

ROSA GOMEZ for DISABILITIES REP

CLP: **Ilford North**

Membership: **A858578**

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Since 2018, I have been a councillor for Churchfields ward in Redbridge. For most of my working life before being elected I worked as an advice worker and campaigner on issues of human rights, asylum, immigration, welfare and - after an attempt on my life in my native Colombia in 2010 - disability.

I have worked for the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Refugee Council and a variety of other organisations. I have visited political prisoners in Colombian prisons and worked for their release with Amnesty International. I have been a Labour Party member since the late 1980s, a member of Unite Community and the National Education Union.

As a democratic socialist, committed to progressive politics, democracy, and accountability in society as a whole and inside our movement, I believe that our labours produce wealth enough to eradicate poverty wages, homelessness and economic insecurity. What is required is the political will to enact policies to achieve a fairer society. I will continue to advocate this, just as I have done throughout my adult life.

As a woman with disabilities, daily I experience the problems faced by millions. I have encountered these in my everyday life and, unfortunately, also within our own party. Whether it is being ignored, not given the space to participate fully, or even being bullied, these obstacles have no place in any civilized society and they especially have no place in our movement. **I will do all I can to break down these barriers and will always encourage people with disabilities to stand for public office and more generally for office within the Labour movement.** My own understanding of these obstacles makes me a better advocate for others with disabilities.

I am committed to the fullest Labour Party democracy and the accountability of the London regional office. **I am especially committed to fairness in appeals panels. No Labour Party activist should be prevented from becoming a councillor for purely factional reasons not outlined within the Party rulebook.** I will be committed to ensuring that all appeal hearings are conducted with honesty and natural justice as guiding principles.

If you have any questions about my candidacy, please feel free to email me at the address above.