

Workplace Report

PLEASE SHARE WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES AND IN YOUR WORKPLACE

“45 QUID A YEAR IS NOWHERE NEAR ENOUGH!”

A new prime minister but the same old policies? For all the razzle and dazzle of Burnham's election, the first announcements promise a handful of small benefits but nothing to mean real savings for ordinary people.

Cutting energy bills by an estimated £45 a year will make it a little cheaper to cook Christmas dinner...if we can afford the food!

At the same time, private energy companies will continue to make millions from us and hand these on to the super rich. They won't suffer!

Workers want real change. Of course, reintroducing cheaper bus fares is welcome (although it's only overturning Starmer's hiked fares) but it still means big business reaps the profits while abandoning bus services where they don't. That's not public transport!

Any little cuts in business rates may help a few but it's not tackling the major issue - where the profits ordinary workers make are going. Most are going out of the economy to the super rich.

Why this obsession with 'balancing the books' and for whose benefit? If there needs to be a balancing, take it from those who've been robbing this country for decades by lining their

very deep pockets then blaming workers, the disabled and immigrants for their robbery!

Even the likes of Gary Lineker and Brian Eno are suggesting they should be taxed a lot more because they can afford it!

We will still be living though a brutal cost of living squeeze, as we have been doing for some time. A few cuts in outgoings here and there won't alter this.

And that's before we have to factor in further rises in social care costs, fuel bills caused by wars in the Middle East, cuts in services at local government level such as SEND and the undisputable, simple, facts that our kids can't get employment or their own housing.

It's nothing to do with 'small boats' why they can't get housing. There's not enough social housing being built and not enough jobs for younger people so they could afford them.

Ask us what we need!

If Burnham wants to make real changes, he should start, not by telling us what 'the country' can afford but by asking us what we need to get us back on our feet.

When there are no major parties out there supporting ordinary people, our own trade unions must up the campaigning.

Yes, by backing individual disputes when workers have had enough; yes, by campaigning for sector wide and national disputes for better wages and against job cuts but also by demanding proper change. Build for the action we need by organising regional and national demonstrations as part of this strategy.

Not to 'let off steam' but so we can act to win fairness and equality when politicians who kowtow to big business fail to listen.

Unions must stop hiding!

Unless our union leaders publicly demand and fight further austerity, we will just invite more to be heaped on us.

Our unions must step up to the challenge.



1pm SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER

Holiday Inn, 137 King's Rd (seafront), Brighton, BN1 2JF

LOBBY THE TUC

Support the NSSN Action Programme to defend workers from the cost-of-living squeeze



Can you and some work colleagues join the lobby? Ask them!

They need to position themselves at the head of the movement. The TUC and the unions must name the date for a national demonstration this autumn - it has been TUC policy for over a year!

NSSN Action Programme

The NSSN launched an action programme (including the demand for a national demo) at its conference a few weeks ago. This can be read in full at **shopstewards.net** where you and your work colleagues can also sign up to it. **Or simply scan the QR code in the advert.**

Here's a few snippets to show what could be possible if our unions acted in solidarity:

- Above inflation pay rises for workers. (In the public sector, to be fully funded by central government).
- Scrap all age exemptions on pay, including the national minimum wage, which should be £15/hr.
- Nationalise energy and water companies. Freeze rents and utility bills.
- Oppose disability benefit cuts and attacks on pensions.
- Strike together: co-ordinate the fight on national public sector pay – unite workers across the public and private sectors.
- Repeal all the anti-union laws – immediate scrapping of the undemocratic 50% strike ballot threshold.
- Workers unity to face down Reform and the far-right under existing TUC policy 'to launch a campaign of Jobs and Homes not Racism'.

*** We urge you to get involved in your union and play an active part in a movement for change.**

*** You can also help by getting your union branch to affiliate to the NSSN, or affiliate as a group of trade unionists in your workplace.**

*** Get more details either at the website shopstewards.net or by emailing info@shopstewards.net to find out more about national and local activities.**