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Early Day Motions tabled on Monday 15 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

1640 Peace and accountability in Libya

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Margaret Ferrier

That this House welcomes the UN-sponsored intra-Libyan political talks to agree a unified governance framework and ensure a lasting peace; notes with deep concern the serious war crimes and human rights violations that have been committed by the warring parties in the protracted conflict in Libya since 2011; stresses the importance of justice for the many victims of these widespread violations, by ensuring there are effective investigations and prosecutions of the alleged perpetrators, believed to include British nationals who were former Royal Marine commandos and involved in mercenary operations for the Libyan National Army led by Khalifa Haftar; further notes the reports of drone strikes and attacks on civilians in Libya and other violations committed by foreign countries which should also be investigated; supports the work of the Fact-finding Mission on Libya established by the UN Human Rights Council, and other initiatives to ensure meaningful accountability; further supports the call by the UN Mission in Libya for the immediate closure of migrant detention centres in that country, further to reports of arbitrary detention, torture, extrajudicial killings and sexual violence; and urges the Government to work with others in the international community to secure accountability for these violations and for countries and mercenaries, including British nationals, who have supported the warring parties.

1641 Covid-19 deaths in Fife

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Douglas Chapman

That this House acknowledges the first deaths officially linked to covid-19 in Fife occurred a year ago in the week of 14 March 2020; recognises hundreds of other Fife residents have tragically lost their life due to covid-19 in the year since; and pays tribute to all those who have passed, all those

who are mourning a friend or a loved one and the teams of people across NHS Fife and other public services who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve our citizens.

1642 Carr's Flour in Kirkcaldy

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Neale Hanvey

That this House congratulates Carr's Flour in Kirkcaldy for their recent success at the Food Manufacture Excellence Awards where they were crowned Ingredients Manufacturing Company of the Year; recognises the Kirkcaldy mill's long history of flour production dating back to 1826; and commends Carr's staff who, when the covid-19 pandemic hit and demand for retail flour exploded, worked to dramatically increase production while maintaining social distancing and additional hygiene requirements.

1643 Bravery of PC Callum Forbes

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Neale Hanvey

That this House recognises the bravery shown by Cowdenbeath police officer, PC Callum Forbes, during a violent confrontation where a victim had been attacked last year; and congratulates PC Forbes on being honoured at the prestigious Chief Constable's Bravery and Excellence Awards for 2020 which were held virtually on 2 March 2021.

1644 Nicole Wallace, Apprentice Ambassador of the Year finalist

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Neale Hanvey

That this House congratulates Nicole Wallace from Lochgelly on being named as a finalist in the Apprentice Ambassador of the Year category at the Scottish Apprenticeship Awards; recognises that Nicole used her own training as a modern apprentice to help her employer adapt to the challenges of the covid-19 pandemic and was involved in a project to develop learning materials for new apprentices to be able to join the business virtually; applauds Nicole for this well-deserved recognition; and wishes her every success in her future career.

1645 Celebration of St Patrick's Day

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 4

Jim Shannon
Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson
Paul Girvan
Carla Lockhart

That this House notes the celebration of St Patrick's Day; highlights that the gospel message St Patrick left his home to spread to those in Ireland remains true for each of us throughout the world today; and urges people to emulate Patrick's love for God and for each other as we remember St Patrick's Day in a socially distanced and safe way this year.

1646 45th anniversary of Downtown Radio

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 4

Jim Shannon
Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson
Paul Girvan
Carla Lockhart

That this House notes the 45th anniversary of Downtown Radio on 16 March 2021; salutes this tremendous radio station which appeals to young and old alike, with many musical tastes accommodated through their varied programming and presenters; recognises that many people enjoy the mixture of breaking news and local information with the levity that many shows balance so wonderfully; and wishes them every success as they continue to inform and uplift the people of Northern Ireland for the next 45 years.

1647 Reduction of free plastic toys

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Liz Saville Roberts

That this House recognises the efforts of ten-year-old Skye Neville from Fairbourne, Gwynedd for her campaign encouraging magazine and comic publishers to stop giving away plastic toys with their publications; further recognises that nearly three thousand people have so far signed her online petition drawing attention to the devastating impact discarded plastic is having on our oceans and natural environment; applauds Skye for her passionate advocacy of environmental issues, her involvement in local litter picks and her family's commitment to recycling; welcomes steps by fast food giant McDonalds to stop putting plastic toys in their Happy Meals; and calls on the Government to encourage publishers to make their magazines more environmentally friendly and reduce their carbon footprint.

