

Stephen Kinnock MP

November 2018 Newsletter



STEPHEN KINNOCK MP
Labour, Aberavon

BBC WALES TODAY

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A Strong Voice For Aberavon

News from the Commons



Committee For Exiting The EU Hears From Government Department Permanent Secretaries

The Committee heard from Government department permanent secretaries that a no deal option would cost UK exporters £4.5bn-£6bn, only 2% of British businesses are prepared, and there are no proper plans for reciprocal healthcare. You can watch at <https://bit.ly/2PW5fTz>



Raab And Meaningful Vote

In the House I questioned Dominic Raab over a meaningful vote on the Brexit deal. You can watch the exchange at <https://bit.ly/2FnX5Uz>



Backstop Plans For Irish Border

The Committee for Exiting the EU heard from representatives of industries operating on both sides of the Irish border. I asked about the systems to track and examine goods crossing the Irish border, about organised crime exploiting loopholes in those systems and VAT.

You can watch at <https://bit.ly/2Fp9H9j>



NPT Cancer Challenge Parliamentary Reception

As the Chancellor prepared to deliver his Budget on Monday, I took time away from the Budget build-up to welcome members of Neath Port Talbot Cancer Challenge to Parliament for a reception to celebrate their 20th anniversary. It was a fantastic afternoon celebrating Neath Port Talbot Cancer Challenge's 20th anniversary. Their fundraising work has been truly inspirational, so it was a privilege to welcome them to Parliament and show my appreciation for the work they do. <https://bit.ly/2qNr3i>



Women's Equality Network Wales Mentoring Reception

It was great to meet Kate Ellis from Baglan at the Women's Equality Network Wales reception in Parliament. Kate was one of the twenty-six aspirational women who are part of WEN Wales' mentoring programme to get more women, and more diverse women, into public and political life. WEN Wales has done fantastic work championing equality for women in politics and public life. <https://bit.ly/2zUEV1W>

News from the Commons



Shared Policy Fund Decisions Should Be Devolved

Intervening in the Westminster Hall debate on the Shared Prosperity fund, I called for decisions to be devolved, empowering local authorities, local stakeholders and practitioners who know what works best in their communities. <https://bit.ly/2OMnPIT>



Brexit Impact On Security Policy Development

The Committee for Exiting the European Union examined the impact of Brexit on security policy, it heard from the Centre for European Reform and Europol. I asked about and EEA-based Brexit, extradition and access to the EU justice and home affairs databases. <https://bit.ly/2FB4HP5>



Westminster Must Not Use Brexit And The End Of The EU's Regional Funding As An Opportunity To Short-Change The Poorest Parts Of The UK

In a Westminster Hall debate on the Shared Prosperity Fund and Wales I spoke about how this cannot be a financial or a power grab and the work of the APPG on post-Brexit funding for nations, regions and local areas. You can watch my speech at <https://bit.ly/2Do2Nys>



End Estate Charges

I'm pleased to be supporting this important campaign calling for an end to the unfair and exploitative practises of estate management companies on new-build estates. Many residents in Aberavon are having to pay high management charges and are not getting the services they pay for.



APPG For A Better Brexit For Young People

There was a full house for the latest meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Group for a Better Brexit For Young People. Their refreshing new report, 'Building Bridges', highlights young people's voices and concerns in a country divided by Brexit.

News from Aberavon



Bulldogs Assault Course

I visited the new assault course at Bulldogs gym which was funded by the Armed Forces Covenant. I also met with Dave Singletoy of SSAFA who was instrumental in helping get the assault course established and runs a drop-in for armed -service personnel. The assault course was impressive and will be great addition to the facilities that they already have at Bulldogs. <https://bit.ly/2Bh97WN>



Macmillan's Mobile Support Van

I popped along to MacMillan's mobile support van, Bronwen, when it was in Port Talbot. They provide a great service for people who have a cancer diagnosis, for people who know someone affected by cancer or are worried about cancer. They can offer medical, financial, emotional and practical support. <https://bit.ly/2Fv8ehI>



