

## **Kate Kingdon: Self-nomination Statement for Disability Coordinator NLP Executive Committee**

I would like to put myself forward as CLP Disability Officer to ensure disabled members are able to be fully involved in the work of the local party and that our voices and views are represented and heard within the policy and campaigns of the branch.

I will ensure that this role encompasses all forms of disability including invisible disabilities such as my own, learning difficulties, mental health issues, cognitive disabilities, physical disabilities and the vitally important role that unpaid carers play in their support.

As well as being a carer, I have navigated the process from wellness to being medically retired and on benefits and experienced first hand the humiliations of the current system.

I have lived and worked in Norwich for 20 years. I was the founding Director of Norfolk Community Foundation which builds funds to provide on-going support and resilience to community groups and projects across Norfolk. Laterly I worked for Age UK Norfolk championing Information, Advice and Advocacy Services for vulnerable people. My knowledge and understanding of these groups will help to inform my role as Disability Officer.

On leaving University I worked in inner cities across the North and Midlands to ensure that local people benefitted from urban renewal investment projects. I am committed to the fight to build a fairer society and ensure equality of opportunity and access to services for all – whatever their needs.

June 2019