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## Motions document

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## Zone 1: Aims

### 30 mins allocated for this debate

#### 1. Theme: Aims

*25 minutes allocated to this theme*

One main motion

11 supplements

#### 2. Guest speaker: Mark Serwotka General Secretary PCS

<b>Proposer:</b> property of main motion, People's Assembly signatories	<b>5 mins</b>
<b>Supplementary speech:</b> (drawn by lottery from supplementary motions)	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Supplementary speech:</b> (drawn by lottery from supplementary motions)	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>3 x free speeches</b>	<b>6 mins</b>
<b>Speaker against:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Right to reply:</b> (only necessary if there's a speech against)	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 20 mins**

##### 2.1. Motion Title: PA Signatories Committee statement of policy aims

**Delegation name: Signatories**

Peoples Assembly Steering group proposes the following statement of aims based on its endorsement of the Peoples Charter, as widely supported by the trade union movement since 2008.

##### **Peoples Charter for Change 2014 Statement**

We need a government to reverse damaging austerity, and replace it with a new set of policies providing us with a fair, sustainable and secure future. We can no longer tolerate politicians looking out for themselves and for the rich and powerful. Our political representatives must start governing in the interests of the majority in the direction outlined by this statement of aims.

## **1. A fairer economy for a fairer Britain**

The amount of wealth that is spent on wages and incomes has generally been declining as a proportion of GDP since the 1980s. Since 2008, 90% of incomes have faced severe reductions. It must be a top priority of any new government to reverse this trend and to measure progress, year on year, in the name of every citizen.

Most now agree that wealth is unfairly distributed. Those with great wealth disagree. These are the financiers, bankers, big capitalists and their top managers whose profit system brought the world to the brink of melt down in 2008. The gap between the rich and the rest is now greater in the UK than at anytime since the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. A new government must challenge this by progressive tax reform and repatriation of the vast wealth held in tax havens.

The City of London has led the British economy into its greatest disaster since the 1930's. The government spent our money saving the banks from ruin. Rather than selling banks back to the people who nearly destroyed the country any new government should consolidate all current banking institutions into a new publically owned banking system, which makes long term investment in future technology and green production. This means defending pensions funds and repudiating all the US and EU agreements to force open public services to private gain.

A million young people are unemployed and face a bleak future. Any new government needs to set up a national scheme providing real jobs on full wages with work-based training. Further and higher education should be free.

## **2. More and better jobs**

While the crisis continues any new government needs to protect existing jobs and intervene to ensure full employment. All work should attract at least the Living Wage, which will be legislated as the new minimum wage, regardless of age, accompanied by guaranteed holiday and pension provision. Zero hour contracts should be banned.

New technology and green production should guide general economic development in the interests of the majority of the people. The workforce must be a key participant in the direction of economic activity. Financial support for collective and community-based enterprises can open out new types of production, distribution and services, providing a different model to corporate domination, rooted in new principles of common and social ownership spreading throughout the economy.

### **3. High standard homes for all**

A new government needs a 2 part emergency plan to address the housing crisis.

- 1) a programme to build at least 250,000 new social homes a year (see 2011 census) and to refurbish existing housing stock.
- 2) to reform the private and public rented sector using rent controls and the implementation of national standards of accommodation and security of tenure.

It is a priority to expand community owned and managed social housing, through cooperatives, tenant management organisations and community land trusts. The bedroom tax must be abolished.

### **4. Protect and improve public services**

The involvement of private companies in public utilities and services has created a terrible mess for the majority and any new government must reverse this damage. The privatization policy is designed to create profit, not serve the people. The people as a whole should own energy, post, telecommunications, water and transport – with profits ploughed back into investment.

Profit making is the wrong principle for developing health, education and social services. It leads to post code lotteries for treatment, uneven and unfair access to education and poorly maintained and managed social services, as well as being vastly more costly (e.g. transaction costs in the NHS have risen from 7% to 12% since private companies got more involved and are rising rapidly. The figure in the US is 35%).

### **5. For fairness and justice**

A new government needs to establish an agreed national proportion of not more than 5 to 1 between the size of top incomes and the median wage and salaries and join the Swiss peoples' attempt to abolish poverty by supporting the 'Citizens initiative for an unconditional basic income.'

Unions need to be freed to be able to act in defence of members' rights and conditions, to be able to bargain collectively and nationally in the fight against poverty, and to be able to campaign for political, economic and social change if needed.

Disabled citizens must have automatic and autonomous access to the full rights of any other citizen, including access to work, transport etc.

Women in particular bear the brunt of austerity, both in work and in managing the fall out of cuts to services in communities. The over-representation of women among both the poor and the lowest paid must be treated as the national emergency it is. Equal pay must be

enforced and child-care should be free at the point of need.

Any new government should lead the challenge to all attempts to scapegoat immigrant workers for inequality, poverty or limits to public resources.

All state benefits and pensions should be tied to inflation and start at Living Wage levels. Pension age should be fixed between unions and employers depending on the character of the job, with a maximum legal limit of 65.

## **6. For a secure and sustainable future**

The dramatic damage to our world, our climate and weather stems from the same sources as international poverty and war. Brutal greed and the search for profit at all costs must be replaced by investment in a sustainable future.

Any new government must start by a public audit of all debt, canceling of the debt of the poor of the planet and getting rid of the debt economy in Britain and abroad. This implies serious financial regulation and a transaction tax of the international movement of capital and wealth by banks and corporations.

Government must end the cost of war in blood and money. Bring the troops home. Don't waste billions on a new generation of nuclear weapons and scrap Trident's replacement as called for by CND

### **The People's Assembly resolves to:**

1. Approve and adopt the Peoples Charter as previously endorsed by a wide range of trade union and progressive movement organisations. The Assembly further agrees to the Peoples Charter for Change 2014 which applies the principles of the charter for 2014, up to the next Peoples Assembly conference

### **2.2. Supplement to motion 1.1: Supporting the People's Charter**

**Delegation name: Southampton People's Assembly**

#### **This Conference notes:**

- a. the work carried out by the People's Charter since its launch in 2008, and notes that the TUC supports the Charter.
- b. It also notes the similarity between those organisations supporting our Assembly and those affiliated to the People's Charter.

#### **This Conference believes:**

- a. the content of the People's Charter broadly reflects the aspirations of our Assembly.

**This Conference resolves:**

- a. that the People's Assembly affiliate to the People's Charter and proactively work with it to develop a policy platform in our future campaigns.

**2.3. Supplement to motion 1.1: Adopt People's Charter  
Delegation name: Birmingham People's Assembly**

**This Conference notes:**

- a. The importance of fighting austerity but also believes it is essential to offer alternative policies to those that are being implemented. The People's Charter offers the basis for an alternative to the anti-working class agenda at present being implemented.

**This Conference resolves:**

- a. The People's Charter should be adopted as policy of the People's Assembly.

**2.4. Supplement to motion 1.1: Include the Peoples Charter  
Delegation name: Dundee PA**

This conference acknowledges, supports and agrees to replicate the decision of the People's Assembly (Dundee) public meeting to include the six points of the Peoples Charter, namely

- A Fair Economy For A Fairer Britain
- More and Better Jobs
- Decent Homes For All
- Save and Improve Our Services
- Fairness And Justice
- A Better Future For All

In its aims, objectives and ongoing campaigning work as the basis of an alternative economic and political manifesto for the mobilisation of the widest possible anti-austerity movement up to, throughout and beyond the 2015 general election campaign.

**2.5. Supplement to motion 1.1: To adopt 6 demands of the People's Charter  
Delegation name: South Yorkshire PA**

**This Conference notes:**

- b. At the national launch meeting of the People's Assembly on 22 June 2013, one of the most popular workshops focused on the People's Charter.



**The Peoples Charter puts forward 6 demands:**

- a. for a fairer economy for a fairer Britain;
- b. for more & better jobs;
- c. for decent homes for all;
- d. to protect & improve our public services – no cuts;
- e. for fairness & justice;
- f. to build a secure & sustainable future for all

The PC is recognised by 18 unions, has been adopted by the TUC & included in trades councils' annual programme of work

The PC demands are progressive, and acceptable to a broad left alliance of trade unions & campaign groups.

**This Conference believes:**

As the PC is recognised and accepted by trade unions, the adoption of the PC by the People's Assembly would provide trade unionists & community activists with common goals namely:

- a. The demands of the PC relate to a wide range of campaign groups whose activities are embedded within the six demands – for example – Defend Council Housing
- b. The demands are specific enough to be clear on purpose but general enough to allow for varied local campaigning

**This Conference resolves:**

- a. To support the adoption of the People's Charter

**2.6. Supplement to motion 1.1: Ending austerity**

**Delegation name: Socialist economic bulletin**

**Conference notes:**

1. the policy of austerity has inflicted misery on millions of people, none of whom caused the economic crisis.
2. The government has worsened it by its own cuts, as closures and the dilapidation of our public services shows.
3. The cause of the crisis is the slump in investment brought about by private firms and the activities of the banks.
4. The fall in investment since the crisis began is now twice as large as the entire contraction in the economy.

5. One result of this is that companies are sitting on a cash mountain of hundreds of billions of pounds.

**Conference believes:**

1. There is plenty of money left.
2. But the banks are once more using it to fund speculation in housing, stock markets and basic commodities.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To promote all steps aimed at directing those firms to invest, taxing them and nationalising them that are necessary to ensure the investment to build a modern, high-skilled, high-wage high-employment economy which can provide decent social security and pensions for all.

