



# China Focus

Winter 2024

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# THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT

## Successes at Brighton 2024

SPECIAL REPORT INSIDE

# END MODERN SLAVERY Call on Parliament for Stronger Legislation

“We believe it is time to take action. **PUT CONFERENCE MOTIONS INTO PUBLIC POLICY.** There is the both the economic and humane case to stop our supply chains tainted from forced labour.”

Liberal Democrats are committed to parliamentary action on banning imports from areas with egregious abuses such as Xinjiang (see Manifesto GE2024).

We believe that the fast fashion business model is inherently dependent on exploitative environmental practices and human rights abuses. This is especially true of the modern slavery and unethical labour practices notoriously linked to garment manufacturing in Xinjiang, China. There is undeniable confirmation of forced labour of the Uyghur minority in China. (see Autumn Conference 2023 F16 motion.)

Short term economic cost may arise, but as naming companies who exploit Russia's war on Ukraine shows, the practice of

fairness and equal treatment always translates to consumer confidence and increased corporate value.

LIB DEMS COUNCILLORS, WE CALL ON YOUR SUPPORT AT YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL. Turn on the momentum from the local government. **Please sign up to our petition below and we'll contact you on a Motion at Council.**

Support this campaign as a local champion! (See back page on How You Can Do It!)

### Liberal Democrat Voice

Forging a path to end Modern Slavery: A clarion call for stronger UK legislation



By Asry Kaioko | Wed 9th October 2024 - 8:29 am

In a society where millions are still enslaved through compulsory work, the United Kingdom finds itself at a pivotal moment. The current laws, although with good intentions, are not effective enough in tackling the issue of state-enforced forced labour and its goods entering British markets (ILO, 2022). The UK needs to take advantage of this opportunity to strengthen its legislation, not just because it's the right thing to do, but to demonstrate Britain's strong dedication to justice and ethical labour standards worldwide.

We call on Parliament to act now and legislate:

- a) **that imports must first prove they are not tainted with forced labour** anywhere in their supply chains; and
- b) **UK authorities have the power and will to initiate investigations** into suspicious goods, supply chains, and manufacturers.
- c) bringing the UK legislation up to standard with EU legislation for trade in the European Single Market and **providing a better safeguard for UK companies from falling foul of criminality** under current UK legislation.

**Strong Support**

**Inflationary hikes will be minimal in exchange for UK Business & Consumers Peace of Mind.**

**UK authorities, such as the National Crime Agency, should make regular checks.**

**Indication shows these reforms improves corporate image and increases consumers' confidence.**

**Current laws are too weak. REWARDS ARE HIGH for STRONGER UK LEGISLATION**

**BACK THE Momentum on Conference Motions to End Forced Labour. Sign this Petition →**  
<https://form.jotform.com/242843085597367>



# FOCUS

## COMMENT

### The HK Identity

What does being a “HongKonger” mean?

Are we radicals or this is about diversity?

Do we not have a relationship with China? Do we not want China to change?

The HK Identity capsule project is a collection of individual essays. It's an unedited personal reflection from someone with ties to Hong Kong.

We come from all walks of life and we have different feelings on the HK identity. Here, we start with Nicholas.

The Longer read on Nicholas's HK Identity:



# BEST RECEPTION AT CONFERENCE

- Our advocacy is to support building resilient networks to deter China's patronage which pulls freedom into autocracy.
- Support diplomatic, economic and security partnerships with free & open states threatened by China.

Could you be buying from forced labour at the next autumn conference in Bournemouth?

Where is the fairness if Chinese airlines overflying Russia can add to a supply chain tainted with forced labour? Now, Chinese airlines fly direct from Xinjiang to Bournemouth.

How can we support fair work rights in the UK and aboard? Chinese airlines shouldn't be landing here if they avoid UN sanctions by flying over Russia. British Airways simply can't compete as we rightly take the longer flight route. As consumers, JUST SAY NO to cotton from China.

What is fair trade if cheaper fashion from Xinjiang pushes away small household manufacturing in the Global South?

**LibDems HK at Brighton Conference 2024**

We'd like to say how joyful we are at all the warmth and joy at Conference.

