



# Government WORLD™

Autumn 2017 Edition

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ISSN 1744-6996



Misty day on the M40 motorway UK



By Paul G Bazeley for  
Government World

# Paul's News Roundup

*Summary of the main news  
and sports events over the last  
three months*

## July News Review

The UK announced that it would ban the sale of petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040, it is part of the effort to tackle air pollution and climate change. The announcement followed a similar move made by France a few days earlier. The government made the move after growing fears that nitrogen oxide is becoming a major risk to public health.

Earlier in the month, before the government pledge, Volvo announced that it would only produce electric or hybrid cars from 2019, it is the first major car manufacturer to make this claim. The company called the move a 'Historic End' to the reliance on the internal combustion engine. The organisation stated it would introduce five electric models while making the other cars in the range petrol and diesel hybrids.

There was a spate of acid attacks in London. The Met Police claimed it saw links between gangs and the attacks which have been on the rise over the last year and a half. This information, which the police point out is from a small data set, comes after two teenagers were arrested after five people were attacked and a moped was stolen.

The Lake District became the UK's first national park to be given Unesco World Heritage Site. The committee considered over 30 sites and praised the Lakes for its inspiration to artists and writers as well as its natural beauty.

The Italian musician Vasco Rossi broke the world record for the

biggest ticketed concert by playing to 220,000 ticket holders at Modena Park in Italy. Rossi broke the record that had been held by A-ha since 1991 when they played in front of 198,000 people in Rio De Janeiro.

Elon Musk claimed he had received 'verbal' approval to begin building the Hyperloop between New York and Washington. The Hyperloop is a system of vacuum tubes that can send passengers and cargo in an incredibly quick time. Musk has claimed it could take 29 minutes to go from Washington to New York, it currently takes about three hours on a high-speed train to travel between the two.

Jodie Whittaker was named as the new Doctor Who and will replace Peter Capaldi after he appears in his last episode at Christmas. Whittaker will be the thirteenth Doctor and is the first woman to take on the role.

Microsoft revealed its famous program Paint would no longer be in active development. The program, which has been around for 32 years, clearly has a large following as there was a huge outcry when the news was announced. It was later announced that Microsoft would make the program available on its Windows Store.

## July Sports Review

Wimbledon 2017 saw Roger Federer lift a record eighth Wimbledon Men's title and further his record to 19 grand slam victories. The ladies section was missing Serena Williams due to pregnancy but her sister Venus Williams showed

up and nearly claimed the trophy for herself, however, was beaten by Garbine Muguruza in the final.

The second and third test on the Lions tour of New Zealand took place. The tour finished in a draw after the last match finished 15-15. It was discussed that the two teams may meet again in a decider later in the year, but that never materialised.

Chris Froome won the yellow jersey of the Tour De France for the fourth time. He beat his closest rival, Rigoberto Uran, by 54 seconds. Froome is now second in the all-time list and claimed he was setting his sights on also winning the Vuelta in September.

Jordan Speith held off Matt Kuchar to win The 146th Open Championship at Royal Birkdale. Speith finished 11 under par while Kuchar, his closest rival, finished 9 under. The Open win gave Speith his third major win, meaning he is only one away from a career grand slam.

In football, Germany beat Chile 1-0 to win the Confederations Cup. Also, Lionel Messi, the Barcelona/Argentine footballer and multiple Balon d'Or winner, got married in a star-studded event.

## August News Review

A man drove his car into a police van parked outside

Buckingham Palace. The man is then said to have reached for a 1.2 metre long sword which was in the passenger footwell, officers subdued the man, using CS spray, and took him into custody. Three people were injured in the attack, but none of the injuries were life-threatening. A second person was later arrested in connection with the attack which is being treated as a terrorist act.

There were further terror attacks across Europe; a man drove a van into pedestrians on the popular La Rambla street in Barcelona killing 13 and injuring over 100. The attacker then killed another person as he stole a car to escape; he was found and killed four days later. Nine hours after the attack five men drove into pedestrians in Cambrils killing one woman and injuring others, the attackers were shot dead by police. Before the attack, a house in Alcanar exploded killing two men who were thought to be masterminding

the terrorist cell. The house was filled with gas canisters which Police believe were to be used in one large attack or several smaller ones.

One man was shot dead in Brussels after he attacked two soldiers with a knife in the Belgium capital. One soldier sustained minor injuries to his hand but no others were injured in the attack which was said to be a terrorist act, however, the man was not known for terrorist activities.

IS claimed responsibility for an attack in which a man stabbed seven people in the Russian city of Surgut. The man was killed by police and Russia has claimed it is still unsure whether the

attack was a terrorist act. The attack came days after Police in Finland were investigating a stabbing spree in Turku which left two dead as a terror attack, the attacker was shot by police.

Although Tensions had been running high with North Korea for some time, pressure increased on the country after it tested a missile which flew over Hokkaido, Japan. An emergency UN Security Council was called by leaders to discuss the launch and the continued tests by North Korea. The test which was not the first carried out that month was seen as provocative by many political figures.

Big Ben fell silent for major repair work

which is due to last until 2021. The famous London landmark will still be heard for special occasions such as Remembrance Sunday and New Year's Eve. The chimes will be switched off to protect worker's hearing while conducting major repairs, however, many questioned the four year silence which will be the longest in history.

Swedish journalist Kim Wall was reported missing after her partner raised the alarm after she did not return home. She was last seen departing on a submarine built by inventor Peter Madsen. The submarine sank not long after the search for the journalist began. Mr Madsen originally claimed he dropped Ms Wall off in Copenhagen,

but later changed his story claiming she died in an accident and buried her at sea. Later in the month, a headless torso was identified as the body of Ms Wall after DNA matched that of her toothbrush and hairbrush. Traces of blood were also found in the submarine.

Scientists detected 15 Fast Radio Bursts from FRB 121102, which resides in a dwarf galaxy approximately 3 billion light years away. Fast Radio Bursts are radio signals that are incredibly powerful that come from space and last only a short amount of time before disappearing; it is unknown what they mean, although some claim they are from black holes or extra terrestrial life.

## **August Sports Review**

In sports news, the biggest story of the month was the transfer of Neymar from Barcelona to PSG for a world record fee after triggering his release clause of £198million

(€222million). La Liga officials attempted to block the transfer at first, however, the LFP put pressure on La Liga to reconsider and eventually the 25-year-old Brazilian was announced as a PSG player.

Football was officially back after the Community Shield took place at Wembley. The game between Arsenal and Chelsea was tied at 1-1 after 90 minutes and eventually went to penalties with Arsenal winning 4-1. Pedro was sent off for Chelsea late on in normal time which allows Kolasinac to steal a late equaliser.

The most talked about boxing fight in history took place in Las Vegas with Floyd Mayweather facing off against

newcomer and former UFC fighter Connor McGregor. The build-up to the fight had been theatrical, with many claiming the fight to be a farce, nevertheless, the fight was broadcast all over the world. The fight finished when Mayweather extended his unbeaten run to 50-0 after a tenth round technical knockout (TKO). It is unknown how much money each fighter made from the fight, however, it is thought Mayweather made more than \$100million and McGregor made more than \$30million.

New Zealand beat England in the Women's Rugby World Cup final. England led 17-10 at half time, but the Black Ferns rallied in the second half to win 41-32 and lift the

trophy for a fifth time.

Quail Hollow held the 2017 PGA Championship where Justin Thomas won with 8 under par. The American won by two shots with Francesco Molinari, Louis Oosthuizen and Patrick Reed all finishing on 6 under par.

## September News Review

Hurricane Irma devastated countries throughout the Atlantic. The storm began near Cape Verde at the end of August and gained in strength and size throughout the first half of September. It is believed Irma caused over \$50 billion in damage as it moved through Anguilla, Barbados, Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Haiti, Puerto

Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Martin and Saint Barthelemy, Sint Maarten, the Turk and Caicos Islands, the United States and the U.S Virgin Islands. The storm, which reached category 5 at times, also left over 100 people dead. Following the catastrophic damage caused by Irma, Hurricane Maria formed and caused further destruction to most of the areas affected by Hurricane Irma.

An explosion occurred on a train at the Parsons Green tube station injuring thirty people. The incident was treated as a terrorist incident. The bomb only partially exploded, experts stated that had the bomb exploded fully the aftermath would have been far worse. At least seven people were later arrested in connection with the attack.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) updated the status of the Snow Leopard from endangered down to vulnerable. The large cats which live in central Asian mountains

were originally listed as endangered in 1972 and although the IUCN has downgraded the status they still face a serious threat of extinction due to poaching and destruction of their habitat.

Angela Merkel won a fourth term as German Chancellor. Ms Merkel and the centre-right party may have won the election, however, the results were not what the Christian Democrats were hoping for as the far-right party Alternative for Germany (AfD) received 13 percent of the vote. It is thought the significant result for the far right shows many Germans are concerned with inequality and immigration.

Approximately 1 million people rallied

in Barcelona to mark the National Day of Catalonia. The rally saw many showing support to an upcoming independence referendum which will look to make Catalonia independent from Spain.

Transport for London (TFL) denied Uber, the taxi-hailing app, its private hire license. The announcement basically bans the company from running its business in the capital city. Uber launched an attack on TFL claiming they were bowing to a minority that wanted to 'restrict consumer choice'. The company also claimed the decision would leave 40,000 drivers unemployed. The tech company stated it would appeal the choice and hopes to use its 3 million

London users as support.

The Emmy Awards took place in Los Angeles. Notable winners were Riz Ahmed (The Night Of), Nicole Kidman (Big Little Lies), Julia Louis-Dreyfus (Veep), Elisabeth Moss (The Handmaid's Tale), Donald Glover (Atlanta).