Ysgol Bro Dur Visit

I visited Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Dur, the new Welsh medium school that opened in September in Sandfields. It's a fantastic facility and I really enjoyed meeting with pupils who were so enthusiastic about their new school. <https://bit.ly/2zfYMZM>



Richard Burton 10K

There was a fantastic community vibe at the Richard Burton 10k. Over 1,700 took part! It's an amazing event that really puts Cwmafan and Pontrhydyfen on the map. I dragged myself to the finish line in 52 mins, so 3 mins slower than last year... The old legs ain't what they used to be... <https://bit.ly/2qUgpKs>



Junction 41 Consultation Response

I have responded to the Junction 41 consultation and explained that this proposal doesn't make any sense and will cause total chaos in the local area. You can read my response at <https://bit.ly/2PAX1AE>

News from Aberavon



Tree Planting Sandfields Primary

I managed to dodge the rain to plant trees provided by the Woodland Trust with pupils from Sandfields Primary School, as part of the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy. <https://bit.ly/2ORTTeB>



Cymer Afan Library Annual General Meeting

It was great to attend the Cymer Afan Community Library Annual General Meeting. Since being taken over and run by the community in 2014, the library has gone from strength to strength, developing facilities and adding services. With increased usage their opening hours have also increased. <https://bit.ly/2DMIfRi>



Skewen First World War Memorial Unveiling

It was an honour and a privilege to attend the unveiling of the new cenotaph in Skewen, which now has a list of the 86 Skewen boys who made the ultimate sacrifice in the Great War. Skewen Historical Society put a tremendous amount of work into raising funds and researching those from Skewen who fought in the First World War. They also put on a display in the Carnegie to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. It was fascinating to read the stories of some of the men from Skewen who fought. <https://bit.ly/2BgkQ8k>



Remembrance Sunday

It was an honour to lay wreaths at the Port Talbot and Briton Ferry cenotaphs, in memory of the thousands who gave their lives to protect the values that we hold dear. We will remember them. <https://bit.ly/2PD12XV>



Armed Forces Day

It's great to take part in the Armed Forces Day in Port Talbot and to attend the Armed Forces Festival Concert at the Princess Royal Theatre. I enjoyed the wonderful concert and remembering the heroism of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

News from Aberavon



The Budget And Aberavon

The Chancellor's budget is just less of the same. More austerity, more cuts. Universal Credit isn't working and this budget doesn't go anywhere near fixing it. We need whole nation Labour government, to re-unite our deeply divided country.

Watch my video on what the Budget means for Aberavon: <https://bit.ly/2PKAUbe>



Port Talbot Street Surgery

It was great to be out and about in Port Talbot ward with our brilliant team of local councillors, Cllr Saif Rahaman, Cllr Sharon Freeguard and Cllr Dennis Keogh, and activists. Lots of good chats on the doorsteps, and plenty of local issues to follow up on! <https://bit.ly/2zj9IWO>



Ysgol Cwm Brombil Visit

It was great to join First Minister Carwyn Jones and David Rees AM on a visit to the newly opened Ysgol Cwm Brombil. It is an amazing 21st century school, showing the Welsh Labour Government and Neath Port Talbot Council once again delivering vital investment in our community, and in our future generations. <https://bit.ly/2DA3gOd>



Port Talbot Foodbank Visit

I visited the Foodbank in Carmel Chapel to see first-hand the great work they do to support the most vulnerable in our town. It was great to support the foodbank and be able to run a surgery there, offering advice to constituents. <https://bit.ly/2OU6iPb>



Jonah Lomu Legacy Match

It was a privilege to be at the Quins ground for the Jonah Lomu legacy match. There was a great atmosphere there to mark ten years since the New Zealand legend played for Aberavon Naval club in a charity exhibition match. It was a fitting tribute to a legend of the game who gave his time to help a local team. <https://bit.ly/2QXAP01>

News from Aberavon



Baglan Coffee Morning

It was a busy morning at Baglan Library for my coffee morning with David Rees AM and local Councillors Carol Clement and Suzanne Renkes. Spoke with residents about bus services, private medical treatment and the quality of new build housing. <https://bit.ly/2DBQn5U>

