



Published: Thursday 8 October 2020

Early Day Motions tabled on Wednesday 7 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

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

New EDMs

981 **Congratulating Prime Minister Ardern on New Zealand's response to coronavirus**

Tabled: 7/10/20 Signatories: 1

Richard Burgon

That this House congratulates New Zealand's Labour Government, led by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, on its 7 October 2020 declaration that the country has eliminated local transmission of coronavirus; notes that this comes after there were no new cases for 10 days in Auckland, its largest city, after a cluster of 179 cases there in August ended a 102-day run without any cases in all of New Zealand; further notes that an extensive testing and contact tracing operation has been key to this success; recognises that the elimination strategy pursued by New Zealand, often known as Zero Covid, is an effective way of not only saving lives but allows for the reopening of the economy; notes that the effective elimination of the virus will put an end to the 100-person limit to public gatherings and social distancing rules in bars and restaurants in Auckland; and calls on the Government to learn from the successful implementation of a Zero Covid strategy by New Zealand.

982 **Financial flexibility of Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Governments**

Tabled: 7/10/20 Signatories: 1

Jonathan Edwards

That this House notes the joint statement by the respective Finance Ministers of the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Governments on the 6 of October 2020 calling for greater flexibility, fairness and clarity by the UK Government to enable their respective administrations weather the economic, social and healthcare challenges posed by the covid-19 pandemic; further notes that those statements were issued by Ministers representing three different political parties indicating the serious concerns of the three devolved Governments; notes that in the case of Wales, two thirds of the population are living under local covid-19 lockdown conditions; and calls on the UK Government to meaningfully engage with the devolved Governments to urgently provide greater

flexibility, a purposeful role in spending review decisions and certainty over replacement of lost EU funding.

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.

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

Tabled: **23/09/20** Signatories: **24**

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

Paul Girvan

Steven Bonnar

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.

924 **County lines and child criminal exploitation**

Tabled: **24/09/20** Signatories: **20**

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

Paula Barker

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: **44**

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

Olivia Blake

Paul Girvan

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.

930 Beer Duty 2020

Tabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **18**

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

Mr Alistair Carmichael

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.

931 National Day of PrayerTabled: **28/09/20** Signatories: **14**

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

Martin Vickers

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.

940 Saudi-led coalition military action against YemenTabled: **30/09/20** Signatories: **10**

Neale Hanvey
Alison Thewliss
Jim Shannon
Allan Dorans
Chris Law
Hannah Bardell

John McDonnell

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

942 Importance of eye careTabled: **30/09/20** Signatories: **7**

Jim Shannon
Paul Girvan
Sir Mike Penning
Alison Thewliss
Bob Blackman
John McDonnell

Sir Jeffrey M Donaldson

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.

943 Funding for school counselling services

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 9

Jon Trickett
Sir Peter Bottomley
Jim Shannon
Ian Lavery
Caroline Lucas
Claudia Webbe

John McDonnell

Mohammad Yasin

Paula Barker

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.

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

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 8

Jon Trickett
Claudia Webbe
Jim Shannon
Ian Lavery
Caroline Lucas
Chris Stephens

John McDonnell

Paula Barker

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.

947 SATS in the 2020-21 academic year

Tabled: 30/09/20 Signatories: 7

Daisy Cooper
Caroline Lucas
Layla Moran
Jamie Stone
John McDonnell
Sarah Olney

Paula Barker

That this House recognises the enormous effect that the covid-19 pandemic has had on pupils' mental health; further recognises the Institute of Education findings that 80 per cent of headteachers agree that SATs have a negative effect on pupils' wellbeing; believes that the UK's teach to the test approach to education has led to valuing high stakes exams above other more meaningful measures of attainment; further believes that high-stakes testing, exemplified by SATs, distorts the work of schools, narrows the curriculum, increases stress on pupils, adds to teachers' workload, and affects most severely on those who are most in need; notes that SATs do not provide teachers with any further information on their students' progress than was not already available to them; further notes that during the covid-19 pandemic teachers are having to spend ever more time on pastoral care and that preparing students for tests that are not useful is wasting valuable time that could be used more productively elsewhere; further believes that parents want teachers to spend more time teaching and less time testing pupils; and calls on the Government to scrap SATs for primary age pupils in the 2020-21 academic year.

