

WOMEN'S OFFICER – RACHEL EVERETT

We are extremely lucky that we have many remarkable women in our CLP. The gender gap has meant that we must continuously *make* ourselves feel strong and fight to be heard in certain aspects of our society. Politics is one aspect in which women, in the past, have had to mimic men in order to be heard, rather than be heard and respected for themselves. I am proud that the NLP is not one of those environments and I hope that, as women's officer, I can engage with those women who are still intimidated and help to bring them and their opinions to the fore.

I will work closely with our great candidates Clive Lewis and Karen Davis to help secure a Jeremy Corbyn led Labour Government. When campaigning for my ward, I have been surprised that some women still go and get their husbands to talk to me because they don't feel that they have an opinion or "don't know anything about politics". As the mother of daughters, I have made sure that my children know what is going on in the world and that they have an opinion of their own.

I am also aware of the struggles of being a single parent on a low income. The day-to-day challenges of working and budgeting while supporting one's children is a real achievement and one that often goes unacknowledged. If I can help women who feel overwhelmed by these challenges, by making it easier for them to access local political groups, I will feel I have done my job.