## September Sports Review

In tennis, the Spaniard Rafael Nadal won the men's singles title and the American Sloane Stephens won the women's singles title. Britain did gain some joy out of the tournament after Jamie Murray won the mixed doubles with his partner Martina Hingis.

Chris Froome won the Vuelta a Espana. Froome was the first Briton to win

the event and the first Briton to win a major tour other than the Tour de France. He was the first cyclist to win both the Tour de France and the Vuelta in the same year since Bernard Hinault in 1978. His nearest rival finished 2 minutes and 15 seconds off the pace. It is thought Froome may attempt to win the Giro d'Italia next year, it would mean that he would have won all the Grand Tours within 12 months.

England beat the West Indies 4-0 in the five-match series after Jonny Barstow batted 141 not-out to win the final test by nine wickets.

The Olympic Committee awarded the 2024 summer Olympics to Paris and the 2028 summer Olympics to Los Angeles.

END



# Billion pound connectivity boost to make buffering a thing of the past



Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury Andrew Jones MP

Brits will soon see the back of internet buffering and painfully slow download times, following the launch of a new fund, which will support the rollout of cutting-edge connections across the country.

The government's £400 million Digital Infrastructure Investment Fund (DIIF) will unlock over £1 billion for full fibre broadband, and kick-start better broadband connections across the

country.

Ministers seek to revolutionise Britain's digital infrastructure, making internet access more reliable for homes and businesses, and enabling more people to work remotely without disruption. The flexibility to work remotely is pivotal for driving our economy forward; reducing overheads and helping businesses to start and grow.

The government has already invested £1.7 billion to spur industry to rollout superfast broadband across the UK. This new fund will take that to the next level.

Launching the fund during a visit to Peterborough, the

Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury Andrew Jones MP will say:

"We are investing £400 million to make sure the UK's digital infrastructure is match-fit for the future. As technologies change and people's habits move with them, it is crucial we play our part to ensure Britain stays at the front of the pack.

"Gone will be the days where parents working from home see their emails grind to a halt while a family member is gaming or streaming Game of Thrones in the next room. Full fibre will provide us with the better broadband we need to ensure we can work flexibly and productively, without connections failing."

## Employers concerned about return to the past on tribunals, says BCC

British Chamber of Commerce Director of Research Mike Spicer comments on the Supreme Court ruling that employment tribunal fees should be scrapped.

"A fair tribunal system must provide access to justice for all, while at the same time discouraging unmeritorious claims.

"This ruling will leave employers concerned about a return to the past, when despite winning the majority of cases, companies would often settle to avoid a costly and protracted process even when their case was strong.

"There is now a need for the government to work with all interested parties, both to ensure the ruling is respected, and to ensure that employers and employees alike can have confidence in the tribunal system in future."



July

## Lucas: Selling arms to Saudi Arabia is ‘utterly unethical’

Caroline Lucas, the co-leader of the Green Party, has suggested that a change of law is needed to stop arms sales to repressive regimes after the High Court ruled that the Government can continue to sell weapons to Saudi Arabia.

Lucas, who has been battling the Government over arms sales to Saudi Arabia for many years, accused the Government of being ‘utterly unethical’ by selling arms to a regime accused of breaking international law in Yemen. She is supporting the CAAT appeal against the verdict.

Caroline Lucas MP, Green Party co-leader, said:

“The verdict might mean that the Government is on

the right side of the law for now, but it doesn’t give any moral justification for their utterly unethical actions when it comes to arms sales. While the strict legal verdict is that arms sales can continue, the only morally justifiable way forward would be an immediate arms embargo to Saudi Arabia.

“This verdict suggests that a change of law is desperately needed, because the current legal framework is allowing Britain to sell weapons to a repressive regime whose actions in Yemen are causing a humanitarian disaster. This weak Government has said they are looking to work with other parties - they should start by forming a cross-party review into arms sales to repressive regimes.”



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# Miniature pump for failing heart to be trialled with 50 patients



Calon Cardio's MiniVAD ... a smaller, lighter pump that requires less invasive surgery.

Calon Cardio-Technology is preparing the UK's first artificial heart pump for a 50-patient clinical trial in 2018.

The pioneering medical technology spin-out from Swansea University, based in the Institute of Life Science 2, has developed a miniaturised ventricular assist device (VAD) to be implanted directly into the

left ventricle of a failing heart. This follows support from Finance Wales and Innovate UK.

## **Dramatic impact on the quality of life**

Up to 60,000 new cases of advanced chronic heart failure are diagnosed every year in the UK, and 40% of those diagnosed die within 12 months.

Calon Cardio's MiniVAD

assists the weakened heart rather than replacing it. It could have a dramatic impact on quality of life for a significant number of patients.

It can slow or stall heart failure progression and prolong the life of patients waiting for a heart transplant. The MiniVAD is driven by an embedded electric motor and is powered by a battery pack worn by the user.

## **Smaller, lighter and more cost-effective**

Existing VADs on the market are expensive, require extensive surgery for implantation and have been known to cause complications by damaging proteins and cells in the blood.

The MiniVAD addresses these problems with a smaller, lighter pump that

requires less invasive surgery and causes less damage to the blood by allowing it to flow more gently. This also means it is more cost effective.

Innovate UK awarded Calon Cardio and Swansea University a Biomedical Catalyst grant of £1.66 million in 2013, to gather the necessary performance and safety data before applying to begin human clinical studies.

## **Substantial benefits to patients**

Stuart McConchie, Chief Executive of Calon Cardio, said it was the most-advanced pump of its kind, adding:

"This is for a very sick group of people and there are millions of them in the world, and hundreds of thousands in the UK.

"It is the first British pump to be built for this purpose: to treat blood which is flowing through the pump extremely gently and to minimise damage to the blood.

"Patients don't have return to hospital for correction of adverse events related to blood handling, so the absolute cost benefit becomes substantial."

# Protection from prosecution for unlawful subletting at Grenfell Tower

**Guidance has been issued to prosecutors not to bring charges for unlawful subletting at Grenfell Tower so that victims can be identified.**



The Right Honourable Sajid Javid MP

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid has announced guidance from the Director of Public Prosecutions not to prosecute tenants at Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk for unlawful subletting.

This would apply when any

individual comes forward with information for the authorities about those who were in their flats on the night of the fire.

This follows the government's commitment to do all that it can to support those who have been affected by the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower.

Anecdotal evidence from the community suggests that some of the tenants in the tower block may have been unlawfully sub-letting their properties. This may mean people are reluctant to come forward with valuable information that would help to identify anyone still missing.

The Director of Public Prosecutions, in consultation with the

Attorney General, has now issued guidance to prosecutors not to bring charges for this offence, given the public interest must be in being able to identify the victims of the fire. The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has also confirmed it will respect this guidance.

Communities Secretary Sajid Javid said:

“Supporting those affected by the tragic events at Grenfell Tower has been the absolute priority of the government. That includes making sure that loved ones still missing are identified. Therefore I would urge those with information to come forward without fear of prosecution.”

Attorney General Jeremy Wright QC said:

“Every piece of information will help the authorities accurately identify who was in the flats at the time of the fire. I hope this statement provides some much needed clarity to residents and the local community, and encourages anyone with information to come forward.”

Director of Public Prosecutions, Alison Saunders, said:

“It is a priority for investigators to establish who was in Grenfell Tower on that tragic day and it is crucial that we do everything possible to support them.”

Guidance issued by the Director of Public Prosecutions makes clear that tenants of Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk who were sub-letting their properties on the night of the fire and who have, or do, come forward to the authorities so they can be confirmed as safe and or to indicate that others were resident in their flat when the fire took place, should not face prosecution for offences under section 1 of the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013.system.

# We need action on period poverty now



Monica Lennon MSP

The Scottish Government is launching a pilot scheme in Aberdeen providing free sanitary products to women and girls on lower incomes.

I'm pleased the campaign I have started as an opposition MSP has pushed SNP Ministers to act, but the reality is that women and girls urgently need national action now.

A pilot scheme is a

welcome step in the right direction, but we must go much further to help women and girls across the country who are facing a monthly struggle to access the products they need.

After relentless austerity over the last few years from both the Tories and the SNP, there are too many women and girls in Scotland who are unable to afford essential sanitary products during menstruation due to poverty.

Yet there's no reason why any woman or girl, in a wealthy country like Scotland in 2017, should be unable to access these vital products which are essential to their health and wellbeing.

We need to end period poverty and improve access to sanitary products right across Scotland and that's why I will soon be launching a consultation on a Members Bill proposal which will give all women in Scotland the right to access these products for free, regardless of their income.

During my campaign I've been inspired to meet so many committed activists who are championing the issue of access to sanitary products in their own professions, classrooms and communities.

I hope as many people as possible will take part in my consultation and that SNP Ministers will embrace my ambition to make Scotland an example to the world on menstrual health.

## Refugee and migrant flows from Libya to Europe on the rise

Movements by sea from Libya to Europe, despite being the most dangerous route for reaching the continent, have increased and there are indications that it will likely continue to do so, a new study by the United Nations refugee agency has revealed.

According to Mixed Migration Trends in Libya: Changing Dynamics and Protection Challenges, a study commissioned by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), around half of those travelling to the country did so believing they could find jobs there, but ended up fleeing onwards to Europe to escape life-threatening insecurity, instability, difficult economic conditions and widespread exploitation and abuse.

# Help to Buy isn't helping working people in Scotland

New analysis from Scottish Labour has shown the SNP's 'help to buy' scheme is failing to help working people.

The analysis shows the average annual income of households benefitting from the scheme was £46,000. Yet the median average income in Scotland is around £27,000 with many earning less than that.

Young people are finding it harder to get their foot on the housing ladder, with home ownership rates at the lowest they have been in decades among Scotland's young people.

