

# ConDem cuts...

John Pugh, MP for Southport

“ *I find it both strange and difficult to imagine Lib Dems and Tories working in a coalition.* ”

John Pugh MP - from [www.johnpughmp.com](http://www.johnpughmp.com) - Friday 14th May 2010

**Despite campaigning against the Conservatives before the general election, John Pugh, MP for Southport, 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 the past John has voted against greater autonomy for schools. A survey shows that 96% of parents want a good local authority school, not academies and not free schools. ConDem plans for schools will cause chaos for staff and parents and will hit the most vulnerable children the hardest. The ConDems have also cancelled a school building programme.

John has spoken out against NHS privatisation on his website saying, “*Having lived all my life under a public NHS I don't want to see it broken up.*” Tory Health Secretary, Andrew Lansley has announced plans that will hand £80billion over to “*any willing provider*” meaning private companies. John has been appointed to head up a new committee to scrutinise the Con-Dem health plans. John is a member of Keep Our NHS Public, according to his website, so surely he won't endorse the Con-Dem NHS privatisation plans?

John was one of the 157 MPs who before the election signed an early day motion calling for a Robin Hood Tax on banks which could raise between £30-£50billion. A bank tax was also a Lib Dem manifesto pledge. The bank tax the ConDems have introduced is a pathetic gesture that raises around £2.5billion. Banks will also benefit from cuts to corporation tax.

John has spoken in parliament in favour of clamping down on tax avoidance/evasion. These uncollected taxes could be worth £120billion a year, yet the ConDems went ahead with cuts despite this alternative. How can John support a pay freeze for public sector workers, a VAT rise to 20% which hits the poorest the hardest, 600,000 public sector workers losing their jobs and massive cuts in services when he knows there are fairer alternatives?

...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 - **John Pugh:**

**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

35 Shakespeare Street,  
Southport,  
PR8 5AB  
Telephone – 01704 533555  
Email – [pughj@parliament.uk](mailto:pughj@parliament.uk)  
Website – [www.johnpughmp.com](http://www.johnpughmp.com)

### House of Commons

House of Commons,  
London,  
SW1A 0AA  
Telephone – 020 7219 8318  
Email – [pughj@parliament.uk](mailto:pughj@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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