

It's a cost of *survival* crisis:

# TAKE ON THE PROFITEERS!

From early next year, households could face average gas and electricity bills of €6,000, on top of extortionate rents, steep increases in food prices and some of the highest childcare costs in Europe. Seventy percent of young people are now considering emigrating because they see no future here.

This crisis will only get worse unless we resist.

## Price-gouging to blame

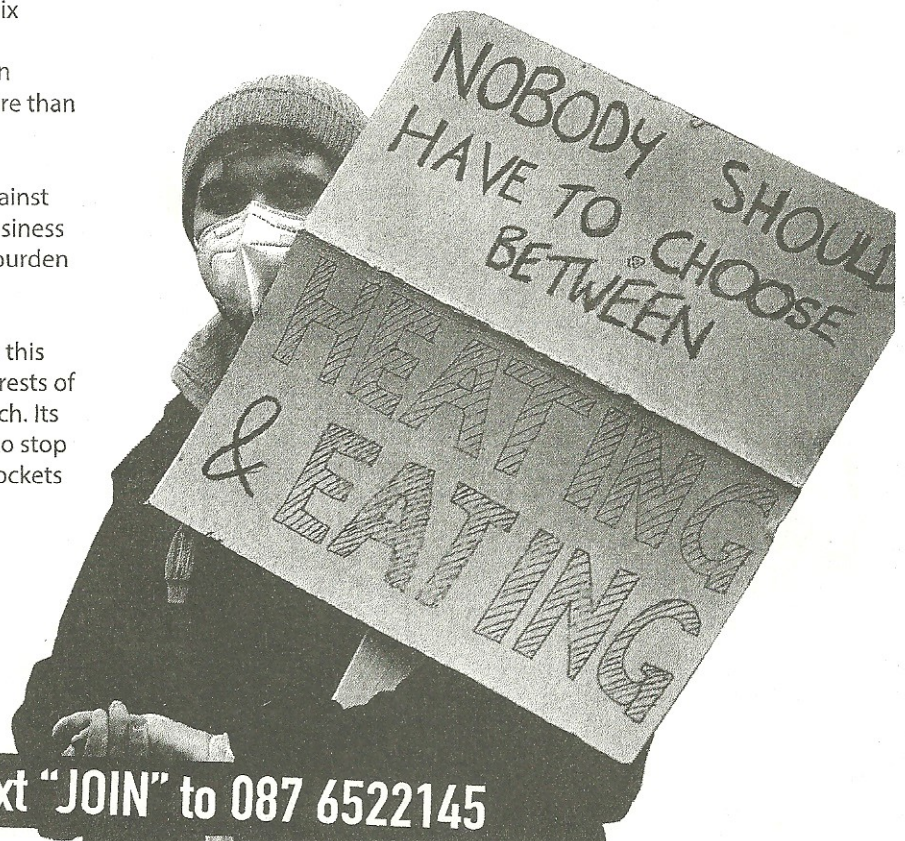
Huge profits are being made by the same companies imposing price increases on struggling people. This is nothing more than organised theft.

- Bord Gáis profits rose by 74% in the first six months of this year.
- Tesco's profits have doubled to £2.6 billion
- Airtricity's parent company SSE made more than £1 billion in profit last year.

Inflation represents a class war offensive against working-class people; an attempt by big business interests to increase profits by passing the burden to us.

The coalition government won't act against this profiteering. It will always prioritise the interests of big business, the landlords and the super-rich. Its policy of energy credits won't do anything to stop further hikes, but will just further line the pockets of the private energy companies.

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## Organise to fight back

We need to build a new movement now to fight back and turn the tide against the government and profiteers.

The water charges movement showed the power of bringing huge numbers onto the streets but also the power of working-class people getting organised in their own communities. We need to build networks of resistance which really involve people in the fight on these issues and coordinate action across communities and workplaces.

We need a fightback from workers. The government and union leaders have cooked up a deal which offers public sector workers 6.5% over two years – a pay cut in real terms. This should be rejected. Workers in the public and private sectors need pay rises which at least match inflation.

This is not a strong government and united strike action could win. The wave of strikes in Britain and the North show that workers will respond. But if the current union

leadership won't do this workers need to take the initiative for strike action from below.

We should not be misled by claims that pay rises will create a 'wage-price spiral' and that price rises will just wipe out the gains workers make. This crisis is driven by excess profits, not workers' incomes being too high!

## We need socialist change

More than enough resources exist in our society to provide everyone with a quality standard of living. It's capitalist profiteering that stands in the way, and it needs to be gotten rid of.

That means taking the key sectors of the economy into public ownership and out of the hands of big business and the super-rich, with working-class people, not capitalist profiteers, at the heart of decision-making in the economy. Capitalism has brought us endless social and economic chaos, and an existential environmental crisis. Working-class and young people need to urgently organise for socialist change. Join us today!

## WHAT WE CALL FOR:

We need to fight for measures which really respond to the scale of this emergency. These include:

- Nationalise the energy companies under the democratic control of workers and communities, and run them for public need – ramping up the transition to 100% renewables.
- Cut and freeze rents, ban evictions and build public housing on a massive scale.
- Free, quality public childcare and public transport for all.
- Increase the minimum wage to €17 an hour. Fight for inflation-busting pay rises for all workers.
- Tax big business and the super-rich – Ireland's billionaires' wealth went up by €16 billion since the pandemic.
- In the choice between the needs of the many and the profits of the few, profits must be dropped. And this is the choice we face. That means breaking with capitalism and building a socialist alternative.

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WE DEMAND BETTER  
18.06.22  
ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

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WAGES UP  
BILLS DOWN

TAX WEALTH  
NOT WORKERS

FREE ASSANGE

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