



All Together for Public Services

The South West TUC campaign against the cuts

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ACTION POINTS

- Start promoting March 26th demo
- Book transport for March 26th demo
- Recruit stewards for TUC stewarding course
- Support local events and let us know what is happening in your local area
- Use campaign tools and follow us on Twitter
- Pass this bulletin on to campaigners.

National Demonstration Saturday 26th March

Although the full details of the route are not yet agreed, the TUC expects that the national demonstration will start at 11am on Saturday 26th March on Victoria Embankment on the stretch between Temple and Embankment tube stations.

Publicity material for the event will soon be out, with artwork to download from the campaign website www.tuc.org.uk/alltogether

Unions will no doubt want to start booking transport for the event and the South West TUC will be ready to help co-ordinate and publicise coach details.

Stewarding

A demonstration of this size will need a large number of good confident stewards. The TUC will be organising a training course for stewards in the New Year. Unions might want to start to think now about who they can recruit for this.

Hugely successful lobby and rally

The rally at Westminster on the eve of the Spending Review was so packed out that hundreds of people couldn't even get inside the building.

It was heavily featured in the media – particularly radio and TV – and helped set the TUC and union voice as an important reaction to the spending review the next day.

There are plenty of pictures at <http://www.tuc.org.uk/economy/tuc-18691-f0.cfm>

TUC General Secretary Brendan Barber told the rally that the "Government's cuts programme is a political choice, not an economic necessity, and a deliberate policy that will make Britain a more unequal, more squalid and nastier country."

There was a broad range of speakers at the rally.

- Chief Executive of the Child Poverty Action Group, Alison Garnham, President of the Methodist Conference, Reverend Alison Tomlin and Duncan Shrubsole from Crisis spoke about how the cuts are hitting the poorest and the most vulnerable the hardest.
- Actors Benedict Cumberbatch, who recently played Sherlock Holmes in the BBC mini-series Sherlock, and Joe Kloska, who appears as a civil servant in Made in Dagenham, spoke about cuts to arts funding and the closure of the UK Film Council.
- Unite Joint General Secretary Tony Woodley warned of the impact spending cuts will have on private sector jobs, and Dave Prentis, Unison General Secretary and Chair of the TUC's Public Services Liaison Group spoke about the effect on workers in the public sector and the services they provide.
- Patricia King from Ireland's Services, Industrial, Professional and Technical Union spoke about the Irish experience, and Dot Gibson from the National Pensioners Convention spoke about the impact of the cuts on older people.
- Tax expert Richard Murphy called for a fairer tax system. Friends of the Earth's Director Andy Atkins warned that cuts to green projects will hit attempts to build a low-carbon economy and create new jobs.
- Holly Dustin from the End Violence Against Women Campaign spoke about how Government plans to tackle the deficit will hurt women. Alison Lyddon, a physiotherapist, told of how the NHS helped her when she suffered a serious injury, Kaytie McFadden from Coventry Youth Council warned of her fears for what the cuts mean for younger people and Joe Baden from the Open Book project, an access programme at Goldsmiths

University for ex-offenders, talked about social inequality and cuts to higher education.

The lobby of parliament

This was also a big success. So many people joined the queue for the lobby that we had to turn away people who did not have appointments arranged in advance.

South West News

Rallies and events across the South West have been making the case against the cuts. Dorchester, Plymouth, Taunton and Bristol have seen marches in protest.

Good coverage of Dorchester march: <http://www.wessexfm.com/news/review.php?article=297319>

Forest of Dean up in arms

The Forest of Dean community have reacted angrily to the announcement that the Forestry Commission will be forced to sell-off much of its land-holdings. The headline of the local free newspaper, *The Review*, summed up the mood with 'Call to Arms'

In the news . . .

Some of the recent media coverage in the South West included:

Chard & Ilminster News
West to suffer, claims TUC. John Drake, chair of South West TUC, said: "The Government's cuts programme is a political choice, not an economic necessity
http://www.chardandilminsternews.co.uk/news/8466008.Spending_review_South_West_to_suffer_claims_TUC/

Bridgwater Mercury
South-West to suffer, claims TUC . . . the South-West will suffer in particular claims the TUC.
www.bridgwatermercury.co.uk/.../8466008.Spending_review_South_West_to_suffer_claims_TUC/

Mid Devon Star
Cuts to hit Devon hard, says TUC
http://www.middevonstar.co.uk/news/8468126.Cuts_to_hit_Devon_hard_says_TUC/

Morning Star Online
 West Country will be hit hard by cuts
<http://www.morningstaronline.co.uk/index.php/news/content/view/full/96696>

Topix.com
 South West to be hit hard by Government's austerity programme - Topix
www.topix.com/.../south-west-to-be-hit-hard-by-governmenta...

