

# CAMPAIGNING FOR CARE in social services—

## TRADE UNION MONITORING OF PRIVATISATION

### PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL HOMES

#### MONITORING PRIVATISATION IN YOUR DEPARTMENT

These monitoring sheets are to be used to gather information on the scale of existing privatisation of services and work in your department.

This section is intended to build a basic picture of how far the private sector has made inroads into your section or department. Ask a shop steward or worker from each section to fill in this form. See the checklist of jobs and workplaces at the end of the pack to remind yourselves of the different kinds of work done in your department.

#### ORGANISING NOTES

Your department will have a record of all the contracts made with firms and consultants. Formally ask for a copy of this list or permission for the trade union representatives to have access to the records and compile their own information. You will want to know:

- name of the firm
- type of work
- amount of contract

This list will help you fill these sheets in. Contact the NALGO Branch — they may have contacts in the relevant section who will be able to help you with information.

- ★ Ensure you have a shop steward or worker in each section who has agreed to fill in the form.
- ★ Try to encourage those who are not shop stewards to be involved.
- ★ **Try to get as much accurate information as possible. Don't be put off by these questionnaires: the idea isn't to involve you in a lot of work. Fill in what you can and ask your colleagues at work to help. Once you've got the basic information you can identify the gaps and seek it out another way, for example:**
  - delegating two people to check council committee minutes
  - tabling questions for the next Joint Consultative Committees.
- ★ Report your findings to the local authority Joint Shop Stewards Committee and encourage trade union representatives in other departments to monitor privatisation.

Date of survey (week/month) .....

Name of section/department .....

Name of person completing survey (phone number) .....

## PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL HOMES

(You may also want to include evidence on private warden aided homes, hostels and bed and breakfast accommodation.) For this section contact the Registration officer/Unit for Information.

1. For what purposes are private residential homes used by the council? .....  
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.....  
.....
2. Do you know of any children, handicapped and/or elderly people either being placed or transferred to private residential homes by the council recently? Please give details. ....  
.....  
.....  
.....
3. On what basis are private residential homes used—permanent? ☐  
temporary? ☐  
special circumstances? ☐
4. Has the number or use of private residential homes increased recently? .....  
.....  
.....
5. If there has been an increased use of private residential homes recently, what reasons are given by social services management? .....  
.....  
.....  
.....
6. Give the name of any private residential homes used by the council together with the name of the company which runs them .....  
.....  
.....  
.....
7. Are you in touch with any ex-NUPE members currently working in private homes? .....  
.....  
.....
8. Has there been increased demand for places in council homes since May 1985 (when the Government reduced the charges private homes could make to DHSS claimants)? .....  
.....  
.....
9. Are there any of the councils homes threatened with closure? .....  
.....  
.....
10. Are there any of the councils residential homes in need of major repair/improvement or new equipment .....  
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11. Have you any evidence on the quality of work or quality of service provided by these private homes? .....  
.....  
.....  
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13. Any other comments or additional information? .....  
.....  
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Use additional sheets of paper where necessary.