

Tell Dave!

Spending Review 2010

David Cameron has written to public sector workers asking for ideas on how to reduce the deficit *“in a fair and responsible way”*.

Tell Dave what fairness means

So let's tell him:

- the Coalition Government has no democratic mandate for the measures it is proposing – the Conservatives failed to win a majority and the Liberal Democrats campaigned against early cuts and campaigned against a VAT rise.
- deep and rapid cuts to public spending are irresponsible – they'll make the deficit worse by weakening the economy and adding to unemployment. Cutting public sector jobs costs more in lost tax and extra benefits than it saves.
- raising VAT is regressive, putting the heaviest burden on the poorest. Cutting public services is even more unfair – research commissioned by UNISON shows it hits disadvantaged households six times harder than the richest.
- the fairest way to reduce the deficit is to make the banks cover the costs of the crisis they caused, and tackle tax avoidance and evasion by big corporations and wealthy individuals – this could raise more than £50bn in annual revenue.
- cutting unnecessary military expenditure – such as Trident, estimated to cost £76 billion over 40 years – means more resources to meet real needs.
- cut out the profiteers – excessive reliance on consultants, agencies, private providers and PFI schemes is creating additional costs and bureaucracy.
- engage with staff and trade unions to deliver real efficiency and improvement – based on enhanced health and well-being, better collaboration and innovation.

The consultation closes on 8th July.

More ideas in UNISON's Alternative Budget: www.unison.org.uk/acrobat/18887.pdf



Tell Cameron what you think at

<http://spendingchallenge.hm-treasury.gov.uk/>

and let us know what you've said by emailing millionvoices@unison.co.uk

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