

Local Politics Group Constitution

1 Name

The group shall be called the Local Politics Group (LPG) of the UK Political Studies Association.

2 Objects

The objects of the group are:

1. Promote and disseminate research, teaching and knowledge about local politics and participation
 2. Facilitate exchanges between researchers interested in different conceptions of 'locality'
 3. Build international research networks with colleagues in North America, Europe and elsewhere
 4. Hold events such as bi-annual conferences and themed workshops (held in alternating years) while also facilitating panels at PSA and other specialist group and international conferences
 5. Explore and explain factors that are specific to the conduct of local politics
 6. Provide a setting in which the linkages between local and national politics can be explored.
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3 Membership

Membership shall be open to members of the PSA with an interest in the Objects of the Local Politics Group.

There shall be an annual membership fee to be determined by the Annual General Meeting of the Local Politics Group. Members will be informed of the benefits of also joining the PSA, and the LPG may on occasion offer special discounts or benefits to PSA members.

4 Officers and Committee

The officers of the group shall be members of the group at the time of election, and shall consist of Treasurer and Secretary, Website Manager, Membership Secretary and LPG Publications Editor, and such other officers as the group deems necessary. They shall hold office for one year and shall be elected by consensus from among the members of the group at either the Annual General Meeting of the group or through email discussion via the email list.

5 Records

Shall be kept by the Vice-Chair and made available for inspection by any member of the Group if so required. These records will include minutes of any meetings, minutes of the AGM, and the Annual Report. Current membership lists shall be maintained by the Membership Secretary, including details of membership fees paid.

6 Governance

The Group shall be managed by a committee as defined above in Section 4. The committee will consult appropriately with the membership, and will report to the membership at an Annual General Meeting.

The committee, in consultation with the membership, shall make appointment to other LPG positions as necessary. Such positions may include, for example, the convenor of the LPG Annual Conference.

7 Vacation of Office

Any officer shall vacate office upon resignation or upon dismissal by resolution of a general meeting of the Group.

8 Casual Vacancies

Vacancies on the committee shall be filled by election from among the members of the Group under such rules of procedure as the committee shall direct. All those elected to such casual vacancies shall be current LPG members.

9 Annual General Meeting

This meeting shall be held during the PSA annual conference each year or at a special one-day conference convened at the decision of the committee. Not less than fourteen clear days notice of the AGM shall be given. A quorum shall be ten per cent of the paying membership.

10 General Meetings

These shall be called at the discretion of the committee or at the written request of not less than ten members of the group. Notice of not less than three clear days, excluding weekends and bank holidays shall be given.

11 Finance

Applications by the group to the PSA for grants of money shall be made at the discretion of the committee by the Chair of the group. A Treasurer's report and a Chair's report shall be presented to each Annual General Meeting which will decide how current and expected income is to be spent during the period prior to the following Annual General Meeting. The committee shall make financial decisions between AGMs.

On vacating office the Treasurer of the group shall hand over the books of account to the duly elected successor.

12 PSA Constitution

The group shall be governed by the appropriate clauses of the PSA Constitution with regard to any matter not covered by this Constitution.

13 Amendment of the Constitution

This constitution may be amended or altered only by a resolution supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a general meeting, provided that no alteration shall contravene any part of the PSA's Constitution.

This constitution shall be made available to all members of the group on request.