1648 Anniversary of the death of John Chadwick

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Andrew Rosindell

That this House marks the anniversary of the death of John Chadwick, who took his life on 16 March 2017, after he was forced to give up his pets to move into temporary accommodation; reflects on his life and the happiness he brought to those around him; acknowledges the joy that pets can provide to all, especially to the vulnerable; applauds the tireless campaigning by Dee Bonett to raise awareness of this issue; laments the fact that 200 pets are abandoned every year to Battersea Dogs & Cats Home due to accommodation no pets clauses; and calls on councils nationwide to adopt more humane pets policies when offering temporary accommodation to those at risk of homelessness and rough sleeping.

1649 Celebrating the work of Townhead Village Hall during the covid-19 outbreak

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Alison Thewliss

That this House celebrates the fantastic work and dedication of the team at Townhead Village Hall in going above and beyond to support their local community during the covid-19 outbreak; appreciates that they have been vital in providing residents with free weekly food deliveries,

including making deliveries on Christmas and New Years Day; recognises the success of their collaboration with Glasgow City Centre Salvation Army to deliver ready meals to the most vulnerable; further recognises the successful partnership with Human Appeal which saw them redistribute warm coats and jackets as part of the Warm-Up Glasgow campaign; and thanks the whole team for keeping spirits up with their home visits, food deliveries and online competitions, and for being a source of comfort and camaraderie during these difficult times.

1650 Support for the travel industry

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Christine Jardine

That this House acknowledges the struggle of the travel industry as one of the hardest hit sectors by the covid-19 pandemic; appreciates the estimated value of both outbound travel, £37 billion, and inbound travel, £28 billion, to the economy; expresses its concern over the lack of specific support for the thousands of businesses in the travel sector; recognises the unique status of many businesses which only receive payments from guests at the point of departure not at the point of sale; further recognises the considerable economic and personal cost of businesses having healthy savings, pre-pandemic, to having now incurred considerable debt at no fault of their own; realises that many businesses will not survive another summer of restrictions without specific support; acknowledges that businesses need clarity and time to prepare for the imposition of quarantine restrictions on international travel; notes the impact of erratic changes to Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office travel advice on consumer confidence and insurance coverage; further notes calls from the travel industry on the importance of a four nations approach when imposing restrictions; and calls on the Government to make funding available to address the specific needs of the travel sector.

1651 Four day working week

Tabled: 15/03/21 Signatories: 1

Jonathan Edwards

That this House notes that the aftermath of the covid-19 pandemic and the automation revolution will transform working practices in the UK and across the world; believes that economic and social models need to adapt to meet the challenges of the future, as opposed to reasserting the old normal; further notes with interest the trialling of a four day, 32 hour, working week in Spain; considers that a four day working week could help increase productivity, improve the mental wellbeing of workers, and help meet climate emission targets; and calls on the Government to publish a Green Paper to set out how future working practices, including flexible working and a four day working week, could form part of the wider Government strategy to level up the economy and address the imbalances between capital and labour.

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.

1552 Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2021

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 32

Wera Hobhouse
Sir George Howarth
Dr Lisa Cameron
Tim Farron
Olivia Blake
Layla Moran

Mr Clive Betts

That this House notes the commencement of Eating Disorders Awareness Week 2021, which runs from 1 to 7 March 2021 and focuses this year on binge eating disorder; recognises that eating disorders are serious illnesses experienced by at least 1.25 million people in the UK; notes with concern that, while binge eating disorder is the most common type of eating disorder and affects 1 in 50 people in their lifetimes, only 1 in 4 who have had that condition ever receives treatment; believes that everyone affected by an eating disorder should have access to the treatment they need; and calls on the Government to ensure that all eating disorder services are commissioned to provide NICE-recommended treatments for people with binge eating disorder, without exceptions based on geography, age or severity.

1564 Worldwide right to education for girls

Tabled: 1/03/21 Signatories: 15

Mr Barry Sheerman
Jim Shannon
Andrew Gwynne
Paula Barker
Claudia Webbe
John McDonnell

Mr Clive Betts

That this House is concerned that, globally, 132 million girls are not in school; believes that all girls should have the right to education; acknowledges that conflict, gender-based violence and child marriage all present barriers to girls' education worldwide; notes that the Covid-19 pandemic has increased the disparities in education globally, especially in areas of conflict; further notes the economic and social benefits of increasing the proportion of girls in education; supports international efforts to reduce the gender disparity in education and improve educational outcomes for girls worldwide; and urges the Government to undertake a review of international aid spending on girls' education, in light of the additional pressures caused by Covid-19 and the recent merger of the Department for International Development with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 14

Dr Lisa Cameron
 Jim Shannon
 Patrick Grady
 Chris Law
 Alan Brown
 Marion Fellows

John McDonnell

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: 23

Tony Lloyd
 Colum Eastwood
 Jonathan Edwards
 Jim Shannon
 Jeremy Corbyn
 Claire Hanna

John McDonnell

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.

