



Published: Friday 11 September 2020

Early Day Motions tabled on Thursday 10 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

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

New EDMs

869 **Casual Workers' Rights**

Tabled: 10/09/20 Signatories: 1

Sir George Howarth

That this House regrettably notes that casual workers' rights are wholly inadequate; further notes that zero-hours, rolling and other forms of insecure contracts have eroded job security and work-based entitlements to the extent that many people employed by such means are unable to buy or rent a home, afford utility costs or food; and calls on the Government to introduce legislative proposals to regulate insecure employment practices and institute rights for those employed by such means.

870 **Opposing Lawfare in Latin America**

Tabled: 10/09/20 Signatories: 6

Richard Burgon
Jeremy Corbyn
Ms Diane Abbott
Ian Lavery
Apsana Begum
Claudia Webbe

That this House is deeply concerned by the growing abuses of the legal system for political purposes in Latin America to exclude candidates from running in elections; notes that this practice known as lawfare was used to prevent Workers' Party leader Lula da Silva from standing in the last presidential election in Brazil, where he was favourite to win, with Jair Bolsonaro subsequently elected; condemns the recent use of lawfare against Rafael Correa in Ecuador that has ruled him out as a candidate for Vice President in the coming elections and the exclusion of Evo Morales as a candidate for the Bolivian Senate; believes free and fair elections in those countries would include those candidates; notes that such anti-democratic practices have targeted politicians opposed to

unpopular neo-liberal policies; and further believes that the UK government should make clear its opposition to the use of lawfare.

871 Greencore

Tabled: 10/09/20 Signatories: 1

Dawn Butler

That this House notes that the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Greencore) Regulations 2020 (921) require staff at the company, which makes M&S sandwiches, to self-isolate for 14 days, without compensating staff for loss of earnings either at Greencore or elsewhere; further notes that staff have either been on SSP or furlough payments below the national living wage; notes that the regulations also apply to their family members without compensation for their loss of earnings; further notes that these regulations have caused extreme hardship to many staff members and their families forcing them to turn to food banks; and also notes that the company has continued production despite the Secretary of State for Health deciding it should close; this House congratulates the Bakers, Food and Allied Workers Union on its actions in support of its members at the factory and calls on the Government to intervene to require Greencore to provide staff with 100 per cent pay during their period of self-isolation in accordance with SI 2020 /921.

872 Statutory sick pay (No. 2)

Tabled: 10/09/20 Signatories: 1

John McDonnell

That this House recognises that the covid-19 pandemic has highlighted that statutory sick pay (SSP) of £95.80 per week is not enough to live on, and that nearly two million low-paid part-time or zero hours workers are excluded from any sick pay at all; is gravely concerned that this situation puts them in the impossible situation of having to work while potentially unwell, thus putting their lives and those of their colleagues, customers and even patients at risk; recognises that many thousands of good employers already offer decent contractual sick pay arrangements for their workers, and believes they should not be undercut by bad employers who pass their responsibility onto taxpayers; recognises that the cost of failing to protect public health also causes severe economic damage; and supports the Don't Leave, Organise campaign in calling for Full Sick Pay Now via legislation to make it compulsory for all employers to provide six weeks of contractual sick pay at full pay, followed by an increased rate of statutory sick linked to the level of statutory maternity pay, with further steps to cover self-employed and zero hours workers.

873 The global wildlife trade and prevention of future zoonotic pandemics

Tabled: 10/09/20 Signatories: 1

Sir David Amess

That this House notes with concern the increased risks of future pandemics from the continued exploitation and commodification of wildlife in the global wildlife trade; further notes that zoonotic diseases are responsible for over two billion cases of human illness and over two million human deaths each year, that sixty percent of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic and that seventy percent of these are thought to originate from wild animals; understands that the trade in wild animals is the likely cause for the emergence of the covid-19 pandemic and that the over-exploitation of wildlife has been identified as one of the dominant drivers of biodiversity loss; considers that this is not the first time that infectious zoonotic diseases have been linked to wild animals in recent years with SARS, Ebola and MERS all believed to have passed from wildlife to humans; and calls on the Government to show global leadership to ensure a pandemic like this

never happens again by utilising the opportunity of the G20 meeting of world leaders in November to call for a ban of the international commercial trade in wild animals and wild animal products, and to work with other Governments, global institutions and bodies elsewhere to bring about an end to the global wildlife trade.