**2.7. Supplement to motion 1.1: Support for Ill and Disabled People**

**Delegation name: WOW Petition**

**This Conference notes:**

1. that this Government's programme of austerity has fallen unduly on ill and disabled people in this country, with some disabled people dealing with up to 6 separate cuts to social security and facing losing up to £32,000 over a 5 year period.

**This Conference believes:**

1. that the cuts to services and social security are causing hardship and misery for many ill and disabled people and that the cumulative impact of all these cuts needs to be highlighted.

**This Conference resolves:**

1. to ensure that the rights of ill and disabled people are forefront in everything the Peoples Assembly does and that we will continue to campaign tirelessly in support of this valued group within our communities.

**2.8. Supplement to motion 1.1: Housing aims**

**Delegation name: Defend Council Housing**

**Conference notes:**

1. Worsening standards in the private rented sector, benefit cuts, the bedroom tax and some Housing Associations charging up to 80% market rents with fixed term tenancies – all create misery instead of secure and really-affordable homes and stable mixed communities.

**Conference believes:**

1. Direct public investment is essential, building new council homes to rent

2. Empty and unfit homes, and developers' unused land holdings, should be brought into public use
3. Stock transfer means privatisation of council housing, and undermines tenancy rights, increases rents and ends landlord's democratic accountability
4. Public investment in existing and new council and other homes built or re-fitted for energy efficiency, creates jobs and an alternative to the failing private housing market

**Conference resolves:**

1. To welcome and encourage united campaigns of tenants, trade unions, campaigners and politicians to stop privatisation and build the homes we need
2. Support policies to cap rents, not benefits
3. Oppose use of fixed term tenancies, up to 80% market (so-called 'Affordable') rents, and means testing for Council and Housing Association tenants
4. Support regulation of rents, conditions and tenancies in private rented sector (PRS), and resources for local Councils to do this

**2.9. Supplement to motion 1.1: National Campaign to Defend the NHS'**

**Delegation name: Cambridge and District Trade Union Council.**

Conference calls for the campaign to defend our National Health Service to be stepped up and made a priority, to include the following elements:

- Encourage the formation of local campaign groups in all areas to bring together all those who want to defend the NHS, and to support organisations such as Keep Our NHS Public who are already doing so.
- Encourage health workers to take a stand against cuts and privatisation. This includes stepping up the campaigns to defend and improve health workers' jobs, pay and conditions.
- Campaign nationally with demonstrations, lobbies and political pressure. A national demonstration must be organised in the run-up to the next general election to put defence of the NHS at the heart of the political debate.
- The key political demands must be:
  1. Scrapping the NHS and Social Care Act in its entirety.
  2. Bringing those NHS organisations which have been privatised back under public ownership and control.
  3. Ending the 'purchaser/ provider' split in the NHS.
  4. Working for much closer integration of health and social care.
  5. Campaigning against the impending trans-Atlantic trade agreement.
  6. Real protection for health and social care funding a priority.

### **2.10. Supplement to motion 1.1: Welfare not warfare**

**Delegation name: Stop the War**

**This assembly notes:**

1. That Britain has spent at least £40 billion on the war in Afghanistan, more than one billion on bombing Libya and has the fourth largest defence budget in the world.
2. That the majority of the population opposes these and other foreign interventions
3. That the government tells us there is no alternative to massive cut

**Believes:**

1. That resources should be switched from military expenditure to aid and welfare

**Resolves:**

1. That anti-war campaigning and the demand to spend money on welfare not warfare should continue to be central to the anti-austerity movement.

### **2.11. Supplement to motion 1.1: Rotherham Against the Cuts**

**Delegation name: Rotherham Against The Cuts**

**Zone: unsure - who passed it anyway? Check credentials**

We believe that the time is ripe for much more radical change than currently is on offer both by some of the key participants of National Peoples Assemblies as well as what the main political party of centre left -namely the Labour party.

It is our belief that we the national Peoples Assemblies can present clear alternatives that can seek to seek an new fairer economics and a much more participatory politics at every minute level at local and ascending up to the national level than the current top down party politics that have seen our Parliament represent the elite rich more than the mass of the peoples issues and concerns.

Also we believe that we should and must match the mass of the people's concerns in relation to the climate change issues and also on the wellbeing of everyone in our society and for the greater good of all peoples on the planet and for the earth's eco system.

### **2.12. Supplement to motion 1.1: Student and education aims**

**Delegation name: Student Assembly Against Austerity**

**Conference believes:**

1. The trebling of tuition fees, scrapping of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and education cuts represent huge attacks on students.
2. Low wages and rising energy, rent and travel costs are causing a cost of living crisis for students.

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3. The government's plans to privatise the student loan book would cause interest rates to rise – its equivalent to a retrospective hike in tuition fees.
4. In response to the recent upturn in the student movement's resistance to austerity there has been a huge crackdown. Students have been suspended from their courses, violently attacked by the police and even banned from protesting on some campuses.
5. The Student Assembly Against Austerity aims to build the People's Assembly amongst students and bring together the broadest possible movement to take on the austerity offensive.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To support the Student Assembly Against Austerity and their campaigns to:
  - a. End all cuts to education and public services
  - b. Stop the privatisation of student loans
  - c. Demand fair pay for all university and college staff
  - d. Defend our right to resist – stop the crackdown on protest
  - e. Take on the cost of living crisis
  - f. Bring back EMA

=====

## Zone 2: Structure and Finance

### 30 mins allocated for this zone

#### 1. Theme: Structure

##### 1.1. Guest speaker TBC

*15 minutes allocated to this theme*

One main motion

3 supplements

1 amendment

##### 1.2. Main motion title: People's assembly structure

**Delegation name: Signatories**

**Proposer:** People's Assembly Signatories Group **5 mins**

**Speech for the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment, property of submitter:** **3 mins**

**Speech against 1<sup>st</sup> amendment:** **3 mins**

**Right to reply:** (waive if no speech against) **2 mins**

*Property of who submitted main motion*

**Total time: 13 mins**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. that the People's Assembly started as an umbrella campaign organisation made up national organisations who signed the statement against austerity.
2. That the People's Assembly now has an organisation across the UK. There are assemblies representing groups, such as women and students, geographically based local assemblies, and Scotland has established an assembly.

**Conference resolves:** to formalise our developing structure as follows:

1. To create a body known as "The Assembly".
2. The Assembly should to manage the People's Assembly between conferences.
3. The Assembly should be made up of:
  1. One representative of each national signatory
  2. One representative for each local, national or group assembly.
4. To create a management group, including officers.
5. To create a steering group made up of representatives of signatory organisations
6. The management group will be nominated by the steering group and endorsed by The Assembly.

7. The Assembly will meet at least twice a year, and the other bodies meet as necessary.

**Conference further resolves:**

1. Within 18 months of the close of the 2014 conference a further conference should be held, where the further development of the structure of the People's Assembly can be considered.

**1.3. Supplement to structure motion 1.2: CoR's proposal for aims**

**Delegation name: Coalition of Resistance**

**The People's Assembly:**

1. is a broad united national campaign against austerity, cuts and privatisation in our workplaces, community and welfare services, based on general agreement with the signatories' Founding Statement.
2. is linked to no political party, committed to open non-sectarian working and dedicated to supplementing, rather than supplanting, trade union, student, pensioner and community opposition to austerity measures.
3. is based on affiliation by individual supporters, unions nationally and locally, anti-cuts campaigns, and other student, pensioner, unemployed, disabled people's, women's, Black people's, youth and LGBT campaigning organisations.
4. aspires to support, encourage, coordinate joint action, and facilitate a transfer of experience rather than to command.
5. encourages the establishment of new local campaigns and/or People's Assemblies.
6. organises newsletters, a website, twitter, Facebook and social media, meetings, conferences, lobbies, rallies, marches, demonstrations and other events.
7. vehemently opposes all proposals to "solve" the crisis by discrimination or scapegoating on grounds of disability, race, religion, ethnic origin, nationality, gender, age, sexual orientation or identity.
8. liaises closely with similar movements in other countries resisting austerity measures.
9. encourages a wide debate on how to protect the welfare state and develop an alternative programme for economic and social recovery.

**1.4. Supplement to structure motion 1.2: National Committee**

**Delegation name: Calderdale People's Assembly**

**Conference notes:**

1. the success of many nationally organised campaigns, such as Stop The War Coalition, Stop The Poll Tax Campaign, going beyond campaigning locally

**Conference believes:**

1. that the People's Assembly needs a central council to conduct and coordinate the campaign nationally and to provide leadership and coordination with the local groups

**Conference resolves:**

1. to elect a national committee, who will work democratically to coordinate action and develop ideas, at regular national meeting with delegates from the local People's Assemblies and its affiliates to create a strong national organisation

**1.5. Supplement to structure motion 1.2: National Steering Committee**

**Delegation name: Derby People's Assembly**

**Conference notes:**

1. the wide range of actions taken by the National People's Assembly and local People's Assemblies over the nine months of our existence

**Conference believes:**

1. that many local Assembly groups have ideas and proposals for action that would need to be implemented nationally if it were to be successful

**Conference resolves:**

1. that the National Steering Committee should establish a system by which local groups can make proposals for national Assembly action that will be properly and systematically considered and responded to in reasonable time. This system might include the establishment of a national action committee to consider all such proposals.

**1.6. Amendment to structure motion 1.2: To exercise participatory democracy**

**Delegation name: Manchester People's Assembly**

**Conference notes:**

1. The turnout in the 2010 UK general election was 65.1%.
2. Manchester Central had the lowest turnout at 44.31%.

**Conference believes:**

1. People feel increasing disenfranchised from our political system where they feel their vote does not count & their voice is not heard.
2. People feel that politicians do not make decisions in the interest and well being of the people and the planet. Instead protecting the wealth and power of their friends and corporations.
3. The current centralized 'system' is undemocratic and a major factor in how those in power are able to operate.



