

Hi LWN,

Thanks for your tweet, here are my answers to the questions, I appreciate your interest.

1. Will you defend the principle and implementation of All Women Shortlists, and commit to a Labour manifesto pledge to change the law to extend these to mayoral, local government and police and crime commissioner elections, and to ensure their use is legal until parity is sustainable without them? **YES (implementation has failed)**
2. Will you ensure Labour publishes data about the diversity of its candidates in all elections, in accordance with section 106 of the Equality Act? **YES**
3. Will you support the urgent introduction of an independent complaints system for sexual harassment, from first contact to final outcome? **YES, I have been calling for action on this!**
4. What actions will you take to ensure Labour tackles a culture of sexism and misogyny from the grassroots up? **From Branch meetings to NEC meetings there are men who interrupt and talk over women who are already speaking; I will keep challenging this in meetings as well as proposing better training for Chairs and other members. The complaints system has not taken sexism, misogyny and sexual assaults complaints as seriously as other complaints and this has probably stopped many women coming forward, this must be rectified and I will champion it at NEC.**
5. Will you sign LWN's campaign to #KeepTheGoodStuff from the Covid-19 crisis and reduce barriers to women's political participation by introducing a degree of long-term virtual access to Labour Party meetings and events? Sign here: <https://www.lwn.org.uk/keepthegoodstuff> **YES, have signed: As a single parent I seldom managed to attend LP meetings when my son was small and that was an obstacle to standing for election. More recently, working from home proved very worthwhile, we need these better ways of living. Life is currently designed around 20th century views of a man's world which is not acceptable.**
6. Will you support the annual continuation of the Jo Cox Women in Leadership Scheme, which has successfully empowered women to stand for office and act as agents of positive change in their local parties, communities and workplaces? **YES**

7. What steps will you take to improve the diversity of Labour Party staff in senior and strategic roles? **To start I will insist that the data is presented at every NEC meeting with a brief report and that questions are answered fully. Following that I will ensure discussion, decisions and importantly, actions.**
8. Will you ensure that Labour women have a formal voice at every level of the party, and that a meaningful and engaging Women's Conference takes place every year? **YES**
9. Will you take action to ensure no Labour Party event advertises an all male panel or uses gendered language? **YES**
10. Will you ask Labour Groups to introduce formal parental leave arrangements for councillors, so baby leave is not a barrier to public life, and commit to a Labour manifesto pledge giving a legal right to baby leave for all forms of elected office? **YES**

Best regards
Fiona

Fiona Dent

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