Those on lower incomes in particular are caught in a vicious cycle, being forced into renting because they don't have the savings to afford a deposit, and then

unable to save because of sky high private rents.

Yet the SNP's 'help to buy' scheme offers no help. The top 15 percent of earners are more likely to benefit from the scheme than the average earner.

The reality for Scotland's prospective homeowners is grim.

The SNP has taken a housing shortage and turned it into a housing crisis.

Labour would do things differently. We would start by building 60,000 new affordable homes in Scotland, tackling the dire shortage of affordable housing.

Only Labour can tackle the housing crisis and fix it for everyone – first time buyers, private renters and social

tenants.

We can create better paid jobs by investing in skills and infrastructure.

To do that we need to use the powers of the Scottish Parliament and build a Scotland for the many, not the few.



## The Government urgently needs a new approach to tackling acid attacks

Diane Abbott MP, Labour's Shadow Home Secretary, responding to the acid attacks that took place across London yesterday evening, said:

"The recent spate of acid attacks have shocked the nation, but sadly they are nothing new. With a steady rise in attacks since 2010 and a steep increase of 70 per cent from 2015 to 2016, it is clear that the Government urgently needs a new approach to tackling this heinous crime.

"Just like knives and guns, acid is being used in murders, robberies and rapes. The problem is the weapon of choice is often a common household product. With very few prosecutions it is clear that we do not have the tools necessary to investigate and prevent these attacks.

"While the Tories arrogantly insist that they have protected the police budget, the reality is they have cut numbers by over 20,000, leaving our forces overstretched as they work tirelessly to keep the public and our communities safe."



## EU auditors to examine broadband policy



EUROPEAN  
COURT  
OF AUDITORS

The European Court of Auditors is to examine whether the European Commission and the Member States are on-track to achieve the Europe 2020 broadband objectives.

The 2010 Digital Agenda for Europe envisaged bringing basic broadband to all Europeans by 2013 and ensuring fast broadband coverage for all Europeans by 2020, as well as having over 50% of households subscribe to ultra-fast broadband by 2020.

Although broadband coverage across the EU has improved since 2011 according to the Commission, the

situation is very different across Member States and between urban and rural areas, both for fixed broadband coverage and subscriptions.

Studies by the European Commission and the European Investment Bank estimate that up to €270 billion will be required to achieve the 2020 broadband targets. “

EU broadband infrastructure financing accounts for over €11 billion in the current programme period, complementing private operators’ investments and public funding by Member States,” said Mrs Iliana Ivanova, the

Member of the European Court of Auditors responsible for the audit. “We are set to examine, among other things, whether there is a risk that the financing may not be adequate to achieve the Europe 2020 Broadband objectives.”

The auditors will examine whether the Member States have developed and implemented appropriate strategies to achieve the broadband objectives set by the Commission and how likely they are to achieve them. They will also look at the degree to which the Commission has supported and monitored the Member States in achieving the broadband objectives.

They visit projects in five Member States - Ireland, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Italy. Publication of the audit is planned for Spring 2018.

## Billions around the world lack safe water, proper sanitation facilities

Some three in ten people around the world lack access to safe and readily available water at home, and almost six in ten to safely managed sanitation, a new United Nations report has warned, calling on countries to do more to fulfil these basic human needs.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) joint report, Progress on Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene: 2017 Update and Sustainable Development Goal Baselines, many homes, healthcare facilities and schools also lack soap and water for handwashing, putting the health of all people – but especially young children – at risk for deadly diseases.

# Building on the past - developing for the FUTURE

**welters organisation** introduced the concept of single cast burial chambers, mausolea cells and memorial housings to the industry over 30 years ago and the company continues to design, manufacture, supply and install these facilities nationwide. By operating its own manufacturing facility, the company

avoids using third party concrete producers or subcontractors and it also employs dedicated site installation teams to ensure unrivalled service delivery. **welters®** are presently installing new community mausolea, sarcophagi and burial chambers for a large Midlands based Authority. The installation forms part of a long standing provision

of interment facilities carried out over many years, serving both Christian and Muslim communities.

As part of their design and innovation ethos, **welters®** are currently developing a new baby and infant niche memorial product, designed to reduce the need for 'shrine building' that so commonly afflicts

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many children's interment areas. It is a sensitive issue that so often descends into conflict between the Burial Authority and bereaved parents and this new product is designed to help meet the needs of both parties. Please contact us [admin@welters-worldwide.com](mailto:admin@welters-worldwide.com) for further information.

An example of welters' mausolea, sarcophagi and burial chambers





# “There is no cherry-picking on Brexit”

Michel Barnier debates Brexit negotiations with European Economic and Social Committee



“Brexit means uncertainty”, said Michel Barnier at the outset of the debate with EESC members on 6 July, “uncertainty for citizens, businesses and jobs”. He stressed his task was to negotiate on the basis of what the United Kingdom put on the table, which included no free movement for EU citizens, full autonomy of laws, no role for the European Court of Justice and the autonomy to sign free

trade agreements. The latter involves leaving the customs union and the single market.

But there was also one certainty, he said, namely that the UK would become a third country, and this would entail three main consequences:

1. The basic freedoms - free movement of people, goods and capital – are indivisible;

2. There is no option for a sector by sector participation in the Single Market; and
3. The EU will keep its own independence in setting economic and social rules and standards that all 3rd parties must respect.

The United Kingdom and the EU need to be aware that Brexit has a cost and it is the task of the negotiating team to keep this cost as low as possible. “From the EU’s side, there will be neither aggressiveness nor arrogance, said Mr Barnier, “but we need to be ready for any situation, even a no deal situation, although this would be the worst-case scenario.”

Members of the European Economic and Social Committee voiced their concerns on many aspects, including consumer rights, social rights or the

trade policy. Irish and Northern Irish members raised the issue of the Good Friday Agreement, which was mainly achieved with the help of the EU.

Luca Jahier, President of the EESC’s Various Interests Group stated that “A bad deal is better than no deal, we need to achieve a deal at any cost, because nobody voted to become poorer, nor for the end of the Irish peace process.” Mr. Jahier proposed that “half of the frontier negotiations should take place at the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland and that a cultural route of peace be established between the Irish border and Nicosia in Cyprus, where another wall still exists in Europe.”

Business investments are high on both sides of the Channel. Brexit could jeopardise business relations; particularly as uncertainty is a disruptive factor for businesses. Jacek Krawczyk, President of the Employers Group stressed that “The main expectation for employers is that companies have certainty on the withdrawal agreement and clarity about the future relationship. These negotiations create challenges for

July

both sides, but the EU is no 'restaurant à la carte'. Here we fully support the Commission: there are no low hanging fruits to grab. Transparency and integrity - this is what we appreciate."

Gaby Bischoff, President of the Workers Group referred to the fact that 4 million workers are affected by Brexit, that is to say the equivalent of the population of two Member States – Estonia and Latvia – taken together. She stressed that "we cannot accept that people could be used as bargaining chips. "Workers' rights– protecting jobs, working and living conditions - must be high on the agenda. We cannot let EU workers' rights be undermined by low pay, low regulation or tax havens."

Mr Barnier stressed that the EU too wanted a fair and balanced deal, and that failure to reach a deal would be the worst option, as it would mean reverting

to a distant past, including trading relations with the UK regulated by WTO rules, making products more expensive.

EESC members agreed with Mr Barnier that although Brexit is important and a good deal is in the interest of both the 27 and the UK, the most important thing is the future of Europe. "We have to make people aware about the countless advantages of EU membership. Brexit has shown very clearly that many people are not aware of the fact that these advantages come from being a member of the European Union. In the UK for many people the awakening has already begun. Now it's for the European stakeholders to make the EU27 stronger and more cohesive. The EESC is ready to be a main partner in this process", concluded EESC President Georges Dassis.

## BCC comments on Transport Investment Strategy

Commenting on the transport investment strategy announced by the Department for Transport, Jane Gratton, Head of Business Environment at the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), said:

"Infrastructure projects, both large and small, give business communities across the UK real confidence. A long-term approach to improving productivity and connectivity is welcome but businesses have seen strategies come and go, the real proof comes when they see diggers in the ground.

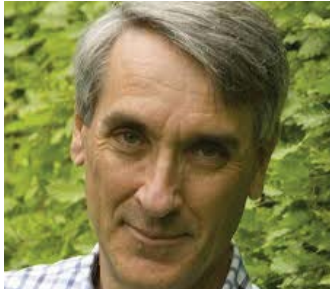
"Investment in local roads will be particularly well-received by businesses who often express frustration at the capacity and quality of the current system. While 'A' roads are

of national strategic importance, local areas are best placed to identify how those assets may be enhanced to promote growth opportunities and should be given the flexibility to do so.

"UK businesses want to see progress on major projects such as Heathrow and HS2, but action on smaller schemes such as local road and rail maintenance unlocks access to major cities and create new paths for communities in all parts of the country.

"Businesses will want this strategy to represent additional and better-focused investment to provide the UK with a quality infrastructure system that supports business growth. Transport projects 'crowd in' additional investment, generate jobs on site and across supply chains, and support greater connectivity between businesses and their markets, suppliers and customers."

# Brexit policy and how to negotiate



Rt Hon John Redwood MP

I am glad the PM has made clear we will end freedom of movement and have our own migration policy on exit, as I reminded people here on this blog last week. She has also clarified the issue of a transitional Agreement. The UK has not asked for one. We still have 19 months left to negotiate a proper Agreement. Negotiating a transitional one would require prior consent to a full Agreement, then allowing discussion of how to transition from the one to the other. It is not intrinsically easier to negotiate a Transitional

Agreement than a permanent Agreement, and requires consent to where the two parties are going during transition.