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4. There is an alternative, participatory democracy. The case for this is based a new way of doing politics as exemplified by Occupy & 15M.
5. The People's Assembly has an opportunity to lead by example and use it as a way to strengthen and grow the movement and foster a wider engagement with politics.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To work towards incorporating participatory democracy and consensus decision-making across the PAAA.
2. To work towards a decentralized structure.
3. To establish a working group to look at the implementation of participatory democracy across the PAAA.

## 2. Theme: Finance

*15 minutes allocated to this theme*

One main motion,  
2 amendments

<b>Proposer:</b> People's Assembly Signatories Group	<b>5 mins</b>
<b>Speech for the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment, property of submitter:</b>	3 mins
<b>Speech against 1<sup>st</sup> amendment:</b>	3 mins
<b>Speech for the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment, property of submitter:</b>	3 mins
<b>Speech against 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment:</b>	3 mins, who?
<b>Speech against whole motion as amended (or not): free speech?</b>	2 mins
<b>Right to reply:</b> (waive if no speech against) <b>Property of who submitted main motion</b>	2 mins

Total time: **21 mins**

### 2.1. Finance Main Motion: Peoples Assembly Finance Delegation name: Signatories

#### Conference notes:

1. That all People's Assembly funding has been raised through donations.

#### Conference believes:

1. As an organisation based on action rather than words, that The People's Assembly needs to raise the maximum level of funds to support its programme of campaign activity.
2. But, as an organisation committed to fighting austerity,
3. that the People's Assembly also needs to ensure that no individual or organisation is excluded on the basis of affordability.

#### Conference resolves:

1. Individual membership should be a minimum of £1 per month for the waged and free for the unwaged.
2. For local groups to contribute a minimum of £5 per month to enable the national office to assist with local organisation to include:
  - a. Access to local databases
  - b. Designated self-managed area on website for local group

- c. Assistance with speakers and generic flyer design where possible
  - d. Publicising local group info on Facebook, Twitter and other social media outlets
3. National signatory organisations should pay an affiliation fee of at least £50 per year.

## **2.2. Amendment to Main Finance Motion: National Finance to fund 30% of Local Groups**

**Delegation name: Brighton People's Assembly:**

**Conference notes:**

1. that many local People's Assembly groups have no source of funding other than the voluntary contributions of individual activists.

**Conference believes:**

1. that it is important to establish a financial structure which strengthens the link between local People's Assembly groups and the national office; and
2. that national office and local groups should not find themselves competing for financial support from the same people

**Conference resolves:**

1. that 30% of all individual donations and membership fees paid to the national People's Assembly should be remitted to the local group closest to where the donor lives; and
2. that individual members of the national organisation should be encouraged to get involved in their local group.

## **2.3. Amendment to Main Finance Motion: Voluntary funding and paid locally**

**Delegation name: West Yorkshire People's Assembly against Austerity**

**Conference notes:**

1. funding is needed for both the national organisation and local groups to function and to run their campaigns

**Conference believes:**

1. the People's Assembly should be a network of individuals and organisations with no barriers to participation, enabling people to participate for as long or short a time as they wish with no differentiation of status
2. a paid membership scheme will exclude some people
3. bureaucracy should be kept to a minimum and both central and local spend should be transparent and accountable to local members

**Conference resolves:**

1. union contribution should be sought as a priority both nationally and locally

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2. individual members will be encouraged to set up voluntary standing orders in favour of the local organisation  
local branches may distribute funds to the national organisation in response to requests for funding which are accompanied by a budget and costing.

## Zone 3: Future Actions

**2 hours allocated for this debate**

### 1. Local reports

A number of local reports delivered verbally **15 mins**

### 2. Guest speaker: Kirstine Carbutt, Doncaster Unison on Care UK

**5 mins**

### 3. Theme: Main Action Plan

*15 minutes allocated to this theme*

1 Motion

9 supplements

**Proposer:** People's Assembly Signatories Group **5 mins**

**Supplementary speech:** (drawn by lottery from submitters) **2 mins**

**Speaker against:** **3 mins**

**Summation:** (waive if there's no speech against) **2 mins**

**Total time: 12 mins**

#### 3.1. The Year Ahead from the People's Assembly signatories

**Delegation name: Signatories group**

#### Conference notes:

1. The government is increasingly weak and unpopular. Cameron has announced there needs to be 'permanent austerity'.
2. The People's Assembly launched with a conference of over 4,000, played a big role in mobilising for the 29 September demo at the Conservative Party conference, had widespread media coverage and big actions across the country on 5 November day of civil disobedience.
3. Over 80 local People's Assembly groups have been set up, most of these groups have organised historic sized meetings, rallies and events over the last year.

**Conference believes:**

1. Mobilising hundreds of thousands of people not only challenges the mainstream austerity consensus but is the only way to stop it in its tracks.
2. Having a structure that can co-ordinate national events, days of action and support groups is essential.
3. Activity is the best way to grow the organisation. We need more action on both a national and local level if we are to challenge austerity.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To work to set up new People's Assembly groups.
2. To make strengthening both local groups and the central organisation a priority.
3. To continue to hold meetings, rallies, protests and actions in every locality possible.
4. To mobilise for the following national events:
  - **19 March:** Budget day demonstrations
  - **22 March:** Stand up to racism demo
  - **26 March:** Support for NUT strikes
  - **5 April:** Day of action against the Bedroom Tax
  - **May Day events**
  - **21 June:** People's Assembly National Demonstration
  - **31 August:** NATO protest, Cardiff
  - **28 September:** Tory Party Conference
  - **18 October:** TUC National Demonstration

**3.2. Supplement to Main Action plan 3.1: Building a broad, united movement**

**Delegation name: Communist Party of Britain**

**Conference welcomes:**

1. the increasing number of local Peoples Assemblies, and their coordinated work with local Trades Unions and Trades Union Councils.

**Conference believes:**

1. The principles of the People's Charter and the aspirations of the Charter for Women together provide the arguments for a better, fairer future that will never be achieved while austerity reigns.
2. The real proponents of Austerity are the monopoly business and banking corporations, supported by the Government and the State as a whole
3. The fight for public ownership in the economy is central to breaking the power of Big Business monopolies

4. The fight back requires a united movement that brings together People's Assemblies, trades union organisations and campaigning groups at all levels.
5. The situation demands not just a campaign group but a deeply rooted movement in which the people are the driving force and lead sustained activity

**Conference calls on all supporters:**

1. to offer solidarity to genuine actions in workplaces and in communities taken against any of the cuts and austerity measures
2. to identify pro austerity political organisations and monopoly corporations in their area, their activities and all the victims of such monopoly activity
3. to aim to build a broad, democratic anti-monopoly alliance locally and nationally

**3.3. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: To continue to widen the base of support for People's Assemblies in every area**

**Delegation name: North London PA**

**Conference notes:**

1. The huge growth in local and regional People's Assemblies Against Austerity, with successful People's Assemblies Against Austerities taking place across the country, alongside numerous other successful initiatives organized by these groups.
2. The successful 'Hands off our Unions – defend the right to resist' initiative and support for the right to protest.
3. The increasing attacks on those who oppose the cuts, including further undermining of our democratic rights to protest and resist. We have seen the use of aggressive policing methods such as kettling have increased; students protesting on campus met with police violence; the 'Gagging Bill'; crackdowns on public spaces being used for protest and threats to further tighten the legal shackles on trades unions.
4. The Institute for Fiscal Studies' report that of planned cuts before 2018, only 60% have so far been implemented.

**Conference believes:**

1. The national day of action on 14th December demonstrated that such groups can create vibrant, creative actions across the country to create an outward looking, broad anti-austerity movement.
2. Local groups should continue to be encouraged in their work to support building the national People's Assembly Against Austerity, the national anti-austerity movement, including by building up funds to enable participation in national PAAA activities.

3. Local groups should also work to raise funds and support for the national office and campaign to help build the infrastructure for the People's Assembly to ensure we have a movement that can go from strength to strength in the fight ahead.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To continue to support local People's Assemblies Against Austerity and the formation of new groups in areas where they have not yet been formed.
2. To continue to widen the base of support for People's Assemblies in every area by actively approaching community groups, campaigning organisations, trade union branches, faith groups, prominent individuals and local politicians and asking them to affiliate to or formally support the group.

**3.4. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: Women's Assembly Against Austerity**  
**Delegation name: National Assembly of Women**

**Conference notes:**

1. Women remain at the sharp end of the government's economic and social austerity policies. As women's unemployment rises, wages fall, the pay gap widens, benefits are cut and household and living costs rise, women face a daily struggle to keep themselves and their families from slipping deeper into poverty.
2. In the workplace and in the day-to-day battles against poverty, discrimination, racism, attacks on disabled people, the blight of war and the destruction of the environment, women are fighting back. This was reflected in the tremendously successful Women's Assembly Against Austerity held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014.

**Conference believes:**

1. It is a travesty that 45 years after the Dagenham women workers fought for equal pay, we see increasing parts of our economy fuelled on cheap labour, with more than one in five earning less than a living wage and two-thirds of these women.
2. The People's Assembly Against Austerity has a vital role to play in organising, co-ordinating and mobilising opposition to austerity policies and it is crucial that women's voices and the unique experience of women are integrated in the fight against the Government's unnecessary austerity policies.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To ensure women are fully involved in the formulation of alternative progressive economic and social policies that are developed by the People's Assembly so that they are truly representative of the whole of the working class.



