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## Early Day Motions tabled on Wednesday 2 September 2020

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](http://www.parliament.uk/edm)

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

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### New EDMs

#### 824 Support Local

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Drew Hendry**

That this House welcomes the news that businesses in Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey are adapting a new normal following one of the toughest trading periods they've ever had to face; recognises that progress made is fragile and in doing so thanks communities across Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey for their continued vigilance in following the guidelines and for supporting local businesses through these difficult times; and finally, encourages everyone to continue supporting local where they can.

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#### 825 Laggan Coffee Bothy and Gallery success

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Drew Hendry**

That this House congratulates the Laggan Coffee Bothy and Gallery on recently being awarded a Tripadvisor 2020 Traveller's Choice Award; recognises the excellent service on offer to locals and tourists alike, notes that this award is given to businesses based on reviews, ratings and saves from travellers everywhere and is awarded to the top 10 per cent of restaurants in the world; and finally, wishes them continued success for the future.

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**826 Liz MacMillan's face masks for the community**Tabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **1****Drew Hendry**

That this House thanks all those who gave their time and energy to make protective face masks for their community during the ongoing pandemic; highlights that Liz MacMillan of Kiltarlity made over 600 face masks to give away to neighbours; and finally, thanks Liz, and the many others, for their generosity and community spirit.

**827 Incredible Edible Inverness**Tabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **1****Drew Hendry**

That this House welcomes Incredible Edible Inverness and their initiative to grow vegetables and herbs in some of Inverness's public planters and unloved plots of land; notes that they launched in order to meet demand for locally grown foods and to improve otherwise often overlooked areas; and finally, wishes them continued success for the future.

**828 Interest and the economy**Tabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **3****Mr Gregory Campbell****Jim Shannon****Paul Girvan**

That this House notes recent reports from the Bank of England that banks and financial institutions in the UK currently have more than £170 billion in personal accounts which pay zero interest; further notes that the public purse was used to rescue banks in 2008 and many of the same institutions have social responsibilities which they espouse; and calls upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to begin discussions immediately with a view to financial institutions making a pre-Christmas 1 per cent interest payment on these accounts via a coupon or voucher redeemable on the High Street, not online, thus providing a boost to local retailers of up to £1.7 billion, boosting consumer confidence at no cost to the public purse.

**829 Cuts to education funding**Tabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **1****Jon Trickett**

That this House recognises the campaigning work of Eleanor Falshaw, Joseph Stevens and Ben Taylor, three young people from the Hemsworth constituency, who have been raising awareness about the impact of education cuts; notes the significance of the figures they have uncovered which reveal that social mobility in Hemsworth constituency is the 4th worst in the whole of England and 32nd worst for education, skills and training deprivation, demonstrating the impact of government cuts such as the £18.6m cut in education funding Wakefield District has received since 2010 equating to a loss of £390 per pupil; further notes that Hemsworth is the 111th most deprived constituency on the Index of Multiple Deprivations and yet, since 2010, Wakefield Council has lost £41.97million as a whole, equating to £407.61 per household; highlights that in addition to this, further education has suffered a 21% cut in funding since 2010, kicking away a vital lifeline for many students to get the education they need; notes that the Government's A-level, GCSE and BTEC fiasco has highlighted how education has been divided along class lines in our society; and therefore calls on

the Government to invest properly in schools, post-16 education and youth services in communities with high levels of deprivation.

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### 830 Ban on sample sachets

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Ben Lake**

That this House notes that globally personal care companies produce some 120 billion plastic sachets each year; recognises these samples of shampoo, moisturiser and fragrance placed end-to-end would stretch to the moon 27 times over; recognises that these sachets are completely non-recyclable and will almost always end up in the environment; notes a raft of reusable and more environmentally friendly alternatives are available; is concerned the Environment Bill fails to address pollution caused by plastic sachets; believes the Government must act urgently to stamp out the impact of plastic sachets on the environment; and backs campaign group A Plastic Planet's calls for a ban on all non-food plastic sachets across the UK.

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### 831 Protecting and valuing whistleblowers

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Dr Philippa Whitford**

That this House recognises that the Public Interest Disclosure Act (1998) does not provide a sufficient degree of protection for employees who 'whistleblow' or raise concerns with their employers, whether in public service or private business, when they identify a risk to personal safety, the environment or of fraud, particularly when this results from a failure to observe pertinent, guidance, regulations or laws; believes that a replacement of the Act is necessary to ensure that employees are sufficiently protected so they have confidence to disclose their concerns; and further believes that an Independent Whistleblower Commission should be established, to set standards so that such concerns are thoroughly investigated and the findings acted on, whilst protecting 'whistleblowers' from recrimination or mistreatment.

