The Tories are on the run. For eight years Tory-led governments have tried to create a ‘hostile environment’ for all working class people.

Those who were born in other countries, or who are from ethnic minorities, have been on the sharp end - often facing, as has been writ large by the Windrush scandal, brutal racism and discrimination.

The Tories have adopted the tactics of divide and rule. They have attempted to disguise reality - that a tiny minority of billionaires have got richer under their rule while the vast majority suffer austerity - by falsely laying the blame for low pay, poverty and poor housing at the door of some of the poorest sections of the working class - above all migrants, but also single parents, the unemployed and others.

In doing so they have tried to create a climate in which public services can be destroyed. It is criminal that people who have lived in Britain for most of their lives have been refused NHS treatment, but it is not accidental. It is part of a conscious policy to move away from the basis on which the NHS was founded - that it should provide free at the point of use, high-quality healthcare for all who need it.

The huge wave of public support for those affected by the Windrush scandal shows that the Tories racist scapegoating has not worked. While some workers are worried about the scale of immigration, and are correctly angry at bosses attempting to use workers from other countries to lower wages in a ‘race to the bottom’, they have not swallowed the Tory lies. When faced with actual people - instead of abstract statistics - the vast majority of working and middle class people in Britain are opposed to racist measures.

Opportunity

Jeremy Corbyn now has the opportunity to build a movement - against austerity and racism and for public services - which could force May to call a general election. To do so, however, requires drawing a clear line between his leadership of the Labour Party and what came before. The Tories have only been able to get away with their racist scapegoating because in office pro-capitalist New Labour had already trodden the same path.

The term “create a hostile environment” was first used by Blairite Labour home secretary Alan Johnson. Only six Labour MPs voted against the final reading of the racist 2014 Immigration Act, which led to the Windrush scandal. Unsurprisingly they included Jeremy Corbyn, John McDonnell, and Diane Abbott.

Cuts and privatisation for the majority and tax cuts for the super-rich were also the norm under New Labour governments. Today Blairite councils around the country are implementing huge cuts to public services. That is why the Socialist Party is standing, as part of the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition, against some of the worst Blairite cutters at local level. Jeremy Corbyn needs to urgently use the local elections as a launch pad to force the Tories out and to transform Labour into an anti-austerity, anti-racist socialist party.

> Continued on page 2
Corbyn and his centrist MPs belong in the same one has “Labour is two parties now. The pretence that Jeremy the pro-capitalist wing of the Labour Party, and attempt- can to split and weaken Corbyn’s support base. government could not be relied on to defend their inter- estion when we don’t get our own house in order?”

Umunna put their case crudely on the Independent ship. The Socialist has previously pointed out that this ‘left wing anti-Semitism’ under Jeremy Corbyn’s leader - most recently with a debate in parliament - over alleged Blairites - who themselves did not oppose the 2014 act ery their racist 2014 Immigration Act has caused the war on Corbyn with whatever weapons they could find.

While the Tories are on the ropes for the untold mis- ter see them. Continued from page 1

What we think

Ten months after the snap general election the right wing of the Labour Party is once again openly attacking Jeremy Corbyn so blatantly it is recognised even by capitalist commentators. As Independent columnist Andrew Grice put it: “Labour is two parties now. The pretence that Jeremy Corbyn and his centrist MPs belong in the same one has been shattered by recent events.”

“The popular support for Corbyn’s programme in the snap general election temporarily stayed the hands of his opponents within the Labour Party. Unfortunately, much of the Labour left rushed to declare that the party was now more united than ever. But as we warned at the time, those in the pro-capitalist wing of the Labour Party were only biding their time and would once again declare war on Corbyn with whatever weapons they could find. While the Tories are on the ropes for the untold mis-

Newham: strike forces head to say school privatisation will stop

Parents’ protest supports strikers’ demands

Strike still on till academisation cancelled in writing

School privatisation in Newham, east London, could be on the verge of defeat after striking staff and parents forced the headteacher to promise she will call off ‘academisa-
tion’ on 24 April.

Workers at Avenue School had taken 17 days of strike action at the time of writing, with more days scheduled. A visiting music teacher also refused to cross the picket line. And a surprise occupation orga-

ised separately by a group of supporting parents added to the pressure. They decided to come in en masse, some with their children from classes whose staff are on strike, to collectively register com-

plaints and demand the headteach-
er see them.

