



Published: Friday 5 March 2021

Early Day Motions tabled on Thursday 4 March 2021

Early Day Motions (EDMs) are motions for which no days have been fixed.

The number of signatories includes all members who have added their names in support of the Early Day Motion (EDM), including the Member in charge of the Motion.

EDMs and added names are also published on the EDM database at www.parliament.uk/edm

[R] Indicates that a relevant interest has been declared.

New EDMs

1587 Stanley Newens

Tabled: **4/03/21** Signatories: **9**

Jeremy Corbyn
John McDonnell
Mary Kelly Foy
Lloyd Russell-Moyle
Kate Osborne
Claudia Webbe

Bell Ribeiro-Addy

Rachel Hopkins

Navendu Mishra

That this House notes with sadness the death of Stanley Newens, a hard working socialist and former Member of Parliament and subsequently the European Parliament; respects his tremendous career as a lifelong campaigner for internationalism, social justice, and the people of his former constituencies of Epping, Harlow, and later Central London (MEP); notes his ongoing commitment to the peace movement from the 1940s through his objections to the Vietnam War and beyond; acknowledges his skills as a teacher and collector in so many subjects of historical importance; and extends sincere condolences to Sandra and family whilst at the same time acknowledging that his memory will live on in the hearts and minds of all those in the wider labour movement.

1588 Police Federation of England and Wales Time Limits Campaign

Tabled: **4/03/21** Signatories: **1**

Ian Mearns

That this House notes that justice delayed is justice denied; further notes the incredible work of police officers in ensuring the safety of this House and in communities in every constituency; notes the right of members of the public to make complaints against individual officers where perceived wrongdoing has occurred; recognises the damage a lengthy and un-ending investigation can have on the health and well-being of individual officers, their families and colleagues and the incredible

cost to the tax payer of salaries of officers under investigation who very often are found innocent; recognises the need for investigations to be conducted in a comprehensive but most efficient way possible; and supports the Police Federation of England and Wales Time Limits Campaign for the need for a limit on the length of time an investigation can take, save for the most exceptional circumstances.

1589 Overseas NHS Workers Day

Tabled: 4/03/21 Signatories: 1

Christine Jardine

That this House supports Overseas NHS Workers Day in recognition of the extraordinary contribution of all foreign nationals working tirelessly in the UK's fight against Covid-19; applauds the efforts of the Doctors' Association UK with support from the Royal College of Physicians (RCP), British Association of Physicians of Indian Origin (BAPIO), British International Doctors Association (BIDA), Hospital Consultants and Specialists Association (HCSA), Royal College of Surgeons and Unison for creating this awareness day to celebrate foreign nationals in all their roles within the NHS; notes the almost 200 different nationalities represented within the NHS; further notes that although the NHS is the UK's biggest employer, there is still not enough staff to meet demand; believes that the most meaningful way to recognise the contributions of foreign nationals and secure staffing capacity is to grant indefinite leave to remain in the UK; and calls on the Government to grant indefinite leave to remain to all foreign nationals currently working in the health and social care sector, and to their families.

1590 International Women's Day: support for girls' education across the globe

Tabled: 4/03/21 Signatories: 1

Layla Moran

That this House notes with concern the findings of UN Women's report 'From Insight to Action: Gender Equality in the Wake of COVID-19' that without coordinated action to mitigate the gendered impacts of COVID-19, there is a risk that the fragile gender equality gains achieved over the past 25 years will be lost; acknowledges the continued importance of the Sustainable Development Goals as road maps to combat gender inequality in the UK and abroad; notes that before 2020, 130 million girls had no access to education and that this number has now increased as a result of inequality gaps caused by the coronavirus pandemic; further notes the important role that UK development spending has historically played working to ensure girls across the globe have access to education; draws attention to the fact that UK development spending cuts will drastically impact girls' access to education across the globe, as education programmes see a reduction in funding; and urges the Government to recommit to 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income to be spent on international development, as set out in their manifesto.

1591 Representation and the JudiciaryTabled: **4/03/21** Signatories: **5**

Claudia Webbe
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Ms Diane Abbott
Kim Johnson
Tahir Ali

That this House is concerned at the gross under-representation of ethnic minority Judges at all levels of the Judicial system; laments the absence of adequate bullying, harassment and anti-discrimination policies and practices; notes the failure to address the bullying, harassment, whistle blowing and discrimination that have been the subject of employment tribunals in recent years; further notes the position of the Secretary of State for Justice and the Lord Chancellor that the Executive has no responsibility for the health of all Judicial Office holders; questions the Government's position that the actions of the senior judiciary in respect of disciplinary and grievance proceedings are covered by judicial immunity; welcomes the forthcoming establishment of a support network for Judges on 18 March 2021, United Nations anti-racism day, in order to support Judges who may be experiencing bullying, harassment or discrimination of any kind; calls upon the Lord Chief Justice and Secretary of State for Justice to endorse this support network, adopt specific annual targets for the appointment, retention and promotion of African, Caribbean, and Asian Judges and Magistrates; and further calls on the Government to investigate allegations that cases of sex, race and disability discrimination have been regularly dismissed by members of the senior Judiciary, Judicial Conduct Investigations Office, the Judicial Appointments Commission, and the Judicial Appointments and Conduct Ombudsman.

Added Names

Below are EDMs tabled in the last two weeks to which names have been added. Only the first 6 names and any new names are included.

