

We, the undersigned, write to express our outrage and disbelief at the undemocratic exclusion of Jo Rust from the shortlist of the Norwich North selection. Some of us intended to vote for Jo in the selection, some of us hadn't made up our minds, and some of us had planned to support another candidate. However, we are all united in demanding transparent processes and a fair contest. Unfortunately this decision rides roughshod over those principles and makes a mockery of the idea of a member led Labour Party.

Where members were allowed to cast a ballot for Jo, as in those branches that were allowed to make a nomination, she topped the poll every time. She is backed by 4 trade unions, including 2 of the 3 which are affiliated to the CLP (Unite and ASLEF). In contrast, the shortlist that has been announced includes one candidate who hadn't even announced their candidacy, such that many local members only heard her name in relation to the selection for the first time when the shortlist was revealed.

In response to our protests, members of the selection committee have only been able to provide cryptic comments and dubious innuendo about 'facts yet to emerge', despite the fact that Jo was deemed a fit and proper person when she was shortlisted in 2012. Rather than offer Jo the feedback she is entitled to, the selection committee have inexplicably imposed a week's delay. The total lack of public justification for this decision gives us no confidence in the probity of the process, and leads to the unavoidable conclusion that Jo was excluded for political reasons alone.

We appeal to the General Secretary and the NEC to urgently review and then reverse this decision.

Sarah Walker, Sewell Branch  
Barrie de Lara, Sewell Branch  
Glenn Springett, Old Catton and Sprowston Branch, Unite the Union, Prior LP regional board.  
Delegate to Unite AAC  
Anne Roderick, Thorpe St Andrew Branch  
Nigel Shaw, Sewell Branch, PCS  
Fiona Shaw, Sewell Branch, Unite the Union  
Holly Rust, Thorpe St Andrews Branch  
Charlie Caine, Chair of Momentum Norwich  
Annie Hatley, Norwich Labour Party Youth Officer & Momentum Social Media Officer, Unite  
Community  
Sian Davies, Sewell Branch, UNITE  
Allyssa McIntyre, Mile Cross Branch Secretary & Momentum Norwich North liaison officer  
Jeni Hunneyball, Sewell Branch, UNISON  
Alison Birmingham, Crome Ward UNISON  
Nigel Reigate, Ward Organiser, Crome Ward, Unison Retired Member and Musicians Union  
Jeni Treves, Sewell Branch  
Jacky Girling, Mancroft Branch, NS + UNITE

Geraldine Murray, Secretary Norfolk Unite Community, EC Norwich and District Trades Union Council , former city councillor.

Ian Gibson, Former MP, Norwich North

Paul Cunningham, Sewell Branch, Unite the Union

Sue Rimes, Sewell Branch, PCS

Andreas Paterson, Secretary, Thorpe Hamlet BLP

Sheila Dyball, Sprowston Branch

Robin Dyball, Sprowston Branch

Alan Kirkham, Catton Grove Branch

Daisy Sajnog, Sewell Branch

Thai Braddick, President of UEA Momentum

Natalie Hayes- Brewer, Catton Grove Branch

Danny Thomas, Crome Ward, Unite

Julie Brociek-Coulton, Councillor Sewell Ward

Mark Randall, Chair Sewell Ward BLP, Unison Steward & Labour-Link Officer NSFT Branch No.21111, Unite member.

John Knowles, Hellesdon Branch.

Bridget Veldhuis, University Branch

Ian Duckett, Hellesdon Branch, Socialist Educational Association and Unite member

Barbara Howey, Thorpe St Andrew Branch

Simon Partridge, Norwich Labour Party Assistant Secretary, Thorpe Hamlet Ward

Starbuck Friend, Mancroft Branch

Julie Heywood, Catton Grove

Gary Hollings, Catton Grove

Andrew Dickie, Hellesdon Branch LP

Tom Wilson, Thorpe St Andrew branch

Bee Springwood, Unite member and Norwich North

Jill Bishop, Thorpe St Andrew branch

Alan Kent, Norwich North member

Louise Kent, Norwich North member

Vince Laws, Broadland Labour Party

Richard Edwards, GMB member

Aaron Brown, Norwich South, Wensum branch member

Anthony Brown, Norwich North, Sprowston branch member

Rosemary Brown, Norwich North, Sprowston branch member

Mark Walker, Unite Regional Officer, Unite Norwich

Nigel Gibson, ASLEF District No.5 Organiser

David Heywood, Broadland CLP Political Education Officer and EC Member, and Unite Retired Members Branch

Hillel Fridman, treasurer Unite Community Branch.

