

# Apple Pruning Session at Ninewells Community Garden #dundeewestend



There's an apple pruning session at Ninewells Community Garden tomorrow – Thursday 25th January – from 1pm to 3pm.

It is a relaxed and informal pruning session at this lovely garden and no experience is necessary.

Tools and training will be provided.

Please wear suitable clothing and some sturdy footwear.

Meet at Ninewells Community Garden, set in the Arboretum at Ninewells Hospital near Maggie's Centre.

For more information please contact 0754 074 6075 or e-mail [facilitator@ninemellsgarden.org.uk](mailto:facilitator@ninemellsgarden.org.uk).

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## The Treaty of Sandhurst

Last week the government concluded a new Treaty with France, called the "treaty concerning the reinforcement of co-operation for the co-ordinated management of our shared border". I have called it the Sandhurst treaty, in honour of the place where it was solemnized.

Parliament has recently submitted the EU Withdrawal Bill to intensive scrutiny. Hundreds of amendments have been debated, 45 votes taken on the ones most favoured by the Bill's opponents, and 12 days of lengthy discussion on a Bill whose main purpose is to ensure continuity of law once we leave the EU in accordance with the instructions of the voters.

I have no problems with Parliament doing its job thoroughly. I want a strong Parliament. What I would now like is for those same Opposition MPs to be equally demanding when it comes to other things that are happening.

Lets take last week's new Treaty with France. It provides for the UK to send more money to the French government to reinforce the border, and for the UK to take more migrants from France. The government did not offer a Statement

or debate to explain this, and are not proposing any Parliamentary process to examine and approve the new Treaty. So why did the Opposition, newly enamoured of the Parliamentary process, not seek an Urgent Question to find out what was going on? Why have they not proposed a debate in Opposition time if the government does not propose a debate in its time on this matter? Why does the Opposition complain about the Executive needing to have powers to transfer EU laws already agreed into good UK law but have no problem with the government signing a new Treaty with obligations on the UK?

The Treaty of Sandhurst is a development of previous Treaty collaboration on the Anglo French border in France. The underlying principle that it is easiest to police that border for people leaving France in France, and for people leaving the UK in the UK is clearly a good one which we wish to uphold. I still find it odd that the newly active Opposition forces in Parliament have nothing to say on this and allow the executive to do as they wish without comment or vote.

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## [Progress Report Rules cleaning-up](#)

Progress Report Rules cleaning-up Reference: ERA-PRG-006-REP Publication Date : 19/01/2018 Published by: Interoperability Document Types: Report Keywords: SPD 2016 Reducing technical barriers § 5.2.2 point 10 Description: Interim report for cleaning-up rules programme October 2017. Related documents:

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## [Nia Griffith responds to reports that a new defence review will be launched](#)

**Nia Griffith MP, Labour's Shadow Defence Secretary**, responding to reports that a new defence review will be launched, said:

"The decision to hold a separate defence review cannot simply be an excuse to kick the difficult decisions facing the defence budget into the long grass.

"Just this week we have had serious warnings from the Head of the Army about the threats that this country faces and there has been growing concern that the Government's deep cuts to our nation's defences have left us ill-equipped to respond to those threats.

"The true test of any defence review will be whether it delivers real investment in our nation's defences and the resources that our Armed Forces so badly need. You cannot do security on the cheap and it is high time that the Government recognised this."