

Rachel Garnham

A strong voice for grassroots members

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Membership number: A777413, Mid-Bedfordshire CLP



Dear CLP Secretary

I am writing to ask your constituency to consider nominating me for Labour's National Executive Committee. Supported by the Centre-Left Grassroots Alliance, I am standing for the NEC because I fully support Jeremy Corbyn's progressive leadership against austerity, war and racism and for democracy, equality and a more inclusive, democratic Labour Party. I stand for:

- A democratic, member-led, campaigning Labour Party

The democracy review agreed by annual conference offers an opportunity to give Party members more say in policy-making; in selecting and holding to account our representatives; and in reforming structures to provide a stronger voice for under-represented groups. I support reforms that give members, drawing on our and our communities' experience, more opportunity to shape our policy-making and increase electoral support for Labour. If elected to the NEC, I would do my utmost to ensure that the review increases Party democracy to strengthen the voice of members.

- A transformative, democratic socialist, election-winning Labour Party

At the general election, we made progress because Jeremy Corbyn put forward a manifesto that challenged austerity and provided a genuine alternative that would lead to the economic growth that works for the many. We inspired young voters with bold policies on education, housing and more; and finally listened to Party members and trade unions with popular policies such as renationalising rail. We now need to build on that manifesto and our poll position with a programme that will provide investment for growth, tackle inequality and poverty, reverse privatisation, take action on climate change and provide progressive international leadership for peace. Like many members, I campaigned for the UK to remain in the European Union, and support the leadership's prioritisation of an outcome to the current negotiations that puts jobs, living standards and the economy first. We need to support our councillors to put forward a similarly progressive programme for local government that can increase Labour's representation locally.

About me

I joined the Labour Party at 18 and have been an active member for 23 years, holding a range of positions. I am currently a National Policy Forum representative for the Eastern Region and have been CLP Secretary for Mid-Bedfordshire for nearly 10 years. Living in a rural, traditionally Conservative constituency, I understand the importance of maintaining activity and campaigning locally whilst also supporting our local marginals. Working as a University administrator, being a parent and being active in my local community alongside my Labour Party activity keeps me grounded and in touch. I am a member of UCU and the Co-operative Party.

If elected to the NEC, I would be a firm supporter of Jeremy and I believe I have the experience, values and commitment to be a strong voice for Party members and contribute to increasing Labour's electoral support.

Please also support the other Centre-Left Grassroots Alliance candidates Yasmine Dar and Jon Lansman, so that the NEC has the best team working with the leadership towards winning the next general election.

Yours in comradeship

Rachel Garnham