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## Early Day Motions tabled on Tuesday 29 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

#### 935 Conclusion of Mahatma Gandhi 150th birth anniversary celebration

Tabled: 29/09/20 Signatories: 1

##### Martyn Day

That this House commends the Government of India and the Indian people on the two year celebration throughout the world of the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi which ends on 2 October 2020; thanks posthumously Mahatma Gandhi who made a significant contribution as a peaceful freedom fighter, father of India and an inspiration to the world; acknowledges Mahatma Gandhi is revered by many people all over the world as a symbol of unity and peace; and looks forward to ongoing strengthened peaceful relations between our nations.

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#### 936 Disqualification of the President of Catalonia

Tabled: 29/09/20 Signatories: 2

##### Hywel Williams Andrew Rosindell

That this House notes its great concern at the decision of the Spanish Supreme Court to remove the President of Catalonia, Quim Torra, from office by banning him from holding public posts; notes that that decision was taken because banners calling for support of the rights of Catalan political prisoners were displayed on government buildings and were not taken down immediately when the court ruled they must be taken down; believes that this case centres on the fundamental right to free speech and that the court's verdict on this case is a severe blow to that right as well as to democracy; and calls on the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs to convey these concerns most strongly to the Spanish Government.

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**937 Government funding for zoos and aquariums**Tabled: **29/09/20** Signatories: **6**

**Andrew Rosindell**  
**Christine Jardine**  
**Greg Smith**  
**Bill Wiggin**  
**Sir George Howarth**  
**Sir David Amess**

That this House is concerned that not a single zoo has yet benefited from the Government's Zoo Animals Fund and that very few are likely to stand to benefit from that funding; notes that, including the previous Zoo Support Fund, only 2 per cent of the Government's support funds for that sector have been spent; is further concerned that, despite the UK facing at least a further six months of covid-19 related restrictions, and zoos and aquariums entering an extremely challenging winter period, the deadline for applications for that fund is currently set as 16 November 2020; recognises that zoos and aquariums urgently need to be able to access that Government fund but are prevented from doing so by overly restrictive eligibility criteria and an absence of support for the invaluable conservation, education and research work carried out by that sector; and calls on the Government to ring-fence that £100 million fund into 2021 and work with sector representatives in order to review the eligibility criteria for that fund, ensuring that zoos and aquariums can access this much needed support.

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**938 Local Legends award for Billington's Deli in Lenzie**Tabled: **29/09/20** Signatories: **1**

**Amy Callaghan**

That this House congratulates Billington's Deli in Lenzie, East Dunbartonshire on being chosen as the Scottish winner of Convenience Store UK's Local Legends competition; recognises that that award is due to the resilience shown by Billington's during the covid-19 lockdown and their tremendous effort to assist the wider community throughout the covid-19 pandemic; notes that Billington's voluntarily delivered soup to the elderly and vulnerable in their local area; further notes that Billington's created care boxes filled with everyday essentials for delivery to those shielding in the community; and commends Billington's on donating £500 of their prize to local charity Sporting Aces.

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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.

### 890 Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Tabled: 15/09/20 Signatories: 38

**Alexander Stafford**  
**Tim Farron**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Ben Lake**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Lloyd Russell-Moyle**

Mike Hill

That this House welcomes and applauds that nothing stops a Macmillan Coffee Morning, not even coronavirus; acknowledges that cancer hasn't stopped during the pandemic where one in two people will be diagnosed in their lifetimes; recognises that Macmillan Cancer Support is currently campaigning to restore cancer care and treatment to prevent cancer from becoming the forgotten C in the coronavirus pandemic; notes the charity believes it is facing its hardest year in its 109-year existence, as it juggles delivery of its critical support for people with cancer from its famous nurses to its vital free helpline, alongside a significant drop in income due to fundraising events being cancelled; congratulates Macmillan Cancer Support who will be celebrating their 30th Anniversary of World's Biggest Coffee morning on Friday 25 September; understands that it is more important than ever to support this much loved annual event and calls on all members to raise a mug on social media this September to demonstrate support for the three million people living with cancer across the UK and show that they will not be forgotten within this crisis.

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### 893 Air pollution and inequality

Tabled: 16/09/20 Signatories: 25

**Apsana Begum**  
**Claudia Webbe**  
**Ms Diane Abbott**  
**Ian Byrne**  
**Jeremy Corbyn**  
**John McDonnell**

Mike Hill

That this House expresses its concern at the recent findings of the Environment Agency's State of the Environment report; notes that air pollution is the single biggest environmental threat to people's health in the UK; further notes that many environmental factors, such as pollution and flooding, have been found to contribute to an increase in mental health conditions; is further concerned that access to nature is not equally distributed across our society and that exposure to pollution mirrors that difference; recognises that those living in more deprived areas experience the poorest quality of environment, as well as worse health, and that those facts are linked; asserts that in Tower Hamlets, according to campaigners, more than 40 per cent of the borough's population live with unacceptable air quality; further asserts that examples such as Tower Hamlets often reflect the higher levels of inequality experienced by BAME communities; and calls on the Government to implement clean air policies, accompanied by an equalities report, to ensure that air quality levels are equal across our society and to ensure that the right to clean air is not determined by income or ethnic background.