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### 832 Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 10

**Caroline Lucas**

**Clive Lewis**

**Alan Brown**

**Wera Hobhouse**

**Liz Saville Roberts**

**Claire Hanna**

Stephen Farry  
Sheppard

Zarah Sultana  
Ben Lake

Tommy

That this House expresses profound alarm at the climate and ecological emergency, with wildfires raging in California, and ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica melting in line with worst case scenario predictions for sea level rise according to a study by the University of Leeds and the Danish Meteorological Institute; acknowledges that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change states "rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society" are needed in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C; is concerned that the target of achieving net zero emissions by 2050 in the 2008 Climate Change Act has been overtaken by the accelerating crisis; welcomes the presentation of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill, formally known as the Climate

and Ecology Bill; notes that it would ensure that the UK plays its fair and proper role in limiting global temperatures to 1.5°C, by taking account of the UK's entire carbon footprint, including consumption emissions released overseas as a result of goods manufactured abroad for use in the UK; further notes that it would actively improve the natural world by protecting and restoring the UK's ecosystems, and ending the damage to nature caused by supply chains; highlights that the Bill establishes a Citizens' Assembly to recommend measures for inclusion in a new Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy; and calls on the Government to support the Bill to increase the ambition of the UK's climate legislation and demonstrate real climate leadership ahead of co-hosting the 26th UN Climate Change Conference in 2021.

## 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.

### 722 Government support for asylum seekers

Tabled: 14/07/20 Signatories: 13

Hywel Williams  
 Jim Shannon  
 John McDonnell  
 Gavin Robinson  
 Jonathan Edwards  
 Ben Lake

Alison Thewliss

That this House is concerned about the current provisions provided by the Home Office to support those seeking asylum throughout the pandemic; asks the Government to review the current claiming system and modify it to allow for an asylum claim to be made remotely; demands that the financial support provided by the Government is increased by at least £20 per week to reflect the emergency changes made to the standard rate of universal credit and the increasing prices for essential goods; calls on the Government to review the current accommodation provided to asylum seekers to ensure that all accommodation allows for social distancing and self-isolation to align with the guidance given by the Department for Health and Social Care; and further calls on the Government to provide sufficient cleaning and personal hygiene supplies to prevent the spread of the virus in any shared accommodation.

### 729 Total ban on the use of credit cards for gambling

Tabled: 15/07/20 Signatories: 9

Sir Mike Penning  
 Carla Lockhart  
 Mr Virendra Sharma  
 Paula Barker  
 Bob Blackman  
 Paul Girvan

Alison Thewliss

That this House notes that gambling in all its forms can destroy the lives of the people addicted to it and have a huge effect on their family and people close to them; further notes that credit encourages people to gamble with money that they do not have; and calls on the Government to

implement a total ban on the use of credit cards for all forms of gambling and online gambling in particular.

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### 738 Events industry and covid-19

Tabled: 16/07/20 Signatories: 36

**Andy Slaughter**  
**Jamie Stone**  
**John McDonnell**  
**Christine Jardine**  
**John Spellar**  
**Mr Virendra Sharma**

Alison Thewliss

That this House notes that the events industry is worth £70 billion annually to the UK comprising conferences, exhibitions, weddings, arts and culture, festivals and shows, music and sporting events; expresses concern that unlike some parts of the hospitality sector little has been done to allow the events industry to reopen following the covid19 pandemic; believes that many of the 700,000 jobs in the industry are imminently at risk, including many independent contractors excluded from Government rescue packages to date and up to 25,000 small businesses; notes that much of the events industry is uniquely placed to incorporate social distancing and track and trace into its operations and has already developed a Safer Events Framework for Action to manage future risk; further notes that most European countries have reopened their events industries and that many postponed events have a lead-in time of six to nine months to reorganise; and therefore calls on the Government to set a timetable for reopening, to support the industry in its recovery period and to work with the Association of Event Organisers and other industry representatives to restore this vital part of the UK economy.

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### 743 Funding for universities

Tabled: 20/07/20 Signatories: 19

**John McDonnell**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Paula Barker**  
**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Mick Whitley**  
**Richard Burgon**

Jonathan Edwards

That this House calls on the Government to provide vital funding for universities that are under mass financial strain; notes this is not an unexpected side effect from the covid-19 outbreak, but that the outbreak has worsened pre-existing problems resulting from a lack of financial Government support of higher education and the marketisation of education; further notes that thirteen universities, as found by the ISF, will face bankruptcy without a Government bail-out; recognises that SOAS University, the only higher education institution in the UK specialising in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, is currently facing a mass restructuring as a result of long term financial strain that has worsened with the covid-19 outbreak; and calls on the Government to take action to provide essential support for those institutions.

