

Ashley Dalton

“Twenty-five years ago I chose to make Rochford and Southend East my home and I have never looked back. I have lived, worked, and raised my daughter here. I am ambitious for this place and I know its people are capable of great things and deserve to be represented by someone that loves Rochford and Southend and will fight for what is good for our towns. I am that person. I am a passionate cheerleader for Rochford and Southend East and am dedicated to Labour values. With the type of inspirational national manifesto that we saw in June 2017 and my commitment to turning my home town red, together we can win Rochford and Southend East for Labour.

The Tories believe they’ll be elected in Rochford and Southend East no matter what. They think the people here will vote for them regardless of how much they put our health, security and constituency and children’s education at risk with cuts to vital services. In June 2017 my general election campaign showed the Tories they are wrong. I shaved 41% off James Duddridge’s majority in this constituency putting a seat generally considered to be a safe Tory stronghold in reach of a Labour victory. The tide is turning in Rochford and Southend East and the voters of these towns are beginning to reject Tory austerity and their Tory MP that sees this constituency as nothing more than a platform for his personal career.

My campaign in June 2017 proved that Rochford and Southend East voters do not believe that a Tory MP is a forgone conclusion and the people of this constituency can no longer be taken for granted. I will build on that campaign and work with our communities to create a groundswell of grassroots activism; a community based movement that fights for Labour values and will put them into action through a Labour victory. I believe in the Labour values of community, fairness and social justice for all and intend to be an MP that celebrates this great place we live in and stands up for the people of Rochford and Southend East in Parliament. That’s why I am seeking selection as the Labour Party Prospective Parliamentary Candidate in Rochford and Southend East, the place I call home. I will lead a team and a campaign that can win for Labour in this constituency and give Rochford and Southend East its first Labour MP.”

A youth and student politician in the early 1990s Ashley has been a community and Labour activist for over 25 years and is a member of the first cohort of the Jo Cox Women in Leadership Programme. Raised in Lancashire Ashley has also lived and worked in London and Essex. After studying in London she settled in Southend on Sea to raise a daughter. Active in her CLP she has held several committee roles and is currently CLP Chair and Chair of the Southend Labour Local Campaign Forum. A local government manager for Southend on Sea Borough Council she has worked in community development, public transport and community cohesion for 20 years and is a member of Unison. Ashley has served her community as a school governor for 12 years. She’s a strong advocate for young people and community-led projects and is a passionate voice for Labour and her community