

NZ Council of Trade Unions is coordinating combined union meetings for midday Wednesday 23 October

NZ Unions report deep concerns about the direction of the current Coalition Government and the negative, widespread impact that government decisions are having on workers, their whānau and our communities. These issues range from multiple attacks on workers' rights and unions, attacks on public services, education, social sector, health, racist policies and damaging positions on the environment.

The NZ Council of Trade Unions is coordinating a series of activities over the coming years to combat these attacks. This involves developing an alternative policy vision through the Reimagining Aotearoa project, and staging a series of nationally coordinated stop work and lunch time hui to discuss and demonstrate the concerns.

A one term only Government

The NZCTU will plan a series of further actions for 2025 and beyond to maintain momentum: "As unions we know that, when we take action together against a regressive, anti-worker government, we harness our collective strength, and bring other people onside, to ensure that this becomes a one-term-only government that loses legitimacy and momentum".

Some unions will formally request the release of their members from workplaces under section 26 of the Employment Relations Act (union meetings), while other unions will ask members to attend in their lunch breaks. Section 26 provides that union members who would otherwise be at work can receive their ordinary pay for up to two hours while they attend the union meeting.

The nationwide hui on Wednesday 23 October 2024 will be held in a two hour period sometime between 11am and 3pm. So far, between eight and eleven locations throughout the country are likely to hold events.

Community, family and allies welcome

The hui will be branded Fight Back Together Hui in each location, The hui will be held outdoors where possible and community, family and allies will be welcome to support union members at these meetings.

The formal meeting component of the Fight Back Together Hui will take approximately 45 minutes to allow time for travel.

The NZCTU says it is important to have maximum turnout throughout the country for this event so that workers get to see the strength of resistance against this Government's treatment of working people.

More information about the 23 October activity to follow.