Coming Up In 2019

Divided Views, Common Future



For the last two years I have been holding a series of conversations called *Divided Views, Common Future*. It's an opportunity for constituents to come together and give their opinion on what Brexit deal they think would be good for Aberavon, Wales and the United Kingdom. The next one is on

Saturday 26 January 2019

at 9:30am in

St Paul's Centre

you are welcome to come along and share your views.
Please RSVP to stephen.kinnock.mp@parliament.uk

Aberavon Constituency Funding Fair



Hosted by:

Stephen Kinnock
MP for Aberavon

Friday 22nd March
10am-1pm

The Centre, Baglan
Lodge Drive, SA12 8UB

Are you a local **Sports Group, Community Organisation, Club** or **Charity**?

I am bringing together a number of funders, including the **Big Lottery** and **Sport Wales** alongside many others from across Wales and the UK.

They can advise you on the day whether they can fund your project or organisation, and how you can go about accessing the funding.

Political Digest



BBC Wales Live: Brexit Negotiations

I went head to head with Andrew RT Davies over the Brexit negotiations and argued that there is a cross-party majority of MPs who want a sensible, pragmatic bridge building Brexit. An EEA-based Brexit would give us economic stability, business certainty and is the only solution to the Irish border question. Watch the full interview at <https://bit.ly/2Tq2TLt>



Sunday Politics Wales: Brexit Negotiations

I appeared on Sunday Politics Wales and discussed the Brexit negotiations. I reminded viewers that amongst the chaos is a Brexit that reflects the 52:48 vote, solves the Irish border, protects jobs and livelihoods, allows us to reform migration rules and can help reunite our deeply divided country: an EEA-based Brexit and Customs Union. Watch the full interview at: <https://bit.ly/2DMUNrU>



BBC Radio 4's Westminster Hour

Appearing on BBC Radio 4's Westminster Hour I called on the Chancellor to focus on wealth rather than income in his budget <https://bit.ly/2PDQwgJ> ; spoke about why an EEA-based Brexit is the best option for the country <https://bit.ly/2KlWb5f> ; and spoke about taking action against Saudi Arabia after the killing of Jamal Khashoggi <https://bit.ly/2A3almL>



Monday's Budget Is The Tories Moment Of Truth— Will They Bring Our Divided Country Together, Or Will They Continue To Deepen The Splits?

Before the Chancellor got to his feet to deliver his Budget I wrote an article for the South Wales Evening Post, saying it was a moment of reckoning for the Tories when they could finally acknowledge the need to boost our economy or continue to turn their backs on South Wales yet again. You can read my article at <https://bit.ly/2S4tqww>



Bring Together Cosmopolitans And The Communitarians To Avoid US-Style Culture Wars

After the Make America Great Again bomber, who targeted high-profile liberal Americans, I wrote about the need for politicians to bridge the divides in society and deliver a unifying politics. <https://bit.ly/2Dylkly>

Political Digest



Opaque Election Campaign Financing Threatens British Democracy

Following the Electoral Commission's decision to refer Leave.EU donor Arron Banks to the National Crime Agency for investigation I wrote an article for the Guardian, calling for greater transparency in campaign finances to restore public trust in politics. You can read my article at <https://bit.ly/2zgzPh0>



Pride And Paranoia—The Putin Influence

I wrote an article for Progress about Russia. A potent combination of pride & paranoia lie at the heart of every big political decision that has ever been made in Russia... It's not difficult to see why Russia favours Putin's brand of 'strong man' leadership. You can read my article at <https://bit.ly/2DL8o2N>



Russia-West Relations In The Age Of Fragmentation

I wrote an article for the European Leadership Network about Russia-West relations. Whilst there can be no doubt that the West is deeply divided and fragmented, it is equally true that Mr Putin has over-reached, relations between Russia and the West are at a delicately balanced inflection point. <https://bit.ly/2DO1gCR>



