

Stephen Kinnock MP

April 2018 Newsletter



A Strong Voice For Aberavon

News from the Commons



SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT ON POST-TRANSITION RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN UK AND EU

The Committee for Exiting the EU published its latest report which makes clear that the only realistic post-transition relationship that can satisfy the government's own Brexit test is an EEA/EFTA—based agreement.

I released a statement on this which you can read at <https://bit.ly/2IMPCGw>



MEETING WITH PRISONS MINISTER

I, along with two members of the Stop NPT Prison campaign group, met with the new Minister for Prisons Rory Stewart, to discuss the Ministry of Justice's proposals to build a new prison on land in the Baglan Industrial Park. In the meeting he told us there are no imminent plans to move to pre-planning, and that they are open minded with respect to the site.

<https://bit.ly/2IR09R4>



WE SHOULD NOT ALLOW PUTIN TO USE THE WORLD CUP AS SMOKESCREEN FOR HIS CRIMES & TO BOLSTER HIS REGIME

I called on the Foreign Secretary to work with others around the world to postpone the World Cup, and relocate it to another country in 2019. Our government should be working with others to strip Russia of the FIFA World Cup & relocate it in 2019, after the Women's World Cup. Sport & politics DO mix & we should not allow Putin to use WC as smokescreen for his crimes & to bolster his regime.

<https://bit.ly/2GYV2Sk>



PRIME MINISTERS BREXIT RED LINES ARE LEADING US INEXORABLY TOWARDS A HARD BORDER ON THE ISLAND OF IRELAND

The Prime Minister gave her latest statement to the House on the Brexit negotiations, following her meeting with the EU Council. I asked her about her Brexit red lines and the impact they would have on the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

<https://bit.ly/2EJc74>



I REFUSE TO ALLOW MY COUNTRY OR MY PARTY TO BE HELD HOSTAGE BY VLADIMIR PUTIN

Following the Prime Minister's decision to authorise air strikes in Syria over the weekend, Parliament had the chance to debate the Prime Minister's actions. I spoke about how the chemical weapons attack on innocent civilians was a brutal and barbaric act, that Parliament should have had a say in the action and that I refuse to allow our country's foreign policy to be determined by Vladimir Putin. <https://bit.ly/2H6XgQ1>

News from the Commons



A SECTOR DEAL FOR THE STEEL INDUSTRY

During a debate on industrial strategy, I called on the Government to start delivering a sector deal for the steel industry. It would be a massive boost for the steel works in my Aberavon constituency and for the wider steel making industry, turning it from surviving to thriving. The Government needs to come clean and let us know whether they are giving up on the steel industry or when they will approve the sector deal for steel.

<https://bit.ly/2K4RPi2>



CAN HE ASSURE ME THAT ALL PLANS FOR THE BAGLAN PRISON ARE WELL AND TRULY ON HOLD

In the first Ministry of Justice question since I, along with two representatives from Stop NPT Prison group, met Rory Stewart in London, and off the back of the latest public meeting held in the Aberavon Beach Hotel, I pressed the Minister again on the government's plans to build a prison in Port Talbot. I also questioned him on the government's engagement with the Welsh Government's strategic review. I look forward to joining those meetings. <https://bit.ly/2HNgKIM>



COMMITTEE FOR EXITING EU: DAVID DAVIS

David Davis appeared before the Committee for Exiting the European Union and I grilled him on the nature of the Parliamentary motion regarding the Withdrawal Agreement, the nature of the political declaration and asks if we are heading towards a constitutional crisis.

<https://bit.ly/2qVaLbc>

News from Aberavon



PRISON PUBLIC MEETING

At the second public meeting on the proposed prison in Port Talbot, I updated the hundreds of residents who were there, on what had happened since the last public meeting. In that time a covenant on the land has been uncovered and we have a new Minister in the Ministry of Justice. I also set out in my presentation that my priority is to get the Ministry of Justice to make a definitive and rapid decision on the prison to avoid the risk of the community being left in a state of long term limbo. The best way to achieve this is by getting the Ministry of Justice to commit to an alternative site in South Wales. <https://bit.ly/2K7M03F>

News from Aberavon



BAGLAN BAY BUSINESS INNOVATION CENTRE

I spent a Friday morning meeting with businesses at the Baglan Bay Business Innovation Centre in the Energy Park. I met with DeeRTech, who develop opto-electronic sensor devices that will be able to take readings of utility meters. I also met with Auxilium, a firm of consulting engineers specialising in mechanical, electrical, public health and environmental engineering.

<https://bit.ly/2EHOe5U>



PT PERFECT HOMELESS MEETING

After being lobbied by the girls from PTPerfect about homelessness in Port Talbot, I was delighted to attend a roundtable discussion with them. The meeting had been convened by Canon Nigel Cahill and was attended by David Rees AM, Dewis, Wallich and Neath Port Talbot Council. <https://bit.ly/2IPzR1D>



CYMMER STREET SURGERY

My latest street surgery was in Cymmer. I was joined by David Rees AM, former Assembly Member Brian Gibbons, and Councillor Rob Wood. We had lots of discussions on the doorstep, particularly about the future of Cymer Afan Comprehensive.

