

## **Townswomen's Guilds Past Mandates**

### **1953**

The time has now come when the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds, which represents a large body of thinking women in Great Britain, should, whilst preserving intact its non-sectarian and non-party political character...express its views on national affairs, especially on matters concerning women and children, provided that these views do not conflict with the policy laid down by the National Council Meeting.

That the Executive Committee of the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds be given mandatory power to approach Government departments and other public bodies on matters that have been the subject of resolutions passed at National Council.

### **1954**

That this Movement deplors the amount of litter deposited on roads and open spaces in Great Britain and urges that the NUTG shall support the endeavour to awaken the public conscience in this matter.

### **1955**

That since the rate at which good farming land is being used for towns and estates is causing great concern, the NUTG in Council assembled urges that further investigation be made into the possibility of more economical use of land within the limits of existing towns and that the Minister of Town and Country Planning, the Minister of Agriculture and the Secretary of State for Scotland be informed of the views expressed by this representative.

That the NUTG in Council assembled considers arrangements for keeping unpacked food clean and protected from contamination to be totally inadequate and urges Guilds to see that their local authorities use the power given to them under the Food and Drugs Act 1938 (Section 15) to ensure a greater degree of cleanliness both in handling and displaying of unwrapped and perishable food where necessary.

### **1956**

That in view of the unsatisfactory toilet conditions for women and children in parts of the country, especially on coach routes, the Ministry of Health be asked to take action to ensure cleanliness, adequacy and decency and that this matter be also raised with all local authorities.

That in the interests of health and hygiene, the NUTG in Council assembled calls on Ministers of Health to make it compulsory on local authorities to provide facilities for free handwashing in public conveniences.

That in view of the increasing influence of TG in the sphere of home affairs, the time has arrived when the NU should seek closer relations with women's organisations in other countries which have objects consistent with the NU, in order to establish common understanding, greater co-operation and action to bring about and preserve world peace.

That spinsters and bachelors should enjoy tax relief with widows and widowers in regard to employing a housekeeper.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the British Transport Commission to extend the concessions of half fares for children to the current legal school leaving age.

### **1957**

That in order that housewives may benefit from a reduction in prices, manufacturers should reduce the cost of articles e.g. detergents and discontinue the practice of giving vouchers and/or free packets.

That the NUTG instructs its Executive to take whatever steps it deems effective to express the NUTG's agreement with the principle of a permanent United Nation's force and to encourage active study of this first practical step towards the creation of a World Authority as outlined at last year's National Council Meeting.

That the NUTG in Council assembled would urge the Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland to uphold the principle that where funds have been donated to hospitals for a specific purpose, that purpose be respected unless the original needs no longer exist.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government through the Ministry of Transport to give priority to the modernising of our road systems for the purpose of endeavouring to reduce the appalling casualties now occurring on roads throughout Britain.

That in view of the great number of accidents on the roads it is urged that consideration be given to the question of inaugurating tests for child cyclists in conjunction with local police and education authorities.

That this organisation views with concern the increasing death toll on the road and urges that much heavier penalties be imposed on drivers proved drunk and incapable of driving a car.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer be urged to consider repaying the Post War credits of deceased persons so that bereaved relatives might have immediate benefit of the money.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is of the opinion that where a widow's earnings exceed £2.10 per week the law regarding the reduction of her pension should be amended to a figure more in keeping with the present cost of living and urges the Minister of Pensions and National Insurance to give the matter his full attention.

The NUTG in Council assembled urges the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance to reconsider the age at which widows with no dependent children are granted a full pension and that in all cases widows whose late husbands have paid the requisite contributions should be entitled to receive a full pension on reaching the age of 50 years.

### **1958**

That this organisation views with concern the continued making and testing of nuclear weapons and urges the Government to use its influence to obtain an international ban on their manufacture.