2. To support a second Women's Assembly in 2015

**3.5. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: Continue To Support The WOW Campaign**  
**Delegation name: WOW Petition**

**Conference notes:**

1. the success of the WOW Campaign in achieving over 100,000 signatures and in securing a Back Bench Business Committee debate in the House of Commons.
2. That the WOW Campaign thanks the Peoples Assembly for their continued support

**Conference resolves:**

1. to support the WOW Campaign as they and their supporters continue to campaign on behalf of ill and disabled people and against the worsening cuts to social security and support services.

**3.6. Supplement to Main Action Plan 31.: Organizing a national day of demo at local levels**

**Delegation name: Cambridge People's Assembly**

**This Conference notes: that:**

1. National demonstrations have a poor media coverage (e.g. the Manchester demo to keep our NHS public);
2. All local People's Assemblies have created links with local media and have a good coverage of their events;
3. Get people mobilised requires time and energy.

**This Conference believes: that:**

1. The People's Assembly should organize a national day of demonstrations against austerity;
1. It shouldn't be centralised in a specific city, but should happen in several places at the same day/hour;
2. It should be held on a Saturday;
2. At least 6 months notice should be given to organize this demonstration.

**This Conference resolves:**

1. to organise a national day of demonstrations in every town and every city between September 2014 and the general election.

### **3.7. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: To produce and supply a myth busting leaflet**

**Delegation name: Swindon People Assembly**

**Conference notes:**

1. We want and need to engage as many people as possible in PAAA
2. There is a lot of misinformation in the media and we need some hard proven facts to quote.
3. During debate and actions Swindon Peoples Assembly have have been challenged to come up with a bigger picture of austerity and its effect on the people.

**This Conference believes:**

1. More people would want to become involved if they really knew and trusted the facts.
2. We could confidently highlight the misinformation and point to proven facts, encouraging more people to get involved.
3. Leaflet should include facts on privatisation of NHS, government benefits cuts, climate change, ATOS, Capita, Serco, G4S links with government and their profits, who caused the financial crisis, tax avoidance figures and food banks.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To produce a clear, simple, easily understood, short, small, jargon free, myth busting, generic leaflet to be used nationally, quoting trusted sources of information with national contact information and a space for local groups to stamp their contact details.

### **3.8. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: Key issues to campaign on**

**Delegation name: Hexham People's Assembly**

**Conference resolves:**

1. Raising Awareness of local groups
2. Disabled Accessibility to venues
3. Better Communication to filter down from head office to local assemblies
4. Benefit Sanctions
5. Disabled Campaign Support not just workers.
6. Rural Issues relating demographics.
7. As a matter of urgency we join with others such as the Churches behind the endhungerfast campaign, to call on an immediate end to sanctions. They are inhumane, serve no legitimate purpose and have no place in Britain today.

### **3.9. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: combating austerity measures of the present coalition government**

**Delegation name: Selby People's Assembly against Austerity**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. the coalition government is persisting in policies which are creating enormous hardship for many unemployed people and people on low incomes
2. whilst people on good incomes remain untouched and many people on high incomes are benefiting
3. this is leading to ever greater inequality in society and very real distress for many disadvantaged people

#### **Conference believes:**

1. its overarching priority is to fight against poverty and for equality

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. To focus its efforts on areas such as overturning sanctions from Jobcentre Plus, the Bedroom Tax and Atos assessments and in looking for new ways of creating a more equal society and eradicating poverty.

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### **3.10. Supplement to Main Action Plan 3.1: May Day**

**Delegation name: London May Day Organising Committee**

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. To states its support for May Day on May 1st each year. We recognise that the trade union movement has a long held policy of supporting May Day on May 1st Europe and in a large part of the world. It is a celebration of international solidarity particularly at this time of attack on workers living standards
2. We revive the call for May 1st to full celebration whilst May 1<sup>st</sup>
3. We recognise the magnificent support given to London May Day by the different migrant worker origin communities
4. We urge organisations to mobilise support for the London May Day (always held on May 1st) and May Day celebrations around the country.
5. We urge unions involved in industrial action to consider May 1st appropriate date for such action.
6. May Day on May 1st is celebrated in nearly every country to be a public holiday, recognising the obstacle is a working day.

#### **4. Theme: Public Ownership/economy**

10 mins allocated for this theme

1 motion

6 supplements

<b>Speech for theme: submitter of main motion</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Supplementary speech: drawn by lottery from supplementaries</b>	<b>3 mins</b>

<b>Speech against theme:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Right to reply:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 11mins**

##### **4.1. Motion title: Austerity IS working** **Delegation name: Communist Party of Britain**

###### **Conference notes:**

1. the wealth gap continues to widen, the value of wages continues to fall, while corporate profits, top salaries and bonuses continue to increase. Despite "recovery" propaganda, the recession and the underlying causes of economic crisis remain.

###### **Conference believes:**

1. that austerity IS working. Government intention is to
  - a) rebalance the economy in favour of big monopoly business
  - b) increase profits and private wealth of the richest 10% of the population, by reducing pay and pensions of workers and imposing labour flexibility, worsening working conditions and greater job insecurity
  - c) create social divisions, demonising the victims of austerity;
  - d) impose widespread privatisation across services and industries at home and abroad, using organisations such as the IMF and the European Union to spearhead the process.

###### **Conference resolves:**

1. To continue to demonstrate that there is no economic need for ANY austerity measures
2. publicise the real intent of austerity policies in Assembly publications;

3. establish an Assembly Inquiry to investigate the European Union's role in the imposition of austerity, reporting to The Assembly committee
4. produce materials, both print and online, demystifying the economics and politics of austerity and revealing the true nature of the class war identified clearly at our founding conference.

#### **4.2. Supplement to motion 4.1: Public Ownership of key industries** **Proposed by: Cardiff People's Assembly**

##### **Conference notes that:**

1. The impact of austerity policies on working people and their families has been made all the sharper by rampant profiteering in the privatised gas, electricity and railway industries.
2. The private train operating companies are subsidised by public money on a far bigger scale than British Rail.
3. Half of the profits made by the Big Six energy companies are passed directly to shareholders in dividends rather than invested in infrastructure.
4. Attempts to regulate corporate profiteering in the energy sector have been a sham.

##### **Conference calls for:**

1. The restoration of the gas, electricity and railway industries to public ownership, with public interest put before the compensation of wealthy shareholders, developing a model of social ownership in which the interests of workers, local communities, users and society generally are fully represented.

##### **Conference therefore resolves to:**

1. Highlight the economic, environmental and social case for democratic public ownership, including its role in counteracting the austerity and privatisation drive demanded by big business.
2. Approach the railway unions with a view to jointly campaigning for public ownership of Britain's privatised railway system.
3. Campaign to make public ownership a major issue in the 2015 General Election.

### **4.3. Supplement to motion 4.1: Against Privatisation Rally & Demo at Tory Conference**

#### **Delegation: South East London People's Assembly**

##### **Believes:**

1. PAAA believes that the privatisations that have taken place are part of the overall austerity offensive which sees pay, pensions, jobs and services being cut in order to line the pockets of big business. This includes Royal Mail, the NHS, Lloyds Bank, local services, the East Coast mainline and many more.
2. Important independent campaigns have arisen to oppose these and other privatisations and our trade unions have been involved in opposing them.

##### **Resolves:**

1. The PAAA resolves to hold a major rally involving these groups and unions around the theme of 'Stop the privatisations. Hands off assets we paid for!'
2. PAAA resolves to campaign against privatisation from now and after 2015, whoever is elected.
3. PAAA resolves to hold a mass protest outside the Tory Party conference in Birmingham on Sunday 28 September 2014

### **Supplement to Motion 9.1: Opposing Privatisation**

#### **Delegation name: Labour Assembly Against Austerity**

##### **Conference notes:**

1. Privatisation, most recently in the Royal Mail, and ongoing in education and health, has reduced the quality of public services and has been used to drive down pay, pensions, and to cut jobs.
2. Public opinion supports the public utilities being operated by in the public sector.

##### **Conference believes:**

1. The public utilities should be returned to public ownership, in particular the Royal Mail, the energy companies and water.
2. Privatisation of education and health care should be halted and reversed.

##### **Conference resolves:**

1. The People's Assembly Against Austerity will organise a public rally, in conjunction with trade unions and appropriate campaigning groups in opposition to privatisation.

#### **4.4. Supplement to motion 4.1: Bring services back in-house**

##### **Delegation name: BAPS: Barnet Alliance for Public Services**

The PAAA supports the fight of all residents – able and disabled – carers and workers against the mass privatisation of public services, which is damaging local economies and communities.

##### **Conference resolves to:**

1. Call for whoever is elected to councils in May to pull out of privatization contracts and bring services back in-house to ensure long-term good-quality services for all.

#### **4.5. Supplement to motion 4.1: To send our deficit cutting solutions to government**

##### **Delegation name: Hackney People's Assembly**

##### **Conference notes:**

1. The government argues that the national deficit must be cleared, and that this requires extensive cuts in government spending on public services.

##### **Conference believes:**

1. In order to clear the deficit by increasing government income, other ways can be found than cutting public services. These methods are set out in the resolution, below.

##### **Conference resolves:**

1. That the People's Assembly propose the following to the government, as means of clearing the national deficit, so that the cuts policy can be terminated:
  - a) Raise income tax to 50% for those in the top earning bracket
  - b) Tighten up on the operation of the tax system, in an effort to terminate all illegal tax evasion and avoidance, in all British territories. This will mean increasing staff at HMRC.
  - c) Introduce a tax on all financial transactions in Britain's money markets.
  - d) Introduce a land value tax.
  - e) Create incentives for top companies to invest their approx. £750 billion cash pile in jobcreation, and so, like the above measures, produce more tax revenue.

