



Stephen Kinnock MP Newsletter July 2016



Proud to be your Labour MP for Aberavon



News from the Commons

Brexit needs to work for the industry and its workforce

During a Westminster Hall debate on the impact of the Brexit vote on the steel industry I highlighted the uncertainty that has followed. That uncertainty has been particularly acute for the steel industry.

What we need now is a Government truly committed to the industry and its future. What the industry cannot take is more delay and uncertainty. <http://bit.ly/29XYHz1>



Legal costs to separate EU law from domestic law

My EU question to the Attorney General:
Have the Government made an estimate of the cost of the vast number of lawyers and trade negotiators that are going to have to be hired to deliver our disentanglement from the European Union? <http://bit.ly/2alzXSi>



Joint committee session on Steel and impact of Brexit

Five committees (Business, Innovation & Skills, Energy & Climate Change, European Scrutiny, Welsh Affairs, and Work & Pensions) grilled Anna Soubry on steel and the impact of a Brexit. Topics included the lesser duty rule, steel exports to Europe, Chinese dumping, state aid, and the pension scheme going into the pension protection fund.

<http://bit.ly/29MUSJM>



Trident Debate

I spoke in favour of the motion in Parliament. I would dearly like to live in a world without nuclear weapons, but we must engage with the world as it is, not how we would like it to be. We must be realists, not fantasists. Deterrence has kept the peace for over 70 years. Moreover, renewing Trident will support the economy and secure the jobs of thousands of people. <http://bit.ly/29LijDn>



At the Welsh Affairs Committee I grilled the Secretary of State for Wales on the ramifications of leaving the European Union on the steel works in Port Talbot.



News from the Commons



Cross Party Approach Needed To Deal With Brexit

During a debate on whether the Government will seek parliamentary approval before triggering article 50, I called on the Minister to set up a special Parliamentary Committee to bring a cross-party approach to dealing with Brexit, when to trigger Article 50 and to agree the basic negotiating package. <http://bit.ly/29Y3a4E>



Excalibur, the management buyout team for the Port Talbot works, held a Westminster reception to meet with UK Steel MPs



Dic Penderyn Reception

In Parliament I hosted a Dic Penderyn reception, 185 years after he was sentenced to death. Descendants and supporters from Aberavon and Merthyr came to hear guest speakers talk about the Merthyr rising and Penderyn's trial.

After the reception the delegation went to the Ministry of Justice to present a petition calling for Penderyn's posthumous pardon which has secured 600 signatures.



Tata Pension Fund

In parliament I asked Anna Soubry MP for an update on the Tata Steel pension consultation. The issue of pensions is very important in the context of not just BHS, but Tata Steel. <http://bit.ly/2aasRjL>

I became the vice-chair of the newly created APPG on Tidal Lagoons and Marine Energy



Great to meet local WASPI campaigners on their demo in London

A fantastic turnout, I'm proud to join you in your fight!





News from the Commons



Steel APPG Evidence Sessions

The evidence sessions have continued. We have interviewed British Steel, Bimlendra Jha and Tim Morris of Tata, Sanjeev Gupta of Liberty, and Chris Hagg of Celsa.

Tata Steel

I wrote to press the new Prime Minister and new Business Secretary, Greg Clark, to urgently act to support the British steel industry.

To date the government has provided a lot of warm words, but has failed to back those words up with concrete actions. I hope that we can now make a fresh start with a new administration that will actually implement the policy reforms that are essential preconditions for the development of a secure, sustainable and prosperous steel industry.

You can read my open letter online: <http://bit.ly/2a2Fc4A>

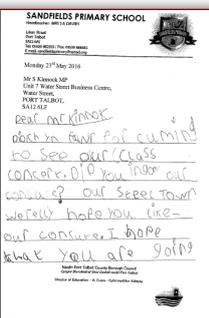
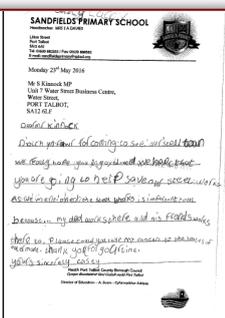
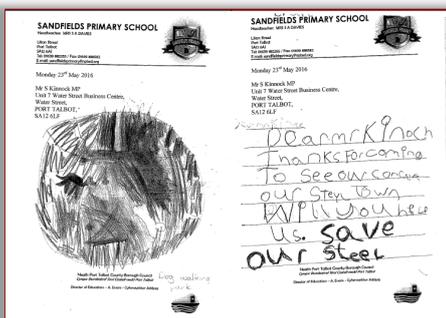


News from Aberavon



I was delighted to attend the Friends of Neath Port Talbot Hospital annual fete to raise money

I visited Pen Y Cymoedd windfarm to see the progress that is being made.

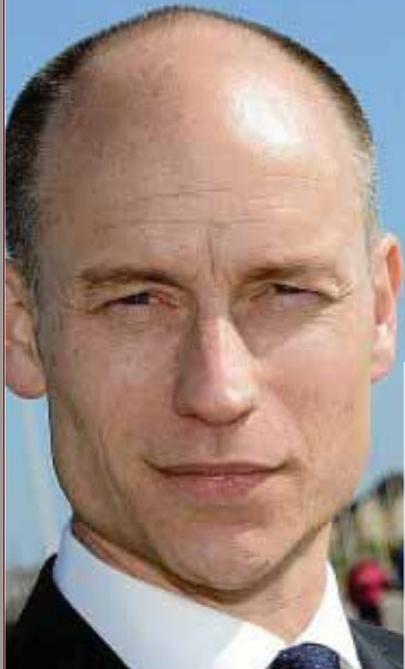


Sandfields Primary

Thanks to Sandfields Primary children who wrote to me about saving the steel works. Congratulations on winning the Welsh Heritage Award for Our Steel Town production.



