

Sophia Elgin

I was born and grew up in East London and attended local schools: Our Lady of Lourdes Primary, in Wanstead and Trinity Catholic High School comprehensive, in Woodford Green. After completing A levels I went on to read Music at Leeds University and am currently completing a Master's of Science degree in European Public Policy at University College London.

After completing my undergraduate degree I worked in Higher Education Administration, in a number of universities, latterly in conjunction with the NHS. During this time I was an active member of Unison and whilst working for Imperial College Medical School departmental trade union representative.

Within the Labour Party I've held many roles. I was Chair and Vice-Chair of the Redbridge Local Government Committee for 3 years and acted as both a delegate and member of the exec committee. I have been Vice Chair of my Constituency Labour Party (Leyton and Wanstead) and Youth and Student Officer. In 2011 I was nominated the youth delegate to Party Conference. I was instrumental in setting up Redbridge Young Labour and also help other CLPs with youth issues, when needed. I was also part of the team responsible for setting up the, now annual, Redbridge Labour Conference.

I have been an active campaigner for many years involved in Canvassing, street stalls delivering newsletters and community action and a member of the Snaresbrook Labour Action Team. In 2010 I was one of the Labour Party candidates for Snaresbrook ward in the London Borough of Redbridge. I have been chosen as a candidate in the same ward for the 2014 election.

Very recently I have moved to Fitzrovia, and work in this area. Working in a local pub I have good contact with the people who live and work in the area.

As a musician I have helped out with a number of charities and local schools; particularly in Newham. I am keen to campaign and part of the 999SOS campaign.

My main policy initiatives and interest are keeping the NHS and other public services public; the introduction of a living wage for all people; and the importance of council run housing initiatives and capped rent rates. People should not have to bear the brunt of other peoples' greed.

I am a member of the Cooperative party and was representative for Redbridge Cooperative Party on the London Cooperative Party Council.

I have a large group of friends and colleagues who work and live in Chingford and Woodford Green and have extremely vested interests in the area and its protection: both social and economic.

On a slightly less political front I am a keen climber and play the harp. I am absolutely passionate about reading and books, and am a huge fan of crosswords, I even wrote the crossword for the Leeds student newspaper.

Thank you.