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Membership No: 1801978

10th January, 2023

Dear Branch Secretary

National Executive Council Elections 2023

I am writing to ask your Branch to support my nomination to the national local government female seat on the NEC.

I have been a convenor in North Yorkshire for 8 years and prior to that was active within the North Yorkshire Branch as a senior steward. I have worked in Local Government for just over 35 years and my background is adult social care. I have served on the Local Government Service Group Executive previously and I currently represent the Yorkshire and Humberside region on the National Joint Committee Group.

Local Government members need an influential voice at the heart of our union, a champion of the section with the presence of mind to make sure our union is focused on the issues that matter to our members. And I mean all members covered by the service group - not just councils but the new combined authorities, fire and rescue services, and the wide range of private and voluntary sector employers who deliver essential services in our communities.

My council, North Yorkshire County, is currently in the throes of reorganisation to become the first county unitary in the UK. Our members face large-scale structural change and the added insecurity this brings, especially when it happens against a backdrop of already diminishing resources. My branch is negotiating hard to seek agreements on job security, relocation and wage protection. Our members know we are there for them and their families.

I want the NEC to have the same laser-like focus on workplace issues and the things that matter to our members:

- like the need for a new fair funding formula for local government based on community need with the added certainty of long-term multi-year settlements to replace the current hotchpotch of annual funding allocations;
- a clear policy position with the resources to campaign for devolution in the English regions as well as support for the right of self-determination and more powers in the devolved nations;
- and as the NHS faces increasing pressures, we need a new approach to funding social care with clear local partnerships based on parity to deliver for our most vulnerable citizens.

None of this can be achieved without relentless campaigns for better funding, in-house services and quality employment with decent wages for our members.

I am standing for the seat because I have years of experience, as an ordinary worker as well as a UNISON representative.

Should your Branch nominate me, I will champion and campaign for local government members right at the very top of our union.

The nomination period opened on 9 January 2023 and closes at 5.00 p.m. on 13th February. All nominations are submitted via the CES online portal at www.cesvotes.com/unisonNEC2023

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

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