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**767 Nifty Home Stitchers East Renfrewshire**

Tabled: 21/07/20 Signatories: 5

**Kirsten Oswald**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Patrick Grady**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House celebrates the contributions of East Renfrewshire Nifty Home Stitchers and their wonderful community of hard working and generous spirited volunteers who came together to make scrubs and washable scrub bags for NHS Scotland keyworkers; recognises that this fantastic effort supplied frontline keyworkers with thousands of scrubs and scrub bags; notes the organisational leadership of Claire Tuck and Lisa Tyrer who started East Renfrewshire Nifty Home Stitchers; admires the organisation of a fundraiser for that initiative that raised funds to cover the costs of buying fabric and haberdashery, and the delivery of completed items; understands that money left over at the close of that fundraiser has been donated to three UK Hospices - Strathcarron Hospice, Wigan and Leigh Hospice and The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice; further recognises that that endeavour would not have been possible without the aid and support from local businesses such as MR Fabrics, WK Upholstery, William & A.M Robb Ltd, The Cotton Print Factory Shop, Slanj Kilts, and Rule 42 Boutique & Alterations Scotland; recognises the significant contributions of Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire and all the drivers and cyclist delivery persons to that endeavour; and praises everyone who helped in any way to make and distribute thousands of sets of scrubs and many more thousands of scrub bags to our NHS Scotland frontline workers.

**769 Caring for Carers East Renfrewshire**

Tabled: 21/07/20 Signatories: 5

**Kirsten Oswald**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Patrick Grady**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House applauds the excellent work carried out by East Renfrewshire voluntary group Caring for Carers which was set up to provide support to NHS Scotland and social care staff teams by delivering food packages and snack boxes to these vital keyworkers; applauds the dedication and hard work of the volunteer teams who have made that initiative possible, including Mearns Castle High School student Martin Dover; notes that Caring for Carers has provided food for over 1,200 NHS Scotland and social care key workers per week, including meals, snack boxes and more; commends that group for their partnership approach and focus on working with others; notes that among many generous business, community and third sector partners, Caring for Carers has secured support from FareShare and from local East Renfrewshire businesses including Storage Zone Thornliebank, Shahed's Tandoori Giffnock, The Lynch Box Thornliebank, Kebabish Kitchen Newton Mearns, Clay Oven Giffnock and Domino's Giffnock; acknowledges the generous donations of surplus stock provided by supermarkets including Aldi, Lidl, Sainsbury's, Marks & Spencer, Morrisons, Waitrose and Tesco in support of that project; understands that Caring for Carers is looking to secure larger premises to enable them to continue their good work and wishes them well in doing so; and thanks the tireless and generous volunteers, donors and contributors for their work in providing support to NHS Scotland and social care staff during this most difficult period.

**773 Town and Country Planning**Tabled: **21/07/20** Signatories: **42**

**Keir Starmer**  
**Mike Amesbury**  
**Steve Reed**  
**Thangam Debbonaire**  
**Kate Hollern**  
**Mr Nicholas Brown**

Tulip Siddiq

That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that The Town and Country Planning (Permitted Development and Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 (S.I., 2020, No. 632), dated 23 June 2020, a copy of which was laid before this House on 24 June 2020, be annulled.

**774 Liverpool Football Club league title winners**Tabled: **21/07/20** Signatories: **13**

**Dan Carden**  
**Ian Byrne**  
**Maria Eagle**  
**Alison McGovern**  
**Paula Barker**  
**Sir George Howarth**

Alison Thewliss

That this House congratulates Liverpool Football Club, its manager Jürgen Klopp, players, staff and dedicated supporters on the club winning its long-awaited 19th league title victory, extending the city of Liverpool's proud history of footballing success; applauds the club on the extraordinary achievement of being Champions of England, Europe and the World; commends the work carried out by the club through its community programme Red Neighbours and the LFC Foundation to support local residents during the covid-19 crisis; and encourages supporters to celebrate safely from home.

**796 Season of Creation 2020**Tabled: **1/09/20** Signatories: **6**

**Patrick Grady**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Neil Gray**  
**Drew Hendry**  
**Chris Stephens**  
**Brendan O'Hara**

That this House notes that between 1 September and 4 October 2020, Christian communities around the world will mark the Season of Creation, a period of reflection and recommitment to tackling the challenges facing our common home, planet Earth; further notes that initiative was founded by Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I in 1989, and is now supported by Christian denominations worldwide, including the Conference of European Churches and the Council of Bishops' Conferences of Europe (CCEE); welcomes the call of faith leaders from these communities to reflect in particular on the impact of the pandemic, environmental devastation and the threat of climate change; notes that the 2020 season takes place within a special year-long celebration organised by the Catholic Church to mark the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter Laudato Si, which

will promote the document as a moral and spiritual compass for the journey to create a more caring, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world; and welcomes these initiatives as a sign of collective determination to create a more harmonious relationship with the natural world, our common home.