A surprise occupation organised by a group of supporting parents added to the pressure

Staff and parents want, at the very least, a vote on whether the school becomes a privately run ‘academy’. The strike is led by the secretary of Newham’s National Education Un-
tion branch, Socialist Party member Louise Gaffar.

The borough’s right-wing Labour council has officially resolved to op-

pose further academies - although outgoing Blairite mayor Robin Wales refuses to let this turn into concrete action against them. The process is also under investigation through a judicial review.

As the pickets’ chant goes: “The council says stop! The court says stop! Give us a ballot and the strikes will stop!”

Management called the police to deal with the mortal threat of parents and children standing in a school reception. Parents forced the head to come out and talk to them. She declared she had lost the battle, and would tell the governors acad-
emisation must stop!

We can win

Louise said: “Nothing is in writing yet. We are still on strike and will be going ahead with our lobby of the governors’ meeting this week. But this shows that striking and cam-
paigning works, and the privatisers can be beaten!”

Elsewhere in the borough, man-
agement at Eastlea School has now followed Keir Hardie and Brampt-
ton schools in seeing the strikes and deciding against becoming an academy.

And Cumberland School work-
ers are out for eight days over three weeks against academisation. The secondary could become an acad-
emy as early as 1 May. Labour’s new mayoral candidate Rokhsana Fiaz must publicly state she will inter-
vene to block academisation when elected.

The Trade Unionist and Socialist- ist Coalition (TUSC) - the electoral alliance including transport union RMT and the Socialist Party is standing in the 3 May local elec-
tions. We are challenging Labour candidates who still support acad-
emisation, and fighting for an end to cuts and privatisation across the borough.
The “hostile environment” that Theresa May promised to create as home secretary with the Immigration Act 2014, and the policy and guidance that have spewed from the Home Office under the Tories and Blairites, were always going to lead to increased oppression for black and Asian workers.

The Socialist Party opposes these latest appalling attacks, and has always opposed racist immigration laws.

The government’s 2017 Race Disparity Audit showed the effects of racism in housing, education and employment. Without even looking at the effects of the establishment’s racist immigration policies, it is clear that non-white people get an especially raw deal when it comes to opportunity in Britain.

These are symptoms of capitalism - from the lasting effects of historic slavery and colonialism, through to the bosses’ drive to maximise profits by playing workers off against each other. The profit system wants workers competing in a constant ‘race to the bottom’ in wages and conditions.

June marks the 70th anniversary of the Empire Windrush passenger ship first docking in Britain. The British government encouraged workers and their families from its current and former colonies to come here to fill gaps in the workforce after the devastation of World War Two.

These workers went on to become pillars of public services like the NHS and public transport. But now many of the ‘Windrush Generation’ find themselves denied access to the NHS, sacked from jobs they’ve held for a lifetime, detained for undefined periods, and some even deported. It is more than shocking.

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Current home secretary Amber Rudd’s admission that she was unaware her own department had deported any migrants is testament to the contempt the capitalist establishment has for workers. Public outrage has pressured Rudd and May into stating they will guarantee citizenship rights without fees or tests to the Windrush generation.

These are rights their own government were responsible for under-mining in the first place. The citizenship process should not have to take place at all.

Labour MP Emily Thornberry has rightly called on Rudd to quit, and her colleague Dawn Butler has correctly accused Theresa May of racism. David Lammy MP has also spoken out against the government.

But what are they going to do about it?

Rudd will resist quitting because it would weaken an already weak government. And fundamentally the Tory party defends capitalism, a system which is intrinsically unequal and racist. Fighting racism includes fighting to get them out.

Jeremy Corbyn has rightly called for an end to the “hostile environment” and will be marching on the Trade Union Congress (TUC) national demonstration on 12 May. He and the TUC could make that the launch of a serious mass campaign.

Coordinated strike action should be the next step - to force the Tories to call a general election and get them out. This needs to be linked to building proper democratic structures in Labour and getting rid of the Blairites.