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**896 Teaching of British Sign Language in schools**

Tabled: 17/09/20 Signatories: 14

**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Rosie Cooper**  
**Zarah Sultana**  
**Ms Diane Abbott**  
**Apsana Begum**  
**Claudia Webbe**

Mike Hill

That this House recognises the importance of ensuring that all members of society are able to communicate effectively and clearly; notes that this includes ensuring that people who are deaf or hard of hearing are able to communicate effectively and clearly; recognises that 11 million people in the UK are deaf or hard of hearing, highlighting the need to teach British Sign Language more widely; calls on this Government to introduce British Sign Language classes beginning at Key Stage 1 through to Key Stage 3; and further calls on this Government to introduce a British Sign Language GCSE course.

**902 Ukrainian miners' strike**

Tabled: 21/09/20 Signatories: 5

**John McDonnell**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Mike Hill**

That this House notes that iron ore miners in Ukraine have been on strike since 3 September 2020 at the mines of KZRK in the city of Kryvyi Rih; salutes those courageous protests including an underground sit in, against unacceptable working conditions, low wages, authoritarian management, a lack of necessary tools and attacks on retirement rights; notes that the Kryvyi Rih City Council has appealed to the President to assist the miners and resolve that dispute; condemns intimidation of the families of union leaders and the use of the security service the SBU against the mineworkers; recognises the iron ore market currently enjoys high profitability; and calls on the employers linked to the oligarchs Ihor Kolomoisky and Rinat Akhmetov to recognise the miners' just demands and settle that dispute.

**903 Planning for health and wellbeing**

Tabled: 21/09/20 Signatories: 6

**Caroline Lucas**  
**Hilary Benn**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Bell Ribeiro-Addy**  
**Claire Hanna**

That this House is concerned about the low quality of new homes and places that are being created; recognises the overwhelming evidence of the link between people's mental and physical health and the quality of their homes and neighbourhoods, including access to nature; notes the number of new homes which lack decent space and natural light; further notes that many homes do not provide walkable access to green space; is further concerned that the Planning White Paper reduces democratic accountability, significantly reduces the number of affordable homes delivered overall

but particularly in rural areas and gives developers too much power over local decisions; and calls on the Government to put democracy, affordability, people's health and wellbeing, and a right to access to nature for all at the heart of the planning reform process.

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### 905 Winter support for tourism hospitality jobs and businesses

Tabled: 21/09/20 Signatories: 10

**Tim Farron**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Wendy Chamberlain**  
**Daisy Cooper**  
**Layla Moran**  
**Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson**

Mike Hill

That this House acknowledges and is grateful for the unprecedented package of support for workers and business throughout the covid-19 outbreak; notes the importance of the spring and summer months for the UK's £100bn tourism and hospitality industry; recognises that businesses in that sector missed out on much of that season due to lockdown; further recognises that many of these businesses are working at a reduced capacity due to social distancing guidelines which is resulting in lower income for these businesses; further notes the warning from UKHospitality that at least 900,000 jobs in the hospitality sector are at risk without further support; urges the Government to protect jobs and help give the confidence businesses need to help them survive the traditionally quiet autumn and winter months; and calls on the Government to implement proposals put forward by Cumbria Tourism including, helping to fund hospitality and tourism jobs from November 2020 to March 2021, extending funding grants for businesses in the sector and reintroducing the hugely successful Eat Out to Help Out scheme during the winter months.

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### 914 Upgrading digital selling skills to safeguard jobs

Tabled: 22/09/20 Signatories: 5

**Martyn Day**  
**Hannah Bardell**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Law**  
**Mike Hill**

That this House recognises that with unemployment rising Britain needs to sell its way out of recession to safeguard jobs; notes that the covid-19 pandemic has speeded up the digitisation of how UK businesses sell by 5.3 years; further notes that 93.3 per cent of SMEs do not train their staff in digital skills; and calls on the Government to take forward a range of measures to promote digital selling skills especially in SMEs in order to safeguard jobs across the whole economy.

