

UNITED
in defence of
WELFARE
CLAIMANTS



Worried &/or angry about welfare reform?

- Struggling with a mental health difficulty, severe physical illness, or disability, & facing a **Work Capability Assessment**?
- In the **ESA support group** & fearful of being forced into the **work-related activity group**?
- On **JSA** & being forced to attend sessions to ‘help you to develop a work-ready attitude’?
- **Caring for** or about someone who is being caused distress through welfare reform?
- Concerned about the impact of welfare reforms on **service-users/claimants you are working with**?
- Or an **activist** keen to fight for social justice?

This event will matter to you:

Lobby British Psychological Society

Wednesday 18th January 9-11am

outside Hilton Hotel, Liverpool City Centre,
3 Thomas Steers Way Liverpool L1 8LW

The British Psychological Society (BPS) is the learned & professional body for UK psychologists: “committed to providing & disseminating evidence-based expertise & advice, engaging with policy & decision makers”

Conversation between the DWP and the BPS

- The DWP asked the BPS to comment on their proposals for welfare reform, & on the ongoing progress of welfare reform
- Autumns of 2010 and 2011: the BPS provided the DWP with two reports. In these reports, the BPS expressed their concerns about Government thinking & planned changes to benefits
- June 2015: the BPS wrote a briefing paper, “calling on the new Government to commission an end-to-end redesign of the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) process – including its outcomes & periods for reassessment”

BPS – WE NOW CALL ON YOU TO DO MORE

- 2011-2014 **2,380 people died** shortly after being declared able to work
- Government & corporate collaborators are imposing psychological explanations for unemployment, together with mandatory activities intended to modify beliefs, attitude, disposition, or personality—**Psychocompulsion** (Friedli & Stearn, 2015)
- **The United Nations** “is deeply concerned about the various changes in the entitlements to, & cuts in, social benefits introduced by the Welfare Reform Act 2012 & the Welfare Reform & Work Act 2016”. The UN has called on the Government to: “Review the entitlement conditions & **reverse the cuts** in social security benefits introduced by” these Acts.

WE CALL ON THE BPS TO CHALLENGE ALL FORMS OF PSYCHOCOMPULSION AND THE EROSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY THIS AND THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT

Supported by:



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