



UNISON National Executive Council Elections 2021

NEC Constituency: Black Members
Name of Seat: Female
Name of Candidate: Nimisha Trivedi
Membership number: 895694

Email: nimishatrivedi4nec@gmail.com

I am writing to ask for your branch's nomination for the Black Members Female Seat in the upcoming NEC elections for 2021-22. The quorate nominating meeting must be between **1st February and 5th March**. You must **invite your Regional Organiser** (with 7 days notice) to attend this meeting. If your body nominates me, please remember to register this on the **CES online portal** (details of which will be emailed to your branch) **no later than 5pm on 5th March**.

About me

I am a Social Worker who qualified in 1993. Currently I am working for Carmarthenshire County Council in Children's Services and have previously worked in Rhondda, Cynon Taff as well as Swansea Council.

I have been a UNISON activist for 27 years. During that time I have been an active steward, acting as an advocate for the members. I am currently an International Officer in Carmarthenshire County Branch.

I am of an Indian background, born in Uganda, East Africa. I have resided in Britain since 1977.

The Pandemic

The Tories have presided over the unnecessary death of over 100,000 people during this pandemic, they have given contracts worth millions to their mates whilst ignoring scientific and medical advice to put profit before people.

Institutional Racism

The Covid crisis is worsening each day with disproportionate deaths of black people continuing. The Tories continue to scapegoat migrants, refugees and the Muslim community to divide and rule to cover their failures.

Black Lives Matter.

George Floyd's murder has reignited the movement against racism, be it at the hands of the police or the bosses. From Windrush to the pandemic, we have seen first hand Tory bigotry and racism .

We are experiencing the growth of racism, Islamophobia and antisemitism across the world. **As a candidate, I oppose this and pledge to organise and campaign to reverse it- I stand for putting people before profit.**

I am a life long anti-racist campaigner and a prominent spokesperson for Stand Up To Racism Wales.

In the 1990's I helped to organise opposition in the South Wales valleys to an attempt to stir up division by a former grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan as well as campaigning against the growth of the British National Party by helping to organise transport to Hertfordshire, London and Paris (against Le Pen's Front National) to oppose the growth of the far right.

Also during the 90's in Wales I helped to organise a major rally against Holocaust denial with a holocaust survivor and I campaigned for Justice for the Cardiff 3.

Throughout the 2000's I have campaigned against the emerging far right in what ever guise they attempted to do so in, I helped to confront the EDL and the so called DFLA .

This year I fronted the first socially distanced BLM protest in Swansea and I have been campaigning in support of the refugees in Penally and against those who sought to turn the community against them.

I have spoken at and chaired many online events this year calling for action. I am currently involved in organising events in Wales for the UN day against racism in March.

The Challenge

We face huge challenges and throughout this pandemic, UNISON members have been working hard on the frontline, delivering the vital services in our communities. I

am standing because I do not believe our union is doing enough to organise and build resistance to:

- the government's unsafe, wilful management of the pandemic.
- the failed Austerity to make us pay, whether through cuts in pay and services, overwork, lack of staff, discrimination.
- the racism, scapegoating and blaming of anyone but the government themselves in an attempt to divide us.

UNISON has 1.3 million members. We need national coordination, we can't just leave each branch to struggle on its own.

Keir Starmer, the new leader of the labour party has often not even opposed Tory policies.

UNISON cannot follow his lead.

I am proud to have actively supported **Paul Holmes** in the general secretary election. I am standing in this NEC election with other like-minded candidates on a platform of **radical change** for UNISON:

- ✓ UNISON is the biggest union in the UK but most people wouldn't know that. We need to 'act our size' and 'fight our weight';
- ✓ Three-quarters of UNISON subscriptions go to the national and regional offices. We must change the proportion of subs that go to branches from the current 25% to 50%
- ✓ Stronger branches can deliver for members – but will also protect our activists' health and wellbeing. No more burnout!
- ✓ For **nationally coordinated action** on pay so UNISON mounts a serious pay campaign, starting with a £15 per hour minimum wage in all claims
- ✓ For linking up and supporting members in struggle, backing industrial action each time members want it
- ✓ For the active encouragement of coordination and joint-working between branches
- ✓ For a properly funded plan to bring in full negotiating rights at all employers
- ✓ For greater resourcing and focus by our union on Covid-19, with support to branches, so we can lead the national debate for and protect the public service workers who have sacrificed so much

- ✓ For a large-scale anti-austerity programme and campaign for decent jobs, training and affordable housing
- ✓ To fight with real action against the scourges of racism, homophobia, disability discrimination and sexism
- ✓ For a green agenda in the union, reviewing all UNISON's practices which impact negatively on the environment
- ✓ For the election of regional secretaries and assistant general secretaries. Too many of the decisions about our union that should be made by lay members are made by paid staff. We need an overhaul of democracy in UNISON.

Please also support **Julia Mwaluke
for the **Black Members Reserved (low pay) seat****

I am available to answer any queries you may have and can be contacted on the above numbers

Solidarity

Nimisha Trivedi