People's Republic of South Devon
 South West to be hit hard by Government's austerity programme.
www.peoplesrepublicofsouthdevon.co.uk/

UK Temps
 South West to be hit hard by Government's cuts programme
<http://news.uktemps.co.uk/regional-news/dorset-news/south-west-to-be-hit-hard-by-governments-cuts-programme/>

Falmouth Packet
 People in the South West will be hit hard by the Government's austerity measures outlined in today's Comprehensive Spending Review, according to the South West TUC.
http://www.falmouthpacket.co.uk/news/spending_cuts_news_cornwall/8464355.South_West_unions_slam_spending_cuts/

People with Voices
 People in the south west will be hit hard by measures announced in the Comprehensive Spending Review,
<http://peoplewithvoices.com/2010/10/21/south-west-will-suffer-dearly-due-to-spending-review/>

Somerset County Gazette
 South-West to suffer, claims TUC
www.somersetcountygazette.co.uk/.../8466008.Spending_review_South_West_to_suffer_claims_TUC/

This is The West Country
 Cuts to hit Devon hard, says
www.thisisthewestcountry.co.uk/.../8468126.Cuts_to_hit_Devon_hard_says_TUC/

Yeovil Express
 UNISON South West react to 'sordid' cuts
 Ian Ducat, UNISON South West regional secretary, condemned some of yesterday's cuts as sordid. He said: "When we look back in years to come, Twenty Ten Twenty Ten will rank with 9/11 and Black Wednesday as a day we will remember for all the wrong reasons.

http://www.yeovilexpress.co.uk/news/8466048.Spending_review_UNISON_South_West_react_to_sordid_cuts/

Radio:
 Heart (Bristol, Somerset, Gloucestershire) – John Drake, SW TUC chair
 BBC Radio Devon – John Drake, SW TUC chair
 BBC Wiltshire – John Drake, SW TUC chair

TV
 BBC Points West – John Drake, SW TUC chair
 BBC Breakfast TV

Defence cuts story
 Warning about impact on the South West jobs of cuts to defence ... South West TUC regional secretary Nigel Costley said many people did not realise the importance of defence jobs to the South West's economy. ...
www.peoplesrepublicofsouthdevon.co.uk/.../thousands-of-jobs-in-the-south-west-at-risk-from-defence-spending-cuts-warn-trade-unionists/

union reaction (from Bridgwater Mercury)
www.bridgwatermercury.co.uk/.../8462462.Defence_cuts_union_reaction/

Defence cuts - union reaction
 From Burnham and Highbridge Weekly
www.burnhamandhighbridgeweeklynnews.co.uk/.../8462462.print/

Defence cuts will savage the West, union bosses claim ... South West TUC regional secretary Nigel Costley said in aerospace alone there were ...
www.thisisbath.co.uk/news/Defence-cuts-savage-region/.../article.html

'Urgent action needed' on South West economy
 South West Stakeholders chair Nigel Costley,
www.bristol247.com/.../urgent-action-needed-on-south-west-economy/

Warning about impact on the South West jobs of cuts to defence ... Mike Byfield, said cutting defence jobs would also have a huge impact
www.peoplesrepublicofsouthdevon.co.uk/.../thousands-of-jobs-in-the-south-west-at-risk-from-defence-spending-cuts-warn-trade-unionists

TRADE Unions have warned thousands of defence jobs in the ...
www.thisisbristol.co.uk/topics/person/mikebyfield

Defence cuts - union reaction Alliance spokesman Mike Byfield said: "We're very worried about the damage this defence review will do to jobs, to the

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skills base and to the wider economy

Chard & Ilminster News

www.chardandilminsternews.co.uk/news/8462462.Defence_cuts_union

CUTZ: this week in Bristol and beyond ...

