

## **CAROL HAYWARD**

### **For Carers' Representative**

#### **Caring is tough**

I have just graduated from a six-year Master's, during which I was also an intermittent carer for my mother, so I have firsthand knowledge of how hard it can be to balance caring with both education and work. Young adult carers (aged 16-25) are frequently left behind by traditional carers' support services, and left to fend for themselves during a difficult period of transition in their lives between adolescence and adulthood.

#### **I want to be YOUR voice**

We cannot be fairly represented by the Executive or the party if our voices are not heard, and I am determined to make your voices heard.

I have over two years' experience in representing carers' needs to organisations, as my University's first-ever Carers' Representative for two consecutive years before being co-opted onto the Young Liberals' Diversity Committee.

#### **I will create a community**

As carers we often feel isolated from our peers; having been part of a peer support group at university, I know how comforting it can be just to know that there are people you can talk to who understand what you've been through.

If re-elected I will continue to reach out to carers within the Young Liberals, and create a social space where carers can safely reach out for support from people in similar positions.

I will also continue to push for online access to all future conferences, following on from this year's successful virtual conference.