That airguns and bows and arrows with steel tips should be classed as lethal weapons and a police permit obtained before a person can own one.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the Secretary of State for the Home Department to consider the introduction of legislation which will prohibit persons under 16 years of age from owning a shotgun or from using one unless accompanied by an adult who has himself a licence for same.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government, through its appropriate Minister, to extend to all persons of pensionable age, whether receiving the pension or not, the benefits of the Welfare Food Services, allowing them to purchase up to one pint of milk per day at a reduced rate.

That, in the interest of health and hygiene, the Government be urged to remove purchase tax from household appliances.

That those organisations and authorities responsible for the education of children be urged to ensure that every child leaves school with an appreciation of the opportunities of the Welfare State and a proper understanding that all benefits must be earned before they can be enjoyed.

That the NUTG in Council assembled deplores the present system of sanitation employed by British Railways in the lavatories of railway carriages, believing it to be a contributory cause of epidemics, and urges British Railways to introduce chemical methods such as are in use, successfully abroad.

That the attention be called to the need for eliminating from posters, film, TV, magazines and the press an over emphasis on sex which lowers the standard of national morality.

That, bearing in mind the findings of the Wolfenden Report, Her Majesty's Government be urged to impose more severe penalties on all people profiting by the earnings of prostitutes.

That this assembly supports the appeal by Sir Mortimer Wheeler for increased grants from the National Exchequer and local authorities to museums.

That the Minister of Health be urged to make the full medical treatment given free of charge to visitors to this country conditional upon the granting of reciprocal treatment to UK nationals abroad, or, in the absence of reciprocal treatment that visitors to this country should pay for all medical treatment.

### **1959**

That the NUTG in Council assembled is greatly concerned over the prevalence of blood sports and is of the opinion that a more humane method should be found of controlling the population of the animals so hunted.

That in view of the danger to public health of inadequate treatment and disposal of sewage, particularly in seaside towns, this organisation urges that national action should be taken to combat this serious menace and that meanwhile notices or signs be erected to warn bathers where any sewers enter the rivers or enter the sea near the beaches.

That the NUTG in Council assembled do view with concern the steady increase in crime and urge Her Majesty's Government to evolve a scheme for the compensation of victims of assault and robbery with violence, including a grant or pension to the nearest dependent of any citizen losing his or her life defending law and order against criminal violence, such compensation to be extended to cover loss and injury sustained by a member of the public while rendering assistance to the victim of assault.

That, as the majority of University students now attend their courses with the help of monetary award from their counties, the NUTG urges that such awards should be evenly assessed and administered throughout the country.

That this assembly urges Hospital Management committees to advise better ways of dealing without patients in order to cut out tedium hours of unnecessary waiting for treatment.

That the Home Office be urged to form a special force to deal with traffic control and regulations thus leaving the Police to deal with crime.

That the difference in permitted hours of licensing premises during the late evening, causing as it does an increase of motor traffic between one area and another, is a potential source of danger to all road users and the NUTG recommend that licensing hours be uniform throughout the country.

### **1960**

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the national publicity given to the Noise Abatement Society and considers that everything should be done by us to support their work.

That the NUTG urges Her Majesty's Government to pass legislation so that members on the register of osteopaths receive recognition from the Ministry of Health in order that their services may be available under the National Health Service.

That in view of the increased cost of living, widows with young children are not sufficiently provided for under the Welfare State and their allowances should be increased.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is of the opinion that the regulation which makes a charge of per three minutes in the ordinary period for a local trunk call under the Subscriber Trunk Dialling System is a retrograde step and urges the Postmaster General to adopt six minutes as the basic time in both ordinary and cheap rate period.

That all funds derived from public subscription for disaster relief or similar benevolent cause which are unused and surplus to the demands of their original purpose should be pooled to establish a National Disaster Fund. But greater efforts should be made to speed up the distribution of such funds to the appropriate causes for which they were collected and so prevent accumulation of such surplus.

### **1961**

The NUTG, in view of the success of the Borough of Slough (Control of Dogs on Roads) Order 1960, urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage the extension of similar orders to cover the entire country.

