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## Early Day Motions tabled on Monday 7 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

#### 837 Poland anti-LGBTQ+ legislation

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**

That this House condemns the anti-LGBTQ+ ideology promoted by Poland's recently re-elected President, Andrzej Duda; decries the rhetoric used by President Duda during his election campaign, and his first term of Presidency, which demonstrates homophobia promoted by the highest levels of government in Poland; is concerned that this anti-LGBTQ+ attitude is also being reflected by the governments of Hungary and Russia, both of whom have recently passed legislation to suppress LGBTQ+ rights; and urgently calls on the Government to publicly condemn the Polish Government and their anti-LGBTQ+ attitudes, and other nations seen to display similar attitudes.

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#### 838 Recurring charges made by retailers

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**

That this House notes that in recent years, the use of continuous payment authorities, subscription payments that enable the merchant to take payments from a customer's account on dates of their choosing and for different amounts without seeking further authorisation from them, has increased; notes that many people are left unaware that they have signed up to a continuous payment authority and have had recurring charges made to their bank accounts without their full knowledge; calls on the Government to introduce protections similar to the Direct Debit Guarantee for continuous payment authorities; and further calls on the Government to introduce more responsibility on the merchant to ensure customers are fully informed of what a continuous payment authority entails and that they are signing up to one.

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**839 Funding for charity medical research**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**

That this House notes that charities play a vital role in funding medical research for many chronic conditions and life-threatening illnesses; further notes that the covid-19 outbreak has placed a financial strain on the charity sector which has seen a reduction in donations during the outbreak; acknowledges the importance of the Government's April 2020 announcement to increase funding for charities by £750 million to help save the charity sector; notes that this is not enough to sustain funding for vital research projects; recognises that it would be a great loss to the scientific community and to society if medical research must be postponed or cancelled due to insufficient funds; and urgently calls on the Government to introduce further financial support for the charity sector to protect medical research funded by charities.

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**840 LoveMilton**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House appreciates the work of LoveMilton during the covid-19 outbreak; notes that the organisation has been serving families in the Milton area of Glasgow with food parcels, holiday hunger lunch packs and activities during lockdown; appreciates the difference that this service has made to families; notes also the extensive range of online activities provided by the service, such as online cooking classes, fitness classes and one-to-one support for young people; appreciates the contributions this organisation has made in preventing isolation and tackling issues such as healthy eating and at-home schooling; and wishes them every success in the future.

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**841 Covid diaries and scavenger hunts in North Glasgow**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House congratulates North Glasgow Community Food Initiative for their work during the covid-19 lockdown; notes that the organisation received Scottish Government funding to provide emergency food provision and activity packs for children during the pandemic; appreciates that the organisation provided these services to families in Milton, Springburn and Royston, and provided food for around 150 people a week; notes that they delivered 665 activity packs to date, to children and young people across the local area, with activities so far ranging from indoor and outdoor scavenger hunts to covid diaries; from wildflower seed bombs to chocolate Rice Krispie cake kits; further appreciates the organisation's focus on sustainable food provision through growing food in community gardens and providing seeds and advice to the community; and wishes them every success in the future.

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**842 Powerful response in Possilpark**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House congratulates Young People's futures in Possilpark on their response to the covid-19 outbreak; understands that they have worked extremely hard to provide families and individuals with breakfast packs, activity packs for children and over 50 hot meals delivered daily since the beginning of the outbreak; understands that in partnership with the Scottish Book Trust the organisation also distributed reading books around Possilpark and surrounding areas; appreciates

that these services provide a lifeline for people impacted by lockdown; and wishes them every success in the future.

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#### 843 Voluntary work to support north Glasgow babies children and parents

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House congratulates North Glasgow Baby Bank on providing essentials to young families before and during the covid-19 pandemic; understands that they have provided formula milk, baby food and other essentials for hundreds of families across the north of Glasgow and appreciates the contribution they have made to the community, and the environmental as well as financial impact of reusing baby clothes and toys; appreciates that the project is run by four magnificent volunteer co-ordinators, Catherine Yuill, Gemma Coyle, Maggie Watson and Tracy Pender; and thanks these volunteers for all their hard work around the clock and wishes them all the very best in future endeavours.