1506 Advice Direct Scotland's new Scotland-specific benefits calculatorTabled: **22/02/21** Signatories: **11**

David Linden
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Alison Thewliss

Neale Hanvey

That this House welcomes the launch of Advice Direct Scotland's free online benefits calculator; recognises that the new online tool is the first to fully integrate devolved benefits, including the new devolved benefit, the Scottish Child Payment which opened on February 15 for parents or carers on low incomes who have a child under six; pays tribute to the work of Advice Direct Scotland and their partner Inbest in developing this new tool which will provide Scots with free and impartial assessment of entitlement to a range of benefits such as Universal Credit, crisis grants and support payments; and recognises that the launch follows an 87 per cent increase in Scotland's claimant count between December 2019 and December 2020 largely caused by the coronavirus pandemic; and recommends all families facing financial hardship use the tool to calculate the benefits that are available.

1507 Rosslyn Chapel junior tour guides

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 10

Owen Thompson
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Marion Fellows

Neale Hanvey

That this House recognises the partnership work being undertaken between Rosslyn Chapel and Roslin Primary School through their Junior Tour Guides Programme; notes in light of the covid pandemic this year the project has had to become virtual; further notes that the virtual tour presents the story of Rosslyn Chapel and allows virtual visitors to meet time-travelling characters from the past and mythological creatures as they introduce the history and legends of this amazing medieval building; acknowledges the challenges that the Coronavirus pandemic has caused on the tourism sector; and welcomes the work being undertaken to allow visitors to virtually tour this wonderful Midlothian icon.

1511 Cail Bruich restaurant in Glasgow awarded Michelin Star

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 9

Patrick Grady
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Marion Fellows

Neale Hanvey

That this House congratulates Cail Bruich restaurant in the West End of Glasgow on earning the first Michelin star in the city in 18 years; recognises that in its 12 years Cail Bruich has received a number of accolades, including three AA rosettes, and that this latest award consolidates their reputation for high quality service and exceptional gourmet food; notes that head chef Lorna McNee is the first female chef to receive the award in the city; praises the team at Cail Bruich for this remarkable addition to Glasgow's thriving culinary scene; thanks Lorna and all the staff at Cail Bruich for their continued dedication and their landmark contribution to Scotland's international standing for food excellence; and wishes everyone associated with Cail Bruich every continued success for the future.

1513 Effect of fake online reviews on consumer confidence

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 15

Patricia Gibson
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Alison Thewliss

Neale Hanvey

That this House acknowledges online sales in the retail sector saw five years of growth in 2020 as coronavirus restrictions and lockdowns shifted consumer spending online; recognises that, alongside

the growth in the online retail sector, online customer reviews have become an important source of product information and have a significant impact on consumer purchase decision making; applauds the investigation undertaken by independent consumer champion Which? which has uncovered a thriving industry where potentially hundreds of thousands of misleading fake product reviews are making their way onto the platform; understands that consumers need to be able to have confidence in product reviews online; is deeply concerned that the systematic manipulation of reviews highlights the need for online platforms to act urgently and do more to proactively prevent fake reviews infiltrating their sites; calls on the Competition and Markets Authority to take swift and effective action to prevent sites trading in fake reviews; and urges the UK Government to urgently strengthen online consumer protections so that sites can be held to account if they fail to keep consumers safe.

1515 VAT on hair and beauty services

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 39

Alison Thewliss
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Kirsten Oswald
Owen Thompson
Allan Dorans

Neale Hanvey

That this House recognises the significant impact that the Coronavirus pandemic has had on the hairdressing, beauty and holistic service industry; notes that this sector is reported by the British Beauty Council to contribute £9.2bn annually to Britain's economy, employing a workforce of 288,160 people as hair and beauty practitioners in salons and in a self-employed capacity within the UK; appreciates that 88.6 per cent of those employed in the sector are women; is concerned by reports that 62 per cent of salons owners were unsure if they would survive beyond this financial year and that 18 per cent felt certain they would have to close their doors; notes that while Government grants were welcome, the loss of income for many in the sector has been considerable; appreciates that many self-employed professionals within the sector have struggled to get financial support; recognises the strenuous efforts by this sector to become Covid-19 secure; and calls on the Chancellor to chop the VAT for the hairdressing, beauty and holistic service industry to 5 per cent in the upcoming budget.

1517 Barrhead schools' breakfast pilot

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 10

Kirsten Oswald
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Marion Fellows

Neale Hanvey

That this House welcomes news that an innovative project offering pupils the chance to pick up a free breakfast from a mobile cart is to be extended to other UK schools following a successful pilot in Barrhead High School and Carlibar and St John's Primary Schools in East Renfrewshire; notes that the grab-n-go scheme is based on a similar model used in the United States and Canada and gives pupils easy access to cereal, toast, and fruit before the start of the school day or during the first half hour; further notes that during the Barrhead pilot, researchers from Glasgow Caledonian University

surveyed almost 500 pupils and 39 teachers and found evidence of students who skipped breakfast being less able to concentrate, lacking energy and being less engaged in learning, and concluded that the breakfast cart was welcomed by staff and pupils alike; notes in particular that skipping breakfast was common among the secondary school pupils - with 63% not eating every morning - compared to just 7 per cent of primary age children, and that girls in secondary school were more likely than boys to skip breakfast, with 34 per cent never eating before school; acknowledges the work done by The Greggs Foundation, Glasgow Caledonian University, East Renfrewshire Council, catering companies E&R Moffat and Brakes, and Lindsay Graham of the Poverty and Inequality Commission Scotland in delivering the Barrhead pilot; and looks forward to news of the further rollout of this worthwhile initiative.