Thank you for being such a successful, internationalist and liberal political party

On stronger legislation to end forced labour  
**We are calling on Parliament to:**

- Making imports to first prove they are not tainted with forced labour anywhere in their supply chain;
- That the UK authorities have the power and will to initiate investigations into suspicious goods, supply chains and manufacturers;
- Providing a better safeguard for UK companies and preventing them from falling foul of criminality under UK law or International law such as grievous crimes against humanity;
- Maintaining UK laws in line with EU legislation intentions to maintain ease of trade and markets for UK Businesses to conduct trade in the EU single market.

The Hong Kong Identity is not articulated by a state or organisation. It is an identity developed among ordinary citizens.

Hong Kong grew from a cluster of migrants escaping turmoils in a post-war Asia. Our forefathers arrived in Hong Kong without any certainty of their future. They developed a new identity.

"China cannot own Hong Kong. We may only choose to identify with China."

As third generations like myself, I treasure the Hong Kong identity inherited from my parents, and I value this identity as much as I regard myself as British – the nationality by birth I proudly value and defend.

### The ACTIONS YOU can help us

Join our Halt Modern Slavery Campaign.



Understand the HK identity



## INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUDGET MATTERS

The Longer Read, scan QR code:

Above: UK International Development from DFID photo credits: Dylan Thomas / UKaid / Department for International Development  
Original available at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/dfid/4706653300>

Below: China's Belt & Road Initiative

UK's International Development Budget reached all-time lows - 0.36% of GNI.

The UK excels at soft infrastructures.

We should build resilient networks in prosperity, secured supply chain, civil liberties and global values for the UK's security.

Patronage from China will only pull nations further into autocracy. Beijing can't provide stability or multilateralism.

We call on Parliament

- achieve UK's International Development at 0.7% of the UK's GNI;
- long-term strategies to achieve ODA's aims stated since 2015.

## TORY SAGA

### Only the Lib Dems can scrutinise foreign policy

Beggars belief! In astonishing resemblance to celebrating dead Chairman Mao's birthday, Conservatives leadership candidate Robert Jenrick cuts a cake for Margaret Thatcher's b'day.

Left: Post from Brendan May's X account @bmay

# LABOUR IS ABSENT



Minister for Clueless & Overwhelmed

### Labour agrees on the need for a strategic review on Trade with China, but ...

The new Labour Government lacks focus. We must push them on their manifesto and be more honest than the Conservatives. That is why all who stand with Freedom voted for us.

The phone calls keep coming in when our GE2024 Manifesto was released. They all agreed we have a STRONG AND CORRECT foreign policy and therefore lend us their support.

**LIB DEMS need to be the honest opposition and highlight our Foreign Policy**

Labour agrees on the Parliamentary report that China has interfered with UK democracy. It wanted to carry out a China Review. WE AGREE on using the UK's Magnitsky sanctions to stand up against human rights abuses.

Labour agreed that the economy needs to grow. WE AGREE on building new economic partnerships with democratic countries threatened by China, including Taiwan. Taiwan has the talents to build the AI and Green industry that UK needs.

**Let's remind Labour and push for a Fairer Deal!**

Find us online @LibDemsHK

# WHAT WE CAN DO FOR YOU

Liberal Democrats Friends of Hong Kong @LibdemsHK · Jul 4  
英國大選最後三個鐘  
晚上10點前投票

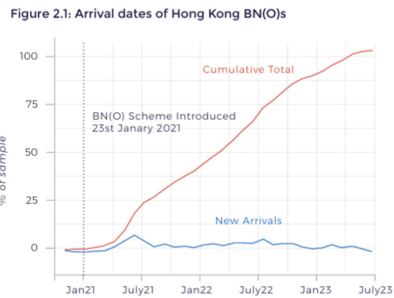
- 投給自由民主黨 Liberal Democrats 的每一票，就是
- ◆為改良國民服務及介護服務投下一票。
- ◆為我們的下一代有更好的起點。
- ◆為我們可以有一個更安全的居住環境。
- ◆人權、自由、民主

為我們有更光明的未來，請投自由民主黨一票。 #ForAFairDeal #GE2024



Most recent wave of immigration from Hong Kong

- The most recent wave of migrations from Hong Kong started from 2021 when the BN(O) Scheme was introduced on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021.
- As of January 2024, 191,000 people had applied for the BN(O) visa.