1578 Lawn bowling clubs in East Renfrewshire

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 6

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Peter Grant [R]

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: 7

Kirsten Oswald
Neale Hanvey
Marion Fellows
Chris Law
Alison Thewliss
Allan Dorans
Peter Grant

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.

1581 Big Yellow Friday 2021

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 16

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

Peter Grant

John McDonnell

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: 15

Dr Lisa Cameron
 Neale Hanvey
 Chris Law
 Drew Hendry
 Hannah Bardell
 Anne McLaughlin

Richard Burgon

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.

1584 Farmers' protests in India

Tabled: 3/03/21 Signatories: 20

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

John McDonnell

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: 34

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

Mr Clive Betts

John McDonnell

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: 21

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

John McDonnell

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.

1587 Stanley Newens

Tabled: 4/03/21 Signatories: 21

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

Peter Grant

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.

1589 Overseas NHS Workers Day

Tabled: 4/03/21 Signatories: 30

Christine Jardine
Claudia Webbe
Sarah Olney
Jamie Stone
Wendy Chamberlain
Daisy Cooper

John McDonnell

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: 27

Layla Moran
Claire Hanna
Stephen Farry
Hannah Bardell
Apsana Begum
Jamie Stone

John McDonnell

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: **11**

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

John McDonnell

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.

1592 Scots language added to SpotifyTabled: **8/03/21** Signatories: **30**

Owen Thompson
Jonathan Edwards
Marion Fellows
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Alan Brown

Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

That this House welcomes Spotify's long-overdue decision to add Scots as one of its recognised languages; congratulates singer Iona Fyfe for leading the public campaign for that music giant to make that change; recognises that Scots is one of Scotland's three traditional national languages alongside English and Gaelic, with more than 1.5 million speakers and official recognition under the European Charter for Minority Languages; asserts that recognising a language's existence on large platforms such as Spotify is the first step towards acceptance and empowerment of its speakers; and thanks all those working to lift up the Scots language as well as welcoming Government efforts to promote and protect that language.

1594 Congratulating Annabel Stewart, Foundation Apprentice of the Year

Tabled: 8/03/21 Signatories: 8

Kenny MacAskill
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Chris Law
Carol Monaghan

Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

That this House congratulates Annabel Stewart on being awarded Foundation Apprentice of the Year at this year's Scottish Apprenticeship Awards, notes that Annabel is a former Dunbar Grammar School pupil who took on a placement at Charles River Laboratories' base in East Lothian; notes Charles River Laboratories Study Director Fiona Ross's congratulations and comments that Annabel was always willing to learn and take part in everything; commends the Foundation Apprenticeship scheme as an effective way of engaging young people in areas such as science and technology; and wishes Annabel every success in her future studies and career.

1595 Celebrating International Women's Day

Tabled: 8/03/21 Signatories: 19

Daisy Cooper
Jamie Stone
Sarah Olney
Wera Hobhouse
Ed Davey
Layla Moran

John McDonnell

That this House notes the achievements of women around the world on International Women's Day on 8 March; welcomes the 2021 theme of #ChooseToChallenge as a call to action for people to challenge gender inequality and bias; celebrates Kamala Harris, the first female, first Black and first Asian-American Vice President of the United States of America; celebrates Zara Mohammed, the first woman to be Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain; celebrates Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the first woman and first African person, to head the World Trade Organisation; and further celebrates British vaccinologist Professor Sarah Gilbert, recipient of the prestigious Albert Medal in recognition of her leadership on the Oxford Covid vaccine; gives thanks to all those women working on the frontline of the pandemic; notes with grave concern the estimates by UN Women that the covid-19 pandemic could wipe out a quarter of a century of increasing gender equality; and calls on all people to consider the ways that society benefits when it is able to tap into the talent, creativity and leadership of women.

1596 Monklands Women's AidTabled: **8/03/21** Signatories: **19**

Steven Bonnar
 Jim Shannon
 Allan Dorans
 Alison Thewliss
 Dave Doogan
 Kenny MacAskill

Neale Hanvey

John McDonnell

That this House celebrates the social, political and economic achievements of women on International Women's Day; acknowledges the positive contributions made by Monklands Women's Aid in providing a necessary lifeline to women who have suffered abuse across the Lanarkshire area; recognises the importance of independent dedicated women's services; and calls upon the Government to protect these vital grassroots organisations.

