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Early Day Motions tabled on Wednesday 22 November 2023

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

94 Lawfield Primary School in Midlothian

Tabled: 22/11/23 Signatories: 1

Owen Thompson

That this House congratulates Lawfield Primary School for becoming the first school in Midlothian to win the Sport Scotland Gold School Sports Award; acknowledges that the Mayfield school is one of only 104 schools to achieve the accolade; recognises the work of acting headteacher Jennifer Allison, active schools co-ordinator Carolyn Cameron, PE teacher Enrique Castillo and pupils and other staff; further recognises the school's bid to use sport to support wider achievement; admires the school's work to break down barriers to participation and make sure all pupils have opportunities to be active, inspired and enjoy sport; and wishes all pupils, staff and parents every success in the future.

95 Retirement of Stephen McLellan from Recovery Across Mental Health

Tabled: 22/11/23 Signatories: 3

**Mhairi Black
Kirsten Oswald
Gavin Newlands**

That this House congratulates Stephen McLellan for his 33 years of service in the West of Scotland for Recovery Across Mental Health (RAMH); notes that RAMH do vital work giving support to individuals and communities that experience mental ill health; recognises that Stephen's efforts and contribution in supporting our communities have been both admirable and invaluable; and wishes Stephen all the best for his retirement.

96 25th Anniversary of East Kilbride Visually Impaired Group

Tabled: 22/11/23 Signatories: 1

Dr Lisa Cameron

That this House celebrates the 25th Anniversary of East Kilbride Visually Impaired Group; recognises that the group was started by Brian Hunter in 1998 with five attendees and has grown to having more than 30 attendees each week who benefit from local support and services; commends all volunteers and members, including Margaret Taylor, the Group Secretary, who first joined eleven years ago making everyone's tea; thanks everyone providing transport who ensure that members can access meetings where they enjoy sharing experiences and a sense of community; further commends those providing funding for this invaluable work to continue across East Kilbride as it is run on a voluntary basis; calls for wider advocacy and inclusive policy development involving visually impaired people; and wishes East Kilbride Visually Impaired Group ongoing success for the future.

97 20th Anniversary of East Kilbride Healthy and Active Group

Tabled: 22/11/23 Signatories: 1

Dr Lisa Cameron

That this House celebrates the 20th Anniversary of the Healthy and Active group in East Kilbride; commends every volunteer and staff member who are dedicated to supporting the East Kilbride community in helping members to achieve inclusion, personal independence and confidence; recognises that the group started 20 years ago with the inception of the Shopmobility service; further recognises that Healthy and Active have significantly expanded their services to include a community hub and wellbeing and cost of living support alongside outdoor activities; and wishes every ongoing success to Healthy and Active for the future.

98 Cost of applying for indefinite leave under the bereaved partner concession

Tabled: 22/11/23 Signatories: 1

Stuart C McDonald

That this House supports the Refugee and Migrant Forum of Essex and London's call for a fee waiver to be introduced for grieving widows applying for indefinite leave to remain under the bereaved partner concession; notes that the death of a loved one brings multiple emotional, practical and financial costs; acknowledges that people whose leave to remain in the UK is tied to a partner who dies are in a particularly vulnerable situation; regrets that the spouses of deceased partners are now required to pay £2,885 for the concession despite the application costing just £491 for the government to process; further notes that people who cannot afford this fee may be forced to leave the UK or face detention and removal after the death of their partner; notes that the lack of a fee waiver for the concession discriminates against women who constitute almost 70 per cent of those on family visas; believes it is irrational for the government to introduce a concession in recognition of these applicants' vulnerability but first insist on payment of a fee that people cannot afford; and calls for a fee waiver to be introduced.

99 Joan Jara

Tabled: 22/11/23 Signatories: 6

Jeremy Corbyn
John McDonnell
Zarah Sultana
Apsana Begum
Richard Burgon
Beth Winter

This House notes with sadness the recent passing of Joan Jara in Santiago; acknowledges that she was the widow of the late Victor Jara who brought so much joy to the people of Chile and who inspired the election of Salvador Allende in 1970 until his murder in the 1973 coup; recalls that Joan lived in exile in Britain throughout the worst of the Pinochet years and on her return to Chile contributed to the musical and artistic scene; commends her determination to keep hope and popular unity alive; and deeply regrets her passing.

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.

6 Immigration

Tabled: 7/11/23 Signatories: 29

Sir Stephen Timms
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Dawn Butler
Tim Farron
Kim Johnson
Clive Lewis

Drew Hendry

That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty, praying that the Immigration and Nationality (Fees) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2023 (S.I., 2023, No. 1004), dated 14 September 2023, a copy of which was laid before this House on 15 September 2023, be annulled.

