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## Early Day Motions tabled on Thursday 1 October 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

#### 948 Support for Further Education colleges

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Robert Halfon**

That this House recognises the unique role that colleges play in supporting people, employers and communities to thrive and central role in rebuilding the economy; endorses the vision of the Independent Commission on the College of the Future for a strategic and expanded role for colleges in empowering people with opportunities for lifelong learning, boosting business productivity and innovation, and strengthening every community; welcomes the Government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee to allow adults to retrain and reskill through fully-funded technical college courses and the £1.5 billion capital fund to repair and upgrade college estates; but notes with concern that the recent National Audit Office report into the financial sustainability of colleges in England cites a 7 per cent real-terms decrease in funding per learner aged 16 to 19 between 2013-14 and 2018-19; further notes with concern that adult funding was cut by 40 per cent in the first half of the last decade and has been fixed in cash terms since then; recognises that colleges can only play their full role through long-term sustainable funding and a long term strategy which enjoys cross-party support; and calls on the Government to celebrate and support colleges by ensuring that colleges are empowered to deliver their full potential for people, productivity and place through adequate and sustainable funding and a new trust-based relationship with colleges seen as key strategic partners.

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#### 949 Chinese, Korean and Japanese family festivals 2020

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this Houses wishes a very happy Mid-Autumn Festival to our Chinese community and a happy Chuseok and Tsukimi to our Korean and Japanese communities, recognises that these are family orientated celebrations that are unfortunately being disrupted by the necessary restrictions in

place across these islands; appreciates the huge cultural, economic and social benefits that diverse migrant communities have brought here; and believes they are an important and integral part of society and looks forward to celebrating future festivals with our friends and neighbours.

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### 950 Problem drug use

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 5

**Tommy Sheppard**  
**Ronnie Cowan**  
**Ben Lake**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Grahame Morris**

That this House is appalled by the number of people dying from drug related deaths in the UK; welcomes the reports of the Scottish Affairs and Health Select Committees following their separate inquiries; supports the presentation of the Problem Drug Use Bill; notes that its implementation would ensure the drugs crisis is tackled from a health rather than justice perspective; further supports its calls to make provision for safe drug consumption facilities and to decriminalise the possession of small quantities of drugs for personal use; and calls on the Government to declare problem drug use a public health emergency.

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### 951 Nigel Owens 100 Test Caps

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Jonathan Edwards**

That this House warmly congratulates international rugby union referee Nigel Owens for being selected to officiate the forthcoming Autumn Nations Cup match between France and Italy; notes that this will be the 100th international Mr Owens has refereed, the first Official to reach the landmark; further notes that Mr Owens is the longest serving member of World Rugby's elite international panel; congratulates Mr Owens for refereeing some of the biggest games in rugby history during his 17 year career including the 2015 World Cup final; and pays tribute to Mr Owens' contribution to the game of rugby union and for being a global ambassador for Wales, the Welsh language and the LGBT+ community.

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### 952 International Day of Older Persons 2020

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House welcomes the establishment by the UN General Assembly of the International Day of Older Persons on 1 October each year; believes that older people have contributed greatly throughout their lives and deserve dignity and fairness in retirement; recognises the significant contribution many continue to make in retirement; acknowledges the value of wisdom and experienced gained throughout long lives; notes research by Independent Age which found Pension Credit is currently being received by just six in 10 (61 per cent) of those who should be receiving it, and which estimates that around 450,000 pensioners could move out of poverty if uptake was increased to 100 per cent; expresses concern that the UK Government is allowing billions of pounds of Pension Credit to go unclaimed; and demands decisive action from the UK Government to maximise the uptake of Pension Credit including a UK-wide campaign to raise awareness.

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**953 Nature Premium campaign**

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Tim Farron**

That this House expresses its support for the implementation of a Nature Premium to fund regular nature experiences for all children; notes that Government and academic research has demonstrated that time spent in nature will benefit children's mental and physical wellbeing and set them up to learn; further notes that a Nature Premium would be an effective way to support all children recovering from lockdown by increasing children's physical activity thereby reducing obesity, increasing Vitamin D levels thereby helping to fight virus infections and reducing stress levels making learning easier; highlights that the Nature Premium would support schools to develop outdoor education provision creating safer learning environments, while saving money on increased mental health intervention provision; and further highlights that Natural England have reported the increasing trend that in the percentage of adults who think that learning outside or about nature is especially important for their child at this time; and acknowledges that the Nature Premium would make children happier and aware of how they fit into the natural world increasing their respect for the countryside.

