

## **National Policy Forum Reps:**

Delegates will also be able to vote for two South East Representatives on the National Policy Forum (NPF) – at least one must be a woman. Statements from those candidates that have been nominated by CLPs in the South East, and by Affiliated Organisations, are also attached.

The nominated candidates are listed below:

### **Karen Constantine**

Nominated by: Canterbury CLP; GMB; Mid Sussex CLP; Unite

### **Fiona Dent**

Nominated by: Co-operative Party

### **Tom Hayes**

Nominated by: Co-operative Party

### **Carol Hayton**

Nominated by: Brighton Pavilion CLP; Crawley CLP; GMB; Hastings & Rye CLP; Horsham CLP; Hove CLP; Mid Sussex CLP; North East Hampshire CLP; Oxford East CLP; Oxford West & Abingdon CLP; Unite

### **Sue Ledwith**

Nominated by: Oxford West & Abingdon CLP

### **Chris Percival**

Nominated by: Gosport CLP



# VOTE KAREN

Dear friends,

I'm a lifelong Labour and Trade Union member, a campaigning activist and a committed feminist. As an elected, socialist politician, serving at District and County level I get things done!

I am seeking your vote to sit again on the National Policy Forum.

I have been a regular attendee at the NPF throughout the past two years, sitting on the Economy, Business and Trade Policy Commission. Using my background as a trade union official, I have made many suggestions and added my point of view. In particular, I have added a 'coastal community' dimension, been a voice for small and micro businesses and added understanding about the value and role of the unions in industry. I have also made essential links between other policy areas and forums, including childcare, education, training and skills, and with health.

My passion for rebuilding Britain and reinvigorating manufacturing will continue to be brought to the Forum. I will continue to prioritise driving forward the skills agenda and 'greening' the economy. We need to ensure decent, secure work that is fit for the future and ensure opportunities for worker involvement on boards and in company ownership.

As a Kent County Councillor representing Ramsgate, I see everyday the way in which the crippling reduction in public spending affects our people and our business community. The current administration is holding back growth and failing to ignite enterprise.

As a Thanet District Councillor in Newington, one of the poorest wards in the South East, I see how important education is, along with a secure home, free health care and a vital decent income.

I have used my role on the Commission to consult both inside the Labour Party and the wider community.

You can be assured that I will continue to work hard and to make myself available to CLPs.

Thank you!

Karen Constantine

You can see more about what I do and represent



[Karen4Labour.uk](http://Karen4Labour.uk)



[@uk\\_karen](https://twitter.com/uk_karen)



[karenconstantine](https://www.facebook.com/karenconstantine)

**Hello,**

**My name is Fiona Dent and I am writing to ask you to nominate me for the SE Conference ballot to be your NPF (National Policy Forum) rep.**

You may already know me from my NHS campaigning, my Labour campaigning or perhaps I have been to your constituency to talk about the NPF, the Economy Commission or getting elected as a Councillor.

So far my mixed, wage earning, career has spanned nursing, social work, probation, homelessness, community regeneration, health commissioning and fine art. While working full time and bringing my son up I also completed a Honours law degree at night school. I have also set up an art co-operative and chaired it for 2 years, including setting up low cost art studios for co-op members and an art market.



As a NPF rep for 3 years I have contributed fully to the Economy Commission using my experience as a struggling single mum in full time work to inform my approach.

Please help me to keep contributing to our Labour policy development, I am enormously proud of our 2017 Manifesto and made key contributions on lifelong learning and local taxation.

Fuller details of my work for Labour are supplied in links below. My memberships include UNISON, UNITE, the Artists Union Of England, the Howard League of Penal Reform and the Co-operative Party. I work hard for Labour and am determined to help achieve a Labour Government very soon.

I am currently based in Runnymede, where I have recently been elected as the first Labour Councillor in 15 years and have an art studio on the South Coast.