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**919 Shortage of learning disability nurses**Tabled: **23/09/20** Signatories: **4**

**Bob Blackman**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Mike Hill**

That this house expresses concern that there will potentially be a repeat of the 134 per cent increase in deaths of people with learning disabilities that happened between 10 April and 15 of May 2020 with the recent rise of covid-19 cases without more learning disability (LD) nurses; notes that the NHS North West London Trust recently decided to recruit another learning disability nurse to address the issues that led to this increase in deaths; further notes that more LD nurses would help the Government implement its incoming Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training in Learning Disability and Autism; and calls on the Government to launch a campaign to support the recruitment of more learning disability nurses and get more into lead positions at hospitals.

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**920 Freedom to worship**Tabled: **23/09/20** Signatories: **4**

**Mr Gregory Campbell**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Paul Girvan**  
**Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson**

That this House notes recent court cases in the US where Churches that undertook reasonable restrictions while holding indoor worship services to help safeguard against the threat of covid-19 have been faced with more stringent demands, some being fined repeatedly as they remain open; and expresses the hope that across the democratic world, reasonable approaches and regulations can be taken which protect worshippers and their families, but do not extend to depriving them from the freedom to worship indoors.

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**923 A covid-19 recovery mental health strategy for children**Tabled: **24/09/20** Signatories: **4**

**Dr Lisa Cameron**  
**Mohammad Yasin**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House notes that a survey by the mental health charity Re-Think found that one third of children feel more anxious, sad and stressed now than before lockdown; further notes that the charity Action for Children has asked the Government to prioritise children's mental health in covid-19 recovery planning with sufficient funding; notes that at their press conference of 21 September 2020, Chief Medical Officer Professor Chris Whitty and Chief Scientific Officer Sir Patrick Vallance predicted that mental health would be further jeopardised if the virus goes out of control; and calls upon the Government to publish a distinctive Mental Health Strategy for Children and Young People, focusing on the covid-19 pandemic with an accompanying commitment that the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people will be placed at the heart of the overall Covid-19 Recovery Plan.

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**924 County lines and child criminal exploitation**Tabled: **24/09/20** Signatories: **11**

**Grahame Morris**  
**Ian Mearns**  
**Chris Stephens**  
**Liz Saville Roberts**  
**Claudia Webbe**  
**Mohammad Yasin**

Jim Shannon

Mike Hill

Crispin Blunt

That this House is alarmed at the expansion of county lines networks, recently exacerbated by covid-19; calls for clarification of laws to ensure that all young people who are groomed, coerced and controlled into committing crime are recognised as victims of trafficking and exploitation; advocates the adoption of a new public health approach to drug prevention that works with schools, pupil referral units and providers for those outside of mainstream education; notes the need for new local safeguarding partnerships enabling multi-agency work to identify and respond to child criminal exploitation; further notes that a system is required for seamlessly sharing data across borders and agencies and disrupting grooming and criminality that has migrated from the streets to encrypted apps; and calls upon the Government to introduce a stand-alone national strategy on child criminal exploitation that includes these recommendations as a matter of urgency.

**925 Mandatory reporting on plastic packaging**Tabled: **24/09/20** Signatories: **26**

**Geraint Davies**  
**Mr Robert Goodwill**  
**Layla Moran**  
**Liz Saville Roberts**  
**John McNally**  
**Claire Hanna**

Jim Shannon  
Tony Lloyd

Sarah Olney

Kate Osborne

That this House notes that UK supermarkets use some 114 billion pieces of throwaway plastic packaging each year; recognises that this equates to 653,000 tonnes of plastic waste, the equivalent of almost 3,000 747 jumbo jets; further recognises that almost all of this waste will end up polluting the natural environment; is concerned that many leading supermarkets in the UK fail to provide detailed data on the amount of plastic they use; believes that transparent reporting on plastic use is critical to reducing plastic waste; notes that existing pacts and pledges have failed to have a significant impact on the amount of plastic polluting the environment; backs campaign group A Plastic Planet's calls for UK supermarkets to transparently report their plastic use; and calls on the Government to introduce mandatory annual reporting on plastic packaging use by UK supermarkets alongside targets to reduce it.

**926 Removal of requirement to publicise Planning Notices in local newspapers**

Tabled: 28/09/20 Signatories: 4

Barry Gardiner  
 Jim Shannon  
 Jonathan Edwards  
 Mike Hill

This House recognises that local and regional newspapers, in print and digital form, reach 40.6 million people each week across the UK; notes that they perform vital democratic functions by nurturing debate, investigating local issues and running powerful campaigns that foster community identity and hold vested interests to account; considers that the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government proposals to remove the statutory requirement to publicise planning applications in local newspapers would make the planning process less transparent, less accountable and less democratic; and therefore urges the Government to recognise that local newspapers have the trust of the public and are best placed to distribute and publicise impartial factual details about planning applications in the form of planning notices.

