Transgender Day of Remembrance

Today is Trans Day of Remembrance — an important opportunity to remember those who have lost their lives to transphobia, and reflect on how we as a society can end this loss of life.

In decades past, the UK has led the world in advancing human equality for all LGBT+ people — with the Liberal Democrats playing a particularly key role in driving that forward.

But in recent years, progress has stalled and even gone backwards. I'm deeply concerned to see such a vulnerable group of people being dragged into a manufactured culture war.

We cannot forget the chilling impact this has on people's lives, either. Like the fact that last year, transphobic hate crimes in England and Wales hit a record high. Or the heartbreaking reality that nine in ten young trans adults have had suicidal thoughts — a much higher proportion than the wider population.

Today, my thoughts are with everyone in the trans community who have already lost their lives. Like Brianna Ghey, a 16 year old trans girl who was tragically killed earlier this year. And Alice Litman, who had been waiting more than three years for gender-affirming healthcare when she passed.

Let me be clear — Liberal Democrats will always stand up for the rights of everyone in the LGBT+ community, including trans people.

There is still a long way to go to achieve true equality for the trans community, but Liberal Democrats will keep fighting. We owe it to Brianna, Alice and everyone else we have lost.

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Author:

Essential tree maintenance works for A5 Beltany Road

The Department is facilitating essential tree and hedge maintenance work on the A5 Beltany Road just north of the junction with Beltany Grove to the junction of Connaghty Road, Mountjoy which is due to commence on Monday 20 November 2023.

<u>Village Catalyst breathes new life</u> <u>into Ederney</u>

Murphy's on Main Street Community Hub in Ederney is the latest project part funded by the Village Catalyst pilot to open its doors to the local community.

New parking and waiting restrictions introduced in Enniskillen from 7 December

A number of new parking restrictions provided through an Environmental Improvement Scheme in Enniskillen will be enforceable from 7 December 2023.

<u>Street lighting scheme for Kilkeel</u> <u>town centre</u>

A street lighting LED upgrading scheme is due to commence in Kilkeel town centre on Monday 27 November 2023.