22 Night Riviera Sleeper Service

Tabled: 8/11/23 Signatories: 14

John McDonnell
Ian Mearns [R]
Grahame Morris
Alison Thewliss
Richard Burgon
Patrick Grady

Jeremy Corbyn

That this House recognises that the Night Riviera Sleeper service, operated by Great Western Railway (GWR) between London Paddington and Penzance, plays a vital role in providing sustainable and low-carbon travel between the capital and west of England; believes the staff employed on the Night Riviera provide a high-quality service to passengers; notes that research has

found that travel by train is seven times more environmentally friendly than flying; further believes that reliable and high-quality rail links to areas popular with tourists support local economies and jobs; further notes that around 100 Sleeper services have been cancelled between September and November this year due to engineering works; further believes that wherever possible cancellations should be avoided and alternatives such as changes to the route or timing of the service should be considered; further understands that the rolling stock used to operate the Night Riviera is reaching the end of its natural lifespan; understands that GWR's business plan for 2022 requires it to provide proposals to the Government about the future provision of the Night Riviera Sleeper; further understands that, that in light of this, concerns have been raised by the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers about the future of the Night Riviera Sleeper; therefore calls on GWR and the Government to commit to maintaining the service, ensure all jobs on the Night Riviera Sleeper will be protected, and set out a plan for investing in this vital service.

25 Scientific hearing on animal experiments

Tabled: 8/11/23 Signatories: 17

Martyn Day
Allan Dorans
Caroline Lucas
Alison Thewliss
Jonathan Edwards
Claudia Webbe

Rosie Duffield [R]

That this House applauds the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022, enshrining in law the ability of animals to experience joy and feel suffering and pain; notes the science-based campaign For Life On Earth, with its Beagle Ambassador, rescued laboratory dog Betsy; is shocked to see the continuing harrowing exposés that show thousands of laboratory dogs being intensively bred in the UK, underlining the consequences of the Animal Welfare (Sentience) Act 2022; notes that scientists in the wider scientific community, outside of the animal-based research sector, acknowledge the failure of animal testing in the search for human treatments and cures, and that those experts include pharmaceutical industry scientists, an Editor in Chief of the British Medical Journal, the US-based National Cancer Institute, which states cures for cancer have been lost because studies in rodents were believed, and the Food and Drug Administration, which states that nine-out-of-ten new medicines fail to pass human trials because animals cannot predict responses in humans; further notes Doctors Greek and Shanks' Trans-Species Modelling Theory, founded upon the theory of evolution, which explains why animals fail as predictive models of humans; and calls on the Government to mandate a rigorous public scientific hearing, judged by independent experts from the relevant science fields, to cease the funding of the now-proven failed practice of animal experimentation and increase funding for state-of-the-art human-based research, such as human-on-a-chip and gene-based medicine, to prioritise treatments and cures for human patients, and stop the suffering of innocent laboratory dogs and other animals.

44 Breast cancer screening and entitlement to paid leave

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 8

Jonathan Edwards
Ben Lake
Kate Osborne
Chris Stephens
Jim Shannon
Cat Smith

John McDonnell

That this House notes that the UK, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland Governments all offer breast cancer screening to women aged 50 to 70 every three years; supports such policies as an important preventative health care strategy; calls for employment law to be amended to remove barriers to and ensure that women do not lose pay and entitlements for attending appointments; and commends the work of the JG HR Pledge campaign for raising awareness of and encouraging employers to pledge to support their employees to attend regular screening appointments.

45 Wealth taxation and EU Tax Observatory report on global tax evasion

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 6

Jonathan Edwards
Chris Stephens
Jim Shannon
Claire Hanna
Caroline Lucas
John McDonnell

That this House welcomes the EU Tax Observatory inaugural report on global tax evasion; notes that the report indicates that the richest people in the world are operating on the edge of legality to evade paying tax; expresses concern at the findings of the report that the very richest use shell companies and other measures to reduce their tax burden to between 0% and 0.6%; further notes that real estate in expensive cities such as London provides a vehicle for the very wealthy to avoid paying tax; notes that the report calls on the 3,000 richest people in the world, with combined assets of \$13 trillion, to be taxed at a rate of 2% of their total wealth; estimates that such a measure would raise £205 billion annually; and joins calls for the G20 Summit in Brazil in November 2024 to begin efforts to introduce a global wealth tax on the very richest people.

