

# Cuts - what cuts?

The truth about what is happening on our doorstep

**The Government's austerity measures are still only one year into a five year plan, and the list of cuts that have taken place so far in Bournemouth and Poole are only just the beginning (see below). If not today - eventually everyone will be affected in some way by what is happening. Our public services will deteriorate or disappear, unemployment will rise, social inequality and division will increase and we will all be worse off as a result. But there is an alternative. Join the Bournemouth & Poole Anti Cuts Coalition and tell the politicians and bankers that we won't pay for their mistakes.**

**Send name & address BPACC c/o 238 Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8EG, visit [bpacc.co.uk](http://bpacc.co.uk) or email [info@bpacc.co.uk](mailto:info@bpacc.co.uk)**

## **PUBLIC SERVICES**

- Four Bournemouth council departments – ICT, Revenues, Benefits and Facilities – were transferred to Mouchel, a private company, resulting in 88 redundancies
- All 39 regional DVLA offices are threatened with closure, including the Bourne Valley office which would mean the loss of 64 jobs
- The Revenue and Customs office in Poole which employs 67 people is threatened with closure by 2015
- Dorset Police is considering cutting the number of beat officers and 558 full time police staff across Dorset will be lost by March 2015
- Dorset Fire Authority has decided to freeze the service's council tax precept which could make front-line cuts inevitable
- 69 staff (14 military, 55 civilian) have been moved to Bristol out of a fuel depot on a military base in West Moors as part of nationwide efficiency drive
- Poole Council has banned residents from putting garden cuttings into their normal household refuse bin and introduced an annual charge of £31 for the collection of Green Bins which were previously free of charge
- The cost of bereavement services in Poole has been increased by nearly 10%
- Poole Council will be switching off street lights in selected residential roads at night

## **HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE**

- Poole Hospital closed an elderly ward and merged two surgical wards with a further eight beds closed on a medical ward. More than 100 staff, mainly nurses, will be affected by the changes – and have been being re-deployed to other roles
- Three day centres for people with learning disabilities – Darracott in Pokesdown, Malvern in Moordown and Horizons in West Howe – have been closed
- Bournemouth Council has introduced a new charge of £10 for a day session for the short break or respite care service
- The charge to attend day centres in Poole has been raised from £3 to £39 for a half-day session
- Poole Council has raised the eligibility criteria for local care and support services from the lower 'moderate' level to the higher 'substantial' and 'critical' levels of need which will affect the welfare of 300 of Poole's most vulnerable residents
- Poole Council has withdrawn the subsidy for 200 vulnerable people who receive hot lunches from the company Agincare
- Parents of adults with severe learning difficulties are facing college bills of nearly £5,000 after funding was cut by the government. They now have to pay more than £1,600 for each of three years for the successful Pathways programme at Bournemouth and Poole College. The course, for over-19s with disabilities or severe or moderate learning difficulties, was previously free of charge
- The funding for Space Youth Project, a support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered young people, has been drastically cut and it is facing closure in Bournemouth

## **EDUCATION & YOUTH SERVICES**

- Poole schools have had a 55% reduction in capital funding
- Montacute School in Canford Heath was originally earmarked for a £10million total rebuild under the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project but the cash has been withdrawn. The school caters for 75 pupils, between the ages of 2 and 18 years, with severe, complex or profound and multiple learning difficulties
- Plans to build new premises for Winchelsea School under BSF were cancelled. It is a Community Special School for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and more complex needs
- Bournemouth's Glenmoor School, Oakmead College of Technology and Winton Arts and Media College were due to receive funding under BSF but all were cancelled
- The recurrent grant awarded to the Arts University at Bournemouth has been cut by 4.6% and Bournemouth University's has been cut by 4%
- The budget for Sure Start centres and supporting parents has been cut by 12% by Bournemouth and Poole Councils
- Connexions, a youth service in Bournemouth, has closed its doors with a loss of 44 jobs following cuts in council funding. Along with offering help and advice, it gave youngsters a stepping stone into employment, ran its own courses and helped young people enrol at local colleges

## **ARTS**

- The arts and community services are to suffer 7.3% funding cuts in Poole affecting libraries, arts, adult learning, housing and community safety. Hard hit will be grants to the Lighthouse and the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
- A 3 month pilot scheme was launched to charge a £5 entry fee at Bournemouth's Russell Cotes Museum during the summer months
- Flower beds are to be grassed over in Poole as a way of saving money

## **TRANSPORT**

- Two multi-million pound schemes to tackle some of the area's busiest roads are on hold because of spending cuts. The urgent £26 million rebuild of the A338 Bournemouth Spur Road has missed out on funding for a second time and been downgraded in priority and the £9.5m scheme for a third lane on the A31 at Ringwood has been shelved
- Bournemouth Council is poised to outsource its parking enforcement to a contractor which would be expected to bring in more revenue
- Under a new government pricing system, rail companies can charge up to three per cent above inflation. A standard annual season ticket, from Poole to London Waterloo, has risen by £441.60. Currently the standard annual season ticket into Waterloo costs £5,520 from Poole and £5,424 from Bournemouth
- The Bus Service Operators Grant is to be cut by 20% from 2012/13 which will lead to price increases for local bus services
- Poole Council has reintroduced car parking charges for blue badge holders (non-road tax exempt) in all council-owned surface car parks and residential roads on the Sandbanks peninsula. The council issues around 7,000 blue badges a year but provides only 156 dedicated disabled parking bays in its car parks
- Staff at six railway stations across the region could lose their jobs under a proposed cull of 675 ticket offices. Branksome, Hamworthy, Lyminster Town, Parkstone, Pokesdown and Wool are all at risk

## **LEGAL**

- Shelter Dorset has said that plans to slash funding will mean many services having to close their doors to people in need of free legal advice. It estimates it will no longer be able to help 68% of clients at its Bournemouth-based service, with people unable to access advice until they are in court and on the verge of losing their home
- Legal aid reforms coming into effect in 2013 will cut £350 million from the £2.2 billion legal aid scheme by getting rid of entire areas of law from public funding

## **EMPLOYMENT**

- Poole's Remploy factory at Alder Hills is set to close, putting 18 people with disabilities out of a job. It is one of 36 Remploy sites nationwide which the government has said will shut
- The Royal Bournemouth and Christchurch Hospitals and Poole Hospital have put their transactional finance services out to tender and the contract is likely to be awarded out of the area resulting in the loss of 22 jobs
- Dorset Enterprises in Elliott Road, Bournemouth is a supported factory that manufactures deck chairs and other wooden products. It employs 22 people, 18 of whom have disabilities but the local authority is considering cutting its funding
- Barclays Bank PLC is outsourcing one of its departments from October 2012. In total, 126 employees could lose their jobs
- More than 3,000 jobs are to go nationwide after ailing fashion chain Peacocks was sold out of administration. Stores in Boscombe, Bournemouth town centre, Parkstone and Poole will close