



# Stephen Kinnock MP

## October 2017 Newsletter



A Strong Voice For Aberavon

# News from the Commons



## EU NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

After the conference recess Theresa May updated the House of Commons on Brexit negotiations. I was able to ask her about the transition deal and the European Parliament resolution of 3 October states that a transition period can happen only on the basis of the existing EU regulatory, budgetary, supervisory, judiciary and enforcement instruments.

The Prime Minister's response: <http://bit.ly/2xD7i1r>

## BREXIT ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDIES

I have signed a joint letter calling on the Government to publish impact studies on leaving the EU. It is vital that we know what different scenarios would mean for Britain. We need this information from the Government and quickly.

You can read the letter on: <http://bit.ly/2gCgcXi>



## CALL FOR CAP ON ENERGY PRICES

I joined with colleagues from across the House in calling for the Prime Minister to introduce a cap on energy prices. I have long supported a cap on energy price rises and believe we should go even further to lower bills. For too long the big six energy companies have been allowed to make excessive profits. You can read the letter sent to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy: <http://bit.ly/2kKl6ox>



## UNIVERSAL CREDIT ROLL-OUT

I have been calling on the Government to pause the roll-out of Universal Credit, which is happening in Port Talbot in October. The system is not fit-for-purpose and leaving people waiting 7 or 8 weeks for a payment, pushing them into hardship. Without addressing the problems that have been identified, Universal Credit will create deep-rooted problems for families across the Aberavon constituency and long term problems that will be far more difficult to resolve and increasingly costly.

<http://bit.ly/2yhGhm8>



Committee of the whole House: 5 October 2017

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### European Union (Withdrawal) Bill, *continued*

Stephen Kinnock  
Stephen Timms  
Heidi Alexander  
Chuka Umunna  
Mr Chris Leslie  
Alison McGovern

Neil Coyle  
Maria Eagle  
Helen Goodman  
John Woodcock  
Ian Murray  
Ruth Cadbury  
Catherine McKinnell

Mike Gapes  
Rushanara Ali  
Stephen Doughty  
Kate Green  
Wes Streeting  
Mr Ben Bradshaw  
Ms Karen Buck

Ann Coffey  
Mrs Madeleine Moon  
Stella Creasy  
Peter Kyle  
Daniel Zeichner  
Emma Reynolds  
Dame Margaret Hodge  
NC37

\* To move the following Clause—

#### "Governance and institutional arrangements"

- (1) Before exit day a Minister of the Crown must seek to make provision that all powers and functions relating to any right, freedom, or protection, that any person might reasonably expect to exercise, that were exercisable by EU entities or other public authorities anywhere in the United Kingdom before exit day, and which do not cease to have effect as a result of the withdrawal agreement ("relevant powers

## EU (WITHDRAWAL) BILL AMENDMENTS

As the EU (Withdrawal) Bill makes its way through Parliament, I have tabled an amendment that would ensure that the institutions and agencies that protect EU derived rights and protections are replaced to a sufficient standard so those rights and protections will still be enjoyed in practice. I have also supported a number of other amendments which would protect our rights, protects the devolved administrations and prevent the Bill from being a power-grab. <http://bit.ly/2hjVXGW>

# News from the Commons



## BREXIT COMMITTEE

The Brexit Committee met for the first time since recess and has been questioning experts on what would happen if Welsh Assembly, Scottish Parliament and Northern Ireland Assembly did not give consent to the EU (Withdrawal) Bill.



## PAY UP NOW CAMPAIGN

I joined with Unison campaigners in the House of Commons calling for the Government to scrap the public sector pay cap. I fully support the Unison campaign and have written to the Prime Minister about them lifting the cap.

You can read what I have done at <http://bit.ly/2wD4cz0>



## BETTER BREXIT REPORT

As Chair of the APPG on a Better Brexit For Young People I was delighted to be at the launch of the Better Brexit Report. It has taken a year to research and has explored young peoples' attitudes to Brexit; their hopes, issues and fears for the withdrawal negotiation process; and how they envision the future UK-EU relationship.

You can read the report at <http://bit.ly/2zzotDk> or watch my Sky interview at <http://bit.ly/2hOPOEy>



## UNIVERSAL CREDIT OPPOSITION DEBATE

Labour called an opposition day debate on the roll-out of Universal Credit. The message to the Government was clear: Universal Credit in its current form is causing damage and the roll-out needs to be halted. I spoke about our position on the Jeremy Vine show which you can hear at: <http://bit.ly/2gnOVcA>

# News from Aberavon



## MADE OF STEEL

I was delighted to join steelworkers as they set off from the Port Talbot works, walking to Cardiff, to raise money for Ty Hafan. They walked nearly 40 miles and have held a fundraising dinner at Blanco's for Ty Hafan to say thank you to the community for the support they have received.

You can donate money through their JustGiving page: <http://bit.ly/2kM6Ahp>



## LEAD PROGRAMME

I had the pleasure and privilege of participating in a workshop with a group of 12-14 year olds, as part of a project called LEAD. Run by an amazing organisation called Reclaim that I am proud to have introduced to my constituency, it's about giving young people from working class backgrounds a voice and an opportunity to lead change in their communities. We spent the morning developing these young people's manifesto for change, and I came away feeling truly inspired by their sense of purpose and determination to make a difference.

