



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**16 June 2010**

### **UNION ATTACKS PUBLIC SECTOR CUTS**

The Biggest General Union in the North, the GMB, today attacked the Coalition Government's proposals for the public sector.

The Union is particularly concerned, at the threat that services could be cut and a push for privatisation as a result of Government decisions.

The GMB also cited the comments made in the last few days by the Deputy Prime Minister, Nick Clegg, who attacked public service pensions as unaffordable.

Colin Smith, the GMB Union's Northern Regional Head of Public Services said:

"This new Con-Dem or Lib-Con Government, whichever way you want to look at it, beggars belief. Nick Clegg was telling us during the recent general election that he was whiter than white when it came to MP's expenses, when it turned out he was at least as bad as everyone else. Then he has the audacity to lecture public service pensioners, whose pension is on average £70 a week that they are unaffordable. He's only been in the job a few weeks and he's already out of touch".

"What is galling is that everybody uses local government services every day of the week. Yet local government is a Cinderella service, directed by Whitehall. The Tories and Lib Dems talk about local decision making, when in reality wherever they are in power, they cut services and jobs".

**-ENDS-**

Contacts:	Colin Smith	Senior Organiser	07870 176 723
	Chris Jukes	Organiser	07870 176 733