952 International Day of Older Persons 2020

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 10

Anne McLaughlin
Patricia Gibson
Allan Dorans
Hywel Williams
Liz Saville Roberts
Chris Law

John McDonnell

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.

956 Conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan

Tabled: 1/10/20 Signatories: 3

Bob Blackman
Sir Peter Bottomley
Martin Vickers

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.

**957 Black History Month and the British Hotel and the Scots Jamaican Nurse
Mary Seacole**

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 14

Anne McLaughlin
Patrick Grady
Sir Peter Bottomley
Owen Thompson
Brendan O'Hara
Jonathan Edwards

John McDonnell

Paula Barker

That this House notes October is Black History Month; welcomes the opportunity to highlight some of those people largely forgotten in history but who have made a significant contribution nonetheless; celebrates the tale of Scots Jamaican nurse Mary Seacole who set up her own convalescent home named The British Hotel, to tend wounded soldiers with traditional herbal remedies in the Crimean war of the 1850s; considers it all the more impressive that she did so after being rejected by the War Office and by fundraising for the costs herself; understands she was so well loved for the voluntary work she carried out that when she returned to London in 1857, destitute, and a fundraising gala in her honour on the banks of the River Thames attracted 80,000 guests; understands that Mary Seacole then disappeared from history books for over a century; finds it inexplicable that when her contribution began to be acknowledged in more recent times, there were campaigns against doing so; and considers it fitting that she is now considered one of the greatest black role models and has been remembered with a community hospital named after her in Surrey and a statue erected in her honour outside St Thomas' Hospital.

958 Scotland Malawi Partnership virtual AGM 2020

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 6

Patrick Grady [R]
Owen Thompson
Drew Hendry
Chris Stephens
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar

That this House congratulates the Scotland-Malawi Partnership on its 2020 Annual General Meeting event, held virtually for the first time; notes that over 280 participants joined the event from Scotland, Malawi and elsewhere, the largest gathering for an AGM in the organisation's history; thanks the President of Malawi, Dr Lazarus Chakwera, and the First Minister of Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon, for presenting keynote addresses to the meeting, as well as the many participants who led discussions on the impact of coronavirus in Malawi and how the two countries can build back better from the pandemic; notes that the event closed with a performance from Malawian comedian Daliso Chabonda; thanks all the staff and volunteers of the partnership who contributed to a successful event; and looks forward to ongoing use of virtual and remote technology to enable as many people from both countries as possible to contribute to the work of the Partnership in the future.

959 Reopening of social care day centres

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 3

Apsana Begum
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
John McDonnell

That this House has concerns regarding the re-opening of social care day centres; notes that no specific guidance has been issued by the Government on reopening such centres; further notes that disproportionate amounts of funding have been made available to commercial and retail sectors in comparison to public services such as social care; is concerned that, due to devolved responsibilities in reopening day centres, there will be a postcode lottery created; recognises the aims of charity Headway, the UK-wide charity that works to improve life after brain injury, to advocate that survivors of brain injury are afforded the same opportunities as anyone else in society, as values that should be supported; recognises that after a nationwide lockdown earlier this year, many who rely on social care infrastructures will have been without support for some time; calls on the Government to issue specific guidance to assist with the reopening of social care day centres; and further calls on the Government to allocate proportionate funding in order for local authorities to reopen such centres evenly across the country.

960 Support for Learning Service

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 7

Apsana Begum
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Mick Whitley
Kate Osborne
Zarah Sultana
John McDonnell

Paula Barker

That this House notes that Support for Learning Services provide early intervention, assessment and support for children with SEND from birth to 25, working with families, nurseries and schools to enable all children to be fully included in their local settings and communities and to achieve positive outcomes; further notes that evidence shows that the covid-19 outbreak has hit disabled children and their families disproportionately and deepened inequalities; is therefore concerned at the proposal to reduce Tower Hamlets Support for Learning Service by about 50 percent which will force schools to take on more responsibilities and work; is alarmed that at a time when there is a spike in need, the capacity of schools, central services and local authorities are being undermined by underfunding and cuts; and calls on the Government to immediately increase funding levels for SEND to ensure provision is maintained and expanded where necessary.