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### 797 Reinstatement of IKEA shop steward Richie Venton

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 18

**Chris Stephens**  
**Patrick Grady**  
**Gavin Newlands**  
**Ronnie Cowan**  
**Paula Barker**  
**Grahame Morris**

Stuart C McDonald  
 Alison Thewliss  
 Kirsten Oswald  
 Brendan O'Hara

Neil Gray  
 Margaret Ferrier  
 Anne McLaughlin  
 Ian Blackford

Kenny MacAskill  
 Joanna Cherry  
 Tommy Sheppard  
 Jeremy Corbyn

That this House condemns the sacking of IKEA Glasgow USDAW Shop Steward and convenor Richie Venton for carrying out his duties as an elected workers' representative who sought to prevent hardship, while protecting workers' health during the ongoing covid-19 pandemic; notes Mr Venton opposed IKEA's plans to remove wages from workers self-isolating as a result of covid-19; further notes employees excluded from IKEA's sick benefit had to live on £95 statutory sick pay; is concerned that Mr Venton's efforts to raise with management his concerns that financial hardship could force employees to make the incorrect decision to come into workplace while unwell, potentially spreading the virus, were ignored; opposes any attempts by IKEA to change the terms in conditions in employees' contracts which would reduce worker's rights, including efforts to limit sick benefit entitlement; urges IKEA to give consideration to the suggestion of an average wage; and demands that IKEA immediately reinstate life-long trade unionist, and campaigner for worker's rights, Richie Venton to his role within their organisation and his elected union position.

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### 798 G53 Together's Response to covid-19

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House commends G53 Together, in Glasgow, for their inspiring work during the covid-19 outbreak, supporting families and children in the community with their local foodbank, the delivery of emergency food provisions, a shopping service, prescription pick up, activities for children and business and welfare support; appreciates the support given to people living locally including the delivery of food parcels to people shielding, those with higher risk medical need and other vulnerable groups locally including people on low incomes who could not attend supermarkets; praises the organisation for their efforts to lift people's spirits and to bring a little community cheer to try to tackle loneliness during a difficult lockdown period; and thanks everyone involved with the project including volunteers who gave up their time to support the most at need in their community.

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**799 Ridgeway Dairy free packed lunch project during the covid-19 outbreak**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House commends Ridgeway Dairy, in Drumoyne, in Glasgow, for their inspiring work during the covid-19 outbreak supporting families and children in the community with their free packed lunch project; notes the packed lunches, which Ridgeway had been providing since the start of lockdown in April, included a fresh filled roll, a yoghurt, a piece of fruit, a packet of crisps and a chocolate bar; further notes that Ridgeway Dairy went from providing around 300 free packed lunches in April, to over 1,500 in June; praises the efforts of owner Jim Creaney and all involved with this project, including Lisa Devlin from the Drumoyne Community Council, for their collaborative efforts to tackle food insecurity in Drumoyne during the covid-19 outbreak; welcomes funding from Feeding Britain amongst others which helped to secure the substantiality and delivery of the project in Drumoyne; and thanks everyone involved with the project including volunteers who gave up their time to support the most in need in their community.

**800 Govan Help's response to covid-19**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Drew Hendry**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House commends Govan Help from Govan, in Glasgow, for their inspiring work during the covid-19 outbreak supporting families and children in the community with their foodbank; appreciates the support given to people living locally including the delivery of food parcels to people shielding, people with higher risk medical need and other vulnerable groups including people on low incomes who could not attend supermarkets; praises the organisation for their efforts to lift people's spirits and to bring a little cheer to try tackle loneliness during a difficult lockdown period; welcomes the award of crucial funding from Feeding Britain to support Govan Help's covid-19 response; and thanks everyone involved with the project including volunteers who gave up their time to support the most in need in their community.

**801 Govan Youth Information Project covid-19 food provision project**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 4

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Drew Hendry**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House commends Govan Youth Information Project (GYIP), in Glasgow, for their inspiring work during the covid-19 outbreak supporting families and children in the community with their food provision project; notes that GYIP received a grant from the local authority to deliver a Holiday Food Programme, however quickly adapted the project after their spring programme had to be cancelled as a result of the covid-19 outbreak; recognises the huge efforts by all involved to establish and deliver the 14 week, 5-days a week, food provision programme in Govan at short notice; praises the collaborative working between Govan Housing Association, the Salvation Army, Unlock Employment, Make Do and Grow and other local organisations and volunteers which helped make the project a massive success by drawing on their individual strengths and resources

to meet the needs of the community of Govan; welcomes all funding that was given to support the project including from Feeding Britain and Glasgow City Council; and thanks everyone involved with the project including volunteers who gave up their time to support the most in need in their community.

