



Say no to cuts and privatisation

Support the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition

Why we support TUSC

(all in a personal capacity)

Bob Crow RMT general secretary

“Labour, Tory, Lib Dem are all the same under their suits. They all support privatisations and anti union laws. The political debate now is all about who is going to cut more from public spending. Brown and Blair just masqueraded as Labour and then put the knife into the unions. That is why I am pleased to be part of TUSC ”



April Ashley Unison NEC member

“Public sector workers are being blamed for the crisis. As a public sector trade unionist I know we are going to face an onslaught on our pay, pensions and working conditions beyond the general election. That is why I am supporting TUSC - which offers a socialist alternative to both the big establishment parties and the vile racism of the BNP.”



Brian Smith, Glasgow City Unison branch secretary

“Not one of the establishment parties, Tory, Labour, the SNP or the LibDems is proposing any alternative to the onslaught against jobs and our public services. That’s why we need a voice that defends workers’ rights and puts forward an alternative to the bosses crisis. The Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition is that voice, and I would urge you to get involved today and support us in the general election.”



In the forthcoming general election all the main parties are all going to be offering a diet of cuts in public services and attacks on pay, pensions and conditions. The Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition (TUSC) has been founded in order to stand anti-cuts, pro-workers’ rights candidates.

Trade unionists that have founded the coalition include the railway workers’ union (RMT) general secretary Bob Crow, the general secretary of the Prison Officers Association, Brian Caton, the civil servants’ union (PCS) assistant general secretary, Chris Baugh, and PCS vice president, John McNally (all in personal capacity). The coalition has grown out of the RMT-backed No2EU – Yes to Democracy challenge in last year’s European elections.

The nightmare prospect of a Tory government will mean that some trade unionists feel that they have no choice but to vote for New Labour. However, there are no fundamental differences between Tory and New Labour policies. While a Tory government would be likely to wield the axe more brutally, both parties have made it clear that they would slash public spending.

In fact none of the establishment parties act in the interests of working or middle class people. For them it is the interests of the billionaires that come first. It is the absence of a genuine workers’ party that has, in some areas, fuelled the growth of the far-right racist BNP.

TUSC has been founded to begin to offer a real alternative to both the pro-big business, pro-banker parties and the vile racism of the BNP. Working-class people need candidates that actually stand up in our interests. We need candidates who stand on a programme of no cuts in public services and for re-nationalisation of the privatised utilities. Candidates that fight for a living pension, a decent minimum wage and for free education, for all. Candidates that stand for the repeal of the anti-trade union laws.

We appeal to you to become a sponsor of TUSC, so that we can stand as widely as possible. (see contact details below)

www.tusc.org.uk

electioncoalition@btinternet.com

TUSC candidates in the general election for Scotland

Glasgow South

Brian Smith - Branch secretary Glasgow City Unison

Glasgow South West

Tommy Sheridan - Former MSP and Solidarity convener

Glasgow North

Angela McCormack - EIS convener Coatbridge College

Glasgow North East

Graham Campbell - anti-racist campaigner and Solidarity

Edinburgh East

Gary Clark - Asst. branch secretary Scotland No2 CWU

All trade union members are standing in a personal capacity

Edinburgh North and Leith

Willie Black - UNITE senior shop steward Scottish Power

Midlothian

Willie Duncan - Solidarity member

Dundee West

Jim McFarlane - Branch chair Dundee City Unison

Motherwell and Wishaw

Ray Gunnion - Lanarkshire Socialist Alliance

Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch & Strathspey

George McDonald CWU member and a member of Solidarity

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP NOT PRIVATISED PROFIT

Stop all privatisation, including the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), and the immoral privatisation of prisons. Bring privatised public services and utilities back into public ownership under democratic control.

NO CUTS - QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES

- Take rail back into public ownership and build an integrated, low-pollution public transport system.
- For a high-quality, free National Health Service under democratic public ownership and control.
- Stop council estate sell-offs and build eco-friendly, affordable public housing.
- Good, free education for all, under democratic local authority control; student grants not fees.
- Keep Royal Mail as a publicly-owned service, not a privatised cash cow.

JOBS, NOT HANDOUTS TO BANKERS AND BILLIONAIRES

- Bring banks and finance institutions into genuine public ownership under democratic control, instead of giving huge handouts to the very capitalists who caused the crisis.
- Tax the rich. For progressive tax on rich corporations and individuals, with a crackdown on tax avoidance.
- For massive investment in environmental projects.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRADE UNION RIGHTS

- Repeal the anti-trade union laws.
- A minimum wage set at half average adult male earnings, with no exemptions.
- Invest to create and protect jobs, including for young people.
- Solidarity with workers taking action to defend jobs, conditions, pensions, public services and trade unions. Reinstating full trade union rights to prison officers.

REFERENDUM FOR SCOTLAND

- We believe the people of Scotland should be offered the chance to vote on whether Scotland would become an independent country and a vote on whether there should be a stronger devolved Scottish parliament with full financial powers.

Scottish Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition
PO Box 7565, Glasgow, G42 2DN

PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT STOP GLOBAL WARMING

- Deep cuts in greenhouse gas emissions - otherwise climate change, caused by capitalism, will destroy us.
- Invest in publicly-owned and controlled renewable energy.
- Move to sustainable, low-pollution industry and farming - stop the pollution that is destroying our environment.
- Recognise that many of our planet's resources are limited and that capitalism fritters them away for profit.
- Produce for need, not profit, and design goods for reuse and recycling.

DECENT PENSIONS & BENEFITS

- Restore the pre-Thatcher real value of pensions. Re-instate the link with average earnings.
- Protect entitlement to benefits; for living benefits; end child poverty.

DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY & JUSTICE

- Welcome diversity and oppose racism, fascism and discrimination. Defend the right to asylum.
- Ensure women have genuinely equal rights and pay.
- Defend our liberties and make police and security democratically accountable.

SOLIDARITY NOT WAR

- Bring home all British troops from Afghanistan immediately - no more wars for resources.
- No more spending on a new generation of nuclear weapons, huge aircraft carriers or irrelevant eu-rofighters - convert arms spending into socially useful products and services.
- An independent foreign policy, based on international solidarity - no more being a US poodle, no moves towards a capitalist, militarist United States of Europe, no Lisbon Treaty.

SOCIALISM

- For a democratic socialist society run in the interests of the people not the millionaires. For democratic public ownership of the major companies and banks that dominate the economy, so that production and services can be planned to meet the needs of all and to protect the environment.