There are those in the Opposition, the media and business who seem to want to turn the EU/UK talks into a negotiation amongst ourselves about what we are trying to achieve. This is damaging to the UK's official negotiating strategy, as it leads some in the EU to think that if they delay and prod the UK will change its mind and offer to carry on with budget contributions, freedom of movement and the other items that so favour the rest of the EU. MPs and others in senior positions in the Labour party keep changing their minds about membership of the single market and customs union, long after Parliament has voted decisively both to send the Article 50 letter

and to exit both the single market and Customs Union.

Let's have another go at reminding people what the UK has already decided. The people voted to leave the EU. They did so with both official campaigns pointing out this meant leaving the single market and customs Union. They voted leave to take back control, especially of our money, our laws and our borders.

Remain supporters then forced legislation and Parliamentary votes to test out the will of the people. Parliament voted overwhelmingly to leave the EU. The Commons since the election has voted to leave the single market and customs union as part of that, as was always implied in the previous Parliamentary votes.

Some Remain supporters

now want to invent a Transitional Agreement, requiring the UK to go on paying budget contributions, accepting freedom of movement, and continuing to accept new EU laws. This is not government policy, and is clearly against the wishes of the people as expressed in the Referendum.

When asked why they want this, they usually argue that the other EU member states will damage their trade with us and our trade with them if we do not accept continuing features of EU membership. It is a cruel irony that the most pro EU are the most negative about the nature and likely actions of our EU partners. They are also going to be proved wrong on this as on so much else about Brexit. WTO rules work fine, if the rest of the EU really does want to damage its valuable exports of agricultural produce and cars. Their more voluminous exports will attract far more tariff than our sales to them. Under WTO rules and international law the EU cannot stop companies and individuals in its territory buying and selling things with the UK.

# Just 9% of Scottish children do enough exercise, official report states

Fewer than one in 10 children reach the daily recommended levels of physical activity, a Scottish Government report has revealed.

According to a recently published survey, the overwhelming majority of 10 and 11-year-olds north of the border don't do enough exercise.

Children are "sedentary" for more than seven hours every day, the analysis showed.

The 'Growing Up in Scotland' report is the latest to reveal Scotland's battle with obesity.

Shadow health secretary Miles Briggs said these findings suggested the country's battle with the bulge is going to get



Miles Briggs MSP Shadow Cabinet Secretary for Health & Sport

significantly worse before improvements are seen.

The data – which involved a survey of thousands of children between May 2015 and May 2016 – also showed deprivation and gender were irrelevant when it comes to activity levels, with all groups returning similar results.

Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary Miles Briggs said:

"This is a problem for everyone, regardless of deprivation or gender – the entire country is impacted.

"From a public health perspective, it's alarming that so few children are doing enough exercise each day.

"We've always known activity levels in Scotland are lower than they should be.

"But people will be stunned that just nine per cent of youngsters are doing enough.

"We already have severe problems with obesity north of the border, and all the health complications that

brings.

"Going on this survey, that situation is only going to get worse in the years and decades to come.

"If the Scottish Government doesn't take strong action to address this now, thousands upon thousands of Scots will suffer the implications further down the line."



# Company that pretended to be Google is shut down



## The Insolvency Service

Movette sold a service to manage the online 'Google My Business' listings of its customers. The company used the trading styles of 'Online Content Management Services' and 'OCMS' and continued the same or a very similar business to that previously carried on by Online Platform Management Consultants Ltd, which was wound up on 13 April 2015 on the grounds that it operated against the public interest.

The investigation found Movette Ltd had been the subject of a significant

volume of complaints to regulatory bodies such as Action Fraud and Trading Standards during its two-and-a-half year trading history. These complaints, together with information gathered from customers during the investigation, established that the company:

- misled customers by stating or implying that it represented or was affiliated to Google when in reality there was no such relationship
- misled customers by stating or implying that

they had an existing contractual relationship with the company when there was no such relationship

- falsely stated or implied that customers would lose their existing services from Google if payment was not made to the company
- failed to make clear to customers that their contracts would automatically renew after 12 months and ignored or rejected requests made by customers to cancel
- used debt collection methods which were offensive and threatening

Movette Ltd charged a fee of between £199 and £249 for a 12 month contract. The company's financial records showed it received fees totalling £537,000.

Commenting on the case, Colin Cronin, Investigation Supervisor with the Insolvency Service, said:

"Movette used deceptive methods to persuade customers to sign up for its service, including stating or implying that it represented or was connected to Google.

"The company then made it difficult for customers to extract themselves from rolling contracts and used debt collection methods which were coercive and intimidatory.

"These proceedings show that the Insolvency Service will take firm action against companies which operate in this manner.

"I would urge any business which is contacted by cold-call and invited to sign up for a Google My Business listing to make full enquiries into the service being offered before entering into any agreement. Google My Business is, in fact, a free service which allows businesses to enter and update information with the intention of marketing themselves to users of the search engine."





# ‘Orange’ emergency areas on M1 smart motorway

The new look emergency areas have bright orange road surfaces to help improve visibility so they are more obvious to drivers on smart motorways. It is also hoped that it will encourage drivers to only use them in emergency situations.

The first of the new emergency areas went live on the M3 near Camberley last month. This change is part of an ongoing review into the design and spacing of emergency areas on smart motorways. A further

14 emergency areas will have the distinctive orange colour added along the M1 between junctions 19 (Catthorpe) to 16a (Northampton) from this month.

Highways England Chief Executive Jim O’Sullivan said:

“We recognise the public concern about smart motorways and we also believe that changes such as these will help drivers have confidence when using them and be clear about where they can stop

in an emergency.

“That is why we are trialling these highly visible new style emergency areas. The bright orange colouring will make them as easy as possible to spot and should also discourage drivers from using them in non-emergency situations.

“This is just one of the ways we are helping drivers to understand smart motorways and their benefits. I hope it helps drivers feel more confident about using a smart motorway.”

Smart motorways use variable speed limits to manage traffic and tackle frustrating stop-start congestion, new technology to give drivers better information on road conditions ahead and – in smart motorway upgrades delivered since 2004 – convert the hard shoulder into an extra traffic lane. Evidence shows that smart motorways are successfully adding extra capacity, improving journey times and are just as safe as conventional motorways.

The redesigned emergency area supports Highways England’s drive to improve awareness of smart motorway driving, including what to do in an emergency and when to use an emergency area. It sits alongside a national TV, radio and social media campaign covering key themes such as not driving in lanes closed by Red X signs, how to stop in an emergency and the importance of carrying out appropriate vehicle checks, like checking fuel levels, before setting out on a journey to avoid unnecessary breakdowns.

# Current global shortage of hepatitis B vaccine

Public Health England, working with NHS England, the Department of Health and the manufacturers, have put in place a series of measures so that the NHS and other providers can use the available vaccine for those at highest immediate risk. Measures are expected to continue until the beginning of 2018 and will be kept under review.

The risk of catching hepatitis B infection in the UK is very low.

In the UK, vaccination is usually offered to individuals who are at specific risk of being exposed to blood from an infected person. This includes babies born to mothers who are infected with hepatitis B, the sexual partners of infected individuals and a range

of other groups such as men who have sex with men, healthcare workers, and people who inject drugs. Vaccination is also recommended for people who will be undertaking certain activities overseas.

A course of hepatitis B vaccine usually involves 3 doses of vaccine, completed over a few months. While supplies are limited, vaccine will be prioritised for those at highest immediate risk based on their doctor's assessment. For other people, a doctor may advise that hepatitis B vaccine can be deferred until later.

Hepatitis B virus is found in the blood and bodily fluids, such as semen and vaginal fluids, of an infected person. It cannot be spread by kissing, holding

hands, hugging, coughing, sneezing, or sharing crockery and utensils.

Individuals can reduce their risk of contracting hepatitis B by taking care to:

- avoid having unprotected sex
- not inject drugs, or by not sharing needles when injecting
- avoid having tattoos, piercing or acupuncture when overseas
- avoid accessing medical or dental care in high prevalence countries

Vaccination will still be available, as now, for those who have already been exposed to hepatitis B. Such people should seek urgent medical attention as the infection can still be prevented if treated

promptly after the incident.

The recently announced addition of hepatitis B protection to the routine childhood immunisation programme at 2, 3 and 4 months will go ahead. The combined vaccine, which protects against hepatitis B and 5 other diseases, is not affected by this shortage.

Long term hepatitis B infection can be symptomless and people who think they may have acquired the infection in the past should seek a test from their healthcare professional.





August

## BCC: UK's trade position remains underwhelming

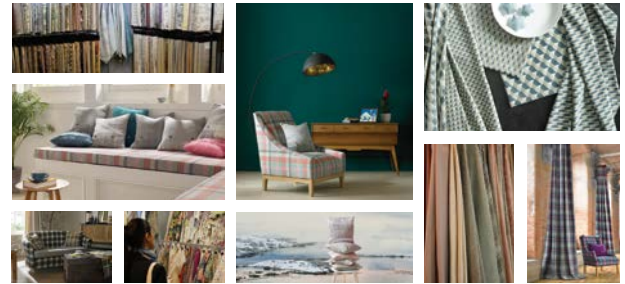
Commenting on the trade statistics for June, released by the ONS, Suren Thiru, Head of Economics at the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), said:

“The sharp deterioration in the UK's net trade position in June was disappointing, and means the trade deficit in the second quarter of this year came in slightly higher than in the previous quarter. Taken together with the recent jump in the current account deficit, signals the continued weakness of the UK's external position. The widening in the UK trade deficit in June was largely driven by a sharp rise in imports.

“Businesses continue to report that the slump in

the value of sterling since the EU referendum remains something of a double-edged sword, as many exporters are also importers, and so face higher input costs due to the weakening currency. While stronger global economic growth may help to boost UK export performance over the second half of the year, it is unlikely to be sufficient to prevent an overall weakening in UK growth.