1600 Uprating of state pensionsTabled: **8/03/21** Signatories: **25**

Andrew Rosindell
 Jonathan Edwards
 Jim Shannon
 Margaret Ferrier
 Alison Thewliss
 Peter Dowd

Peter Grant

Stewart Hosie

John McDonnell

That this House regrets that over half a million UK pensioners continue to have their pensions frozen as a result of where they live and notes that 90 per cent of those people live in Commonwealth countries with which the UK has strong cultural and historical ties; is further concerned that this leaves UK citizens without the financial support needed to maintain livelihoods and dignity in retirement and believes all pensioners should be paid the full state pension wherever they live; welcomes the Canadian Government's request for a reciprocal social security agreement with the UK to cover the uprating of pension payments; and urges the Government to respond positively to this request as a first step to end this injustice for UK pensioners everywhere.

1601 Representation within cricketTabled: **8/03/21** Signatories: **11**

Claudia Webbe
 Ms Diane Abbott
 Apsana Begum
 John McDonnell
 Kim Johnson
 Bell Ribeiro-Addy

Tony Lloyd

That this House expresses its serious concern at the underrepresentation of African, Caribbean and Asian coaches, umpires and match officials at all levels of Cricket in England and Wales; recalls the 1997 report Racial Equality in Cricket by the Cricket Board of England and Wales, which promised to tackle racism in cricket; expresses its alarm at the subsequent failure to address the institutional racism that is present at all levels of the game; condemns the failure of the English Cricket Board

to appoint any African, Caribbean and Asian umpires and match officials to such panel positions in the last 29 years; deplores the bullying, racial harassment and victimisation suffered by African, Caribbean and Asian, players, umpires and coaches within first class cricket; welcomes the establishment of the Asian Cricket Association to promote the careers, training, and development of Asian cricketers and professionals in the game; calls upon the English and Wales Cricket Board to support and fully fund African, Caribbean and Asian Cricket Associations to remedy the historical injustice of race discrimination that has excluded ethnic minority cricket players, umpires, coaches, managers, and teams from reaching their true potential and position in the game; and urges the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to make anti-racism and equality and diversity targets within cricket a ministerial priority, and to report annually on the progress being made.

1602 EU Settlement Scheme documentation for married women

Tabled: 8/03/21 Signatories: 16

Angela Crawley
Steven Bonnar
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Alison Thewliss
Alyn Smith

Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

John McDonnell

That this House is aware EU Settlement Scheme paperwork has been issued to married women showing names they do not currently use; understands that when processing EU Settlement Scheme documentation the Home Office takes information only from the machine readable zone of an applicant's passport; notes that passports from many EU countries list both the maiden and married name for married women, and that only the former shows up in the machine readable zone; recognises that discord in the names shown on different forms of documentation may cause complications for affected women when proving their right to live and work in the UK, causing unnecessary barriers when applying for jobs, renting, setting up bank accounts or applying for social security; deplores the cultural insensitivity shown to European women who retain their maiden names on their passports after marriage; and calls on the Home Office to amend married women's settled status documentation to allow information to match the name used on other forms of identification and in their day to day lives.

1603 Violence in Tigray Province, Ethiopia

Tabled: 9/03/21 Signatories: 11

Carol Monaghan
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Marion Fellows
Claire Hanna
Liz Saville Roberts

Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

John McDonnell

That this House strongly condemns the violence unfolding in Ethiopia's Tigray Region; notes that fighting between Ethiopian Forces and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) has claimed many civilian lives; acknowledges reports that Eritrean fighters have participated in the conflict on Ethiopian terrain; notes the findings of the United Nations Security Council Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide that extrajudicial killings, sexual violence, mass executions and property looting are prevalent in Tigray; recognises United Nations allegations that possible crimes against

humanity have been committed in Tigray; is alarmed by reports that humanitarian organisations' access to the Region is being restricted; is concerned that an estimated 60,000 refugees have fled Tigray into neighbouring Sudan to escape the violence since November 2020; is appalled by recent reports of massacres carried out by Eritrean personnel against civilians, including at Maryam Dengelat church and the holy city of Aksum; calls for an end to violence committed by all parties in the conflict; fully supports the United Nations in its mission to facilitate peace, transparency, and emergency relief; and calls on the UK Government to exercise all its diplomatic capabilities to bring an end to this conflict.

1604 Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal

Tabled: 9/03/21 Signatories: 18

Jim Shannon
Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson
Paul Girvan
Carla Lockhart
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar

Peter Grant

John McDonnell

That this House notes the annual Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal; highlights that the charity has stated the Great Daffodil Appeal means even more in 2021 than previous years due to Marie Curie Nurses having been on the front line of the pandemic providing vital care for people with a terminal illness and supporting their loved ones; further highlights that due to the pandemic and restrictions Marie Curie have been unable to carry out normal fundraising activities; and encourages those who are able to give what they can to support this wonderful charity and ensure Marie Curie are able to continue providing the highest standards of care for those with a terminal illness, alongside support for the families who would be lost without them.