47 Seasonal Worker visa scheme

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 23

John McDonnell
Jon Trickett
Jonathan Edwards
Kate Osborne
Chris Stephens
Kim Johnson

Jeremy Corbyn

That this House notes the recent report by the Bureau of Investigative Journalism and the Independent which identified issues of racism, wage theft and threats of being sent back home in 19 farm inspection reports produced by the Home Office between 2021 and 2022; recognises that migrant seasonal workers are integral to the UK's horticultural sector and that working conditions under the seasonal worker visa must urgently be improved; further recognises that the current

iteration of the seasonal worker visa is due to expire at the end of 2024 and that improvements to working conditions must be implemented before any decision to extend the scheme is made; calls on the Government to urgently complete and publish a review of the seasonal worker visa scheme in line with the recommendations that it accepted by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration in the report entitled *An inspection of the immigration system as it relates to the agricultural sector*, published in December 2022; further calls on the Government to implement the recommendations on the seasonal worker visa scheme of the report by the House of Lords Select Committee on Horticulture entitled *Sowing the seeds: A blooming English horticultural sector* (November 2023); and calls on the Government to engage with independent civil society organisations advocating for the rights of migrant seasonal workers in the recently formed Seasonal Worker Interest Group to address the design-related issues from the seasonal workers visa scheme.

49 **Changes to the Highway Code for vulnerable road users**

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 6

Helen Morgan
Jonathan Edwards
Richard Foord
Wera Hobhouse
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House appreciates the recent changes made to the Highway Code relating to protecting vulnerable road users; understands that new rules 212-215 help ensure that other road users treat these users with care; observes that these rules have been added specifically because the Highway Code previously lacked rules to protect vulnerable road users such as horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles; recognises that the frequency of incidents which include these users shows that the new rules have not been publicised enough; and calls on the Government to raise awareness of the new rules and establish better communication and education of the Highway Code to protect all road users.

50 **Persecution in Pakistan**

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 6

Jim Shannon
Jonathan Edwards
Jon Cruddas
Carla Lockhart
Sammy Wilson
John McDonnell

That this House is deeply concerned by the ongoing attacks, discrimination and persecution faced by Hindus and Sikhs in Pakistan; recognises that these communities are integral members of the Pakistani society and have made significant contributions to its culture, history, and economy; notes with concern the rising incidents of forced conversions, kidnappings, property confiscations and violence against Hindus, Sikhs, Ahmadis and Christians, which infringe on their fundamental rights to freedom of religion, belief and security; condemns any form of religious intolerance and violence; urges the Government of Pakistan to uphold its international obligations to protect the rights of all religious minorities within its borders; calls on the Government of Pakistan to intensify efforts to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of its religious minority communities; calls on the UK Government to engage with the counterparts in Pakistan on these issues to strengthen human rights monitoring in the region.

51 Veterans Day bank holiday

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 19

Grahame Morris
Jonathan Edwards
Kate Osborne
Lloyd Russell-Moyle
Rebecca Long Bailey
Chris Stephens

John McDonnell

That this House wishes to honour the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces with a new bank holiday on the day after Remembrance Sunday; notes that many countries have a dedicated Veterans Day public holiday; recognises that, by international standards, the UK is amongst the countries with the fewest public holidays; highlights the need for more bank holidays in the second half of the year because the majority of the current statutory bank holidays are during the spring and summer months; and believes that any such proposal from the Government would command significant cross-party support.

53 Refugee campaign groups from the North East

Tabled: 13/11/23 Signatories: 9

Ian Lavery
Jon Trickett
Kate Osborne
Chris Stephens
Kim Johnson
Mick Whitley

John McDonnell

That this House welcomes the lobby of Parliament by refugee groups from the North East of England to be held in Room S of Portcullis House from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on Tuesday 28 November; proudly acknowledges that the UK has, for centuries, provided a haven for those fleeing oppression; understands that many people seeking asylum display qualities of great courage and resilience and have abilities which can serve this country well; and urges all hon. Members to attend the lobby in order to hear the case for a fair system of asylum that enables safe routes to get to the UK, treats human beings with dignity and care in a timely and efficient manner, and allows them to make an immediate contribution to the UK through paid work.

54 Food banks

Tabled: 14/11/23 Signatories: 9

Jon Trickett
Kim Johnson
Clive Lewis
Caroline Lucas
Ian Lavery
Mary Kelly Foy

John McDonnell

That this House notes with extreme concern the new figures from The Trussell Trust which showed that 1.5 million food parcels were provided to people between April and September 2023 by food banks in the charity's UK-wide network, which is a 16% increase on the same period in 2022;

highlights that 320,000 people have needed to use a food bank for the first time in the past six months; notes that a record 540,000 food parcels were provided for more than 265,000 children living in families who could not afford the essentials, which is an 11% increase compared to the same period last year; highlights the grave concerns expressed by the UN Poverty envoy Olivier De Schutter on poverty levels in the UK; and urges the Government to act now to tackle poverty by ensuring decent pay, investment and high quality public services.

