

# PUBLIC SECTOR CUTS WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU



a million  
voices  
for  
public  
services

**Public services face devastating cuts which will lead the North East into a major recession.**

**As the new Government's policies for the public sector become clear UNISON Northern is preparing for a major campaign.**

The Tory-LibDem Coalition has announced £6.25bn of immediate cuts to public spending and the emergency budget on June 22nd will outline savage cuts of up to 20% for some services and cuts in social security and attacks on public sector pensions.

Public Sector workers have not caused this crisis, but we are being made to pay for it. The CIPD has estimated that this could result in 750,000 job losses, with some commentators predicting it could be as high as 1 million and overall unemployment will hit 3 million in 2011.

Cutting public sector jobs will have a major impact on the North East economy.

## We are already facing cuts

- 3% year on year efficiency savings
- An additional £11bn efficiencies were identified in the March 2010 budget
- Health £4.4bn
- Local Government £2.1bn
- Police £350m

## The challenges we face with the Con Dem Government:

- Cuts
- Efficiencies
- Pay and Pensions
- Increased role of the private and third sector
- Procurement and commissioning

## CURRENT REALITY

- Health Trusts are facing cuts of 20% as a result of the current efficiency regime.
- All further education colleges in the Region are faced with major cuts in jobs and the threat of compulsory redundancies.
- All Councils are making significant cuts—Newcastle Council cut of 500 jobs last year; South Tyneside is cutting 350 and Gateshead are planning cuts of up to £60 million over the next 3 years.

## CON/DEM POLICY

- Academy schools
- Greater financial control to local government and community groups
- Freeze council tax
- Co-ops, mutuals, and social enterprises to have a much greater involvement in running public services
- Future Job Funds to be cut
- Review of Public Sector pensions
- Pay constraint

**Academy schools** – The secretary of state for education has written to schools inviting them to become academies. Academy schools are totally independent of the Council; directly employed staff, can set terms and conditions, and will be allocated funding which currently goes to the Council to provide support and educational services. The aim is to develop a market in education with schools competing with each other and private companies have a major role in running schools and providing services currently provided by Council workers.

**The Government** has a clear commitment to co-ops, mutuals and social enterprises having greater involvement in the provision of services. 115 Labour Groups (Labour Councillors) supported a statement declaring their commitment to become co-operative councils, supporting co-ops and mutuals taking over council services!

**A review** of Public Sector Pensions is to be carried out into their affordability.

### The impact on the North East economy and communities will be savage.

- More than 250,000 works are employed in the public sector—34% of those in work are public sector workers. The majority are women
- Another 35,000 jobs are dependant on public sector spending
- The Government has specifically targeted cutting a third of admin jobs in the NHS putting 4000 jobs at risk in the region.
- 130,000 staff employed in Local Government—90,000 women
- 20% cuts in Local Government are in the pipeline and up to 30,000 jobs are at risk in the public sector generally

### UNISON Northern is Campaigning;

- Oppose privatisation and for a commitment to direct service delivery
- Support for the public sector to get us through and out of recession
- Maintain public spending
- Defend jobs
- Partnership working
- TU and workforce engagement
- Defend pay and pensions

### Campaign under the Million Voices Banner

- Promoting an alternative economic strategy which emphasises the essential role for the public services in getting through and out of the recession
- Responding to and opposing proposals for academies
- Building community coalitions
- Promoting the Living Wage—a minimum wage to be paid by public sector employers and contractors
- Calling for community, TU and workforce engagement in service improvement

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## PUBLIC SERVICES ALLIANCE

UNISON, PCS, Unite and NTUC are leading the proposal to establish a North East Public Services Alliance with a launch meeting on 24th June in Newcastle. The PSA will coordinate the campaign to defend public services in the region and support the establishment of community coalitions in local areas to bring together, TUs, community groups, voluntary and faith organisations to promote and defend public services.

UNISON branches are coming together on an area basis to establish area cross service group forums in Teesside, Durham, Tyne and Wear and Northumberland.

## WORKPLACE STRATEGY

**Central to the campaign is organising in the workplace**

**Promoting the Million Voices Campaign and UNISON's demands for:-**

- No privatisation
- No compulsory redundancies
- Learning and development
- Health and well being
- Equalities
- Work/life balance

**We are also campaigning for employers to sign up to our campaign and to support an approach to efficiencies and cuts with an emphasis on:**

- Service improvement plans
- In-house bids
- TU involvement in procurement
- Workforce engagement in efficiencies and service reviews

## THE FIGHT BEGINS

This fight is not just for our jobs, it is about ensuring quality public services that deliver for our communities, that offers training, jobs and opportunities for young people, that cares for those most vulnerable, that meets the needs of modern society.

