

21ST CENTURY POLITICAL LEADER: JOB APPLICATION PACK

Sue Goss and Ruth Lister

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By Sue Goss and Ruth Lister

About the authors:

Sue Goss works as a strategic advisor, coach and consultant to local authorities, health and social care organisations. She also writes and speaks widely on public service reform and local government.

Ruth Lister is chair of the Compass board, a Labour peer and Emeritus Professor of Social Policy, Loughborough University.

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About the Organisation

Progressive political party, having suffered huge electoral setback, looks for new Leader to bring it back from the brink. The context is huge social, economic, technological and climate change – and political opponents able to Shapeshift at will. Those that want to do the same thing and expect a different outcome need not apply.

Person specification

The individual we are seeking should demonstrate the following qualities, skills and experience:

Qualities and skills

- » The ability to articulate a bold vision of a good society to deliver social, environmental and economic justice together with democratic renewal. And the ability to set this vision within an open internationalist worldview that can navigate through the challenges post-Brexit.
- » Recognition that the future will be negotiated not imposed – therefore a willingness to listen and learn and to show both humility and intellectual curiosity.
- » The ability to see the world through the eyes of others, and to work collaboratively in order to build a way through difficulties that they cannot personally solve.
- » A capacity to question their own thinking and assumptions – and to lead an exploration towards difficult decisions. Recognising that change involves loss, and movement building requires compromise – empathetic to others through this process.
- » An understanding of how to engage the energy of individuals and communities at a local level – recognising when leadership should be left to others, and the right role is to provide support.
- » Recognition that to create a consensus powerful enough to achieve radical change, will need a broad coalition, spanning: parties; classes; city, town and rural communities; and diverse life experiences.

- » A commitment to engaging with social movements and other progressive parties – building support for democratic reform, including electoral reform, in order to secure a progressive government majority.
- » The honesty and personal integrity that will command respect from and engage with both the national media and the woman and man on the street (in all their diversity).
- » A collegial and open approach to leadership, effective at building trust and lasting relationships.
- » The ability to model a kinder way of doing politics and think creatively about inclusive ways of working that encourage mutual understanding and build bridges between different tribes and viewpoints.
- » The courage to root out all forms of hatred in their parties, including but not confined to anti-Semitism.
- » The personal courage and sense of ‘who they are’ which enables them to withstand attacks from political opponents, and care for themselves and others when things get difficult.
- » A leadership approach that combines humility and boldness.

Experience

- » A track record of making a political impact at a national level.
- » A track record of delivering change (with others) - either in Parliament or through other roles.
- » Evidence of an ability to build relationships and partnerships beyond narrow factional interests and to reconcile different groups within a political party and beyond.

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