a short bio - and if you can't make AGM, your candidate statement.

Co-Convenors

- As the name might suggest, the co-convenors convene SYG council, the SYG's quarterly meetings and the AGM.
 - This gives them general responsibility for ensuring smooth running of the SYG
- They represent the SYG on SGP Council.
- The co-convenorship is a gender balanced position - it must always be open to two people of differing gender identities.

Secretary

- The secretary position covers two broad areas

- **Membership** – the secretary is responsible for managing the SYG membership list, ensuring the information on it is accurate, and that all members are associated with the correct area groups.
 - They also act as support for local area groups.
- **External Contact** – the secretary acts as the SYG's main point of contact for outside groups, such as student groups or any businesses the SYG may need to deal with as part of its activities.
- The secretary is also responsible for
 - Conducting any elections to council positions that were not filled at AGM.
 - Taking minutes at the quarterly SYG meeting.

Elections & Campaigns Officer

- The elections officer manages SYG activity in support of SGP Election campaigns by
 - Supporting SYG members who are standing for election
 - Planning targeted SYG Action days, co-ordinating with local SGP Branches to do so
 - Producing SYG materials (such as leaflets) for elections
- They also represent the SYG on the SGP's Elections and Campaigns Committee
- They may also lead on specific SYG campaigns, outside of elections.

Communications Officer

- The communications officer manages the SYG's online media presence, including
 - Monthly newsletter
 - Website
 - Twitter
 - Facebook page

- They should keep the SYG membership up to date on SYG activity as well as use this media presence to encourage participation in and understanding of green politics in Scotland.

International Officer

- The international officer's role is to help the SYG engage with the wider Green movement across the world.
- In particular, they are responsible for managing the SYG's relationship with the Federation of Young European Greens.

Support Officer

- The support officer is a new role that may be created subject to AGM approving the new constitution.
- Their main responsibilities will be to
 - Ensure that the SYG provides a safe space for all members, free from bullying behaviour
 - Ensure that there are no barriers to participation by members as a result of any personal characteristic, such as (but not limited to) disability, gender identity or sexuality.
 - Represent any concerns membership may have about SYG Council to council
 - Carry out any conflict resolution procedures that may be necessary
- Due to the support officer's responsibilities, they are not a voting member of council – instead acting as a kind of "bridge" between SYG Council and the SYG membership.

Political Strategy Working Group Nominee

- SYG is entitled to a representative on this Working Group of the Scottish Green Party.
- The PSWG is, broadly, intended to provide a "long term" view for the SGP and how the party should operate over a period of years, rather than the "short term" view that is necessarily held by other groups within the SGP such as the Elections & Campaigns Committee.

- Although this position is open to any eligible applicant, it has been suggested that it would be preferable for our nominee to be both non-male and not from the Central Belt.

Ordinary Member

- The ordinary member will provide a supporting role on council without having a specifically defined role like the other officers. The intention is for the ordinary member to be given specific tasks as considered necessary for SYG development, which may vary throughout the year.