



# Diane4Leader

*A vision for our future*

Website: [www.diane4leader.co.uk](http://www.diane4leader.co.uk) Email: [info@diane4leader.co.uk](mailto:info@diane4leader.co.uk)  
Diane4Leader Campaign, ASLEF, 9 Arkwright Road, Hampstead, London, NW3 6AB

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Dear Comrades,

13 August 2010

I am writing to you to ask for your support in my bid to become Leader of the Labour Party.

Ballot papers are due to be sent out in a couple of weeks time. I have put myself forward as I believe that I can offer the leadership this party needs.

Labour needs a strong, vibrant and distinctive voice to lead our movement, one that can reach out to all sections of the electorate.

If elected Leader my priorities would be to ensure Labour campaigns to protect people's livelihoods, defends Labour values of equality and social justice and return us back to power. I would vigorously oppose David Cameron and Nick Clegg's vicious cuts agenda.

I believe that in Labour's past 13 years in government we did very many good things, not least of all the expansion of resources to public services. However, we also lost touch with many ordinary voters, either by failing to do enough for them, or over issues such as the Iraq War, the removal of the 10p tax rate and tuition fees. I made these points at the time and it is to be welcomed that some of my fellow candidates now agree with me.

So what do I stand for?

I want to restore party democracy and promote popular policies that reflect our values. I would introduce a wealth tax and a financial transactions tax, rather than punishing the public sector

I would bring troops home from Afghanistan and scrap Trident.

I would reform trade union legislation in order to restore a level playing field between workers and bosses

I would put an end to further privatisation in the public sector and bring the railways back into public ownership

As a party we need a fresh start, a new beginning. If these values speak to you, vote for me and we can change the party together.

I hope I can rely on your support.

In unity,

**Diane Abbott MP**