“As the Brexit negotiations unfold, safeguarding the favourable terms of trade that UK firms currently enjoy with partners and markets in Europe and beyond must be a key priority. More must also be done to provide greater practical and front-line assistance to UK businesses looking to trade in both current and new markets.”



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# Over 3 million more people in work since 2010



According to the Office for National Statistics, the number of people in work is at the highest level since records began in 1971.

The record figures have been driven by increases in the number of people in secure work – over 75% of the increase in employment over the past 7 years has been in full-time work.

There are now 338,000 more people in work compared to this time last year.

Minister for Employment, Damian Hinds said:

“These statistics show that record levels of people are in work across the country and earning a wage, which is great news.

“Over 3 million more people are in work now than in 2010, with 7 in 10 of these roles being in higher skilled work.

“Over the past year the rise in employment has been overwhelmingly driven by permanent and full-time jobs, as employers continue to invest in Britain’s strong economy.

“The task now is to build on this success

through Jobcentre Plus and our employment programmes so that everybody can benefit from the opportunities being created.”

The figures also show:

- the employment rate is at a record high of 75.1%, with 32.07 million people now in work – an increase of 338,000 on the year
- this year has been a strong one for employment growth with 247,000 more people now in work since January
- there are a near record 768,000 vacancies in the economy at any one time
- the female employment rate is at a record high of 70.5%, with over 15 million women in work
- youth unemployment is down by 394,000 since 2010

- there are more British people in work than ever before and around 9 in 10 people in jobs are UK nationals
- the UK employment rate is now the fourth highest in the European Union and 7 percentage points higher than the EU28 average

Separate figures also out show 1.3 million claims have been made to Universal Credit. Of the 570,000 people now claiming Universal Credit, 39% are in work.

The government recently announced up to £35 million of funding with devolution authorities across England for 6 new innovation employment pilots. These will help over 18,000 disadvantaged people into employment, and tackle long-term barriers to work and in-work progression.

Estimates of the claimant count are no longer included in the ONS statistical bulletin as they may now be providing a misleading representation of the UK labour market.

August

## ‘Racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or Islamophobia are poisoning our societies’ – UN chief



Secretary-General António Guterres speaks to journalists at a press encounter. UN Photo/Mark Garten

Commenting on the trade Urging people everywhere to speak out against hate speech and hate crimes, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has reiterated his call for tolerance, respect for the other and the importance of recognizing diversity.

“Racism, xenophobia, anti-Semitism or Islamophobia are, as I mentioned yesterday, poisoning our societies,” the Secretary-

General told journalists at a briefing at the UN Headquarters in New York.

“It is absolutely essential for us all to stand up against them everywhere and every time,” he added.

Addressing questions from a journalist about the situation in the US, where a weekend protest and counter-protest over the removal of a Civil War statue in Charlottesville,

Virginia, sparked discussions about race, Mr. Guterres said “demons are appearing a little bit everywhere.”

A Portuguese national, Mr. Guterres said that as a European, he is proud that Europe created the values of Enlightenment: tolerance, the respect for the other, and the importance of recognition of diversity.

“To be able to stand for these values and to... at the same time, to condemn all forms of irrationality that undermine those values is essential, at the present moment, be it in the United States or everywhere else in the world,” the head of the UN said.

## India Independence Day

Press Statement by Rex W. Tillerson, Secretary of State Washington, DC, August 15, 2017

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, best wishes to the people of India as they celebrate their independence day and continue the journey we began together 70 years ago.



The United States is proud to stand with the people of India, the world’s largest democracy, in the cause for freedom and prosperity around the globe.

Prime Minister Modi’s ambitious vision for the U.S.-India relationship holds great promise for advancing our shared interests in the 21st century, and we look forward to the many years of friendship before us.

## UKIP: For security at home and abroad we must leave the ECHR

Following revelations contained in an unpublished Home Office report on the inability of the UK authorities to extradite convicted terrorists, Jane Collins, the UKIP spokesman for Home Affairs has responded:

“During the latest Brexit negotiations we heard farcical claims that the UK would be safer staying as part of the EU; this report clearly shows we are safer not only outside the European Union, but must remove ourselves from the European Convention on Human Rights.

We must not be signed up to any legislation which limits the ability of the government to put the safety and security

of UK citizens first and demonstrably the ECHR makes this country a more dangerous place.

What other countries in the EU seem to forget is the UK is part of five eyes: this is a proper information sharing forum which means we contribute more to European security than they ever do for us. A good example of this is Belgium’s failure to inform Spanish authorities about the Barcelona killer.

We have seen with Labour’s capitulation on a genuine Brexit and the Tories’ weakness on European jurisdiction over our laws that we are at real risk of a bogus Brexit.”

## May in Japan: time to come clean on Nissan

**The Liberal Democrats have challenged Theresa May to publish the correspondence between ministers and Nissan when the Japanese car manufacturer was reportedly prepared to pull out of Britain amid fears about tariff free access to the rest of the EU as a result of Brexit. The call comes as the prime minister prepares to touch down in Japan.**

Brexit spokesperson Tom Brake said:

“Liberal Democrats put in a Freedom of Information request for the letter Nissan sent to the government containing information on the offer by ministers of a sweetheart deal. Whole chunks had been blacked

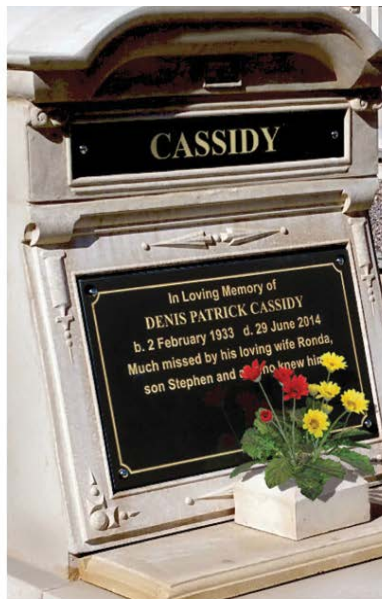
out, but I think we all know what the government’s offer had contained: a blanked out blank cheque.

“Because of the government’s shambolic Brexit negotiations, no doubt this won’t be the only blank cheque given to multinational companies to stop them departing the UK.

“But the public deserve to know exactly what assurances the Conservative government has given Nissan, and whether these assurances have been given to other car manufacturers, or any other of the thousands of businesses across the country that will be hit by an extreme Brexit.

“The government could still choose to stay in the single market and customs union - then it wouldn’t need to offer companies dodgy, under-the-counter deals.”





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# World's longest coastal footpath one step closer



New view of Staithes from route in North Yorkshire (credit Natural England)

Tourists from around the globe will soon be able to step foot on the longest coastal walking route in the world as work is officially underway along every stretch of the England Coast Path.

Natural England is now working on 100 per cent of this 2,700 mile walking route, which when completed will allow people to explore new and improved routes along the entire length of the English coastline – taking in iconic sights like the White Cliffs

of Dover, the beaches of Norfolk and the picturesque North Yorkshire coast.

England's spectacular coastline already attracts 300 million visits a year, with people spending up to three times more than at any other holiday destination.

And with the South West stretch already worth £400 million to the economy, by offering new and improved access to some of the country's best tourist hot spots, the England Coast

Path will bring a huge boost to tourism – an industry already worth £106 billion.

Rural Affairs Minister Lord Gardiner said:

“We have some of the most spectacular coastland in the world, with iconic sites such as the White Cliffs at Dover and the picturesque beaches at Whitby attracting millions of tourists and walkers every year.

“The England Coast Path is a hugely significant project – helping people across the country to access our stunning coastline and providing a significant boost to the economy of our coastal communities.

“By working closely with landowners, farmers and local communities, we are well on track to creating the world's longest coastal path by 2020.”

Natural England's Chairman Andrew Sells added:

“We are now working on all

sections of our beautiful and varied coastline so the ability to walk the longest, continuous coastal walking route in the world is on the horizon.

“I'm extremely proud of the strides we have taken to reach this point. We will continue to work closely with landowners, communities and local authorities to create the best possible route, to bring more people closer to nature, and benefit local economies.”

So far Natural England has opened just over 300 miles of coastline, helping thousands of people access some of England's most spectacular coastal scenery.

The new routes link up the best existing coastal paths, create new ones where there were none before, and in some cases move paths nearer the sea so walkers have a better opportunity to properly enjoy the country's coastal views and beaches.

Most recently, routes have opened in North Yorkshire and Norfolk, with further stretches set to open in Kent, the north east and Cumbria over the coming months.

# £40m cash injection to benefit lives of young people

Youth organisations will receive £40 million to boost the skills and life chances of young people living in disadvantaged areas, Minister for Sport and Civil Society Tracey Crouch has announced.

The money is set to benefit 300,000 young people, providing new opportunities for them to get involved in their communities, support their personal development and get the skills and confidence they need to enter the workplace.

It will be used to create new youth clubs in rural areas, expand sports projects to build the confidence of young people encouraging them to get active and increase services providing support and guidance to young people.

The Youth Investment Fund - made up of government

and National Lottery players money from the from the Big Lottery Fund - will be shared by 86 youth organisations in East London, Liverpool City Region, West Midlands, Tees Valley and Sunderland, Bristol & Somerset and Eastern Counties over the next three years.

Minister for Civil Society Tracey Crouch, said:

“This investment from the government and National Lottery players will have a transformational effect on the lives of some of our most disadvantaged young people. It will help thousands who might otherwise have gone under the radar flourish. Local voluntary and community youth organisations already do so much fantastic work and this £40 million will enrich the lives of many more young people throughout England.”

