

2022 TUC Women's Conference

Nominations

Nominations

Contents

Section A

Section B

Section C

Section D

Section E

Section A

14 places, 13 Nominees

Hayley Bouchard

Clerical Officer - South West Trains

RMT

Hayley Bouchard has been a trade unionist since she was aged 18. She was a local rep and company council rep at Eurostar for 15 years. Hayley has been a member of the RMT for over 16 years. She has always been active, taking on a variety of roles at branch, regional and national level. Hayley has been an RMT local trade union rep since 2014 and became an Area Council Representative in 2021. Hayley has been on the RMT National Health and Safety Advisory Committee for 6 years. Hayley is passionate about the role of women in the union and has been on the National Women's Advisory Committee for 6 years and attended many national women's conferences and TUC women's conferences. She hopes to broaden this experience on the TUC Women's Committee.

Joanna de Groot

Senior Lecturer University and College Union

It would be an honour to follow Sue Abbott as UCU's representative on the TUC Women's Committee. I have campaigned and organised for women's rights and gender equity for most of my working life, working in our union, and with other union colleagues in my university and local trades council, and as a UCU negotiator and Women's Committee member at UK level. Currently I work on gender pay inequity and sexual harassment issues in York, where I was a founder of our anti-harassment structures. I am committed to an intersectional approach to this work which includes issues of race, disability, and sexuality. I also believe in working closely with members as we have on casualisation and trans issues at York. Women's and gender interests are central in our current battles on pay, pensions and jobs, and I'd welcome the chance to take UCU's experience into the wider union movement.

Sharon Calvert Teacher

NASUWT

I've been an active trade unionist since the age of 19, starting as a representative for UCU and becoming active in the NASUWT after qualifying as a teacher. I've held the roles of school rep, Equality Officer and now National Executive Member. I am also Vice Chair of the NASUWT Equal Opportunities Committee. I am a supply teacher working with students who have special educational needs and I actively campaign for better conditions for agency staff, many of whom have protected characteristics. I wish to continue to serve on the TUC Women's Committee to promote fairness and equality of opportunity for all women. As chair of my local Women's Forum I encourage empowerment and mutual support and campaign against violence and harassment against women. In my role as NEM I also encourage women members to apply for the higher lay positions within the union. We need greater representation.

Katie Harwood Podiatrist/Professional Officer

Royal College of Podiatry

Katie first became a union representative in 2002 eventually becoming Chair of her NHS trust's Joint negotiating committee in 2010. She became a full-time officer for The Royal College of Podiatry in 2013. She is passionate about representing members and their issues. She sits on the College's Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity committee and has brought equality and diversity issues to the fore in the union and has implemented Equality and Diversity Training for all staff and union representatives within the College and has championed equality and women's issues across the organisation including menopause, domestic violence and period poverty. She was elected to the TUC Women's Committee in 2019 and hopes to continue in the role for a fourth year.

Zita Holbourne Civil Servant

PCS

I am a current member of the TUC Women's Committee & Race Relations Committee, National Vice President of PCS and have played a leading role in PCS equality work for many years, including chairing the Women's and Equality Co-ordinating committees, leading negotiations on equality from National to local levels. I have over 20 years' experience negotiating/organising/campaigning for gender and all equality and winning discrimination cases. During the pandemic, I have campaigned on the disproportionate adverse impacts on women of the pandemic. I campaign globally for gender equality and on the intersections of gender/race and the multiple discrimination faced by intersectional women, in my union roles, but also as a community and human rights campaigner supporting and bringing solidarity to women facing injustice / discrimination.

Diana Holland Assistant General Secretary, Equalities

Unite the Union

Diana Holland leads Unite's 'Time for Equality' campaign for Equality Impact Assessments with Risk Assessments to protect all members' safety, jobs, pay, dignity and security. Many years' negotiating on equal pay, family policy, union equality reps, sexual harassment and sex discrimination. A long standing campaigner on poverty, pensions, violence against women, migrant domestic workers and under-representation of women, BAEM, disabled, young and LGBT+ workers. Former President Confederation Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, she is Chair ITF Women Transport Workers Committee, and member : TUC Women's Committee, Global TUC Women's Committee, ILO Experts Group on Violence & Harassment, and elected Labour Treasurer. Previously member of: Equality Act Senior Stakeholder Group, Minimum Wage implementation group, EHRC Equal Pay group, EOC Flexible & Part-time working Inquiry, Minister's Disability committee. Former TGWU Assistant General Secretary Women, Race & Equalities, first London/SE Women & Equalities Officer, youth training shop steward.

