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Early Day Motions tabled on Thursday 8 July 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

294 Sheena Nelson and the Rotary International Champion of Change award

Tabled: 8/07/21 Signatories: 1

Brendan O'Hara

That this House congratulates Sheena Nelson from the Helensburgh Garelochside Rotary club on her Champion of Change award from the Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland; acknowledges that the award is in recognition of her voluntary work as the club's Heartstart Volunteer Co-ordinator to train members of the public in the vital cardio-pulmonary resuscitation techniques to improve the chances of survival of those in cardiac arrest and heart attacks; commends Sheenah's outstanding fundraising efforts which has seen 200 community defibrillators installed across Helensburgh, Lomond and West Dunbartonshire and is now focused on ensuring that there are no gaps in the defibrillator network; acknowledges that an estimate of 27 lives over recent years have been saved due to Sheenah tireless campaigning; and wishes Sheenah the very best in her continued work to educate the public on the use and benefits of community defibrillators.

295 Brynn Hauxwell, Young Fundraiser of the Year

Tabled: 8/07/21 Signatories: 1

Mr Alistair Carmichael

That this House congratulates Shetlander Brynn Hauxwell for being awarded the Young Fundraiser of the Year award at the 2021 Pride of Scotland ceremony; notes that Brynn has raised around £10,000 for Ability Shetland across the last 18 months during two separate challenges; that these challenges included a gruelling 1,679 mile effort, the length of the coast of Shetland, and 16 half-marathons in May; and welcomes the funding and awareness Brynn has raised for Ability Shetland in its remit to support the efforts of disabled people to realise their full potential in all areas of life.

296 Access to safe and legal creditTabled: **8/07/21** Signatories: **1****Sir David Amess**

That this House recognises the serious harm caused by illegal money lending and a lack of access to safe and legal credit; notes the rise in vulnerable women becoming victims of sexual exploitation and being forced into prostitution by loan sharks; further notes that the demise of the home collected credit market will only see an increase in loan sharks forcing vulnerable women into debt bondage; and supports the preservation of legal and regulated credit for vulnerable people.

297 Nutrition aidTabled: **8/07/21** Signatories: **1****Alyn Smith**

That this House urges the Government to recognise the importance of investment in nutrition to support its aims for girls' education; notes that impacts of malnutrition are particularly heavy on women and girls and that cases of anaemia, stunting and malnutrition are correlated with poor school performance; stresses that the UK was previously considered a leader in combatting malnutrition and now risks undermining its international reputation in addition to putting millions of lives at risk; and calls on the Government to incorporate nutrition aid into its focus area of girls education.

298 VAT on sunscreenTabled: **8/07/21** Signatories: **1****Patricia Gibson**

That this House calls for sunscreen to be reclassified as an essential healthcare item and therefore be exempted from VAT, given the important role it plays in preventing serious health conditions such as skin cancer; understands that sunscreen is currently classified as a cosmetic product in the UK and is therefore subject to 20 per cent VAT, which adds around £1.50 to the cost of each bottle; recognises that Cancer Research UK has concluded that being sunburnt once every two years can triple the risk of melanoma skin cancer, and that melanoma skin cancer incidence rates have more than doubled in the UK since the early 1990s; and calls on the Government to therefore take action to remove VAT on this essential product to make it more affordable and to encourage people to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.

299 Pride of Scotland Lifetime Achievement Award awarded to Professor Sir Geoff PalmerTabled: **8/07/21** Signatories: **1****Owen Thompson**

That this House expresses its profound congratulations to Professor Sir Geoff Palmer on being awarded a Pride of Scotland Lifetime Achievement Award; notes that Professor Sir Geoff Palmer has made significant contributions to fields as diverse as brewing and human rights activism; recognises that he discovered the barley abrasion process, which was subsequently adopted by the UK's biggest breweries; notes that in 1998, he became the fourth person to be honoured with the American Society of Brewing Chemists Award of Distinction; further notes that he became Scotland's first black professor in 1988 and is now serving as emeritus professor in the School of Life Sciences at Heriot-Watt University as well as the University's chancellor; understands that he lived in Jamaica

until shortly before his fifteenth birthday before moving to England to join his mother, who had moved here as a member of the Windrush generation; commends his role over the past year as a powerful voice in the movement for change prompted by Black Lives Matter, including leading the successful campaign for a reinterpretation of the Melville Monument in Edinburgh honouring Henry Dundas.