1606 Reorganisation of the NHS and social care

Tabled: 9/03/21 Signatories: 14

Margaret Greenwood
Paula Barker
Peter Dowd
Mike Hill
Ian Byrne
Kim Johnson

John McDonnell

That this House notes the Government has published a White Paper setting out proposals for a major reorganisation of the delivery of health and social care in England; further notes that the Government plans to divide the NHS into local statutory Integrated Care Systems creating the potential for organisations which are not publicly accountable to take key roles in developing plans to address the health, social care and public health needs of local systems; is concerned that such organisations will then be in a position to influence decisions about the deployment of public resources and that this presents the possibility for conflicts of interest; recognises there is concern that local plans will differ and lead to a postcode lottery; notes that NHS England and NHS Improvement carried out a consultation, Integrating care - Next steps to building strong and effective integrated care systems over Christmas and New Year which proposed fundamental changes to the NHS; is further concerned that the consultation was held over such a short period during the covid-19 outbreak, particularly given that the NHS and social care workers who would be affected had been working incredibly hard under immense stress and many would have been

unlikely to engage with that consultation; is concerned it was not possible for people to attend public meetings during this time; and calls on the Government to pause the whole process until all covid-19 restrictions are lifted and then carry out a public consultation setting out clearly what those proposals would mean for patients and staff.

1608 Midlothian trainees and Lantra Scotland's ALBAS awards

Tabled: 9/03/21 Signatories: 5

Owen Thompson
Douglas Chapman
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Peter Grant

That this House recognises the achievement of Midlothian Equine trainees, Morag Williams from Pathhead and Lucy Philip from Bonnyrigg who both won awards at the recent Lantra Scotland's ALBAS awards; notes that at the Land-based and Aquaculture Skills awards, from their categories Morag won Equine Learner of the Year and Lucy won the SCQF Level 7-8 and a CARAS award; recognises the great work that Lantra Scotland do to help individuals access the training, qualifications and skills needed in order to succeed in the land-based, aquaculture and environmental sector; and wishes them every congratulation on their success.

1611 St Johnstone FC and the 2021 Scottish League Cup

Tabled: 9/03/21 Signatories: 14

Pete Wishart
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar
Douglas Chapman
Gavin Newlands
Alyn Smith

Peter Grant

That this House warmly congratulates St Johnstone Football Club on winning the 2021 Scottish League Cup in a stunning victory against Livingston Football Club at Hampden Park; notes that this is the first time the League Cup has been won by the Perth club; commends club manager Callum Davidson on leading the team to victory in his first season in charge of the club; commends Shaun Rooney for his goal in the 32nd Minute; congratulates the fact that St Johnstone are now the second most successful club in Scotland over the past 10 years; and wishes St Johnstone well for the future.

1612 STEM for Britain Engineering Award

Tabled: 9/03/21 Signatories: 11

Carol Monaghan
 Patrick Grady
 Steven Bonnar
 Douglas Chapman
 Alyn Smith
 Allan Dorans

Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

That this House congratulates Bernard Cooper on winning the Gold Award in the Engineering section of the STEM For Britain annual poster competition; notes Mr Cooper's outstanding work on the development of a microscale cooling system for nanoscale quantum detectors; recognises the world-leading expertise within Professor Robert Hadfield's quantum sensor group at the University of Glasgow; thanks Mr Cooper for his contribution to science in his role as researcher and doctoral student; and recognises the importance of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee's promotion of ground-breaking scientific research during British Science Week.

1613 North Lanarkshire Nursery Grant

Tabled: 10/03/21 Signatories: 3

Steven Bonnar
 Carol Monaghan
 Peter Grant

That this House praises North Lanarkshire on becoming the first council in the UK to introduce a clothing and footwear grant for nursery children; recognises the positive impact this will have in providing extra support to the most vulnerable; and commends the efforts taken in tackling the scourge of child poverty.

1616 Mental Health Awareness Week

Tabled: 10/03/21 Signatories: 10

Dr Lisa Cameron
 Claudia Webbe
 Drew Hendry
 Steven Bonnar
 Jonathan Edwards
 Hywel Williams

Neale Hanvey

That this House recognises 10-16 May 2021 as Mental Health Awareness Week and congratulates the Mental Health Foundation for its 21st Mental Health Awareness Week, this year focused on nature and the environment; notes with concern the obstacles that have hindered people's access to nature especially during the pandemic; further notes with concern the 2017 Mental Health Foundation study that found that 65% have experienced a mental health problem recently recognising that this issue has been exacerbated by the pandemic with a study by the Office of National Statistics finding that the number of UK adults with symptoms of depression had doubled; recognises the importance of Mental Health Awareness Week in bringing mental health and wellbeing to the fore and applauds the efforts of all the volunteers and staff working in this sector.