962 TSB branch closures and financial inclusion

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 6

Patricia Gibson
Patrick Grady
Owen Thompson
Drew Hendry
Chris Stephens
Steven Bonnar

That this House condemns the decision of TSB Bank to close its branches in Kilbirnie, Largs and Saltcoats in North Ayrshire; recognises that this follows the closure of Royal Bank of Scotland and Clydesdale Bank branches across North Ayrshire and Arran; understands that local communities, particularly elderly and disabled residents, will suffer because of this decision; notes that the commitment to ensure 94 per cent of customers remain within 20 minutes travel time of a branch does not consider those without access to private vehicles; is concerned that forcing customers into lengthy journeys by public transport in order to bank places people at greater risk during a global health pandemic; believes these branch closures will adversely affect local businesses and town centres at a time when many are already struggling; further understands the impact for bank staff who may face redundancy at a time when the economy is damaged by the uncertainty of Brexit and the global health pandemic; and is extremely disappointed by the lack of action from the Government in working with high street banks to deliver banking hubs for communities and thereby ensure financial inclusion and urges TSB Bank to reconsider these closures, so that North Ayrshire and Arran communities are not deprived of the opportunity to bank locally.

963 Down's Syndrome Awareness Month

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 9

Dr Lisa Cameron
Patrick Grady
Sir Peter Bottomley
Brendan O'Hara
Jonathan Edwards
Drew Hendry

Steven Bonnar

Gavin Robinson

That this House celebrates World Down's Syndrome Awareness Month, which commences on October 1st 2020; recognises the remarkable contribution people with Down's syndrome bring to our families, workplaces, communities and society at large; and welcomes the support of organisations, such as Down's Syndrome Scotland, for raising awareness and providing help, encouragement and advice to families, schools and wider institutions to make sure that every citizen has the right to reach their full potential and campaigns tirelessly to end discrimination against individuals with Down's syndrome.

964 Anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 15

Apsana Begum
Sir Peter Bottomley
Jonathan Edwards
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Stephen Farry
Chris Stephens

John McDonnell

Sam Tarry

Paula Barker

That this House marks the 84th anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street on 4 October when in 1936, Oswald Mosley and members of the British Union of Fascists were blocked from marching through East London by the Jewish community, trade unionists, socialists and others; recognises the continuing importance of the Battle of Cable Street in inspiring communities uniting together in solidarity in the fight against the far right; pays tribute to the rich cultural and political history of the Jewish community in East London; and reaffirms its commitment to the fight against racism, fascism and antisemitism.

966 Edinburgh Poverty Commission

Tabled: 5/10/20 Signatories: 2

Christine Jardine
John McDonnell

That this House notes the publication of the final report of the Edinburgh Poverty Commission; welcomes the aim of the Commission to eradicate poverty in the city within the next decade; commends the work of the project's commissioners; further welcomes the next stage of the process as a citizen- and community-led effort to tackle the root causes of poverty in the city; celebrates the outstanding work of Edinburgh's third sector in tackling entrenched poverty; and calls on the Government to work with the Commission to act on the recommendations of its report.

969 Pakistan Protection of Religious Minorities BillTabled: **6/10/20** Signatories: **6**

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

That this House notes that a Bill calling for the protection of religious minorities in Pakistan was rejected by the Pakistani Senate on Thursday 24 September; regrets that Senators did not take the opportunity presented by the Bill to take action against rising violations of the right to freedom of religion or belief in Pakistan; expresses deep concern about the worsening persecution of minority religious and belief communities in Pakistan, especially the abduction, forced conversion and marriage of thousands of young girls from those communities annually; calls on Pakistani legislators and authorities to do more to tackle these human rights violations; offers the support of this House to help Pakistan's human rights response; and urges the UK and Pakistani Governments to do everything in their power to protect minority religious and belief communities in Pakistan.

970 National Minimum WageTabled: **6/10/20** Signatories: **9**

John McDonnell
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Claudia Webbe
Olivia Blake
Clive Lewis
Ian Lavery

Jonathan Edwards

Paula Barker

Zarah Sultana

That this House notes that the Low Pay Commission (LPC) will shortly be making its recommendations to Government for the April 2021 increase in the National Minimum Wage; further notes that the LPC consulted on a 49p rise to £9.21 per hour in April 2021; is concerned by reports that this proposed increase may now be significantly reduced or minimum wage rates frozen; notes estimates that suggest 21 per cent of UK workers are paid less than the real living wage, as set by the Living Wage Foundation; believes that increasing wages for low paid workers is an essential part of reducing poverty and increasing economic demand; and therefore calls on the Chancellor of the Exchequer to authorise a significant increase in the minimum wage preferably to at least £10 per hour for all workers.

