CC2 Jane Baston

Agenda item: E.1.1 Executive Committee Co-Chair (x2)

Which role are you applying for?:
Executive Committee Co-Chair



Local Party:
York

## Candidate Statement

The government might have opened up clubs and restaurants again but our Tories leaders are still determined to keep the doors closed on the radical change that we need. Constant attacks on all avenues of our society are undermining our ability to avert the climate catastrophe and build a stronger social movement.

We need to revitalise our campaigns for robust democracy, for supportive social and health care, and strong resistance to those who are profiting from exploiting the planet. We have to strengthen our support for an anti-capitalist society, our support for trans rights, and our support for marginalised communities. We have the evidence to show that we move away from the five day working week and introduce even more radical eco-socialist policies.

Recent months have only demonstrated how young people are exploited - in our education system, in our rights as workers, and in our ability to participate in democracy. The current agenda set out by Westminster shows that they are not going to move away from our entrenched system, only seeking to strengthen them and hold onto their power.

The next year is going to be vital for our recovery from the pandemic and to take the action we need to stop climate breakdown. The Young Greens are one of the only voices on the left that are speaking up for radical solutions and bringing about change. That's why I'm standing for Young Greens Co-Chair.

Over the past year I've been the Green Students Committee Co-convenor. Alongside the committee I've been leading on working to increase the support of our student societies. We've been building our student movement to fight back against the marketisation of education by creating links with our societies and local groups. I've led the Building Group Power events that are designed to bring together our local activists across the country to create a strong activist group. I've also been involved with the Yorkshire and Humber Young Greens over the past six months and am organising with the York Young Greens.

Outside of the Young Greens I've been a Sabbatical Officer at the University of York's Graduate Students' Association for two years. Throughout the pandemic I've worked across a large team, built my negotiation skills and worked to ensure that we've got the best possible outcomes for postgraduate students at York. I have built strong campaigning skills and learned to support others in their campaigns by working with our Academic Reps and Part-Time Officers. I have training in Chairing and Facilitating Meetings, and I've been a strong voice within my Union and wider community to ensure that our members are at the heart of all decisions. I know how to lead teams, work across different communities and provide support and guidance on a wide range of matters.

The Young Greens are a key part of the movement to build a more radical society. Young people should be a vital part of that. Here's some of what I want to do as Young Greens Co-chair:

- Bringing all of our activists, local, university, regional and liberation groups together to build and launch strong campaigns and strategies that give voice to our communities.
- Creating campaigns that centre youth voices and speak powerfully on important issues and change that the Young Greens want to see.
- Continuing Building Group Power events to provide training, connections, and campaigns support for local groups and societies.
- Revitalising Regional Committees with targeted training and support that focuses the needs of the different regions.
- Working to get even more Young Green Councillors elected and creating support for our current Young Green Councillors.
- Standing in solidarity with Trade Unions and encouraging trade union membership in young people.
- Looking towards the future to develop a long-term strategy to bring the Young Greens to the forefront of the left wing youth voice.

I want to use my experience and knowledge to empower the Young Greens and I hope you'll vote for me for Young Greens Co-Chair.

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Supporter 1 Name:
Billy Wassell
Supporter 1 Local Party/Affiliated Group:
Cheltenham
Supporter 2 Name:
Rosie Rawle
Supporter 2 Local Party/Affiliated Group:
Oxford

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