

Dear Colleague,

You will no doubt be seeking nominations for the London Regional Board of the Labour Party at your GC.

I would be most grateful if you would consider nominating me, **Steve Hart**, as one of the two nominations you can make for the North East Constituencies section, (one must be female), along with **Feryal Demirci**.

I am Chair of Hornsey and Wood Green CLP, and have been since 2002 (with a short break while I was National Political Director of Unite). I have played a big part in ensuring that our CLP has become a successful campaigning party that wins elections - winning the biggest swing last year to elect Catherine West, and campaigns effectively in the community. I am a perennial activist in good times and bad - on the doorstep and in the community. Now with over 4750 members, mine is the biggest CLP in the country. So I do know the difficulties and delights of large CLPs. Before my retirement last year I worked as a union official at Dagenham then as Regional Secretary of Unite, and then as Chair of the ThinkTank Class. I served on the London board in the past as a trade union nominee. Politically, I'm on the left - the sensible constructive left.

In these difficult and challenging times for Labour, we need to ensure that we find effective and new ways of involving our members, learning from best practise, reaching out beyond the party, talking to our communities rather than ourselves, campaigning to win against the Tories for our people now, and always focused on the essential requirement of winning elections.

Sadly, it's necessary to emphasise that we must be respectful to each other, ensuring that our meetings are conducted inclusively and without oppressive behaviours. We must be ready to challenge bad behaviour wherever it appears in our party, and our rules must be enforced with both rigour and sensitivity. This will be especially important as we deal with the Boundary Review and its consequences and preparing for the 2018 local elections.

Whether on electoral or community campaigning, or upholding our party's democracy, the London Region Board has an important role - we need a steady fair hand, but not a dead hand - I believe with my experience I can play a helpful role in ensuring that the vibrant and enormous London Party can be really effective and innovative, particularly in these areas, while upholding rules and democratic behaviour.

Unmesh Desai, now elected to the GLA for East London, carried out this role previously - I wouldn't be standing now if he was standing again and I very much appreciate his support. **Cllr Feryal Demirci** from Hackney is also standing, and I know she would also welcome your support. I hope you also nominate Ellie Reeves for Vice Chair

It goes without saying that if elected, I would do my best to be responsive and helpful to your constituency and keep you informed of London Regional Board developments as and when necessary.

Yours in solidarity

Steve Hart