

Tom Sutton for NWYL Chair

About Me:

Hello! My name is Tom Sutton (he/him), I am 22 and I am currently your Vice Chair of North West Young Liberals. I am standing to become NWYL Chair in the upcoming elections and hopefully I can count on your support. A party member since 16, I have been Co-Chair of Wirral Young Liberals and Co-President (2019-20) and Membership Development and Campaigns Secretary (2021-22) of Lancaster University Liberal Democrats. As a long-standing part of the NWYL furniture, I believe I can deliver to develop NWYL and ensure that younger members are core to our party's successes in North West England.

My 3-point Plan:

1. Build on what we already have

I feel proud to have been a lesser part in regional growth under previous Chairs. In my tenure at Lancaster, I have been proud to co-develop our largest branch. Because of this, my focus as Chair would be on:

- Empowering our existing branches to grow further and become active in their communities on and off university campuses.
- Maintain links with Local Parties and act as a reliable consultant to ensure the interests of young members are considered at the grassroots level in the region.
- Ensure NWYL is at the forefront of YL's achievements.

2. Empower our members across the region

We have been doing amazingly! But I think we can go even further. That is why I intend to:

- Work to rebuild branches at NW universities and other areas where practicable and possible.
- Be an effective point of contact for Young Liberals in areas without branches to ensure their inclusion.
- Build links with lesser-engaged local parties to ensure they can engage with their young members and voters in their area.

3. Become a campaigning force

I was proud to have played my part in organising a well-attended Action Day with Tim Farron MP which preceded our barnstorming victory, winning a majority on the new Westmorland and Furness Council. We must also realise we could see a General Election in the next year. Young Liberals have to be actively involved in planning for success. That is why I intend to use my experience to:

- Ensure that NWYL is actively involved in preparations for the 2023 Local Elections and preparations in our held and target seats.
- Assist in the development of local policy on issues that matter to young members and voters.
- That we have a reflexive attitude to helping our neighbours in their target seats such as North Shropshire.