Dawn Austwick, Chief Executive, Big Lottery Fund said:

“The Youth Investment Fund is a welcome boost for the many great community organisations that work with young people locally. Money raised by National Lottery players creates opportunities for young people to build on their talents and strengths and the Youth Investment Fund is an important part of the jigsaw for the youth sector.”

Examples of projects that will receive funding to better the lives of young people in their area are:

**Youth Federation:** The Liverpool-based charity will receive £749,664 to improve youth provision across Wirral, Halton and St Helens. Youth Federation aims to reach out to nearly 5,000 local young people,

providing coding and digital skills to increase their employability and improve mental health through sport.

**Kite Trust:** Cambridgeshire LGBT charity will be awarded £193,554 to create four safe spaces for 600 young people to receive advice and support on issues such as isolation. The charity will also develop and implement an education and corporate training programme for schools and businesses in the region to promote equality and inclusion.

**SkyWay:** Located in Hackney, the charity delivers a wide range of activities and programmes in youth clubs, sports centres, parks and house estates. It will use £407k in funding to improve its offer to young people by buying new equipment such as cooking utensils, arts and crafts kits and sports equipment, that will be used in support sessions. It will also increase the number of young people being trained as young leaders, a programme that is currently oversubscribed at Skyway.

The fund will allow the chosen organisations to expand the services they provide to young people, and sustain them over the coming years.



# Labour's decision to oppose Brexit Bill is a monstrous betrayal of its voters, says UKIP



people who voted for Brexit in the greatest ever exercise in democracy this country has ever seen – including more than 4 million patriotic Labour voters – and the million former UKIP voters who trusted him in this year's election.

The decision of the Labour Party to whip its MPs to vote against the EU Withdrawal Bill is a monstrous betrayal of the millions of Labour voters who voted to leave the EU, says UKIP interim leader Steve Crowther.

“It also finally explodes the myth that Jeremy Corbyn is a man who sticks by his principles. First he reneged on Labour's promises over student debts, and now he has betrayed the 17.4 million

“Corbyn has now been captured by the Blairites, because he would rather give Mrs May a bloody nose than serve the people by upholding his principles and keeping his promises.

“The Government is crumbling before the EU's bullying tactics, and Labour has changed sides. As expected, UKIP is now the only party fully committed to giving the people the Brexit they voted for.”



Labour Leader Jeremy Corbyn.  
Source: Wikipedia

## welters® Windsor Chairs

The company is celebrating its return to the 'of the moment' Windsor Chair design with a comprehensive and all embracing range of furniture elements.



# First hole is cut in world's oldest nuclear store

**Safely accessing the Pile Fuel Cladding Silo takes Sellafield Ltd a step closer to reducing the UK's nuclear hazard.**

The world's oldest nuclear waste store has been cut open for the first time.

Experts at the Sellafield nuclear site have cut the hole in the Pile Fuel Cladding Silo, a locked vault which was never designed to be opened.

This is the first of six holes that will allow radioactive waste to be removed from one of the site's most hazardous buildings.

The silo was built in the 1950s when the site's purpose was to make material for nuclear weapons.

Safely decommissioning the building is one of the highest priorities for Sellafield Ltd and the Nuclear Decommissioning

Authority, and will take them a step closer to reducing the UK's nuclear hazard.

## **The most complicated 'hole in a wall' ever made**

Steven Carroll, Head of the Pile Fuel Cladding Silo, said:

"I am incredibly proud of the work that our Sellafield Ltd and supply chain teams have achieved together, in preparing the silo for successful waste retrievals.

"The level of challenge involved with this facility is unparalleled, considering the age of the building, the lack of historical information about the waste itself, the atmosphere inside the silo and its position on one of the most

congested sites, anywhere in the world.

"Despite this, the teams have carried out some world class engineering in difficult environments to get us closer to getting the waste out and into safer storage earlier than planned."

The work is being carried out by Sellafield Ltd, along with Bechtel Cavendish Nuclear Solutions and Babcock Marine Technology.

Preparations have been under way for a number of years, which involved practising the cutting operation at a full-scale replica test rig in Rosyth, Scotland.

The six holes are cut at the top of each of the facility's six compartments, allowing access to the waste within the silo's walls for the first time in 65 years.

Each section is cut away in a single piece and withdrawn into a

containment bag. A containment door is then lowered over the aperture and closed.

The giant steel doors will provide a safe barrier between the waste inside the silo and the outside world. Work to remove the material will start in 2019.

To remove the waste, a crane will extend through the cut holes, a grabber will then drop down to scoop the waste up, lifting it out of the container and back through the hole.

It will then be dropped into a specially-designed metal box, for safe and secure storage in a modern facility.



Once each hole is cut in the silo, the section of concrete is cut away in a single piece (known as a monolith)

## SNP plan to empty jails would see more than 11,000 dodge prison

More than 11,000 criminals – including those convicted of homicide, attempted murder and serious assault – would escape jail under the SNP's new justice plans.

Nicola Sturgeon said she wanted sheriffs to stop handing down sentences of less than 12 months to boost rehabilitation.

However, analysis by the Scottish Conservatives has revealed the new measures would see thousands of serious criminals instead handed fines or community sentences.

In 2015/16, the most recent timeframe for which statistics are available, 11,195 offenders were sentenced to 12 months or less.

That included two convicted of homicide, 109 of serious assault or attempted murder, and 82

of robbery.

In addition, 27 people convicted of sexual assault were sent down for under a year, in addition to 285 housebreakers and 334 found guilty of handling an offensive weapon.

As it stands, courts are instructed to have a presumption against sentences of less than three months.

Last month, think tank Reform Scotland said this should be extended to six months.

Yesterday, as part of her Programme for Government, the First Minister said it was her intention to increase that even further.

Scottish Conservative shadow justice secretary Liam Kerr said:

"The SNP is creating

an impression that this change will only really impact low-level offenders whose rehabilitation would be better served with alternative punishments.

"But the reality is it will see certain offenders convicted of homicide, serious assault, attempted murder and sexual assault escape a jail term.

"That's a shocking way to treat victims of crime, and will do nothing to help rehabilitation.

"Prison is meant to do four things; punish, deter, keep the public safe, and rehabilitate.

"With these proposed changes, the Scottish Government is utterly neglecting all but one of these.

"If ministers are serious about rehabilitation, they should ensure prisoners are compelled to work or undertake education while inside, instead of trying to empty prisons."

### Andy McDonald MP comments on Transport for London's decision to not renew Uber's licence

"All companies must play by the rules and adhere to high standards – particularly when it comes to the safety of passengers.

"The type of arrangements used by Uber seem to be specifically designed so that the company can circumvent regulations and dodge their responsibilities, undermining passenger safety and workers' rights throughout the industry.

"Despite the Law Commission recommending the wholesale reform of taxi and private hire vehicle legislation more than three years ago, the Tories have failed to act.

"Labour would overhaul the current regulations, so that it keeps up with the changes to technology, and further ensures a level playing field for companies, proper employment rights for all workers, and a good and safe service for passengers."

# Links between Wales and Aston Martin are firmly on track



The new branding is in celebration of Aston Martin's impending move to Wales and will be showcased globally as the V8 Vantage competes in races in Mexico, the USA, Japan, China and Bahrain in the season ahead.

Last year Aston Martin announced it had selected St Athan from 20 potential global locations for its second manufacturing facility as part of a £200M investment in new products and facilities.

Work is now underway to construct an Aston Martin manufacturing facility at St Athan which is expected to employ 750 workers by 2020, and support many more jobs in the local supply chain.

Economy Secretary Ken Skates said:

"Aston Martin's decision to move to St Athan is a huge coup for Wales. It is testament to the can do attitude of Welsh Government, and to the reputation, dedication and

skills of our work force.

"We are very proud of our relationship with Aston Martin, and delighted that it will be visible for all to see on the V8 Vantage pro racing car this season.

"I wish the team all the best as they embark on the season ahead and hope that the addition of the Wales brand only serves to add to the team's success."

Simon Sproule Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer at Aston Martin said;;

"We've been proud to use Aston Martin Racing to promote our partnership with the Welsh Government and the St Athan project. It's also been a great year for Aston Martin Racing with victory in Le Mans and

most recently in Mexico."

It is estimated that Aston Martin's move to St Athan will bring economic benefits worth around half a billion pounds to Wales. Earlier this year the Welsh Government advertised up to £60m of Aston Martin contracts on its Sell2Wales procurement channel to ensure that Welsh SMEs could benefit from the construction of the manufacturing facility.

The Welsh Government is working hard to ensure that Wales maximises the economic benefits of Aston Martin's move to Wales and in April arranged a Business Briefing event to bring representatives of Welsh based academic institutions and innovation focused organisations together with Aston Martin's senior management team.

As a result a number of these institutions have visited Aston Martin HQ in Gayden to discuss the potential of academic and industrial collaboration and are in active dialogue with the company on a range of potential technology development projects.

## EU and UN presented a new initiative worth €500 million to eliminate violence against women and girls



In order to help eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, the European Union and the United Nations have presented yesterday their new “Spotlight Initiative”. At the official launch at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, High Representative/ Vice President Federica Mogherini said:

“The European Union is committed to combatting all forms of violence against women and girls, as they undermine our core fundamental rights and values, such as dignity, access to justice and

gender equality. We need first to ensure that we keep women and girls safe, in order to empower them to deploy their full potential.”

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven Mimica added:

“Violence against women and girls is one of the greatest injustices of our time, which crosses all borders, generations, nationalities and communities. It deeply touches our hearts and our minds. And it is a serious barrier to any society’s full development potential. To make a real change, I invite all partners to join our Spotlight Initiative for a world in which all women and girls can truly shine!”

