



# **Reclaim the NHS** *take back what was ours*

## **Our National Health Service was once the envy of the world – not any more**

**The NHS has been systematically privatised, fragmented and starved of funds.**

There are serious shortages – of properly qualified staff, beds and equipment – leading to needless suffering.

Meanwhile we have a growing population with complex needs. People face growing poverty, poor housing, joblessness and a mental health crisis.

90% of the provision of social care for the elderly, disabled and young is now privatised. Vulnerable people's access and support to social care has been devastated by a toxic mix of massive budget cuts and reclassifying

medical conditions as social care not medical care. Care is being rationed on cost not need.

The final body blow to the NHS will be the Health and Care Bill. This fragments the NHS so it is no longer national, and imposes America-style healthcare in England.

In place of offering a public service it makes patients' needs secondary to private profit, and the strategic goals of international healthcare companies. Profits will be made by denial of care and deskilling of staff.

It represents the theft of almost 75 years of public investment in our health and is a betrayal of the British people who never voted for it.

We own the NHS. Its assets, its staff, its equipment is all paid for by us, the people. Yet for 40 years, successive governments of all hues have provided the means for profiteers to rob us of the fruits of the taxes we pay to support it. Now, therefore, we are reclaiming the NHS.