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This movement can beat the Tories, but it will need to go beyond the failed strategy of the do-nothing trade union leaders

We need a strategy that can win

We are now ruled by a government elected by just 24 per cent of the electorate.

The Queen's speech set out a litany of attacks that threaten to be deeper, sharper and more painful than the austerity imposed under the coalition:

- £12 billion cuts to welfare
- New anti-union laws crippling the right to strike
- Further fragmentation and privatisation of the NHS
- The extension of Right to Buy to Housing Association properties
- Refusing welfare support for migrants
- Destroying refugee boats instead of rescuing people in the Mediterranean
- Freezing pay and cutting jobs in the public sector

The severity of the Tory plans has provoked a determined mood to resist which has partly overcome the defeatism prevalent in the last two years.

Just as in 2010, when the imposition of £9,000 tuition fees sparked a revolt which saw mass demonstrations, walkouts and occu-

pations that spread far beyond university students, young people were the first to react to the Tory victory - with militant protest.

Demonstrations and meetings to organise resistance to the new government have reflected the mood to fight - surpassing anything seen since the high point of struggle in 2011-12.

A second chance

The June 20 demonstration will be the first real test of the wider labour and socialist movement's capacity to mobilise a show of strength in the capital. Young people will doubtless turn out in huge numbers but this time the unions must be in the forefront too. After the march we need to build a movement that surpasses in size and effectiveness that of the fragmented anticuts campaigns of the last five years. We need to break with the failed strategy of top-down campaigns run behind the scenes by left groups and fronted by trade union general secretaries

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who could be confident that their rhetorical support for these campaigns would protect them from criticism or opposition when they called off or demobilised the promised "coordinated action". The defeats this strategy led to played a significant part in the shift to the right by voters and the mass abstentionism that affected Labour's vote and resulted in a Tory majority.

A new movement

This summer we need to establish a movement that can confront every law before parliament, every government directive, with mass protest, strikes and direct action to block their implementation - or force their repeal.

Our aim should be to win millions of working people to a conscious and determined defence of key social gains like the NHS, to defend welfare recipients against exploitation and persecution, to defend human rights both for those in Britain and those seeking asylum on its shores. At a local level this means a struggle against councils implementing cuts - including Labour councils in many inner cities.

The surprise and welcome inclusion of Jeremy Corbyn on the ballot for the Labour leadership election reflects the desire for a genuine anti-austerity and leftwing alternative that makes the priority defending and improving the living conditions and opportunities for working class people rather than protecting the bank balances of millionaires. Everyone who can should register to vote for Corbyn and help use this opportunity to rally much larger numbers than are currently active to a thoroughgoing

opposition to austerity, and above all to a series of steps the mass labour movement can take to stop this Tory government: direct action on the streets and in the workplaces against attacks on jobs, pay, union rights, benefits.

Whatever structures are mobilising for June 20 - local People's Assemblies, Trade Union Councils, individual campaigns across the country - need to step up their activities and coordination after the demonstration.

They should draw up a list of unions, campaigns, individual activists and use it to call a meeting or assembly to which delegates from every workplace, every trade union branch, every ward and constituency Labour Party, every tenants' or students' initiative, every anti-racist and women's group, should be invited.

The local anti-cuts committees and competing campaigns need to found a genuinely democratic federation that can thrash out a strategy for struggle and effectively coordinate nationwide action.

In this way local people's assemblies or action committees can grow from this mobilisation and become real coordinating bodies able to mobilise solidarity with every sector under attack, generalising their struggles into a nationwide political resistance to austerity.

Cameron and Osborne have boasted of 100 days of decisive action. Let's give them 100 days of decisive resistance. We need to make June 20 and then Budget Day demonstrations of mass militant protest that can start to lay the basis for direct action all over Britain, in the workplaces and on the streets, to stop the Tories in their tracks and kick them out long before their term is due. ●

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Confront parliament with mass protests, strikes and direct action to stop the implementation of cuts and attacks on refugees, welfare and trade unions

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In the trade unions we need to organise rank and file members to take control of their own disputes, coordinate solidarity action with other struggles, launch a campaign to repeal the anti-union laws and be able to take effective action if the leaders won't

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All those against cuts should register to support Jeremy Corbyn in the Labour leadership election and use the campaign to hold mass meetings across the country to debate and organise a new movement to stop the cuts

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Internationalism and working class solidarity should be at the heart of our movement. The workers of Greece, Spain and the victims of war seeking safety in Europe must be able to rely on the active support of workers and youth in Britain