#### **4.6. Supplement to motion 4.1: Stop the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership**

**Delegation name: Cambridge People's Assembly**

##### **Conference notes:**

1. that the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) agreement being negotiated between the United States and the European Union will :
2. force European and thereby United Kingdom law into line with that of the US, so as to allow for example the same reckless ventures in fracking;
3. restrict the subsidy of state-owned enterprises, that is, funding for public services;
4. allow big business to sue governments through investor-state dispute settlement, which means that these legal cases won't be settled or judged by traditional courts, but by arbitral tribunals consisting of private lawyers and adjudicators;
5. be the biggest trade deal of all time, agreed without public debate or media coverage.

##### **Conference believes:**

That the TTIP will

1. make big corporations more powerful than states;
2. have a detrimental impact on the people, economy, and ecology of the UK;
3. make all of our current struggles pointless, and be extremely difficult to reverse;
4. is a frontal assault against democracy.

##### **Conference resolves:**

1. to increase awareness and media coverage through one or several days of action to protest against the TTIP and to reclaim a public debate.

#### **4.7. Supplement to motion 4.1: A railway that puts people before profit**

**Delegation name: Derby People's Assembly Zone: ?**

Since privatisation, more than £11 billion of public funds has been misspent on our railways: on debt write-offs, dividend payments to private investors, fragmentation costs including profit margins of complex tiers of contractors and sub-contractors, and higher interest payments in order to keep Network Rail's debts off the government balance sheet.

At the same time, privatisation has failed to deliver on its promises. Genuine private investment makes an insignificant contribution to the railways, representing about one per cent of the total money that goes into the railway each year. Our fares are among the highest in Europe, many of our services are overcrowded and rely on obsolete rolling stock.



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Action for Rail (the TUC led consortium of unions and community organisations) is arguing that the UK government should replace the current fragmented system with a publicly owned railway that makes sure that the system operates as a coherent whole. That is not only good for passengers and taxpayers. It's good for our climate and economy.

- See more at: <http://actionforrail.org/our-alternative/#sthash.0cedkVMJ.dpuf>

**Conference resolves:**

1. to fully support the Action for Rail consortium and any actions relating to public ownership

## **5. Theme: Trade Unions 5.1 and 6.1 taken together 25 minutes allocated to this theme**

Two main motions

4 supplements

1 amendments

<b>Proposer:</b> property of submitter of 1 <sup>st</sup> main motion	<b>5 mins</b>
<b>Free speeches</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Free speeches</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Secunder</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Speech for amendment 4.4 (property of one of the submitters):</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Speech against amendment 4.4: free</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Right to reply:</b> (waive if no speech against) <b><i>Property of submitter of main motion</i></b>	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 18mins**

### **5.1. Motion title: Supporting Unions, for a National Demo Delegation name: Counterfire**

#### **This conference notes:**

1. Escalating attacks on the trade unions in the media and by politicians.
2. That trades unions - the largest organisations of working people – are at the forefront of the struggle against austerity and must be central to any effective strategy of resistance.
3. The launch of the Hands off Our Unions campaign.
4. The RMT's strikes on the tube which had wide public support and forced Boris Johnson to reopen negotiations
5. The decision by the NUT to call another national strike on March 26.

#### **Conference believes:**

1. Supporting and increasing the combativity of the trade unions is a crucial task for everyone who opposes austerity.
2. Collaboration between the unions and the wider protest movement is essential. Marches and protests can boost confidence for action in the workplace.
3. The People's Assembly is an ideal vehicle for this co-operation.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To support upcoming strike action by joining pickets and protests and popularising the case of the strikers.
2. To campaign for more co-ordinated and sustained strike action.
3. To encourage trade unions at all levels to affiliate to and participate in the People's Assemblies and to seek joint work wherever possible.
4. To contact union bodies nationally and locally to support and build the demonstration against austerity on June 21<sup>st</sup>

**5.2. Supplement to Motion 5.1: Fighting austerity: a wider role for the unions.**

**Delegation name: Leeds/West Yorkshire branch.**

**Conference notes:**

1. That since the inception of the People's Assembly the unions have been a vital partner in the fight against austerity, social injustice and government inflicted poverty on millions of families. We feel that this role could be further enhanced by the unions offering membership to those beyond the ranks of the employed who so need to be included in a wider movement of solidarity and resistance.

**Conference believes:**

1. That the recent example of Unite the Union in setting up Community Branches shows how the victims of austerity can be drawn into a sense of collective optimism that can allow them to escape the disenfranchisement, isolation and despair of austerity.

**Conference resolves:**

1. In the spirit of fraternity and solidarity to call upon the Trade Union Congress to promote among its affiliated unions the concepts of:
  - a. Extending union membership to all those:
  - b. Determined to protect their families and communities from the ravages of austerity
  - c. Offer welfare and legal advice to those in need
  - d. Offer the facilities of Credit Unions- or better, one Big Workers Credit Union as an alternative to the credit companies and loan sharks
  - e. Offer the embrace of a movement steeped in the culture of solidarity and hope as an antidote to government inspired campaigns of scapegoating, intolerance and divide and rule
  - f. To offer protection to those forced into casual, zero hour contracts and precarious the 'self-employed' margins of the labour market.

**5.3. Supplement to Motion 5.1: Defend Union Representation**  
**Delegation name: BAPS: Barnet Alliance for Public Services**

The PAAA rejects unprecedented attacks on trade unions in various parts of the country that prevent them from representing their members in the face of massive redundancies, pay cuts, and dispersal of service departments and jobs, and calls for the immediate reinstatement of the previous level of facility time where these were reduced, to enable the union officers to function effectively, for the benefit of all workers and employers.

**5.4. Supplement to Motion 5.1: Opposing the Gagging Laws**  
**Delegation name: Southampton People's Assembly**

**Conference notes:**

1. That the "Transparency of Lobbying, Non-party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Act 2014" is now law. Conference also notes that the law comes into effect in September 2014.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To confront any future proposed limitation imposed by this Act on our campaigns.
2. To campaign for the repeal of the Act.
3. Conference calls on the Steering Committee to give guidance to local Assemblies on how best to work within the Act in the interim.
4. Conference is also resolved to act in solidarity with any other progressive campaign threatened by actions arising from this Act.

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**6. Theme: Trade Unions cont.**

**6.1. Motion title: Fighting trade unions**

**Delegation names:**

- i. **Birmingham People's Assembly**
- ii. **Bristol People's Assembly**
- iii. **Norfolk Peoples Assembly**
- iv. **North East People's Assembly**
- v. **South Yorks PA**
- vi. **Sunderland PA**

**Conference notes:**

1. The success of the Defend the Right to Resist petition initiated by the People's Assembly.

2. The continuing attacks on our trade unions by bosses and the government.

**Conference believes:**

1. That we need strong trade unions in every workplace.
2. That we need many more victories such as that at the Hovis workers at Wigan against zero hours contracts.
3. That fighting unions will be the ones that recruit and retain members.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To redouble efforts to support trade unions and the right to resist.
2. To support all strikes against austerity or attacks on workers and their rights, official or unofficial.
3. To call on and support the TUC to implement the motion passed at Congress 2013 for a midweek day of action and protest including co-ordinated strikes.

**6.2. Supplement to Motion 6.1: For fighting unions**

**Delegation name: Bristol People's Assembly**

**Conference notes:**

1. The massive assault on council jobs and services for example the huge cuts in Bristol.
2. The continuing attacks on trade union leaders by the government and media as a way of undermining strike demands, as illustrated by the attacks on Bob Crow during the recent tube strikes

**Conference believes:**

1. We must support our trade unions when resisting austerity and oppose any attempts by government and bosses to make workers pay for the crisis.

**Conference resolves:**

**6.3. Amendment to Motion 6.1: For fighting trade unions**

**Delegation names:**

- i. **Birmingham PA**
- ii. **South Yorks PA**
- iii. **Sunderland PA**

**Conference believes:**

1. That instead of accepting the demands of billionaire bosses such as Jim Ratcliffe of Ineos at Grangemouth, our unions need to resist attempts to make workers pay for the crisis.

## **7. Theme: Bedroom Tax and Housing**

15 minutes allocated to this theme

One main motion

3 supplements

1 amendment

**Proposer:** submitter of lead motion **3 mins**  
**Supporting speech from one supplement submitters drawn by lottery:** **2 mins**

**Speech against:** **3 mins**  
**Summation if speech against:** **2mins**

(This was in the email of Manchester PA one: Maria Brabiner - delegate from the Manchester PA to move DPAC - to second)

**Total time: 10 mins**

### **7.1. Main motion: Support Unite Action on Bedroom Tax**

**Delegation names: Unite Community Branches:**

**i. Camden and Islington**

**ii. Lambeth**

**iii. Portsmouth**

#### **Conference notes:**

2. The pain and misery the bedroom tax and other measures contained in the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (the Act) caused thousands of people across the UK, leading to suicide, debt, poverty, homelessness and evictions.
3. The weakening of many such measures, particularly The bedroom tax where:
  - a. significant appeals challenging the policy are being won
  - b. the Scottish Government will fully mitigate the impact on Scottish residents
  - c. the 1996 rule renders the charges made since 1 April 2013 redeemable for many.
4. Universal credit which has already cost hundreds of thousands of pounds, but which is severely delayed, thus far rolled out to a few thousand claimants.
5. Hugely unpopular nature of the bedroom tax, consistently shown to be opposed by the majority of the population.