1526 The Green Homes Grant

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 18

Caroline Lucas
Jonathan Edwards
Wera Hobhouse
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell
Alan Brown

Jamie Stone
Kim Johnson
Rachel Hopkins

Ed Davey
Peter Dowd

Stephen Farry
Allan Dorans

That this House believes the Green Homes Grant to upgrade 600,000 homes and support 100,000 jobs is in need of fundamental reform; is concerned that as of 8 February 2021 just 22,165 vouchers had been issued to customers despite enormous demand, that any underspend of the £2 billion invested until March 2021 will not be rolled over to 2021-22, and that delays in issuing vouchers has led to financial difficulties and redundancies for companies, with one third of those surveyed reporting that delays in payment were threatening their business's viability; welcomes the Environmental Audit Committee's Growing Back Better report and the Committee's survey demonstrating that many homeowners struggled to find registered contractors and that 86 per cent had a poor experience with the application process; notes the commitment in the 2019 Conservative Party Manifesto to invest £9.2 billion in improving the energy efficiency of homes and public buildings; further notes that the Climate Change Committee's Balanced Net Zero Pathway requires £55 billion of investment in home energy efficiency by 2050; calls on the Government to work with stakeholders to improve the Green Homes Grant, ensure installers are urgently paid for delivered work, strip US consultancy ICF of their contract, and commit to a Green Jobs Guarantee including long-term funding for an ambitious multi-year investment in home retrofits; and urges the Government to reverse the current tax incentive which operates in favour of new build and against retrofit.

1529 Assistive Products ListTabled: **22/02/21** Signatories: **9**

Dr Lisa Cameron
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon

Neale Hanvey

That this House recognises the importance of creating a national Assistive Product List (APL) to ensure that older people and people with visible and non-visible disabilities have equitable access to the essential assistive products they need to achieve a good quality of life; highlights that 50 major UK assistive technology specialist organisations including the British Dyslexia Association, Leonard Cheshire, SCOPE, the Royal National Institute for Deaf people, the Royal National Institute of Blind people, the British Healthcare Trades Association, Hft, MENCAP and the British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists have already joined together to create the first UK APL in recognition of the value of this World Health Organisation initiative that is based on the impactful Essential Medicines List devised in 1977; commends the British Assistive Technology Association for leading the initiative on creating that list and draws attention to the work that that large coalition of stakeholders has been doing over several months to create a wide-ranging initial list of assistive products from hearing aids to crutches, wheelchairs and digital assistive products, in preparation for a Government-backed survey and consultation exercise; and joins with that unified community to call on the Government to include a national APL survey and a national consultation exercise to create a UK Essential Assistive Products List as part of any new disability and ageing strategy, to help address the gaps and barriers to accessing assistive technology that currently hinders the quality of life of so many.

1531 Death of Sydney Devine MBETabled: **22/02/21** Signatories: **15**

Allan Dorans
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Kirsten Oswald
Owen Thompson
Alison Thewliss

Neale Hanvey

That this House notes with great sadness, the passing of Sydney Devine MBE, a legendary Scottish singer and showman, who entertained generations of people with his unique crooner and country and western style live performances during a career which spanned almost seven decades, beginning at the age of 13 years with a television appearance, performing around the world with the White Heather Group for more than a decade, appearing in the popular TV series, The White Heather Club, before later developing into country music in the 1970s when he worked with country legends including Charlie Pride and Dolly Parton; further notes that he is best known for his live stage performances in theatres and music venues across the country for almost 50 years; acknowledges his close connection with the Pavilion Theatre, Glasgow where he performed every year for forty five consecutive years and his musical achievements which included 51 Albums selling over 15 million copies and his signature song, Tiny Bubbles, and other favourites including Maggie and Legend in my Time and many, many more; and thanks him for his long term commitment, support and association with Marie Curie, a leading UK's end of life charity.

1532 30th anniversary of Lemmings

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 8

Owen Thompson
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon

Neale Hanvey

That this House marks the 30th anniversary of the release of Lemmings on 14th February 1991; recognises that the Scottish hit videogame was originally designed and developed by DMA Design in Dundee; notes that Lemmings is estimated to have sold around 20 million copies between its various ports; further notes that Lemmings was the second highest-rated title ever reviewed by Amstrad Action magazine and in 1996 Next Generation placed it at number eight in its all time best games roundup; and celebrates the huge contribution of Scottish games companies to the industry worldwide.

1533 Lori Silvan roadside litter collection

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 6

Brendan O'Hara
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey

That this House commends Argyll and Bute constituent Lori Silvan on her roadside litter collection; praises her on using her daily exercise to reduce the amount of litter on local roads; congratulates her on encouraging others to join in collecting litter through setting up the Facebook page called Wake up, clear up Argyll; and applauds her on educating other local constituents on the impact of littering and climate change, particularly encouraging young children to prevent littering and protect the local environment.

1534 Let's Get Scrubbing fundraising group

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 7

Brendan O'Hara
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

Neale Hanvey

That this house highlights the fundraising efforts of Let's get scrubbing, a group of volunteers stitchers who made personal protective kit of healthcare workers during the pandemic; notes that by selling their face masks to the general public to raise additional funds for hospital staff, the volunteers raised £3,100; and offers thanks to the volunteer sewers for manufacturing face masks and other PPE, and in doing so encouraging COVID-19 protective measures.

1535 Fundraising for Glasgow's Children's charity and the Royal Alexandra Hospital

Tabled: 22/02/21 Signatories: 9

Brendan O'Hara
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Marion Fellows

Neale Hanvey

That this House congratulates the dedication of Argyll and Bute constituent Nikki Waski for fundraising for Glasgow's Children's Charity and the Neo-natal unit at the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, both of which helped when Nikki's children were born prematurely; notes that Nikki is raising money by completing 50 sponsored swims in the cold winter sea; and praises her efforts in raising £1800 so far towards the neo-natal unit, which will hopefully help more families with premature babies.