Sarah James Customer Service Advisor

GMB

As a current member of the Women's Committee it would be an honour to be re-elected. Until November 2021 I was the National Women's Lead for GMB, standing aside to make way for another sister to take up the opportunity. I'm the women's lead in my region and sit on the equalities commission board in my local authority, supporting all workers and leading on issues effecting women. I led on GMB's Work To Stop Domestic Abuse campaign and the Smash The Stigma menopause campaign, training members and empowering them to challenge cultures within workplaces. Working alongside sisters from across the movement, these campaigns as well as those led by other Unions are strengthened as we work together. Solidarity is not just an idle word, but we need to act - by standing for re-election I pledge to support sister Unions and continue to fight for safer and more inclusive workplaces.

Jane Jones Service Team Support

USDAW

I have worked in the Tesco store in Mold North Wales for 18 years and joined Usdaw on day one in the job. I sit on the Tesco National Forum and Usdaw's National Executive Council. In 2021 I was elected Usdaw President. Throughout the Coronavirus crisis I along with other key workers in retail and elsewhere worked to provide an essential service and I saw the struggles women had juggling going out to work with looking after children and other family members. During lockdowns I represented women members facing a loss of vital income because they were only given unpaid leave. Working in an industry that demands complete flexibility from its staff I understand it is vital that the TUC and unions campaign for genuine flexibility for

working women. I would be delighted to be elected to the TUC Women's Committee so the voice of retail workers is heard.

Margaret McKee Catering Assistant

UNISON

I have been a union representative for more than 35 years, and now the branch secretary of my local branch, Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast, where I work as a catering assistant. I was delighted to be elected president of UNISON in 2017. I was very proud to be awarded the TUC women's gold badge in 2016 for my work in the trade union movement and in my community, working with the women victims of domestic abuse and women in the prison system. As a public sector worker, I have seen the unequal impact of COVID-19 on women, and we as women workers continue to remind the government of the profound effect of COVID-19 on women. I will work tirelessly to ensure safer workplaces and working conditions for all workers, and to encourage workers of all ages and backgrounds to join our union movement.

Heather McKenzie Teacher

National Education Union

I am a NEC member of the NEU, a union which is over 76 % women, a secondary teacher and activist. My experience and commitment to women include • Chair of the NEU Women's Organising Forum; • representative on our national Action Committee • on Equalities Committee & Professional / Legal Services Committee • NEU member representative at the TUC GC I am also my unions member representative on member and staff pensions schemes and volunteer support counsellor / Trustee for a Rape Crisis charity. I am a passionate advocate for women and girls at home and abroad and I believe the TUC has a responsibility, to empower women members into action and leadership in the union family. This will secure the future strength and relevance of the TUC: to continue evolving as a powerful voice for democracy and equality in and out of the workplace.

Deborah Reay

Train Driver ASLEF

I am a tube driver on London Underground and have been an activist of ASLEF for 19 years.

I am the national chair of ASLEF's Women's Representative Committee and also hold the positions of Local Rep, Branch Secretary and Appeal's Committee Member. I have represented ASLEF at the ITF, ETF, RMTU and Croatian train drivers conference.

I have attended WTUC for 15 years. Some of our motions have been considered controversial but they have always been designed to give women the same rights as men.

Train driving is still a very male dominated industry but it is gratifying to see more women becoming drivers and ASLEF activists however we still have a long way to go.

It would be an honour to continue representing women on the WTUC committee to help achieve equality and stop the elitist attitudes that are still prevalent in some industries.

Jean Rogers Actress

Equity

I've been a union member all my working life, passionately active on gender equality, women's empowerment and fighting racism and bullying. Since 1994, as an Equity Councillor and Vice President (10yrs), I've campaigned against female stereotyping, sexism and ageism, worked internationally with the Federation of Actors (FIA) on work opportunities and improving Work/Life Balance in the Arts sector. I gave evidence to the Harriet Harman Commission on Older Women in Media and Public Life and the BBC's Serving All Ages Survey, am currently a member of the TUC Women's Committee, and was awarded the TUC Women's Gold Badge in 2017. My work as an actress and presenter has shown me the importance of Education and the Arts to the mental wellbeing and health of the community, so often a route out of poverty. I continue to campaign for an understanding of the damaging nature of female and male stereotyping.

