

Scottish Socialist Party

Glasgow Council Workers' Voice



Fight Labour's butchery!

stand up for a people's budget - not a bankers' budget

The Labour council in Glasgow have launched a savage war on jobs, services, its own workers and many of the most vulnerable people in local communities.

They want to immediately carry out a devastating £66m in cuts, including:

- shed over 600 council jobs - on top of the target of about 1,500 job losses through the over-50s redundancy package
- slash grants to voluntary and community organisations by 20% - which would mean some of them being abolished
- shut down 12 Community Centres, a Library and a Pool
- cut services to the disabled and Home Care services
- wipe out 50% of Community Workers' jobs and cut Welfare Rights jobs.

On top of this brutality, they expect Arms Length Organisations like Culture & Sport Glasgow to attack wages, jobs and service levels - all in the name of "efficiency"!

Labour has the cheek to still call themselves 'the people's party' when it comes to elections. Bankers' party more like! Labour bailed out the greedy, reckless bankers, after their high-class gambling brought the economy to the brink of collapse. **That handout to the bankers (who are still awarding themselves obscene salaries and bonuses) has cost the public purse £1.3trillion!**

Labour's London government is making us pay for the bankers' rescue with a slaughter of jobs, a pay freeze, price rises, an assault on public services and public sector pensions. New Labour is the shameless friend of billionaires and bankers.

But instead of standing up for Scotland, instead of defying London's cuts to jobs and services, the SNP Edinburgh government is handing down these brutal cuts to local councils.

In turn, instead of setting a People's Budget - with no cuts in community services and facilities, no job losses, no cuts to community grants - and putting up a massive fight for extra



funding off the government - the Glasgow Labour council are acting like obedient lapdogs to their masters in London. And council leader Steven Purcell wants to make his name as Labour's Axe-wielder in Chief!

The Scottish Socialist Party has a track record of standing up for council workers' jobs and local community services. SSP members led the mighty battle to Save Our Schools, demanding classes of 20 or less to improve kids' education and save teachers' jobs.

We welcome the initiative by Glasgow city UNISON in seeking to build a united campaign across the workforce and local communities. We cannot allow the city council to divide and conquer us, with entirely false 'choices' between closing one facility and another, between slashing jobs and slashing services - and in any case they are doing both!

We need a united campaign to Save Our Services with city-wide demos, direct action to save Community Centres from closure, and industrial action to defend jobs and services.

The unions should lead a united campaign to Fight for the Funds off the SNP government, to secure all jobs and services - linking up with union branches and anti-cuts campaigns across Scotland.

And UNISON, UNITE, GMB and other unions should end their absurd habit of feeding the hand that bites them - by calling an end to their multi-millioned funding of New Labour from union members' subs.

Unite to Save Our Services - demand a People's Budget - not Labour's Cuts Budget.

And join the Scottish Socialist Party, to campaign for a socialist Scotland that bails out workers' jobs and community services, not bankers' profits and illegal wars!

for more material on community and trade union struggles - and socialist policies to combat mass unemployment, low pay, rent rises, public service cuts, privatisation, and the attempts to make workers pay for the bosses' crisis, visit:

www.scottishsocialistparty.org

bail out services - not bankers' profits!

workers sneak out

“The Labour Council are trying to put the responsibility on local communities to decide which Voluntary Services are cut, which remain, which get funded and which lose out. This is a dirty trick that should fool nobody.

The Labour City Council blames the SNP government for the cuts. The SNP government blames Westminster - they say the big bad boy in London did it and then ran away!

It's about time the Labour council and the SNP government took responsibility for their own actions, and put the blame on their friends in the banks.

We need a united campaign of action that stops the city council playing one community off against the other, one project against the other, and which combines the power of the council workforce through their unions with the power of communities that face devastation through these cuts.”

JIM SNELL, Glasgow city UNISON depute Services and Conditions Officer (personal capacity)



“There is no excuse for a lack of funding for community projects or workers' jobs. The money is there - but in the wrong people's hands.

They could find over £1trillion to bail out the banks. They could pour billions into an illegal, immoral war of occupation in Iraq, and into the bloody, futile war on Afghanistan. Big business continues to pile up £billions in profits. Company executives rake in a fortune, even during recession. Instead of working class people paying for a crisis that we never created, we need to make the rich minority who created this crisis pay up - through increased taxes, much higher Corporation Tax, and democratic public ownership of the fabulous wealth in the banks, oil, and big business.”

WILLIE CAMPBELL, Glasgow city UNISON steward (personal capacity)

SSP STANDS UP FOR SCOTLAND

The Scottish Socialist Party stands up for working class people. As part of our battle for a democratic, nuclear-free, poverty-free, independent socialist Scotland, we demand:

- freeze rents - cancel the councils' housing debts - bail out tenants, not bankers
- no cuts to jobs and services - demand the funds off Holyrood and Westminster - tax the rich instead of punishing the poor
- for free, quality child-care provision, round the clock
- cut class sizes - not schools and education - 20's plenty in any class - save our schools and communities
- increase pensions and benefits £50 a week as an immediate emergency step towards a living income for all
- for an £8 national minimum wage for all workers and trainees over 16 - end age wage discrimination - equal pay for women
- cuts hours - not jobs or pay - for a 35hour maximum working week without loss of earnings
- scrap Trident - invest in homes, hospitals and schools - not weapons of mass destruction - with jobs guaranteed through peaceful alternative work for all at Faslane
- tax the rich! For a 10% Wealth Tax/Greed Tax on the millionaires - which would raise enough to create 80,000 new Scottish jobs and sustain them for 3 years, on salaries of £25,000
- reverse Tory and Labour privatisation - for democratic public ownership and control of services, banks, transport, construction, major industries, N Sea oil - for people not profit
- for an independent socialist Scotland - as part of a socialist Europe



On 14th November, the SSP helped lead mass demos in Glasgow, peacefully taking over the streets, stopping the racist and fascist thugs of the BNP/Scottish Defence League from marching. They want to whip up violent division in communities. Unite against racism and fascism! No Pasaran!

JOIN THE SSP TODAY - the party of workers' unity, public ownership and socialism

name..... email.....
address.....
phone(s) union.....

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