**Conference believes:**

1. that with sustained effort and public mobilisation against the Act's measures some could be withdrawn, abolished, or made impossible to implement.

**Conference resolves:**

2. to support all genuinely grass-roots community based action opposing the bedroom tax and the Act's other measures.
3. to support action against the bedroom tax and other welfare reforms on 5th April called by Unite Community.

**7.2. Supplement to Main Motion: Make The Bedroom Tax History! Support the Demonstrations and Protest on April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Delegation names:**

- a. **Defend Council Housing**
- b. **Manchester PA**

**Conference notes:**

1. In April the Bedroom Tax will be One Year Old.
2. The Bedroom Tax has been condemned by the UN, scrapped in Scotland, rejected/undermined in Courts and Tribunals, is opposed by the trades unions and charities, and Labour have pledged to Axe the Tax in 2015.
3. In 2014 tenants still face the misery the Bedroom Tax. A policy of malnutrition, it brings stress and the worry of eviction. This cruel tax hits mostly people who are disabled.
4. Ministers who live in mansions, have second homes, and feast on subsidised food, introduced the Bedroom Tax.

**Conference believes:**

1. that the Bedroom Tax should be scrapped now!

**Conference resolves:**

1. To give full support to the co-ordinated marches and protests initiated by the Anti Bedroom Tax and Benefits Justice Federation, to be held in many towns and cities, on Saturday 5th April.

### **7.3. Supplement to main motion 7.1: Anti-Bedroom Tax campaigns as a priority campaign**

**Delegation name: Calderdale People's Assembly**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. the recent successes in the courts and tribunals undermining the government's position on the Bedroom Tax.
2. The 1996 ruling has been accepted though new regulations may overturn it; The definition of a bedroom accepted by the upper tribunal; Rulings have defined the minimum size of a Bedroom; The duty of the Local Authorities in determining Housing Benefit entitlement extends beyond accepting a landlords description of a property;
3. These provides a number of new grounds for appeal against the tax.

#### **Conference believes:**

1. The campaign against the Bedroom Tax can be won. That victory will give heart to other campaigns and seriously weaken this Condem government's ability to push through further benefit cuts and public spending cuts. Priority should be given to an immediate drive to win this campaign. Every successful appeal brings victory closer.

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. to prioritise this campaign and support all local and national campaigning initiatives (including any calls from those forced to pay, for a non payment campaign), and marches and protests called for 5th April.
2. Conference particularly resolves to call for local groups to provide what support they can to enable as many appeals as possible and to assist in publicising victories.

### **7.4. Supplement to main motion 7.1: Make The Bedroom Tax History! Support the Demo and Protest on April 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Delegation name: Defend Council Housing**

#### **Conference resolves to:**

1. Publicise the details of those and other protests through the People's Assembly networks, and website.
2. Send speakers from the People's Assembly to those protests.



**7.5. Supplement to main motion 7.1: Conference on the Housing Crisis**  
**Delegation name: Waltham Forest People's assembly**

Recognising that the housing crisis is particularly acute in London the People's Assembly agrees to:

1. initiate and promote a London conference bringing together all activists, political representatives, housing campaigns and unions prepared to fight for Living Rents in London and for a programme of council house-building.

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## **8. Theme: Employment rights**

10 minutes allocated to this theme

2 motions

**Proposer 1<sup>st</sup> motion:** **3 mins**

**Proposer 2<sup>nd</sup> motion:** **3 mins**

**Speech against theme:** **3 mins**

**Right to reply if necessary:** **2 mins**

**Total Time: 11 mins**

### **8.1. Motion title: Action on Zero Hour Contracts**

**Delegation name: Hackney People's Assembly**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. Zero hours contracts and other precarious working arrangements are on the rise – even in schools, seeing recently the first free school strike over such working conditions.

#### **Conference believes:**

1. Government is using them to inflate employment figures and keep people feeling insecure, even in work.

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. To call for days of action highlighting the use of zero hours contracts to inflate employment figures and reduce living standards, by picketing employers who use such contracts in the manner of the successful campaign against Youth Apprenticeships.
2. Motion title: condemn work placements in the adult entertainment sector

### **8.2. Motion title: Against Sex Industry Work Placements**

**Delegation name: North Staffordshire Peoples' Assembly**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. that unemployed workers are being compelled to take up so-called work experience placements under the Government's 'Work Programme', on pain of draconian sanctions if they refuse, providing subsidised labour for already highly profitable private companies.

**Conference believes:**

1. that the DWP's guidelines for one of these schemes – the Youth Contract - fail to protect young people aged 18 – 24 employed in establishments such as massage parlours and lap-dancing clubs, and in fact encourage their proprietors to contact Jobcentres and Work Programme contractors for cheap labour, thus drawing potentially impressionable and vulnerable young people into a working environment in which they are at risk of sexual exploitation.
2. that while the Government continues to cut funding for social security benefits, it can find taxpayers' money for pornographers.

**Conference further:**

1. believes that young people will not have the courage or confidence to decline any such placement due to the risk of sanctions, which recent DWP statistics show are applied disproportionately to young people.

**Conference resolves:**

1. to condemn this scheme and calls upon the Government to unequivocally forbid Youth Contract or any other Work Programme participants from being placed in employment within the adult entertainment sector.



## 9. Theme: Anti-war/trident

10 minutes allocated to this theme

3 motions

<b>Proposer of 1<sup>st</sup> motion:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Proposer of 2<sup>nd</sup> motion:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Proposer of 3<sup>rd</sup> motion:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>

<b>Speech against theme:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 15mins**

### 9.1. Motion title: No more foreign wars

**Delegation name: Stop the war**

#### **Assembly notes:**

1. That anti-war protest past and present helped stop Western military intervention in Syria.
2. That there is strong pressure on both sides of the Atlantic pushing for more Western intervention in the Middle East, Africa and elsewhere, particularly involving special forces, drones and proxy wars.
3. Growing tensions between the Western powers and China, Russia and others.
4. That in 2013 the TUC backed Stop the War Coalition's campaigning against intervention in Syria.

#### **Conference Believes:**

1. That there is a real risk of further foreign wars.
2. That the majority who call for an end to British involvement in foreign wars are right and that all foreign troops should be withdrawn from Afghanistan immediately.
3. That the government is using the commemorations of World War One to try to rehabilitate the idea of British involvement in foreign wars.

#### **Resolves:**

1. To support the protests against the NATO Summit in Wales from 31 August - 4 September and the international day of action against drones on 4 Oct.
2. To support the No Glory in War campaign launched by Stop the War CND and others.
3. To continue to support campaigning against British involvement in foreign wars.

## **9.2. Motion title: NATO Summit Protests**

**Delegation name: Cardiff People's Assembly**

### **Conference notes: that:**

1. Sixty world leaders will meet near Newport for the NATO summit on September 4-5. Previous summits in Chicago and Strasbourg saw thousands protest against war, austerity and global inequality.
2. From August 30, people will flock to south Wales for international action including a march and 'Counter-Summit', a peace camp and protests on the opening day.
3. NATO is the military alliance binding Europe to US foreign policy, including the occupation of Afghanistan, which is rejected around most of the world.
4. War is the enemy of the poor. The annual sum needed to end world hunger is \$30 billion while the US military budget is \$530 billion.
5. Money for war is money denied to public services and our communities.

### **Conference calls for:**

1. The People's Assembly to work with No NATO Newport, the Stop the War Coalition, CND, the European Anti-NATO Network and others to ensure that world leaders hear the voice of millions.
2. Conference therefore resolves to:
3. Encourage PA groups to highlight the cost of war by organising activities linking austerity and war.
4. Work with local anti-war groups to mobilise against NATO, inviting anti-war speakers to anti-austerity events.
5. Publicise anti-NATO protests in trade union and anti-cuts networks locally, nationally and internationally.

## **9.3. Motion title: Rethink Trident**

**Delegation name: CWU, CND, and War on Want, I added Bangor**

### **Conference notes:**

1. In 2016, Parliament will decide whether to replace the Trident nuclear weapons system, costing over £100 billion.
2. Trident has the capacity to kill 320 million people.

### **Conference believes:**

1. £3 billion of taxpayers' money is spent annually on Trident. This could be better spent on building hospitals (£545 million each); scrapping tuition fees; quadrupling the UK's investment in renewable energy and promoting job diversification.

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2. Trident takes money and jobs from other areas of Britain's economy, including the wider defence industry. £100 billion would fund 150,000 new teachers and nurses every year for 30 years.
3. Britain's security needs are not met by nuclear weapons which cannot combat threats posed by terrorism, climate change or cyber warfare.
4. Ongoing anti-Trident sentiment (63% in 2010) is reflected by TUC's 2013 policy: Public finances can also be improved by addressing tax avoidance and scrapping the replacement of Trident.
5. Unified opposition to Trident replacement is needed and can be provided by Rethink Trident – in 2007 it helped organise a massive parliamentary rebellion against Trident and a demonstration of 100,000 people.