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**954 60 years of Nigerian Independence**

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Anne McLaughlin**

That this House congratulates Nigeria on 60 years of independence from the United Kingdom; understands that just before midnight on 30 September 1960, the lights at what is now Tafawa Balewa Square in Lagos were switched off and the British Union Jack lowered; notes that on the stroke of midnight on 1 October 1960 the lights went on again and the green white and green of the Nigerian flag was displayed signalling Nigeria becoming a fully Independent country; is not aware of any calls from Nigerians to return to British rule; commends the contribution many Nigerian citizens make to Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland; thanks, in particular, those Nigerians assisting and leading in the efforts to tackle Covid-19 in the UK; and wishes all Nigerians celebrating across the world a very happy 60th anniversary of Nigerian Independence Day.

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**955 Kinross Colts FC's support for local businesses**

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**John Nicolson**

That this House commends the players and trustees of Kinross Colts FC for their innovative loyalty scheme system to help support local business during the pandemic; notes that their effort comes at a spectacularly difficult time for many businesses and for grassroots football clubs; further notes that eight businesses in the area have already signed up and more are encouraged; and finally thanks Kinross Colts for their hard work in the community, of which they are an extremely valued and integral part.

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**956 Conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan**

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 1

**Bob Blackman**

That this House notes the acts of aggression by Armenia commencing on 27 September 2020 and continuing to escalate each day which further intensifies the armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan which is rooted in Armenia's illegal military control over Azerbaijan's Nagorno Karabakh

region and adjacent seven districts that in the early 1990s led to the death of 30,000 people and the fleeing of more than 1 million internally displaced persons from their homes, and risks dragging both Turkey and Russia into a wider conflict; calls on the UK Government to condemn Armenia for blatantly violating the ceasefire regime signed in 1994 and for using large-calibre weapons, mortar launchers and artillery in an intensive attack on the positions of the armed forces and civilians of Azerbaijan; and further calls on the Government to urge for the withdrawal of Armenian military forces from the illegally occupied territories of Azerbaijan as stated in UN Security Council resolutions adopted in 1993.

## 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.

### 898 **Ban on goods produced by state-sponsored forced labour**

Tabled: 17/09/20 Signatories: 33

**Siobhain McDonagh**

**Caroline Lucas**

**Paul Girvan**

**Andrew Gwynne**

**Mike Hill**

**Ian Blackford**

Alison Thewliss

That this House welcomes the United States Department of Home Security issuing five Withhold Release Orders which will ban the import of products from the People's Republic of China produced with state-sponsored forced labour in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region where the Chinese Communist Party government is engaged in systematic human rights abuses against the Uyghur people and other ethnic and religious minorities; notes that the latest orders cover computer parts made by Hefei Bitland Information Tehncology Co., cotton produced by Xinjang Junggar Cotton and Linen Co., clothing from the Yili Zhuowan Garment Manufacturing Co., hair products made in the Lop County Hair Product Industrial Park in Xinjiang, and all products made with labour from the notorious Lop County No.4 Vocational Skills Education and Training Centre, the latter of which is little better than a slave labour concentration camp through which, and through a network of similar camps, genocide is now being perpetrated by the Chinese Communist Party against the Uyghur people; and urges the Government to review and upgrade its own import control arrangements to ensure that British consumers are protected from inadvertently supporting slave labour and genocide in China.

**900 Moria Refugee Camp in Greece**Tabled: **21/09/20** Signatories: **8**

**Hywel Williams**  
**Jonathan Edwards**  
**Ben Lake**  
**Liz Saville Roberts**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Caroline Lucas**

Alison Thewliss

That this House expresses deep concern at the ongoing crisis in the Moria Refugee Camp in Greece; notes with alarm that the Greek authorities are struggling to move thousands of migrants to safety after the overpopulated refugee camp burned down; is distressed that an estimated 13,000 people were left without access to clean water, food, shelter and proper sanitation; is disturbed by the news that during the operational move, the NGO Médecins Sans Frontières were denied access to its new clinic in Lesbos for several hours by the Greek police, leaving thousands of refugees without the necessary medical aid that they need to survive; is appalled by the living conditions that migrants in the Moria Camp have had to endure for years; emphasises that refugee camps must meet basic living requirements that ensure the safety and security of the inhabitants; calls on the UK Government to work with European partners to find a solution to this issue; and further calls on the UK Government to grant asylum to the most vulnerable migrants that are still trapped in Moria Camp.