300 Israel Arms Trade (Prohibition) Bill

Tabled: 8/07/21 Signatories: 5

Richard Burgon
Caroline Lucas
Liz Saville Roberts
Tommy Sheppard
Jeremy Corbyn

This House notes that the UK Government has authorised hundreds of millions of pounds worth of arms sales to Israel between 2016 and 2020; believes that the UK Government should end these arms sales as part of efforts to end Israel's militarized repression of Palestinians, violations of international law and the illegal occupation of Palestine; and therefore welcomes the presentation of the Israel Arms Trade (Prohibition) Bill laid on 7 July 2021 that seeks to stop the UK Government from authorising arms sales to Israel.

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.

247 Independent bookshops in Oxford West and Abingdon

Tabled: 24/06/21 Signatories: 4

Layla Moran
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell
Drew Hendry

That this House recognises the important work of independent bookshops in Independent Book Shop Week 2021 from 19 to 26 June; celebrates the significant cultural and economic contributions of local independent bookshops to the communities of Oxford West and Abingdon including the Last Book Jericho, Bookstore Ltd and Mostly Books; notes the community spirit independent book shops create; understands that a book shop is not just a place to purchase a book, but to gain expertise and get advice, attend events and peak people's interest in reading; acknowledges the threat that online book retailers pose to independent bookshops; calls on people to support local independent book shops as coronavirus restrictions are relaxed; urges the Government to ensure these invaluable assets to the community and the high street are supported so they remain in the years ahead; and further urges the Government to urgently recognise the social value and cultural importance of independent bookshops.

248 Giffnock Tennis Squash & Hockey Club - Club of the Year 2021

Tabled: 28/06/21 Signatories: 8

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
John Nicolson

Drew Hendry

That this House congratulates Giffnock Tennis Squash and Hockey Club on winning the Club of the Year award at the 2021 Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Tennis Awards; notes that Giffnock Tennis Squash and Hockey Club beat over 2,600 other LTA registered clubs and was the only Scottish Club to make the nomination shortlist; recognises that this year the Club of the Year category focused on how clubs responded to the covid-19 pandemic and rewarded those who reacted pro-actively, demonstrated support not only to their membership but also to their local community, and when permitted, provided a safe environment in which to play; celebrates Giffnock Tennis Squash and Hockey Club's outstanding work in setting up the Giffnock Community Outreach Project to ensure members, their families and friends were supported and offered practical assistance ranging from food parcels to care packages, online social events and a telephone buddy system; commends Giffnock Tennis Squash and Hockey Club for being one of the first sports clubs in Scotland to become covid-19 compliant; and acknowledges the fantastic efforts of staff, volunteers and members in supporting those in need and playing an important role in the local community in Giffnock.

250 Welfare support for terminally ill people

Tabled: 28/06/21 Signatories: 37

Drew Hendry
Andrew Gwynne
Jim Shannon
Claudia Webbe
Marion Fellows
Joanna Cherry

Kirsten Oswald

That this House notes that Marie Curie and the Motor Neurone Disease Association estimate that more than 6,000 people have died waiting for a decision on their benefits claim since the Department for Work and Pensions announced its review of the benefits system for terminally ill people and the Special Rules for Terminal Illness scheme in 2019; further notes that that review has yet to be published despite the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Terminal Illness's inquiry report of 2019 revealing that the six-month rule leaves terminally ill people facing devastating and far-reaching financial hardship and crippling debt; and calls on the Government to urgently publish its report into how the benefits system treats terminally ill people and bring forward proposals to end that punitive six-month rule without further delay.