Bristol Indymedia

Nigel Costley, South West regional secretary of the TUC, jobs in South Gloucestershire and Bristol are in the defence sector. ...

bristol.indymedia.org/article/694367

Bath. Mike Byfield said many people did not realise the importance of defence jobs to the West's economy.

www.thisisbath.co.uk/news/Defence-cuts-savage.../article.html

Defence cuts - Bridgwater

www.bridgwatermercury.co.uk/.../8462462.Defence_cuts_union_reaction/

This is Plymouth

Defence cuts will devastate region, say trade unions

www.thisisplymouth.co.uk/topics/person/mikebyfield

Defence cuts could devastate the South West - TUC - This is Cornwall

www.thisiscornwall.co.uk/news/Defence-cuts-devastate.../article.html

TRADE Unions have warned thousands of defence jobs in the Bristol

www.manchesterwired.co.uk/.../94248-Thousands-of-defence-jobs-in-doubt-unions

Cutting defence jobs would also have a huge impact on the supply chain of smaller firms, ...

www.unitetheunion.org/.../news_digest_28_september_2010.aspx

TRADE unionists are warning thousands of jobs in the South West ...

www.thisisexeter.co.uk/news/Defence-cuts-devastate...say.../article.html

Not only the military in firing line as Strategic Defence and Security

www.thisisdevon.co.uk/news/military-firing-line-axe.../article.html ►

Risk to South West defence workers the Devon Week

www.thedevonweek.newsandmediarepublic.org/.../unite-union-paper-focuses-on-risk-to-defence-workers-in-the-south-west/

Thousands of South West jobs at risk

www.insidermedia.com/insider/south-west/...defence.../index.html

www.insidermedia.com/insider/south-west/...defence.../index.html

Trade Unions have warned thousands of defence jobs in the South ...

www.southwestbusiness.co.uk/aerospaceanddefence/...defence.../article.html

Not only the military in Strategic Defence and - This Is Plymouth

www.thisisplymouth.co.uk/news/military-firing-line-axe.../article.html

Trade Unions have warned thousands of defence jobs in the South ...

www.southwestbusiness.co.uk/aerospaceanddefence/...defence.../article.html

A REPORT has been published warning of the likely disastrous ...

www.thisisbristol.co.uk/filton/Defence-cuts-disastrous.../article.html

Defence cuts could devastate the South West - TUC - This is Cornwall

www.thisiscornwall.co.uk/news/Defence-cuts-devastate.../article.html

Hundreds of Bristol defence jobs to be lost

www.wolveswired.co.uk/.../100867-Hundreds-of-Bristol-defence-jobs-to-be-lost-under-defence-review

TUC - Thousands of Jobs at Risk from Defence Spending Cuts

www.newsonnews.net/.../4880-tuc-thousands-of-jobs-at-risk-from-defence-spending-cuts.html

South West diary

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Trades Union Council

Public Meeting

10 November 7.30pm

Woodlands Hall, Parkstone Trades and Labour Club, 485 Ashley Road, Poole BH14 0BB

Speakers: Mike Cracknell, UNISON; Bob Lanning, Unite; Bereyn Long, PCS

chairbcptuc@freeukisp.co.uk

Fund Our Future: Stop Education Cuts

UCU and NUS London demonstration

10 November

FBU Parliamentary Lobby

17 November

Gloucester March and Rally

Saturday 20th November

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The march and rally to start off from Gloucester Park at 10:30am arriving for rally at Kings Square.

The Future of Our Schools conference, TUC 27 November

A new campaign website

The TUC has been working with on-line campaigners and some successful local cuts campaigns to build a new website that can be a hub and resource centre for campaigners. The site – which will be called False Economy – will have three initial roles:

- to gather personal and statistical crowd-sourced reporting of the cuts through an interactive map;
- to provide popular arguments against the deep rapid cuts, in particular through a launch viral video featuring Sam West;
- and to provide resources and information for local campaigners. This site is now being intensively worked on with the financial support of a number of public sector unions and it is hoped to launch the site soon.

You can see a launch page at www.falseeconomy.org.uk

False Economy is very much a website for the cuts campaign as a whole – not a TUC or union site.

False Economy is for everyone concerned about the impact of the government's spending cuts on their community, their family or their job and wants to do something about it.

When it goes live we hope that unions will encourage members to use it to post information about the scale of the cuts and testimony about their impact on individuals and communities.

Follow us on Twitter

The South West TUC has joined the world of Twitter. @swtuc

New TUC campaign action site

The TUC launched its new campaign action website www.GoingToWork.org.uk by asking users to write to their MPs ahead of the lobby of Parliament.

This is the first time we've had access to a suite of interactive campaign tools, and with quite a complicated request to users, we had a good first result.



Contact point

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