

A government for the rich?

Not in my name

- **A crushed NHS**
- **Tax cuts for the rich**
- **Bankers' bonuses**
- **22 millionaires in Cabinet**
- **Tax evasion and avoidance unchecked**
- **Tax cuts for big business**
- **Workers' rights attacked**
- **Growing pay divide**
- **Scrapping 50p tax rate**
- **Wealth in the hands of a few**
- **Tuition fees hiked**
- **Cuts to welfare benefits**

STOP



**there is an
alternative**

The government says that cutting public spending is the cure – it ensures that ‘we’re all in this together.’

Unite says NO – You did not cause this crisis – don’t be conned into paying for it now!

For many workers the government’s austerity agenda is causing considerable hardship – pay freezes and pay cuts on top of rising prices is pushing hardworking households to the brink. Yet, while most of us are struggling to cover our day to day living costs, the richest among us are escaping unscathed as the government prioritises tax cuts which benefit the better off – so much for us all being in this together!

The divide between rich and poor is growing. In February 2011, bankers awarded themselves bonuses of £7 billion, the average annual salary for a FTSE 100 Chief Executive is £3.7million, while the average worker earns just £21,221. With inflation running at 5 per cent and VAT at 20 per cent the cost of essential items such as energy, transport, food and clothing is fast outstripping wages. In the past year, the average weekly shop has increased by £5.35 per week, while annual gas and electricity costs has risen by £1.23 per week.

The share of the nation’s wealth received by workers in wages has dropped by 11 per cent. While the richest 10 per cent of the population are now over 100 times wealthier than the bottom 10 per cent.

A crushed NHS – To top it all off the government wants to destroy our NHS. Free healthcare for all is now at risk as the government’s so-called reforms waste millions of pounds on structural changes which will mean worse patient care, more privatisation and more red tape. To read more and for information on how you can help save the NHS, please visit www.nhsalert.org.uk

Unite says cuts are not the answer – Fighting for the alternative

- Crackdown on tax havens, tax evasion and avoidance by those who can afford to pay their fair share to address the deficit. Potential gain: £95 billion
- Introduce a Robin Hood Tax on all city financial transactions. Potential gain: £4.2 billion a year on a tax of just 0.1%
- Go for growth and invest in our future – The government needs to invest now in jobs, communities and our youth - for a fairer Britain.

For more information, visit Unite campaigns www.unitetheunion.org/campaigns. To help you argue for the Alternative check out www.unitetheunion.org/thealternative

www.unitetheunion.org