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**912 Riverside Hall's response to covid-19**Tabled: **22/09/20** Signatories: **6**

**Chris Stephens**  
**Hannah Bardell**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Law**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House commends the Riverside Hall in Govan, Glasgow, for their inspiring work during the covid-19 outbreak by supporting families and children in the community with the delivery of over 5,000 emergency food parcels to isolated pensioners and local children and the offer of a regular prescription pick-up service; further commends the effort of their staff and local volunteers at the hall to bring a little cheer and combat the risk of mental health difficulties and social isolation among vulnerable people in the Govan area by reaching out with daily contact to make sure that those people knew they had support if they needed it; and thanks everyone involved with that community hall including staff, external agencies and volunteers who gave up their time to support those people most at need in their community at a time of national difficulty.

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**914 Upgrading digital selling skills to safeguard jobs**

Tabled: 22/09/20 Signatories: 8

**Martyn Day**  
**Hannah Bardell**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Chris Law**  
**Mike Hill**  
**Lloyd Russell-Moyle**

Alison Thewliss

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.

**917 Humanitarian and human rights situation in Zimbabwe**

Tabled: 23/09/20 Signatories: 7

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Brendan O'Hara**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Marion Fellows**  
**Sir Peter Bottomley**

Alison Thewliss

That this House is deeply concerned about the on-going humanitarian and human rights crisis in Zimbabwe, despite the fresh start promised by President Mnangagwa when he took office over two years ago after the end of former President Mugabe's rule; notes with alarm that over half the population is dependent on food aid, as well as the virtual collapse of the health and education systems, and more general infrastructure; further notes with regret that fundamental rights are routinely being violated, with reportedly more than 70 Government critics having been abducted and tortured by men suspected to be state security agents in the last year, including MDC Alliance MP Joanna Mamombe and activists Cecilia Chimbi and Netsai Marova, who are now incredibly being tried for faking their abduction and torture; urges the Zimbabwean Government to undertake meaningful political and economic reform, and particularly to investigate alleged serious human rights abuses and corrupt practice over the last two years and prosecute those responsible; and calls on the Government to continue providing vital humanitarian assistance to Zimbabweans on the basis of need, to support and protect Zimbabweans committed to democracy, rule of law and an equitable economic recovery, and to apply targeted sanctions on those responsible for the most serious human rights abuses.

**918 Death penalty sentences against protestors in Iran**

Tabled: 23/09/20 Signatories: 9

**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Marion Fellows**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Jonathan Edwards**

Alison Thewliss

That this House is shocked by the execution of champion wrestler, Navid Afkari and the alarming frequency of death penalty sentences being handed down to those involved in anti-Government protests in 2018 and 2019 in Iran; notes with alarm that the execution of Mr. Afkari is the second recent execution in connection with those protests and that his trial was held behind closed doors and allegedly relied on forced confessions extracted under torture; echoes the call of UN human rights experts earlier this month to the Iranian Government to immediately halt all executions of protestors sentenced to death; and calls on the Government to raise relevant concerns with the Iranian Government as a matter of urgency to ensure that the death penalty is imposed only for the most serious crimes and after proceedings meeting the highest level of respect for fair trial and due process standards.

**921 Maira Shahbaz and child abduction, forced conversion and marriage in Pakistan**

Tabled: 23/09/20 Signatories: 20

**Brendan O'Hara**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Patrick Grady**  
**Dr Lisa Cameron**  
**David Linden**  
**Marion Fellows**

Alison Thewliss

That this House notes with grave concern reports from Pakistan on Maira Shahbaz, a 14-year-old Christian girl who was abducted at gunpoint from the streets of Madina Town in Faisalabad by three men, forced to convert to Islam and then marry one of her abductors, Mr. Nakash; is further concerned that, despite her family producing a birth certificate showing Maira to be 14-years-old and the Grand Mufti of a local mosque condemning as false the marriage certificate produced in court by Mr Nakash, the Lahore High Court overruled an earlier decision by the Faisalabad Sessions and District court to place her in a women's shelter, subsequently forcing her to return to Mr Nakash; understands that recently, Maira managed to escape from the home of Mr. Nakash and that she and her family are currently in hiding; calls on the UK government to do everything in its power to help Maira and all of the estimated 1,000 Pakistani Christian and Hindu girls who are kidnapped, forced to convert and marry their abductor every year.

