

Kefense Dennis

If we want to be the professional, electable, and wide-reaching political party I know we can be then three things need to happen.

1. We need more BAME people in positions of power, our 'White, Middle Class, Left Wing, Hippies' stereotype is hurting our cause and at best is preaching to the converted, which exacerbates the problem. This all feeds into stereotypes, especially when our elected members - those who stand in externally and internally elections - are generally White, Middle class people. This risk further alienates the communities we wish to work with and advocate for.

2. Our attitudes need to be more vigorous, strong-willed and assertive. I've been to many meetings, workshops and conferences to become worried about our attitudes towards ourselves as a party and our position within politics. Sometimes I feel like members want us to be 'teachers or facilitators' of the other parties, and to teach them how to conduct themselves and use our policies to their benefit. We are not a political advocacy group!

3. Trade Unions are very important, not only to the workers we would be representing, but it would legitimatise us as a party with serious pedigree, and raise us out of the 'small party' category. Affiliating with like-minded organisations like green think-tanks, feminist group, and community enterprises for example would push our green policies further into the consciousness of the society, as the threat of climate change and further social injustices continues to threaten our world

I want to be the person who would fulfil these objectives not only because I believe in this party but also because of my academic qualifications in Environmental Management and Sustainability. My work experience, and being a member of The Green Party has led me to gain essential skills including organisational skills, resilience, communication, and resourcefulness for this role.

Within the Green Party, I am the Membership Officer for the Birmingham Green Party and also the Regional Officer for the West Midlands in the Greens of Colour Liberation Group. In the past I have stood for Parliament twice, Local Council twice as well as European Parliament.

I know that using the skills and experiences mentioned above will enhance my ability to be a member of the executive committee and as the Trade Union Liaison Officer I would bring a unique blend of natural talent as well as an ability to absorb and seek new information to transform the role.

Finally, thank you for this opportunity to apply.

