

The world is facing a Climate Change  
Emergency. Striking students rightfully  
demand a future.

We call on everyone – workers, wherever you work,  
& students, in schools or colleges,  
to join in and strike for climate, jobs, homes and for our future

# 20th September – Global Day of Action against Climate Change

Organise a lunchtime activity with placards and banners to  
demand urgent action by government and big business.



Contact us on 07952 283 558 if you organise something in your own workplace

The deliberate burning of the Amazon rainforest in Brazil is a graphic display of the corporate greed fuelling climate change and destroying existence on the planet. And why we must join the students on the streets on 20<sup>th</sup> September!

But there is also a whole raft of other daily bread-and-butter “emergencies”, like poverty pay, zero-hours contracts, universal credit, foodbanks, sky-high rents, the effects of privatisation - and all the things we are fighting as trade unionists. These may seem far removed from the struggles to breathe clean air, and be free from plastic contamination. But they are all inextricably linked.

Climate change is a result of human activity releasing harmful greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. But it's largely the activity of the rich and relentless pursuit of profits by global corporations. This is aided by our governments through privatisation, deregulation and liberalisation policies. This means more emissions, more pollution, and life threatening impacts on

human, animal and plant life.

These same policies working for the benefit of the rich are also reliant on increasing exploitation of workers. This is done by driving down wages and living standards, removal of trade union and employment rights, privatisation of our public services and punitive welfare system fuelling ever more extreme inequality both in the UK, and globally.

**The United Nations released a damning report on inequality in the UK this year. It concluded that poverty is a political choice. Climate change is also a political choice. We cannot address climate change or poverty without challenging the political and economic system that leads to it. We agree with the many students on the demo who advocate socialist change to end climate change.**

But we also have to ensure the urgent need to address climate change isn't used as a new eco-austerity.

Solutions have to involve workers

and communities, and ensure 'green' initiatives aren't used to lay off workers without alternative jobs and protection of pay and pensions.

- The Amazon is central to balancing our global eco-system.
- The trade union movement is central to ensuring we create a new economy based on economic, social and environmental justice.
- We never won a fight without militant action – organised workers' strength won rights!
- College lecturers union UCU is calling a half hour strike before lunchtime to help this action – why not organise similar activity.
- Join the striking students on 20<sup>th</sup> September ♦ locally (9:30am Town Hall and 11:30am at Town Square) ♦ Central London (12:30)
- Send photos to website [wftradescouncil@gmail.com](mailto:wftradescouncil@gmail.com) or our FaceBook page on Waltham Forest Trades Council