**922 Relocation of asylum seekers and refugees from Aegean Islands**Tabled: **23/09/20** Signatories: **16**

**Stuart C McDonald**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Joanna Cherry**  
**Deidre Brock**  
**Caroline Lucas**

Ian Blackford

Alison Thewliss

Jamie Stone

That this House recognises the deteriorating conditions faced by asylum seekers and refugees on the Aegean Islands and notes the recent fire at the Moria camp in Lesbos which has left 13,000 people without shelter; welcomes the fact that Germany, France and Norway have agreed to take some of those vulnerable people; and calls on the UK government to participate in relocating asylum seekers and refugees from the Aegean Islands to local authorities in the UK and to provide the necessary support to enable that relocation.

**925 Mandatory reporting on plastic packaging**Tabled: **24/09/20** Signatories: **40**

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

Rosie Cooper

Clive Efford

Dan Jarvis

Nadia Whittome

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: 9

Barry Gardiner  
 Jim Shannon  
 Jonathan Edwards  
 Mike Hill  
 Sir Peter Bottomley  
 Lloyd Russell-Moyle

Grahame Morris

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.

**930 Beer Duty 2020**

Tabled: 28/09/20 Signatories: 12

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

Claire Hanna

Tim Farron

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.

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

Tabled: 28/09/20 Signatories: 27

David Linden  
 Jim Shannon  
 Ronnie Cowan  
 Margaret Ferrier  
 Carol Monaghan  
 Allan Dorans

Alison Thewliss  
 Whitford

Steven Bonnar  
 John Nicolson

Dr Philippa  
 Owen Thompson

Marion Fellows  
Stewart Hosie

Neale Hanvey  
Neil Gray

Stuart C McDonald

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: **6**

David Linden  
Jim Shannon  
Jonathan Edwards  
John Nicolson  
Allan Dorans  
Alison Thewliss

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.

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

Tabled: **29/09/20** Signatories: **9**

Martyn Day  
Sir Peter Bottomley  
Carol Monaghan  
Allan Dorans  
Jonathan Edwards  
John McDonnell

Alison Thewliss

Marion Fellows

Jim Shannon

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: 17

Hywel Williams  
 Andrew Rosindell  
 Stewart Hosie  
 Sir Peter Bottomley  
 Joanna Cherry  
 Ronnie Cowan

Alison Thewliss

Gavin Newlands

Marion Fellows

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.

**937 Government funding for zoos and aquariums**

Tabled: 29/09/20 Signatories: 9

Andrew Rosindell  
 Christine Jardine  
 Bill Wiggin  
 Sir George Howarth  
 Sir David Amess  
 Sir Peter Bottomley

Alison Thewliss

Jim Shannon

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.

**938 Local Legends award for Billington's Deli in Lenzie**Tabled: **29/09/20** Signatories: **5**

**Amy Callaghan**  
**Allan Dorans**  
**Margaret Ferrier**  
**Marion Fellows**  
**Jim Shannon**

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.

**939 Stars in their Homes nominated for a Pride of Scotland Award**Tabled: **30/09/20** Signatories: **4**

**Owen Thompson**  
**Steven Bonnar**  
**Marion Fellows**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House congratulates mother and son duo Anne and Grant Stanley of Loanhead Midlothian for being nominated for a Pride of Scotland award in the Community Spirit category; notes that the duo launched their Stars in their Homes Lockdown Entertainment group to bring entertainment and support to Midlothian residents through gathering more than 65 performers, singers and dancers; commends that duo's hard work to fundraise for good causes and entertain and support their community; 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; and encourages anyone who knows an unsung hero in their community to nominate them for a Pride of Scotland Award.

**940 Saudi-led coalition military action against Yemen**Tabled: **30/09/20** Signatories: **3**

**Neale Hanvey**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House condemns the UK Government's continued facilitation of the supply of arms to the Saudi-led coalition bombing Yemeni civilians.