**Conference resolves:**

1. The People's Assembly will sign the Rethink Trident statement and will promote the Rethink Trident campaign.

## **10. Theme: Anti-racism**

*15 minutes allocated to this theme*

2 motions

1 supplement

**Proposer of 1<sup>st</sup> motion drawn by lottery** **3 mins**

**Speech against 1<sup>st</sup> motion:** **3 mins**

**Summation: (waive if no against)** **2 mins**

**Proposer of 2<sup>nd</sup> motion** **3 mins**

**Speech against 2<sup>nd</sup> motion:** **3 mins**

**Summation: (waive if no against)** **2 mins**

**Total time: 16mins**

### **10.1. Motion title: Immigrants are welcome here**

**Delegation names:**

- i. Bristol People's Assembly**
- ii. North East People's Assembly**
- iii. North Tyneside People's Assembly**
- iv. Norfolk People's Assembly**
- v. South East London People's Assembly**

**Assembly notes:**

1. The tirade against immigrants from the media and all the main political parties.
2. The call for demonstrations in London, Cardiff and Glasgow, initiated by Unite Against Fascism, supported by the People's Assembly, all the main trade union leaders, the TUC, anti-racist groups and migrant workers' organisations.

**Assembly believes:**

1. That the bosses, bankers and the politicians that support them are to blame for the problems in society - not immigrants.
2. That immigration has immensely enriched British society and immigrants should be welcomed, not shunned or demonised.
3. That instead of following the appalling attitude of UKIP, the Tories and the Lib Dems that Labour Party leaders should defend immigrants - and we condemn them for joining the anti-immigrant attacks.

**Assembly resolves:**

1. To oppose all attempts to blame immigrants for the crisis in the NHS, low pay, bad housing, the lack of good jobs or any of the other problems we face.
2. To welcome immigrants here.
3. To fully support the 22 March demonstrations and to email all PA supporters calling for their attendance.
4. To send this motion to Ed Miliband to make clear the People's Assembly's position.

**10.2. Supplement to Immigration motion: Migrant Workers' Rights**  
**Delegation name: Ipswich People's Assembly**

**This Conference notes:**

1. the increased hostility of large sections of both the media and the political establishment to migrant workers.

**This Conference believes:**

2. that the problem is not Eastern European workers undercutting the wages of British workers, but that employers have used the economic crisis to drive down the wages of all workers and to attack conditions.

**This Conference resolves:**

1. to resist slogans such as "British jobs for British workers" which are divisive and undermine attempts to encourage and organize workers for a fight back of all workers to defend their wages and conditions
2. The People's assembly national committee should:
  - a) Produce material for supporters exposing right-wing myths about migration.
  - b) Support broad-based organizations campaigning against racism and the scapegoating of migrant workers.
  - c) Lobby politicians locally to defend migrant workers and reject racism.
  - d) Continue to support mobilizations by Unite Against Fascism against the English/Scottish/Welsh Defence League's racist marches.
  - e) To encourage, support and publicize efforts to unionize migrant workers.
  - f) To publicise and distribute the South West TUC's document "Truth Lies and Migrants"

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**10.3. Motion title: Institutional Racism and police boycott**  
**Delegation name: BARAC UK**

**Conference notes:**

1. The election of the Coalition Government has seen a ramping up of racism in society generally and in particular massive in institutional racism.
2. The Tory ideological attack on the poor has featured the denigration of multiculturalism, demonisation of migrants, Black, Asian and other communities by sections of the press and politicians.
3. The result is increasing rates of disproportionate use of stop and search, harvesting of Black/Asian peoples DNA on the national DNA database, anti-terror legislation viciously targeting Muslim communities, unethical undercover police surveillance of anti-racists, black deaths in police custody, and the perverse Mark Duggan Inquest verdict has seen the process of mass criminalisation of Black and Asian communities.
4. BARAC UK has called for a nationwide boycott of all non-essential Police contact, including campaigning against black police recruitment, in order to force the issue of institutional racism back onto the political agenda.

**Conference resolves:**

1. TO fully support this call in support of communities facing the injustice and oppression of racist policing and commits to working with BARAC UK in campaigning for Government introduction of a broad range of anti-racist Police reforms and the rejection of all oppressive anti-terror legislation in the run up to the general election in 2015.

## 11. Theme: International

10 minutes allocated for this theme

1 motion

<b>Proposer of motion:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Speech against theme:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Summation: (waive if no against speech)</b>	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 8mins**

### 11.1. Motion title: Solidarity with those fighting austerity in Greece

**Delegation name: Greece Solidarity Campaign**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. The Greece Solidarity Campaign in the UK has forged links between unions and campaigners in the UK with those leading the struggle in Greece, provides information that debunks the myths about the causes of the crisis, and organises practical acts of solidarity with the Greek people.

#### **Conference believes:**

1. The austerity agenda is Europe-wide. In the front line of this onslaught are the people of Greece. The austerity programme carried out by the Greek government, backed by and insisted upon by international financial institutions and other European governments.
2. These attacks include sacking public sector workers, slashing salaries and pensions, removing workers rights and decimating and privatising public services. Nearly one million people in Greece are now not entitled to any public health care threatening a massive public health disaster (report in the Lancet 2014; 383: 748-53).
3. But the people of Greece are fighting back, with a mass movement of resistance and popular support for a radical alternative to austerity.

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. The struggle in Greece to oppose austerity is the same as ours. Building links with those resisting austerity in Greece strengthens all of us. This motion calls for the Peoples Assembly to support the Greece Solidarity Campaign.

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## **12. Theme: Climate Change**

### **12.1. Guest Speaker: Natalie Bennett, Leader Green Party**

10 minutes allocated for this theme

1 motion

3 supplements

**Proposer of main motion: 3 mins**

**Supplementary speech: 2 mins**

**Supplementary speech: 2 mins**

**Speech against theme: 3 mins**

**Right to reply: (waive if no against speech) 2 mins**

**Total time: 12 mins**

### **12.2. Main Climate Motion: To campaign for effective action against climate change**

**Delegation name: Green Party/ Green Party Trade Union Group endorsed by London Federation of Green Parties**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. The reality of human caused global climate change is acknowledged by a majority of informed scientific opinion
2. The reality of human caused global climate change seems to be only grudgingly accepted by parts of the current coalition government.
3. We are not only faced with climate change resulting from previous human activities but a likely intensification of climate change unless urgent action is taken to combat the continuing contribution of human activities to climate change

#### **Conference believes:**

1. Immediate remedial action in response to climate change caused disasters and emergencies and fine sounding rhetoric is not an adequate response to dealing with existing climate change and lessening its likely future impact.
2. Austerity policies designed to facilitate continuation of the current economic status quo severely hamper attempts to combat climate change
3. Effective action against climate change should include reorientation of local, national and international infrastructure which would entail the creation of at least 1 million climate related jobs in Britain, and a just transition from some older industries.

**Conference resolves:**

1. That the PAAA should support political campaigns and protest actions designed to oppose climate change and the activities that contribute to it,
2. Promote discussion of climate change and how to combat it in local PAAA's and other sympathetic organisations
3. Forge links with international organisations opposing climate change
4. Organise a section on the website that outlines the problems of combating climate change.

**12.3. Supplement to Climate motion 12.1: Combat Climate Change**

**Delegation name: Campaign Against Climate Change**

1. Conference recognises that the recent severe storms and floods are among many extreme weather events world-wide linked to human-induced climate change: average global temperatures being around 0.8 of a degree above pre-industrial conditions. It views with concern the prediction of climate scientists and organisations like the International Energy Agency that without urgent action, a further four or five degrees increase is likely by 2100, with unimaginable social, economic and political consequences.
2. It therefore condemns the government's "dash for gas" and its promotion of fracking and other forms of "extreme energy", disregarding the warning in the second Stern Report that to avoid catastrophic climate change, 80% of known fossil fuel reserves should remain in the ground.

**Conference therefore resolves:**

1. To support campaigns for governments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions urgently, promoting renewables and energy efficiency. This includes the Time to Act! campaign launched by the Campaign against Climate Change and supported by its Trade Union Group
2. To support protests against fracking and the expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure
3. To recognise that issues such as fuel poverty, affordable food and public transport, and unemployment cannot be resolved without addressing climate change
4. To support and promote the campaign for One Million Climate Jobs.

**12.4. Supplement to Climate Motion 12.1: Climate Change & the Fight Against Austerity**

**Delegation name: Counterfire**

**Conference notes:**

1. Severe flooding across much of the UK over the winter.

2. This was the wettest winter since Met Office records began. Their Chief Scientist has attributed this to climate change.
3. Flood defence funding was cut by 25% after 2010. 1,700 Environment Agency workers risk redundancy.
4. 16,000 new houses annually are built on floodplains, but the Coalition wants to weaken the planning system.
5. Government promotes fracking, whilst cutting funding for renewables. Ex-BP CEO Lord Browne says fracking won't reduce household bills.

**Conference believes:**

1. The effects of climate change are likely to worsen.
2. Flood defence cuts directly affect communities.
3. The job creation potential of green measures are largely untapped.

**Conference resolves:**

1. Support the GMB's demand that Environment Agency jobs are protected.
2. Call for increased funding for flood defences, and to support more effective use of natural protection against floods.
3. Support protests against proposed fracking sites.
4. Support a strengthening of the planning system.
5. Support increased funding for renewable energy and energy conservation measures.
6. Support freezes in households energy prices, and the renationalisation and democratic control of the "Big 6" energy suppliers.

**12.5. Supplement to Main Climate Motions: To oppose hydraulic fracturing**  
**Delegation name: Manchester People's Assembly**  
(and all extreme energy extraction in the UK.)

**Conference notes:**

1. This government is committed to extreme energy exposing 64% of UK territory to unconventional fossil fuel extraction. In the process it has cut
2. subsidies for onshore wind, solar and efficiency measures which would reduce UK carbon emissions.
3. Nottingham University conducted a survey illustrating unconventional energy extraction has no social licence in the UK with less than 1 in 4 supporting the plans.
4. This government are cutting 80,000 pages of regulation and guidance; 74% of the rules governing the UK environment, in the face of Cuadrilla having legally disposed of two million gallons of radioactive waste into the Manchester Ship Canal.

