



## Statement in support of nomination

As a young lad from Wallsend one of my earliest memories was sitting on the concrete bollards at an under-developed but completely alive St James Park. Newcastle United have punctuated my memories ever since.

From “loving it” watching the Keegan era to lining the streets with 10’s of thousands of others when we didn’t quite win the FA Cup either time. My journey took me to Turkey for a year and London for 10 years causing me to give up my season ticket and getting to as many away games as I could manage but 2020 saw me returning to Newcastle and an immediate return to the Leazes Stand.

Its everything that has happened since then that has convinced me to try to go from member of the NUST to board member. The soulless end to the Ashley era showed that the club desperately needs a thriving relationship with the fans via a supporters trust. The communication and ability for fans to have a voice has been instrumental in generating the goodwill around the club. From seeking input on ticketing and fans priorities to sharing as much as they reasonably can through supports channels has been nothing short of remarkable since the takeover.

Now as a father to a four year old little boy I feel that I can help contribute to even more collaboration between fans and club so when he joins me in the Leazes Stand the relationship between us fans and the hierarchy at our club is as strong as ever.

Through my experience I feel that I can be a voice for a number of different types of fan. I have been a childhood fan, as have many. But I have also been a geographically distant fan, a LGBT+ fan, someone who goes to matches alone and also someone who goes to matches with friends and family. I have made friends who I’ve travelled the country with and also been on the tough end of struggling to gain more loyalty points to allow me to travel it even more.

I feel that I can represent all of those groups and the challenges we all face as a positive and progressive member of a fantastic board. I have my own ideas I would like to bring to the table, not only for the board but also for relationships with the club. But in addition to that I would aim to be as open and transparent as possible to feed in other voices into the board. I would be open via all my socials for people to feed in their views and ideas and I would be able to represent these differing views at board meetings.

In short, I have been a fan of Newcastle United for as long as I can remember and while my life might have taken twists and turns the club has always been a constant. Any opportunity

to be part of the Supporters Trust Board and help to deliver the views of as many different type of fan to the door of our club is a dream and one I hope I can do justice