1537 Retirement of General Teaching Council (GTC) Scotland Chief Executive

Tabled: 23/02/21 Signatories: 9

Carol Monaghan
Jim Shannon
Patrick Grady
Marion Fellows
Allan Dorans
Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House marks the retirement of General Teaching Council (GTC) Scotland Chief Executive, Ken Muir; congratulates him on a career in education spanning more than 42 years; commends him for his life-long commitment to teaching excellence in Scotland; recognises his work as a registered teacher, GTC Scottish Government observer, HM Chief Inspector of Education, and GTC Chief Executive and Registrar; acknowledges the far-reaching impact he has had in supporting, representing, and championing both teachers and learners in Scotland; sincerely thanks him for his public service to the Scottish education sector, which has benefitted from his unwavering commitment to ensuring the very best for Scotland's schools; and wishes Mr Muir the very best on his retirement.

1542 Family Fund

Tabled: 23/02/21 Signatories: 23

Marion Fellows
Carla Lockhart
Jim Shannon
Patrick Grady
Kirsten Oswald
Owen Thompson

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House commends Family Fund for their work across the country over the last 48 years; recognises that they have provided over 90,000 grants to families with disabled or seriously ill

children over the last year; notes that Family Fund's aim is to work toward a vision that all families raising disabled or seriously ill children have the same choices, quality of life, opportunities and aspirations as other families; and congratulates all their staff on their excellent work especially during this difficult year.

1543 Centralisation of Highland and Island services in Inverness

Tabled: 24/02/21 Signatories: 3

Jamie Stone
Jim Shannon
Angus Brendan MacNeil

That this House regrets the centralisation of Highland and Island services in Inverness; notes that centralising HIAL air traffic controllers in Inverness will leave towers at Island and Highland airports unmanned and is concerned that this poses a risk to passengers; and further notes that £6.5 million has been spent so far on this project against the wishes of local communities.

1544 London Capital & Finance Plc bondholder compensation

Tabled: 24/02/21 Signatories: 13

Neale Hanvey
Marion Fellows
Andrew Rosindell
Gavin Newlands
Allan Dorans
John McDonnell

Alan Brown

Chris Law

That this House recognises the significant losses of the 11,625 London Capital & Finance Plc (LC&F) bondholders who invested about £237 million and may only get 20 per cent of their investment back following the scheme's failure; notes that the Financial Services Compensation Scheme has paid £56.3 million in compensation to 2,878 LC&F bondholders to date; welcomes the publication of the independent investigation report by Dame Elizabeth Gloster in December 2020; notes that the report was strongly critical of the Financial Conduct Authority's approach, contending that the regulator had failed to fulfil its statutory objectives; further notes that the FCA and the Government have accepted all 13 recommendations from the report; welcomes the announcement from the Government that it will establish its own compensation scheme for LC&F bondholders; and urges the Government to set out the terms of the scheme at the earliest opportunity.

1549 World Hearing Day

Tabled: 25/02/21 Signatories: 17

Dr Lisa Cameron
Jonathan Edwards
Claudia Webbe
John McDonnell
Navendu Mishra
Paula Barker

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House commemorates World Hearing Day on 3 March 2021 by supporting the National Association of Deafened People (NADP) and the Hearing Loss and Deafness Alliance to ensure

people with hearing loss have prompt and equal access to life-long learning, employment and health services as echoed by the upcoming WHO World Report on Hearing with annual aims of improve screening, person-centred hearing care, rehabilitation and improved access to communication; commits to aiding accessibility for people with hearing loss in constituencies as well as broader society; recognises the escalated frustration and alienation many people with hearing loss face due to increased difficulty of lipreading caused by commonplace mask-wearing; and acknowledges improvements including transparent face mask use which can be implemented in a cost-effective way relieving some of the estimated £25 billion loss to the economy each year due to lost productivity as a result of hearing loss.

1550 Cuba and the US blockade

Tabled: 25/02/21 Signatories: 20

Grahame Morris
Jonathan Edwards
Kenny MacAskill
Claudia Webbe
Richard Burgon
John McDonnell

Ian Lavery

Amy Callaghan

That this House recognises that the US blockade of Cuba has cost the Cuban economy billions of dollars, causes shortages in essential services and has been exacerbated by the Trump administration's designation of Cuba as state sponsor of terrorism – a politically motivated move which intensifies sanctions against the Cuban people in the middle of a health pandemic; welcomes recent comments by Juan González, White House Director for the Western Hemisphere, that the Biden administration is seeking to lift remittance and travel restrictions; hopes measures will be taken to enable Cuba to access materials to produce and deliver millions of doses of its covid-19 vaccine both to its own population and elsewhere; congratulates the Government for voting against the blockade, and on its positive engagement with Cuba, including joint projects on covid-19, medical research and facilitating the posting of Cuban medical brigades to British overseas territories; and calls on the Government to promote international cooperation between Cuba and the UK and to encourage the Biden administration to normalise relations by reversing the designation of Cuba as a state sponsor of terrorism and ending the blockade.

1551 Breakfast at Haghill

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 6

Anne McLaughlin
Steven Bonnar
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Patrick Grady
Chris Law

That this House congratulates Haghill Park Primary School on being shortlisted for the Kellogg's Breakfast Club of the Year Award; recognises the vital role that Breakfast Clubs play in ensuring that children have the fuel they require to learn throughout the day; commends the dedication of teachers and staff to the wellbeing of the children of Haghill and Dennistoun; welcomes the support provided for such programmes; and wishes Haghill Park Primary School every success in the fantastic work that they continue to do in the community.

1553 Inverness full fibre network

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 5

Drew Hendry
Jim Shannon
Hannah Bardell
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House welcomes the news that Inverness has become the latest city to join the full fibre revolution as the first homes across that city have been connected to next generation full fibre network; notes that CityFibre is investing around £20 million to bring this future-proof digital connectivity to the city; further notes that those services are being made available by BrawBand, a broadband offering launched recently by award-winning Inverness-based internet services provider HighNet; and further notes that, when complete, that crucial investment will reach almost every home and business in Inverness, ensuring that broadband users will be able to enjoy consistently fast and reliable connectivity services.

