

# HOW TO REGISTER TO VOTE *to use your vote to fight back!*

## **Being registered to vote means you can use your vote to fight back at the ballot box.**

To check if you're already registered to vote you need to contact the electoral services team at your local council. If you're registered to vote, you'll be on the electoral register. This is something that your local council holds, so they'll be able to tell you if you're registered. The website of your local council will offer you a number to phone or a form to fill in.

## **If you're not registered, why not get it sorted now.**

It will take about 5 minutes to fill in the online form on the government website (below). Or you can download and print a paper version. Firstly the website establishes if you are eligible to vote. To register to vote, you must be: a UK or Irish citizen; a qualifying Commonwealth citizen living in the UK; an EU citizen living in the UK; aged 18 years or older, or 16 in Scotland and Wales.

You will need to enter your personal details - name, date of birth, address, previous address if you have moved in the last 12 months, etc.

## **You will also need your national insurance number.**

This can be found on your pay slip, P60, or letters about tax, pensions and benefits. If you have a national insurance number but have lost it, you can follow the advice found on: <https://www.gov.uk/lost-national-insurance-number>

You will be asked if you want to be on the open register or not. You will be asked if you want to apply for a postal vote or to vote in person.

There are other registration options, including registering as a service voter, registering anonymously, and registering if you don't have a fixed address.

<https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>



**GET INVOLVED IN THE  
TRADE UNIONIST AND  
SOCIALIST COALITION**

[www.TUSC.org.uk](http://www.TUSC.org.uk)

TUSC was co-founded in 2010 by the late Bob Crow, the RMT transport workers' union leader. Along with the RMT, a constituent organisation of TUSC, its all-Britain steering committee involves leading trade unionists from other unions together with the Socialist Party, Resist: Movement for a Peoples' Party, and independent socialists.

*I never vote*

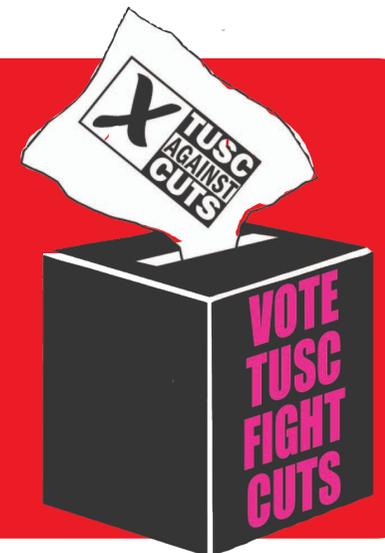
Well, why would you... ..unless there's someone who stands up for you, who's fighting the Tories and the bosses...

*I'm not really interested in politics*

No wonder! Politics that are dominated by Tories, or are Tory-lite, with no one standing up to them just means we suffer.

But what if there was a party based on working-class people, young people, campaigners - that was fighting back?

If you're fighting back against low pay, evictions and homelessness, environmental crisis, student fees, racism, sexism, LGBT+phobia, and cuts, don't you also want to fight the people behind these things when they stand for election?



# DON'T JUST GET ANGRY AT AUSTERITY POLITICIANS - *Hit them in the ballots!*

## SO WHY DON'T YOU STAND AS A NO-CUTS CANDIDATE?



### **You need a voice. We need a voice.**

But when it comes to the election the choice is usually between parties who do not represent us. They offer slightly different versions of the same thing - cuts to and privatisation of public services, no opposition to the bosses' 'fire-and-rehire', no way out of the homelessness or environmental crisis

That's why TUSC, the Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition, was formed - because working class people don't have a political voice. The only way to change that is to start building one. That's what TUSC is doing.

Local community groups, trade unionists and anti-cuts candidates can put up candidates who speak for us - and you could be one of them!

**Imagine a council made up of people with a record of standing up to the bosses, or of campaigning for their community!**

In its existence since 2010, thousands of working class fighters have stood as TUSC no-cuts candidates.

This has meant there's a real choice on the ballot paper in those areas. And those candidates are people like you - people sick of their living standards suffering while no one stands up for them.

Campaigns and groups who want to stand under the TUSC banner have autonomy to run their own campaigns. The only provision is that candidates are expected to endorse the TUSC core policy platforms.

TUSC's core policies are decided democratically - but the basis is simple: stand on the side of working class people fighting back - and build the biggest fightback we can!

See [www.tusc.org.uk](http://www.tusc.org.uk)

### **'No can do'**

That's what we're most likely to hear when we ask our councillors for help with problems like housing or access to public services.

Instead of helping us fight for what we need they shake their heads and tell us there's simply nothing they can do.

But that just isn't true. Councillors are not helpless - they have a choice: fight for us, with us, or go along with the Tories and bosses.

Councils already have a lot of power to fight back against Tory attacks. Councils in England, for example, are responsible for over one fifth of all public spending.

The problem is, they don't use that power to fight for the working class families and young people they're meant to represent.

But they could! And we can show how!

**So let's come together to produce a plan for what we collectively need. To do that we need to bring our issues together and discuss what we want.**

What could that include?

For example, TUSC has identified 46 separate policies promised by Labour in 2019 which councils could carry out right now that would transform people's lives.

They include: breakfast clubs; free school meals for all primary school pupils; local replacements for the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for 16-18 year olds in education; free bus travel for under-25s; a council house building programme; rent controls for licensed landlords; the end of '15-minute maximum' home care visits; a mass home insulation energy efficiency programme to fight climate change.

The people best suited to draw up a plan for what we need are the people fighting for what we need - campaigners, trade unionists, and you.

So why not get together and draw up a plan for what we all need - a People's Budget!

TUSC has produced campaign guidance and model material for you and your local TUSC group to get cracking.

# LET'S HAVE A BUDGET BASED ON *what WE need!* - A PEOPLE'S BUDGET

