

## **LGBT+ COORDINATOR – BEN HARDIE**

I have been a member of the Labour Party since 2012, and have been active within Norwich Labour since 2016 when I moved back to the city. I ran as a candidate in the 2018 and 2019 city council elections for Eaton Ward, and am currently the sitting youth officer on EC. Throughout this time I have canvassed in most areas of the city and in Norwich North, which we will likely need to win to form the next government.

Outside of the Labour Party I am currently actively involved with the Pride committee at my office (Marsh). In that role I was responsible for securing a place for Marsh at the Norwich Pride parade, due to be held on Saturday 27th of July, and for general parade organisation. I also frequently assist Marsh in its recruitment events held at UEA and the Forum, and as part of this role I commissioned an anonymous survey to analyse how prospective future employees view LGBT in the workplace. I commissioned this survey completely off my own initiative, and passed the results onto Marsh management to help inform their approach to recruitment and to LGBT rights in the workplace, an achievement I am very proud of.

I would be very excited to take up the role of the Norwich Labour LGBT officer. I would be very keen to link Norwich Labour up to the other LGBT groups operating throughout the city (including Marsh Pride), and to ensure that LGBT Labour members feel they are able to engage with the wider Norwich LGBT movement. Making sure that Norwich Labour fully engages with Norwich Pride 2020 and other associated events will be included in this approach.

I am fully committed to I will working closely with Clive Lewis and Karen Davis to secure a victory in both Norwich seats for Labour and would therefore be delighted if you would consider me to be your LGBT officer.