BBC News: Leave.EU Investigation

As I've told the BBC, the Banks donation affair is bigger than Brexit. It's about public trust in our democracy. Let's hope the National Crime Agency find the source of his money, and then let's focus on reforming the system. You can watch my interview at <https://bit.ly/2BirPxt>



It'll be a truckload of fudge and we can't vote for that

After the Prime Minister announced she had agreed a deal with the EU, I was interviewed on Sky News by Adam Boulton. My concern with the deal is about the political declaration about the long-term future relationship after we've left the transition period, it's full of empty platitudes. You can watch my interview at <https://bit.ly/2DuCcje>

Political Digest



I'm Not Prepared To Go Through The Division Lobbies And Vote For A Truck Load Of Fudge

I was interviewed on College Green for BBC Wales Today on the Prime Minister's Brexit deal and I reiterated that I will not go through the division lobbies and vote for a truck load of fudge, which the political declaration about the long-term future relationship is. Watch my interview at <https://bit.ly/2KgdR26>



ITV Wales: Brexit Deal

I was interviewed by Owain Phillips for ITV News at Six about the Brexit deal and my support for an EEA-based Brexit. <https://bit.ly/2zgQSzs>



BBC Radio Wales' Good Evening Wales

On the day that the Prime Minister announced she had secured a deal with the EU I spoke to Good Evening Wales and said that we can't go into the division lobbies to make decisions and vote on what is the most important issue in British politics since the Second World War based on what we would call a blindfolded Brexit where we don't actually know what we are voting for. <https://bit.ly/2ORkBnK>



Young Fabian Fundraiser

I spent a great evening at a young Fabian fundraising dinner with Seema Malhotra discussing their excellent Nation Divided pamphlet and cross over with Spirit Of Britain, Purpose of Labour.



Progress Podcast

I joined Alison McGovern, Richard Angell, Stephanie Lloyd and co-author Joe Jervis to discuss the ideas in Spirit of Britain, Purpose of Labour, including how Labour needs to reclaim communitarian values. We can't just be a cosmopolitan party <https://bit.ly/2DxByBF>

Political Digest



Business and Brexit: Is there still time to make a difference?

I took part in breakfast panel on Brexit, advocating for an EEA-based Brexit and argued that Theresa May's deal is a fool's gold.

For more information on the event visit: <https://bit.ly/2PFAP1U>



Brexit: What's Next For The Left?

I took part in a fantastic discussion event on what's next for the Left. The discussion centred on the future of Britain and our place on the global stage.



Channel 5 News: Brexit Deal

As cabinet discussed whether to sign off on the Prime Minister's Brexit withdrawal agreement I went head to head with James Cleverly MP on Channel 5 News.

You can watch the interview at <https://bit.ly/2DMlexQ>



TalkRADIO: There's A Real Opportunity To Build A Cross Party Majority For An EEA Based Brexit

I spoke with Julia Hartley-Brewer on TalkRADIO about the Brexit deal and the future relationship with the European Union. You can listen to the interview at <https://bit.ly/2Khvr5A>



Common Futures Forum Keynote Speaker

I was delighted to deliver the opening keynote speech at the Common Futures Forum and launch the APPG for a Better Brexit For Young People's report 'Building Bridges'. I spoke about the polarisation of society and the need for politics to bridge those divides.

Stephen's Next Surgery

Stephen Kinnock
Member of Parliament
for Aberavon

Advice Surgery

Friday 11th January

4.00-5.00pm

Taibach Library

Commercial Road, SA13 1LN

Coffee Morning

Saturday 23rd February

10.00am-12.00pm

Cwmavon Library

Depot Road, SA12 9DN

Contact Stephen

My office is open Monday - Thursday between 10am and 1pm for a drop-in advice surgery with a caseworker.

Outside of these times you can call to make an appointment.

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StephenKinnock



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As your MP, I'd like to stay in touch and hear your views.

You can visit my website to sign up to my mailing list:

www.stephenkinnock.co.uk

I send out a monthly newsletter and may also contact you to ask for your opinion on issues that may be important to you.