The Blairites’ record is one of support not just for pro-capitalist policies in general, but racist policies in particular (see box). While using false allegations of fostering anti-Semitism to undermine Corbyn’s anti-austerity leadership, they supported the creation of the “hostile environment” which caused the Windrush debacle!

The Socialist Party fights for decent jobs, homes and services with full rights for all, no matter where you are from. We campaign for the right to asylum, the right to organise, and the right to work and benefit.

It is the capitalists and their politicians who are behind cuts to pay and services, not migrant workers. By organising together, in trade unions and political struggle, we can stop the race to the bottom and take the wealth off the super-rich who benefit from it.

Blairite Labour’s attacks on migrants

We all know the Tory party is a racist party with a long history of bigoted attacks. But what is the recent record of the Labour right?

‘New Labour’ under Tony Blair introduced a series of laws progressively restricting the right for those fleeing repression and war to claim asylum. It also introduced a racist points-based immigration system for non-EU workers.

In 2007, Blair’s successor Gordon Brown called for “British jobs for British workers.” In 2015, Blairite Labour leader Ed Miliband’s general election campaign included producing maps demanding stronger controls over migrants.

And the Blairites backed Theresa May’s “hostile environment” measures. In fact, Blairite Alan Johnson was the first to use the phrase back in 2010 when he was home secretary in Brown’s government.

In 2013, Shadow Home Secretary Yvette Cooper spoke in favour of the Tory bill which became the “hostile environment” Immigration Act. She said “we will not oppose the bill” because “some of its measures are sensible” - but that “it claims to tackle illegal immigration, but does nothing of the sort.”

Only seven Labour MPs were among the 20 who voted against the bill at its second reading, when the Commons agrees a potential law’s main principles. Only six Labour MPs were among the 18 who voted against it at the third reading, their last real chance to stop it.

Miliband had instructed abstention. Left-wingers Jeremy Corbyn, John McDonnell, Diane Abbott and Dennis Skinner defied his instruction and voted against the Tories each time.

After that, the Blairites went on to lead Labour’s Remain campaign in the EU referendum, ‘Labour In for Britain’. They fought to stay in the EU single market helps us to control immigration’ and “if we leave, the situation is going to be worse.” The EU is also responsible for leaving desperate refugees to drown in the Mediterranean, and running impoverished African farmers with its ‘Common Agricultural Policy’.

Join the fightback! Join the Socialists!

socialistparty.org.uk/join 020 8988 8777

@socialist_party f text 07761 818 206 / CWISocialistParty
The 2017 RMT AGM had a thorough discussion on the union’s political strategy, including the “RMT and Labour” document. The AGM concluded that an immediate or unconditional affiliation to the Labour Party was not appropriate. The possibility of affiliation was left open however, dependent on the party’s response to several issues and a full consultation with branches culminating in an SGM.

The Labour Party has now re-issued, with an FAQ sheet, the document Labour Party Affiliation Discussion Paper, and is in branch consultation underway.

Is striking about the Labour Party’s leaders stood as Liberal Party candidates in 1900. The new party was to be different from the Labour Party in 1900. The unions’ share of the vote at Labour Party conferences was cut to 50% in 1995. Formal policy-making procedures left the Labour Party structures which are still largely those inherited from Tony Blair’s New Labour regime.

Labour must be completely transformed if it is to be active in the framework of the unions and their political, media and legal establishments if not to win the socialist position.

If the Labour Party demeans rejoiner due to好几个 September,... doesn’t mean union members’ collective right or bring back transvestite-sex selectors of MPs, Jeremy should present his own proposal direct to trade unions, members, and organised supporters like the Labour’s leadership, and not get bogged down in the quagmire of New Labour-origin ‘procedures’. Then Jeremy Corbyn’s anti-establishment battling fighting trade union like the RMT might be in a position to get it underway.

But for the RMT and Labour, why were we not affiliated to Labour, was this part of Jeremy Corbyn’s campaign when he stood for the leadership in 2015? After another round of attacks and resignations from the right-wing, opponents of the Labour leadership contests. That’s the other, vital lesson of the Labour leadership contest.

As a politically independent union, the RMT was able to contribute more to Jeremy’s campaign than the Labour-affiliated rail unions. Aslef and Unite have been unable to ensure their candidates’ affiliation less instead helpful to finance the anti-Corbyn Labour apparatus. John McDonald praised the RMT for the first time in front of Jeremy in 2015, saying that without our support he could not have been elected as leader of the party that he did.

