

Message from Tim Farron MP – Liberal Democrat Party
3 October 2016

On behalf of the Liberal Democrat party I wish to pass on our best wishes ahead of your 82nd Federation. Your theme this year, 'Engineering the future' is a timely reminder of the changing world we live in and the need to adapt to ensure that we continue to empower women and girls into the future.

You are women helping other women live their dreams. This is something my party are committed doing both internally – making sure that we promote women and champion their voices, and externally by holding the Government's feet to the fire to honour commitments on international development and equality.

Soroptimists inspire action and create opportunities to improve the lives of women and girls through our global network of members and international partnerships. Your work reminds us all that by banding together we can drive change.

Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland, from the many members I know, are committed to the future of women and girls in our community. When you started, your members believed there was a need for a service club focusing on women's issues in UK and throughout the world. Your service projects could have such a large impact and change many lives. It is wonderful to see how many professional women want to give of their time and resources to help others.

Your dedication, service and commitment is a testament to what public service can achieve. On behalf of my party, thank you for all you do and will continue to do.