

# ROGER BANNISTER



## VOTE FOR A FIGHTING & DEMOCRATIC GENERAL SECRETARY ON A WORKER'S WAGE

**WORKERS' LEADER ON A WORKER'S WAGE**

It's time for a General Secretary with a proven record of fighting, who is prepared to put members' interests first.

I believe a General Secretary in touch with the members should live the same life as the members. For that reason, if elected, I would only take the average wage of a UNISON member and donate the rest of the General Secretary salary to the labour movement.

UNISON cannot carry on as it is, punching below its weight, while members live daily with the threat of redundancy and cuts to pay and conditions.

**As a lifelong socialist and anti-austerity activist I will mobilise opposition to the attacks coming from this vicious Tory government.**



**A**s a UNISON branch secretary in Knowsley I represent members on a daily basis in disciplinarys, grievances, at sickness absence hearings, and in collective bargaining forums.

**RECORD** When necessary I have organised industrial action to achieve many improvements for members, including a reduction in the working week across the council workforce and pay increases

for many local government workers.

At national level since UNISON was formed, I have supported fighting policies to defend ordinary members, and have consistently opposed the divisive, politically motivated and illegal witch hunt of left activists in the union; I have argued to support members when they demand the right to strike; and championed further health and safety safeguards for our members.

## FOR A FIGHTING UNION

For a number of years our members have been subjected to a morale-sapping cycle of one-day actions followed by a settlement when the employers offer a few crumbs. We must break with this cycle.

As General Secretary my priority in national industrial disputes would be to assess the type of sustained industrial action necessary to win and then work to deliver that strategy among the membership. Our members cannot continue with pay freezes while the cost of living climbs higher and higher. Winning a decent pay rise will be my top priority.

## STOP THE COUNCIL CUTS

Council cuts can be stopped – but we need to build a powerful movement. The election of Jeremy Corbyn as leader of the Labour Party, on an anti-austerity programme, is a significant political development for public sector workers. But it is the beginning and not the end of a process that could easily be derailed by Corbyn's many opponents in the Labour Party.

**FIGHT ALL CUTS** Many thousands of UNISON members are employed by Labour councils who have passed on Tory cuts. This must stop. The councillors should follow the anti-austerity message of Jeremy Corbyn and unite with our members in resisting cuts.

**COUNCILLORS SHOULD FOLLOW THE ANTI-AUSTERITY MESSAGE OF JEREMY CORBYN AND UNITE WITH OUR MEMBERS IN RESISTING CUTS.**

I call for greater flexibility in our political fund rules so that none of our funds go either directly or indirectly to politicians that attack UNISON or its members. Anti-cuts candidates, including councillors forced out of Labour for opposing cuts, deserve our support - not councillors that attack us, regardless of what party rosette they wear!

In the 1980s I was deeply involved in the struggle of Liverpool City Council and the working class in the city against Thatcher's cuts. As a result of the council's defiant stance, thousands of local government jobs and services were saved. As General Secretary I would campaign for a similar approach to be taken by Labour councils throughout the country.

## END PRIVATISATION

The wholesale privatisation of council services with its race to the bottom of terms and conditions demands a national response from the sleeping giant that is UNISON.

## STOP THE SELL-OFF

An end to the disgraceful situation of branches being left to battle alone to stop the sell-off as we are seeing in the likes of Bromley and Barnet, both of which have shown that it is possible to fight privatisation.



## SAVE OUR NHS

**DEFEND HEALTH** Our NHS is under attack like never before. We have all been inspired by the brave and militant stand taken by junior doctors. Our members in health have shown time and again in disputes like at Care UK their willingness to fight. Unfortunately this has not been matched by our leadership.

Unison is the largest health union in the country. It should be leading the battle to defend our NHS. Instead our members take a hammering from privatisation, cuts and reorganisations. The union's passivity and disorganisation in the face of these attacks must end.



## SCHOOLS

Some of our lowest paid workers are in the school sector. We must resist ALL job cuts; expose and resist the academy programme by linking up with teacher unions and community groups to save community education; and seriously address the scandalous low pay of our term time workers.

## NO ACADEMIES

## TRADE UNION BILL

The trade union movement as a whole is now under attack from the Tories with their trade union bill. UNISON is the biggest public sector union in the country and we should be playing the lead role in bringing other unions together with a strategy for industrial action to secure trade union freedom. If the TUC are unwilling to take action UNISON should take the lead in forming a 'coalition of the willing' with other fighting unions to take action together against this bill.

## KILL THE BILL

**UNISON IS THE BIGGEST PUBLIC SECTOR UNION IN THE COUNTRY AND WE SHOULD BE PLAYING THE LEAD ROLE IN BRINGING OTHER UNIONS TOGETHER WITH A STRATEGY FOR INDUSTRIAL ACTION TO SECURE TRADE UNION FREEDOM.**



## GET IN TOUCH:



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