The Q&A says, for example, that affiliation would be the Labour Party at this stage. The Q&A says the RMT could affiliate without financially supporting the Socialist Party, but then says that the “S’affiliation would be to the Labour Party at this stage”. Why? Is it not clear that the RMT membership’s financial support is essential for the Socialist Party?

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The Socialist Party welcomed the move, seeing it as a symbolic because MPs have a veto on the rules, and a union the size of the RMT, will do to stop Labour-controlled authorities from the right-wing, opponents of the Labour leadership contests.

Lessons from Tony Blair on the democratic functioning of the party. That’s what needs to be overturned the political and organisational legacy of Tony Blair’s New Labour. From which the union had been expelled in 2004 (see ‘The left unions and the Labour Party structures which are still largely those inherited from Tony Blair’s New Labour regime.

RMT Labour Party Affiliation Debate: Where do Socialists Stand?

Last year’s annual general meeting (AGM) of the RMT transport workers’ union agreed to open affiliation to the party to re-affiliate and the union has convened a special general meeting (SGM) for the end of May. The Socialist Party reprints below extracts from a special edition of The Red Line, a bulletin produced by Labour Party members of the RMT, arguing that the terms offered, are not right and that the union should not support re-affiliation to the Labour Party at this stage.

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After another round of attacks on the role of the unions within the Labour Party in 2005 the one Tony Benn wrote that “there would be no point in affiliating as a union in the Labour Party if we were the only body by voting in favour of the party machine."

Unfortunately he did not discontinue the same mechanism as Bob Crow and the RMT did of the need for unions to therefore develop their own independent political voice. But it accurately described the New Labour Party’s “the Labour Party’s governance” to the one that he joined.

It’s a fact. Affiliation would not have got us 1% of votes at Labour’s elections, adding a single vote to Jeremy Corbyn’s score in the leadership elections, and TSSA, whose £100,000-plus annual financial support the Labour-affiliated rail unions, Aslef, would have about 1% of votes at Labour’s elections, adding a single vote to Jeremy Corbyn’s score in the leadership elections, and TSSA, whose £100,000-plus annual financial support the Labour-affiliated rail unions, Aslef,
France 1968

FIFTY YEARS SINCE THE GREATEST GENERAL STRIKE IN HISTORY

When workers were the brink of taking power

In a developed industrial economy, they knew, it would be impossible to keep the working class down. The workers would get excited about their rights and get involved with their backs and reconstruct genuine workers’ democracy. They therefore betrayed the French revolution.

It was the workers’ ‘leaders’ who gave De Gaulle the confidence to return to France and call an intermediate election, withdrawing the forces of_counter-revolution out of the streets, the police and army moved in against workers and left-wing organisations, a new wave of electoralism was now sustained and indeed, various left organisations were co-opted.

In the first parliamentary election, the Gaullists gained the Communist Party seat lost - stand in a new electoral system; for ‘law and order’ but within a year of winning a referendum on constitutional amendments, De Gaulle was gone, replaced by a president who was more of the old guard in the financial world. Georges Pompidou.

The initial gains for workers - the fight against the response to worker agreements - it left heavy industries which were dominated by capital exploitation in general, and steel in particular - was lost even if it would lead to the trade unions and management into government by a massive 55% of the electorate. François Mitterand its leader in 1981, the Socialist Party was voted in government by a massive 55% of the electorate. Without an all-purpose programme of nationalisation and democratic workers’ control management, even a ‘socialist’ government by main force will eventually end up implementing policies in the interests of the 1%- the capitalist class. This was the beginning of the erosion of the government’s legitimacy, of the Socialist Party. President Francois Hollande and his government's failure.

The great general strike of 1968 was a year of big conflicts and mass protests internationally, not least against the US in Vietnam. 17 March saw 300,000 on a mass protest in the US embassy in London and massive protests and violent clashes, including at Ford’s Dagenham, east London, against the introduction of a new pay.

The working day in France was extended to 12 hours, new pay.

The Manchester Guardian was not political! After 24 May, 1968, Militant - forerunner of new newspaper Militant (forerunner of Militant, the Socialist) covering the events will be articles in the next few issues of the Socialist.

