

Candidate Statement

I grew up in a family that truly valued people, communities and fairness for all. This has stayed with me throughout my life and continues to motivate me now.

I worked in the NHS for 17 years and during this time I built up a wealth of experience around the needs of people and the extent of inequalities within our society. Whilst working in the NHS I was a dedicated and active trade union member. I am proud that the trade union movement shaped my early adulthood and consolidated my core values and belief in social justice.

Today I run a small family business and consider myself a community activist. I have over recent years held many roles within my community. A member of my community council and my community association, chaired our parent lead toddler group, been part of our school parent council and actively campaign to ensure people and communities have a say in decision making, and are able to hold politicians to account. I lead the campaign for community funding to continue our pre school service and was a key member of the negotiation team when our local council wished to withdraw funding to our community centre.

I want to see more decisions being made at a community level. I want to see politicians being held to account on the way our schools and NHS perform and on ensuring vulnerable and elderly are cared for. I care about the future of our communities and I believe the Scottish Parliament and its MSPs have a duty to ensure the day to day lives of people are improved this needs elected representatives to be rooted in their communities.

I feel proud to be a Scottish Labour member, proud of our parties great achievements on Social Care, the NHS, pulling families out of poverty. I want the opportunity to work relentlessly to ensure Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley votes for a Labour MSP and a Labour Scottish Government.