255 Death of Jim Walker MBETabled: **28/06/21** Signatories: **13**

Martyn Day
Jim Shannon
Margaret Ferrier
Marion Fellows
Neale Hanvey
John McNally

Drew Hendry

That this House recognises the life and work of Jim Walker, MBE, former local councillor in his beloved Bathgate for 30 years and tireless local champion for the community of Bathgate; sends deepest condolences to his family; notes that Jim Walker was an exemplary champion of his community, serving as Bathgate Procession Secretary since 1962 at the age of 18, founder member of Newlands Brass Band, President of Bathgate Thistle Football Club, proud past Chieftain of Bathgate Highland Games and recognises his commitment to many other local organisations; further notes that he was instrumental in the forming of the Twinning Agreement between Cran Gevrier in France and Bathgate; further recognises the passion he had for his work in Bathgate and the respect he gained within the local community, both as a local councillor and as a community activist; and notes the pride his family, friends and organisations he has served will have for his lifetime commitment to the community he served so well.

257 Coronavirus cross-party procurement task-forceTabled: **28/06/21** Signatories: **6**

Neale Hanvey
Jonathan Edwards
Kenny MacAskill
Wera Hobhouse
Caroline Lucas
Claire Hanna

That this House notes the public's growing concern and alarm over the opacity of procurement contracting under emergency coronavirus powers; further notes that to date two Secretaries of State have been found to have acted unlawfully by the High Court in this regard; notes with further concern a reluctance of Government to disclose details of companies awarded contracts introduced to a high-priority lane by Ministers, hon. Members or Peers and officials; and calls for the formation of a cross party task-force to examine and reassure the House, and the wider public, of propriety in the conduct of such business.

262 UK citizenship chargesTabled: **29/06/21** Signatories: **23**

John Nicolson
Allan Dorans
Navendu Mishra
Kim Johnson
Paula Barker
Jonathan Edwards

Claire Hanna

That this House regrets the extortionate charges for people wanting to gain citizenship to the UK; highlights that the fees are much higher than European neighbours and international allies; further

highlights the exceptional social and economic benefit that immigrants contribute to the UK; and, finally, urges the Government to lower that cost to encourage immigration in a post-Brexit world.

263 Effect of ending the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme on levels of poverty

Tabled: 29/06/21 Signatories: 21

David Linden
Allan Dorans
Kim Johnson
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Chris Law

Drew Hendry

That an Humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, that she will be graciously pleased to direct Ministers to lay before this House, not later than 5.00pm on Thursday 1 July, all papers and correspondence compiled by the Department of Work and Pensions relating to an analysis of terminating the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and the impact on levels of poverty.

268 Srebrenica Memorial Week 2021

Tabled: 30/06/21 Signatories: 31

Margaret Ferrier
Jim Shannon
Andrew Gwynne
Patricia Gibson
Kenny MacAskill
Wera Hobhouse

Mr Clive Betts
Owen Thompson

Marion Fellows
Mary Kelly Foy

Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Anne McLaughlin

That this House notes that from 4 to 11 July 2021, the UK will mark Srebrenica Memorial Week with commemorations taking place in hundreds of schools, local authorities, places of worship, community centres, and police forces to name but a few, all of which bring the nation together in powerful acts of remembrance to mark the 26th anniversary of the Bosnian genocide; further notes the theme for this year is Rebuilding Lives, which will enable individuals to gain an insight into the challenges that those who survive genocide and ethnic cleansing face and how they have been able to overcome these challenges whilst encouraging others to think about our own responsibility in ensuring that prejudice does not take root in our communities; recognises the courage of the survivors who continue to be a source of inspiration, and who despite experiencing the very worst of humanity, have shown great strength and determination to rebuild their lives; and commends the work done by the charity Remembering Srebrenica who since 2013 have educated 130,000 young people on the lessons from Srebrenica, enabled over 1,800 community actions to take place right across the country each year, and have created 1,450 Community Champions who pledge to stand up to hatred and intolerance in their communities.

269 International School Aberdeen, showing racism the red card

Tabled: 1/07/21 Signatories: 12

Stephen Flynn
John Nicolson
Marion Fellows
Allan Dorans
Jonathan Edwards
Amy Callaghan

Drew Hendry

That this House congratulates pupils from the International School Aberdeen on being selected as finalists in 2021's Show Racism the Red Card Creative Competition; notes that over 1,500 young people from across Scotland took part, creatively expressing their messages of inclusion with some fantastic artwork, poetry, creative writing, t-shirt designs, music and short films; acknowledges that the competition encourages children to develop a piece of creative work that gets across a clear message of anti-racism and the positive impact this can have on the attitudes of young people, and wider society; and praises the continuous work of Show Racism the Red Card in Scotland in encouraging and educating young people to respect each other.