In Britain, on strike! By the end of May 1968 the general strike in history.

Workers’ democracy. They literally throw the parasitic bureaucracy off power. The 12 and 13 year olds trying to join workplaces… until they themselves went on strike! By the end of May 1968 the situation was rotten-ripe for a revolution.

In 1968, Militant - forerunner of new newspaper Militant (forerunner of Militant, the Socialist) covering the events will be articles in the next few issues of the Socialist.

At the beginning of May 1968, the half-century actually emboldened the students. But more demonstrations were met with violence and a wave of arrests, mainly students. It was not long before workers and the mass media, demonstrations and the trade unions were brought to a standstill by students.

On 13 May, the ‘13 May Manifesto’ was published. It was not long before workers and the mass media, demonstrations and the trade unions were brought to a standstill by students.

The greatest general strike in history.

The French working class was fully involved in revolutionary events but they did not equate the force of the struggle of the workers including their workpeople, to the force of the workers included in the struggle. The French working class was fully involved in revolutionary events but they did not expect the force of the struggle of the workers including their workpeople, to the force of the workers included in the struggle.

A cut on 27 April 1968’s Chalney Student with 5,060 people to organise a political alternative to the General Strike, a General Strike. A cut on 27 April 1968’s Chalney Student with 5,060 people to organise a political alternative to the General Strike, a General Strike. A cut on 27 April 1968’s Chalney Student with 5,060 people to organise a political alternative to the General Strike, a General Strike.

The struggle was not political! After 24 May, 1968, Militant - forerunner of new newspaper Militant (forerunner of Militant, the Socialist) covering the events will be articles in the next few issues of the Socialist.
BROMLEY LIBRARY STRIKE WINS PAY AND CONDITIONS BOOST FROM OUTSOURCERS

A Unite member

Bromley library workers have won a huge victory on pay, jobs and trade union rights. This follows an all-out indefinite strike action which began on 28 March.

A mass meeting on 18 April agreed to accept proposals recommended by Unite union reps who attended negotiations with the employer the previous day.

The strike has won concessions from the employer on all the main items in dispute. This includes the immediate filling of 17 vacant posts, a pay increase from this April, implementation of the London Living Wage, and paid trade union facility time.

Strikers have also won protection of pay and conditions that goes beyond the legal minimum provided by ‘Tupe’ employee-transfer law. Greenwich’s Blairite Labour council transferred libraries to outsourcer Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL) in November.

GLL took over the service promising to make “efficiencies” - code for cuts. Inevitably, this was going to be in the area of staffing and they certainly wasted no time.

GLL attempted to run libraries with significant numbers of posts kept deliberately vacant. This stretched the service to the point of collapse and was the final straw leading to the walkout.

The union had also been pressing for a ‘Tupe-plus’ agreement. Tupe legislation is clear: protection is only on the day of transfer. So you transfer over on your current conditions - then the company decides it needs to reorganise, and away goes your protection.

Not only did the campaign win an agreement that bettered Tupe, but pay rises too. Bromley council had withdrawn from national pay bargaining some years ago.

This is a hugely significant trade union victory. The win at GLL means the vast majority of Unite members will actually get a better pay increase than they would have done at the council.

But this does not mean that outsourcing is good! The point is there was no pay campaign at Greenwich Council - but there was at GLL.

In fact, some staff did even better under the strike proposals than the national local government arrangements for 2018. Again, this is because a campaign, with strike action, was mounted.

The other important point is that GLL does not recognise unions. But this did not stop the union making a pay claim and undertaking an effective campaign.

GLL is supposed to be a ‘social enterprise’ where profit is not the main motivator. However, it acts just like the worst private employers.

Campaigners in Belfast have been marching and demanding that Belfast City Council take the library service back in-house. Now, on the back of the Bromley victory, is the right time to link up a much wider campaign, bringing together all those people across the UK and beyond who are fighting against GLL.

The Bromley strikers have shown what can be done, and how.

NUJ conference: leaders defeat political fund, but potential for left grows

Socialist Party reporters

Socialist Party member Roger Butler seconded a motion calling for the union to set up a political fund. Against strong opposition from the executive, and misinformation, the motion fell. But with a significant minority in favour, the issue will not go away.