1554 NHS Highland's covid-19 vaccination programme

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 4

Brendan O'Hara
Jim Shannon
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law

That this House praises NHS Highland's covid-19 vaccination programme which has administered 27,000 first dose vaccinations in Argyll and Bute constituency as of 24 February 2021 and 100, 216 in the Health Board area overall; commends the high uptake of covid-19 vaccines among high-risk groups, particularly in care homes and for the over-80s; and thanks dedicated NHS staff for administering covid-19 vaccines across Scotland, particularly thanking NHS staff for continuing to run an efficient covid-19 vaccine program despite inclement winter weather, alongside the remote and rural geography.

1555 Jimmy Robertson's retirement

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 4

Brendan O'Hara
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House congratulates Jimmy Robertson on a 30-year long career with the Argyll and Bute Council, which came to an end this week; praises Jimmy for his tireless public service working in various roles across that Council, where he formed a close relationship with the local community; notes his particular dedication to the community throughout the covid-19 pandemic; wishes Jimmy a well-deserved retirement; and thanks Jimmy for his service to Argyll and Bute.

1556 CalMac fundraising

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 4

Brendan O'Hara
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House highlights the fundraising efforts of Caledonian MacBrayne staff based in Argyll and Bute constituency; notes that CalMac are raising money for the Scottish Association for Mental Health, with 40 employees taking part in Megan's Miles fundraising challenge; acknowledges that each employee is undertaking 126 miles of exercise each to represent the distance between the Oban ferry terminal and the Astley Ainslie Hospital, Edinburgh; praises the dedication of all those staff taking part in that fundraising challenge; and wishes those staff well with their fundraising.

1557 Cared For At Home Network

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 6

Brendan O'Hara
Steven Bonnar
Jim Shannon
Hannah Bardell
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House commends the Cared for at Home Network set up by Dunoon-based Police Constable Laura Evans, which aims to tackle cases of fraud and attempted fraud across Argyll and Bute; notes that throughout the pandemic cases of attempted fraud have risen, particularly during the covid-19 lockdowns when many elderly people are home alone and criminals have targeted vulnerable residents through telephone and email scams; and highlights that that Network aims to raise awareness of fraud to elderly people and to encourage people to report all forms of fraud.

1558 Campbeltown and the 2020 SURF Awards

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 4

Brendan O'Hara
Jim Shannon
Hannah Bardell
Chris Law

That this House congratulates the people of Campbeltown on the town's recent success at being named Scotland's Most Improved Place at the prestigious 2020 SURF Awards; particularly recognises the enormous contribution made by James Lafferty and Cara Browning of Argyll and Bute Council who have overseen and managed the £13 million project which has been used to refurbish more than 40 buildings in that town, including the full repair of 11 tenement buildings containing 58 flats, making significant improvements to numerous shopfronts in that town, the transformation of a derelict building into a community backpackers hostel and the restoration of Campbeltown Cross; notes that that award recognises years of dedicated hard work by so many in the local community who have been determined to make Campbeltown an attractive place to live and work with a thriving town centre; and is confident that Campbeltown and the surrounding area has a very bright, positive future as Scotland's Most Improved Place.

1563 Extension of driving theory test certificates

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 9

Dave Doogan
Steven Bonnar
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows
John McDonnell

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House considers that reasonable extensions should be granted to driving theory tests for learner drivers, tests taken by trainee driving instructors, Certificates for BASeic Training for moped drivers and over seventies' licences; believes that were it not for the covid-19 pandemic learner drivers who had already passed their driving theory test would have, in many instances, by now have passed a practical driving test and supports the extension of their driving theory test certificate in order to avoid a logjam of new driving theory test applicants; considers that significant personal expenses have been borne by learner drivers and trainee driving instructors and that it would be unfair to ask them to pay additional costs due to events outwith their control; understands that the Government extended MoT certificates in 2020 and believes that a similar mechanism could be used to provide extensions for those who have undertaken driving theory tests, tests taken by trainee driving instructors, Certificates for BASeic Training for moped drivers and over seventies' licences.

1566 Endo warriors West Lothian

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 4

Hannah Bardell
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House commends Candice McKenzie and Claire Beattie for their passionate and persistent campaigning work to raise awareness and understanding of endometriosis; praises Endo Warriors West Lothian (EWWL) for its success in introducing menstrual wellbeing into the school curriculum in West Lothian; congratulates West Lothian Council on becoming the first council in Scotland to introduce menstrual wellbeing into the school curriculum; recognises the efforts of teachers and pupils in the 11 high schools in West Lothian that will take part in that education drive; and wishes EWWL good luck with the activities it has planned for Endometriosis Awareness Month in March 2021.

1567 Political prisoners on hunger strike in Ethiopia

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 10

Patrick Grady
Anne McLaughlin
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows
Hannah Bardell

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House notes with concerns reports about the deteriorating health of Jawar Mohammed, Bekele Gerba, Hamza Adane and Dejene Tafa, who are on hunger-strike in prison in Ethiopia; notes that these men and sixteen others were arrested after unrest that broke out in the Oromo region

following the killing of musician Hachalu Hundessa in June 2020; notes that former US Ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Powell has said that the treatment of these prisoners by the Ethiopian government is exacerbating a serious crisis, especially as their health deteriorates; further notes findings by Amnesty International in 2020 that Ethiopian security forces committed grave human rights violations between December 2018 and December 2019 in the region, including burning homes to the ground, extrajudicial executions, rape, arbitrary arrests and detentions; and calls on the UK Government to make representations to counterparts in the United Nations, African Union and Government of Ethiopia to secure appropriate medical treatment for the hunger strikers, the release of any prisoners detained arbitrarily on politically-motivated charges, an end to political violence, steps to negotiate peaceful settlements of the conflicts affecting the country, and respect for freedom of speech, human rights and the rule of law.