1617 World Glaucoma Week

Tabled: 10/03/21 Signatories: 6

Steven Bonnar
Sir Mike Penning
Jonathan Edwards
Dr Lisa Cameron
Carol Monaghan
Neale Hanvey

That this House notes that March 7 to 13 March is World Glaucoma Week, a global initiative which raises awareness of glaucoma; commends the work of Optometry Scotland members in delivering essential community eyecare services in the detection of glaucoma and other eye diseases; and highlights the positive impact that optometry has had on patient care throughout the course of the covid-19 pandemic.

1618 Glenboig Development Trust

Tabled: 10/03/21 Signatories: 3

Steven Bonnar
Peter Grant
Neale Hanvey

That this House recognises the ongoing hard work and endeavours of Glenboig Development Trust; commends its work with local school pupils in growing fresh fruit and vegetables; and highlights its efforts in helping to tackle the serious issue of food poverty.

1619 21st anniversary of the East Kilbride Youth Disability Sports Club

Tabled: 10/03/21 Signatories: 4

Dr Lisa Cameron
John McDonnell
Peter Grant
Neale Hanvey

That this House celebrates the 21st anniversary of the East Kilbride Youth Disability Sports Club, which since its founding in 1999 has helped countless young people, families, and carers get involved in sport through providing a service for those with disabilities that would otherwise not exist; highlights the fact that, since its founding the Club has been entirely volunteer-run and has won over 20 awards from official bodies in recognition of its work to encourage volunteering and participation in disability-inclusive sport, as well as for its enduring contribution to the community in and around East Kilbride; and draws attention to its unique multi-sports model and the tireless efforts of all its volunteers, and its chair Len Richardson in particular, to encourage and widen grassroots participation in sport and recreational activities for those with special needs and disabilities.

1620 S Collins & Son Butchers and the Scottish Butchers Shop of the Year award

Tabled: 10/03/21 Signatories: 2

Steven Bonnar
Peter Grant

That the House warmly congratulates S Collins & Son Butchers of Muirhead on winning Scottish Butchers Shop of the Year for an unprecedented third time in the last decade; and notes that this

achievement is a testament to the innovation, craft skills and quality of this independent family run butchers

1622 Clydebank Blitz 80th Anniversary

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 16

Martin Docherty-Hughes
Amy Callaghan
Ronnie Cowan
Carol Monaghan
Gavin Newlands
Mhairi Black

John Nicolson

Peter Grant

Neale Hanvey

That this House remembers with respect and sadness the Clydebank Blitz, which commenced on the 13th March 1941, proportionally the worst blitzkrieg inflicted on the UK during world War II; recognises the official record of deaths caused by the two nights of bombing and the many more who died as a result of their injuries in the days, weeks and months that followed; salutes the courage of those in the fire, ambulance, military and other public services who acted so bravely including the miners of Scotland who travelled from far and wide to dig for survivors; and acknowledges the work of the citizens of Clydebank who through 80 yearly acts of remembrance have sought to remind the world of the horrors of war, the devastation of aerial bombardment and the need for peace and reconciliation between nations.

1623 Tanveer Ahmed Rafique

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 3

Sarah Owen
John McDonnell
Rachel Hopkins

This House expresses deep regret at reports of the worsening health of Kashmiri prisoner Tanveer Ahmed Rafique who is currently in a Pakistan-operated jail, and is a constituent of the member for Luton North; calls on Government ministers to provide an update on progress with his case; further requests that the UK government takes action to secure Tanveer's safety; and will continue to highlight the importance of this case until Tanveer's safety is secure and Government ministers have provided Tanveer's family with the reassurances about his safety and the information that they seek.

1625 East Renfrewshire Larder initiative

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 4

Kirsten Oswald
Steven Bonnar
Peter Grant
Neale Hanvey

That this House acknowledges the tremendous work done by volunteers and community groups across East Renfrewshire and other areas throughout the pandemic; welcomes in particular the East Renfrewshire Larder (ERL) initiative, founded by Rachel Fishlock and Jennifer Lawrie, who were supported by Ceri Dodd, Rachel's colleague at Scottish Fire and Rescue; notes that ERL provides 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 operating from

premises provided by Whitecraigs Rugby Club, which also provides financial support; 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.