Thank you for reading this!  
Fiona

[www.fionadentlabour@gmail.com](mailto:www.fionadentlabour@gmail.com)  
[@fionadentlabour](https://www.facebook.com/fionadentlabour)  
07824953354  
[fionadentlabour@gmail.com](mailto:fionadentlabour@gmail.com)

# Cllr Tom Hayes for National Policy Forum

- **Proud Labour and Co-operative City Councillor in Oxford**
- NHS and School Governor, tackling the effects of cuts on services
- **Oxford's Cabinet Member for a Safer, Greener Environment**
- Challenging Tory police cuts on the Thames Valley Police Panel
- **Unison & Usdaw member tackling low pay and insecure work**
- Oxford Co-operative Party Chair and former National Secretary of LGBT Labour, with experience of creating policies inside the NPF
- **Former Caseworker for Andrew Smith MP and Head of Campaigns for Scope and Oxfam, fighting disability discrimination, inequality, poverty, tax havens, and the bombing of Yemen.**
- Campaigned all over the South-East to ensure Labour is in office



## Your strong and representative voice

Every member's voice should be equal. But, that isn't the case in the South-East. Members from across the CLPs I visited during the NPF election are right—it's easier to get your voice heard in our national party if you belong to a larger CLP. **I'm fighting to change this—I want every member to be heard with respect, and I pledge to visit every CLP to listen to your views. I pledge to consult you and represent your views on the biggest issues, from more housing building to the NHS, in our next manifesto.**



## Your experienced and accountable voice

**I grew up in council housing in a working-class community run down by Thatcher.** My parents still live in council housing, forced to pay the Bedroom Tax although they're disabled. **I know how much of a lifeline council housing is and we must strengthen it.** I put myself through university by working three low-paid jobs—it's why I'm a proud Unison and Usdaw member working hard to combat immorally low pay.

The shocks unleashed by this Government's hard Brexit will hit all our communities hard. As a Labour and Co-operative councillor, school and NHS Governor, and mental health worker, I see the effects of austerity.

On behalf of members, I want to work with our Leader to stop a hard Brexit making those made vulnerable by Austerity even poorer. Our goal must be a General Election to elect Labour's transformational government, but if the Tories chicken out of giving us one, we need a People's Vote with an option to Remain to protect jobs and services.



**If you want an accountable NPF Rep who visits your CLP, represents your views, and campaigns with you—elect Tom Hayes! See you at SE Conference!**

Text me to set up a chat at SE Conference: 07901853314 | [www.facebook.com/cllrtomhayes](http://www.facebook.com/cllrtomhayes)

**Carol Hayton. Membership No. A360654**

**Union: GMB, Constituency: Horsham**

**Tel 01403 241695 E mail: carolhayton@btinternet.com**

**Address: 10 Clarence Road, Horsham, West Sussex  
RH13 5SQ.**



Thank you to all those Party units that have nominated me for this election. Your on going support is very much appreciated!

I have been a South East regional National Policy Forum representative for 14 years. In that time I have attended constituency policy discussions and facilitated local meetings right across the region. Having been involved with the NPF for many years I am aware of the faults of the current process and have, like many other members submitted suggestions to the Democracy review on how the process can be improved.

Improvements to the policy making process primarily need to ensure that the contributions that Party units submit to the policy making process are properly valued and that members play a key role when it comes to drafting the manifesto. I am not convinced that the initial proposals that came out of the Democracy review, which were to scrap the NPF and replace responsibility for the policy making process with a sub committee of the NEC, would have achieved that. I am therefore pleased to see that those proposals are being reconsidered

The NPF's greatest asset is the regional network of representatives who are able to engage members right across the country in policy discussion. I, like many constituency and regional representatives, dedicate a lot of time and energy to ensuring members views are included in policy debate.

I am certain that without the commitment we have shown, important policy proposals submitted by members on matters such as council housing, grammar schools, the Agricultural Wages Board and Trident would not have been heard in the policy discussion and would have slipped off the policy agenda. That is why it is so important that we have a proper structure for membership engagement and if re- elected I will work hard to ensure that that structure is maintained in our policy making process.

It is not any failure of the NPF reps that has caused the greatest dissatisfaction, with the current process, it is the failure to provide effective communication and consultation methods and the failure to ensure that policy development is transparent. Improvement in these areas will not be achieved by shifting responsibility for the policy process to NEC members whose primary focus is on the management of the Party.

I want us to achieve a properly functioning policy making process within which no section of the Party is sidelined and everyone can be fully engaged. Members have recently elected a new team of Constituency representatives who are keen to help make that happen. I hope your constituency will now support me and my fellow regional NPF rep Karen Constantine so that we can all work together to ensure the views of members and affiliates in the South East region are strongly represented.