55 Protections for the green belt

Tabled: 14/11/23 Signatories: 3

Jon Trickett
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House expresses its concern about building developments on green belt land; notes that the Secretary-General of the United Nations has said that humanity is becoming a weapon of mass extinction; further notes that the extinction of wildlife species has a knock-on impact on the wider ecosystem and causes escalating levels of environmental destruction, which plays a significant role in climate breakdown; regrets that many local plans contain proposals to build on green belt land, including in an area of the Wakefield District that is home to ancient woodland and a number of rare and endangered bird and animal species; also regrets that the Government failed to support amendments to the Levelling Up Bill, which would have prevented building on areas with vulnerable and endangered species; believes that Parliament must do more to ensure that our country's natural environment is protected; further believes that access to green spaces not only enhances quality of life, but also helps with mental health, tackling obesity and improving general health; recognises that there is a considerable need for new housing in the UK, but thinks that this should be built whilst limiting the damage to the natural environment and should be affordable for local people; calls on the Government to protect green belt land by adopting a brownfield first policy and tougher protections for endangered species; and further calls on the Government to ensure that local authorities have the final say over developments in their areas.

59 Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, Laudate Deum

Tabled: 14/11/23 Signatories: 6

Dr Lisa Cameron
Patrick Grady
Jonathan Edwards
Mary Kelly Foy
Ian Byrne
John McDonnell

That this House welcomes Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, Laudate Deum, which builds on his encyclical letter Laudato Si', that calls on world leaders to put global common good ahead of self interest; urges international governments to commit to a transition from fossil fuels that is binding and measurable; acknowledges the injustice that it is the world's poorest communities that are disproportionately affected by climate change, despite contributing the least to global emissions; commends the work of the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development and the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund who work alongside climate vulnerable communities to respond to climate change and with Global South organisations to campaign for global leadership to tackle climate change; and notes the significance of Pope Francis' message to world leaders ahead of COP28 to be ambitious in their pledges to tackle climate change and provide their fair share of financing to meet existing climate finance pledges.

61 Litter on motorways

Tabled: 15/11/23 Signatories: 5

Sir Mike Penning
Jonathan Edwards
Dr Thérèse Coffey
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House deplores the huge amount of litter on motorways, access road, junctions and verges; notes that there is a crystal clear legal obligation on National Highways to ensure roads are kept clear of litter; and calls on National Highways to act on this obligation, use motorway gantries to promote anti-littering messaging, ensure staff and contractors remove signs, sandbags and cones following roadworks in a timely manner and ensure contracts include financial penalties for not doing so.

62 VAT on audiobooks

Tabled: 15/11/23 Signatories: 9

Sir Mike Penning
Claire Hanna
Jonathan Edwards
Caroline Lucas
Jim Shannon
Chris Stephens
John McDonnell

That this House recognises that audio books, now popular and widely available across all genres, from business to academic, from historical to self help, are a lifeline for many people with sight loss, visual impairment, dyslexia or other reading disabilities; agrees that audio books offer unique opportunities for visually-impaired and dyslexic people to improve their education on a par with their peers; recognises that audio books enable visually-impaired and dyslexic people to continue working independently for longer and thereby contribute to the economy for longer; further recognises that audio books open up a world of information, literature and poetry to visually-impaired and dyslexic people; welcomes the zero-rate VAT for e-books but also recognises that e-books, when read aloud by automated text-to-speech, are difficult to listen to for long periods, lack intonation, may mispronounce names and places, can often read out every bracket and notation, making it difficult to comprehend or recall meaning; notes that other European countries have recently reduced their rates of VAT on audiobooks, including Norway to zero; and calls for equal VAT-status to be applied to audio books as already exists for e-books and physical books.

63 Plastics in the world's seas

Tabled: 15/11/23 Signatories: 8

Sir Mike Penning
Claire Hanna
Jonathan Edwards
Mohammad Yasin
Jim Shannon
Chris Stephens
John McDonnell

That this House notes that according to the UN there will be more plastic in the sea than fish by 2050; calls for the Government to publish a strategy for promoting a circular economy in respect

of plastics, including setting targets and measures for the elimination and recycling of single-use plastics; further calls for the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to establish a task force to develop proposals to encourage the use of reuse and refill models of packaging, to report annually to Parliament on the implementation of the strategy, to ensure that UK targets for the elimination and recycling of plastic packaging are more demanding than equivalent targets set by the EU, and to require manufacturers and retailers to pay for the cost of recycling plastic; calls for Government to set annual targets for reducing the quantity of plastic waste that is incinerated; further calls for the Secretary of State to publish a plan for banning the export of plastic waste by 2027, make provision for the purpose of reducing the cost of recycling plastic, including measures to encourage the standardisation of plastic packaging, give powers to the Office for Environmental Protection to enforce legislation relating to plastic pollution, and make provision for the purpose of encouraging the development of sustainable alternatives to plastic packaging; and calls on the Government to publish a plan for the use of fiscal policy to incentivise investment in recycling infrastructure and sustainable behaviour by consumers and retailers.