1626 Auditory Verbal UK charity

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 4

Dr Lisa Cameron
John McDonnell
Peter Grant
Neale Hanvey

That this House celebrates the charity, Auditory Verbal UK and the vital work they do to transform the lives of deaf babies and young children across the UK; draws particular attention their highly specialised programme of Auditory Verbal therapy which is proven to be highly effective in delivering spoken language outcomes for young deaf children, with 80 per cent of children who spend two or more years on this programme achieving the same spoken language as typically hearing children; highlights how this success comes through a family centred, early intervention approach which could boost academic achievement and employment outcomes for deaf young people across the UK; and calls on the Government to expand the number of speech and language therapists and teachers of the deaf working in health and education services trained in Auditory Verbal practice with a view to families of deaf children having the opportunity to access such a programme through public funded services, as is the case in other countries worldwide

1627 Presidential elections in Ecuador

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 16

Richard Burgon
Jeremy Corbyn
John McDonnell
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Apsana Begum
Claudia Webbe

Ian Byrne
Ms Diane Abbott
Grahame Morris

Zarah Sultana
Mary Kelly Foy
Ian Mearns

Nadia Whittome
Kate Osborne
Mick Whitley

That this House notes that Ecuador is set to hold its presidential election run-off on 11 April 2021; further notes that Andrés Arauz, the progressive candidate for the Union for Hope movement comfortably won the first round in February and is favourite to win the run-off against Guillermo Lasso, a bank owner and candidate pursuing a neoliberal agenda; expresses concerns that some people, both inside and outside the country, are intervening in the process in what appears to be an attempt to prevent the elections from going ahead to thwart an Andrés Arauz victory; notes the concerns raised by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges on interference in the election process; condemns recent calls for the military to intervene in the electoral process; and believes the right of the Ecuadorian people to determine their future through free and fair elections on 11 April without any external intervention must be respected.

1628 GP surgeries and the private sector

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 10

Apsana Begum
 Bell Ribeiro-Addy
 Wera Hobhouse
 Zarah Sultana
 Claudia Webbe
 John McDonnell

Grahame Morris

That this House expresses alarm that Operose, a subsidiary of US health company Centene, has taken over AT Medics which has a large number of APMS contracts, including 49 GP practices; is concerned that the prioritisation of profit in the provision of NHS services will lead to a loss of more GP surgeries, will hurt the quality of care patients receive, and will further undermine the pay and conditions of those who work in GP surgeries and in the NHS; and calls for all outsourcing to the profit-driven private health sector to end and for the NHS to be returned to a publicly funded, publicly provided, comprehensive health care service, available to all that is free at the point of delivery.

1629 Young Carers Action Day

Tabled: 11/03/21 Signatories: 14

Ed Davey
 Sir Mike Penning
 Jonathan Edwards
 Paul Blomfield
 Daisy Cooper
 Jamie Stone

Wera Hobhouse

Neale Hanvey

That this House supports Young Carers Action Day, led by Carers Trust, which takes place on 16 March 2021; recognises the invaluable contribution more than 800,000 young carers make to their families and local communities across the UK; notes the Day's theme of Protect Young Carers' Futures, and the importance of employers and higher education recognising the incredible skills young people develop through being a carer; highlights the challenges young carers face and that the covid-19 outbreak has exacerbated many of these challenges; and calls on the Government to ensure that young carers get the support and services they need.

1631 Fundraising for healthy options

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 2

Brendan O'Hara
 Peter Grant

That this House commends Argyll and Bute constituent Elizabeth Mason for her fundraising efforts for Healthy Options, a charity which supports the health journeys of people who have or are at risk of developing lifelong health conditions; congratulates Elizabeth on a successful recovery after her accident in 2018 and wishes her well on her continued physiotherapy; highlights that despite her injuries, Elizabeth has walked an average of 18,000 steps daily to raise funds for Healthy Options, reaching a total of 496,145 in February, raising £1000 for the charity; and encourages anyone who can do so to donate to Elizabeth's local giving fundraising page.

1632 Retirement of Achahoish postmistress after 58 years of service

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 2

Brendan O'Hara
Peter Grant

That this House recognises the career of Winifred Ryan, who ran the Achahoish Post Office from her home for almost 58 years; notes that on March 1st Winifred turned eighty-one and decided to retire as postmistress after 58 years in the role; thanks Winifred for her dedication to the postal service and to her local community; and wishes Winifred a restful and well-earned retirement after years of loyal service.

1633 Campbeltown police officers and International Women's Day honours

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 3

Brendan O'Hara
Steven Bonnar
Peter Grant

That this House congratulates police officers in Campbeltown for receiving awards on International Women's Day, in recognition of their work keeping the local community safe; highlights Detective Constable Lindsay Wallace, who won police officer of the year and Police Constable Karen Cairns, who won the community service award at the Scottish Women's Development Forum on 8 March 2021; notes that the awards, held virtually due to the covid-19 outbreak, honour the contributions and achievements of police staff, officers and those who volunteer with Police Scotland; and recognises the hard work and dedication of Lindsay and Karen, alongside all women who work within Police Scotland.

