



George Downs

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Liverpool Wavertree CLP

Membership Number: L1234811

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Seeking nomination for the National Policy Forum (North West youth) elections 2018

Dear Colleagues,

In the summer we will be voting to decide who represents members in our region on the National Policy Forum, I am writing to ask for your constituency's nomination as the youth representative for the North West. **The closing date for CLP nominations is Friday 22nd June 2018**, details of the process and nomination forms have been sent to your CLP secretary with the annual conference pack. The nominations period will then be followed by a one-member-one-vote ballot.

About me

I'm a researcher & student in Security Studies at the University of Liverpool and a member of the University & College Union (UCU). Having been involved in the current industrial dispute over pensions, I have not only seen how university workers and supporting students have swelled the ranks of picket lines on our campus, but how there has been an explosion nationally of conversations and discussion events about what working-class communities should be demanding for our education system. Last year our manifesto quite rightly pledged a publicly-owned & free at the point of use National Education Service from cradle to grave. In order to build on this, our party should be fully engaging with the wave of staff and student activism which has swept many university campuses over the last few months as a result of the UCU strike.

Process and accessibility

If elected to the NPF, I hope to convene local policy forums alongside the other elected representatives, empowering clusters of CLPs to thrash out proposals not just on education policy but also on all those issues which we in the North West labour movement are fighting for – such as the NHS, workers' rights, the environment and housing. These discussions would form the basis for submissions to various policy commissions of the NPF. Furthermore, I intend to raise such proposals from the membership at national policy meetings for shadow ministers to consider. I passionately believe in youth involvement in the party, and our input into the policies that will shape our futures. For too long young people have been absent from much of the policy-making process across our region. Young Labour groups are often not provided with the funding and autonomy for policy discussions, leading to young members feeling shut out from submissions to policy commissions. I pledge to be a strong voice for Young Labour on the NPF and hold decision-makers to account on youth input.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Yours in solidarity,

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