

No: 521/19

30<sup>th</sup> August 2019

**TO: ALL BRANCHES**

Dear Colleague

## **SUSPENSION OF PARLIAMENT – NATIONAL DEMONSTRATIONS**

Colleagues will be aware that since the decision by the Government to stop Parliament sitting for a five week period from early September, a number of protests have taken place around the country to oppose what is considered an attack on the democracy of the country.

The voices of opposition to the actions of the Government and the participants in the demonstrations come from across the political spectrum including those on both sides of the remain versus leave debate.

For the CWU this is not simply about stopping a no deal Brexit that would hit working people hardest. It is about an unelected Prime Minister avoiding accountability in a serious attack upon our democracy.

We have campaigned consistently for a General Election to begin to reverse the attacks on working people, particularly through the Government's austerity measures and to bring about a transformative political agenda with the election of a Labour Government. We have supported vocally and physically countless demonstrations against this Government austerity agenda and we believe it right to support demonstrations that rally against the undemocratic processes of this Government as part of our call for a General Election.

The Peoples Assembly are calling for a demonstration in London next Tuesday evening and a number of demonstrations are being called around the country this Saturday (details below).

- **Aberdeen**, 12 noon at the Castlegate.
- **Birmingham**, 1 pm on Victoria Square by the Council House.
- **Bournemouth**, 11 am, Bournemouth Square.
- **Brighton**, 12 noon, The Level BN1 4ZN.
- **Bristol**, 12 noon, College Green.
- **Cambridge**, 12 noon, outside The Guildhall, Market Square.
- **Dundee**, 2 pm, City Square.
- **Exeter**, 11 am, Bedford Square.
- **Glasgow**, 2 pm, George Square.
- **Leeds**, 11 am, Town Hall.
- **Liverpool**, 12 noon, St George's Hall.
- **London**, 12 noon, Downing Street.
- **Leamington Spa**, 12 noon in the Pump Room Gardens.
- **Manchester**, 12 noon, Cathedral Gardens.
- **Newcastle**, 12 noon, Grey's Monument.
- **Norwich**, 2 pm outside City Hall.
- **Nottingham**, 11 am, Brian Clough Statue close to Old Market Square.
- **Oxford**, 11 am, Broad Street outside Balliol College.
- **Plymouth**, 11am, Armada Dial.
- **Southampton**, 12 noon, Guildhall Square.
- **Sheffield**, 11 am, Town Hall.
- **Swansea**, 12 noon, Big Screen at Castle Square.
- **Swindon**, 11 am, 29 Wood St.
- **York**, 12 noon, St Helen's Square.

Events are fast moving on this subject and although these events are called at short notice we support the calls being made to stop this attack on our democracy and encourage as many Branches, reps and members to support these demonstrations where possible. As this important matter develops we will update branches further on our position and what actions we believe we should take to further our demands for a General Election.

Any enquiries on the above LTB should be addressed to [gsoffice@cwu.org](mailto:gsoffice@cwu.org)

Yours sincerely



Tony Kearns

**Acting General Secretary**