GPC UK Regional Elections Barnsley / Doncaster / Rotherham / Sheffield Seat: Personal Statement – Dr Liddy Mawer



After completing a law degree in 2003, I studied medicine at Sheffield University and then completed the Barnsley VTS in 2016. As a mature student I have worked in numerous sectors before entering the medical profession and come from a long line of small-business owners. I was naturally drawn to General Practice and the partnership model and committed to a six-session Sheffield partnership as soon as I completed my training. I have worked in both Barnsley and Sheffield in deprived and wealthy areas, and also as a salaried and locum GP.

I feel passionate about General Practice as the cornerstone of the NHS, and recognised the potential of a partnership to provide me with a challenging and rewarding career with autonomy and the ability to really make a difference. As a profession, General Practice has always been forward thinking, innovative and very responsive. I wanted to contribute and work hard with my talented colleagues to make General Practice a sustainable and worthwhile profession. I became the practice lead for our PCN from its inception, to work closely with our neighbouring colleagues with the intention to improve patient care and to collaborate and grow our businesses.

Considerable unilateral change over the last 5 years has changed my role substantially and has undermined our autonomy, our ability to perform our principal role as medical practitioners and constrained our ability to run a stable business. An increasingly large proportion of our role as partners now has to be devoted to hoop jumping, red tape and an ever increasing unfunded workload, as secondary care and community services creep into General Practice and the remit of PCNs.

As a young, grass-roots, working partner, over the last few years I have felt increasingly misrepresented by our delegates and frankly let down by the decisions made behind closed doors by those who are out of touch with the current role and pressures that we all face.

I feel that the magnitude and repercussions of ever creeping, unilateral change undermines our skills, talent and ability to care for our patients and has intensified the necessity and urgency for us all to be heard and fairly represented as a profession. I am passionate about General Practice and the partnership model and understand the pressures that face locum and salaried GPs alike. I am confident and outspoken, with a strong moral compass, hopefully having found the right balance between providing excellent patient led care and sustainable, viable business management.

I will listen and represent my talented peers to help make the GPC a more relevant, responsive and representative body. I have no affiliation to any bodies nor desire to further my own political career in this role, only the desire to stand up for General Practice to ensure that it remains a viable and valued profession.