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#### 844 Springburn rises to the challenge of covid-19

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House congratulates Springburn Community Council who, in conjunction with Springburn Parish Church and the Salvation Army made tremendous efforts to support the Springburn community during the covid-19 outbreak; understands that those organisations have worked in unison and around the clock to provide whatever support was required by vulnerable people during lockdown; appreciates that their Food Hub has so far delivered thousands of food packages to people in need, alongside toiletries, prescription medicine, sanitary products and other essential items; appreciates that the church has been used as a hub for the welfare of people in the area since the end of March; and thanks all volunteers for their tireless efforts.

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#### 845 CCRC review of Oliver Campbell's case

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Mr Barry Sheerman**

That this House welcomes the decision of the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC) to reconsider objectively, independently and professionally the case of Oliver Campbell, who has severe learning difficulties and whose conviction in 1990 for murder was based on a confession extracted in an oppressive manner at a trial where the jury did not know that his co-defendant had exonerated him in an interview with police; encourages the CCRC to refer the case to the Court of Appeal to enable Oliver's conviction to be quashed and wishes to give special thanks to Oliver Campbell's former MP, Sandy Martin, who brought the House's attention to the case of Oliver Campbell through a Westminster Hall debate in the summer of 2019.

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**846 Brain tumour awareness and research**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Kirsten Oswald**  
**Mr Alistair Carmichael**  
**Patricia Gibson**

That this House calls for an increase in both awareness of and research into brain tumours; notes that this type of cancer presently receives less than 3 per cent of the UK's cancer research budget despite being the biggest cancer killer of children and adults under 40; specifically recognises the need to raise awareness of diffuse midline glioma, commonly known as DIPG, the second most common type of primary high-grade brain tumour found in British children; expresses concern that treatment for DIPG has been unchanged for almost 40 years, with only 10 per cent of children with DIPG surviving for more than 2 years following their diagnosis; understands that symptoms of DIPG include difficulty in speaking and walking, weakness of facial muscles, problems with eye movement, headaches, and nausea; welcomes the fantastic effort of Fiona Govan, whose e-petition to this parliament to generate more publicity for DIPG and to achieve further funding for a disease that presently has no cure has gained over 100,000 signatures; commends the valuable research and efforts of organisations such as the Brain Tumour Charity that is currently leading new drugs research to target, prevent, and treat DIPG; and urges the Government to increase funding dedicated to research into DIPG and to expand recognition and treatment of this distressing disease.

**847 Local government reorganisation**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Tim Farron**

That this House notes that as part of the Devolution and Recovery white paper and in the midst of the biggest crisis since the second world war, this Government wants to plunge councils into the wasteful distraction of top down reorganisations at exactly the time when local authorities should be concentrating all of their efforts on covid recovery; expresses concerns that the impact of redirecting council expenditure away from supporting the most vulnerable people, on local economic recovery and business support will increase poverty and inequalities as further jobs are lost, homeless people are once more put out on the streets and local economic recovery stalls; recognises the significant successes of local government, especially District Councils, in stepping in to manage the local response to covid when central government failed to do so; recognises that every referendum on unitarization has failed to show support; and calls on the Government to recognise that now is not the time to do other than support local councils to continue the work of recovery including moving homeless people into permanent homes, saving jobs and eradicating covid.

**848 Recognition for the Kurdistan Region of Iraq**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Robert Halfon**

That this House regrets that the recent BBC documentary, Once Upon a Time in Iraq, barely mentioned the experience of the Kurds and the Kurdistan Region in Iraq, although it contains about a sixth of the population of the country and was one of the principal victims of the Baathist regime before 2003; agrees with Bashar Warda, the Chaldean archbishop of Erbil, that minority communities such as the Christians and the Yezedis feel voiceless and being airbrushed out of a major BBC documentary is wounding and damaging; notes that the BBC does not claim the documentary is a definitive history of the Iraq War or its people and believes, however, that such large omissions give a misleading impression of the dynamics of Iraqi politics and Kurdistan's vital role in helping stabilise Iraq's democratic process after 2003, as well as sheltering persecuted religious groups and over a million internally displaced people and refugees from Syria; further

believes that Kurdistan perspectives and information on its democratic aspirations, religious pluralism, gender equality, and reforming Iraq could have better provided viewers with a more nuanced picture; and urges the BBC to commission a documentary on the experience of Kurdistan to give its viewers a more comprehensive picture of Iraq.