274 Importance of youth work

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 10

Lloyd Russell-Moyle
Navendu Mishra
Paula Barker
Ian Lavery
Mick Whitley
Jim Shannon

Mary Kelly Foy

That this House notes the incredible work and dedication of youth workers across the UK who have been supporting young people throughout this pandemic when all other support networks have been closed or have been inaccessible; further notes the decision by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport to recognise youth workers as key workers in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic; notes that youth work is a degree entry profession and that the JNC agreement states that all professional youth workers must have a degree or equivalent qualification; recognises that youth workers have faced real-terms pay cuts of as much as 24 per cent over the past 10 years; believes that all young people across the UK should have access to a statutory funded, wide-ranging and universal youth service with ring-fenced funding from central Government which is delivered by local authorities working closely with schools and youth voluntary organisations; and further believes that the joint trade union claim for youth worker to receive a 10 per cent pay rise plus an improvement in work-life balance would deliver real improvements to the well-being of staff, and consequently to the quality of youth services provided.

275 Hawkhill Community CentreTabled: **5/07/21** Signatories: **5**

John Nicolson
Marion Fellows
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Chris Law

That this House recognises the hard work of the volunteers at the Hawkhill Community Centre; commends their unflappable determination to give a lifeline to people who need it in Clackmannanshire; and finally thanks Centre Manager, Sandra Clements for her leadership and ambition in developing the Community Centre going forward.

276 Perth and Kinross Schools' Percussion EnsembleTabled: **5/07/21** Signatories: **7**

John Nicolson
Marion Fellows
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Drew Hendry

Chris Law

That this House congratulates the Perth and Kinross Schools' Percussion Ensemble for their recent second place (gold) result in the Whitburn Band Virtual Festival, in the Youth/Percussion category; recognises the importance to young people's lives that music can play, particularly in the context of bands and orchestras; and wishes these talented young performers every success in the future.

277 Growth in employee-owned businessesTabled: **5/07/21** Signatories: **7**

Douglas Chapman
Marion Fellows
Alison Thewliss
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Drew Hendry

Chris Law

That this House welcomes the growth in Scotland of employee-owned Scottish companies; and supports the Scottish Government's target of having 500 employee-owned businesses by 2030 to help maintain a strong and resilient commercial sector in Scotland, where being an employee-owned enterprise is seen as a positive option to enhance skills, productivity and company revenues.

278 Open Doors' report entitled Destructive Lies, and religious minorities in India

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 11

Brendan O'Hara
Marion Fellows
Alison Thewliss
Jonathan Edwards
John Spellar
Patricia Gibson

Allan Dorans

Drew Hendry

Chris Law

That this House notes with grave concern the contents of Destructive Lies, the recently published report from the Christian charity Open Doors, based on work done by a research team from the London School of Economics, which concludes that due to a sharp rise in extreme Hindu religious nationalism, Christians, Muslims and other religious minorities in India are living in an atmosphere of deep trauma, fear and anxiety; is alarmed to learn that religious minorities in India are suffering systematic persecution and are, in the words of the report, facing an existential threat due to the increasing instances of beatings and murders carried out by extremists mobs, whose crimes all too often go unpunished by the police and local courts; is deeply saddened that as a result, India is now ranked 10th in the world on the Open Doors Watch List of where it is the most dangerous place to be a Christian; notes that since the start of the covid-19 pandemic, religious persecution has significantly worsened amid false accusations that Christians and Muslims have deliberately spread the virus, accusations are repeated and amplified on several social-media platforms; demands that social media companies do more to ensure that such dangerous and harmful content is immediately removed; and calls on the UK Government to raise the plight of Indian religious minorities with the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the High Commissioner as a matter of urgency.