Jean Sharrock BT Engineer

Communication Workers Union

I joined the CWU 34 years ago when I joined BT and became active 20 years ago representing fellow engineers. I was Equality Officer and Chair of Middlesbrough Engineering Branch until we merged with North East Branch when I then became Assistant Secretary and still hold this post. I have been Regional Equality Secretary and Regional Women's Committee Chair. I am the National Women's Officer for the union and before this Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee for 8 years where I also chaired Women's conference. I have attended and spoken at General Conference, TUC conference's and World UNI conference.

Section B

4 places, 5 nominees (SEATS FOR BLACK WOMEN TO BE ELECTED)

Patricia Davies

Bus driver

I am a woman who happens to be black and a bus driver for Arriva. I've worked for Arriva Bus Company for over 29 years, providing services for the community and the wider general public. I've been a member of the Unite for 29 years and have proactively contributed to bringing about positive changes for our passenger industrial sector within Unite. I have campaigned for equalities locally, regionally and nationally, led our Regional Industrial Sector and National Sector campaign on women's' issues included period poverty and raising awareness on menopause, and appropriate uniform for all women bus drivers. I am an active representative within my union Unite and sit on a several committees such as: • Executive Council member for Transport • Regional Committee member • National/Regional BAEM Committee member • National/Regional Women's Committee • Vice-Chair for Regional Women's Committee • National Workplace Equality Rep • SERTUC Regional committee

Ruth Duncan – Teacher

NASWUT

I am a passionate D&T teacher and extremely proud to be part of the NASUWT lay-led structure. I have enthusiastically supported teachers in North-West London since 2014 in my role as NASUWT National Executive Member (District 22 - Barnet, Brent, Ealing, Enfield, Haringey, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow). I also serve on the NASUWT Recruitment and Organising Committees, both nationally and within the Greater London Region.

My relentless activism has positively inspired women/black women members within the NASUWT to join and take up School/Local Association Officer positions.

I have actively participated in NASUWT delegations for TUC Conferences since 2010 - TUC Black Workers' Conference and TUC Women's Conference. I wish to return and contribute positively to the TUC Women's Committee by raising key issues and concerns affecting women, with the ultimate aim of promoting fairness, equality of opportunity, empowerment and wellbeing for women at all times.

Pushpa Makwana Learning Support Assistant and Branch Secretary

GMB

I am a very passionate active activist in GMB Trade Union as a Branch Secretary (2018 to present) and Branch Convenor (2012 to 2018). • Executive member for BAME Women Group • GMB Regional Equality Forum committee member • Committee member for Covid 19 Vaccination Centre • Member of Local Authority Faith Forum • I am a Labour Councillor 2018 to 2022 Having worked in a school for 17 years as Learning Support Assistant, working with SEND students, I have always been following up with members in regards to their Pay and Conditions, from Job descriptions to Equal rights and Equal Pay. Women are underrepresented in some workplaces. In my roles in the trade union movement I ensure that women from all communities are represented and campaign for better human rights. I'm a campaigner on poverty, violence against women, LGBTQ+ workers, period poverty for women, raising awareness on menopause, disabilities and mental health and wellbeing.

Sujata Patel Human Resource Assistant

USDAW

I am currently on a career break from my role as a Sainsbury's shopworker. I am active in my Union and its equality structures. I am a member of my regional equality forum and the Union's national equalities advisory group. Throughout the Coronavirus crisis I have continued to support a local domestic violence charity. I support women seeking to escape violence many of whom are BAME and migrant women. I have seen first-hand the vital role that local domestic violence services provide in enabling women to escape and move on from violence and abuse. I am a CLP Disability Officer. I very much hope I will be re-elected so I can continue to make sure the TUC hears from women working in the retail sector and takes up the issues that matter to them.