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#### 849 Contribution to the community of the Girvan Soup Group

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Allan Dorans**

That this House acknowledges the outstanding work of the The Girvan Soup Group; originating as a simple idea of making a pot or two of soup for elderly neighbours at the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, expanded to provided homemade soup, bread, homemade cakes and other sweet treats to vulnerable, isolating or shielding people, seven days a week free of charge; notes that to date they have provided over 10,000 portions of soup and provided essential social interaction and significantly reduced isolation within the community; highlights and celebrates the commitment and dedications of volunteers including cooks, delivery drivers and general volunteer helpers; acknowledges the contribution and assistance provided by the Milestone Church, Age Concern Girvan and the incredible support of the local community who have helped with fundraising and donations of over £2500; and notes the contribution of local businesses including Grants Distillery and Nestle for their generous support and the generosity of the Girvan Community Council without all of these, this outstanding community initiative would not have been possible.

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#### 850 Political situation in Belarus

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**John McDonnell**

That this House notes that the elections in Belarus on 9 August were neither free nor fair, that millions of Belarusians have defied the regime of Alexander Lukashenko, condemns the violence and repression against peaceful protesters, notes that the strikes and protests taking place across Belarus are an inspiration to workers and progressives across Europe and the world, welcomes the role of trade unions in the protests and extends our solidarity to them in the face of persecution and strike-breaking by the regime, rejects the idea that democratisation need be a move towards neo-liberal economic reforms, and welcomes the demands raised by the trade union movement to declare the presidential elections void, dismiss President Lukashenko, freedom and compensation for all political prisoners, end all proceedings against opponents of the regime, removal of Police officials and judges responsible for violence and repression, end the draconian system of fixed-term contracts affecting 90 per cent of workers in Belarus; and calls for international solidarity with the people of Belarus in their struggle for freedom and democracy, and opposes the introduction of repressive forces from outside Belarus.

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#### 851 Honk for Hope campaign to protect jobs and business

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Grahame Morris**

That this House recognises the Honk for Hope campaign to protect jobs and business in the coach industry; notes the sector's critical role as the backbone of the British Tourism Industry, connecting people to leisure, cultural and retail centres; expresses concern that many small, medium and family-run coach businesses are on the brink of closure due to covid-19; welcomes the grassroots Honk for Hope campaign organised by coach operators working to safeguard the 42,000 people employed within the industry that contributes over £6 billion to the economy; backs the call for sector-specific

support for an industry hit first, hit hardest and will be the last to recover from covid-19; and praises the campaign for organising peaceful protests to highlight their concerns and is worried about heavy-handed tactics adopted to limit the exercise of their democratic right to demonstrate through the police use of Section 12 of the Public Order Act 1986.

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## 852 Funding for Hammersmith Bridge

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Sarah Olney**

This House acknowledges that Hammersmith Bridge has been closed to motor traffic since April 2019 and was suddenly closed to all pedestrians and cyclists on 13th August; expresses concern that many residents on both sides of the river have been cut off from their workplaces, schools and health services and notes that there is a critical lack of alternative routes; further recognises that as a result of the devastating impact that covid-19 has had on Transport for London and local authority budgets, neither Hammersmith and Fulham Council nor TfL have sufficient resources to repair the bridge; and therefore calls on the Department for Transport to urgently provide the funds for the repairs.

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## 853 Covid-19 inspired literature

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Owen Thompson**

That this House congratulates Bonnyrigg library assistant Ryan Sturrock on self-publishing his debut novel entitled *Death's Whisper*; understands that *Death's Whisper* features eerie similarities to the current covid-19 pandemic due to being split between 1645 Edinburgh and a present-day plague; notes that Ryan began writing the book two years ago, before the coronavirus pandemic, and that the advent of covid-19 and living through a real-life pandemic has given him both the time and inspiration he needed to finish it; and recognises the importance of literature in revitalising the cultural sector to both enrich lives and assist economic recovery.