64 **Ban on the import of foie gras**

Tabled: 15/11/23 Signatories: 7

Sir Mike Penning
Jonathan Edwards
Caroline Lucas
Jim Shannon
Patricia Gibson
Ian Byrne

John McDonnell

That this House condemns the production of foie gras by force-feeding ducks and geese which causes severe physical and psychological pain for the animals involved; welcomes the continued ban on production of foie gras in the UK; and calls on the Government to introduce the promised ban on the import of foie gras immediately.

67 **Council budgets and audits**

Tabled: 16/11/23 Signatories: 8

Helen Morgan
Jonathan Edwards
Claudia Webbe
Jim Shannon
Sarah Dyke [R]
Richard Foord

John McDonnell

That this House notes with concern the increase in the number of councils struggling to meet the costs of temporary accommodation, Special Educational Needs and Disability services and social care; recognises the importance of local councils' services in providing essential support for vulnerable individuals and their families; notes with concern the backlog in the number of unaudited accounts for councils and other public bodies; understands that 99% of English councils did not have their 2022-23 financial accounts signed off by the legal audit deadline; further notes the increasing pressure on local councils to make precarious investments to protect essential services; regrets government cuts to local council budgets since 2015; and calls on the Government to ensure local councils are adequately funded and resourced to clear the audit backlog and provide essential services for the long term.

70 Sewage discharges

Tabled: **16/11/23** Signatories: **10**

Jon Trickett
Jonathan Edwards
Ian Lavery
Mary Kelly Foy
Claudia Webbe
Jim Shannon

Paul Girvan

John McDonnell

That this House expresses its concern at the continuing dumping of sewage into UK waterways; recognises that the practice is dangerous to public health and damaging to the environment; further recognises that the pollution is making it unsafe for people to swim in natural designated bathing sites such as the River Wharfe in Ilkely, West Yorkshire, which has been given a water quality rating of poor by the Environment Agency; notes that despite multiple failures, £19 billion was paid out in dividends to shareholders in water and sewerage businesses operating in England between 2010 and 2021, which is an average of £1.7 billion a year; further notes that water bills in England and Wales have increased by 40 per cent above inflation since privatisation in 1989; notes with dismay that water companies in England and Wales want bills to increase by £156 a year by 2030 to pay for upgrades and reduce sewage discharges; calls on the Government to immediately place a legal duty on the water companies to avoid sewage dumping; and expresses its support for the public ownership of the UK water system so that the profits of this national asset benefit all the people of the UK and not just a small group of shareholders.

71 Alternatives to affordability checks for gambling

Tabled: **20/11/23** Signatories: **3**

Adam Afriyie
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House welcomes the proposal for an app entitled Bettor Help by the Gamblers Consumer Forum which would offer an alternative to affordability checks and a clinical-based solution towards tackling gambling harm; notes there is no body of evidence that suggests that intrusive affordability checks curb addiction; further notes the sparse research that suggests addiction can be characterised by financial loss; urges the Government to consider the impact of affordability checks on British horseracing, an industry woven into the iconic sporting tapestry of our country and an economic powerhouse for job opportunities; further urges the Government to consider the consequences of using non-clinical solutions in addiction-related regulation, such as minimal pricing for alcohol in Scotland which actually saw alcohol-related deaths surge, and to contrast that with the successes of clinical solutions like clinical group therapy; encourages Members to note that Dr Robert Lefever, a world-leading expert in addiction recovery who has treated over five thousand patients, contributed clinical screening questions to this proposal; and further encourages Members to note this app proposal has been overwhelmingly supported by 68% of the UK public following a poll conducted by YouGov on behalf of the Gamblers Consumer Forum.

72 Puppy smuggling

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 10

Owen Thompson
Jim Shannon
Patricia Gibson
Deidre Brock
Ian Byrne
Grahame Morris

John McDonnell

That this House recognises the vile puppy smuggling trade and sterling efforts by Dogs Trust to end this cruel practice; shares the deep fears of many people about the suffering of dogs and puppies at the hands of smugglers; recognises the seriousness of this welfare issue and acknowledges the disappointment of many that the Kept Animals Bill, which had the potential to crack down on this illegal trade, was dropped; and backs the Trust's demands that we bring an end to the horrors of puppy smuggling.

73 125th anniversary of the University of East London

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 3

Sir Stephen Timms
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House congratulates the University of East London on its 125th anniversary; recognises its invaluable contribution to social justice through education, skills training and enterprise in East London and around the world; commends its commitment to championing equity, diversity and inclusion in higher education, and to driving social mobility through expanding the access of people from marginalised backgrounds to graduate employment; welcomes its work towards a green and healthy world through partnerships with businesses and communities; expresses gratitude for its commitment to research and community projects addressing health and economic inequalities; resolves to continue to work with universities to tackle the complex challenges facing the communities we serve; and extends warm greetings to the University of East London on its milestone anniversary and looks forward to its continued success in years to come.

