“Cuts and fairness” is the battle cry of the Con-Dem government.

This is shouted as the government willingly carries out the demands from Brussels and favours the bankers and their bonuses.

- The Government has to submit the Budget for approval by Brussels.
- Budget deficits must be brought down to 3% of GDP and the debt to 60%. Currently Britain’s deficit is 10% and the debt is 85% of GDP.
- These restrictions are a major reason for the cuts. The austerity policies being put in place are common across the EU. They have been applied with terrible consequences in Greece, Spain and Ireland.
- Cuts in the public sector are given as a reason for reducing the debt. But this is a cover for attacking the welfare state including the NHS, pensions and all benefits, the police force, fire and other services. An objective is to pass all to the private sector for profits.

The loss of public sector jobs has not been made up by the private sector as forecast by the government. Putting people out of work or at best on part time low paid work does not help the economy. The consequences of the cuts and linked policies are:

- Young people suffer an unemployment rate of 22% with over 1 million without a job, one in five. This is unacceptable as lives and prospects are stunted even before they have set out to be adults.
- For all of us there is a reduction in the quality of life, working extra years, cuts in real wages, reduced pensions and less public services.

However, the economic crisis was not created by ordinary people but bankers and banks. It is they and other rich people who place accounts in tax havens, take tax avoidance measures and pay themselves more in annual bonuses than most of us earn in a lifetime or two. This shows what the Con-Dem government means by ‘fairness’. Most of the Cabinet Ministers are millionaires or multi-millionaires with plenty of ‘friends’ in the city.

We are told we can’t do without bankers’ expertise but their expertise caused the crisis. Britain would be better off without them. Our money was used to bail them out but they have not been asked to pay it back and instead pay themselves bonuses.

An alternative policy based on democracy and Britain’s independence?

Parliament with its elected MPs is the place to make our laws and policies—not Brussels. MPs must ensure only laws made be them are implemented. They should:

- Pay no more money into the EU and reject all EU Directives (EU Laws) which are not in the people’s interests. In 2010 we paid £10 bn net
- End the massive gap between the rich and poor
- Ensure the nationalised banks invest in Britain’s future, help regenerate the economy and provide training and jobs, particularly for young people
- Revitalise manufacturing industries to create jobs and wealth
- Renationalise the railways, energy and water industries and cut prices
- Adequately fund public services, such as the NHS, and end the wasteful PFI hospital schemes
- Embark on a massive house building programme to help solve the housing crisis
- End off-shore tax havens and loopholes used by the rich
- Withdraw our troops from Afghanistan to save lives and the expense
- Scrap Trident and replace with a defence strategy that will defend Britain
- Adopt a policy of friendship and co-operation based on trade with all nations including those within the EU.

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