The leadership also faced setbacks. A motion to raise members’ subs, already among the highest in the union movement, did not get the majority required. To build the union and its finances, recruitment must be energetically prioritised - on affordable subscription rates.

The strong second-place vote for vice-president achieved by Steve Bird, regarded as the opposition candidate, indicates the potential for the left in the NUJ...

Read the full report at socialistsparty.org.uk

Usdaw conference 2018

Retail union backs zero-hour ban, leaders oppose rank-and-file coordination

Ryan Aldred
Usdaw conference delegate (personal capacity)

The left is making steps forward while the right-wing bureaucracy continues trying to hold back struggles at Usdaw’s annual delegate meeting (ADM). The 22-25 April national conference of the retail and distribution union is still underway at the time of writing.

The union leadership opposed affiliation to the National Shop Stewards Network (NSSN) - a rank-and-file body established by transport union RMT and supported by nine national unions.

Every contribution to the debate supported the motion. The leadership admitted its opposition was because Socialist Party members play a leading role in the NSSN.

The vote was clearly 50/50 on a show of hands. But outgoing president Jeff Broome refused a card vote - despite numerous calls and general uproar. About 50 delegates walked out to complain about blatant breaking of the rules.

The final result was declared as 42% for, 58% against - a close defeat at the hands of a hostile and cavalier leadership, and clearly justifying the card vote.

The ADM did pass an emergency motion calling on the union’s executive council to support workers at Shop Direct. Three distribution sites in Greater Manchester face relocation to an automated site - which could result in the loss of over 2,000 jobs.

The members are preparing for industrial action and were emboldened by the level of support. Socialist Party members called for no relocation, and a shorter working week with no loss of pay.

Usdaw has committed to a campaign to ban zero-hour contracts in favour of minimum 16-hour contracts, except for those who specifically request less. Socialist Party members pressed the importance of not just committing in words but seriously preparing a campaign.

I spoke in support of reintroducing the original, socialist ‘Clause IV’ into Labour’s constitution, which the leadership opposed and defeated. But the ADM did pass a maximum income policy, on a card vote, after the leadership opposed it.

A number of important motions - including supporting the Refugee Rights Campaign - have yet to be decided at the time of writing.

It’s apparent Socialist Party member Amy Murphy’s election as next Usdaw president has emboldened the left in the union. Iain Dalton of the Socialist Party has also been elected chair of Usdaw’s Broad Left, which continues to grow.

At the time of writing, we have sold over 70 copies of the Socialist. Full report to follow - but it’s clear support for socialist ideas is rising in Britain’s fifth-largest union.
In Southampton we are in the enviable position of campaigning to get Keith Morrell re-elected as a socialist anti-cuts councillor for a second time.

As a Labour councillor Keith was expelled for voting against cuts and fighting to keep Oaklands swimming pool open. He was re-elected as an independent anti-cuts councillor and is standing again this year. Along with fellow councillors Don and Tammy Thomas, Keith has shown that if you fight, you can win.

We have a great team of helpers and are out every day leafleting, canvassing and running stalls. The canvassing returns are very positive and we have every hope that Keith will be voted in again.

In February we saw a grand opening of the city’s new cultural quarter in 2014 as an independent anti-cuts movement open. He was re-elected fighting to keep Oaklands swimming pool open.

Sheffield and South Yorkshire

Many teachers and children, with a clear message to the councillors present that we expect them to support our schools in deeds as well as words. We demand they use their powers to allow ‘licensed deficits’ so that schools can provide for children’s needs - until a new Corbyn-led government can be elected and provide the resources to fully fund our schools.

Unfortunately, the Labour council has a policy that unlike funding our schools.

Save our schools!

Central to the election campaign is the crisis in school funding. Over the last year a dynamic, determined campaign has been organised by local teachers, supported by the trade unions and non-affiliated socialists and community campaigners.

The numbers are the numbers - so, the private contractors can rest assured they have a blank cheque from the council!

This is in cruel contrast to the rest of council services. The council’s own figures tell us that they have cut £120 million and axed 1,000 jobs over the last five years in response to the Tories’ squeeze on local government.