**941 Resist China Global Day of Action**Tabled: **30/09/20** Signatories: **2**

**Mr Virendra Sharma**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House notes that 1 October is celebrated in The People's Republic of China as National Day to officially commemorate the formal establishment of the nation; further notes that the Chinese

government celebrates this annual day with a military parade in Beijing; recognises that The People's Republic of China is reported to have up to three million Uyghur Muslims in concentration camps, forced 500,000 Tibetan farmers into labour camps, and a similar programme in the western Xinjiang (East Turkistan) region; welcomes the Resist China Global Day of Action to highlight the plight of millions; pressures the Government of The People's Republic of China to release political prisoners; and urges the UK Government to use its power to work with international partners and allies to bring change and freedom to the region.

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#### 942 Importance of eye care

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 4

**Jim Shannon**  
**Paul Girvan**  
**Sir Mike Penning**  
**Alison Thewliss**

That this House notes the end of National Eye Health Week; further notes the work of the brain tumour charity which highlights that approximately 30 per cent of people who have brain tumours experience visual symptoms and 60 per cent of people with brain tumours experience headaches and they visit their GPs without going for an eye test; urges people to be mindful that eye tests do not simply indicate if you need glasses but can give greater insight into other problems; and further encourages the general public to ensure that their two year eye test is an important part of any health routine.

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#### 943 Funding for school counselling services

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 4

**Jon Trickett**  
**Sir Peter Bottomley**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Ian Lavery**

That this House notes with concern research from the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy which found that 80 per cent of young people say that their mental health has worsened during the covid-19 outbreak; further notes with concern that there could be significant future human and financial costs associated with the covid-19 outbreak unless there is Government intervention to stem that growing mental health crisis among young people; believes that provision of funding for counselling in all schools and colleges in England is the best way to address that problem; acknowledges that the average wait time for counselling in schools being 21 days, compared to CAMHS having an average wait time of 188 days, supports that viewpoint; and therefore calls on the Government to allocate resources in the Comprehensive Spending Review that are aimed at tackling the growing crisis of mental health among young people through a national commitment to counselling provision for all children in England's secondary schools.

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**944 Extension of protection measures for renters during the covid-19 outbreak**

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 4

**Jon Trickett**  
**Claudia Webbe**  
**Jim Shannon**  
**Ian Lavery**

That this House is concerned about the large number of tenants facing eviction as a result of the ban on evictions coming to an end as covid-19 lockdown restrictions are eased; notes with concern research by Shelter which found that 227,000 private renters have fallen into arrears since the start of covid-19 lockdown in March 2020; expresses concern that 1 in 6 parents who rent privately, equivalent to 458,000 people, have concerns that their family could become homeless as a result of the covid-19 outbreak; further notes with concern that while people served with an eviction notice from August 2020 have been given a six month notice period, that exemption does not apply to the estimated 55,000 people who received notice of eviction between March 2020 and August 2020; and calls on the Government to extend the ban on evicting renters during the covid-19 outbreak in order to avert a winter homelessness crisis.

**945 Black History Month 2020**

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 11

**Anne McLaughlin**  
**Stuart C McDonald**  
**Dr Philippa Whitford**  
**Alison Thewliss**  
**Sir Peter Bottomley**  
**Ian Blackford**

Steven Bonnar  
 Owen Thompson

Angela Crawley  
 Jim Shannon

Marion Fellows

That this House notes that October is Black History Month and welcomes the many events and initiatives across these islands to mark it; resolves to encourage every single person living on these islands to take advantage of all events being online to raise their own awareness of the equal contribution made to the modern world by people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities; resolves to work towards the day when black history does not need a month of its own and is acknowledged, taught and celebrated every bit as much as white history.

**946 Glenkinchie Distillery Green Tourism Gold Award**

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 4

**Kenny MacAskill**  
**Steven Bonnar**  
**Marion Fellows**  
**Jim Shannon**

That this House congratulates the Glenkinchie Distillery in East Lothian for its receipt of a Green Tourism Gold Award; welcomes the commitment of Diageo to improving the sustainability of its distilleries and attractions; notes that the Distillery has done significant work to achieve that award in the areas of water and energy usage, waste, nature conservation and travel; further welcomes the commitment from the team at the Distillery to continue the work of improving their environmental effect across the distillery complex and as a vital part of East Lothian's high-quality drink and tourism economies; and looks forward to seeing that improvement in action as the distillery re-opens for business in the near future.