<http://bit.ly/2yN5VCo>



## END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

I am pleased to lend my support to the End Youth Homelessness campaign which is calling for an end to the practice of placing vulnerable, homeless 16 and 17 year olds in bed and breakfast accommodation.



## HILARY CLINTON

I was proud to be at the Bay Campus in my Aberavon constituency to see Hilary Clinton receive her honorary doctorate from Swansea University. Hilary gave a moving and inspiring speech.



## UNISON CUTS RALLY

I was delighted to join with Unison members and council workers at a rally outside Port Talbot civic centre, calling for a better funding deal for local government.

I have been calling on the Westminster government to provide a better funding deal for Wales in the November budget. You can read what I have done <http://bit.ly/2hnYvuo> and <http://bit.ly/2kLt5D4>

# News from Aberavon



## PROPOSED PRISON IN PORT TALBOT

Since the public meeting in the Aberavon Beach Hotel last month, I have continued to exchange correspondence with Sam Gyimah. The latest response I have received from the Minister is available at <http://bit.ly/2yrO1nS> and you can read my response at <http://bit.ly/2iiDMfG>

Following the announcement of a covenant on the land I have written again to the Minister calling on him to reconsider his plans: <http://bit.ly/2hJBTEL>

Keep up to date at: <http://bit.ly/2svEvxl>

## ABERAVON WASPI WOMEN

We had a great morning in Cwmavon Library with women born in the 1950s. They have been unfairly hit by changes to the state pension age without due notification. We were joined in the coffee morning by Carolyn Harris MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on State Pension Inequality For Women, and Jocelyn Morgan from WASPI Bridgend and Valleys group. Carolyn gave us an update on campaign in Parliament for a transition arrangement and Jocelyn spoke to us about the campaign activities of WASPI groups.

<http://bit.ly/2gpaOKh>



## BOUNDARY COMMISSION WALES REVISED PROPOSALS

It is good to see that the Boundary Commission Wales has listened to our representations about splitting the Aberavon and Port Talbot wards, and that they have included both areas in the same constituency in their latest proposals.

However, there are still a number of serious problems with this latest proposal. The communities of Gwynfi, Cymmer, Glyncorrwg, Cwmavon and Bryn have a natural affinity with Port Talbot, and the suggestion that they should be cut off in this way shows a lack of respect for our communities. I will therefore continue to call on the Boundary Commission Wales to recognise this.

<http://bit.ly/2zvC3ru>



## WE URGE THE UK GOVERNMENT TO HALT THE ROLL-OUT OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE

Together with Christina Rees, Carolyn Harris, Tonia Antoniazzi and Geraint Davies, I wrote an article for the South Wales Evening Post, calling on the government to stop the roll-out of Universal Credit across the Swansea Bay area until serious problems with the system are addressed. <http://bit.ly/2zhJnGa>



# Political Digest



## SHARP END

During conference season I went on the Sharp End. Joining me on the panel was Darren Millar AM and Caroline Jones AM. We discussed the Catalan referendum, the Welsh Government draft budget and the party conferences.

You can watch the program on <http://bit.ly/2yimlPW>



## CHANNEL 4 BREXIT REALITY DEBATE

I was part of a panel debate for Channel 4 News' Brexit Reality debate. Others on the panel were Common Groud founder Hugo Dixon, Liberal Democrat MP Wera Hobhouse, John Nicolson from the SNP, President of Bath Conservative Association Tony Clarke and pro-EU activist Madeleine Kay.

You can watch the debate on <http://bit.ly/2gmw839>



## HEALING THE DIVIDE

I co-wrote an article with Joe Jervis for Progress about how Labour must unite our fractured nation. As a country we should take a proud, patriotic and internationalist approach by continuing to shape global affairs before and after Brexit.

Only one party can win a parliamentary majority, heal the divides, and restore the spirit of Britain. We must make this the very purpose of Labour.

Read the full article at <http://bit.ly/2xD2Ftg>



## COMMONS DIARY

I wrote a diary for the House magazine covering my time in conference, speaking at 14 different fringe events; returning to Aberavon for the LEAD programme; and then Parliament reconvening after the conference recess and delving straight back into the Brexit process.

You can read my diary at <http://bit.ly/2zlOqWH>

# Labour Conference

## MY TIME AT PARTY CONFERENCE

Labour conference kicked off with a football match against the press. Its always a great way to start conference and this year I captained the side. The score-line does not do the match justice, Labour was far more competitive than the 6-1 result suggests.

Following the match I had a very busy conference addressing 14 different fringe events including LabourList; British Future; Electoral Reform Society; Make Votes Matter; Prospect; Upreach; SME4Labour; Sera Rally; Institute for Government; Policy Network; and Institute for Public Policy Research



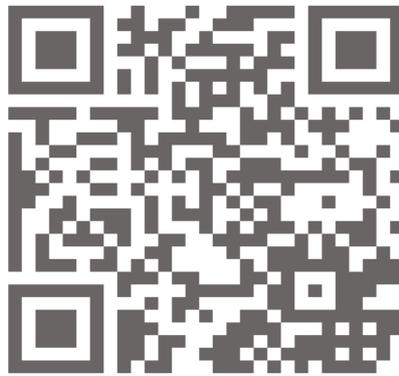
# Keep In Touch

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](http://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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