971 TSB Closures in MidlothianTabled: **6/10/20** Signatories: **5**

Owen Thompson
Martyn Day
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar
Drew Hendry

That this House condemns TSB Bank's decision to close its Dalkeith and Penicuik branches; recognises that this follows a long succession of bank closures in Midlothian; notes that there are no alternative TSB branches nearby to serve the busy communities of Dalkeith and Penicuik, and that the Post Office cannot be expected to pick up the pieces; further notes that, although Midlothian

is Scotland's fastest growing region, many customers will now have to travel to Musselburgh or Cameron Toll in Edinburgh for their banking; recognises that there remains a strong need for choice between face to face and other forms of banking, and for cash and counter transactions; and calls on banks to work to do everything they can to make it easier for their local customers to access their services and not close the doors permanently during a time of crisis during which many businesses are already struggling.

972 Tackling child food insecurity

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 5

Robert Halfon
John McDonnell
Mohammad Yasin
Tracey Crouch
Andrew Selous

That this House believes no child should go hungry; welcomes Government action to provide Free School Meals over the school summer holidays; recognises that families are still struggling to afford food, that 11 per cent of parents and 6 per cent of children have directly experienced food insecurity in the last month and that food bank usage is expected to be 61 per cent higher in winter 2020-21 than last year; believes that further action to protect vulnerable children is needed; calls on the Government to implement the recommendations in the National Food Strategy Part 1 to increase the value of and expand eligibility for Healthy Start vouchers, expand eligibility for Free School Meals, and extend the Holiday Activities and Food programme; and notes that alongside minimising child food insecurity these recommendations will also address inequalities, improve the long-term health and resilience of the population, reduce childhood obesity, improve children's academic performance, support parents to stay in work during the holidays, and ease the strain on the welfare system.

973 Justice for Osime Brown

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 22

Jamie Stone
Wera Hobhouse
Anne McLaughlin
Layla Moran
Clive Lewis
John McDonnell

Tommy Sheppard
 Mohammad Yasin
 Munira Wilson
 Paula Barker
 Nadia Whittome
 Richard Thomson

Mr Virendra Sharma
 Steven Bonnar
 Tim Farron
 Kate Osborne
 Stephen Farry

Christine Jardine
 Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck
 Grahame Morris
 Zarah Sultana
 Ms Diane Abbott

That this House acknowledges 21-year-old Osime Brown's autism and the behavioural challenges that come with it; further acknowledges the Home Office's plans to deport Osime to Jamaica where he has not lived since he was four years old and has never returned to; notes Osime's mother's words that if they deport him, he'll die; further notes that, although a friend testified that Osime was not directly involved with the crime, Osime is currently in prison where he is self-harming to the point that he has hundreds of scars on his body; recognises the Citizen's Advice Bureau's advice which states that if one is detained despite being vulnerable, one should apply for bail; calls on the Government to acknowledge Osime's autism, dyslexia, learning disabilities, and PTSD; further calls

on the Government to release Osime on bail rather than being moved to a holding facility that is not properly equipped to meet his needs, remove the call for Osime's deportation, and see that Osime finally receives the support he needs for his disabilities.

974 Tron St Mary's Church and the Cannae Sing Choir

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 2

Anne McLaughlin
Drew Hendry

That this House congratulates Tron St Mary's church for its tireless efforts during the covid-19 lockdown to ensure that local residents did not go without; appreciates the efforts both before and during the pandemic to foster a spirit of inclusion and togetherness in the community through its work with the Chinese community and those for whom English is a second language; applauds its commitment to both community resilience and climate action with its home growers projects and repair workshops; welcomes the support from the Climate Challenge Fund and the Scottish Government's Greener Scotland fund; thanks the church for the hundreds of wellbeing phone calls to local people; celebrates the decision to take the Cannae Sing choir online during lockdown; and looks forward to the continued success of the Wee Church with the Big Heart.

975 French paternity leave

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 7

David Linden
Martyn Day
John McDonnell
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar
Drew Hendry

Gavin Robinson

That this House commends France's doubling of paid paternity leave for new fathers to 28 days; praises the fact that seven days of this paternity leave will be obligatory; advocates longer paternity pay in the UK; believes that longer paternity leave helps to fight against gender inequality in the home, helps to prevent post-natal depression in parents and allows parents to spend valuable time with their newborns; and urges the Government to significantly increase paid paternity leave throughout the UK.

