

MYTHBUSTERS!

DURHAM UCU

“MANAGEMENT TRY THEIR BEST; THEY JUST HAVE NO MONEY!”

It is, **at best**, unclear that the university is struggling. What **is** clear is that management don't want us to know the whole story, repeatedly refusing to share the full financial data to prove their claims (other HE providers, e.g. Newcastle, have shared such data with trade unions). What we see isn't a university losing money, but one **making** money slower than management predicted. Why should we lose colleagues just because management isn't happy about how quickly money is coming in?

If the university really **is** strapped for cash, why buy and refurbish Waterside for £108 million, 211% of what it cost to build (and still not big enough for the whole Business School)? Why are some Departments still making multiple six-figure salary hires? Does that sound like people trying their best? Does cutting £15m of staff costs first, and only **then** moving on to a planned £10m cut in estates? Why not cut from the areas which don't mean people have to leave their jobs first? Why are staff — and PS staff in particular — considered so easily expendable? It feels like we're being made to clean up after managements slapdash decisions.

Management have choices. We don't have to accept their choices.