874 **Weaponisation of water in Syria.**

Tabled: **10/09/20** Signatories: **1**

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

That this House is deeply concerned that Turkey has shut down the Alouk Water Station which supplies water to 460000 civilians in an area of North East Syria known as the Autonomous Administration of North East Syria (AANES); notes that Turkish forces took over the Alouk Water Station in October during its so called Peace Spring Operation and has shut it down on three occasions since causing immense suffering; is seriously concerned about the fate of the local civilian population, the displaced people from other parts of Syria and the inmates of camps holding the families of ISIS prisoners from around the world; further notes that water supply should not be subject to political and military strategy; and calls on the Foreign Secretary to intervene with his Turkish counterpart as a matter of urgency in order to avert a large scale humanitarian disaster.

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.

743 **Funding for universities**

Tabled: **20/07/20** Signatories: **26**

John McDonnell

Jim Shannon

Paula Barker

Bell Ribeiro-Addy

Mick Whitley

Richard Burgon

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

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.

761 Scotland Loves LocalTabled: **21/07/20** Signatories: **9**

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
John Nicolson
Patrick Grady
Alison Thewliss
Allan Dorans

Marion Fellows

That this House applauds the Scotland Loves Local initiative aimed at supporting our excellent local businesses and town centres; appreciates that that campaign is spearheaded by Scotland's Towns Partnership (STP) with the support of the Scottish Government; further applauds the collective work of business owners, Councils, Business Improvement Districts, STP and the Scottish Government in focusing on the importance of local business; notes that that multi-media initiative comes at a time when the need for and the benefit of supporting local business has never been more critical; further appreciates the vital and flexible support local businesses have provided to local communities during the covid-19 pandemic period; calls on shoppers to have a renewed focus on their local businesses and high streets; appreciates the convenience, range and quality of goods and services on offer through that initiative; understands the business, environmental and public health benefits of shopping locally; encourages shoppers to think local first; further notes the impact that that initiative will have in supporting economic recovery; and appreciates that our local businesses, shops, attractions, pubs, cafes and restaurants are at the heart of our communities and wishes them well.

770 Protections for workers in UK garment factoriesTabled: **21/07/20** Signatories: **17**

Dr Lisa Cameron
Jim Shannon
Clive Lewis
John McDonnell
Jonathan Edwards
Caroline Lucas

Marion Fellows

That this House recognises that workers in some UK garment factories are suffering under exploitative labour practices, underpayment of legal minimum wages and unsafe working conditions; acknowledges the need to take urgent action to protect such workers from exploitation and ensure that factory owners are meeting all legal obligations; notes that taking action would prevent rogue factories from undercutting compliant businesses and would encourage retailers to source more clothing from the UK, supporting the development of an ethical, world-leading UK fashion industry; and therefore calls on the Government to implement the British Retail Consortium's proposal for a Fit to Trade licensing scheme for all garment factories in the UK.

777 Classrooms for MalawiTabled: **21/07/20** Signatories: **18**

Margaret Ferrier
Jim Shannon
Anne McLaughlin
Patrick Grady
Alison Thewliss
Richard Thomson

Marion Fellows

That this House notes that Rutherglen-based charity Classrooms for Malawi has raised over £8,000 in one week to provide hand washing facilities for 29 schools in Malawi; understands that this fundraising campaign aims to provide 30,000 children with clean water, soap and other basic hand washing facilities in order to combat the spread of coronavirus in Malawi; further understands that some of the worst effects of coronavirus are observed in developing countries like Malawi, where 1 in 3 people do not have access to clean water; congratulates the staff and volunteers at Classrooms for Malawi for their speedy fundraising efforts in response to the coronavirus emergency; and commends the charity's ongoing efforts to create safe and healthy learning environments for some of the world's poorest children.

796 Season of Creation 2020Tabled: **1/09/20** Signatories: **9**

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

Marion Fellows

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: 42

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

Navendu Mishra

John Cryer

Marion Fellows

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.

802 Roadchef Employee Benefit Trust

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 15

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

Marion Fellows

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.

813 Abolition of the House of Lords

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 12

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

Marion Fellows

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: 19

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

Marion Fellows

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: 44

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

Marion Fellows

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.

819 Chris Brannigan: the Barefoot Soldier

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 8

Owen Thompson
Jim Shannon
Gavin Robinson
Chris Stephens
Chris Law
Allan Dorans

Marion Fellows

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.

