

The Government must listen to this stark warning from the LGA that councils can no longer meet either their duties or the spirit of the Care Act – Keeley

Commenting

on the LGA warning that the Care Act faces failure without new funding, **Barbara Keeley, Labour's Shadow Cabinet Member for Social Care, said:**

“It is time that Tory Ministers accepted that the social care crisis is caused by insufficient funding in the face of growing demand. Ministers have ignored repeated warnings from leaders and professionals in the health and care sectors about the impact of the £4.6 billion of cuts made to Adult Social Care budgets since 2010.

“It is deeply worrying that councils are now having to spell out the risks that this lack of funding is causing. We should not tolerate the fact that growing levels of basic needs are going unmet, care visits are shorter and there is increased strain on unpaid family carers.

“The Government must listen to this stark warning from the LGA that councils can no longer meet either their duties or the spirit of the Care Act. Now is the time for the Government to bring forward genuinely new funding for social care to protect the vital services that older and disabled people need.”

We won't pander to the will of this Tory government to chip away at hard won progress on equality – Champion

Today Labour has tabled a targeted amendment to the Article 50 Bill (the European Union [Notification of Withdrawal] Bill).

The amendment seeks to ensure Parliament is able to hold the Government to account throughout the Brexit negotiations on the impact of decisions on women and those with protected characteristics.

Sarah Champion, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Women and Equalities said:

"Labour has a long record of championing and protecting equal rights and we will hold the government to account using the Equality Act brought in by the last Labour government.

"Whilst we respect the will of the British people, we won't pander to the will of this Tory government to chip away at hard won progress on equality."

Theresa May's industrial strategy is little more than window-dressing for continued managed decline under the Tories – Onwurah

Responding to the Fabian Society's report "At the crossroads: the future of British retail", Chi Onwurah, Labour's Shadow Business Minister said:

"This is further evidence that Theresa May's industrial strategy is little more than window-dressing for continued managed decline under the Tories. Last week's Green Paper had almost nothing to say about retail, and this report underlines the failure of this Government to respond to urgent challenges such as automation and low productivity.

"It's clear that this Government's tactic of cherry-picking favoured sectors for backroom deals is leaving the vast majority of British workers out in the cold. Labour's industrial strategy will take a whole-economy approach to build a high-wage, high-growth Britain that genuinely works for everyone."

Green Party calls on all councils to welcome refugees after 'national disgrace' of asylum seekers' housing revealed



31 January 2017

The Green Party has branded the poor housing and lack of support for refugees in the UK a “national disgrace” and called on every council in the country to step up and take in refugees.

Jonathan Bartley, Green Party co-leader, made the call after it was revealed some asylum seekers were living in “rat infested” conditions [1].

Bartley said:

“That we would house those fleeing conflict and persecution in rat infested conditions is nothing short of a national disgrace.

“How low can Britain go? This country has a proud history of being a safe haven where those who have been abused, traumatised and suffered violations of their basic human rights can find protection and support. That heritage is being betrayed by this Government.

“We need to see every single local authority welcoming refugees and it is unacceptable that while some councils have taken in hundreds of asylum seekers others, like in the Prime Minister’s own constituency, have taken none at all.

“We are all citizens of the world and we all have a responsibility to provide sanctuary for those fleeing persecution. With the barbaric policies coming from Trump’s America this week the UK should be showing the world how we can and must do better.”

Notes:

1. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-38799694>

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[Friends of Wighton Lunchtime Recital](#)

From Sheena Wellington :



Wednesday 1st February, 1.15pm (admission free) –
Lunchtime Recital at the Wighton Heritage Centre.

For their first Lunchtime Recital of 2017 Friends of Wighton are delighted to welcome Just3Folk!

Just 3Folk (J3F) got together when they helped to start up a folk club called Sunday Sessions in Monifieth. The group: Liz Crawford, Maggie Douglas and Anne Hamilton share a common love of folk music and have been on an exciting musical journey over the past two years.

The group has taken part in many Folk sessions in Tayside, Angus, and Fife, and are regular performers at Sunday Sessions in Monifieth. They are bowled over by the friendliness of all the singers and musicians they have met in the different venues and love learning new songs and music from these talented performers.

The highlight of 2016 was when they went on tour in Donegal, enjoying 5 gigs in 5 nights. On one memorable occasion J3F found themselves performing to a bus load of American and Swedish tourists in Leo's Tavern, the home of Enya and Clannad .

J3F have developed a varied repertoire of traditional and contemporary folk music, arranging the songs in three part harmony, and performing them accompanied by guitar, banjo and occasionally ukulele.

Liz, Maggie and Anne have been incredibly busy in musical pursuits since retiring from full time employment. Anne, as well as teaching classical guitar in Broughty Ferry, runs a very popular folk singing group and co-runs a unique string group for Dundee U3A. Liz leads the very successful Dee Ukes, a Ukulele band who play in many different locations throughout Dundee and further afield. And Maggie is busy developing her ukulele and guitar skills.

J3F are keen to perform wherever and whenever possible and thoroughly enjoy every minute of their musical experience. They plan to do another tour this summer on the West Coast of Scotland. They are delighted to be playing at the Wighton Centre lunchtime concert.