

Contemporary Motions 2012

The deadline for receipt of contemporary motions is 12 noon on Friday 21 September.

Details on how to submit them may be found at
<http://www.labouremail.org.uk/emails/9460/2/2816/1441/6611/d5887792e912ec682ba68db0d253a4f0/>

Economic policy for growth - Invest and defend pay, not cuts

Conference notes: that in August the Office for National Statistics announced a further rise in public borrowing - yet another indication the government's spending cuts have caused economic contraction.

Conference further notes:

- Britain's economic output collapsed by 0.7 per cent in the second quarter of 2012, extending the country's double-dip recession into a third quarter.
- Real (ie taking account of inflation) household disposable income per head this year has now fallen below 2004 levels. Contributing to this has been below inflation increases of the minimum wage, state benefits and the freeze (again a real cut after inflation) of public sector pay.

Conference believes these austerity measures are harmful to the economy and the welfare of the population. Falling living standards, slashing public services, jobs and pay will not restore growth. Economic policy needs to change so as to revive the areas most affected by economic collapse – namely investment and consumption.

Conference calls on the government to take urgent action to address these increasing problems by:

- leading a serious programme of investment in building houses and infrastructure.
- and taking action to stimulate consumption, such as with progressive tax measure as cutting VAT and by abandoning public pay freezes and other real cuts to benefits and the minimum wage level.

220 words (maximum 250 words)