Over the next few

years, comprehensive programmes and large-scale targeted actions will be implemented to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, such as sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation; trafficking and economic (labour) exploitation; femicide; and domestic and family violence.

Core areas of intervention will include strengthening legislative frameworks, policies and institutions, preventive measures, access to services and improving data gathering in Africa, Latin America, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean.

## Nurse numbers are falling because of the Government’s disregard for NHS staff

Jonathan Ashworth MP, Labour’s Shadow Health Secretary, commenting on the latest NHS Digital workforce figures which show a fall of 1071 in nurse numbers in the past year, said:

“The Government has totally failed in their planning of the NHS workforce. Cuts to training places and the disastrous pay cap have pushed staff to the brink and now nurse numbers are falling year on year because of the Government’s disregard for NHS staff.

“Just yesterday Jeremy Hunt said mental health would be a priority for the Government but even mental health nurse numbers are falling.

“It is essential that the NHS can get enough staff in place to deliver safe services for patients. The Government should immediately end the pay cap and give NHS staff the pay they deserve.”



# Stop facilitating tax evasion or face criminal prosecution, HMRC tells corporations



**Corporations could be prosecuted if they fail to prevent staff from criminally facilitating tax evasion under a new HMRC law that comes into effect in September.**

It is already a crime to evade tax, or deliberately help another person to do so, but on behalf of the majority of taxpayers who pay what is due, the UK government is now taking an even firmer stance on corporate fraud in a move designed to drive a change in corporate culture.

The Criminal Finances Act 2017 introduces two new criminal offences - one applying to the evasion of UK taxes and one applying to the evasion of foreign taxes.

The offences hold corporations and partnerships criminally liable when they fail to prevent their employees, agents, or others who provide services on their behalf from criminally facilitating tax evasion. This is a significant change from existing law under

which they can only be found liable for criminally facilitating tax evasion if the most senior members of the organisation – typically the board of directors – are aware of the facilitation.

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Mel Stride MP said:

“Tax evasion is a crime and takes away from the money we need to fund our vital public services.

“The vast majority of businesses play by the rules but we must ensure that those that don’t are accountable for their actions.

“The new offences will ensure that companies doing business in the UK take reasonable steps to prevent their staff from facilitating tax evasion.”

## Under the Tories, our roads have become more dangerous

Andy McDonald MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Transport, responding to the Government’s road casualty statistics, said:

“The latest road casualty statistics make for chilling reading with the number of road deaths at a five year high and serious life changing injuries up by nine per cent.

“Labour made significant progress on road safety, but the Tories scrapped road safety targets and allowed our roads to become more dangerous.

“The underfunding of police forces has meant there are a third fewer dedicated traffic police than a decade ago, making enforcement less effective. Labour will reintroduce road safety targets and increase police numbers as part of an ambitious strategy striving for zero deaths on our roads.”



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# National News Headlines July 2017

## 1st July

- City must come first in Brexit, May told
- May's U-turn on abortion quells rebellion – for now
- The Tories are making a habit of U-turns – and Brexit will be next

## 2nd July

- Top Tories revolt against May over public sector cash
- Corbyn is now secure, says Watson
- No 10 plots Brexit walkout

## 3rd July

- Council faces the axe over tower fire chaos
- Boris Johnson joins calls to end public sector pay cap
- More UK nurses and midwives leaving than joining profession

## 4th July

- Jersey abuse home must go, says report
- 18 die in inferno after tourist coach crashes into truck on M-way
- Scale of public sector salary cuts revealed

## 5th July

- Two more held in Channel gun haul
- Criminals out on probation 'kill 83 a year'
- MPs call for early vote on Syria action

## 6th July

- Tony Blair 'not straight' with UK over Iraq, says Chilcot
- Vulnerable 'playing Russian roulette' choosing care
- UK terror convictions rising, BBC Jihadist database shows



# National News Headlines July 2017

## 7th July

- Manchester bomber 'was not acting alone'
- Now France plans petrol car ban
- Grenfell fire: Inquiry head faces angry residents' meeting

## 8th July

- Hammond: We'd be mad not to stay as close as possible to EU
- Grenfell firefighters 'hampered by equipment'
- Notting Hill Carnival 'should be moved after Grenfell fire'

## 9th July

- Trump boost for May as he promises 'quick, powerful' trade deal
- German industry in stark warning to UK over Brexit
- Summit isolates Trump over climate

## 10th July

- Mosul liberated from IS after 3 bloody years
- Cash crisis for mothers who want to stay at home
- European Parliament rejects Britain's 'damp squib' offer on citizen rights

## 11th July

- Sunday Express terror attack hero thanks PC who helped save his life
- US President Donald Trump 'to visit UK in 2018'
- Russian cyber-attacks 'threat to democracy'

## 12th July

- Sales of £1m-plus houses triple as price boom widens
- Brexit voters are elderly and fear migrants
- Abolishing cash-in-hand jobs 'would raise £6bn in tax and benefit workers'



# National News Headlines July 2017

## 13th July

- Virgin cleared over showing CCTV proving Corbyn needn't sit on floor
- Brits miss flights in passport chaos at Palma airport
- 999 handlers will get longer to assess calls

## 14th July

- Labour peer: Brexit could be as bad as appeasement
- London acid attacks: Teenager arrested
- 'Ripe for abuse': Brexit bill lets ministers scrap rights without scrutiny

## 15th July

- £1.6bn of tax credits wrongly handed out in just one year
- Tony Blair says EU could be flexible over movement
- Morgan: I'm ready to grill ministers about risk of Brexit chaos

## 16th July

- May's war on Nimbys as she pledges: We'll build 300,000 homes
- Revealed: scale of 'unnecessary' NHS deaths
- Former civil service head warns May of Brexit chaos

## 17th July

- Worries as 171,000 Romanians and Bulgarians enter UK in three years
- Now Italy threatens to give EU visas to 200,000 migrants
- Mental health problems among jobless soar

## 18th July

- Facing jail, the Lloyds insiders who helped gang steal millions
- What crash? Average house price 'to hit £300k by 2025'
- Dementia puts a stop to rising life expectancy





# National News Headlines July 2017

## 19th July

- Bosses let top stars go on social media to defend giant salaries
- Chris Evans named as BBC's best-paid star
- Firms worried about Brexit effect on staffing

## 20th July

- BBC could shift stars 'off the books' to hide their wages
- Violent crime up 18% in England and Wales
- May: Church should reflect on gay marriage

## 21st July

- Now Beeb bosses are planning to cut redundancy pay for working mums
- UK air traffic controllers warn of over-crowded skies
- Female stars could sue BBC over pay gap

## 22nd July

- Osborne's £20k payout... for getting the sack
- Children in temporary housing up a third since 2014
- Thousands of EU workers quit London

## 23rd July

- Princes speak of their lifelong regret at rushed final phone call
- Tory members turn to Davis in battle to succeed May
- Revealed: Jeremy Corbyn's secret backer when chips were down – Tony Blair

## 24th July

- 'Concern' over transgender law shake-up
- High risk of 'unprecedented' winter downpours - Met Office
- Doctors warn of soaring UK alcohol deaths



## 25th July

- 'No improper Russian contact' says Kushner
- Huge police hunt after chainsaw maniac attacks insurance staff
- Debt-ridden families could crash whole economy, warns Bank

## 26th July

- BMW to build electric Mini in Britain... just as we cut ties with EU
- New diesel and petrol vehicles to be banned from 2040 in UK
- Sperm count collapse could spell doom for humanity, say experts

## 27th July

- New pollution tax as diesel and petrol cars face sales ban
- Brexit: UK-EU freedom of movement 'to end in March 2019'
- 'Census' of EU workers in UK to show impact of migration

## 28th July

- Muslim gang attacked strangers in the street because they were white
- Outrage after Pakistani elders order 'revenge rape'
- Kensington council 'may have committed corporate manslaughter' over Grenfell

## 29th July

- 7million homes 'should be given cash refund' for slow broadband
- Councils find 'shocking' knife sales to children
- Probe into attack on football star in bar is dropped

## 30th July

- Republican fears mount after Trump's White House cull
- Border chaos will hit hard after Brexit, says report
- Internships can damage career prospects, survey warns

## 31st July

- Terror arrests in Sydney over 'plot to blow up plane'
- Banks told to reveal 'reckless' lending tactics
- Only Theresa May can end the confusion over the Cabinet's Brexit approach





# National News Headlines August 2017

## 1st August

- Probe into Britain's 'ridiculous foreign aid budget long overdue'
- Labour MP Steve McCabe smashed in face with brick by biker
- Boost for plan to extend Bakerloo line into suburbs

## 2nd August

- Diabetes risk to mums who put on weight between babies
- Prince Philip to carry out final official engagement
- Governors 'devastated' by 'complete decline of prison service'

## 3rd August

- With dignity and humour, Philip bows out
- Sack the 4 envoys who hate Brexit, IDS tells Theresa
- Mental health patients stranded in units for years

## 4th August

- Families start clear-up to end bin strike misery
- National Living Wage rising too fast, say small businesses
- Tories: It's time to end TfL's taxpayer-funded £2.89bn pension pot

## 5th August

- Anger as killers handed £400,000 in state legal aid
- Double number of Britons apply for Irish passports
- One-fifth of Scotland's coastline at risk of erosion

## 6th August

- May wasted a year and has no 'Brexit plan B' warns King
- Stop children bingeing on social media, parents urged
- Women's Equality party founder sues over 'sex bias'



# National News Headlines August 2017

## 7th August

- National Trust U-turn over gay rights badges
- Is your account safe? Internet thieves target one bank a week
- Tory anger at officials over Brexit divorce bill

