

## Marching on the Con-Dem conferences in Wales

# NO CUTS NO SACKINGS

**W**ORKERS, STUDENTS and anti-cuts campaigners in Wales will give a clear message to the Tories and the Welsh Lib Dems, both holding their conferences in Cardiff on 5 March, that their policies are not welcome in Wales. And that we are building a serious fightback to stop the cuts.

**Katrine Williams**  
PCS Wales chair

Services in our communities have already been cut to the bone and the working class in Wales is still reeling from the impact of the recession on jobs. So we have no alternative but to fight to defend services and for a serious campaign to get the full funding that Wales needs. We demand that politicians fight as hard as we do to defend services and oppose cuts.

One in three children in Wales lives in poverty already. This is before the introduction of the 'universal credit' benefit scheme, which will make 1.7 million people worse off across Britain.

Disgracefully two Labour councils in Wales have torn up their workers' contracts and are expecting workers to sign up to worse terms and conditions.

Other councils are making swingeing cuts. Assembly members and candidates in the forthcoming elections need to understand that we are opposed to all cuts in Wales regardless of the party making them.



Marching against cuts in October 2010.

photo Socialist Party Wales

ing them.

This is an opportunity to show the strength of feeling of the working class in Wales. Cardiff Against the Cuts' initiative to organise the demo

as soon as the date of the conferences was announced is to be welcomed. This was then taken up by Cardiff trades council. Other anti-cuts campaigns, trades councils,

Wales Shop Stewards Network and a good number of trade unions rushed to show their support. Unbelievably the Wales TUC initially did all they could to oppose the demo. But they

are now welcomed on board.

This demonstration against the Con-Dems will show the strength of the movement and bring everyone together in advance of the TUC demonstration in London on 26 March.

The Wales Shop Stewards Network is organising an anti-cuts conference on 16 April in the Temple of Peace, Cathays Park, Cardiff. All trade unionists and community campaigners are welcome to attend. This will provide an opportunity to discuss how to build up the movement in Wales, linking up with workers and anti-cuts campaigns across Britain. The voice of workers, students and campaigners must be clearly heard in the Welsh Assembly elections.

Cuts are neither inevitable nor necessary. There is a real alternative. Working class people will not accept that we have to pay for the bankers' crisis - especially as they are back to business as usual awarding themselves huge bonuses. We will fight for the resources to get jobs and services back into our communities and to stop the cuts.

**Assemble 11am, City Hall, Cathays Park, Cardiff. The march goes past the Liberal Democrat conference in the Angel Hotel and the Tory conference in the SWALEC stadium. It finishes at the Wales TUC rally in Sophia Gardens.**

### whatwestandfor

**The Socialist Party fights for socialist change – a democratic society run for the needs of all and not the profits of a few. We also fight, in our day-to-day campaigning, for every possible improvement for working-class people.**

**As capitalism dominates the globe, the struggle for genuine socialism must be international.**

**The Socialist Party is part of the Committee for a Workers' International (CWI), a democratic, socialist international that organises in over 40 countries.**

#### Our demands include:

##### Work & Income

- Trade union struggle to increase the minimum wage to £8 an hour without exemptions as an immediate step towards £10 an hour. For an annual increase in the minimum wage linked to average earnings.
- All workers, including part-timers, temps, casual and migrant workers to have trade union rates of pay, employment protection, and sickness and holiday rights from day one of employment.
- An immediate 50% increase in the state retire-

ment pension, as a step towards a living pension. Reinstatement the link with average earnings now.

- Reject 'Welfare to Work'. For the right to decent benefits, education, training, or a job, without compulsion.
- Scrap the anti-trade union laws! For fighting trade unions, democratically controlled by their members. Full-time union officials to be regularly elected and receive no more than a worker's wage.
- A maximum 35-hour week with no loss of pay.

##### Public services

- No to privatisation and the Private Finance Initiative (PFI). Renationalise all privatised utilities and services, with compensation paid only on the basis of proven need.
- Fully fund all services and run them under accountable, democratic committees that include representatives of service workers and users.
- Free, publicly run, good quality education, available to all at any age. Abolish university tuition fees now and introduce a living grant. No to academies!
- A socialist NHS to provide for everyone's health needs – free at the point of use and under democratic control. Kick out private contractors!

- Keep council housing publicly owned. For a massive building programme of publicly owned housing, on an environmentally sustainable basis, to provide good quality homes with low rents.

##### Environment

- Major research and investment into replacing fossil fuels with renewable energy and into ending the problems of early obsolescence and unrecycled waste.
- Public ownership of the energy generating industries. No to nuclear power. No to Trident.
- A democratically planned, low fare, publicly-owned transport system, as part of an overall plan against environmental pollution.

##### Rights

- Oppose discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, disability, sexuality, age, and all other forms of prejudice.
- Repeal all laws that trample over civil liberties. For the right to protest! End police harassment.
- Defend abortion rights. For a woman's right to choose when and whether to have children.
- For the right to asylum. No to racist immigration laws.

##### New workers' party

- For a new mass workers' party drawing together workers, young people and activists from workplace, community, environmental and anti-war campaigns, to provide a fighting, political alternative to the pro-big business parties.
- Trade unions to disaffiliate from the Labour Party now and aid the building of a new workers' party!

##### Socialism and Internationalism

- No to imperialist wars and occupations. Withdraw the troops immediately from Iraq and Afghanistan!
- Tax the super-rich! For a socialist government to take into public ownership the top 150 companies and banks that dominate the British economy, and run them under democratic working-class control and management. Compensation to be paid only on the basis of proven need.
- A democratic socialist plan of production based on the interests of the overwhelming majority of people, and in a way that safeguards the environment.
- No to the bosses' neo-liberal European Union! For a socialist Europe and a socialist world!