



NO CUTS

**defend
public
services**

**save our services
make the bankers pay**

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WWW.SOCIALISTPARTY.ORG.UK

Stop the axe-men

We are facing a battle to defend our public services from the axe-men. We are facing the worst spending cuts in sixty years. Every establishment party is saying they will take an axe to public services.

The cuts have already begun. One in ten council workers' jobs is currently under threat. That means our services will be even more overstretched than they are now. The NHS, despite the claims it is 'ring-fenced', is facing £15-20 billion of 'efficiency savings' over the next five years.

Beyond the election...

The next government is going to try and step up the cuts. The Tories may wield the biggest axe but New Labour and the LibDems are doing their best to keep up. New Labour chancellor Alistair Darling has said 'there will be £57 billion of cuts and tax rises'. The LibDems say there needs to be 'savage cuts'.

We won't pay for the 'banksters' crisis

Our services are threatened with the axe because the government has promised £1.2 trillion to bail out the banking system. That is more than ten times annual spending on health. Yet this year the 'banksters' bonuses are as high as

ever. RBS, which is 84% owned by the taxpayer, is paying out £1.3 billion in bonuses. We do not accept that working class people should have to pay for the economic crisis, while 'the banksters' laugh all the way to the bank.

Europe in revolt...

Britain is not alone in facing huge cuts. In Greece, Spain, Ireland and other countries working class people have taken to the streets to stop the cuts. We will need to do the same here. At local level we need to form anti-cuts alliances to bring together the different campaigns in one united campaign against all the cuts. Nationally a huge demonstration against cuts, to be followed by a 24-hour public-sector general strike, will be necessary.

Britain is a rich country

For a few at the top, Britain is booming. There have never been more millionaires in Britain. The gap between rich and poor is now the highest for sixty years. All the establishment parties stand in the interests of the rich - the billionaires - rather than in the interests of the millions.

For a party that stands up for the millions not the millionaires

That is why the Socialist Party is standing in the general election as part of the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition. Other individual participants include Bob Crow, leader of the transport workers' union (the RMT), Brian Caton, leader of the prison officers' union (the POA) and many other socialists, trade unionists and community campaigners. The Socialist Party sees TUSC as a step towards a new party - based on the trade unions and working-class people - a party that stands up for the millions not the millionaires. (For more information about TUSC's election challenge go to www.tusc.org.uk.)

For a socialist alternative

We live in a capitalist society - where the profits of a few always come before meeting the needs of the many. The Socialist Party argues for a democratic socialist society where the major corporations and banks that dominate the British economy are taken into democratic public ownership so that production can be planned to meet the needs of the population and the environment, rather than to line the pockets of a few billionaires.



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