1568 Report on an alternative vision for the UK defence sector

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 8

Chris Stephens [R]
John McDonnell
Grahame Morris
Rachel Hopkins
Paula Barker
Mick Whitley

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House notes the publication of a report by Professor Roger Seifert entitled Alternative Vision for the UK Defence Sector on behalf of the Public and Commercial Services union, and welcomes its findings; acknowledges the vital and necessary work carried out by civilian staff in the Ministry of Defence across the UK; further notes that the report highlights the Department's concerning reliance on outsourcing work to the private sector; is alarmed by the report's findings of bullying and harassment of civilian staff as well as low pay and poor industrial relations leading to a culture of denial and poor accountability by MoD management; supports the report's call for appropriate investment across the Department to ensure retention of jobs and skills in the civilian sector linked to improved pay and training opportunities; and urges Ministers and senior officials at the Ministry of Defence to meet with civilian staff representatives to discuss the concerns raised within this report, and to work towards a more united Department that respects and rewards its civil servants for their continued dedication.

1569 Anti-Irish discrimination

Tabled: 2/03/21 Signatories: 11

Colum Eastwood
Claudia Webbe
Brendan O'Hara
Paula Barker
Rachel Hopkins
John McDonnell

Claire Hanna

Marion Fellows

That this House condemns anti-Irish racism in all its forms; notes that recent reports of anti-Irish and anti-Irish Traveller sentiments are disturbing; further notes the immeasurable contribution to public life of Irish people and recognises the important role Irish culture through language, dance, music and the arts plays in the lives of many people across the UK; recognises that Irish people have made an immensely positive contribution to society on the island of Britain; and urges the Government to do more to protect Irish people from discrimination and to consider bringing forward legislation to enshrine in law those protections.

1570 Access to cash and banking services in communities

Tabled: 2/03/21 Signatories: 7

Patricia Gibson
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell
Claudia Webbe
Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House recognises the UK's obligation to maintain access to cash for all people that need or want to use it; is aware of recent analysis from Which? showing that 10 million people are not ready or able to stop using cash, with over two million dependent on it for every transaction, and that it is disproportionately relied upon by vulnerable people, notably those who are elderly, disabled or on low incomes; believes that banks should be mandated to work with post offices, which already provide an unofficial support network for over 300,000 vulnerable people, to provide banking services to all communities across the UK when they close a branch; and calls on the Government to legislate to ensure that local communities have access to the banking services they need to function.

1571 Access to cash

Tabled: 2/03/21 Signatories: 8

Patricia Gibson
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Margaret Ferrier
John McDonnell
Claudia Webbe

Neale Hanvey

Chris Law

That this House calls on the Government to set out a timeline for introducing legislation to protect access to cash for people who depend on it, as well as publishing its vision for the long-term future of cash in order to support a managed transition towards digital payments; recognises that the UK's already fragile cash system has been put under unprecedented strain as a result of the covid-19 outbreak, is convinced that the ability to access and spend cash is not only important for the many vulnerable people who rely on it, but will also play a critical role in the recovery of local economies, particularly as lockdown measures are relaxed and high-streets begin to re-open; is concerned that covid-19 and successive national lockdowns has resulted in a wave of ATM and bank branch closures across the country adding to the urgency of ensuring cash-dependent consumers are not cut off from accessing their only payment method; appreciates that the Government has an important role to play in ensuring that regulators and industry work together to develop a solution for the cash system that meets consumers' needs and responds to changes in consumer behaviour; recognises that the slow rate of progress and lack of clarity around the scope and timings of legislation on this matter is a cause of concern; and accepts that while industry and regulators will undoubtedly play a critical role in designing a framework to guarantee cash access, HM Treasury must urgently provide much-needed vision to support this.

1573 Union Vinyl Inverness Oxfam donation

Tabled: 2/03/21 Signatories: 5

Drew Hendry
Jim Shannon
Steven Bonnar
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House commends Union Vinyl in Inverness on their generous donation to Oxfam; notes that Union Vinyl donate any vinyl records which they are unable to resell and that the total raised by Oxfam through their donations has reached over £3,400; further notes that that money will provide 300 displaced families access to safe drinking water and sanitation; and finally pays thanks to the owner Nigel Graham for his ongoing support to Oxfam.

1574 District Nurse Moira Westland and Staff Nurse Cara Donnelly of NHS Highland

Tabled: 2/03/21 Signatories: 4

Brendan O'Hara
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House recognises the outstanding commitment of District Nurse Moira Westland and Staff Nurse Cara Donnelly of NHS Highland who have been administering covid-19 vaccinations to vulnerable residents living in the most remote parts of the Isle of Mull in Argyll and Bute; notes that during the recent bad winter weather, while delivering the coronavirus vaccines to those patients living in the most inaccessible part of the island, Moira and Cara were often required to make the journey on foot to reach the homes of their patients; and sends our sincere thanks to Moira and Cara and all of their NHS Highland colleagues for their remarkably efficient roll out of the covid-19 vaccine across our rural and island communities and for their determination to ensure that no one living in the highlands and islands of Scotland misses out on being vaccinated against covid-19.

1575 International Women's Day and freedom of religion or belief (No. 2)

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 4

Dr Lisa Cameron
Jim Shannon
Patrick Grady
Chris Law

That this House celebrates International Women's Day on 8 March 2021; recognises that women from marginalised religious or belief communities encounter unique persecution and challenges due to their gender; expresses deep concern that these women have become much more vulnerable since the outbreak of covid-19 resulting in increased cases of domestic violence, kidnapping and forced marriage, as seen in the case of 14 year old Maira Shahbaz and 13 year old Arzoo Raja in Pakistan; notes the launch of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Freedom of Religion or Belief's new report entitled, Commentary on the Current State of Freedom of Religion or Belief (2020) which draws attention to the intersection between gender inequality and freedom of religion or belief violations with many specific examples; and urges the UK Government and the international community to act to mitigate the impact that the covid-19 pandemic has had on freedom of religion or belief globally and, in particular, on women and girls who are doubly discriminated against because of their gender and their beliefs.