**927 Giro d'Italia, S4C, Tinopolis and Geraint Thomas**

Tabled: 28/09/20 Signatories: 2

Jonathan Edwards  
 Jim Shannon

That this House congratulates S4C and Carmarthenshire based media production company Tinopolis for securing sole UK terrestrial media rights for the 2020 Giro d'Italia; notes that the Giro d'Italia is one of cycling's biggest events, consisting of 21 stages beginning in Sicily and finishing in Milan; and wishes Geraint Thomas from Wales well in his attempt to win the Maglia Rosa.

**928 Abertay University, UK university of the year for teaching quality**

Tabled: 28/09/20 Signatories: 2

Chris Law  
 Jim Shannon

That this House congratulates Abertay University and all of its staff for its award of UK University of the Year for Teaching Quality in The Times and The Sunday Times Good University Guide; further congratulates the institution for placing top in Scotland in the Guide for Social Inclusion; recognises that this followed a top placing in Europe earlier this year for its video games education in the Princeton Review; further recognises that Abertay University plays a vital role in supporting the growth of Dundee's creative and technology industries; and wishes all the staff and students at the University, both new and returning, all the best for this student year.

**929 Pride of Scotland Awards**

Tabled: 28/09/20 Signatories: 3

Owen Thompson  
 Jim Shannon  
 Jonathan Edwards

That this House congratulates Loanhead Post Office in Midlothian for being nominated for a Pride of Scotland award to recognise their outstanding community efforts during the covid-19 outbreak; welcomes the Pride of Scotland awards as an opportunity to shine a light on the extraordinary achievements of people of all ages and from all walks of life, as nominated by the public;



encourages anyone who knows an unsung hero in their community to nominate them at [www.prideofscotland.org](http://www.prideofscotland.org); and wishes every success to this new landmark event to celebrate and honour Scotland's inspirational citizens.

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**930 Beer Duty 2020**

Tabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **8**

**Jamie Stone**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Christine Jardine**  
**Layla Moran**

Daisy Cooper

Sarah Olney

That this House commends the Government for freezing Beer Duty at previous Budgets; acknowledges that again the UK has the highest total Beer Duty bill in Europe at £3.4 billion and a Beer Duty rate at three times the EU average, as well as 11 times that of Germany or Spain; notes that over 40 per cent of a brewery's turnover is Beer Duty making the tax on beer feel like a tax on pubs; further notes that the added effect of covid-19 puts pubs and breweries at risk of closing and therefore threatens the approximate 900,000 jobs that this industry provides; and calls on the Government to intervene by cutting Beer Duty by 25 per cent.

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**931 National Day of Prayer**

Tabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **11**

**Jim Shannon**  
**Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson**  
**Gavin Robinson**  
**Paul Girvan**  
**Andrew Selous**  
**Fiona Bruce**

Mr Gregory Campbell  
 Ian Paisley

Sir Mike Penning

Carla Lockhart

That this House notes the unprecedented position that the covid-19 pandemic has brought the nation to; further notes that in this time of economic and societal uncertainty the country should follow the lead of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and recognise the importance of prayer when Her Majesty said in her 2013 address that prayer helps us to renew ourselves; and calls on the Prime Minister to initiate a National Day of Prayer to enable those for whom this is important to seek God for strength, peace, comfort, hope, wisdom, forgiveness and even joy at this difficult time.

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**932 Celebrating Communities Award for Supporting Our Community Hillhouse**

Tabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **2**

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House notes that the annual Scottish Charity Awards ceremony took place virtually on 25 September 2020; understands that Supporting Our Community in Hillhouse won the Celebrating Communities Award at the Scottish Charity Awards; further understands that the Celebrating Communities Award was given to Supporting Our Communities for their work in tackling loneliness,

isolation and poor mental health; believes that the work done by Supporting Our Community in Hillhouse, Burnbank and Blantyre is absolutely critical in improving health and wellbeing in these communities, especially during the challenging circumstances created by covid-19; and congratulates all the volunteers at Supporting Our Communities on receiving this prestigious award and wishes them every success for the future.

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**933 Challenge Poverty Week: 5 to 11 October 2020**

Tabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **4**

**David Linden**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Ronnie Cowan**  
**Margaret Ferrier**

That this House celebrates the important work being undertaken by the Poverty Alliance during their Challenge Poverty Week; supports the various events taking place across Scotland to end the stigma around poverty and build awareness for solutions to poverty; and commits to advocating for those affected by poverty to ensure that the UK is a more just and equal society.

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**934 Online harassment and stalking of content creators**

Tabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **4**

**David Linden**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**John Nicolson**

That this House condemns the harassment and stalking of online content creators on platforms such as Twitch; notes these cases of online abuse need to be taken as seriously as offline abuse; recognises that more must be done to understanding how stalkers operate online, including knowledge of methods such as doxxing and using a VPN and urges action to be taken to prevent the abuse and harassment seen online against content creators.