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## 854 World Suicide Prevention Day

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Owen Thompson**

That this House marks Thursday the 10th of September 2020 as World Suicide Prevention Day; notes with worry that suicide rates in the UK are increasing; further notes with extreme concern that suicide is the leading cause of death in young people in the UK, with young men and LGBT+ people being particularly affected; recognises that we all have a part to play in tackling the stigma that still exists around mental health by having open and honest conversations with our friends and family, by reminding others that they are not alone, and ultimately by looking out for each other; and commends all those who work in suicide prevention, including mental health services, third sector organisations, and individual citizens in communities.

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**855 Rebuilding of Fair Isle Bird Observatory**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Mr Alistair Carmichael**

That this House recognises the crowdfunding rebuild appeal for the Fair Isle Bird Observatory; notes that the Fair Isle Bird Observatory was tragically destroyed by a fire in March 2019; honours the brave emergency services who tackled the blaze and the work of the Fair Isle Bird Observatory Trust and wider community to organise the rebuild effort; recognises Fair Isle as a thriving island community, regarded as being one of the best places in Europe to see rare birds stopping off along their migration routes; notes that a £7.4 million revamped bird observatory has been granted planning permission and will be a world-class facility for ornithological and marine biological research; further notes the new building will have improved accommodation facilities for students and visitors which will be a significant boost to the tourist offer of the island; thanks those who have already donated towards over £94,000 raised so far since the appeal launched; and calls on the UK Government to back up their indication to offer support, made by Prime Minister May in 2019, and on all parties to do all they can to support this important cause to ensure that a new Fair Isle Bird Observatory can be back up and running as soon as possible to help the future prosperity of Fair Isle.

**856 Remembering the MPs killed during the Troubles by Republican terrorists**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 2

**Jim Shannon  
Paul Girvan**

That this House remembers again with deep sorrow the lives of those MPs who were murdered by terrorists during the Troubles including Airey Neave, Rev Robert Bradford, Sir Anthony Berry and Ian Gow; extends sincere sympathy also to the families of those Conservative Party members killed in the Brighton bomb; and renews our determination to continue to honour their memory and stand against terrorism in all forms.

**857 150th Anniversary of the Belfast Telegraph**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 2

**Jim Shannon  
Paul Girvan**

That this House congratulates one of Northern Ireland's national papers the Belfast Telegraph on reaching the milestone of 150 years in print; thanks them for some of the sterling investigative work that they have carried out; and encourages this wonderful paper to continue to impartially report the good and bad news with integrity as has been their history.

**858 Food from Fife success**

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 1

**Wendy Chamberlain**

That this House celebrates the nomination of three North East Fife members of Food From Fife in the Great British Food magazine's Reader Awards; notes that Ardross Farm Shop and Balgove Larder are finalists in the Best Farm Shop and Deli category; further notes that the Bowhouse market is a

finalist in the Best Food Market category; thanks these businesses for their contribution to the local economy and their excellent produce; and wishes them the best in the final of the competition.

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## 859 Fife Voluntary Action and Covid-19

Tabled: **7/09/20** Signatories: **1**

### Wendy Chamberlain

That this House expresses its thanks for the work of Fife Voluntary Action throughout the covid-19 outbreak; recognises that during the covid-19 lockdown, Fife Voluntary Action operated multiple services in the community including Helping Hand, which co-ordinates community responses to covid by linking those in need of help with Fife Council services and neighbourhood volunteers, Prescription Delivery Service and Shopping Delivery Service; notes that these services provided a huge source of support to many people in Fife, including those shielding; further notes that over 5,000 prescriptions were delivered to shielding and vulnerable people during lockdown; and expresses its thanks to the team at Fife Voluntary Action and all the volunteers for helping the community during the pandemic.

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## 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.

## 559 Legal Aid and Advice

Tabled: **4/06/20** Signatories: **133**

**Keir Starmer**  
**Mr David Lammy**  
**Nick Thomas-Symonds**  
**Karl Turner [R]**  
**Ms Lyn Brown**  
**Mr Nicholas Brown**

Chris Stephens

That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Civil Legal Aid (Remuneration) (Amendment) (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 (S.I., 2020, No. 515), dated 15 May 2020, a copy of which was laid before this House on 18 May 2020, be annulled.

