

**TUSC  
AGAINST  
CUTS**

# Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition

**Public Meeting**

**Wednesday 23 January, 7.30pm**

**William Morris Community Centre**

**Greenleaf Road, Walthamstow, E17 6QQ**

**IF YOU-**  
**Have lost your job with this council or as a result of cuts...**  
**Have seen a service you work for or use close...**  
**Have an increased workload with more bullying from management...**

**COME TO THIS MEETING!**

The Con-Dem Coalition has launched an all out attack on working class people. They are out to dismantle the welfare state, including the NHS, savage our public services and drive down our living standards. They want to make us pay for the deepest crisis in the capitalist system since the 1930s

We need to build in our trade unions for a 24-hour general strike to stop these cuts, but we also need to make a political challenge against all those politicians who have done the bankers 'bidding in the last five years and pushed these cuts down onto us, making life so difficult.

We don't expect the Tories or Liberals to stand by working class people but many people who voted Labour in 2010 did expect protection. TUSC stands on a platform left of Labour, precisely because of Labour's betrayals.



## **Let Down By Labour - Locally**

- Let down by £65 million cuts to services
- Let down by opening the door to academies and education privatisation- now we have 16
- Let down by TWICE telling people to stay away from a counter-demo against the English Defence League

**Help us build TUSC in 2013 ready for the 2014 local elections**

**COME TO THIS MEETING TO DISCUSS  
THE WORKERS' ALTERNATIVE IN THE  
FIGHTBACK AGAINST CUTS**

# For councillors who refuse to carry out the cuts

## TUSC Councillors would:

- Oppose all cuts to council jobs, services, pay and conditions - we reject the claim that 'some cuts' are necessary to our services.
- Reject increases in council tax, rent and service charges to compensate for government cuts.
- Vote against the privatisation of council jobs and services, or the transfer of council services to 'social enterprises' or 'arms-length' management organisations, which are first steps to privatisation.
- Use all the legal powers available to councils, including powers to refer local NHS decisions, initiate referenda and organise public commissions and consultations, to oppose both the cuts and government policies which centrally impose the transfer of public services to private bodies.
- When faced with government cuts to council funding, councils should refuse to implement the cuts. We will support councils which in the first instance use their reserves and prudential borrowing powers to avoid passing them on - while arguing that the best way to mobilise the mass campaign that is necessary to defeat the cuts is to set a budget that meets the needs of the local community and demands that the government makes up the shortfall.

Where will your vote go?		
	<b>Vicious cuts</b> Conservative	
	<b>Progressive cuts</b> Liberal Democrat	
	<b>Better our cuts than their cuts</b> Labour	
	<b>Reluctant cuts</b> Green Party	
	<b>NO CUTS!</b> Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition	<b>X</b>

The Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition was set up in 2010 to enable trade unionists, anti-cuts campaigners and socialists to stand candidates against all the main parties. It is supported by the RMT, and leading members of trade unions such as the FBU, PCS, POA and NUT, and representatives of the Socialist Party and the Socialist Workers Party.

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## Education and Academies

Labour councillors have been utterly useless at stopping the slide towards academies in the borough. At least half our schools could be academies by the time the next council elections are in 2014.

Labour disgracefully initiated the academy programme and the Con-Dems have developed and widened it's scope. Councillors and MPs who speak out against academies do not state their categorical opposition to academies and make no commitment for a campaign of a future labour government to bring them back.

TUSC pledges to campaign against schools becoming academies and to bring academies back under Local Authority control. In the fight that we have now in the borough TUSC councillors would:

1. Publicly state their opposition to academies in the press and other media and organise public meetings to mobilise opposition. We would cite the recent example of the council using its resources

to pressurise central government to ban the EDL. Why not use those same resources to stop academies?

2. Write to every headteacher stressing that the council opposes academies and will support them if they resist Gove's forced academy programme.

3. Get behind the idea of a borough wide strike against Gove's forced academy programme. **TUSC COUNCILLORS WOULD GIVE THEIR FULL BACKING TO BOROUGH-WIDE ACTION TAKEN BY TEACHERS TO STOP THE SLIDE TOWARDS WHOLESALE PRIVATISATION OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM LOCALLY.**

4. Support any sympathetic 'stay-away' action if parents believe this is the best way to oppose privatisation of their children's' education and show solidarity with striking teachers. TUSC councillors would campaign against any punitive action if parents assist teachers with their action by organising a stay-away of children.

## Unity against racism, unity against the cuts

People who support TUSC have been active in the campaign against the EDL marching in Waltham Forest.

We believe that cuts passed down by the bankers to working class people is fuelling despair and alienation, and potentially pushing people into the arms of far right organisations like the English Defence League. TUSC have called on councillors to help prevent the rise of far right ideas by using their powers to stop cuts. Nancy Taaffe, TUSC candidate in the General Election in 2010 and the GLA election in 2012, stood up at a We Are Waltham Forest meeting and called for Labour MPs and councillors to stop creating the conditions for far-right ideas to grow. Labour MPs and councillors have failed to see that it is their responsibility to vote against cuts as part of the anti-fascists fight and therefore we must replace them.

TUSC councillors would be in the forefront of any campaign against the EDL. We would not act like Chris Robbins who urged all Labour councillors to go to Leyton Cricket ground and ignore the counter demo on 1 September.

In effect, the elected leaders of the borough turned a blind eye to the EDL marching and didn't join the 3,000 strong counter demo that saw the EDL off. TUSC councillors would have built the counter demo and stood shoulder to shoulder with it including standing by the labour movement slogan of "no platform for fascists".

### 27 October

On 27 October the labour councillors and MPs, in effect, blocked with Tory Home Secretary Theresa May and the police to ban the EDL. We can understand why people felt that the EDL should be banned, but a ban is no way to show united community opposition to groups like the EDL. By pushing a ban the politicians also got the counter demo banned and demobilised the anti-fascist opposition. If the EDL had turned up outside the Town Hall the police would have protected them in a static demo. A ban is not the answer to stopping groups like the EDL.

TUSC councillors will campaign against them and help mobilise trade union and workers opposition to them.

