<u>People across the UK have rejected the Tories hard Brexit plans</u>

Six weeks ago when Theresa May called an unnecessary election no one could have imagined the outcome would be a hung parliament. The last six weeks have been nothing short of a disaster for Theresa May and her Tory party as people all across the UK have rejected their hard Brexit plans and refused to give them the larger majority they asked for.

Children in Cwm get off to a flying start

The Cwm Flying Start Hub has received £845,000 of capital funding from the Welsh Government. The centre provides quality childcare for parents of all eligible two to three year olds for two and a half hours a day, five days a week.

During the visit Carl Sargeant thanked the Flying Start team for their determination, commitment and hard work in delivering this project.

Carl Sargeant said:

"I've had the privilege of visiting many Flying Start settings around Wales and seen first-hand the wonderful work being undertaken by Local Authorities, the Local Health Boards, schools, the voluntary sector, families and communities.

"Flying Start continues to improve the lives of children and families living in some of our most disadvantaged communities across Wales. Local Authorities have benefitted from over £76 million in revenue funding during the last financial year (2016/2017).

"Last year over 38,000 children and their families were supported through the programme, achieving the previous Government's commitment to double the number of children benefitting from the programme.

"My thanks go to everyone involved in getting this project in Cwm off the ground and I wish everybody involved with the new Flying Start Hub every success in the future."

News story: CNC officers tackle Ironman challenge this weekend in memory of late colleague

After six months of relentless training, four Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) officers from the Firearms Training Unit (FTU) at Sellafield are completing an Ironman distance challenge on Sunday in memory of PC Phil Mitchell.

Phil, aged 54, sadly lost his battle with cancer in July last year, and Supt Glenn McAleavey, PC Amanda McAleavey, Insp Tim Ferris and PC Andrew Bailey are taking part in the Lakesman Triathlon in his memory and raising money for Cancer Research.

On Sunday 18 June, they will swim 2.4 miles, cycle 112 miles, then run a marathon (26.2 miles), around the Lake District to raise as much money as they can for Cancer Research UK.

Phil joined the CNC in September 2012 and served as a firearms instructor at Sellafield. He had previously served 30 years as a firearms instructor with West Yorkshire Police, joining in 1980 and retiring in November 2010.

Supt Glenn McAleavey said: "We sadly lost a true friend and professional when Phil lost his battle with cancer after a courageous fight and with much dignity. He had such a positive impact on people as a friend, colleague and teacher. The main drive for us has been to raise money and awareness for the fight against cancer and to prevent us all losing people too early when they have still got so much more to give, and to support families who go through the pain of that loss.

"We want to show Phil's family that he is still deeply missed by colleagues at the CNC and continue to support them through this difficult time. We will also be naming a suite at the new Sellafield Training Facility the Mitchell Suite in Phil's memory.

"The training has been challenging at times but we are glad to be in the final stretch before the big event on Sunday, but it's been an honour to take part in Phil's memory and I hope we can raise as much money as possible for Cancer Research UK in the process."

If you would like to sponsor Glenn and the team, please visit their <u>Just</u> <u>Giving page</u> to donate. To find out more about the Lakesman Triathlon, visit their <u>website</u>.

<u>Press release: Wales' National Rugby</u> <u>team shows its support for Wales'</u> <u>Armed Forces</u>

With just under two weeks to go, towns and cities across Wales are preparing to mobilise to show their appreciation for the UK's Armed Forces.

Armed Forces Day (24 June) is an opportunity to say thank you to the entire Armed Forces community for the outstanding work they do; Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and women, both Regulars and Reservists, Cadets and veterans.

In its ninth year, Armed Forces Day is the national day dedicated to honouring the work of the Armed Forces. From fighting Daesh in the Middle East, to guarding the UK's skies and seas, the UK's Armed Forces will be saluted at a record number events across the UK and at the National Event, which this year takes place in Liverpool.

Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns will join thousands of people at the South Wales celebrations in Caerphilly (Saturday 24 June) to honour the work and dedication of our brave Servicemen and women deployed around the world. Armed Forces Day will be marked in North Wales on 17 June during a Drumhead Service in the shadows of Caernarfon Castle. The day will start with a military parade through the town centre, and will include representatives from all the Armed Forces plus Standard Bearers, Veterans and youth organisations.

Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns said:

Armed Forces Day is a special occasion when we gather together to recognise the dedication of those who work tirelessly to secure our nation's security.

These are extraordinary men and women who risk their lives at home and overseas to protect our way of life. The exciting programme of events planned right across the country provide great opportunities for us to show our appreciation to those directly and indirectly involved in conflict. I hope to see thousands of people all over Wales joining in with the celebrations.

In the build-up to Armed Forces Day, rugby-mad Servicemen and women from Wales met up with members of the Welsh Rugby Union Squad ahead of their summer tour fixtures against Tonga and Samoa. Star players such as Alex Cuthbert joined representatives from the Army, RAF and Royal Navy to encourage people to go out and enjoy Armed Forces Day events.

Colonel Lance Patterson, Deputy Commander 160th Infantry Brigade and Headquarters Wales in Brecon and RAF Corporal Kelly Veryard, 27, from Mynachdy, Cardiff and were among the personnel who met members of the Welsh squad at their elite training base in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Colonel Lance Patterson said:

For more than three and a half centuries men and women from across Wales have served their nation in what we would recognise as the Armed Forces.

The Armed Forces in Wales continue to play a major part in Welsh society and are amongst the largest employers in Wales with individuals employed in both the Regular and Reserve organisations from the Royal Navy, Army and the Royal Air Force.

There are also a considerable number of dependents along with a significant veterans' community. The cadet organisations are also very important with nearly 5,000 in Wales, supported by more than 1,000 adult volunteers.

The Armed Forces are proud to be recognised throughout Wales and truly appreciate the support shown. This is always evident but especially at events such as Armed Forces Day which provides a valuable opportunity to celebrate that bond between the Armed Forces and Welsh society.

I know that all Welsh men and women serving in the Armed Forces, either in Wales, elsewhere in the UK or across the globe are grateful for the support and recognition that Armed Forces Day brings.

Corporal Kelly Veryard said:

I'm a massive rugby fan and it was a real pleasure to meet the team before they flew off on their summer tour. As members of the Armed Forces we appreciate so much the support we get from the public and that recognition from our national rugby team is also very special indeed.

I'm delighted to see people across the United Kingdom coming together to mark Armed Forces Day. The day is a chance for people to say thank you to the extraordinary men and women, stationed across the globe who dedicate their lives to defending their country and keeping British people safe.

UK Armed Forces are currently involved in over 20 Operations in more than 25

countries, from South Sudan to Iraq. But many of those back at home will be in attendance at events across the country.

Also present will be many veterans that make-up the estimated 2.56 million Armed Forces veteran community living in the UK. Young Cadets will be present too; together the Sea, Army, and Air cadet forces have almost 100,000 members, many of which will be at events up and down the country.

Notes to Editors:

To find local events in Wales, please <u>click here</u>

Further information on Armed Forces Day, including a full list of events, can be found on the dedicated website

Sharp fall in EU nurses coming to UK

There has been a sharp fall in nurses from EU countries registering to work in the NHS, new figures have revealed.

The Health Service Journal reports that monthly statistics show the number of EU nurses registering with the NMC to work in the UK peaked at 1,304 in July 2016, a month after the referendum, before falling to 344 in September 2016 and then to just 46 in April 2017.

Liberal Democrat Shadow Health Secretary Norman Lamb said: "These figures are profoundly worrying and the possible implications for the NHS and patients cannot be underestimated. The government has to face up to the impact their refusal to guarantee EU citizens to remain in the UK after Brexit is having. It is a political choice they have made and it is going to harm our services, in particular the NHS.

"The government must now change this decision. The result of the election last week gives them the opportunity to change their mind, and they now must. Liberal Democrats are clear that EU citizens whose lives are now rooted in the UK must have the right to stay".