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**722 Government support for asylum seekers**

Tabled: 14/07/20 Signatories: 15

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

David Linden

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.

**773 Town and Country Planning**

Tabled: 21/07/20 Signatories: 47

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

Mr Alistair Carmichael  
Munira Wilson

Wendy Chamberlain

Daisy Cooper

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.

**783 Town and Country Planning**Tabled: **22/07/20** Signatories: **15**

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

Sir Edward Davey

That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 2020 (S.I., 2020, No. 755), dated 20 July 2020, a copy of which was laid before this House on 21 July 2020, be annulled.

**784 Town and Country Planning**Tabled: **22/07/20** Signatories: **17**

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

Sir Edward Davey

That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 2020 (S.I., 2020, No. 756), dated 20 July 2020, a copy of which was laid before this House on 21 July 2020, be annulled.

**787 Trophy hunting imports**Tabled: **22/07/20** Signatories: **23**

**Dr Lisa Cameron**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Andy Slaughter**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Jonathan Edwards**

Ronnie Cowan

That this House notes the strong cross-party support for EDM 50, 2019-20 welcoming the public consultation on the controls on the import and export of hunting trophies; further notes that the consultation on banning trophy hunting imports ended in February 2020; supports the view of the coalition of animal charities and organisations; including Animal Defenders International, Born Free Foundation, Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting, Four Paws, Humane Society International, International Wildlife Bond, OneKind, Protecting African Lions, RSPCA, Voice4Lions, World Animal Protection, Zimbabwe Elephant Foundation, Lion Aid on the need to implement a comprehensive ban; notes that every measure of public opinion taken shows that British citizens overwhelmingly want a complete ban on all trophy hunting imports; and calls on the Government to make an announcement without further delay and uphold the previously stated desire to see an end to the importation of all animal parts derived from trophy hunting into the UK.

**796 Season of Creation 2020**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 8

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

Kirsten Oswald

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.

**797 Reinstatement of IKEA shop steward Richie Venton**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 34

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

Kate Osborne  
 Mhairi Black

John McDonnell  
 Alan Brown

Mick Whitley  
 David Linden

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.

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

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 7

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Mike Hill**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Neale Hanvey**

David Linden

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.

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

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 8

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Mike Hill**  
**Chris Law**

David Linden

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: 9

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

David Linden

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: 8

**Chris Stephens**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Drew Hendry**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Mike Hill**  
**Chris Law**

David Linden

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.

**802 Roadchef Employee Benefit Trust**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 10

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

Mhairi Black

Dr Julian Lewis

David Linden

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.

**803 Anniversary of the murder of Lord Mountbattan and Warrenpoint Massacre**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 7

Jim Shannon  
 Paul Girvan  
 Gavin Robinson  
 Sir Mike Penning  
 Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson  
 Mr Gregory Campbell

Dr Julian Lewis

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.

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

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 7

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

Dr Julian Lewis

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: 8

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

David Linden

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: 9

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

Dr Julian Lewis

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.

**808 Rescue on Gwynedd beach**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 7

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

Dr Julian Lewis

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.

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

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 9

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

Dr Julian Lewis

David Linden

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: 7

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**  
**Chris Law**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Dr Julian Lewis**

David Linden

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: 6

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Stephens**  
**Chris Law**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**David Linden**

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: 11

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

Clive Lewis

David Linden

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.

**816 VAT on sunscreen**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 15

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

David Linden

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.

**818 Supporting grieving families through a bereavement standard**

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 36

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

Beth Winter

Martyn Day

Munira Wilson

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.

**824 Support Local**

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 6

Drew Hendry  
 Jim Shannon  
 Chris Law  
 Allan Dorans  
 Chris Stephens  
 David Linden

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.

**825 Laggan Coffee Bothy and Gallery success**

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 5

Drew Hendry  
 Jim Shannon  
 Chris Law  
 Allan Dorans  
 David Linden

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: **7**

**Drew Hendry**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Law**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Dr Julian Lewis**  
**Chris Stephens**

David Linden

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.

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**827 Incredible Edible Inverness**

Tabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **7**

**Drew Hendry**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Law**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Neale Hanvey**  
**Chris Stephens**

David Linden

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.