820 60th anniversary of UK's first conservation village

Tabled: 1/09/20 Signatories: 7

Kirsten Oswald
Jim Shannon
Chris Stephens
Chris Law
Allan Dorans
Neale Hanvey

Marion Fellows

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.

827 Incredible Edible Inverness

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 9

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

Marion Fellows

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.

830 Ban on sample sachets

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 9

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

Marion Fellows

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.

831 Protecting and valuing whistleblowers

Tabled: 2/09/20 Signatories: 15

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

Marion Fellows

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.

832 Climate and Ecological Emergency BillTabled: **2/09/20** Signatories: **56**

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

Kate Osamor

John Cryer

Gavin Newlands

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.

834 Protection of retail workersTabled: **3/09/20** Signatories: **14**

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

Mohammad Yasin

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 GigafactoryTabled: **3/09/20** Signatories: **8**

Liam Byrne
Colleen Fletcher
Jim Shannon
Tahir Ali
John Spellar
Claudia Webbe

Preet Kaur Gill

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.

844 Springburn rises to the challenge of covid-19Tabled: **7/09/20** Signatories: **4**

Anne McLaughlin
Jim Shannon
Alison Thewliss
Marion Fellows

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.

846 Brain tumour awareness and researchTabled: **7/09/20** Signatories: **13**

Kirsten Oswald
Mr Alistair Carmichael
Patricia Gibson
Jim Shannon
Tahir Ali
Alyn Smith

Marion Fellows

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.

849 Contribution to the community of the Girvan Soup Group

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 3

Allan Dorans
Jim Shannon
Marion Fellows

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.

850 Political situation in Belarus

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 11

John McDonnell
Jim Shannon
Claudia Webbe
Jonathan Edwards
Kate Osborne
Kenny MacAskill

Marion Fellows
Apsana Begum

Jeremy Corbyn

Lloyd Russell-Moyle

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; further 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.

851 Honk for Hope campaign to protect jobs and business

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 15

Grahame Morris
Jim Shannon
Paula Barker
Claudia Webbe
Jonathan Edwards
Kate Osborne

Marion Fellows

That this House recognises the Honk for Hope campaign to protect jobs and businesses 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 £14 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.

853 Covid-19 inspired literature

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 4

Owen Thompson
Jim Shannon
Alison Thewliss
Marion Fellows

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.

854 World Suicide Prevention Day

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 37

Owen Thompson
Jim Shannon
Margaret Ferrier
Jonathan Edwards
Richard Thomson
Kirsty Blackman

Marion Fellows
Mohammad Yasin

Sir Mike Penning
Martyn Day

Claire Hanna

That this House marks Thursday 10 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.

856 Remembering the MPs killed during the Troubles by Republican terrorists

Tabled: 7/09/20 Signatories: 5

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

That this House remembers again with deep sorrow the lives of hon. Members 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: 6

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

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.

860 Employment practices on redundancy and rehiringTabled: **8/09/20** Signatories: **23**

Gavin Newlands
Grahame Morris
Chris Stephens
Sam Tarry
Drew Hendry
Kirsten Oswald

Marion Fellows

Mohammad Yasin

That this House notes with alarm the growing number of employers, especially in the retail, hospitality and aviation sectors, who are making employees redundant before re-employing them on less-favourable terms and conditions; believes that these employers are cynically using the covid-19 crisis as cover to reduce staff costs at a time when they should instead be focused on supporting their employees through this pandemic; agrees with Unite the union and others that this fire-and-rehire practice makes a mockery of workers' rights and goes against the spirit, if not the letter, of UK employment legislation; and calls on the Government to close this legal loophole as a matter of urgency, for example by amending the Employment Rights Act 1996 to specify that such redundancies should automatically be regarded as unfair dismissals.

861 Universal Service ObligationTabled: **8/09/20** Signatories: **27**

Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Zarah Sultana
Ms Diane Abbott
Apsana Begum
Claudia Webbe
Ian Lavery

Mark Tami
 Jeremy Corbyn

Allan Dorans
 Mohammad Yasin

Andrew Gwynne
 Martyn Day

That this House recognises that the ongoing covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the severity of the digital divide prevalent in the UK; notes that part of the problem that exasperates the digital divide is slow or poor broadband connection; further notes that part of the solution to improving broadband is to upgrade or build a new network; notes with concern that the costs of building a new network is often high and furthers the digital divide as better network connection becomes reliant on available income; recognises that the Government's Universal Service Obligation offers an attempt to bridge the digital divide by upgrading broadband connection for legible households and providing £3,400 worth of funding for upgrading infrastructure; notes that this funding is inadequate and that the costs of building a new network often far exceeds £3,400; calls on this Government to recognise the severity of the digital divide in the UK and provide further funding for households to build a new network to improve broadband speeds.

