



Nottinghamshire UNISON
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PRESS RELEASEPRESS RELEASE....PRESS RELEASE.....

Outrage at Notts County Council Mass Redundancies

Nottinghamshire County Council announced today that it would make 2,500 staff redundant over the next three years, with 2/3 of these job losses set to happen within the next 18 months

UNISON believes these proposed redundancies are totally unjust and excessive given the present state of the Authority's financial position, which has recently been described by Auditors as financially sound. This is in addition to an overall underspend by Council departments of £3 million, on top of the £95 million in Reserves.

UNISON is of the opinion that these cuts are purely politically driven and have been made with a deliberate aim of reducing the workforce before privatisation of the remnants of Council services.

UNISON finds it disgraceful that once again the loyal and hard working staff of Notts County Council will be hit hardest. These redundancies follow on from massive detrimental changes to staff terms and conditions in recent months.

We believe the Council is using the excuse of a financial blackhole as a means to further its political agenda at the expense of a dedicated workforce.

We believe the money being used to pay for redundancies would be better spent resourcing services and maintaining jobs in the local community at a time when the economy is suffering so badly already with local businesses who rely on public sector revenue streams fearing a double dip recession.

UNISON would not argue that the Authority faces increased costs with regards to child care pressures following the "Baby P" case. However this will ultimately be part of the national

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concern and should be adequately funded with additional resources from Central Government rather than placing other local services of the council either at total risk of extinction or so reduced they will be unable to function.

UNISON believes these redundancy measures are an attack not just on council staff but also an attack on our local communities, as job cuts on such a huge scale will certainly mean far less money being spent in the local economy, in addition to a dramatic drop in the level of services.

"UNISON will be campaigning inside the county council and with the wider community against these cuts. "

Grace Perry

Assistant Branch Secretary

Notts County UNISON

Grace can be contacted on

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Andy Belfield - Head of Local Government East Midlands UNISON said:-

" this is not about money, how can it be? The council has £100 million in the bank, it is trying to sell off services that make a profit and waste £50 million on redundancies.

" no this is about a tory council that doesn't like public services and is trying to get rid of as many jobs and as many services as it can, regardless of the effect on people in Notts. Let's not forget that 2500 jobs lost here will be 2500 people who can't spend money in local shops.

My message to the councillor Cutts, an unfortunate but accurate name, is simple, if you are not up to the job of running public services then stand aside and let someone who can. In the meantime unison will campaign with staff, with community groups and people in Nottingham to save our services"

Andy can be contacted on

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UNISON is the major trade union for council staff and represents 8,000 members employed by Notts County Council

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