

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

**Andy McDonald MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Transport**, commenting on Transport for London's decision to not renew Uber's licence, said:

"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."

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## **The Government is still no clearer about what our long term relationship with the EU will look like...**

## **The Government is still no clearer about what our long term relationship with the EU will look like – Corbyn**

**Jeremy Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour party**, responding to the Prime Minister's speech in Florence, said:

"Fifteen months after the EU referendum the Government is still no clearer about what our long term relationship with the EU will look like.

"The only advance seems to be that the Prime Minister has listened to Labour

and faced up to the reality that Britain needs a transition on the same basic terms to provide stability for businesses and workers.

“That’s because Theresa May and her Conservative cabinet colleagues are spending more time negotiating with each other rather than with the EU.

“The Tories have made clear they want to use Brexit to deregulate and cut taxes for the wealthy. Labour wants a Jobs-First Brexit that uses powers returned from Brussels to invest and upgrade Britain’s economy.”

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## **Nurse numbers are falling because of the Government’s disregard for NHS staff – Jonathan Ashworth**

**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."

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## **Comments on the Government’s plans to suspend military co-operation with**

## Myanmar's armed forces – McInnes

**Liz**

**McInnes MP, Labour's Shadow Foreign Office Minister**, responding to the Government's announcement that it plans to suspend military co-operation with Myanmar's armed forces, said:

"Labour has been calling for a suspension of UK military support to Myanmar for several weeks now. So this is a welcome announcement, albeit a belated one, and we hope that it will serve as a precedent for similar action regarding ongoing UK support for Saudi-led military operations in Yemen.

"For now, the Government's most immediate priority must be to build on this announcement by putting pressure on the civilian and military authorities in Myanmar, in co-ordination with our allies, in order to bring the horrific violence in Rakhine state to an end once and for all."

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## These figures show that if you're a woman, you won't have a fair chance at a career in journalism – Watson

**Tom Watson MP, Labour's Shadow**

**Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport**, commenting on the Women in Journalism report showing serious problems with female representation in British journalism, said:

"This new research showing the woeful underrepresentation of women in British journalism should set alarm bells ringing for readers as well as reporters and editors across the country.

"Who writes and decides the news matters, and it is not good enough that just 25 percent of front page bylines are by women, and just 34 percent of senior roles at national newspapers are held by women.

"The painfully slow improvement in representation since the last report in 2012, up just two

percentage points, shows the industry is failing to recognise and respond to the problem.

"Political journalism is among the worst offenders, and I'd like to issue a challenge today, that by the next report the Parliamentary Lobby gets its house in order and achieves gender parity among political journalists.

"A free and fair press is one of the pillars of our democracy, but these figures show that if you're a woman, you won't have a fair chance at a career in journalism. The industry must make it a priority to change that."