**I would also like to recommend support for the CLPD and Momentum endorsed candidates for all Regional Board seats.**

**Labour Party experience:** 2007 – present Horsham CLP. Campaign Coordinator, Membership secretary, Agent, 1998 – 2007 Mole Valley CLP . CLP secretary, Vice Chair, Election Campaign Coordinator Branch Membership Secretary and Vice Chair Guildford DLP, Surrey County Party Vice Chair . 1987 – 1998 Gillingham CLP. CLP Secretary, CLP Chair , Womens Officer, Political Education Officer, Policy Forum Facilitator, County Party Vice Chair.  
Labour Candidate and Campaigner in every Local Election since 1987



**NPF as a regional representative. Candidate's leaflet.**

**SUE LEDWITH – Oxford West & Abingdon CLP, LABOUR SOUTH EAST REGION.**

Flawed as it is the National Policy Forum is the nearest forum in the Labour Party for members to have a say/make a contribution. As an advocate of participatory democracy I feel I have experience that can be of use here as well as representing the interests of members of the Oxford and District Labour Party.

A Labour Party member since the 1970s, first in Jeremy Corbyn's North Islington Constituency, and now in Oxford, I have held office variously at local level. Notably, in 2010 in the wake of the horrible general election defeat, and together with another Sue, I set up the Oxford Labour Party Women's Group. It went with a bang and remains an active forum for women, more recently especially for women from a range of cultures. Our main aim was to encourage women to come forward and run for office at local council level. This has been successful and on the City council 40% of the Labour group are women, with a female leader and deputy leader. On the County council Labour leads the opposition, and women are 77% of the Labour group. We also developed an equality and diversity policy, and encouraged by this activity the Labour group on the City council also took action to improve the gender balance there.

Previously I have stood for election to both city and county councils. Currently I am chair of my local branch. Also I have initiated calls for changing our undemocratic electoral system and in June this year took a resolution on this from our branch to the Oxford & District Labour Party. It was successful.

My day job until 2010 was running the MA programme in International Labour & Trade Union Studies at Ruskin College and thereafter some tutoring, mentoring and dissertation supervision. Currently I am working with a group to encourage the unions to retrieve the Ruskin ethos of Labour movement internationalism and solidarity, which has been badly compromised by the current management regime.

A long time researcher in the field of gender and trade unions, I have worked on funded projects in the UK and internationally, especially Brazil and South Africa. This work is linked to my membership of the Global Labour University, where I ran a four-year project with trade unionists from around 20 countries. We published our research and the researchers' stories in an on-line book which is freely available. Last year with a Turkish colleague I published a study of female domestic migrant workers in London, Berlin and Istanbul.

So, I have wide experience, including policy and strategy, and research and writing skills. I think I could use these to make a contribution to the National Policy Forum.

Dr Sue Ledwith. [sue@sueledwith.co.uk](mailto:sue@sueledwith.co.uk)

# CHRIS PERCIVAL



[chris@gosportlabour.co.uk](mailto:chris@gosportlabour.co.uk)

Hello I'm Chris Percival, Labour activist and Campaign Coordinator at Gosport CLP. I stood as a candidate in this year's local council elections, and intend to do so again.

I work hard as part of a small but very active team on our CLP, working with local residents and campaigners in an effort to transform our town and our country. I believe a Labour government under our current leader, with bold and clever socialist policies, is the best way forward for everyone.

I grew up and live in Gosport, a constituency with a massive unemployment and earnings problem, heavy foodbank use, an area deprived of A&E services and public transport infrastructure. There is a stark divide in Gosport between the rich and the very poor. It is no surprise that Gosport voted strongly to leave the EU. An isolated peninsular town supported by the Royal Navy and associated civilian jobs, it is little wonder that deindustrialisation, outsourcing and a decline in armed forces provision, as well as stark cuts to education and local authority funding, have left Gosport worse off than much of the surrounding area. This experience gives me an insight into why so many traditional Labour voters opted to leave the EU, and the damage a hard Tory Brexit will do to already disaffected communities.

Graduating in 2006, I have worked in Benefits and Social Housing for over a decade. As a result I know the urgency of Britain's housing crisis, and want to see strong policies to help the poorest in our society have real homes and secure lives. Only a socialist Labour government can do this.

I hope you consider me for the National Policy Forum.