Liz Putland, South Norfolk CLP

Louisa Young Sewell Branch, UNISON, Norfolk County Branch

Rebecca Elliott, SW Norfolk CLP

Jean Thirtle, North Norfolk CLP Disability Officer and EC member  
Tirion Davies, Sewell Branch  
Mandy McKenna, North Norfolk CLP Women's Officer  
Paul Hutchens, North Norfolk CLP  
Mo Steel, Lakenham Ward  
Steve Hutchens, Wensum Ward  
Gordon Eagling, former resident, campaigner and ex activist for Norwich North.  
Jonathan Dunning, Norwich Labour Party, UNISON Norfolk County Branch  
Vanessa Deacon, South West Norfolk CLP, GMB shop steward and activist  
Marion Fallon, Mancroft Ward, Labour Party, Equalities Officer at Unite Community.  
Thomas Lewis, Thorpe St Andrew Branch  
Janet Sillett Town Close NLP, Unite  
David White, Town Close Branch  
Steve Mcmillan-Johnstone Catton Grove Branch and Unite union  
Nicholas Lake, Sprowston Branch, Norwich North  
Christina McCabe, S Cambs CLP member, DPAC activist  
Beth Finegan, Mile Cross  
Kevin Reynolds, Chair Unite AAC/London & Eastern committee /GY TULO  
Sibongile Rukande, UNISON Steward NSFT Branch no.21111  
John Kasensa, UNISON International Officer, NSFT Branch no.21111  
Matthew Bowles Nelson Ward  
Vicky Stafford-Carver, Sprowston member, Norwich North  
Andrew Sweeney, ASLEF Chair and Labour Party branch delegate, King's Lynn Branch  
Ken Connor Broadland Labour Party  
Juliet Hayward, Sewell Branch  
Linda Brown, Broadland Labour Party Campaign Co-ordinator  
Sarah Lark Labour & Unison workplace rep.  
Darren Church, Vice Chair Norwich RMT. Broadland CLP  
Philip Williams, Broadland CLP Secretary  
Richard Cranmer Nelson Ward  
Alan Cubbage, Norwich North constituent & Retired member UNISON  
Beverley Broadhead, North Norfolk CLP, vice chair (campaigns)  
Shane Rayner, Norwich North Constituent and member of Unite  
Janet Ann Hewett member of Unite  
Elinor Read Norwich North Constituent  
Alan Dale Catton Grove Branch Member.  
Judi Dale. Catton Grove Branch Member  
Robert Farley, Labour member  
Amanda Laws, Catton Grove Member, UNITE Community member.  
Dave Kent, GMB and UNITE Member  
Stephanie Potts, Norwich North constit  
Justin Howard Norwich South Member Unison Member  
Rachel Narkiewicz, Mid-Norfolk CLP and Chair of UNISON Norfolk Community Health

Peter Watson. Unite Community, Labour member Catton Grove member and Socialist Health Association.

Chance Brown, Sprowston branch, CWU member

Charlotte Savage, Broadland CLP Youth Officer and EC member

Greg Brown, Norwich Labour Party

Lucy Blake, Norwich Labour Party

Simon Baker, Norwich Labour Party

Phil Longwell, North Norfolk CLP and Norwich North canvasser

Lucy Baker, Norwich Labour Party

James Leman, Mid-Norfolk CLP Political Education Organiser

John Sillett UNITE Norwich member

Ruth Thacker

Callum Ringer, North Norfolk CLP, Chair Aberystwyth University Labour Students, Unite Community.

Clare Lovick Labour Party member in Sewell and Unison member.

Shaun Smith Norwich CLP

Jake Pearson, Mancroft Branch, Unite, Amnesty

Francis Bone NWN CLP

Margaret Bevan Norwich North Labour Party

Scott Brinkley; Norwich Labour Party, Norwich City UNISON Branch Chair

Nick O'Brien, Mancroft Ward

Jason Hunt, Norwich North, Hellesdon branch member

Jasper Haywood, North Norfolk Labour Party, Youth, Social Media, IT and Press Officer

Marcus Barnett, Tottenham CLP, London Young Labour Executive, RMT SW&W Regional Political Officer

Debbie Thompson Mid Norfolk CLP & Norwich North Campaigner.

Andrew Osborne Unite chair London & Eastern Engineering and Manufacturing sector regional industrial sector committee

Lysander Hardy-Pearce, Norwich Labour Party

Catherine Gates, Member of the North Norfolk Labour Party.

Sherry McDowell, Reigate Labour Party

Rad Kerrigan, Labour Party member, UNISON Norfolk Community Health.

Peter Panayi Mid Norfolk CLP

Ann Nicholls UNISON UEA Branch

Claire Andrews Norwich North member

John Woodhouse, Nelson Branch, Unite

Christina Girling, Labour Party member, Norwich North.

James Youd, Unite London & Eastern Political Committee

Jack Sklar, Mancroft Ward & Unison (Retired) member; Norwich Labour Party

Ian Brownlie, Labour party and Unison member, Norwich North

Cesar Camba-Gonzalez, member, Sewell branch.

Karen Rudrum- Mid Norfolk CLP and Unite Community Member

Mike Hirst - Mid Norfolk CLP- Vice Chair/Membership Secretary/Campaign Coordinator

Adrienne Lake - Vice Chair, Northwest Norfolk CLP.  
Jordan Stokes - Campaign Organiser, Northwest Norfolk CLP.  
Natalie Clark, Sewell branch NEU/NUT  
Josh Rafé Coles - Member of Great Yarmouth Labour  
Mark Howes - Norwich North Constituent, RMT Norwich Branch Officer.  
David Lees - Sprowston Ward  
Sean Meleady - Thorpe Hamlet Ward (Norwich South CLP)  
Jane Worsdale, North Norfolk LP  
Valentino Hermés Vice-Chair /Campaigns Organiser. Downham Market Branch.  
Debbie Thompson Chair Mid Norfolk LP  
Becky Tye, Labour Party member, UNISON Broadland Branch Secretary, UNISON Eastern  
Regional Convenor  
Joanne Harris, Unite, London & Eastern Political Committee  
Chris Davison, South Norfolk CLP  
Rachel Narkiewicz - Vice Chair Mid Norfolk CLP, UNISON Norfolk Community Health  
Tim Bastable, Member, Thorpe St Andrews  
Annie Gore Norwich CLP  
Martyn Livermore Labour Party Member Norwich North  
Sara Miah - Broadland branch  
Marion Thomson - Broadland branch  
Rosie Walker - Norwich party member.  
Owen Jones, writer, Islington South CLP  
Noah Scahill - Sewell Branch - Norwich North CLP  
Alan Wright - Chair Thorpe St Andrew Branch