



a million
voices
for
change

UNISON
Scotland

**PUBLIC
WORKS:**

Public Works: Update September 2011

People First on October 1st March in Glasgow

On October 1st UNISON will be marching for public services alongside community groups, service users and other trade unions, on the STUC-organised *People First* demonstration in Glasgow.

This march is a key event for our *Public Works* campaign to protect services and jobs. It also gives a visible focus for our *Protect Our Pensions* campaign and an opportunity to raise awareness of the attacks on public service pensions. It is our chance to stage something comparable to the magnificent *March for the Alternative* in London earlier this year and to build on last year's march in Edinburgh. The *People First* demonstration and rally, part of the STUC's *There is a Better Way* campaign, is working alongside faith, equality and anti-poverty and campaigning organisations to:

- Promote the redistribution of wealth through fair taxes and living wage jobs
- Protect the hardest hit through decent services and fair benefits
- Build stronger communities for all

The march will assemble in Glasgow Green from 11.30 am and move off at 12 noon with a rally to be held in Kelvingrove Park commencing at 1.30pm and finishing at 3.00pm. Following the rally, there will be a number of fringe events held in places of worship, student unions, public buildings and hotels in the vicinity of the park.

We need your help to make sure as many people as possible come along:

- Tell members to bring their colleagues, friends and families – the march is for everyone
- Pick up leaflets and posters to distribute from West Campbell Street or download copies from the campaign website www.peoplefirstoctoberfirst.org/campaign-materials
- Tell everyone what your marching for by making your T-shirts, banners and placards personal to you and your community

Please note that the STUC website now carries all the details for the march on its campaign website at www.peoplefirstoctoberfirst.org.

Important information for branches who have booked their own transport to the march

If your branch has arranged its own transport to the march then please let us know. We're keen to find out how many coaches will be coming and how many members from each of our branches will be attending.

If your branch has not already contacted us to let us know your arrangements for the march and how many members you anticipate will be coming, then please let us know as soon as possible by contacting Trisha Hamilton at UNISON on 0141 342 2877 or t.hamilton@unison.co.uk no later than **Wednesday, 28 September.**

- Drop off / pick up points

Branches who have arranged their own coach transport to the march should note the

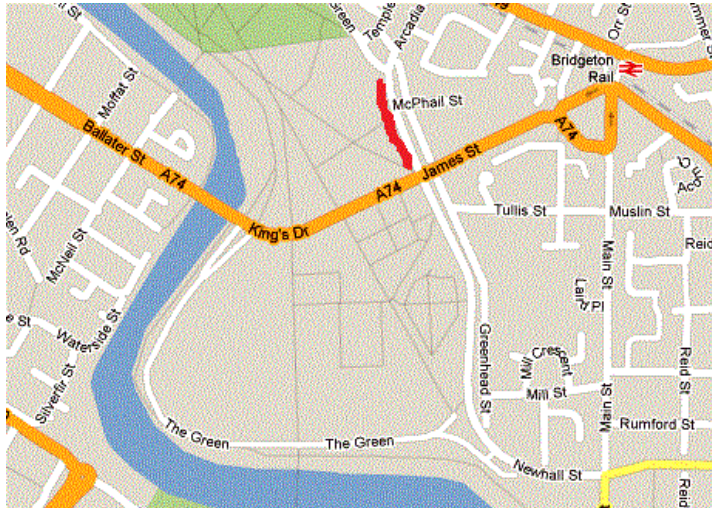
For further information contact:

Dave Watson: d.watson@unison.co.uk

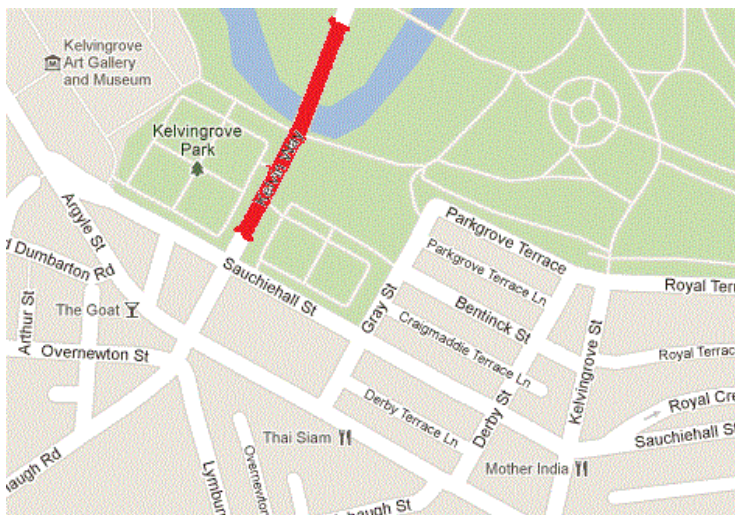
Trisha Hamilton: t.hamilton@unison.co.uk