976 Kilcreggan primary school UNICEF rights respecting award

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 4

Brendan O'Hara
Martyn Day
Steven Bonnar
Drew Hendry

That this House congratulates the pupils and staff of Kilcreggan primary school in Argyll and Bute on receiving the prestigious Silver rights respecting school award from UNICEF; notes that the award was made in recognition of the excellent progress that the school has achieved in embedding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into its ethos and curriculum; commends the great work of the pupils who, among a variety of activities, rewrote the words to the school songs, made posters for display around the school and wrote articles all about the importance of

respecting the rights of the child; acknowledges the significant role played by the school's steering group which organised an event on World book day to raise money for the Save the Children campaign to provide books to children throughout the world; thanks the staff of Kilcreggan primary school for the outstanding work they are doing; and wishes all the pupils every success in the future.

977 Kit Tarka Foundation

Tabled: **6/10/20** Signatories: **4**

David Linden
Martyn Day
Jonathan Edwards
Drew Hendry

That this House recognises the vital work done by the Kit Tarka Foundation; notes the importance of raising awareness of neonatal Herpes virus and the effect it has on families across the UK; highlights the fact that it is estimated one baby a week will die from this preventable illness; and urges the Government to commit to funding research for neonatal Herpes and to raise awareness of this deadly virus.

978 Whispering Bob's All Stars

Tabled: **6/10/20** Signatories: **3**

Kevin Brennan
Ian Lavery
John McDonnell

That this House notes that 27 October 2020 will see the release of Stand By Me, a recording to raise funds for Help Musicians the 99 year old charity which has continued to provide vital support to thousands of music creators during the covid-19 pandemic; further notes that the record has been co-ordinated by Whispering Bob Harris OBE former host of the famous Old Grey Whistle Test, who is celebrating his 50 years in broadcasting this year, is one of the UK's most popular and knowledgeable broadcasting icons, and who is a genuine national treasure; further believes it is absolutely fitting that he is at the forefront of a new release of this iconic song and that a huge array of artists have joined forces to create Whispering Bob's All Stars to perform the song remotely; encourages the public to support the release and calls on the Government to do so also by providing greater financial support to musicians who cannot perform to a live audience as a result of the Government's covid-19 restrictions.

979 Enable young people with learning disabilities to access their own money

Tabled: **6/10/20** Signatories: **7**

Anne McLaughlin
Dr Philippa Whitford
Martyn Day
John McDonnell
Jonathan Edwards
Steven Bonnar

Drew Hendry

That this House notes that the first Child Trust Funds, established 18 years ago, are being paid out to recipients this month; notes that many young people will receive upwards of £1,000 at an

important time in their lives; expresses concern that no mechanism has been put in place to enable parents of children with learning disabilities to access their savings; understands that under the Mental Capacity Act 2005, young people with some kinds of learning disabilities are unable to make financial decisions for themselves; further understands that this leaves families with the only option of pursuing legal action; notes this has the potential to cost more than the savings; further notes that this is estimated to affect around 180,000 young people; considers these young people may face many barriers in their lives and the job of governments is to break down barriers and create equality of opportunity; and calls on the Government to help these young people to receive the funds to which they are entitled.

980 Meeting the communication needs and preferences of people with hearing loss and deafness during the covid-19 outbreak

Tabled: 6/10/20 Signatories: 12

Olivia Blake
Claudia Webbe
Bell Ribeiro-Addy
Ian Lavery
Kate Osborne
Sir Mike Penning

John McDonnell
Mohammad Yasin

Sam Tarry
Gavin Robinson

Dawn Butler
Paula Barker

That this House recognises that the use of opaque face masks can act as a barrier to communication for the 12 million people with hearing loss across the UK; welcomes the recent approval of a transparent mask by the Department of Health and Social Care; asks the Government to issue further guidance for health and social care providers to ensure that the context in which transparent masks can be used is fully understood; urges the Government to increase the supply of transparent masks in health and social care settings and provide deaf awareness and communication tips where transparent masks are not available; further urges the Government to remind health and social care providers of their obligations under the Accessible Information Standard in meeting the communication needs and preferences of people with hearing loss and deafness; and calls on the Government to include transparent masks within the Government's free personal protective equipment offer for social care providers.