<https://bit.ly/2ISyXuZ>



PT PERFECT GRADUCATION

I was delighted to speak at the graduation ceremony for the PTPerfect girls, in St Paul's Centre. The girls have really raised the bar and I have been blown away by their ideas, their community spirit, and their drive for change. They put together a truly inspirational manifesto and over the course of the project they have built valuable like skills and their confidence has grown immeasurably. <https://bit.ly/2v8Ecel>



GLYNCORRWG WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

I spent an enjoyable evening with Glyncorrwg Women's Institute, marking the centenary of women receiving the vote. I spoke to the group about how women like my mam and wife Helle have influenced me, the achievements of women over the last 100 years, but also how much more still needs to be achieved like equal pay and justice for 1950s women who have been robbed of their pensions. <https://bit.ly/2H0taJS>

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LLANSAWEL PRIMARY

I paid a visit to Llansawel Primary in Briton Ferry to chat with the pupils about Parliament and life as an MP. The children had lots of interesting questions to ask and learned a lot about life as an MP. It was great to visit the school and to speak with staff.



GENQUIP

I went on an interesting visit to GenQuip, a local company based on the Baglan Industrial Park, who supply in the UK construction rental industry with market leading products. GenQuip is a family run business that has been operating for over 40 years. I spoke with Sales and Marketing Director, Peter Beach, about the 12v battery solar powered solution they have developed which would replace diesel generators and reduce the carbon footprint.

<https://bit.ly/2GTJWyd>



JOINT PRESS RELEASE ON PROPOSED PRISON IN PORT TALBOT

David Rees AM and I issued a joint press release following the MoJ saying there are no imminent plans to move to pre-planning, and the Welsh Government's announcement that until the UK government engage in meaningful and detailed discussion on the future of the criminal justice system in Wales it would no longer facilitate any new prison developments in Wales. These are welcome developments, but there is still more to do.

<https://bit.ly/2qv1Gol>



CAMPAIGN DAY

It was great to be out and about in Aberavon town centre on a Welsh Labour campaign day. We spoke with residents about how the Welsh Labour Government is delivering on its manifesto pledges.

Political Digest



WALES ONLINE PODCAST

I took part in a podcast with Wales Online reporter Martin Shipton, talking about my childhood, Russia, the Labour party, and the future of the steel industry.

You can listen to the podcast on <https://bit.ly/2vHLTIY>

Political Digest

WELSH LABOUR CONFERENCE: STEEL



I was privileged to speak in the steel debate at Welsh Labour Conference, along with Derek Vaughan, Stephen Doughty, Community Union and Unite the Union. We urged the UK government and Tata steel to follow the Welsh Government's lead, because with the right policies and investment we can build a bright future for the steel industry.

While Welsh Labour stands up for steel, the Tories in Westminster stand aside. Don't let anybody tell you that steel's best days are behind us, because they are not.

LOCAL ELECTIONS BARNET



It was great to be out campaigning in Barnet for the 3 May local elections. They have a fantastic team of local activists, and outstanding candidates Ernest, Rachel and Liron. Good luck to all, for the May 3rd!

UK PARLIAMENTARY FC VS STONEWALL FC



I played for UKPFC in an exciting and high scoring game of football against Stonewall FC at St George's Park. We were beaten 5-3 on the day. Stonewall and Stonewall FC do great work to promote equality and diversity, and today's match showed that Stonewall FC play a great game of football and represent a truly great cause.

RUSSIA IS USING THE BRITISH COUNCIL AS A POLITICAL TOOL



I wrote an article for The Moscow Times about the important role the British Council plays in UK-Russian relations. The British Council offers a safe place for Russians and Brits from all walks of life to engage, discuss and reflect on what really matters to them. It is disappointing to see the Council being used as a political tool in the dispute between the British and Russian governments again. <https://bit.ly/2quuZHB>

ANTI-SEMITISM PROTEST



I was proud to attend the gathering in Parliament Square, to make it clear that anti-semitism has no place in the Labour Party. Our party cannot accept the unacceptable. We need a serious & objective review to root anti-semitism out of our party.

I spoke to BBC Radio Wales at the gathering and you can listen to that at <https://bit.ly/2IXnPUH>

THE GREAT GET TOGETHER

22 - 24 JUNE

All welcome!

JOIN US AT OUR GET TOGETHER

ON

**SATURDAY 23 JUNE,
12NOON-3PM**

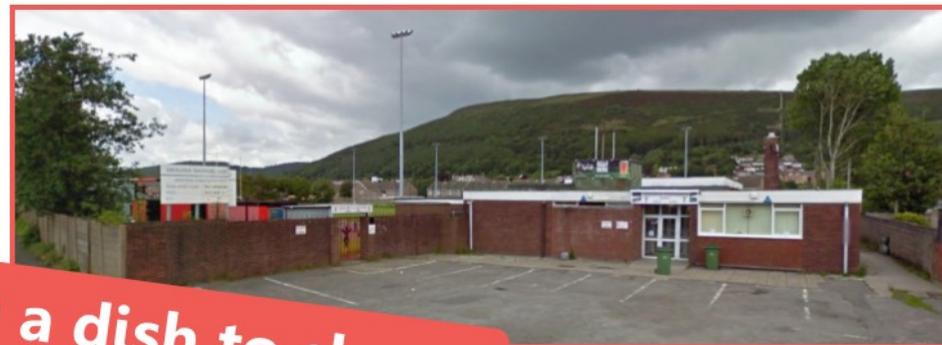
FOR A

COMMUNITY PICNIC

AT

ABERAVON QUINS

Harlequin Rd, Port Talbot, SA12 6UP



Bring a dish to share

 @great_together
 @greatgettogether
 facebook.com/jocoxmoreincommon

We take inspiration from
Jo Cox's quote,

**"We have more in common than
that which divides us."**

Stephen's Next Surgery

Stephen Kinnock
Member of Parliament
for Aberavon

Street Surgery
Saturday 5th May AM

Sandfields East

Sandfields West

Please contact the office if you want me to call to your door.

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.