1576 Use of explosive weapons in populated areas

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 5

Tony Lloyd
Colum Eastwood
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Jeremy Corbyn

That this House notes that the use of explosive weapons in towns and cities is a leading cause of civilian casualties in modern conflict; further notes with regret the devastating long-term humanitarian consequences caused by the destruction of critical civilian infrastructure including homes, schools, hospitals, water and sanitation systems and power supplies as a result of conflict; is disturbed by the UN's finding that in 2019 the use of explosive weapons in populated areas was responsible for almost 40 per cent of verified incidents where children were killed or maimed in conflict; notes the call by the UN Secretary-General and the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross for States to develop an international Political Declaration on avoiding the use of explosive weapons in populated areas; welcomes the process to develop such a Political Declaration led by the Republic of Ireland; believes that the UK Government has a moral responsibility to work with international partners to strengthen the protection of civilians against the use of explosive weapons in their towns and cities; notes that as a permanent member of the UN Security Council and the penholder for Protection of Civilians, and as a leading member of NATO, the UK Government has the influence to persuade other States to follow where it leads; and calls on the UK Government to endorse the Irish-led Political Declaration on explosive weapons, encourage other States to do the same, and lead efforts to develop guidelines for its effective implementation.

1577 Neilston Street Library

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 4

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows
Chris Law

That this House welcomes the growing number of voluntary groups dedicated to sharing their love of books with other members of their communities; further welcomes the initiative of Lindy Montgomery and Laura Curtis, both residents of Neilston in East Renfrewshire who launched a street library to help fellow villagers discover the joy of reading; notes that Lindy and Laura borrowed an idea from America called a Blind Book Club in which readers take a book they know nothing about, although the pair have put their own spin on that concept by wrapping the books and adding a brief description; further notes that this initiative has helped local residents while libraries have been closed due to the covid-19 pandemic and has helped elderly residents and those who have been shielding for whom Lindy and Laura have offered a delivery service.

1578 Lawn bowling clubs in East Renfrewshire

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 4

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows
Chris Law

That this House notes the difficulties facing many local sporting clubs as a result of their closure during the covid-19 pandemic; welcomes signs that club organisers and participants are

beginning to look forward to resumption of their sports in the months ahead; acknowledges the continuing popularity of lawn bowls, which, with the support of Bowls Scotland, is played by over 56,000 bowlers across Scotland, and which sustains many long established clubs at the heart of communities, including in East Renfrewshire, where Crofthead Bowling Club in the village of Neilston is celebrating its centenary year having been formed originally in 1921 as part of the English Sewing Company workers' recreation club, but which is today an independent club whose members purchased the green in the 1990s and built a Members' lounge; recognises that the covid-19 pandemic prevented many sporting clubs from celebrating significant anniversaries including Giffnock Bowling Club, which was founded in 1895 as Giffnock Bowling and Tennis Club before the two sports split into separate clubs on adjacent sites, and Mearns Bowling Club, for whose opening season of 1920-21 a photographic record remains; and wishes all those involved with lawn bowling in East Renfrewshire and elsewhere a better season than last year and all the best for the future of their sport.

1579 Disability Action East Renfrewshire 10th Anniversary

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 4

Kirsten Oswald
Neale Hanvey
Marion Fellows
Chris Law

That this House congratulates East Renfrewshire Disability Action, which relaunched at its recent AGM as Disability Action East Renfrewshire (DAER), on its 10th anniversary; notes that DAER members consist of people who are disabled, non-disabled, and carers, and that it exists to raise issues and concerns that matter to disabled people at local and national level; recognises that this role has increased in importance as disabled people have been disproportionately impacted by unfair and unjust welfare cuts, as well as cuts, increased charges, and changes to local and national services on which disabled people rely; further recognises that cuts and reduction in services maintain and reinforce social, physical, attitudinal, cultural, and economic barriers that prevent disabled people fulfilling their rightful role as full and equal citizens; acknowledges the range of activities undertaken by DAER, including campaigning for accessible travel with improved access to railway stations and provision of wheelchair accessible taxis, highlighting the impact of long-Covid on disabled people, providing training in the Turn2Us benefit calculator, challenging increased charges to the Blue Badge scheme and a proposed price increase to the Holiday Programme for Disabled Children, responding to consultations at local and national level to ensure the views of disabled people are heard, securing provision of accessible play equipment in Carlibar and Rouken Glen parks, and many other activities, all of which have been taken forward by a dedicated membership who contributed so much to DAER.

1580 East Renfrewshire Larder

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 5

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Marion Fellows
Chris Law

That this House acknowledges the tremendous work done by volunteers and community groups across East Renfrewshire and other areas throughout the pandemic; notes in particular the initiative by Rachel Fishlock and colleague Ceri Dodd, both employees of Scottish Fire and Rescue, and Jennifer Lawrie, who established East Renfrewshire Larder (ERL) to provide a confidential delivery service offering breakfast, lunch and dinner packages, as well as household goods and sanitary

products, all of which are packed by volunteers at Whitecraigs Rugby Club; endorses sentiments expressed by Rachel, herself a mother of four, when she said that many parents who need help would simply struggle on and go without to feed their kids, and that many people on their own simply have nowhere to turn; welcomes the fact that the ethos of ERL is that if someone is brave enough to ask for help then they need it, and recognises the vital role played by the wider community and the volunteers, without whose generous donations and time commitment the vital work done by ERL and other groups would not be possible.

