



GET CONNECTED

Member Conference on Saturday 6th May 2017 Programme

- 10.30 Registration and Refreshments
- 10.50 Local welcome and housekeeping arrangements
- 11.00 Conference Welcome**
- 11.10 Opening remarks from the President, Lynne Smith and Chair of Trustees, Trevor Phillips
- 11.20 Questions to Trustees – Chaired by Deputy President, Lindsay Pearson
- 11.45 One WEA – raising our profile - James Ward, WEA Director of Marketing and Membership
- 11.55 Introduction to the Workshops
- What does One WEA mean in Practice? – Zahid Hamid, Vice Chair of Yorkshire and Humber Regional Committee in conversation with Jenny Tyler, WEA Head of Marketing and Communications.
 - Democracy in the Digital Age – Professor Stephen Coleman, Professor of Political Communication, School of Media and Communication, University of Leeds
- 12.15 Workshops
- 1.00 Lunch**
- 1.50 Feedback from Workshops
- 2.10 WEA Membership – Introduced by Deputy President, Lindsay Pearson followed by an explanation of the new proposal
- 2.30 Council report on future conferences – Introduced by Robin Cook, member of WEA Council and Constitutional Working Group
- 2.50 A world where everyone benefits from digital - Key Note Speaker, Helen Milner, CEO The Good Things Foundation.
- 3.10 Closing remarks – Ruth Spellman, General Secretary
- 3.30 Conference closes**

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Objectives of the day

- Direction:** Engage and inform members about the current situation of the WEA and its strategic direction
- Digital inclusion:** Involve members in discussion about priorities including use of digital for promotion and delivery of learning
- Debate:** Enable members to inform the internal debate about democracy and member participation
- Learning:** Review the use of distributed venues and technologies in preparation for future Annual Conferences that are more representative and able to integrate One Member One Vote

This event is free and exclusive to our members.

It promises to be an enjoyable and interesting day of learning, interaction, discussion and helping to shape the future of your WEA membership. Most of the public speakers will be based at the Rose Bowl in Leeds and the President, Lynne Smith, will be joining us from London.

The satellite events in Edinburgh, Birmingham, Cambridge, Newcastle and Exeter will enable local networking and group participation as well as full interactivity across the venues via the webinar platform. Members are also able to participate online from the comfort of their own home or local group.

We are planning many different ways of involving people on the day, one of which will be through a digital voting and texting platform. If you have a smart phone or tablet you will be able to use this directly to contribute your comments and ideas but there will also be a feedback co-ordinator in each venue to collate information from those people who are not online.

Workshops (you will be able to select one)

- 1) **Democracy in the Digital Age:** Professor Stephen Coleman, Professor of Political Communication, School of Media and Communication, University of Leeds will outline his reasons for needing to “re-invent democracy” and for using digital information and communication technologies as part of this. This will be followed by discussion to identify practical steps that can be taken to improve democracy.
- 2) **What does One WEA mean in Practice?** Zahid Hamid, Vice Chair of Yorkshire and Humber Regional Committee in conversation with Jenny Tyler, WEA Head of Marketing and Communications followed by a solutions focused workshop to define what is needed in the ideal WEA marketing & publicity toolkit.

Please send your questions to Trustees for inclusion in the debate to shammond@wea.org.uk by Tuesday 18th April. This is an opportunity to open up discussion on the WEA’s approach to the emerging policy agenda in adult education.