279 Care Radio

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 6

Christine Jardine
Jamie Stone
Wendy Chamberlain
Mr Alistair Carmichael
Dr Lisa Cameron
Jim Shannon

That this House welcomes the launch of Care Radio, the UK's first dedicated radio station for carers; notes that there are around 9 million paid and unpaid carers across the UK, including NHS workers, care home employees and at-home carers; recognises that carers have played an important role throughout the covid-19 pandemic supporting older, infirm and vulnerable people; understands that Care Radio is a not-for-profit station entirely run by volunteers; pays tribute to the many volunteers, individuals and organisations supporting Care Radio; believes that a dedicated radio station for carers will help to raise awareness about the role of carers and celebrate their achievements; and wishes the Care Radio team every success with their launch.

280 ISS workers at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 14

John McDonnell
 Mick Whitley
 Jonathan Edwards
 Beth Winter
 Navendu Mishra
 Paula Barker

Ms Diane Abbott

Mary Kelly Foy

That this House believes that all workers in Government buildings deserve to be paid fairly and treated with respect and dignity at work; regrets that, all too often, people employed in roles outsourced to private contractors face a struggle to defend their basic pay, terms and conditions at work in comparison to their centrally contracted colleagues; notes that such workers are more likely to be female or to come from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds; further notes that support staff working for ISS on Government Property Agency contracts at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy seek improved pay and conditions, the agreement of a protocol on covid-19 health and safety, agreed bonus payments for working through the covid-19 lockdown, the restoration of annual leave entitlements deducted unilaterally and to avoid redundancies; is disappointed that ISS management have failed to respond to these reasonable proposals; and gives support and solidarity to PCS members left with no choice other than to ballot for industrial action.

281 Award of George Cross for the NHS

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 3

Jim Shannon
 Sir Mike Penning
 Allan Dorans

That this House welcomes the wonderful decision of Her Majesty the Queen to grant the NHS the highest gallantry award for civilians in the form of the George Cross which is an acknowledgement for acts of the greatest heroism or for most conspicuous courage in circumstance of extreme danger; notes the only two other collective designations have been to the Island of Malta in 1942 and to the men and women who served in the Royal Ulster Constabulary in 1999; joins with her Majesty in thanking the NHS on their 73rd anniversary for supporting the people of the UK with courage, compassion and dedication, demonstrating the highest standards of public service; and offers sincere and heartfelt thanks to every member of that incredible world-class NHS team both past and present.

283 Homophobic attacks on LGBTQ+ campaigners in Tbilisi

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 11

Layla Moran
 Alison Thewliss
 Jonathan Edwards
 Sir Mike Penning
 Andrew Gwynne
 Jamie Stone

Stephen Farry

Claire Hanna

That this House strongly condemns the attacks on LGBTQ+ campaigners in Tbilisi; expresses its regret that the Tbilisi Pride march has had to be called off as a result; expresses concern for the safety of LGBTQ+ campaigners and other community members, as well as those journalists who

were attacked; calls on the Government to condemn the words of Georgian Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili that the march was not reasonable; further calls on the Government to further promote and uphold LGBTQ+ rights and all other human rights worldwide; and resolves that the right to protest must be upheld in all parts of the world.

284 Hassan Mushaima and political prisoners detained in Bahrain

Tabled: 5/07/21 Signatories: 8

Andy Slaughter
Alison Thewliss
Jonathan Edwards
Kenny MacAskill
Andrew Gwynne
Mary Kelly Foy