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## 802 Roadchef Employee Benefit Trust

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Neil Gray**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House deplores the failure to date of HMRC to propose a resolution to the dispute with the Roadchef Employee Benefits Trust; notes that Honourable Members and Ministers have been informed by HMRC that they are seeking a resolution but regrets HMRC's considerable delay in proposing a resolution, further notes that the scandal affecting over 4000 mainly low paid catering and cleaning staff working at Roadchef Motorway Services including Norton Cranes, Taunton Dene, Tibshelf, Sandbach, Clacket Lane, Strensham, Rownhams, Killington Lake, Pont Abraham, Annandale Water and Harthill has been ongoing for over 30 years; is saddened to note the recent death of Tim Warwick the Company Secretary who exposed the Roadchef share scandal perpetrated by former Chief Executive Tim Ingram Hill; notes that other beneficiaries have also died waiting for HMRC to decide what tax, if any, they and the Trust should be liable for despite Parliament's intention that such employee benefits schemes should be tax free; calls on the Chief Executive of HMRC to meet with the Trust with proposals to resolve this matter urgently; and calls on the Government to propose legislation to protect participants of employee benefit schemes from the unscrupulous actions of trustees as occurred in the Roadchef case.

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## 803 Anniversary of the murder of Lord Mountbatten and Warrenpoint Massacre

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Jim Shannon**  
**Paul Girvan**  
**Gavin Robinson**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson**

That this House remembers with great sadness the murder of Lord Mountbatten, his grandson Nicholas, Lady Doreen Brabourne and local 15 year old Paul Maxwell and further the slaughter of 18 British Army Soldiers at an ambush at Warrenpoint on 27th of August 1979; extends our sincere sympathy to her Majesty the Queen and all of the families of those murdered on that dreadful day; points again to the necessity of the Victims pension for those who were not war criminals but innocent bystanders of war crimes perpetrated against them; and continues to assert that the truth of horrific acts of terrorism and savagery carried out by any terrorist during The Troubles will not be whitewashed by a narrative which seeks to glorify as necessary the wilful, calculated and evil murder of children, men and women in Northern Ireland.

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**804 50 years since the deaths of Samuel Donaldson and Roy Millar**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Jim Shannon**  
**Paul Girvan**  
**Gavin Robinson**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson**

That this House remembers with deep sadness the murder of RUC Constables Samuel Donaldson and Roy Millar following a car bomb in South Armagh on 11 August 1970 as the first of many evil murders during the Provisional IRA Terrorist Campaign; extends heartfelt and sincere sympathy to their families who still feel the pain and loss 50 years later; notes that those who joined the RUC did not simply choose a job, but chose to face physical danger daily, made the choice to go to a job where they knew they were targeted and even their family may be targeted and chose to endure unimaginable mental torment which continues to this very day as they see themselves and their colleagues who paid the ultimate sacrifice vilified; and places on record once more deep and abiding thanks to every man and women from all communities who donned the RUC uniform and simply did the right thing, the honourable thing, the noble thing every day and who saved the lives of untold thousands in Northern Ireland through their bravery and dedication.

**805 Shannon's Box: a Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Alan Brown**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Neil Gray**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House congratulates Shannon Brown, creator of Shannon's Box, a Scottish Throughcare and Aftercare Forum (Staf) project, delivered in association with East Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership; notes the initiative has been named as a finalist for the Pioneering Project Award at the SCVO Scottish Charity Awards; commends Shannon for using her personal experience of care to create a box of items to support children entering the care system; notes that the box contains various comfort items, such as a soft toy, colouring pens and a nightlight, as well as a letter from Shannon; and wishes the Shannon's Box project the best of luck for the finals, and hopes that it will continue to support care-experienced young people in East Ayrshire and beyond for many years to come and notes that the best initiatives often come from those with lived experience.

**806 Remembering Denny Oliver**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 6

**David Linden**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Drew Hendry**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Chris Stephens**  
**Brendan O'Hara**

That this House celebrates the life and legacy of Mr Denny Oliver who sadly passed away at home on 11 July 2020 at the age of 68; acknowledges the huge contribution that he made to the Glasgow music scene as guitarist and vocalist of Glasgow band Scheme; notes that he is considered to be a local musical legend as a key part of the first ever unsigned band to sell out Glasgow's Apollo Theatre; praises the enormous contribution that Mr Oliver made to Easterhouse and to the city

of Glasgow in general, in particular through his considerable charitable work; acknowledges his role in nurturing the musical talents of younger people through guitar lessons and song writing workshops; and commends the work of his friends and family following his passing to ensure that his life and legacy are remembered and celebrated.

