

# ConDem cuts...

Gordon Birtwistle, MP for Burnley

“ **Labour will say: vote Lib Dem get Cameron. Don't believe it for a second. They are wrong.** ”

Nick Clegg in his speech to the Lib Dem conference before the general election.

**Despite campaigning against the Conservatives before the general election Gordon Birtwistle, MP for Burnley, is NOW in government with them.**



The Liberal Democrats betrayed their election pledges of fairness for a share of power. This ConDem coalition has declared war on the public sector. Their plans will devastate the services people rely on and throw innocent, hardworking people onto the dole to pay for a mess the rich and greedy created. What happened to fairness? They haven't even bothered to consider alternatives to cuts.

In local politics Gordon has been a supporter of investment in education locally and the benefits it can bring to the area. Gordon says on his website that, “*That's why it's so vital that we keep investing in local education to get the maximum benefits from the new university.*” Gordon also spoke about the importance of education in his maiden speech in parliament. Given his track record, why is Gordon supporting policies which within weeks of coming to power slashed education spending by £670million and then announced further cuts of 25% in the education budget? The ConDems have also cancelled a massive school building programme.

During his maiden speech in parliament Gordon thanked the voters for having, “*the courage to vote for change*”. Gordon said the ConDem coalition was, “*...harnessing the best policies of two fresh parties both committed to raising our country out of the current difficulties...*” Sacking public sector workers and cutting public spending will not raise our country out of difficulties. But there is an alternative to ConDem cuts. Making people redundant costs the public purse on average an additional £16,000. However, for every £1 spent on local public services, 64p is re-spent in local economies, which in turn supports local jobs and businesses.

On the NHS locally Gordon has campaigned for the return of the A&E unit at Burnley Hospital. This is in stark contrast to plans released by the ConDem coalition which will plunge the NHS into chaos and tie it up in knots for years to come. Supporting Tory plans to essentially break up and privatise the NHS is not the way to help the NHS locally in Burnley. The ConDem plans will cost billions to implement and see NHS staff lose their jobs. The ConDem coalition have already ordered £2.6billion in “efficiency savings” in the NHS. Before the election leading Lib Dem Vince Cable said, “*Tory efficiency savings are a smokescreen for job cuts.*”

...there *is* an alternative

See overleaf for details on what you can do to speak out against cuts.



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## What YOU can do:

**1** If you work in public services and you are not a member then **join UNISON** online today at [www.unison.org.uk/join](http://www.unison.org.uk/join) or call **0845 355 0845**.

**2** Sign up to the **Million Voices campaign** at [www.million-voices.org](http://www.million-voices.org) and add your voice.

I've  
added  
mine!

**3** Contact your MP - **Gordon Birtwistle:**

**Your MP is one of the people voting for these unfair and unnecessary cuts.** If you are unhappy with the ConDem coalition, and believe as UNISON does that there is a fairer alternative, then you should make sure your MP knows about it. You can email or write to them and your MP will also hold regular surgeries in their constituency. You should contact the constituency office to find out when and where the next surgery is. Full contact details for your MP can be found below.

### Constituency Office

23 St James Row,  
Burnley,  
BB11 1EY  
Telephone – 01282 704430  
Email – [gordon.birtwistle.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:gordon.birtwistle.mp@parliament.uk)  
Website – [www.burnleylibdems.org.uk](http://www.burnleylibdems.org.uk)

### House of Commons

House of Commons,  
London,  
SW1A 0AA  
Telephone – 020 7219 7028  
Email – [gordon.birtwistle.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:gordon.birtwistle.mp@parliament.uk)

### Things to remember:

Include your full name and address so they know you live in their constituency. MPs need to know this.

Try to be polite at all times. Don't give them an excuse not to reply.

Points to raise: What do you like about public services? How will cuts affect you? Why do you think cuts are unfair? Why are bankers who caused the crisis are still paying themselves millions in bonuses?

Unsure if this is your MP? Then visit [www.theyworkforyou.com](http://www.theyworkforyou.com) to check.

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