

Campaign Voice!



BPACC Newsletter 2 – January 2012

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Local action against DVLA office closures

Plans have been announced to close 39 DVLA local offices, 10 enforcement offices and 3 processing units around the UK, putting 1,200 jobs at risk. This news is devastating for staff. PCS have stated this makes no economic sense and will be fiercely resisted.

The local DVLA offices carry out administrative functions, such as dealing with personalised registration plates, trade plates and complicated tax queries from the motor trade and members of the public, including many elderly and disabled clients, that can't be resolved online or on the phone.

Workers, unions and car firms argue that it would result in the loss of specialised, personal assistance and cause delays. At present car firms obtain vital tax discs by popping into the office, meaning customers can drive away the same day and deals can be closed

quickly. If the services move to Swansea this wouldn't be possible. There would also be an adverse effect on cars and vans that have been converted for wheelchair access, currently registered at local offices. If everything goes through Swansea it will cause delivery delays and customer inconvenience.



Despite a three-month public consultation launched on 13th December, PCS says the decision already appears to have been taken. The flawed consultations over plans to close coastguard stations - also part of the Department for Transport - means the public & businesses can

have no faith that senior managers and ministers will be willing to listen to, and act on, concerns.

PCS general secretary Mark Serwotka said: "With unemployment and inflation remaining high, these cuts to local communities are outrageous and unnecessary, and will further weaken economies crying out for investment.

"DVLA senior managers have previously denied this is what they were planning, so to announce it just two weeks before Christmas is insulting and devastating for staff."

PCS members at the local DVLA office in Bourne Valley Road, Branksome will be staging a lunchtime walkout from 12-2pm on Thursday 9th February. Please do whatever you can to get along and give your support.

BPACC OPEN MEETING 20th FEB

Bournemouth and Poole Anti Cuts Coalition is holding an open meeting on Monday 20 February 2012 at 7pm at Poole Labour Club to report on previous campaigns and events, and to develop our campaigning plan for the coming months. We would value your input.

The Resolution Foundation published a report stating ordinary families are unlikely to see earnings return to pre-recession levels until at least 2020. But it predicts that the income of the wealthy will continue to rise over the same period.

The Welfare Reform Bill is a threat to us all. It sets low-waged workers against claimants. They want us to forget the real looters: the bankers, corporations & politicians who continue to pay themselves huge salaries & bonuses while the rest of us lose our jobs & our benefits. Unwaged or lowwaged, we are the same people. Many were employed before illness or disability struck & had to claim benefits. Many in waged work depend on benefits to subsidise low wages & high rents. Many have insecure jobs. What will happen if we lose our jobs and there is no welfare? We are all victims of the 1% getting richer as we get poorer.

The health care community is VERY worried, YOU should be too.

How YOU can help to stop this Bill

1. Lobby parliament by writing to your MP. Visit: findyourmp.parliament.uk
2. Write to your local newspaper.
3. Join Keep Our NHS Public. Visit www.keepournhspublic.com
4. Spread the word so that more people begin to challenge the Bill and really understand what is being done to the NHS.
5. Ask your GPs, hospital consultants, nurses and NHS managers to fight for our NHS.

As Aneurin Bevan famously said in 1948, the NHS...
"will last as long as there are folk left with the faith to fight for it".

Let's fight!

Detailed evidence is available on
www.healthprofessionals4NHS.co.uk and allysonpollock.co.uk



Sunday 5th February 1pm - Bournemouth Triangle

Local groups are staging an action to defend the NHS with information explaining the implications of the Bill, leaflets, template letters to MPs & street entertainment. All are welcome

February Council Meetings

8th Feb Hamworthy & Poole Town Area Committee, St James' Church Hall, Church Street, Poole starting at 7pm

15th Feb Canford Cliffs & Penn Hill Area Committee, St Luke's Church Hall, Wellington Road, Poole starting at 7pm

22nd Feb Bournemouth Full Council (Budget Setting), Town Hall starting at 7.00pm

23rd Feb Poole Full Council (Budget Setting), Council Chamber, Civic Centre starting at 7pm

BPACC is a broad movement of local people – community groups, pensioners, students, disabled campaigners, trade unionists and tax payers – opposed to the government's austerity measures.

JOIN THE RESISTANCE!

Something inside so Strong

The higher you build your barrier;
The taller I'll become;
The further you take my rights away, the faster I will run;
You can deny me, you can decide to turn your face away, no matter 'cause...
The more you refuse to hear my voice, the louder I will sing;
You hide behind walls of Jericho and your lies will come tumbling;
Deny my place in time, you swander wealth that's mine, but my light will shine so brightly, it will blind you;
Brothers & sisters they insist we're just not good enough, but we know better:
Just look 'em in the eyes & say we're gonna do it anyway, we're gonna do it anyway;
There's something inside so strong I know that I can make it;
Though you're doing me wrong, so wrong;
Oh you thought that my pride was gone;
There's something inside so strong.