

Keep Our NHS Public to Announce NHS Bloc Participation in Major Anti-Austerity Demonstration this June:

You are invited to a Press Conference: Thursday 15 May, 10am | Mander Hall, Hamilton House, London WC1H 9BD

Health campaigning organisation, Keep Our NHS Public, [1] will join leading trade unionists, MPs, and campaigners at a **press conference on Thursday 15th May** to announce details of a major national demonstration against the Labour government's "Austerity 2" budget.

As part of the event hosted by **The People's Assembly Against Austerity [2]**, Keep Our NHS Public will confirm that it will lead a **dedicated NHS Bloc on the Saturday 7th of June demonstration [3]** in London. Early indications strongly suggest that significant numbers will be mobilised.

Alia Butt, NHS Psychotherapist and member of Keep Our NHS Public, will speak at the press conference. She says:

“We are calling on the government to listen to the public. Most want an NHS that is available to all, funded by taxing the rich. Most oppose the disability benefits cuts and the cuts to the Winter Fuel Allowance. The majority also stand with the tens of thousands of NHS staff whose jobs are now at risk. We must not let the politics of hate divide us. We reject the scapegoating of migrants by Starmer and Farage and recognise and welcome the essential role played by immigrants like me in our NHS.”

Tomorrow's (15th May) press conference will feature speakers including **Diane Abbott MP**, trade union leaders, and veteran anti-austerity campaigners. Together, they will set out plans for the **7th of June demonstration**, which will unite opposition to Labour's

cuts to disability benefits, winter fuel payments, and key public services - all while increasing military spending.

Major trade unions including **UNISON, Unite, NEU, PCS, RMT**, and others are backing the demonstration. With the far-right party **Reform UK** gaining ground in recent local elections, campaigners are warning that Labour's failure to break with austerity risks fuelling reactionary politics and deepening social division.

Journalists are invited to attend the press conference to hear first-hand from campaigners, union leaders, and NHS workers about why this demonstration matters and how the public can get involved.

Press Conference Details:

Date: Thursday 15 May 2025

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Mander Hall, Hamilton House, London WC1H 9BD

To confirm attendance, please contact: office@thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

For media enquiries and interviews with Alia Butt or other KONP representatives contact Samantha Wathen, Press and Media Officer for Keep Our NHS Public by emailing press@keepournhspublic.com or call 0777 6047472

Notes to editors

1. Keep Our NHS Public is an independent organisation established in 2005 to campaign for a fully publicly owned and provided NHS. www.keepournhspublic.com
2. The People's Assembly Against Austerity was founded in 2013 to bring together progressive left trade unions, campaigns, and activists in a movement against austerity. <https://thepeoplesassembly.org.uk/>
3. Details of the forthcoming demonstration are available here: <https://thepeoplesassembly.org.uk/>