75 40th anniversary of the killings at Darkley

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 4

Carla Lockhart
Jim Shannon
Sir Mike Penning
Paul Girvan

That this House remembers the Darkley massacre of 20 November 1983, in which three Republican gunmen attacked worshippers at the Mountain Lodge Pentecostal Church, murdering three members; expresses its sorrow at the loss of life of Harold Brown, Victor Cunningham, and David Wilson in what was a blatant sectarian motivated attack; remembers all those innocent victims of the attack and their families on this 40th anniversary of the attack; and reiterates its opposition to sectarianism, terrorism and the glorification of such actions by terrorists

79 Sanctions imposed on Everton Football Club

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 20

Ian Byrne
 Kim Johnson
 Mick Whitley
 Paula Barker
 Peter Dowd
 John McDonnell

Sammy Wilson
 Christina Rees

Ms Marie Rimmer
 Dame Angela Eagle

Zarah Sultana
 Conor McGinn

That this House condemns the grossly unjust points deduction imposed on Everton Football Club by a Premier League Commission, a punishment lacking any legal or equitable foundation or justification for the level of sanction; notes that financial-not-sporting penalties for far more severe breaches have been applied, including the industry-and-community-threatening European Super League; declares that sporting sanctions unfairly punish supporters; notices the improper dismissal of extraordinary mitigating circumstances outlined by Everton; impresses on the House Everton's investment in North Liverpool, its 2028 Euro Stadium, and the club's long-standing, commendable commitment to Liverpool's vulnerable; gravely remarks that these investments are now under threat; that this House contends the Premier League can no longer fairly govern top-flight football without independent scrutiny and legislation; asserts that the Commission's cavalier approach to points deductions necessitates acceleration of the introduction of the Government's proposed Independent Regulator; urges the Government to immediately establish an Independent Football Regulator that will safeguard the future of the game, enforce compliance with financial regulation, and establish new guardrails for corporate governance, club ownership, fan engagement, and competition regulation; requests the suspension of all proceedings and sanctions made by the Commission until the Regulator makes its own determinations; and demands fan ownership and board representation.

80 Local Housing Allowance and housing supply

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 29

Paula Barker
 Kim Johnson
 Mary Kelly Foy
 Caroline Lucas
 Jim Shannon
 Mick Whitley

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

John McDonnell

That this House acknowledges the endemic housing crisis which now affects all communities across the country and the unsustainable rent increases across the private rented sector; affirms the current inadequacy of Local Housing Allowance, frozen since April 2020; believes that Local Housing Allowance has not kept pace with rising rents; recognises that Discretionary Housing Payments are insufficient in reducing the burden on local authority homelessness teams; expresses concern at the strain temporary accommodation is placing on local authority budgets; welcomes any commitment by any of the major parties to increase housing supply over the medium and long term; implores any potential party of government to commit to immediate interventions to alleviate the housing and homelessness emergency in the short term; and urges the Government to unfreeze Local Housing Allowance during forthcoming fiscal events and restore it to, at the very minimum, the 30th percentile of rents in every local authority area.

81 Ethnicity data collection for business owners

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 3

Sarah Olney
 Jim Shannon
 John McDonnell

That this House believes that entrepreneurs of all ethnic backgrounds should have equal access to finance; recognises the recommendation of the Office for National Statistics that the introduction of a national system of data collection on the ethnicity of business owners would be an important step in improving transparency and addressing inequality in this area; believes that the introduction of an ethnicity field on Companies House director registrations would be an important step toward developing a national framework for capturing the ethnicity of company directors in the UK; welcomes the Government's commitment to Action 55 in its Inclusive Britain report which would take steps towards improving transparency and reducing barriers; and calls on the Government to take immediate action to enact these recommendations.

82 Safe access zones

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 6

Bell Ribeiro-Addy
 Kim Johnson
 Ms Diane Abbott
 Ian Byrne
 Jonathan Edwards
 John McDonnell

That this House celebrates the legislative introduction of Safe Access Zones around abortion clinics and buildings offering abortion services in the Public Order Act 2023; notes that although the Act received Royal Assent on 2 May 2023, provisions within the Act about Safe Access Zones, as outlined in section 9, have yet to come into force and require the introduction of a statutory instrument, as outlined in section 35(5) of the Act; is concerned that, until Safe Access Zones are enforced, pro-life protestors are permitted to continue staging protests outside abortion facilities, potentially hindering access to services and intimidating service users and staff; acknowledges that Safe Access Zones are a key instrument to protecting women's access to healthcare and their right to choose; and therefore calls on the Home Secretary to bring forward a statutory instrument to enforce Safe Access Zones around abortion clinics and buildings offering abortion services without further delay.