In the Northern Region we have been preparing for this for some time and are in a position to come out fighting for what we believe in. **You** have a role to play in delivering this challenge.

**Our public services, our communities, our jobs, lets  
defend them**

# APPLICATION FORM *Join UNISON a Million Voices for Public Services*

## 1. YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS

Please tick / fill in the boxes below

Mrs	Ms	Miss	Mr	Other
First Name			Other initial	
Surname/Family name			Date of birth / /	
Home address				
Post code				

National Insurance number (from your payslip)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Please tick this box if you require materials in a different format (eg large print or Braille) - be sure to supply contact details below.

Please give a telephone number/voice/text/email address for UNISON to contact you—indicate if work

Contact tel/voice/text/email

## 2. YOUR EMPLOYMENT DETAILS

Employer's name
Your job title/occupation
Department/section
Workplace name and address
Post code

Payroll number (from your payslip)

Please return your completed form to:

**UNISON, FREEPOST (NT 765)  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 1BR**

## 3. WHAT YOU PAY—RATES FROM 1st OCTOBER 2003

Please tick the appropriate box for your earnings before deductions

	EMPLOYMENT (£)	PER WEEK	PER MONTH
Band A:	<input type="checkbox"/> Up to £2,000	£0.30	£1.30
Band B:	<input type="checkbox"/> £2,001-£5,000	£0.81	£3.50
Band C:	<input type="checkbox"/> £5,001-£8,000	£1.22	£5.30
Band D:	<input type="checkbox"/> £8,001-£11,000	£1.52	£6.60
Band E:	<input type="checkbox"/> £11,001-£14,000	£1.81	£7.85
Band F:	<input type="checkbox"/> £14,001-£17,000	£2.24	£9.70
Band G:	<input type="checkbox"/> £17,001-£20,000	£2.65	£11.50
Band H:	<input type="checkbox"/> £20,001-£25,000	£3.23	£14.00
Band I:	<input type="checkbox"/> £25,001-£30,000	£3.98	£17.25
Band J:	<input type="checkbox"/> £30,001-£35,000	£4.68	£20.30
Band K:	<input type="checkbox"/> £35,001+	£5.19	£22.50

Please tick this box if you are a student member in full-time education (including student nurses). Your subscription is £10 per year.

Please tick the appropriate box to indicate how often you are paid:

Weekly  Fortnightly  Four Weekly  Monthly

## 4. POLITICAL FUND

UNISON's Affiliated Political Fund (APF) is used to campaign for and promote UNISON policy and the need for quality public services within the Labour Party, locally and nationally, in Parliament and Europe. UNISON APF affiliates to the Labour

UNISON's General Political Fund (GPF) is used to pay for campaigning at branch, regional and national levels of the union and for research and lobbying in Parliament and Europe. It is independent of support for any political party.

**It is important that you indicate a choice of fund by ticking one of the boxes below. Your subscription shown above includes a political payment so you do not pay any more by being in one of the funds.**

If you have been a member of a trade union before, please state which one:

The information provided by you shall be recorded by UNISON for statistical purposes and used for sending you UNISON publications, ballot forms and otherwise communicating with you. If you do not want any mailings from UNISON, besides those required by status, please tick this box .....

To keep you fully informed of the services we arrange for members we want you to receive details of benefits offered by or in conjunction with UNISON's affinity partners. The affinity partners are organisation with close links to UNISON that share our ambition to provide you with the best possible range of benefits. Under the Data Protection legislation we can only disclose your details to our affinity partners with your explicit consent. Therefore if you WANT to receive details of the full range of benefits you MUST tick this box .....

## 5. YOUR AUTHORISATION

- I wish to join UNISON and accept its rules and constitution.
- I authorise deduction of UNISON subscriptions from my salary wages at the rate determined by UNISON in accordance with its rules to be paid over to them on my behalf and
- I authorise my employer to provide information to UNISON to keep my records up to date.
- I authorise deduction of the following Political fund payment as part of my subscription: Tick one box only

**Affiliated Political Fund**

**General Political Fund**

Now please sign and date below.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_