1581 **Big Yellow Friday 2021**

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 6

Stewart Malcolm McDonald
Jim Shannon
Neale Hanvey
Patrick Grady
Marion Fellows
Chris Law

That this House notes that 5 March 2021 is Big Yellow Friday; congratulates the Children's Liver Disease Foundation on its work in raising awareness, promoting research and providing information and support for people affected by a life-threatening liver disease; further notes with concern that every week 20 children in the UK are diagnosed with a life-threatening childhood liver disease that can mean a lifetime of care; commends the work of the Children's Liver Disease Foundation for working tirelessly and investing to support families and fund research projects, which helps to understand and treat childhood liver diseases; further congratulates all those taking part in Big Yellow Friday 2021 and showing support for children affected by childhood liver disease and their families; and calls on the Government to work closely with all national liver-disease charities to help ensure that childhood liver diseases are understood, prevented and treated effectively, ensuring that babies, children, young people and adults diagnosed in childhood achieve their full potential.

1582 **Intensive factory farming**

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 3

Dr Lisa Cameron
Neale Hanvey
Chris Law

That this House notes that intensive farming methods inflict terrible suffering on some one billion land animals in the UK each year; recognises that intensive factory farming methods include the extreme confinement of pregnant sows in farrowing crates, the overcrowding and selective breeding of broiler chickens, ducks and turkeys, the routine mutilation of egg-laying hens and piglets, and the zero grazing of dairy cows; further notes that factory farms often provide a fertile environment for the amplification and transmission of viruses and bacteria between different species and humans; further recognises that today three in four of the world's new or emerging infectious diseases reportedly come from animals; notes that the overuse of antibiotics in livestock farming is contributing to the rise and spread of antimicrobial resistance; notes that a poll in January this year revealed some 90 percent of UK residents want the Government to introduce an immediate ban on intensive farming methods; supports vegan charity Viva's request for Defra and Government to listen to the UK public on this issue.

1583 World Book Day 2021

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 3

Seema Malhotra
 Jim Shannon
 Jeremy Corbyn

That this House recognises 4th March 2021 as World Book Day in the UK and Ireland celebrating authors, illustrators, books and reading; further congratulates World Book Day for its 24th 'World Book Day' being held this year; notes that data shows that the UK ranks 17th for literacy among 34 OECD countries; that 1 in 11 disadvantaged children in the UK say that they don't have a book of their own; that children born into communities with the most serious literacy challenges have some of the lowest life expectancies in England; that 1 in 4 children in England cannot read well by the age of 11 and pass the expected level of reading in their SATs; recognises the contribution of World Book Day Ltd in distributing their £1 book tokens which encourages policymakers, schools, teachers and young people to work together to ensure provisions are in place for early intervention when encouraging children to read; pays tribute to the staff and teachers in schools across the nation for their efforts in delivering quality literacy education to young people, and equipping them with the skills to reach their full potential.

1584 Farmers' protests in India

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 11

Layla Moran
 Claudia Webbe
 Jamie Stone
 Munira Wilson
 Jim Shannon
 Ed Davey

Jeremy Corbyn
 Wendy Chamberlain

Daisy Cooper
 Sarah Olney

Wera Hobhouse

That this House expresses its profound concern at the growing number of arrests of Indian farmers protesting controversial privatisation legislation in India; further notes that militarised police violence has repeatedly been used against these peaceful protestors; echoes the UN Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights' call on "the authorities and the protestors for maximum restraint" in the ongoing Indian farmers' protests; draws attention to the petition 'Urge the Indian Government to ensure safety of protestors & press freedom' led by Liberal Democrat Councillor Gurch Singh which has now received more than 115,000 signatures; urges Her Majesty's Government to fulfil the petition's calls by making an official statement setting out the need to ensure the safety of protestors and press freedom in the Indian farmers' protests; calls upon Her Majesty's Government to work together with Indian authorities to ensure the safety of Indian farmers.

1585 Accessibility of covid-19 vaccination and testing for people with sight loss.

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 9

Chris Stephens
 Steven Bonnar
 Jim Shannon
 Dr Lisa Cameron
 Marion Fellows
 Neale Hanvey

Patrick Grady

Chris Law

Wendy Chamberlain

That this House recognises the need for all information regarding healthcare appointments and procedures to be made available in line with the Accessible Information Standard; further notes that reasonable adjustments should be made at covid-19 testing and vaccination centres to ensure that they are fully accessible; commends all NHS staff and volunteers for their work on the covid-19 vaccination rollout and urges the Government to adopt the guidelines produced by Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, RNIB and Thomas Pocklington Trust which aims to ensure a fully accessible covid-19 vaccination process for people with visual impairment.

1586 Differential pricing policies for covid-19 vaccinations

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 10

Tony Lloyd
 Colum Eastwood
 Claudia Webbe
 Jonathan Edwards
 Jim Shannon
 Ian Lavery

Jeremy Corbyn
 Andrew Gwynne

Kenny MacAskill

Ben Lake

That this House believes that the UK has both a moral and practical incentive to see the whole world vaccinated against covid-19; is concerned that differential pricing by pharmaceutical companies gravitates against that ambition by asking the poorest countries to pay more than the richest; notes that AstraZeneca is charging the European Union \$2 per vaccine compared to \$7 for Uganda; further notes that the Serum Institute which produces the AstraZeneca vaccine under licence, is charging \$5 per vaccine in South Africa; is concerned that pharmaceutical companies which have received UK public financial support are making profits at the expense of the poorest countries; calls on the UK Government to ensure pharmaceutical companies revisit their differential pricing policies, and commit to not making a profit from the pandemic.