Source: 'From HK to UK: Hong Kongers and their new lives in Britain', British Future, Nov 2023. [HK-to-UK-report.Final\\_.pdf \(britishfuture.org\)](https://www.britishfuture.org/hk-to-uk-report.Final_.pdf)

Data analysis. Helping you understand your community

Come to your local campaign

詳情請參閱我們的官網: [salfordlibdems.uk](http://salfordlibdems.uk)

## 是月回顧

- ◆ 移除被弄壞的鐵柵: Moore 區議員正在於 #CleanUpTheQuays 活動中，由新街開始清理被弄壞的鐵柵。這是一項大工程，第一階段已經完成。
- ◆ 將社區街招換回經典藍色: Heilbron 區議員成功爭取將新街招換回經典藍色的歷史藍色，為社區保留它的獨特氣質。
- ◆ 清理雜草: 經過區議員 Moore and Cllr Heilbron 的努力，Ordsall lane 的雜草堆已經被清理，高爾夫球場的草皮已經重新鋪設，下面的垃圾亦已被清走。
- ◆ 新的河道安全標誌: 我們知道應付 Quays 四周的水域安全以及改善行為都是當前的首要任務。這些在 Mariners Canal, the Watersports centre, 以及 Detroit Bridge 設立標誌都只是為日後的大改善而踏上的小小一步而已。

## 小改變，大變化

在上次社區大掃除我們一共清走了 59 袋垃圾

Help with your leaflets

自由民主黨清理 Salford's 河道的計劃獲得通過

我們是怎樣做到的?

- 1) 對地方政府的行政層面與公眾立即與區議員聯絡，包括 Paul Heilbron 區議員。
- 2) 讓所有區議員與區議員代表與代表區議員聯絡，包括 Paul Heilbron 區議員。
- 3) 讓所有區議員與區議員代表與代表區議員聯絡，包括 Paul Heilbron 區議員。

Jonathan and Paul 會優先處理:

- 1) 清理 Quays 四周環境
- 2) 保護我們的步行徑
- 3) 保護銀行以及反社會行為
- 4) 建設可持續發展的社區
- 5) 為我們的家園帶來自然景色

我們的承諾就是環保

## Contact Exec

### Chair

Twitter @LarryNgan1  
Email: [larrynganlibdems@gmail.com](mailto:larrynganlibdems@gmail.com)



### Vice-Chair

Twitter @Nicholas\_yhchan  
Email: [libdems@nicholaschan.co.uk](mailto:libdems@nicholaschan.co.uk)



# WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR HK

Stand Together for the Rule of Law and International Accountability

Support Free & Open States. Support them rather than sending them into China's patronage, who will only pull everyone further into autocracy.

Help us start a local petition. Gather the support!

Nearly Half of Gen Z and Millennials Reject Employers Over Climate Concerns: Deloitte Survey

by ESG News · May 16, 2024

Share: [f](#) [t](#) [in](#)

4 in 5 of the British public want stronger laws to prevent modern slavery both foreign and domestic (Figures from Anti-Slavery International)



Leave your details by filling the form in the QR code and we'll work with you on a Council Petition

Submit a Council Motion on LGA recommended Standards

Draft Council Motion

Strengthening local resilience to end modern slavery

The Council notes:

2. The United Nations report on Xinjiang published by the UN Human Rights Office in 2022 which concluded that "[t]he extent of arbitrary and discriminatory detention of members of Uyghur and other predominantly Muslim groups, pursuant to law and policy, in context of restrictions and deprivation more generally of fundamental rights enjoyed individually and collectively, may constitute international crimes, in particular crimes against humanity."
6. That while there are short-term economic challenges, it is well proven that the following actions to end modern slavery will achieve long-term positive effects on UK's Industrial Strategy, benefit local economy through positive UK economic opportunities and confidence for our residents to support Council's project because they support good business practices and workers' work rights.

Rule of Law matters to migrants who fled their homes, like the people from Hong Kong. They wanted to see a new home which supports justice and civil liberties.

Work with us to build more local presence and amplify the clarion local voice to end forced labour on Uyghur minorities and beyond. And stamp out forced labour in the UK supply chain.

Propose our motion in your local government.

We're online at: [www.libdemshk.org.uk](http://www.libdemshk.org.uk) & socials:

