

1671 'No More Nukes' – Support the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament passed 12 Feb 15

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Union notes that:

1. The British government intends to replace Trident, its current nuclear weapons system.
2. Estimates for the cost of a replacement over its 30 year lifespan are in excess of £100 billion.¹
3. Public opinion remains consistently against the replacement of Britain's nuclear weapons², while senior military figures say that it is 'completely useless' in modern warfare³.
4. The recent economic crisis has prompted massive cuts to public spending, with tuition fees lifted to £9000 and 1 in 10 libraries closing⁴. Meanwhile, the number of people using food banks has tripled over the past year alone⁵.
5. A single Trident missile is capable of delivering a payload of 100 megatons, in excess of 5 times more powerful than the bomb that killed at least 100,000 at Hiroshima.
6. The UK is a signatory to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT); replacing the Trident system would be in direct contravention of the obligations established under it.

Union believes that:

1. At a time of widespread economic hardship, government spending should not prioritise a weapon of mass destruction that we cannot afford.
2. The money intended to be spent on Trident could be put to better use, for safeguarding our NHS, abolishing tuition fees, or funding the construction of new, affordable homes.
3. The use of nuclear weapons in any circumstance would be fundamentally wrong, since their only capability is indiscriminate killing of a civilian population and instilling terror.
4. The UK should fulfil its obligations as a signatory to the NPT.

Union resolves to:

1. Maintain an active stance against nuclear weapons and the replacement of

¹<http://www.cnduk.org/campaigns/no-to-trident>

²<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1286199/David-Cameron-told-Heres-37bn-cuts-started.html>

³<http://www.theguardian.com/uk/2009/jan/16/trident-is-20bn-waste-say-generals>

⁴<http://www.voicesforthelibrary.org.uk/campaigns/10-things-you-need-to-know-about-library-closurescampaigns/>

⁵<http://www.trusselltrust.org/stats>

Trident.

2. Support students taking action against nuclear weapons, including facilitating students attending marches and demonstrations.
 3. Publish a statement expressing this.
 4. Become a signatory to Rethink Trident, calling on the government to cancel Trident replacement.
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