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### 807 **ITV Voice Kids television programme**

Tabled: **1/09/20** Signatories: **3**

**Paul Bristow**  
**Alexander Stafford**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House applauds the efforts of all the contestants in this year's ITV The Voice Kids television programme; notes the tremendous talent the programme uncovered; congratulates the winner Justine Afante and all the finalists; further congratulates finalist George Elliott from Walton, Peterborough who has inspired a City; believes his mum Jodie, dad Karl, brother Jacob, and the people of Peterborough, have every reason to be proud of him; and wishes him well in his future as a new pupil at the Queen Katherine Academy and in all his musical endeavours.

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### 808 **Rescue on Gwynedd beach**

Tabled: **1/09/20** Signatories: **6**

**Liz Saville Roberts**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Ben Lake**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House welcomes the recovery and safe return home of Rian Lewis Bradburn and six others who were rescued from rip currents in Aberdyfi, Gwynedd beach; commends RNLI volunteers Arwel Jones, Drew Nickless and Alun Edwards for their quick response in safely returning the swimmers back to the beach; applauds healthcare staff at Ysbyty Gwynedd's children's ward for looking after Rian Lewis Bradburn who has now made a full recovery; and expresses sincere gratitude also to all local authority staff and volunteers who've worked on the front line in difficult conditions to make Gwynedd beaches as safe as possible during an exceptionally busy summer season.

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### 809 **Co-operative Insurance and MarkerStudy**

Tabled: **1/09/20** Signatories: **6**

**Tony Lloyd**  
**Paula Barker**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Mick Whitley**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House notes the negotiations taking place between Co-operative Insurance and MarkerStudy, with a view to MarkerStudy taking over operations; further notes that the Co-operative Insurance workforce have served the company loyally, some over many years; is concerned that this takeover will result in 200 jobs disappearing; is equally concerned that MarkerStudy have made it clear that they will not recognise or engage with Trade Union representatives for the remaining 800 staff; reminds Co-operative Insurance of the moral and ethical base of the

co-operative movement, which is just as important today as at any time in its history; calls on the Co-operative Insurance management to examine its moral compass and to review its decision to so disadvantage key stakeholders in the Co-operative Insurance business.

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### 810 Points of Light Award for South Lanarkshire's Mr T

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Angela Crawley**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House recognises that Tuoyo Ayiku, known affectionately as South Lanarkshire's Mr T, has been nominated by the Prime Minister for a Points of Light Award; notes that Mr T currently runs the Heart in the Community Café, based in Cambuslang, and Heart of Africa UK charity, based in Larkhall; understands that, during lockdown, Mr T and his team of volunteers have delivered over 5,000 delicious meals to vulnerable people, including African stews, curries, rainbow fried rice, jerk chicken and mince and tatties; further understands that the Heart in the Community Café takes an inclusive approach to food provision, by operating a pay-what-you-can box and offering meals for foodbank vouchers; believes that Mr T's determination to support those in most need in communities across South Lanarkshire and his commitment to supporting the most disadvantaged members of society make him a worthy recipient of the Points of Light Award; and congratulates Mr T on becoming the 1439th Point of Light and wishes him and his team of volunteers every success for the future.

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### 811 Remembering veteran Jack Connor

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House notes that August 2020 marks 75 years since the end of World War II and VJ Day; understands that many people from Rutherglen and Hamilton West served during the final phase of the war against Japan, including Ruglonian Jack Connor who served as a gunner in the 17th Indian Division; further understands that Jack was awarded the Burma Star, the 1939-1945 Star and the Defence Medal for his heroic efforts in fighting Japanese forces in Burma and for protecting India; and pays tribute to Jack and his comrades in the so-called Forgotten Army for their service and for their bravery in fighting and defeating fascism.

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### 812 Trinity High School in Rutherglen

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House notes that Trinity High School in Rutherglen has received the Marjorie Boxall Quality Mark Award for the second time running; understands that Trinity High School has received this award for its work establishing a Nurture base, which provides support for pupils' emotional development and wellbeing, helping them to face the challenges life brings with a positive mental attitude; further understands that Trinity High School is the first school in the UK to receive this

award for the second time in a row; believes that this award demonstrates the importance that South Lanarkshire schools place on ensuring their pupils are well-rounded individuals, especially during the challenging circumstances created by covid-19; and congratulates head teacher Peter Bollen, the pupils and staff of Trinity High School on receiving this prestigious award and wishes them every success for the future.