## 8th August

- Foreign eggs removed from sale in toxin scare
- Tesco to scrap its single-use plastic bags
- Pressure is mounting on North Korea – but Trump will struggle to disarm Kim

## 9th August

- Cheer up! UK can boom outside EU following Brexit, says Aussie envoy
- Darling: 'Alarm bells ringing' for UK economy
- Davidson issues challenge to May over immigration

## 10th August

- Stop and search U-turn to tackle acid attackers
- Failure to tackle child traffickers 'like letting rapist loose in London'
- Eighteen guilty over sexual grooming of vulnerable girls

## 11th August

- Shocking moment migrants land on a holiday beach
- Hate crimes up after terror attacks
- Fresh concern over safety of tower blocks

## 12th August

- Now IDS calls for curbs on 'crack cocaine' bet machines
- UKIP's deputy leader defends anti-Islam candidate's leadership bid
- Terror chief issues fresh alert over 'cultish' jihadists



# National News Headlines August 2017

## 13th August

- Boris: It's up to Kim to fix crisis
- Britain will not stay in EU by the back door, pledges Cabinet
- Britons paying £3bn in 'stealth' holiday taxes

## 14th August

- White House plot 'to oust Trump'
- Big Ben's bongos to fall silent until 2021 for repairs
- May's plan to pack Brexit committee with Tories

## 15th August

- 8 million to work past pension age
- Train fares set to rise 4% in biggest price hike for 5 years
- Brexit: UK suggests 'temporary customs union' with EU

## 16th August

- 190k extra care home beds are needed by 2035
- Brexit: UK position paper opposes Irish border posts
- Alex is not sexist, he's just a bit Benny Hill, says Nicola Sturgeon

## 17th August

- NHS complaints system 'is failing elderly patients'
- Car insurers: We're being forced to hike premiums by £250
- Big Ben reprieve as officials order rethink

## 18th August

- Javid accuses Corbyn of stifling debate on Asian child sex gangs
- Terror strikes the heart of Barcelona
- Row over university places for poorer Scots





# National News Headlines August 2017

## 19th August

- UK terror threat increased by IS losses, security minister says
- Sir Bruce Forsyth: TV legend dies aged 89
- Hunt is on for Barcelona killers

## 20th August

- Tories warn Trump crisis could destroy Brexit deal with US
- Ex-legal chief attacks May's 'foolish' claim on EU court
- Parliament goes to war over plans to silence Big Ben

## 21st August

- Lives still at risk from faulty white goods a year after safety calls
- Davis warns EU: Stall on Brexit talks and lose out
- May missed majority by 0.0017%

## 22nd August

- Ditch our goods after Brexit at your peril, UK warns Brussels
- George Osborne urges 'HS3' rail for northern England
- Germany: Brexit and Trump threaten our economy

## 23rd August

- Birmingham gangs banned from city in landmark ruling
- The 'miracle' baby who survived 10 hours in quake rubble
- PM accused of U-turn over EU courts promise

## 24th August

- GCSE: Pass rate dips as students face tougher exams
- Big net migration fall since Brexit vote, latest estimates show
- UK will have to keep half an eye on EU laws after Brexit, admits minister



## 25th August

- Top firms must say how bosses' salaries compare with staff
- 'Self-driving' lorries to be tested on UK roads
- DVLA bans over 300 potentially offensive licence plates

## 26th August

- Non-English speaking victims of crime to get priority says Met chief
- Corbyn's plan to end benefit freeze at cost of £3bn a year
- Terror probe as man with weapon arrested outside Buckingham Palace

## 27th August

- Labour makes dramatic shift on Brexit and single market
- Tory pledge on more free childcare in confusion
- shocking security flaws at the heart of Parliament

## 28th August

- Migrants switch to Spain in battle to sneak into UK
- Work five more years to boost pension by £50,000
- Baking Bank Holiday tipped to break records

## 29th August

- Give Africa more aid cash to cut migrant deaths says Macron
- UK companies must publish pay ratios under new law
- Scottish financial giants prepare for Brexit shock

## 30th August

- Treasury gets record £13bn in stamp duty
- GPs ordered to slash referrals to hospitals
- Reveal pay gap between bosses and your staff, firms are told

## 31st August

- Ex-miners' leader Scargill loses fight with union over bill for home security
- Public marks 20 years since Princess Diana's death
- HIV cases fall by 40% for second year at top clinic





# National News Headlines September 2017

## 1st September

- One in four pensioners struggling to pay bills
- We're sending even more troops to Iraq 'in final push against IS'
- RAF's close combat unit opens to women for the first time

## 2nd September

- Pedestrians embark on 'once in lifetime' walk over Queensferry Crossing
- National Trust 'is aiding hunt saboteurs'
- Councils warn of crisis as secondary schools face shortfall in pupil places

## 3rd September

- PM's desperate bid to keep £46bn EU divorce bill secret
- Female bosses outnumbered by 'Daves'
- Furious Tory MPs reject May threats over Brexit votes

## 4th September

- We could annihilate H-bomb Kim, says Trump
- Duchess of Cambridge expecting third child
- No interest rate rise for at least a year, economists say

## 5th September

- Post workers recruited by gangs to steal bank cards
- US warns it is ready to annihilate N Korea
- British need to be taught Brexit lesson, says EU negotiator

## 6th September

- Brexit: Leaked plan to give preference to British workers
- London's Nova Victoria crowned UK's ugliest building
- Concern for health as plastics discovered in tap water



# National News Headlines September 2017

## 7th September

- Ex-officers told to stand trial over the Hillsborough tragedy
- Hammond to MPs: Give me a clue on helping the young
- Prince George starts first day of school

## 8th September

- Hurricane Irma: UK territory declares state of emergency
- Bias against ethnic minorities 'needs to be tackled' in justice system
- Labour rebels set to defy Corbyn orders to vote against Repeal Bill

## 9th September

- The Great Escape... millions flee Florida in Hurricane Irma chaos
- Restaurants and takeaways must display hygiene scores, LGA says
- 44 million Britons caught in US hack

## 10th September

- Two million families face £50-a-week cut in income
- Tories plot to slash student loan rates
- Britain prepares for no deal with Brussels

## 11th September

- Charles will visit Myanmar amid ethnic cleansing crisis
- May must stay for sake of Brexit and economy – Clarke
- Public sector pay cap to be lifted for police and prison officers

## 12th September

- Brexit: EU repeal bill wins first Commons vote
- Tory rebels accuse May of breaking her pledge to keep workplace rights
- Labour MPs defy Corbyn on Bill vote



# National News Headlines September 2017

## 13th September

- Fury at Corbyn's cry for mass strikes to force PM from office
- MPs say: Strip Uber's licence after 'cover-up of sex attacks'
- Grenfell fire chief calls for sprinklers in tower blocks

## 14th September

- 'Bogus' Labour motion to abolish NHS pay cap wins vote in Commons
- Double defeat for May as she faces war on public pay deals
- 'Eye-watering tax will be the death of pubs'

## 15th September

- Boris begs to use foreign aid to help Irma victims
- Carney warns families: Brace for interest rate rise in 7 weeks
- British man dies in Sri Lanka crocodile attack

## 16th September

- Terror On The Tube: Failure of crude 'fairy light' device saved dozens of lives
- Ryanair to cancel 40-50 flights per day for six weeks
- Migrants quit Calais to build camp in Spain

## 17th September

- Police search Surrey house as teenager held over tube bomb
- May is too weak to fire Johnson, say angry Tories
- Gove and Patel back Boris vision for Brexit

## 18th September

- May: I can be blunt with Trump ... we work very well together
- Ryanair under pressure to publish full list of cancelled flights
- Banks accused of fraud risk by allowing Pin-less card payment





# National News Headlines September 2017

## 19th September

- Ryanair's £17m bill as it scraps 50 flights a day
- Hurricane Maria: British overseas territories warned
- May must unite Tories on Brexit or lose election, warns Hague

## 20th September

- Average house price is set to hit £300,000
- Boris: Me, quit? I'm as happy as a bird singing in a nest
- Anti-Semitic abuse rife on pro-Labour web forum

## 21st September

- Stop wasting aid cash or we'll withhold £30m, May tells UN
- Parsons Green bomb: Police make sixth arrest in inquiry
- Hurricane Maria: British territory braced for onslaught

## 22nd September

- Ryanair boss blames his pilots over £22m 'boo boo'
- We are the mainstream party now, says Corbyn
- 650 doctors rebel over abortion on demand

## 23rd September

- Schools 'must teach proper British values'
- Brexit: UK needs to clarify issues - Macron
- Uber petition over London licence loss reaches 400k

## 24th September

- Brexit critic Colin Firth takes Italian citizenship
- Make Labour the pro-single market party, Corbyn is told
- Boris sets red lines on Brexit



# National News Headlines September 2017

## 25th September

- Merkel wins fourth term after holding off far-Right surge
- Four-fold rise in arrests of foreign paedophiles
- 30 Tory MPs sign up in plot to force May out of No 10

## 26th September

- Trump has declared war on us, says North Korea
- Liz Dawn: Coronation Street's Vera Duckworth dies
- We can wipe out SNP at next election predicts Corbyn ally

## 27th September

- 5m mums work as life of a traditional family disappears
- UK 'eliminates measles' for first time
- Now 1.2m more mothers working than in Nineties

## 28th September

- Diabetes 'causing 160 amputations a week'
- Theresa May defends free market economy
- Corbyn's pledges 'would cost £312bn' Conference reports:

## 29th September

- We must sell capitalism to under-40s says Theresa
- PM: Uber ban damages the lives of millions of Londoners
- May argues for 'balance' between business and government

## 30th September

- Pay cap could end for nurses and teachers
- Brexit: Boris Johnson urges two-year transition time limit
- Rigid cap on 100,000 migrants is a mistake, says minister