Local campaigners, backed by Keith, have fought long and hard to keep a respite centre for adults with learning disabilities open. It has been closed since November, but due to continuing pressure, is on the way back to being re-opened.

Alongside Keith there are five candidates standing as part of the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition. We also support two other candidates campaigning to re-open Kentish Road Respite Centre.

If Labour councillors continue to say that nothing can be done, then they must expect to be challenged. By participating in the elections this year we are helping to shape the debate on what needs to be done, and will be the only ones offering a clear anti-cuts alternative to the people of Southampton.

Sue Atkins

Naveen Judah in the South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw. Sheffield health bosses to drop their closure plans altogether. Sheffield Save Our NHS (SSONHS) campaign, in which Socialist Party members are playing an active part, is holding a march and rally on Saturday 28 April.

As well as opposing these closures, SSONHS is campaigning against Tony plans for (un)Accountable Care Organisations - which will facilitate even more cuts and privatisation of NHS services - and demanding that Labour councils use their powers to stop these, which to date they have not done in South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw.

That is why the Socialist Party is supporting Save Our NHS candidate Naveen Judah in the South Yorkshire mayoral election and standing TUSC candidates for Sheffield City Council.

Sheffield Save Our NHS march and rally Saturday 28 April, assemble 1-30pm at City Hall, March to Hallamshire hospital

Sheffield Socialist Party May Day meeting Fighting NHS and Council cuts, guest speaker: Hannah Sell (Socialist Party deputy general secretary), Tuesday 1st May, 7pm at Central United Reform Church, S1 2JB

Alistair Tice

In the eight years of Tory-led government, 95 NHS walk-in centres have been closed - 40% of the original number.

Walk-in centres were designed to ease pressure on accident and emergency departments and provide same day treatment for patients who couldn’t access GP services. Yet, as casualty and GP appointment waiting times have increased, more walk-in centres are being closed as part of the mis-named “efficiency” savings, i.e. cuts, to NHS budgets.

Here in Sheffield, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has proposed the closure of the city centre walk-in clinic and the minor injuries unit at the centrally located Hallamshire hospital.

These plans have met with massive opposition, with a near 15,000 signatures on the petition. Even the CCG’s rigged ‘consultation’ exercise resulted in a majority of respondents either not agreeing or opposing their closure proposals.

This has forced the CCG to review their urgent care review, which they had originally planned to force through this month, and delay any decision until September at the earliest.

In order to increase pressure on Sheffield health bosses to drop their closure plans altogether, Sheffield Save Our NHS (SSONHS) campaign, in which Socialist Party members are playing an active part, is holding a march and rally on Saturday 28 April.

As well as opposing these closures, SSONHS is campaigning against Tony plans for (un)Accountable Care Organisations - which will facilitate even more cuts and privatisation of NHS services - and demanding that Labour councils use their powers to stop these, which to date they have not done in South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw.

That is why the Socialist Party is supporting Save Our NHS candidate Naveen Judah in the South Yorkshire mayoral election and standing TUSC candidates for Sheffield City Council.

Sheffield Save Our NHS march and rally Saturday 28 April, assemble 1-30pm at City Hall, March to Hallamshire hospital

Sheffield Socialist Party May Day meeting Fighting NHS and Council cuts, guest speaker: Hannah Sell (Socialist Party deputy general secretary), Tuesday 1st May, 7pm at Central United Reform Church, S1 2JB

Alistair Tice

In the eight years of Tory-led government, 95 NHS walk-in centres have been closed - 40% of the original number.

Walk-in centres were designed to ease pressure on accident and emergency departments and provide same day treatment for patients who couldn’t access GP services. Yet, as casualty and GP appointment waiting times have increased, more walk-in centres are being closed as part of the mis-named “efficiency” savings, i.e. cuts, to NHS budgets.

Here in Sheffield, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has proposed the closure of the city centre walk-in clinic and the minor injuries unit at the centrally located Hallamshire hospital.

These plans have met with massive opposition, with a near 15,000 signatures on the petition. Even the CCG’s rigged ‘consultation’ exercise resulted in a majority of respondents either not agreeing or opposing their closure proposals.

This has forced the CCG to review their urgent care review, which they had originally planned to force through this month, and delay any decision until September at the earliest.

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