News from Aberavon



Voters have spoken - let's all work for a better future

In the Evening Post I wrote an article on Brexit. I strongly believe that our national interest is best served when our country is a full member of the EU, and that's why I campaigned passionately for Remain.

But the electorate has spoken, and we must now move forward. Neath Port Talbot voted to leave the EU, and as the MP for Aberavon I have heard that message, loud and clear

My job as the MP for Aberavon is therefore to do whatever I can to secure the best possible Brexit deal for the UK, and for my constituency. <http://bit.ly/2ag9oy7>

Calls for long-term guarantee from Tata

Together with David Rees AM I called on the Government and Tata Steel to guarantee their long-term commitment the British Steel Industry, following Tata Steel's announced intention to form a joint venture with ThyssenKrupp. <http://bit.ly/2a5B7AE>

I recently visited the C-fec wind turbine installed by Baglan-based company C-fec (Cross Flow Energy Company).

The innovative design has the potential to produce energy for up to 40% less than a comparable conventional turbine.



Aberavon Beach Festival

I enjoyed this year's Beach Festival. The weather was with us and lots of people came down to the front to enjoy the festival



I visited Cwrt Clwydi Gwyn in Skewen & Plas Cwm Carw in Port Talbot



Along with newly elected AM Huw Irranca Davies I opened Afan Argoed Miners Museum Food Fair.





Political Digest

6 Point Plan For Brexit

Seema Malhotra MP and I joined forces to write for the New Statesman, setting out six vital principles for the Brexit negotiations:

1. The UK should remain in the single market, to the greatest possible extent.
2. In order to retain access to the single market we believe that it will be necessary to make a contribution to the EU budget.
3. The UK should establish an immigration policy which is seen as fair, demonstrates that we remain a country that is open for business, and at the same time preventing unscrupulous firms from undercutting British workers by importing cheap foreign labour.
4. The UK should protect its financial services industry, including passporting rights, vital to our national prosperity, while ensuring that the high standards of transparency and accountability agreed at an EU level are adhered to, alongside tough new rules against tax evasion and avoidance.
5. The UK should continue to shadow the EU's employment legislation.
6. The UK should continue to shadow the EU's environmental legislation.

Read the full article at <http://bit.ly/2a0JQ3J>

How to rebuild trust in politics and business after Brexit

The referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union has questioned many of the old certainties, and will undoubtedly shape our national politics for years to come. But the vote to Leave wasn't just a vote to leave the EU, it was also a vote to leave the old way of doing things. That is why, despite being a passionate supporter of our EU membership, I will ensure that the will of my constituents is done.

So let's heed the wake-up call that the referendum has delivered, and let's rebuild trust, and hope, together. My article in the New Statesman <http://bit.ly/29XPruN>

Parliament must have a role in Brexit negotiations

In an article in 'Politics Home' Seema Malhotra and I argue, that Parliament must play a significant role in securing the best deal for Britain in spite of leaving the EU. We believe it is critical that Parliament is placed at the forefront, so that expertise from both Houses is brought to bear.

We therefore propose that a new Special Parliamentary Committee (SPC) on EU Renegotiation be established.

Read the article here: <http://bit.ly/29QbAeZ>

Steel Workers Need A Plan Now

I spoke with the Guardian about Tata putting its plans to sell on hold. Steel workers and their families have been put through hell over the last weeks and months, Tata and the Government need to come up with a specific timetable.

Read the article here: <http://bit.ly/2aB2jEO>





Political Digest

Labour Leadership

Initially I supported Angela Eagle in her bid to be leader of the Labour Party. My reasons for doing so I outlined in an article for LabourList—<http://bit.ly/2arEa7c>

When Angela withdrew from the race I nominated Owen Smith. Owen will build the better, kinder, practical and radical politics that we need not only need to build a strong movement, but also a movement that can win power through the ballot box and radically transform Britain for the better.



Trust, ethics, & reputation in business

At the annual MCA (Management Consultancies Association) debate I spoke of the need for reformed capitalism, and to embrace a market that works in the interest of the British people as a whole. However, we must also be prepared to intervene when it fails to do so.



Advice Surgeries & Coffee Mornings

Friday Advice Surgeries

16 th September	Glyncorwg, Gwynfi & Cymmer	Croeserw Community Enterprise Centre Bryn Siriol Road, Croeserw, SA13 3PL	17.30-18.30
11 th November	Skewen	Cresci's Cafe New Road, Skewen, SA10 6HE	17.30-18.30

Saturday Coffee Mornings

15 th October	Margam & Taibach	Margam Community Centre Bertha Road, Margam, SA13 2AW	10.00-12.00
19 th November	Briton Ferry	Briton Ferry Community Centre Shelone Road, Briton Ferry, SA11 2NS	10.00-12.00



Keep In Touch

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.



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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