Public Works is the Scottish arm of UNISON's Million Voices for Change campaign
www.unison-scotland.org.uk/publicworks
To join UNISON call 0845 355 0845

dropping of point for coaches is Fleshers Haugh at Glasgow Green (marked in red below)



The pick-up point is Kelvin Way (marked in red below)



Branches wishing their coach to return home directly after the rally should aim for a pick-up time of 3pm. Those wishing to wait until after the various fringe events should aim for pick up time later in the afternoon.

Keep up-to-date with transport arrangements on the STUC's campaign website www.peoplefirstoctoberfirst.org

Volunteers urgently required

We're looking for volunteers who can help out on the day. We need volunteers who can help hand out UNISON flags and placards; people who can help carry our UNISON balloons and the UNISON Scotland banner. If you are available to help on the day please contact Trisha Hamilton, UNISON's communications officer, on 0141 342 2877 or t.hamilton@unison.co.uk

What will you be marching for on October 1st?

A key aim of the march is to make it as local as possible. Start thinking about the campaign messages you want to take with you. Placards should represent local issues affecting you and your community e.g. 'I'm marching for...classroom assistants in Inverness'. Branches should be

thinking about what materials to take with them. Look out your branch banner, is it still in good condition? If not, now might be the time to look into sourcing a new one.

Bring your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours on October 1st

The *People First* march is for everyone. Talk to your friends, spread the word on Facebook, Twitter, or by text and ask as many people as possible to join us as possible. We want UNISON to have a very visible presence at the march so ask your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours to come along and march with us.

Here are a couple of sample Twitter messages you may wish to use:

“Join UNISON in Glasgow on October 1st to march for public services – it’s time to put people first.”

“If the need hasn’t gone away, why should the services? Join UNISON in Glasgow for the People First on October 1st march.”

You can also download flyers and posters to publicise the event from the STUC’s campaign site www.peoplefirstoctoberfirst.org. If you would like hard copies for your branch then please contact Trisha Hamilton, communications officer, on 0141 342 2877 or email t.hamilton@unison.co.uk

Case studies for October 1st

There will be a lot of media coverage of the STUC’s People First on October 1st demo and rally. The media will be keen to speak to our members and find out why they have decided to take part in the demonstration. They will be looking to speak to people who can talk to them about the impact of the cuts and how it’s affecting them and their families.

If you would be interested in talking to the media, or if you are aware of any members who will be attending the demo who may be interested in sharing their stories, then please get in touch. We’re also keen to hear from people who are willing to talk to the media about pensions. The more case studies we get the better, so please contact Trisha Hamilton, communications officer, on 0141 342 2877 or email t.hamilton@unison.co.uk for more information.

Cuts Impact Assessments

As always, it’s important that we ensure a strong flow of information through the Cuts Impact Assessments. Branches are reminded to update your Cuts Impact Assessment forms and send them to the Fiona Montgomery, Policy and Information team, at f.montgomery@unison.co.uk



Branch 'to do' list

- **URGENT:** If you have not already let us know how many coaches you have booked or how many members you anticipate will be attending from your branch then contact Trisha Hamilton on 0141 342 2877 or t.hamilton@unison.co.uk no later than **Wednesday, 28 September.**
- Think about the materials you want to take with you to the march. Start thinking about local messages that you want to display on your placards e.g. "I'm marching for...classroom assistants in Inverness."
- Tell your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours about the march on October 1st. Spread the word on Facebook, Twitter, or by text and ask as many people as possible to join us.
- We need real-life case studies of members who will be taking part in the march. If you, or someone you know, is willing to take part then please contact Trisha Hamilton, Communications Officer, on 0141 342 2877 or email t.hamilton@unison.co.uk
- Remember to update your Cuts Impact Assessment forms and send them to the Fiona Montgomery, Policy and Information team, at f.montgomery@unison.co.uk