

Cuts to welfare, care provision and services are a vicious attack on the working class. How should we respond? We can rely only on ourselves. We need a fighting movement from below.

ACTION AGAINST AUSTERITY

We are a network of Scottish groups united by three related points:

- **Direct action**

Taking action by ourselves, rather than appealing to someone else, is more effective at bringing about changes now and the way we are empowered as a class. Collective direct action means strikes, pickets, occupations, making austerity unworkable, making the country ungovernable.

- **Autonomous organising**

We need to control our own groups and struggles and build a movement based on direct democracy. As a class we have to make links and overcome the divisions between us as claimants, carers and workers.

- **No compromise with politicians and parties**

The SNP isn't an anti-austerity party. It is carrying out damaging cuts in the Scottish Government and in councils. Nobody takes Labour seriously. And the left parties want us to wait and elect them to act on our behalf. We have no faith in politicians, we want people power.

What we do

Edinburgh Coalition Against Poverty provides weekly advice on welfare rights, overturns sanctions, and organises pickets, supported by the *Industrial Workers of the World* and others, against companies who use workfare, winning a number of victories. Similarly, *Dundee Against Welfare Sanctions* and *Perth Against Welfare Sanctions* organise regular stalls and protests outside job centres.

Dundee Against Welfare Sanctions has been building links between struggles, creating a support group for striking Ninewells Hospital Porters, as well giving solidarity to the campaign against the Menzieshill school closure. We have also been active in campaigning to support Tony Cox, of the Scottish Unemployed Workers Network, who was arrested for representing a claimant. **Join the next solidarity picket at Forfar sheriff court, 9.30am onwards, Tuesday 23rd June.**

There will also be an anti-workfare protest against B&M Bargains in Musselburgh (91-93 High Street) at 2pm, Saturday 27th June.

Action Against Austerity conference, Saturday 18th July: We are organising a conference for autonomous, grassroots organising in Perth. If you agree with our principles, get in touch to find out more.

Contact

ecapmail@gmail.com

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