**Conference believes:**

1. Hydraulic fracturing and all types of extreme energy extraction should be banned in the UK
2. A sustainable energy future depending on renewables is achievable.
3. Environmental regulations and guidance protect the living spaces of the community, the health of workers and prevent the industrialisation of our countryside.

**Conference resolves:**

1. To support local communities opposed to fracking and other forms of extreme energy generation.
2. As a direct challenge to the austerity agenda, campaign for the creation of 1000000 climate jobs by calling for investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency.
3. Campaign for rescindment to all cuts in environmental regulation with the aim of protecting the environment, workers health and living spaces of the community.

### **13. Theme: NHS**

#### **13.1. Guest speaker: Jackie Davies GP**

10 minutes allocated for this theme

2 motions

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Proposer of theme:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Proposer of theme:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Speaker against:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 9 mins**

#### **13.2. Motion title: Local government elections 2014, pledge to Keep the NHS Public**

**Delegation name: City & Hackney Coalition to Save the NHS**

#### **The People's Assembly resolves to:**

1. Actively support the campaign launched by a number of Keep Our NHS Public groups around the 2014 local government elections calling on councillor candidates pre-election to sign up to a pledge to:
  - a. Keep local NHS services public (in view of the fact that some candidates will go on to sit on local Health & Wellbeing Boards and on Health Scrutiny Committees).
  - b. Campaign within their parties for a manifesto commitment to reverse the Health & Social Care Act, to reverse NHS marketisation and privatisation, and to restore responsibility for the NHS to the Secretary of State
  - c. Support and publicise activities like public meetings, publicity stalls, media campaigns organised by local KONP groups around this pledge-signing campaign and encourage People's Assembly affiliates and contacts to get involved
  - d. Support a similar pledge-signing campaign to be organised by Keep Our NHS Public directed at candidates in the General Election in 2015



**13.3. Motion title: Keep Our NHS Public**  
**Delegation name: National KONP**

We note that the law has already been put in place to destroy the NHS as we know it - publicly-funded, publicly-provided and publicly-accountable. We call on everyone to combine efforts to defeat the Coalition Government at the next election, and to vote only for candidates who will pledge to reverse the marketisation of the NHS.  
and

The Government has been caught out trying to trick the public into agreeing to the sale of their confidential medical records, and has had to call a halt to the care, data programme, pausing it until the autumn of this year. We demand that medical records will never be sold or given away to private companies or their agents, and that they be made available only to bona fide researchers in public research institutions where no-one can make a profit out of them.

## 14. Theme: Education

*15 minutes allocated to this theme*

### 14.1. Guest Speaker: Christine Blower General Secretary NUT

2 motions

1 supplement

**1<sup>st</sup> Proposer of theme: property of main motion** **5 + 3 mins**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Proposer of theme:** **2 mins**

**Speaker against:** **2 mins**

**Right to reply: (waive if no against speech)** **2 mins**

**Total time: 15 mins**

### 14.2. Motion title: Stand Up for Education

**Delegation name: NUT**

#### Conference notes:

1. This government is seeking to de-regulate and privatise education, leading to failure of academy chains and corruption in free schools;
2. This includes an unprecedented attack on teachers' terms and conditions;
3. The NUT and NASUWT have jointly campaigned against these attacks including successful joint strike action;
4. The joint campaign has stopped Michael Gove pressing ahead with changes to term times, working time and other conditions of service;
5. Michael Gove is also attacking children and students through his reforms to the curriculum and assessment;
6. The NUT has launched a major public campaign to Stand Up for Education and has called a national one-day strike on March 26<sup>th</sup>;
7. Michael Gove is the Tories weakest link in the forthcoming general election.

#### This Conference agrees to:

1. Support the public campaign Stand Up for Education and encourage members and affiliates to join in local initiatives and events;
2. Express solidarity with the strike on March 26<sup>th</sup> and support demonstrations on the day
3. Make *Stand Up for Education* a major theme of the national demonstration on June 21<sup>st</sup> and call for a significant education contingent.

### **14.3. Supplement to 1<sup>st</sup> Education Motion: School Places Crisis**

**Delegation name: NUT**

**This Conference notes:**

1. That there is a looming shortage of school places in many parts of the country. Local councils are in the untenable position of having responsibility for providing school places whilst lacking the power to plan, commission or build schools. Some authorities have been left with no choice but to put portacabins on school playgrounds to cope. Others have had to increase class sizes and the number of children being taught in classes of more than 30 has doubled over the last five years.

**Conference believes:**

1. That it is scandalous that Government has allocated £1.7 billion to setting up free schools. Michael Gove's free schools policy fails to take account of local need or demand. Many free schools are being set up in areas with a surplus of places.

**Conference resolves:**

3. To campaign for school place planning to be put back in safe hands and a restoration of the power of local authorities to open new schools. At the same time local councils need to be given sufficient funding to ensure that the extra places that are needed are quality places, in permanent, well-resourced buildings with decent class sizes.

### **14.4. Motion title: Defend the Right to Protest**

**Delegation name: The Northampton Peoples Assembly Against Austerity**

**Conference notes:**

1. Whereas university students have staged occupations and organised other protests against:
2. the privatisation of university services which threaten the jobs of UNISON, UNITE and UCU members
3. the privatisation of student loans to defend education against the government's spending cuts and exponential increase in tuition fees, and to show their solidarity with Higher Education staff seeking just and affordable pay increase and to establish the living wage for all employees and workers in the Higher Education Sector;
4. Whereas the senior managements of Birmingham University, London University and Sussex University have victimised student protestors by obtaining court injunctions, suspending students or using the police to break up the protests; and Whereas these

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universities have attempted to criminalise peaceful protest and thereby infringe on a fundamental civic right

**Conference resolves:**

To support the right to protest by:

1. asking members to write to their MPs to support the EDM 1065 tabled by John McDonnell
  2. circulating online petitions and urging members to sign
  3. sending emails in solidarity to student groups mobilising protest activities
  4. urging members to join protest marches, rallies and picket line
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## **15. Theme: Elections**

*10 mins allocated to this theme*

- 1 motion
- 1 supplement

<b>Proposer of motion:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Speech against theme:</b>	<b>3 mins</b>
<b>Summation:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>

**Total time: 8mins**

### **15.1. Motion title: Motion on parliamentary elections**

**Delegation name: Teesside branch meeting held on 19 February 2014**

#### **Conference believes:**

1. the strength of the People's Assembly is that it is a broad coalition, uniting a variety of political, economic and social views;
2. it is therefore important that the People's Assembly does not try to become a political party, with a single perspective;
3. that the People's Assembly should engage with local, national and European elections where appropriate, but as a coalition rather than as a new political party.

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. to mandate local groups to consider the candidates standing in their local constituencies, and endorse and support only candidates who commit themselves to opposing the austerity agenda;
2. that, in the absence of an existing candidate who would be suitable for endorsement and support, local groups should be supported in generating a candidate who could stand with the support of the People's Assembly;
3. that members of the People's Assembly who are members of political parties should be encouraged to argue within their party to not put candidates up against other anti-austerity candidates;
4. that the People's Assembly should make available resources showing who the People's Assembly is supporting in each constituency, and the reasons behind supporting a particular candidate.

## **15.2. Supplement to main motion: National party political elections**

### **Delegation name: Councillors Against Cuts**

#### **Conference notes:**

1. Local government cuts have resulted in councils closing services such as childcare, libraries, adult social care, and also attacking workers' pay and conditions and trade union facility time.
2. The Unison National Conference in 2013 voted to support councillors refusing to vote for cuts and setting a 'needs budget' as an alternative to cuts.

#### **Conference believes:**

1. Cuts to council services have a significant impact on people.
2. Increasing rents and council tax as an alternative to cuts has a similar impact on working people.
3. The best way to fight for the resources to provide the services residents need is for councils to propose 'needs budgets' funded by reserves and borrowing powers, whilst also building a mass campaign to demand the funding needed from the government.

#### **Conference resolves:**

1. To support councillors who refuse to vote for cuts, and condemn councillors who vote for cuts.
2. To call upon councils to refuse to implement cuts and to set 'needs budgets' instead.
3. To organise a lobby of the Labour party conference, demanding that Labour pledges to reimburse councils that use their reserves and borrowing powers to set needs budgets instead of implementing cuts.

## **16. Theme: Other Actions and emergency motions**

*5 mins allocated to this theme*

### **16.1. Motion title: Support the creative use of boats**

**Delegation name: People's Flotilla Against Austerity**

<b>Proposer of motion:</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Speech Against: Free</b>	<b>2 mins</b>
<b>Right to reply: waive if no speech against</b>	<b>1 min</b>

#### **This Assembly Notes:**

1. The growing resistance amongst boat dwellers against the regime imposed by the newly formed Canal and River Trust as discrimination.
2. The majority of live-aboard boat dwellers are in receipt of state benefits or are otherwise dependant on the state for their welfare.

#### **Believes:**

1. That the ruling elite needs to be overthrown in support of an egalitarian and socialist society with the eradication of a classist society.
2. Narrow Boats offer an alternative and imaginative approach to direct action by proposing to block the canal system to further the cause of the fight against austerity.

#### **Resolves**

1. To support the activities of boat dwellers in their actions against the austerity agenda
2. To encourage and support the creative use of boats in future ant-austerity actions, in their attempt to destroy the attack on the working class and campaign for a coordinated and sustained political and direct action in opposition to the elite ruling class.