



PRESS RELEASE

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TRADE UNION COMES OUT AGAINST ELECTED MAYOR

Cumbria's biggest general trade union has attacked the method behind the referendum for an elected mayor in Copeland Borough Council Area.

The GMB union says that the vote, to take place on Thursday 22 May 2014, the same day as the European Elections Ballot, is a waste of tax payer's money.

Chris Jukes, GMB Northern Region's Political Officer said:

"There are those in Copeland, mainly disaffected people who believe in democracy on their terms, who just want to use and abuse tax payer's money for their own ends".

The GMB said that the level of responsibilities for a small council area like Copeland simply do not justify the tax payer's money involved.

Mr Jukes said:

"For people who for their own ends want to be a big fish in a small pond, and who want to take tens of thousands of pounds for what is a bauble, is a disgrace. These self-appointed local demagogues believe in democracy only if it is them in charge".

The GMB says the people of Copeland Borough are sleepwalking to disaster as many in outlying areas away from main conurbations like Whitehaven think it does not affect them, when in reality it will, as all council tax payers and businesses will have to pay up.

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