

# NIAMH O'BRADY for WOMEN'S OFFICER



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I am a socialist and a feminist, and I recognise the importance of class struggle above all else. I am proud to have been Unite's Women's Representative on the London Regional Executive for the past 6 years. I am also Chair of Unite's regional women's committee.

London is a Labour city, with a Labour Mayor, Assembly and councils. We must ensure London stays red in 2022, but we have seen voters desert Labour where we haven't articulated what we stand for. We need to hold the power to account. We need to stop attacks on local labour party democracy and suspensions and take the argument to the Tories.

We need clear, popular socialist policies. Democratically elected representatives must be allowed to act and make decisions in accordance with the rules and have their mandates respected. The regional executive must be member-led, instigating and supporting campaigns for the many across London.

In 2019 and 2021 I was a member of the CAC. I was part of a left group of CLP members and affiliates that successfully argued for executive members as opposed to staffers to hear appeals against non-inclusion on panels, for an annual conference and for an elected CAC before these steps were enshrined in the democracy review.

I am committed to the principles of fairness, accountability and transparency in the processes for the selection of local council candidates and of appeals against inclusion on panels. In 2021 /2022 this is vital work to ensure a diverse representative group of office holders that reflects our membership.

## \*Programme\*

I want the regional executive to campaign for London wide policies, in partnership with trade unions to fight for working people and workers rights, such as:

- No fire and rehire
- Keep our workers safe from covid in retail, offices, schools and transport
- Keep our schools under local authority control
- Bring Labour public services in-house
- Build council houses
- Stop selling NHS practices to private companies
- Protect private renters
- Oppose racism and the rise of the far right
- Oppose cronyism
- Support the GRT community
- Support public subsidy for TFL

Whilst steps to ensure gender balance on committees is welcome, this does not yet mean women have a strong enough voice in the party.

As women's officer I would argue for a regional campaign to:

- Promote an intersectional approach to equalities, recognising the different experiences of marginalised women and amplifying the voices of trans women, black and Asian women, the GRT community, lesbians and bisexual women, and disabled women
- Work with Young Labour to foster an inclusive culture and promote the radicalism that brought so many young members into the party
- Encourage women to organise and promote the transition from women's forums to women's branches
- Consult with women CLP members and trade unionists in London to facilitate policy making and campaign for socialist and feminist policies locally, throughout London and nationally
- Facilitate conversations with the Mayor about the right to protest peacefully and to ensure safe streets for women
- Liaise with the London representatives to the National Women's Committee to share common platforms to campaign for policies that empower women