Navendu Mishra

Mick Whitley

That this House is deeply concerned by the decade-long detention of 73-year-old Hassan Mushaima in Bahrain who was sentenced to life imprisonment for his peaceful role as a political opposition leader in 2011; decries that Mushaima was brutally tortured, subjected to protracted medical negligence and that his condition continues to severely deteriorate; profoundly regrets that since April 2021 two political prisoners and Jau Prison inmates, Husain Barakat and Abbas Malallah, died at Jau Prison; emphasises that Jau Prison authorities' failure to prevent covid-19 outbreaks amongst inmates puts the lives of vulnerable prisoners like Mushaima at serious risk; notes that the European Parliament recently called for the release of Mushaima and others; is concerned that the UK Ambassador to Bahrain recently praised Jau Prison as a well-run facility with good medical provision despite the UN, Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and the Bahrain Institute for Rights and Democracy expressing concern at authorities persistent failure to provide adequate medical care in Bahrain's prisons; unreservedly condemns Bahraini authorities' perpetration of systematic medical negligence against vulnerable prisoners; further condemns false assurances provided to this House by the UK Government regarding the provision of medical care to political prisoners in Bahrain; and calls on the Government to use all available leverage to press Bahrain for the immediate and unconditional release of all Bahraini political prisoners detained solely for peacefully exercising their right to free expression, association and assembly, with particular reference to political leaders with heightened vulnerability to covid-19, namely Hassan Mushaima, Abduljalil Al-Singace and Abdulwahab Husain.

286 First anniversary of Bow Crane collapse

Tabled: 6/07/21 Signatories: 10

Apsana Begum
Ian Byrne
Jeremy Corbyn
Navendu Mishra
Paula Barker
Bell Ribeiro-Addy

Jon Trickett

Mary Kelly Foy

That this House notes with deepest regret that 8 July 2021 marks the tragic death of June Harvey after a tower crane fell on her house in Bow in 2020; further notes with sadness other fatalities as a result of crane collapses; pays tribute to the construction safety campaign, largely led by bereaved relatives and trade unions, raising concerns about the under-regulation of health and safety in the construction industry amidst a reduction in inspections and reductions in the Health and Safety Executive's resources, particularly since 2010; and calls on the Government to ensure that legislation

and guidance regulating cranes are robust and that the HSE has the resources for vigorous enforcement.

287 March for Dignity - Tbilisi Pride 2021

Tabled: 6/07/21 Signatories: 14

Martin Docherty-Hughes
Stewart Malcolm McDonald
Jamie Stone
Jonathan Edwards
Layla Moran
Alison Thewliss

Kirsten Oswald
 Stephen Farry
 Dave Doogan

Allan Dorans
 Claire Hanna
 Margaret Ferrier

Marion Fellows
 Chris Law

That this House is saddened and disappointed to note the cancellation of the recent March for Dignity Tbilisi Pride event after a violent counter demonstration; condemns the actions of Georgian authorities which allowed a mob to break in and ransack the offices of the organisers; notes with concern that 53 journalists were among the hundreds injured in the violence around the city; further notes that protecting minorities, and free and fair expression is a cornerstone of liberal democracy, and one which is enshrined in Georgia's Constitution; gratefully acknowledges the joint letter issued by more than 20 Embassies and delegations in Tbilisi including that of the UK condemning the violence; supports their contention that those responsible for the violence should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law; notes that Georgia is one of the most ancient nations in the world, and that LGBT+ Georgians have existed as long as the nation; shows solidarity with those LGBT+ Georgians and their allies; and offers its support to their continued in the future.

288 Townhill Primary School and Fernhill School Green Flag award

Tabled: 6/07/21 Signatories: 4

Margaret Ferrier
Jonathan Edwards
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans

That this House congratulates Townhill Primary School in Hamilton and Fernhill School in Rutherglen on their receipt of the Eco-Schools Green Flag award; notes that the award recognises outstanding effort in environmental awareness and action on climate change; recognises the commitment of the schools to the Eco-Schools Scotland programme and their work in engaging their local community in environmental activism; acknowledges this has included programmes where pupils made bird boxes, carried out community litter picks, talked about litter issues in school assemblies, and created an outdoor classroom area; and commends the pupils and staff of those two schools on this significant achievement.

289 Aberdeen FC Women's Premier League 2 title

Tabled: 6/07/21 Signatories: 8

Stephen Flynn
Jamie Stone
Jim Shannon
Patrick Grady
Richard Thomson
Marion Fellows

Allan Dorans

Chris Law

That this House congratulates Aberdeen FC Women on their historic Scottish Women's Premier League 2 title; applauds all players for their outstanding performances in securing qualification for SWPL 1; notes that the team secured the title on 27 June 2021 at the Regional Performance Centre in Dundee; commends the manager Emma Hunter for leading the team to remarkable success; and wishes the team every success in the Scottish Women's Premier League 1 next season.

