

Reply to the Jo Cox Foundation

Dear Amy,

I am pleased to say that the Liberal Democrats wish to publicly declare their support for the statement on conduct of political party members set out by the Committee on Standards in Public Life and the Jo Cox Foundation. Specifically, Mark Pack, on behalf of the party wishes to make the statement:

“The Liberal Democrats are delighted to join colleagues from across the benches, as well as voters and campaigners of whatever party-allegiance across the country, in supporting the statement from the Jo Cox Foundation and Committee on Standards in Public Life.

“We will make sure that we continue to use and improve our new disciplinary system introduced last year in order to ensure that the behaviour of our party members contributes towards the improvement in political debate in this country.

“I would like to thank the hard working volunteers and staff, especially those involved in our complaints and membership systems who dedicate themselves to ensuring that the Liberal Democrats stand, in word and deed, for a better kind of politics.

“We look forward to leading by example. We will hold ourselves to account and use this document to inform our best practice.

“We understand that challenging unacceptable behaviour is a crucial part of this change. We also recognise that it is not always going to be appropriate to expect someone to call out behaviour immediately and in public, such as if such behaviour comes from a person in a position of power over them, or where they have concerns for their own or anyone else's mental or physical health or safety. We will therefore seek to provide appropriate alternatives for both raising individual issues and for spotting overall trends.

“We look forward to a better politics and will continue to support the Jo Cox Foundation's efforts.”

Mark Pack