83 Hearings on the return of African artefacts and ancestral remains

Tabled: 20/11/23 Signatories: 14

Bell Ribeiro-Addy
 Mary Kelly Foy
 Kim Johnson
 Ms Diane Abbott
 Zarah Sultana
 Ian Byrne

Anne McLaughlin

John McDonnell

Jeremy Corbyn

That this House seeks to honour and continue the work of the late Bernie Grant, former Member of Parliament for Tottenham, on the restitution of African artefacts and ancestral remains; notes the recent report by the APPG on Afrikan Reparations entitled, Hearings on the Restitution of Stolen African Artefacts and Ancestral Remains, which brings together a diverse range of experts and perspectives on the matter of restitution of African artefacts and human remains from museums

and other cultural institutions; agrees that countries have the right to care for their own cultural heritage, and their own cultural artefacts; is appalled by the disregard shown by the British Museum for the significance of some of the cultural artefacts in its possession, which has led to several cultural artefacts being improperly quantified, organised or labelled; believes this demonstrates the British Museum's unsuitability to be a proper custodian of the cultural artefacts of other nations; regrets that British institutions are falling behind other countries such as Germany who are now leading on restitution issues after having recognised the moral and ethical dimensions of the issue; suggests that through supporting restitution efforts and implementing necessary changes to legislation and museum practices, the Government can take significant steps towards rectifying historical injustices and fostering a more equitable and inclusive approach to cultural heritage; and calls on the Government to acknowledge and enact the seven recommendations in the APPG for Afrikan Reparation's report entitled, Hearings on the Restitution of Stolen African Artefacts and Ancestral Remains.

85 Paxlovid and clinically vulnerable patients

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 3

Daisy Cooper
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House calls on the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to reject the request from NHS England to delay the roll-out of Covid antiviral treatment Paxlovid; further calls for the additional funds and resources necessary to be provided to NHS England to ensure this treatment reaches all recommended patients this winter; notes with grave concern that a 12 month delay would deny treatment to an estimated 10 million patients at high and moderate risk of hospitalisation and death from Covid-19 infection; further notes the lack of any government strategy to support the immuno-compromised to live with covid; regrets that this request comes at a time when the National Health Service is likely to face unprecedented seasonal pressures with 80% of NHS leaders expecting this winter's capacity crisis to be more extreme than last year; recognises the alleviatory impact that such antivirals will have in reducing hospital admissions; censures the request as out of step with the 10 November 2023 update to World Health Organisation guidance which strongly recommends Paxlovid for high risk groups; notes that a decision to delay access to life-saving treatment has potential wider implications for patient access to future innovations; and is astounded that such a recommendation would be considered appropriate when the Department for Health and Social Care already holds a stockpile of this drug, of which more than half would expire and have to be destroyed during the period between 30 November 2023 and 29 February 2024.

86 Donate IT digital device donation

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 3

Sarah Dyke [R]
Jim Shannon
John McDonnell

That this House recognises the growing digital divide and the difficulties that this has in modern life from online banking to employment opportunities; congratulates Donate IT, a Somerset-based not-for-profit, that recently donated its one thousandth device to a local resident in digital need; further recognises the importance of such organisations that donate used IT equipment and ensure digital device waste is reused and does not end up in landfills; shows concern that in July 2023 three in ten households surveyed by Ofcom had difficulty affording a communication service; understands that the most financially vulnerable, those on means tested benefits and households with someone who has an impacting or limiting condition are amongst those most likely to have difficulty affording communication services; is concerned that Somerton and Frome is in the bottom 6% of all

constituencies in Britain for mobile connectivity and deprivation; and calls for people across the UK to have equal access to new technology that is shaping modern life.

88 Closure of HSBC's Welsh-speaking customer service line

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 7

Liz Saville Roberts
Ben Lake
Hywel Williams
Jim Shannon
Jonathan Edwards
Mary Kelly Foy

John McDonnell

That this House expresses its huge disappointment regarding HSBC's decision to axe their Welsh language telephone service which, for many of their customers, is not a choice, but a necessity; notes that many areas, especially rural ones, have already been dealt the blow of restricted cash services and closed bank branches, and that the closure of the bank's Welsh language service is another significant blow; is particularly concerned for elderly customers without access to digital technology; argues that the bank's promises to arrange a call back in Welsh, within three working days not only displays insensitivity to the financial pressures facing people, but is also dangerous; highlights that accessing banking services in the Welsh language is not just a choice, but a right provided by the Welsh Language Act 1993 and the Welsh Language Measure 2011; and calls on HSBC to reverse this decision and move towards active promotion of Welsh language services across its business.