862 Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the death of Hardie & Baird of the 1820 Radicals

Tabled: 8/09/20 Signatories: 3

Kenny MacAskill
Joanna Cherry
Marion Fellows

That this House commemorates the deaths of Andrew Hardie and John Baird, who died on 8 September 1820; recalls that they were the last people hanged and beheaded in the UK and were executed on charges of high treason; recognises the various events across Scotland that have been postponed due to the pandemic; and recalls the foresight of them, and of all the 1820 Radicals, in their campaign for democracy, universal suffrage and the rights of working people.

863 Post-Covid-19 support

Tabled: 8/09/20 Signatories: 17

Carol Monaghan
Andrew Gwynne
Clive Lewis
Jim Shannon
Stewart Malcolm McDonald
Margaret Ferrier

Marion Fellows

That this House is concerned that many individuals who contracted covid-19 are continuing to be affected by the virus many months after their initial infection; notes that these post-viral symptoms can include: extreme fatigue, dizziness, severe headaches and muscular pain, inability to concentrate and post-exertional malaise; further notes that exercise can amplify these symptoms; recognises that many of these symptoms are familiar to those suffering from post-viral conditions, such as myalgic encephalomyelitis; calls on the Government to make a clear statement that increasing levels of exercise may have adverse long-term health effects for those recovering from covid-19; and urges the Government to make a statement on the financial support that will be made available for people who are currently unable to return to work as a result of post-Covid-19 symptoms.

864 Researching and supporting people with long Covid-19 symptoms

Tabled: 8/09/20 Signatories: 50

Andrew Gwynne
Layla Moran
Caroline Lucas
Tony Lloyd
Clive Lewis
Rosie Duffield

Stewart Malcolm McDonald
Ms Diane Abbott

Rebecca Long Bailey
Mohammad Yasin

Patrick Grady

That this House recognises that around 10 per cent of people experience prolonged illness after covid-19 and calls upon the Government to urgently collect and regularly report on the number of those living with long covid by following up on those with confirmed or clinical diagnoses of covid-19; notes that research into the disease should encompass both those who were and were not hospitalised to understand the true scale of the morbidity of the virus; and calls on the Government

to swiftly consider and implement measures to support those living with long covid, including offering information and incentives to employers to retain their recovering staff who may or may not have confirmed cases due to limitations in testing, and ensuring that the NHS can support patients in their longer term recovery.

866 Hebburn Town FC

Tabled: **9/09/20** Signatories: **11**

Kate Osborne
Ian Mearns
Ian Lavery
Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck
Grahame Morris
Mick Whitley

Allan Dorans
 Ian Byrne

Dr Julian Lewis
 Stephen Timms

Bell Ribeiro-Addy

That this House warmly congratulates Hebburn Town Football Club from the Northern League on the outstanding achievement of reaching the final of the FA Vase which is to be held at Wembley Stadium on Sunday 27 September 2020; notes that this success is the culmination of many years of hard work and commitment both on and off the pitch and much praise should go to the owners, players, coaches, officials, management committee and supporters; acknowledges the club have made history by booking their place in an all North East FA Vase Final for the first time in its 108-year history; believes that the club will receive tremendous support at the final from people living in the town of Hebburn and the wider South Tyneside area; and wishes the club, its supporters, and everyone connected to Hebburn Town FC an enjoyable and successful day at Wembley.

868 10th anniversary of the papal visit

Tabled: **9/09/20** Signatories: **2**

Mike Kane [R]
Mohammad Yasin

That this House warmly recalls the visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the UK between 16 and 19 September 2010; notes his address to parliamentarians in Westminster Hall where he reminded us that religion is not a problem for legislators to solve, but a vital contributor to the national conversation; recognises the important contribution of Catholic parishes, charities and schools to our communities; and sends its best wishes to Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Pope Francis and the Catholic community across the entire UK on this important anniversary.