

## Time is ticking for a united approach to keeping families safe at Christmas

With people across the United Kingdom desperate to be home safely with their families this festive season, **I was glad to hear that all four governments have listened to Liberal Democrat calls to work together on how this can happen.**

With many families split across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland we need clarity this Christmas: conflicting measures introduced by the respective governments of the UK nations will simply cause further confusion and complications.

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## The Government must stop stalling and hold China to account

Time and again the Chinese Government has shown its utter disdain for the Joint Declaration.

The disqualification of elected lawmakers in Hong Kong is reprehensible and marks **another step in China's work to end democracy and freedom on the peninsula.**

The 'one country, two systems' is disappearing before our eyes.

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## Watch: Ed Davey and Munira Wilson in

# conversation with Mayor of Liverpool Joe Anderson

On Wednesday 11th November, Liberal Democrat Leader Ed Davey and Liberal Democrat Health, Wellbeing and Social Care Spokesperson Munira Wilson took part in an open meeting with Mayor of Liverpool Joe Anderson and other representatives from Liverpool City Council.

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## The Immigration Bill has passed, but our fight goes on

It will end EU free movement on 31st December – taking away the rights of British people to live, work and study across Europe, and the rights of EU citizens to come here to do the same.

The Bill itself doesn't set out what will come after free movement ends. But we already know that **Priti Patel's immigration plans will be a disaster for the small businesses that power the UK economy.**

These Tory plans will lead to huge shortages in key sectors like construction and hospitality, where employers are already struggling to survive the coronavirus pandemic.

This Bill takes away the rights of British people to live, work and study across Europe

And they will make the existing social care crisis even worse.

**Liberal Democrats have fought at every step of the way** to save free movement, oppose the Tories' destructive immigration plans, and protect the rights of British citizens living in Europe and EU citizens in the UK.

We opposed the Bill, while also leading cross-party efforts to amend it to protect citizens' rights, including by providing EU citizens with physical proof of 'Settled Status' – rather than the digital-only system the Home Office is pursuing. Sadly, the Conservatives rejected our amendments.

**But our fight doesn't end here.**

EU citizens in the UK have been living under a cloud of uncertainty for far too long. They are our families and friends, our colleagues and carers. **They must have the right to stay.**

Those who have risked their health to look after us during this pandemic should be welcome to live here

So we are already gathering support for a private member's bill, tabled by Christine Jardine, that will automatically guarantee the rights of EU citizens to stay in the UK – and give them physical proof.

Moving forward, Liberal Democrats will continue to oppose Priti Patel's destructive policies and **work to build a fair immigration system that works for our economy and treats everyone with dignity and respect.**

That's why we're also **fighting to give all NHS and care staff from other countries the right to stay.**

They have risked their health to look after us during this pandemic. They have put their lives at risk for people in our country, and they should be welcome to live here.

No one who has fought to save lives in Britain during this emergency should be forced to leave.

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## **Let's give coronavirus heroes the right to stay**

Like the rest of our wonderful NHS and care staff, **thousands of people from other countries have been on the frontline throughout the coronavirus pandemic.**

Foreign nationals working in the NHS deserve the right to remain in the UK.

**We cannot thank them enough** for the brave and tireless work they are doing in such difficult circumstances and under such intense pressure.

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