

Candidate Statement – David Jones

2021 By-election, Salford City Council Elections, Blackfriars and Trinity Ward



Born and raised in Broughton, where I still live six decades later, I have been Salford Green Party's local election candidate in the neighbouring non-target Broughton ward for each of the six Salford Council elections held since 2014, watching our vote share increasing in Broughton from 6.8% when I first stood there in 2014 to 16.6% in May 2021.

I have also represented Salford and Manchester as the Green Party General Election Candidate for the Blackley & Broughton constituency on three consecutive occasions in the 2015, 2017, and 2019 General Elections. This General Election experience: attending numerous hustings and answering hundreds of online questions from voters in each campaign, provides the grounding necessary to confidently take on the public-facing role of a target candidate.

I have been Salford's Election Agent since Salford Green Party was first constituted in 2014, with responsibility thus far for managing Green Party candidates for 108 Salford Council ward elections and by-elections, two Salford City Mayoral elections, as well as for six General Election candidates standing in Salford since 2015. I've also played an activist role in all of Salford's target ward campaigns since 2014 in Irwell Riverside and, since the 2020 boundary changes, in Blackfriars & Trinity.

As well as being Salford Green Party's Election Agent, I was also Election Agent for the first Greater Manchester Metro-Mayoral Election in 2017 and the North West Regional Election Agent for the European Parliamentary Elections in 2014.

At the personal request of our then European Parliamentary Election Lead Candidate Gina Dowding, I accepted the appointment to be the Regional Election Agent for the 2019 European Parliamentary Elections and played a crucial role in Gina becoming our first Green Party MEP to be elected in the North West.

An active member of the Green Party since 2012, I have helped to build on and develop the Green Party's activities across Salford, Greater Manchester, and particularly across the North West region where I served on the North West Green Party Committee for eight consecutive terms as Regional Party Treasurer. In my first term on the NWGP Committee in 2013, I helped to develop and implement the now very successful regional target-to-win strategy which has produced an exponential increase in the number of Green Party councillors that we now have across the North West Region.

With an academic background in environmental sciences and sustainable energy technologies, I was recruited in 2012 to be a member of the Green Party's Energy Policy Working Group and helped to formulate what has since become the formally adopted Green Party Energy Policy. In 2015, I was invited by the Green Party Executive Committee to be the Green Party's Energy Spokesperson.