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# CAPITALIST CRISIS: CUTS FOR US & FOR THE PLANET

Alliance for  
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Socialism



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IN 2008 CAPITALISM COLLAPSED.  
Our governments brought it back from the  
dead with bucketfuls of state money. But  
now capitalists say the debts from that rescue  
mean cuts for us!

THEY SEE THIS CRISIS as a marvelous  
opportunity to roll back all the gains made by  
ordinary people since the second world war.  
Free education, national health, pensions,  
welfare services - they want all of it to go.

The crisis also provides an opportunity for  
them to back out of any real action on the  
environment. We are told that the country  
cannot afford to develop renewable energy,  
build energy-efficient homes, promote public  
transport, and protect our environment.

THE CORRECT POLICY is to invest in the  
environmental projects that are so important  
to our survival - and that will bring with them  
the jobs that people so desperately need.

And the right way to pay for it? Taxes on  
those who can afford it, not taxes and cuts  
for those who cannot.



**STOP CUTS & PRIVATISATION**



**DECENT HOUSING FOR ALL**



**GREEN INVESTMENT & JOBS**

Alliance for  
Green  
Socialism



**ONLY SOCIALISM  
CAN SAVE  
OUR SOCIETY**

# CUTS & PRIVATISATION THREATEN EVERYONE (EXCEPT THE RICH)



The call for “austerity” is a con trick.

After years of a Labour government selling off our assets and services and cutting back the welfare state, both main parties went into the election promising more huge cuts and further privatisation.

The emergency budget hit the poor much harder than the rich. Proposed cuts will hit disabled people, pensioners and the increasing number out of work. The young are already being hit by the privatisation of schools into academies (invented by Labour) and cuts in higher education. The National Health Service is being dismantled.

Instead of attacks on the poor we should save money by scrapping Trident and pulling out of Afghanistan. Rather than increase VAT we should raise income tax for the richest and bring in a wealth tax.

Austerity should be for the rich.

The obscene increase in house prices over the last 25 years hurt most of us. Ordinary people can no longer afford to buy and those who rent pay too much.

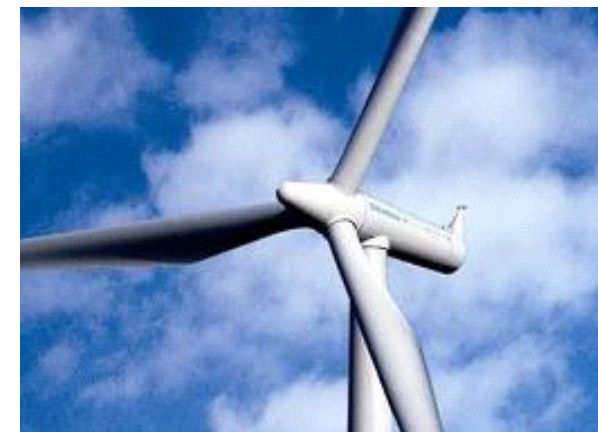
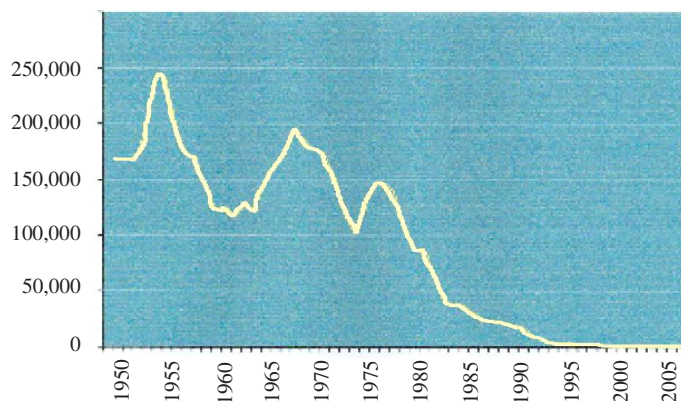
The price “boom” fuelled decades of phoney growth. It led to the financial crisis we now see. The “boom” was good for bank bonuses but little else.

Thatcher’s so-called “right to buy”, plus Labour’s privatisation policy, cut the heart out of council housing. Need now hugely exceeds supply. Young people starting out now have little hope of buying and none of a council house.

Good, affordable housing should be a right. We need a massive programme to build well-insulated, eco-friendly, publicly owned housing.

## DECENT HOUSING FOR ALL

LOCAL AUTHORITY HOUSEBUILDING 1949-2007



Jobs and the environment are the most important things in our economy. We face an environmental crisis, including global warming, that will destroy our civilisation. Meanwhile our economy depends on “services” and “finance”, not on secure jobs manufacturing genuinely useful things.

Britain must invest in making the right things - machines and services to address climate change and pollution. We need jobs building and insulating houses to cut energy waste, and building and running trains and buses in an integrated, publicly owned transport system. We need workers to clean up our land and waters. We need to research, develop and build renewable energy plants to cut our use of oil & gas and our greenhouse gas emissions.

## INVEST IN GREEN JOBS