

## What's the alternative?

The Con-Dem coalition want you to believe there is no alternative to cuts in public services.

They want you to forget that it was bailing out the banks that caused the budget deficit, not "wasteful" public spending.

The **Norfolk Coalition Against the Cuts** believes that our communities and our children's futures should not be jeopardised to pay for the greed of the bankers. The deficit can be reduced without cutting public services and welfare—but by fairer taxation and investment in our future:

- Stop tax evasion by the wealthy- £120bn per year;
- Curb bankers bonuses;
- A levy on financial speculation- £30bn per year;
- 50% tax rate on earnings over £100,000— raising £4.7bn per year;
- A levy on empty properties- £5bn per year;
- Cancel Trident and bring the troops home from Afghanistan- £1.8bn + £4bn per year;
- Keep services public, not for profit;
- Create 1 million green Jobs.

**The planned cuts are not necessary and not acceptable. Together we can stop them.**

## Meet Every Cut With Resistance

If Public Services you rely on are threatened with cuts or privatisation, contact us for help with organising campaigning and protests.  
[www.norfolkcoalitionagainstcuts.org](http://www.norfolkcoalitionagainstcuts.org) [sec.ncac@btconnect.com](mailto:sec.ncac@btconnect.com)

- Put a poster in your window and get local shops to display them
- Give copies of this leaflet to friends, neighbours, relatives, school, college or workmates and ask them to get involved
- Circulate the petition supporting our alternative budget
- Organise a meeting where you live, work or socialise to discuss opposing the cuts
- Get your community organisation to support the campaign
- Write to your MP and local councillors calling on them to oppose the cuts
- Write to local papers arguing against the cuts
- Help with the stalls on Saturday—details available on website



## Norfolk Coalition Against the Cuts

[www.norfolkcoalitionagainstcuts.org](http://www.norfolkcoalitionagainstcuts.org)

## Local Council Election Hustings

Challenge the local candidates to oppose the cuts  
7.00pm Wednesday 20th April  
City Hall, Norwich



## Chapelfield Gardens

Monday 2nd May  
12.00 - 3.00pm

**Speakers Live bands Stalls Refreshments**  
Organised by Norwich & District Trades Council

# Cuts and Privatisation: The Plan to Dismantle the Welfare State

The casino banks created the current economic mess but the government wants us to pay for it.

It's no surprise this government of millionaires chose to slash services instead of taxing the rich. The Conservatives see the UK debt problem as an excuse to privatise schools and public services - even the NHS - so their business pals can make a profit.

**Just look at who benefits from Con-Dem solutions:**

## NHS 'Reforms'

Managing GPs' services will be opened up to 'any willing provider' - companies instead of local health trusts. But companies may not provide the more costly, complex services needed by the vulnerable, as this would reduce profits.

## Turning Schools into 'Academies'

Successful schools can now opt out of council control and go independent, while taking public funds with them. Councils then have

less funds for schools with problems. This could bring the council school system to collapse, opening the way for more private schools - and opportunities for profit. Scrapping the EMA and cutting student transport allowances will cause many students from low income families to drop out of study. How can this squandering of talent be an efficiency? A 21st century economy needs the highest levels of skills.

## 'Outsourcing' Public Services

Many council services are already 'outsourced' to private companies. Some companies pay rotten wages so they can make a good profit.

The Con-Dems want to spread this to other services. The lowest bid often wins contracts but doesn't guarantee quality - and remember Connaught in Norwich, which went bust, losing 200 local jobs!

## Welfare to Work ?

Private companies now run most schemes to get the unemployed and people on incapacity benefit back into work. They make huge profits even though the Commons 'Public Accounts Committee' says 'private providers have seriously underperformed'. Despite this, jobcentres may also be privatised. With thousands of public servants being made redundant and a million 16-25 year olds out of work, Con-Dem plans are more like Work to Welfare!

## We Need a 24 Hour General Strike Against the Cuts

The Con-Dem policies don't give priority to solving the needs of ordinary people or the nation. They give priority to 'free market' dogma and opportunities for profit. And the public pays the bill.

The magnificent TUC anti-cuts demonstration on March 26th shows the huge public support for an alternative. It represented the people who do the vital jobs such as nurses, teachers and the fire brigade. The trade unions must use their strength to oppose the economic power of the banks. Strike action from all unions is needed at national level, coordinated by the TUC, to protect our jobs, services and pensions.



## Council elections - Kick Out the Cutters

We urge you to cast your vote against those who would wreck our services and for candidates prepared to defend them. NCAC expects councillors who say they are opposed to cuts to be prepared to defy Tory laws and set illegal budgets rather than be pressurised into implementing cuts.

Before you cast your vote, ask if the candidate is prepared to make these pledges:

### Anti-Cuts Pledges

- Vote against all the proposed county council cuts to public services and welfare.
- Champion local services and help local people campaign in their defence.
- Support public sector workers taking action to defend the services they provide and their conditions of service.
- Oppose scapegoating of the unemployed and minorities for the misery the cuts will mean.