89 Asbestos-related lung cancer

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 6

Martin Docherty-Hughes
Jim Shannon
Mary Kelly Foy
Paul Girvan
John McDonnell
Jeremy Corbyn

That this House is concerned that sufferers of asbestos-related lung cancer are denied full compensation if they are unable to trace all their former employers whose negligence contributed to the disease; recognises that the number of people affected is small, but the impact on their lives and the lives of their families can be devastating; is aware that section 3 of the Compensation Act 2006 allows sufferers of mesothelioma in these circumstances to receive full compensation; further recognises that mesothelioma and asbestos-related lung cancer are similar diseases which are often difficult to distinguish, even with expert medical evidence; believes that sufferers of asbestos-related lung cancer should have their right to full compensation protected by legislation; and urges the Government to introduce legislation similar to section 3 of the Compensation Act 2006 for sufferers of asbestos-related lung cancer.

90 Reinstatement of the Access to Elected Office Fund

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 8

Daisy Cooper
Jim Shannon
Michael Shanks
Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck
Wendy Chamberlain
Caroline Lucas

John McDonnell

Christine Jardine

That this House notes with regret the underrepresentation of disabled people in Parliament, whilst one in five members of the working-age population identify as disabled, just five MPs disclosed they identify as disabled at the 2019 General Election; believes it is important that disabled people are enabled to contribute to the decisions which affect their lives; understands that financial barriers are a major factor in preventing many disabled people from pursuing elected office; acknowledges that disabled people face additional disability related costs such as paying for Personal Assistants, BSL Interpreters, transport, and assistive technology; commends the Centenary Action report entitled Overcoming the barriers to disabled women's involvement in politics which found that financial support was the most commonly cited requirement by disabled women to contest an election; regrets that the government abolished the Access to Elected Office Fund in 2015 and the successor EnAble Fund by government in March 2020; notes that the government report Barriers to elected office for disabled people also identified the impact of financial barriers on the selection and election of disabled people; and supports the reinstatement of a fund on a permanent basis to enable disabled people to stand for election for public office, and bring a diversity of experience to our society and democracy.

91 Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 11

Mrs Paulette Hamilton
Jim Shannon
Jonathan Edwards
Mick Whitley
Layla Moran
Jon Trickett

Paul Girvan
John McDonnell

Ms Marie Rimmer
Jeremy Corbyn

Kate Hollern

That this House acknowledges that November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month; recognises that survival rates in the UK still lag behind much of the rest of Europe and the World; notes that pancreatic cancer is difficult to detect and that diagnosis takes too long with slow processes and multiple tests leaving people in the dark; understands that once identified, people face huge obstacles getting the information and care they need to be well enough to have treatment with many people feeling they have no support plan in place, and no help to manage symptoms; further understands that once diagnosed, seven out of ten people don't get any treatment, the highest proportion of all cancer types, and that half of people die within a month of diagnosis; believes that people with pancreatic cancer urgently need a faster, fairer, funded pathway throughout their diagnosis, treatment and care; supports Pancreatic Cancer UK's efforts to ensure implementation of such a pathway; commends all of the charities and activist organisations and their dedicated supporters for their tireless efforts to raise awareness of pancreatic cancer; and wishes everyone involved with Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month every success in their endeavours.

92 Age Scotland's 80th Anniversary

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 2

Patricia Gibson
Jim Shannon

That this House celebrates the 80th anniversary of Age Scotland's work to support older people; understands that the first meeting of an earlier incarnation of Age Scotland, the Scottish Old People's Welfare Committee, took place in Edinburgh in January 1943 to support the war effort and the wellbeing of older people in Scotland; acknowledges that the Committee's aims were to gather information on the present position of the care and welfare of the aged and to raise awareness of the needs of older people; considers that, in the past 80 years, Age Scotland has made an invaluable contribution through its work in helping older people to live as well as possible, in promoting positive views of ageing and later life, and in tackling loneliness and isolation; notes that Age Scotland recently published the findings of its Big Survey 2023, which aims to take the temperature of what it is like to be an older person in Scotland; recognises that one of the events planned to mark this milestone is a parliamentary reception on 15 November 2023 to celebrate the contribution of older people and groups from the North Ayrshire and Arran constituency and across Scotland, including the winners of Age Scotland's annual awards, and to hear about the charity's latest research, which outlines the political priorities of people over the age of 50 and how they feel about growing older in Scotland; and wishes chief executive, Katherine Crawford, and everyone at Age Scotland continued success.

93 Sail Training Shetland

Tabled: 21/11/23 Signatories: 2

Mr Alistair Carmichael
Jim Shannon

That this House congratulates Sail Training Shetland for earning the Sail Training Organisation of the Year Small Vessel prize from Sail Training International at its annual conference; recognises that the local charity has supported more than 500 young people since 2009; and expresses gratitude to all who have recruited and mentored young sailors throughout and beyond The Tall Ship Races 2023.