



# There is nothing inevitable about Wales' future

Our own destiny is in our own hands. In all likelihood, the election on the 7th of May will result in a balanced parliament where no single Westminster party has a mandate to rule alone.

That gives Wales an unprecedented opportunity to hold the balance of power through electing the biggest team of Plaid Cymru MPs ever.

Not only would that place our country firmly on the political map and provide an opportunity to secure equality for our country in terms of the level of self-government we have and the financial resources we need, but it also gives us the opportunity to end the devastating austerity agenda.

Communities in every corner of our country have suffered as a result of the politics of austerity.

From cuts to services and community assets, to an unacceptable assault on those in receipt of social protection, it has been a painful five years for many people.

But austerity is not inevitable. It is a choice.

The Westminster parties have all signed up to an Austerity Charter that promises further cuts. People here can take no more.

By its own terms, austerity has failed to deliver. The deficit has not been eliminated. The UK's debt is rising and is over £1.4 trillion. The UK has lost its coveted 'Triple-A' credit rating.

## **It's time to end the austerity experiment.**

Plaid Cymru will always act in Wales' best interests. We stand for each and every person who lives in Wales regardless of background.

In May's election we'll pursue policies that will lay the foundations of post-austerity Wales. We will rebalance power and wealth away from the City of London, and its draining financial services sector, instead breathing new life into communities in Wales, in new skills for a new, balanced economy.

**We'll seek a pay rise for those struggling on earnings below the living wage.**

**We'll unleash the potential of our small and medium-sized businesses by allowing 70,000 not to pay rates at all.**

**We'll support our treasured NHS by securing 1,000 extra doctors to improve access to GPs' services and bring down waiting times.**

**Post-austerity Wales, driven by Plaid Cymru will see Wales' nationhood respected and our people empowered.**

*Leanne Wood* AM

Leader of Plaid Cymru -  
**The Party of Wales**