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**829 Cuts to education funding**

Tabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **6**

**Jon Trickett**  
**Ian Lavery**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Mick Whitley**  
**David Linden**

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: 7

**Ben Lake**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Neale Hanvey**

David Linden

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: 11

**Dr Philippa Whitford**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Caroline Lucas**  
**Jonathan Edwards**

Clive Lewis  
 David Linden

Dr Julian Lewis

Chris Stephens

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: **46**

**Caroline Lucas**  
**Clive Lewis**  
**Alan Brown**  
**Wera Hobhouse**  
**Liz Saville Roberts**  
**Claire Hanna**

Alyn Smith  
 Andrew Gwynne  
 Kate Osborne  
 Patrick Grady

Kim Johnson  
 Kenny MacAskill  
 Apsana Begum  
 Ms Diane Abbott

Drew Hendry  
 Grahame Morris  
 David Linden  
 Tony Lloyd

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.

**833 Remembering Featherstone Massacre 1893**Tabled: **3/09/20** Signatories: **10**

**Jon Trickett**  
**Paula Barker**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Mick Whitley**  
**Clive Lewis**  
**Ian Lavery**

Grahame Morris  
 Jim Shannon

Chris Stephens

David Linden

That this House remembers the atrocities which took place in Featherstone, West Yorkshire on 7th September 1893; notes with sadness the 6 injured and two killed, named James Gibb, 22, and James Duggan, 25, after the army was ordered to fire shots into a crowd of miners and their families, who were fighting against a 25% cut in pay which would have plunged so many into poverty, whilst the coal owners tried to squeeze out more profits; highlights that the historic struggle for workers' rights and fair pay is part of the rich tapestry of British working class history; and this House seeks to continue to learn the lessons of imposing poverty pay, unfair working conditions and even violence on working communities, especially in light of the recent covid-19 pandemic.

**834 Protection of retail workers**

Tabled: 3/09/20 Signatories: 9

**Robert Halfon**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Caroline Lucas**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Dr Julian Lewis**  
**Chris Stephens**

Andrew Gwynne

David Linden

Jim Shannon

That this House recognises the need to protect our retail workers; further recognises that retail workers are too often subjected to abuse, threat and assault; acknowledges the difficulties of hardworking retail employees such as residents in the constituency of Harlow, who have faced this behaviour; notes that retail workers have faced significant health risks during the coronavirus pandemic; praises the service that retail workers have provided throughout the current crisis; and calls upon the Government to introduce legislation that makes it a punishable offence to abuse, threaten or assault a retail worker.

**835 West Midlands Gigafactory**

Tabled: 3/09/20 Signatories: 3

**Liam Byrne**  
**Colleen Fletcher**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House notes that the West Midlands was the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution; notes that our country must now lead the Green Industrial Revolution; further notes that the West Midlands is a global centre of battery technology for Electric Vehicles, and is already home to the UK Battery Industrialisation Centre in Coventry; recognises that our future leadership in this industry requires in the West Midlands the creation of a Gigafactory; and calls on the Government to take immediate steps to outline the next stages of building a world leading plant, along with a timetable for action and the investment envelope the UK Government is prepared to make available.

**836 Merchant Navy Day 2020**

Tabled: 3/09/20 Signatories: 13

**Mr Alistair Carmichael**  
**Mick Whitley**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Grahame Morris**  
**Ben Lake**  
**Sir Edward Davey**

Wendy Chamberlain  
 Andrew Gwynne

Dr Julian Lewis  
 David Linden

Chris Stephens  
 Jim Shannon

That this House recognises Merchant Navy Day 2020; honours the men and women who support UK supply lines, responsible for more than 90% of the UK's imports, including almost half the food we eat, much of the fuel we use, and virtually all the products and goods we tend to take for granted; notes that in 2019 an estimated 22,440 UK seafarers were active at sea; highlights the merchant navy's longstanding and proud connection to island and coastal communities; notes that merchant navy sailors and officers play a vital role in our economy which has been amplified during the current crisis; further notes that the global economy and the financial recovery after the pandemic relies on maritime trade, for food, fuel, medicines and other essential goods; and calls on

the government to do all it can to support seafarers who have had to face extended hardship this year separated from their families, and for the UK to lead the way in international cooperation for seafarer welfare.