

### Standing with Ukraine

On 24 February the independence of Ukraine, a free democratic sovereign nation who had already given up nuclear weapons, was violated by the illegal invasion ordered by Russian dictator Vladimir Putin. This mass-murdering gangster appears to be routinely committing war crimes and represents the biggest threat to peace and freedom in Europe and beyond in 70 years. This is an important moment in history in the struggle between freedom, the rule of law and the enemies of both.

Hull has a long association with the cause of liberty and our city made huge sacrifices in standing up to and beating the Nazis in the Second World War. Hull's MPs now stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine. It has been inspiring to see, for example at the recent vigil at Hull Minster, Hull people coming together to do what we can to support Ukrainians and their resistance.

Information on local collections in Hull for Ukrainians can be found at [www.hullccnews.co.uk](http://www.hullccnews.co.uk) and the Disasters Emergency Appeal Ukraine Appeal is at [www.dec.org.uk](http://www.dec.org.uk).

As events unfolded in recent weeks, I spoke several times in the House of Commons on issues such as refugees, economic crimes and sanctions – see;

- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/10ff0c5-a3a9-4e85-99cb-48c618d51c9f?in=17:51:10&out=17:52:03>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/10ff0c5-a3a9-4e85-99cb-48c618d51c9f?in=15:33:52&out=15:34:56>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/6149ce89-ba29-47e1-8b99-37fd0fb1b4e4?in=17:40:16&out=17:41:02>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/6149ce89-ba29-47e1-8b99-37fd0fb1b4e4?in=13:13:25&out=13:15:04>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/037076dc-7702-4869-b3c4-3e9bb65a4c9c?in=11:00:15&out=11:01:54>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/0e2797b9-83f0-4a1c-a4f5-b545e39704ab?in=11:44:25&out=11:46:23>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/c780ffd6-235f-42e4-b811-7ae6010c02a0?in=13:41:02&out=13:42:53>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/28902686-865d-48ea-ba23-90aa2aebd061?in=12:55:46&out=12:57:36>

I also raised in the Commons the issue of Russian ships in the Humber undermining the economic sanctions against Putin – see [here](#). Hull MPs have written jointly to the Prime Minister to support Kent dockers who refused to unload Russian gas and urging a closing of sanctions loopholes.



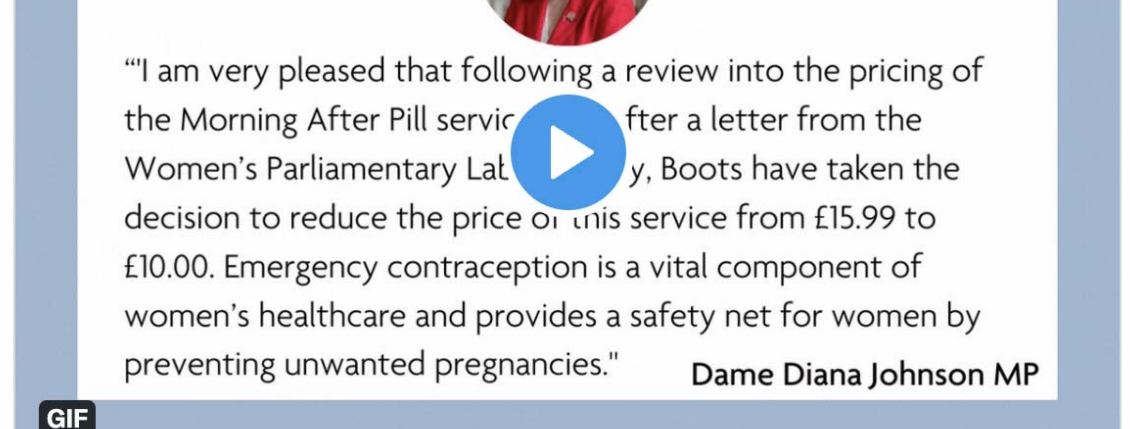
### More reasons to back green energy

A decade ago we were in the middle of a five-year campaign to secure Siemens investment in Hull. It was therefore a pleasure to visit Hull's Siemens wind turbine factory in February and hear about their plans for further development at the site. Expanding offshore wind has always been important for combating climate change, fuel poverty and bringing 'levelling up' jobs to the Humber. Events in Ukraine now also underline the importance of green energy as part of a diverse energy policy that increases the UK's self-reliance and eliminates any dependency on Russia.



We are so grateful to [@DianaJohnsonMP](#) and her colleagues for continuing to press Boots to do the right thing by their customers.

Accessible, affordable contraception protects women's health and wellbeing.



5:44 PM · Feb 3, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

### Women's sexual health

The weeks leading up to International Women's Day on 8 March were busy on several fronts on issues that especially affect women. There was good news when my campaign to get Boots to reduce the price of 'morning after' contraception ended in victory – see [here](#).

Less positive news this month was that the Government is to end the successful 'Telemedicine' arrangements for women's sexual and reproductive healthcare that have existed during the COVID pandemic. I have been pursuing the issue in the Commons – see

- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/c780ffd6-235f-42e4-b811-7ae6010c02a0?in=12:31:06&out=12:31:34>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/6149ce89-ba29-47e1-8b99-37fd0fb1b4e4?in=11:45:19&out=11:46:55>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/037076dc-7702-4869-b3c4-3e9bb65a4c9c?in=12:16:07&out=12:17:34>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/b20041e2-4785-4667-ad8d-afa816355250?in=14:02:54&out=14:07:46>



### Holding the Government to account

Recently, the Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC) has held sessions with the Home Secretary and the Ukrainian Ambassador. Amongst other issues we have been looking at include the IOPC report on Charing Cross Police Station – see [here](#) - and the subsequent resignation of Metropolitan Police Commissioner Cressida Dick.

Even before becoming Chair of HASC at the end of last year, combating violence against women and girls was a longstanding campaign and in recent weeks I have spoken on this and related issues in the Commons on several occasions – see;

- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/a3823a26-dfc4-4e74-9be3-eeede29b0834d?in=13:59:32&out=14:06:21>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/c780ffd6-235f-42e4-b811-7ae6010c02a0?in=12:56:54&out=12:58:46>
- <https://parliamentlive.tv/event/index/10ff0c5-a3a9-4e85-99cb-48c618d51c9f?in=18:30:38&out=18:31:23>

I also led a debate on HASC's recent report on the Windrush Compensation Scheme and the wider Windrush scandal – see [here](#).

More detailed information on the work of HASC can be seen at [www.committees.parliament.uk](http://www.committees.parliament.uk).



### Help Hull's teenage girls experiencing domestic abuse

Hull Women's Aid works with teenage girls who are either at a high risk of, or are experiencing, abuse in their relationships. They are seeking funding to start a programme dedicated to raising awareness of domestic abuse and providing specialised support. Between 8th and 15th March, Hull Women's Aid are taking part in The Big Give's Women and Girls match-funding event. All donations made online will be doubled. They are also keen for offers of help, such as holding fundraising events. More information can be found at: [www.donate.thebiggive.org.uk](http://www.donate.thebiggive.org.uk).



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