

Mayor of Newham election results: ROKHSANA FIAZ statement

It has been the privilege of my life to serve as your Labour Mayor of Newham for the past 4 years; and it is the greatest honour to be re-elected to serve the people of Newham for the 4-years coming.

I give you this promise:

Every second of every hour, of every day of every week, of every month of each of these coming 4 years I will be your champion.

I will fight your corner – and will make sure that the Council lives up to the promises I have made to the voters of this great borough.

And take action on all things that matter for all our people
to build a fairer Newham.

This is my purpose.

And this is the purpose of Labour in Newham.

From the early hours of this morning, we have seen across London how voters are turning to Labour because they want a fairer city, and a fairer country.

They have rejected the complacent, uncaring and taking people for granted Tories: in Westminster, in Wandsworth and in Barnet.

Labour is winning and is showing what Labour can do and will do in power.

Over the next 4 years, as your Labour Mayor of Newham

I will take action:

- **On fly-tipping** so we have cleaner streets and neighbourhoods
- **To deliver more homes that our people can afford** – with a guarantee of an additional 1,500 coming.

I will take action:

- **On private landlords**, to improve the housing conditions that a third of our residents live in.
- **And drive the highest standards in Newham's private rented sector** - through tougher enforcement.
- **Campaign for housing security for renters in our borough**, including **rent controls to stop exploitative profiteering by private and rogue landlords who rip off our residents and leave them in unsafe housing.**

And continue to take action in response to the Climate Emergency.

This will mean:

- More recycling and action to improve air quality so that the health of our young children and their lives are safeguarded.
- More cycling routes and cycle hangers making it easier for people to switch to green transport.

29 percent of voters turned out for yesterday's election. 4 years ago it was 36 percent.

In London, the turnout was similarly low.

Our people are focused on the day-to-day struggles in the face of the Tories cost of living crisis that is forcing our residents to make the toughest of choices: whether to heat their homes or feed their children.

They are struggling to pay their bills and risk losing their homes as interest rates spiral.

They haven't turned their back on politics, but rather given up because of the shameful behaviour of national Tory politicians including the Prime Minister.

He should go now for the sake of our country.

Here in Newham, this election has been marred by the shameful behaviour of anonymous campaigners who have targeted my Labour candidates because they are women, or from our LGBT+ community.

They have used religion as a weapon to divide our communities.

It is hateful, and the full force of the law should be marshalled to identify the criminals.

The politics of hate has no place in Newham.

We must reject it.

The diversity of our people is our strength.

And our borough is a place for everyone.

That's why I'll be building a fairer Newham.

Thank you.