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### 813 Abolition of the House of Lords

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 6

**Patricia Gibson**  
**Ronnie Cowan**  
**Neil Gray**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Chris Stephens**  
**Brendan O'Hara**

That this House is alarmed by the latest 36 appointees to the House of Lords, which once again highlights the archaic nature of the British political system; notes that recent appointees is comprised of the usual mix of nepotism, cronyism, government party donors and failed politicians being awarded a place for life in this undemocratic and unaccountable legislative chamber; is concerned that the House of Lords is the largest parliamentary chamber in any democracy, surpassed in size only by China's National People's Congress with its 2987 members; is disturbed that the House of Lords is the only institution in the world – save for Iran, which styles its form of government as an Islamic republic - with reserved places for members of the clergy, with the Church of England represented in the House of Lords by 26 Bishops which, in order of seniority, together form the Lords Spiritual; further notes academic analysis indicating that, statistically the relationship between donations and nominations for peerages has been found to be significant; further notes that 92 hereditary peers occupy seats solely due to being born into the right family; is concerned that in 2016/17, 115 peers claimed £1.3 million in expenses between them without uttering a single word in the Lords; and realises that this bizarre mix of failed politicians, cronies, donors, bishops and aristocrats, is utterly unrepresentative of the people over whose lives they preside, making decisions and casting votes on important issues, and are unaccountable and devoid of any democratic legitimacy.

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### 814 Itihaas and Radhuni restaurants

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Owen Thompson**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House congratulates restaurants Itihaas in Dalkeith and Radhuni in Loanhead on each being awarded a Travellers' Choice Award from TripAdvisor; notes that this award puts them in the top 10 per cent of hospitality businesses worldwide; understands that winners of the Travellers' Choice Award are celebrated for their exceptional service and quality and serve as a source of inspiration for travellers and diners; notes that Itihaas is a previous winner of the titles of Scotland's top curry restaurant, Curry Chef of the Year and best South Asian restaurant, and Radhuni was named best restaurant in Scotland at last November's British Curry Awards in London; and commends the restaurants, owned by the same family, and all their staff for contributing so much to the cultural and gastronomic life of Midlothian.

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**815 Common Good Fund awards to Musselburgh Rugby Football Club and Musselburgh Athletic Football Club**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Kenny MacAskill**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House welcomes the Musselburgh Common Good Fund awards to Musselburgh Rugby Football Club and Musselburgh Athletic Football Club; notes that the the funding will ensure that new facilities are made available for the good of the community in Musselburgh, as well as ensuring the safety and security of facility users and the general public; and looks forward to seeing the benefits to the clubs and the community from this funding in future.

**816 VAT on sunscreen**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 11

**Patricia Gibson**  
**Stephen Farry**  
**Paula Barker**  
**Ronnie Cowan**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Liz Saville Roberts**

Neil Gray  
Chris Stephens

Ben Lake  
Kenny MacAskill

Jonathan Edwards

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 like 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 UK 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.

**817 Gary McVicar - student mentor**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Dr Lisa Cameron**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House notes the achievements of Gary McVicar as a student mentor; praises Mr McVicar for offering significant support to a new first-year student suffering from anxiety and helping them to secure their qualification; notes that Mr McVicar has Asperger's Syndrome which meant he had to deal with anxiety himself but his focus and determination to succeed and help his mentee achieve their qualification led to positive results; commends Mr McVicar for being a role model and his excellent self-motivation, commitment and leadership qualities; congratulates Mr McVicar on completing his own studies, holding down a part-time job, engaging in two voluntary work placements, assisting the Student's Association President and Vice President with a range of tasks, assisting in fundraising events and still managing to help his mentee to gain their qualification;

hopes Mr McVicar can continue his level of commitment and determination to achieve his goals; and wishes Gary McVicar the very best for the future.

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## 818 Supporting grieving families through a bereavement standard

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 19

**Grahame Morris**  
**Rebecca Long Bailey**  
**Andrew Gwynne**  
**Apsana Begum**  
**Jon Cruddas**  
**Kate Hollern**

Paula Barker  
 Tony Lloyd  
 Chris Stephens

Jim Shannon  
 Mick Whitley  
 Kenny MacAskill

Kate Osborne  
 Allan Dorans  
 Ben Lake

That this House calls on the Government to introduce a Bereavement Standard to simplify and streamline the process for grieving families to close accounts with service providers following the death of a loved one; believes the lack of such a standard has created a complex array of arrangements with each service provider requiring different levels of information to close accounts; notes that it can often take weeks, months, and in the worst cases years to close down accounts prolonging the pain and suffering for a family in mourning; further notes that the four simple campaign aims would support families as well as streamlining the process and providing a level playing field for business by introducing standardised paperwork to close an account, accepting digital death certificates, wills and proof of beneficiary status where possible, dedicated bereavement customer care channels (email, chat, webforms) to avoid long call waiting times, an agreed timeframe for companies to respond and settle accounts, and agreed bereavement customer service behaviours supported by adequate training; and urges the Government to work immediately with industry to introduce a Bereavement Standard to support grieving families, many of whom have been impacted recently by COVID-19, through one of the most difficult times in their lives.