290 APPG Report on UK funding facilitating human rights abuses in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia

Tabled: 7/07/21 Signatories: 9

Brendan O'Hara
Marion Fellows
Allan Dorans
Jim Shannon
Chris Law
Deidre Brock

Navendu Mishra

John Nicolson

Kenny MacAskill

That this House expresses concern at the findings of the July 2021 report by the APPG on Democracy and Human Rights in the Gulf which shows that at least £53.4 million in public funds have benefited Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states since 2016; is shocked that beneficiaries of UK-funding include institutions in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia accused of facilitating and perpetrating human rights abuses and potential war crimes; is alarmed by the considerable lack of transparency and accountability surrounding the Integrated Activity Fund (IAF), despite the government recommending a root and branch overhaul to strengthen the transparency, accountability and governance of the IAF as early as 2019; is concerned that £10 million has been allocated to GCC states through the IAF's successor, the Gulf Strategy Fund (GSF), for 2021-22, including support for abusive Bahraini oversight bodies; maintains that funding assistance to those bodies places the Government at risk of complicity in their abuses; raises concern over claims made by Ministers regarding the IAF and GSF; notes serious problems with the Government's human rights due diligence process which the report finds is flawed, improperly applied and entirely absent in some cases and urges that it should be replaced with binding statutory safeguards; affirms that the Government's pursuit of closer ties with the region must not come at the expense of human rights; and asks the Government to seriously consider responding to and implementing the report's recommendations, including suspending the GSF pending an independent investigation.

291 Alison Palmer, headteacher Arrochar Primary School.

Tabled: 7/07/21 Signatories: 6

Brendan O'Hara
 Marion Fellows
 Allan Dorans
 Drew Hendry
 Jim Shannon
 Chris Law

That this House sends its sincere thanks to Alison Palmer, who for the past 16 years has served as headteacher at Arrochar Primary School in Argyll and Bute; appreciates everything Alison has done for the her pupils and everything she contributed to the local community in her 28 years as a teacher; acknowledges Alison's dedication to education and commends her on a hugely successful tenure as headteacher, which saw Arrochar Primary School receiving the best inspection report any Argyll and Bute school has ever had; notes that in 2012 Alison was a finalist in the head teacher of the year awards; congratulates Alison in securing a new role with the Educational Institute of Scotland, an organisation that she has been closely involved with throughout her teaching career, having previously been a delegate, treasurer, then local and national president; recognises that in 2019, the EIS made Alison their Degree Fellow for her contribution to education; and wishes Alison well in her new job in the future.

292 NHS Highland and Raigmore Hospital

Tabled: 7/07/21 Signatories: 3

Jamie Stone
 Mr Alistair Carmichael
 Jim Shannon

That this House is aware that NHS Highlands' largest hospital, Raigmore, has received code black status; is concerned that health staff in the Highlands are facing unprecedented levels of demand due to the increase in covid-19 cases and hospital admissions; notes that those pressures are in part due to the downgrading of other local healthcare facilities in the Far North; and calls on the Scottish Government and UK Government to work together to support NHS Highland.

293 Access to cash

Tabled: 7/07/21 Signatories: 14

Marion Fellows
 Owen Thompson
 Kirsten Oswald
 Navendu Mishra
 Allan Dorans
 Dr Philippa Whitford

Ronnie Cowan
 Chris Law
 Kate Osborne

Claire Hanna
 Peter Grant
 Kenny MacAskill

Jim Shannon
 Margaret Ferrier

That this House recognises the importance of access to cash for the UK population; notes that due to bank branch closures and the loss of free-to-use ATMs across the UK, millions are at risk of losing access to cash; further notes that all communities should be guaranteed a right to cash services including withdrawal and deposits to cash and that these services should be available to the penny and free at the point of use recognising the importance of cash to those most vulnerable and small businesses; supports the services offered by all Post Offices for cash withdrawals and deposits under

the current banking framework; further supports the Post Office's Save Our Cash campaign which highlights the importance of access to cash; and calls on the Government to introduce legislation to ensure access to cash is protected by law.