

# **EXAMPLE 1 HE DILL** STOP THE TORY CUTS DEFEND THE UNIONS

Straight after last May's election, Cameron moved his plans to bring in his (anti) Trade Union Bill at the same time that Osborne set out the next wave of brutal Tory cuts. Now as the Bill makes its way through both houses of

Parliament, councils are setting new cuts budgets while a new cull of civil service office closures, privatisations and redundancies are announced.

This is not accidental. The Tories fully under-

stand that the unions with 6million members are potentially the most powerful obstacle to their vicious cuts. Last year on four separate days, tube and busworkers brought London to a halt through mass strike action. Every week, there are

### The NSSN is supported by the following national trade unions













workers taking action against the bosses and the government. What could be achieved if they took action together?

But it's not just the 'usual suspects'. The Tories have been forced into a U-turn over cuts to legal aid through action taken by the legal profession and Junior Doctors are striking against a new contract. Their union, the BMA has been totally transformed by this dispute, with membership rocketing to a new high. The NSSN calls on the TUC and the health unions to urgently meet with the BMA to organise a national demonstration to defend the NHS and support the Junior Doctors and the NHS students who are fighting Tory attacks on their bursaries. Such a march could prepare the ground for joint strike action against health service cuts. These struggles show that if the unions linked together the cuts with the Trade Union Bill and took decisive action together, they would attract huge support from all those who are in the front line from Osborne's austerity offensive.

Jeremy Corbyn's incredible victory to become Labour leader is a reflection of the real anti-austerity mood that exists. We echo the call of the national local government committees in Unite and Unison for Labour councillors to take a stand against the Tory cuts and set no-cuts budgets.

We welcome any initiatives that the TUC and the unions take against the Bill but the response so far has been inadequate. If the Bill is passed, there should be an emergency TUC Congress called, just as there was in early 1971 when the Tory government of Edward Heath brought in their Industrial Relations Bill, which provoked the original 'Kill the Bill' campaign that defeated his laws. Any such Congress should be widened out to union executives and thousands of shop stewards and reps, who will be in the firing line of the new laws.

The NSSN will continue to campaign for co-ordinated industrial action on the scale of a 24-hour general strike to defend our unions, jobs, living standards and communities. But we also will organise with others such as the Trade Union Co-ordinating Group (TUCG) of left unions and local union branches, shop stewards committees and trades councils to prepare for the solidarity action that will be necessary should the Bill become law over the next few months.

Stop the Tory cuts! Kill the Bill!

## nationalshopstewardsnetwork info@shopstewards.net

#### Who we are

The Network is for rank and file TUC affiliated trade union workplace representatives but all trade unionists and anti-cuts campaigners - young andold - are welcome at our meetings and actions.

The NSSN has campaigned for mass co-ordinated strike action, up to and including a 24 hour general strike to fight the cuts. We are part of the Hungry for Justice/Fast Food Rights campaign against zero-hour contracts and for £10/hr minimum wage.

#### What we do

The Network exists to support workers in struggle. We campaign for justice in the workplace, workers' rights, solidarity, equality and union freedom. We fight the bosses' victimisation and the blacklist. Visit the website or contact us to find out more.

#### How you can join

Individual membership is £5. Minimum affiliation is £50 for each union organisation, including branches, shop stewards' committees and trades councils. The NSSN was initiated by the RMT in 2006. Nine national unions – RMT, PCS, CWU, NUM, POA, NUJ, BFAWU, FBU & NAPO – officially support our campaigning work. Affiliation to the NSSN is £50. Make cheques out to NSSN and post to PO Box 54498, London E10 9DE.

#### How we can help you

We have a website, Facebook group, twitter account, and a weekly e-bulletin. All are available to trade unionists and their organisations to publicise their disputes, events etc. Please feel free to use these platforms. Invitations to speak at your union meetings are also welcome.

### STOP THE TORY CUTS! #KILLTHEBILL

Come to the 10th annual NSSN conference – 11am-4.30pm Saturday July 2nd 2016 in Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, Holborn, London WC1R 4RL

#### Sign up to the email list

The NSSN has a weekly newsletter which is a roundup of the labour movement news and reports of strikes and struggles. Please send us your stories to build the solidarity and to stay in touch with the action in the workers' movement.