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## 819 Chris Brannigan: the Barefoot Soldier

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 4

**Owen Thompson**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Gavin Robinson**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House congratulates Chris Brannigan (also known as the Barefoot Soldier) on his upcoming completion of a barefoot walk from Land's End to Edinburgh to raise funds for the research and development of a ground breaking gene therapy treatment for the rare genetic condition, Cornelia de Lange syndrome (CdLS); notes that Chris' daughter, Hasti, suffers from CdLS and has inspired his quest to fundraise for treatment; notes that in March 2020 Chris set up a charity, CdLS Hope for Hasti, with the aim of funding the research and development of a ground-breaking gene therapy treatment for CdLS; further notes that, to this end, since Monday 6th July Chris has been walking the 700 miles from Land's End to Edinburgh while wearing heavy equipment, carrying 25kg of kit on his back, and - most importantly - completely barefoot; understands that on 12th August 2020 Chris walked through Midlothian on his way to his end point at Edinburgh Castle; congratulates Chris on beating his target fundraising amount of £300,000; points out that one in three of all children with a rare disease never live to celebrate their fifth birthday and 95 per cent of all rare



diseases have no treatment; and applauds all those who work to treat rare diseases and undertake research and development in this field.

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## 820 60th anniversary of UK's first conservation village

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Kirsten Oswald**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House is pleased to join the village of Eaglesham, East Renfrewshire, in its year-long celebration of the 60th anniversary of its designation, on August 12, 1960, as the first conservation village in the UK; notes that Eaglesham has its roots in 1769 when local laird, Alexander Montgomerie, began to develop an elegant planned village with housing built round the orry, an area of common land at the heart of the community; further notes that Eaglesham's first main industry was farming, followed by cotton spinning and weaving, and that it suffered a decline after a mill fire in 1876, falling into such disrepair that, by the 1930s, the historic village was threatened with wholesale demolition; records its appreciation of the legacy of Nina Davidson and Kathleen Whyte, whose letter-writing campaign in the 1940s set the wheels of conservation in motion, acting as a blueprint for conservation across Britain, with more than 600 conservation areas now designated in Scotland alone; and welcomes the fact that Eaglesham still boasts many fine 18th century buildings, including beautiful houses and churches, Polnoon Lodge, a former hunting lodge, as well as the former 19th century coaching house, the Eglinton Arms Hotel, with fifty-one buildings of architectural and historical interest included in the preservation order, many of them grade B and C listed, and the village as a whole A-listed and of outstanding beauty.

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## 821 Human rights in Iran

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Bob Blackman**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Gavin Robinson**

That this House condemns the Iranian regime's failure to uphold its international obligations and demands recognition for the basic principles of human rights including freedom of religion and belief and comply with the basic rules of international law; expresses serious concern about the recent threats of security agents against the life of Dr Azmayesh which have been published online by agents of the Iranian regime; and calls on the Government to make representations to the Iranian Government that given the records of assassinations and terrorist activities of the Iranian regime outside of Iran, it is crucial to stop these activities, as the failure to do so will only lead to more deaths and further victimization of citizens.

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**822 Breast Buddies scheme in Angus**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 7

**Dave Doogan**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Dr Philippa Whitford**  
**Owen Thompson**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

Anne McLaughlin

That this House celebrates World Breastfeeding Week 2020 and in so doing applauds the work done by the volunteer run service, Breast Buddies, managed by Voluntary Action Angus, and the support they provide in Angus and the surrounding area; values the evidence based information they compile for hundreds of local women and families together with the direct support they give to women who are breastfeeding; notes that without this support many would not be able to continue their breastfeeding journeys; highlights the community Breast Buddies have created which provides a platform for women to support each other together with other branches of Breast Buddies in Tayside and their delivery of antenatal classes online to women; and commends their work to fill the gap created by the suspension of NHS classes during lock down, the support they have given throughout the covid crisis and the virtual meet-up sessions they have organised for local women to connect.

**823 Glasgow Aghan United covid-19 response**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Patrick Grady**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**

That this House recognises the significant contribution to the Covid-19 pandemic response made by Glasgow Afghan United (GAU); understands that over 500 people have benefitted from GAU's parcels containing cultural food, toiletries and basic necessities; congratulates GAU on transitioning their highly successful educational initiative to an online platform during lockdown to help tackle social isolation as well as benefitting participants' emotional wellbeing; believes that the online classes include English classes, female empowerment classes, and health, wellbeing and emotional support classes; welcomes the strong uptake of these classes from those in the black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) communities who would otherwise have been unable to attend in person; pays tribute to Abdul Bostani, who is the President of GAU, for coordinating the response, and for his many years of contributing to communities across Glasgow; notes that GAU has been supported by ng homes, the Big Lottery Fund, the Scottish Refugee Council, Foundation Scotland and the Scottish Government Wellbeing Fund; and appreciates that GAU has been supporting Afghan and BAME people since its inception in 2004, and acknowledges the efforts of new Scots more generally in supporting BAME people and everyone in the wider society during these unprecedented times.