



# Public Affairs Digest

**Issue 51: July 2020**

Dear Member,

Welcome to the NFWI *Public Affairs Digest*, an e-update on all the latest WI campaigning news, delivered directly to your inbox.

If you know anyone in your WI who is interested in our campaigns, please direct them to the campaigns area of [MyWI](#) to sign up to receive this Public Affairs Digest.

**Contents:**

- [Share your ideas on how to name our two new campaigns](#)
- [Support our call for action to ensure women and Children left behind when lifting lockdown](#)
- [#PlasticFreeJuly](#)
- [Thank you for taking part in The Time is Now lobby](#)
- [Campaigns Corner](#)

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The main priority for the NFWI is the safety and wellbeing of our members. If you haven't already, please visit [this link](#) for the latest, up to date government guidelines.

See more information about support [at the end of this Digest](#).

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### **Share your ideas on how to name our two new campaigns**

Following a decision by the NFWI Board of Trustees earlier this summer, two new mandates (on stem cell donation and modern slavery) have been adopted by the WI. The Public Affairs Department is currently developing plans for the campaigns and would love to hear any ideas you have for campaign names.

If you have any suggestions that you feel capture the essence of the resolutions, please do get in touch by emailing us at [pa@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:pa@nfwl.org.uk)

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### **UK Governments Lifting of Lockdown: Women and Girls are Being Left Behind**

We've united with over 65 women's and charitable organisations to call on the UK Government to #MakeWomenVisible as lockdown is lifted. Existing inequalities mean that women will be disproportionately impacted.



Together as a coalition, we've made recommendations for the UK Government on the following areas:

- Women's representation in crisis decision making
- Making women safe from violence and abuse
- Prioritising care
- Public health and protecting women from a second wave
- Safeguarding women's incomes
- Disabled women and older women, and self-isolating and shielding households
- Addressing the disproportionate impact on Black, Asian and ethnic minority women
- Women in prison

### **Take Action**

You can download the [\*\*briefing here\*\*](#) and send it to your MP to make sure women and girls are not left behind as lockdown is lifted.

You can also visit the WI's twitter page to [\*\*share the tweet\*\*](#) and show your support.

For further information, [\*\*click here\*\*](#).

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**#PlasticFreeJuly**

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN



### **#PlasticFreeJuly**

Over on The WI's Facebook page, the NFWI's Public Affairs and Membership teams have put together some tips for #PlasticFreeJuly. This week's tips are all about swapping to plastic free alternatives in the kitchen, and we will continue to post ideas throughout the month.

If you have a great idea for a plastic-free tip, please do let the Public Affairs team know on [\*\*pa@nfwl.org.uk\*\*](mailto:pa@nfwl.org.uk).

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### **A big thank you - the Time is Now virtual parliamentary lobby**

A big thank you to everyone who took part in The Time Is Now virtual parliamentary lobby on the 30<sup>th</sup> June!



Over 100 WI members took part in the 13,000+ people who participated in virtual lobby meetings with their MPs. Members asked MPs to commit to a green recovery post-COVID19, and emphasised the need for further investment in green jobs and infrastructure. Members also asked their MPs to protect, restore and expand our green and wild spaces, and leave no one behind at home or abroad and increase support to those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Members also attended a day of virtual panels and talks on the Main Stage, put together by The Climate Coalition.

The day was concluded with a response on the Main Stage from the Government highlighting their efforts to reach net zero by 2050.

**You can watch the Main Stage activities from the day [here](#).**

**Keep an eye on the Public Affairs Digest over the next few weeks for the next steps to take following the lobby.**



We want to hear about local WI campaign activities. Please email us with your news!







*Climate Ambassadors Sharon and Louise*

Last week, the Climate Ambassadors of Northamptonshire took part in the Time is Now virtual mass lobby.

The picture above is from Daventry where WI Climate Ambassadors met with MP Chris Heaton-Harris to ask him about zero carbon domestic heating, apprenticeships for heat pump technology, tree planting schemes and imminent Government plans to achieve a healthy, green & fair recovery from Covid-19.

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### **Support and help during pandemic**

This can be a particularly difficult and worrying time for adults and children living with domestic abuse. [\*\*This link\*\*](#) will take you to a page of support sources, please share as widely as possible. It is important that survivors know that they are not alone.

This can also be a difficult and worrying time if you require additional assistance. If you need emergency food or support you can find the contact details of your local food bank using your postcode [\*\*here\*\*](#).

If you are able to support your local food bank with donations or by volunteering, click here to visit the [\*\*FareShare website\*\*](#).

You can also visit [this section](#) of our website for information from the NFWI on ways you can help your community, sources of support and other helpful information such as setting up a virtual meeting.

We have a PDF versions of the digest available, that you can share with the people around you. Please [get in touch](#) with the Public Affairs department if you would like a copy.

Please also encourage other members of your WI to sign up to receive this monthly digest.

Kind regards,

The NFWI Public Affairs team.

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