

Thank you for this opportunity today, A sudden announcement and vote by the government prompted me to put this forward and the timing was very unfortunate. As you should be aware, the government voted on the compulsory vaccination of care home staff. This is a matter of urgency as going forward more legislation will be voted upon shortly and therefore we do not have time to wait. Care home staff are already leaving their jobs and other legislation in the pipeline will be instigated soon.

To keep a semblance of order and avoid emotional, divisive and exhaustive debate I will surprisingly talk today very little about Covid. Neither will I discuss the vaccine in any detail though some references will inevitably be made. I suggest that in following my speech other members should try and do the same because this is an emotive subject and this debate is likely to descend into chaos.

First I need to introduce this motion by introducing a little about myself which will explain the reason that I've brought this to you all today. Years ago I took a job at The Office for National Statistics in Public Health. I was involved with the abortion register, the congenital anomalies register, cancers, deaths and population statistics. I also attended medical conferences that our work overlapped with. Today I want to highlight particularly the Congenital Anomalies Register and the Cancer register because they are both of vital importance but share the same flaw.

In 1957 a new drug was released into the world. That drug was considered safe and administered freely to pregnant women. At first, it did in fact appear very safe and it's still used around the world in leprosy treatments and for cancer. That drug was Thalidamide. Most people here can remember the devastating consequences of that drug. While the intentions were good, the outcome for many thousands was horrific. As a result the government started the Congenital Anomalies Register or if your English skills are as good as mine, the birth defects register. There is just one problem. Each pregnancy takes nine months give or take a bit and the relationship of medication and pregnancy can mean a very long delay in the statistics. The numbers then have to alter by a statistically important margin before anything is done and any investigation will take months. This means that even with the register, after the release of any new drug we are still looking at a time frame in years to stop a new Thalidamide. Safety data cannot be rushed.

The Cancer register is even more optimistic. While data can be used to try and detect clusters, industrial damage and monitor rates, the time lag can be decades and the data connections weak. The work of this register could not be more important in these times of increasing cancer diagnosis, but the task it faces is far from easy. As responsible people we need to grasp this very important fact. True facts, proper analysis and in depth knowledge take time and in the medical world, a lot of time. That is why I have brought this motion.

Second I need to talk briefly about mortality. None of us want to admit we are mortal and most of us want a long and healthy life. It is natural therefore to fear death. Well I've good news. The last ten years in the UK have seen the lowest mortality rates in history though there has been one exception, yes 2020. The question is, how bad was it?. Well if we look through the records the age adjusted mortality rate for 2020 was as bad as the year 2008, At that time 2008 not exceptional, it was lower than average. Now I'm aware, more than most, that such a statistic needs some interpretation. We do not have time for that today but in the last 184 years it's the 18th least deadly year by mortality rate. 2020 was not a good year and tragically people have died, but it was one of the safest 10% to live in for 184 years and in my life time alone there have been 26 years with higher mortality. As for this year, the jury is out but so far mortality is much lower than last year and March through to May have been lower than average. 2021 is unlikely to set any records. Now having been to a funeral this afternoon it's particularly poignant to me that death is not just a statistic. Whatever we do we must not panic because in the heat of the moment we are likely to make the wrong call.

Thirdly we need to discuss freedom. Let's keep lockdowns, restrictions etc out of this and just discuss the Britain that I was brought up to believe in. However much of an illusion freedom is, the one binding foundation of this country and its influence on the world, the redeeming feature of this nation, has been the hard fought principle of freedom for its subjects and inhabitants. It was Britain that fought to abolish slavery worldwide and when we had an empire the inhabitants had freedom like never before. It was this freedom that led to the individual nations that now stand in the commonwealth and this freedom that binds us together. We often got it wrong, and there have been tragic abuses but without personal freedom and democratic accountability we are as a nation nothing. My ancestors toured the world bringing freedom, education, medical care and hope. There are schools and hospitals in India today that were founded, funded and staffed by my grandparents and great grandparents, a work that has saved and changed so many lives. If we remove these personal freedoms, if we shut the doors and remove people's rights to decide on even their own health, if we stop people from looking after others, caring, feeding, washing, treating others, something that I have way to much experience in, where does this end? The governments ambitions are clear. This is not about compulsory vaccination of care workers. This is a move to compulsory vaccination of the population with or without consent. The NHS work on a basis of where achievable, personal health is a matter for personal informed consent. It's why you sign a sheet before an operation and they brief you on procedure and risks. It's why the respect form is so long and requires such detailed consultation which unfortunately is often overlooked. But it protects both them and you and sits at the very heart of the system.

Finally children. Children have the best immune systems but they are still developing. Their bodies are the most resilient to attack but can be the most sensitive to medical intervention. They have the most to gain and the most to lose. The government have already removed parental consent as a requirement for medical intervention in minors. They can jab your children at school and if the child says yes there is nothing you can do. This is not informed choice, This is the gross removal of parental responsibility. The state should not have control of your health decisions or control of your children. It is a very dangerous and dark way to go. The yellow card reporting system is a register of adverse reactions to vaccination. By default it always under reports as causes and effects are often ambiguous. If you drink coffee and then get hit by a bus you don't claim it was the fault of the coffee, so there has to be some control and many events go unreported. It can however be used as a signpost. It won't be accurate but can point you towards Rome if you're standing in London. If we use the yellow card reporting scheme as a signpost, a guide to potential harm when vaccinating minors, then the vaccination of minors will lead to 7 reports per thousand doses. That's 84,000 adverse reactions of which many will be life changing and 400 will be fatalities. For a sector of the population who's mortality rates last year were lower than the lowest average ever in history, Why would we do this? The risks are simply too high. We don't have enough data, and the data we do have is damning. The NHS mantra is always 'Do No Harm', this must continue to apply.

So I'm going to sum up.

First, Safe medical solutions take time, Lots of time. the data required is complex and even 10 years from now we will not know the full consequences of the covid vaccine with regards to cancer, fertility and vascular damage.

Second, Don't panic. Life is good and mortality rates low. 2020 was in the lowest 10% ever recorded in the UK.

Third, This nation is built on freedom and personal responsibility. We must never lose that and always keep it in mind.

Fourth, children are particularly vulnerable, that's why they have parents and parents have responsibilities. The government also have responsibility in that the care they provide has to be fit for purpose and does no harm. They refused to provide the documents to the vote last week that could have provided such a case.

So the motion..

This Council will send a strong message to the appropriate government body and all MP's to state that:

We do not agree with compulsory vaccinations with the COVID vaccines in any sector of the population. The vaccines are still undergoing trials and the appropriate and necessary information is not available. Vaccinations should only be carried out with the full informed consent of the recipient.

We also do not agree with the vaccination of minors particularly without parental consent and for whom Covid has little risk. Risks from the vaccine on fertility, cancer and the vascular system are currently unknown and the risks we do know already outweigh any perceived benefits to the children and the population as a whole.