

# Emily Pomroy-Smith - NEC Disabled Members Representative Statement



Membership Number

L1463277

Statement

My experience as a disabled parliamentary candidate in the 2019 election has cemented my belief that we need to be doing far more to amplify the voices of disabled persons, both within and outside the Labour Party. From the PIP scandal, to the campaign for level access on our railways, to the limited support for disabled PPCs, there is so much to be done.

We can start small, looking at simply making CLP meetings accessible for all. The pandemic has shown us that when accessibility is required by non-disabled persons it is accommodated and embraced, but when disabled persons ask for adjustments we have always encountered resistance. If you make it possible for disabled members to participate, that benefits not only them, but carers, parents and the vast number of people who don't just work 9-5. It is time to break down these barriers.

I am committed to helping to create a society, and a Labour Party, where accessibility is the starting point, not an afterthought. I would be honoured to represent and fight for our extraordinary community as part of the Labour NEC. In the words of Disability Labour, 'Nothing about us, without us'.