

Lucio Buffone standing for re-election as the LGBT Officer for the London Regional Board.

I'm a train driver, an active member in Vauxhall CLP and Chair of ASLEF's Paddington Branch. I'm proud to be on the Trade Union slate and am appealing for support from CLPs across London. The Trade Unions formed the Labour Party and have always been the anchor that have kept us tied to the demands and aspirations of ordinary working folk. I'm a proud supporter of the trade union link and defend the influence that trade unionists have within the structures of our Labour Party.

The electoral system we have in the UK demands that Labour is a broad coalition and we've always been a family of Socialists, Social Democrats, Co-Operative members and other progressives. In fact our Party is the original 'progressive alliance.' In order for this movement to function, we need to agree on the rules and interpret them fairly and honestly. This is the main function of the Regional Board (or Executive as it will become, following the Democracy review).

Board members are responsible for overseeing local CLPs, LCFs, Selection Committees and the London Party. We need to ensure that the Party locally and regionally is as open as possible and that by sticking to the rules, we make sure that all members have a fair chance at selections, whether those selections are for Parliament, a Branch Officers position or anything in between.

As LGBT Officer, I have always sought to make the Party as inclusive as possible and make sure LGBT issues are at the heart of our policy objectives.

I proudly campaigned and voted for Jeremy Corbyn in both leadership elections, and I'm equally proud to have campaigned for Labour in every election since 1992, no matter who our leader was. Only as a united party will we defeat the Tories, elect a Labour Government and end the austerity fuelled poverty that drove the Brexit vote.

I would welcome your CLPs nomination and if you have any questions or would like to get in touch, feel free to contact me luciobuffone@yahoo.co.uk or @thisislucio on twitter.