



24 May 2010

## **UNION CONDEMNS PUBLIC SPENDING CUTS**

NIPSA Northern Ireland largest public service union has condemned the decision of the Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne to slash public spending by over £6bn in the 2010/2011 year.

Brian Campfield NIPSA General Secretary commenting on the cuts to public spending stated:-

***“Not only will these cutbacks jeopardise the potential economic recovery but they will hit the less well off in society as real reductions in the quality and scale of essential services to local communities take effect.***

***In Northern Ireland these cuts come on top of the £367m cuts being implemented by our own NI Executive and will severely damage the NI economy and public services generally.***

***There is an alternative to cuts. It involves investing in resources to chase the estimated £123bn lost each year to the public purse as a consequence of a combination of tax evasion, tax avoidance and uncollected taxes. It also involves setting higher tax rates for very high earners and in doing so the UK Government can begin to tackle inequality in our society.***

***Unfortunately this Government represents the interests of the wealthy, it is not going to tax the wealthy fairly and it is using the current economic and fiscal crisis to readjust the economy in favour of private business at the expense of public service provision.”***

**ENDS**