



PRESS RELEASE

Jobs – Growth – Justice Hyde Park Demonstration

Independent forecasts suggest that 1.6 Million jobs will be lost across the UK as a result of the Tory/Lib Dem austerity package. Indeed of these 1.6 Million job losses, 700,000 will be in the Public Sector and 900,000 in the Private Sector. Therefore for every one job lost in the public sector there will be at least one other lost in the private sector.

That is why a major event is taking place on Saturday 26th March 2011, in London to march in protest against the cuts. Assembling at 11.00am on Victoria embankment between Temple Place and Blackfriars, a march will take place to a rally in Hyde Park. We hope this will be the largest demonstration to be held in the Capital in living memory.

The GMB believes that the Tory/Lib Dem Coalition Government is inflicting misery on the people of the UK. In addition to job losses there are cuts in council tax benefit, freezes to child benefit, cancellation of free school meals to 500,000 primary school children, a hike in employee contributions to public sector pension schemes, scrapping of regional development agencies, trebling of tuition fees, marketisation of the NHS, scrapping vital construction projects like Building Schools for the Future (BSF), delaying vital infrastructure projects, scrapping Education Maintenance Allowances, raising the retirement age, raising VAT to 20%. Indeed the cuts and squeeze on the poor and those on modest incomes by this unelected Tory/Lib Dem Coalition Government is endless.

In the meantime greedy senior bankers, many in hoc to the taxpayer, continue to pay themselves obscene bonuses. Tax avoidance by the super rich is as much as £100 billion pa. Let's say no to this unelected Tory led Coalition Government. The Tories have form in the Northern Region, remember how they sacrificed our industries in the 1980s on the altar of free market dogma?. Their fall guys, the Liberal Democrats have traded the Orange Book of Liberal Free Market Economics for the Red Box of power and government limousines. It took New Labour 6 years to lose the peoples' trust culminating with Iraq, it has taken the Lib Dems just 6 months, principally but not exclusively over reneging on their election promises over the VAT hike to 20% and drastically increasing Tuition Fees to £9,000 per year.

Let us make the 26th March 2011 a day that will live in memory as the day when we stood up to the Tories and the Lib Dems and told them "Enough is Enough, seek a proper mandate for your poison, instead of a backroom deal done without any democratic legitimacy".

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