1634 Death of Colin Reed, Station Master at Markinch Railway Station

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 3

Peter Grant
Neale Hanvey
Steven Bonnar

That this House records its sadness at the sudden death of Colin Reed, well-kent face of Markinch Railway Station; expresses its appreciation of the wonderful customer service Colin provided to residents and visitors to Markinch during his many years served there as station master; highlights the way in which he went about his role with kindness and offering a friendly word for anyone who needed it including giving his personal telephone number to those who needed assistance and calling the elderly or those living in isolation for a friendly chat during the pandemic; notes the many tributes that have poured in for Colin over recent days from the hundreds of local people and those further afield who will remember him fondly and appreciated his daily efforts to put smiles on the faces of those travelling to and from Markinch; sends its condolences to his surviving family including his wife Effie of 33 years, and children Michael, Alex, Tracey, Karen and Claire at this exceptionally difficult time; and remembers with affection the exceptional way that Colin carried out his role by going over and above for everyone he came across, and always with a smile on his face.

1635 Public Social Partnership for the Disability Employment Gap

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 5

Marion Fellows
Kirsten Oswald
Steven Bonnar
Peter Grant
Neale Hanvey

That this House commends the work of the Public Social Partnership for the Disability Employment Gap led by the Scottish Union of Supported Employment as lead partner; recognises it aims to increase employers' confidence, awareness and capacity to recruit and retain disabled people in their workforce; notes the innovative ways of working the partnership is undertaking to achieve these aims; endorses the importance of employing disabled people in the workforce and reducing the unacceptable employment gap; and notes that they will contribute to the Scottish Government's Fairer Scotland for Disabled People – Employment Action Plan's ambition to halve the Disability Employment Gap by 2038.

1636 Sarah Everard and women's safety

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 12

Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Ms Diane Abbott
Florence Eshalomi
Helen Hayes
Ms Harriet Harman
Christine Jardine

Steven Bonnar

Kate Osborne

Neale Hanvey

That this House expresses deep concern for the disappearance of Sarah Everard, a young woman who went missing in Clapham as she was walking home on the 3rd March; extends thoughts and prayers to Sarah's family and friends at this difficult time; notes with great sadness that women's safety remains a serious issue; and believes that in 2021, women should not have to fear that harm may come to them if they are walking by themselves; is appalled by the results of a recent YouGov poll which found that 97 per cent of women aged 18-24 have been sexually harassed and 80 per cent of women of all ages have experienced sexual harassment in a public space; stands in solidarity with all women who have survived harassment, assault and violence; believes that more resources should be dedicated to violence against women and girls; is disgusted by the victim shaming heard since Sarah Everard's disappearance; and strongly refutes any suggestions that the onus should fall on women to change their behaviour to prevent becoming victims of an attack.

1637 Local Government funding (No. 2)

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 4

Jon Trickett
John McDonnell
Claudia Webbe
Jonathan Edwards

That this House notes with concern research by the National Audit Office which states that 25 Local Councils are on the brink of bankruptcy; notes with further concern research from the NAO which found that 94 per cent of English councils expect to cut spending next year to meet budget requirements; notes that a decade of austerity has reduced the spending power of councils by a third, leaving local government ill-prepared to cope during a health pandemic which has seen

demand for local services rise; expresses disappointment that no announcement was forthcoming in the Budget regarding councils' public health grant, nor to address the need for a further £2.6 billion in funding the Local Government Association have estimated will be required to cover cost pressures faced by Councils due to Covid-19; believes local authorities have a vital role to play in rebuilding community resilience as part of a post Covid-19 recovery; and therefore calls on the Government provide the necessary funding to ensure Local Councils are able to meet all extra cost pressures and income losses and rebuild their communities without making further cuts to services.

1638 Rail fares

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 4

Jon Trickett
John McDonnell
Claudia Webbe
Jonathan Edwards

That this House notes the recent rise in rail fares in England and Wales of 2.6 per cent; notes with concern that this rise means rail fares have risen above RPI inflation for the first time since 2013; condemns increasing the price of train travel at a time when millions of people are suffering financially; notes that since 2010 the price of a regional season ticket has risen by 38 per cent; believes that a better way to encourage passengers back to using the railway post lockdown would be by reducing prices rather than raising them; and calls on the Government to freeze the price of rail fares whilst offering discounts to entice customers back onto trains.

1639 Kashmir

Tabled: 12/03/21 Signatories: 3

Layla Moran
John McDonnell
Jonathan Edwards

That this House affirms that UK foreign policy should promote the values of human rights and equality internationally; expresses concern regarding the long-standing conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir; states that the June 2018 Report by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and its update in July 2019, the revocation in August 2019 of Jammu and Kashmir's special status, and continuing reports of human rights abuses, are a cause for alarm; and therefore urges both the Indian and Pakistani governments to enter into a process of peace and reconciliation; and calls upon the Government to support UN inspection and engagement to assist cooperation between India and Pakistan to secure a peaceful and sustainable solution to the conflict.