Davena Rankin
Manager

International Policy and Governance

UNISON

I've been active in UNISON since I joined in 1999. I'm branch secretary at Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU) and a member of UNISON's higher education service group executive and NEC. As branch secretary, I have fought off redundancies threatening our mainly female workforce; campaigned against pension changes which would hugely impact on women workers and was part of negotiations that meant we became the first Scottish university to be an accredited living wage employer. I'm a member of the GCU Equal Pay working group and the Tackling Racism at GCU steering group. I've a long history of campaigning against discrimination in all forms and have been active in UNISON, the Scottish TUC's and TUC's equality structures for many years. I'm proud to have been the first Black chair of the STUC women's committee. I chair UNISON's Scottish Women's Committee and have previously chaired our National Women's Committee and conference.

Section C

1 place, 2 nominees (SEAT FOR A DISABLED WOMAN TO BE ELECTED)

Gwylan Brinkworth Branch Secretary - GMB South Wales Police Staff Branch

GMB

Gwylan has been a workplace representative and Branch Secretary for the last ten years. Currently a member of the TUC Women's Committee, Gwylan is seeking re-election in 2022. As a woman living with disabilities Gwylan campaigns for awareness around invisible disabilities. She is a member of the GMB Wales & South-West Regional Council, the Regional Equality Forum and is currently chair, of the "Women Supporting Women" regional Women's forum. Gwylan organises around White Ribbon Day and promotes the GMB's Domestic Abuse Charter. On the Police Staff Council, she is working to promote the Dying to Work Charter, GMB's Domestic Abuse charter nationally and is the GMB representative on the Sexual Harassment in the Police Service working group. Gwylan is currently in the Regional Women's Reserved Seat on the GMB Central Executive Council and is an active member of the GMB's Taskforce for Positive Change.

Fiona Hawksley-Cartwright

NASUWT

Throughout my teaching career I have been actively involved in issues of equality, firstly in ensuring multicultural education issues were addressed by my school and latterly as an activist within the NASUWT promoting issues faced by women in seeking flexibility in working arrangements.

For the last 2 years I have sat on the NASUWT Women's Advisory Committee. I have attended TUC Women's conferences and spoken on several issues affecting women at NASUWT regional and national conferences. More recently I have been campaigning as a local secretary to get menopause taken out of sickness absence policies, so that it is not seen as an illness but as a life stage.

I became disabled following a stroke. With hidden and physical issues I began to see the world through a different lens; how our world is incredibly ableist. I want to champion those wide and hidden disabilities ensuring inclusivity at all levels.

Section D

1 place, 1 nominee

(SEAT FOR A LESBIAN, BISEXUAL OR TRANS WOMAN TO BE ELECTED)

Bridget Corcoran Civil Servant

PCS

Society discriminates against women; sexism is an everyday occurrence. By coming together in these forums, we gain strength, knowledge and strategy. We need many different voices to do this effectively. I want to continue adding my voice as a low income lesbian civil servant. I am on the PCS NEC and involved with policy negotiation in PCS DWP Group for Equality and am deeply involved with the fight for rights within my LGBT+ community. At my first WTUC Conference, I was struck by the intelligence and support women give to each other. I am currently on the TUC Women's Committee in the LGBT+ seat and I enjoy contributing to the spirit of the movement I value so much. More than ever, we need people who can broaden our union movement, recognising the power women have collectively. I am keen to demonstrate my lifelong commitment and enthusiasm for this cause.

Section E

1 place, 1 nominee
(SEAT FOR A YOUNG MEMBER TO BE ELECTED)

Hailey Maxwell
Scotland

Training Co-ordinator, Rape Crisis

GMB

I am a young member of GMB and the GMB National Equalities Forum Women's Strand Lead. I have spent a large portion of my life working to end violence against women in Scotland. I have been a GMB rep in a Rape Crisis centre in Scotland. I am interested in fighting the exploitation of workers who care for vulnerable people and like working collaboratively to identify issues and then working to empower individuals and communities to self-advocate. I have significant experience working directly with survivors, including particularly marginalised communities, such as those in remote and rural areas of the Scottish Highlands and Islands and migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women in Glasgow. I have worked with GMB Scotland around understanding and response to sexual violence through training of staff and committee members. I am involved in the STUC and Better than Zero Workers' Reunion work unionising young hospitality and retail workers.