The NUTG urges the Ministry of Education and Scottish Education department to place more emphasis on the teaching of the basic subjects: reading, writing and arithmetic.

The NUTG urges, in view of the possible danger to health, that the law relating to the restriction of diesel exhaust fumes, be more rigorously enforced.

The NUTG, in view of the increase of deaths due to cancer, urges Her Majesty's Government to provide larger funds for cancer research as well as encouraging voluntary contributions.

The NUTG strongly urges that the law be altered so that no persons under the age of 18 years may hold a licence to ride a motorcycle of over 150 cc.

### **1962**

The NUTG in Council assembled urges that prescription charges should be free for all retirement and old age pensioners, not only those who draw a supplementary allowance.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges her Majesty's Government to reform court procedure in their examination of child witnesses, especially in an adult court.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the Ministry of Health and the Department of Health for Scotland to provide funds to set up ante natal clinics and maternity beds in cottage hospitals in small towns in areas where travel to the nearest maternity centre is excessive and difficult.

The NUTG gives earnest support to the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Midwives on their claim for increased pay and appeals to the Minister of Health to use his influence with the management side of the Whitley Council to ensure that their salary claim is negotiated on its merits.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to speed up legislation to ensure adequate safety and fire precautions in shops and offices, including regular inspection of all such premises by local authorities.

The NUTG in Council assembled in view of the increasing toll of accidents in the home, urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to improve the labelling of containers of inflammable material. It is recommended that in addition to any warning given, which should be in large print, all such containers should be marked with a conspicuous symbol such as flame or fire.

The NUTG in Council assembled recommends that a national plan for the control of water resources be introduced by Her Majesty's Government.

The NUTG in Council assembled urges that a widowed mother's allowance shall be 25s for every child.

### **1963**

The NUTG in Council assembled deplores the increased delinquency and lack of discipline amongst some of the young people and urges magistrates in appropriate cases to use their existing powers to impose maximum fines on parents of young offenders.

That the NUTG in Council assembled presses for increased training facilities for women in middle life and for further implementation of the relevant section of the Young Husband report.

The NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to instruct their representatives on the World Health Organisation and other United Nations Organisations to discuss the problems of mankind regarding the population growth and its impact on health and economic development and to press energetically for technical assistance to be given to those countries requesting United Nations aid to deal with population problems.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges that the regulations proposed by the Government in relation to the fitting of safety belts in all new cars should also be applied to all currently licensed motor cars and light commercial vehicles.

The NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to amend the Public Service Vehicles (Travel Concessions) Act 1955 in order that concessionary fares for old people may be offered by any local transport undertaking and not only (as at present) by those undertakings which were already operating concession schemes prior to November 1945.

The NUTG in Council assembled is of the opinion that all roads suitable for vehicular traffic should be free of access to everybody and urges Her Majesty's Government to revise their policy with regard to both past and future planning.

#### **1964**

That the NUTG in Council assembled recommends that the cultivation of an international outlook should begin in the primary school and include the study of one European language.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's government to treat as a matter of urgency the provision of comprehensive facilities for routine Smear Tests for Cervical Cancer and especially training of technicians to interpret the tests and the service to be more widely known.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to support and encourage further research into the causes and cure of rheumatism and allied diseases.

That the NUTG in Council assembled considers that efforts should be made to secure the introduction of legislation to amend the Intestate Estate Act 1952 for England and Wales so that where the deceased's estate comprises a matrimonial home, the surviving spouse should be entitled thereto in addition to the other benefits provided under the Act.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes Her Majesty's Government's concern at the programme standards of the British Broadcasting Corporation and Independent Television Authority as evinced by the White Paper (cd 1771 and 1893) and urges the Government to make every effort to ensure that the casual treatment of moral standards and sadistic displays of violence be discontinued.

The NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to accept and put into practice the following points concerning widows' pensions:

1. The 10s widows be brought into the current scheme.
2. Abolition of the earnings rule
3. The age of eligibility for pensions to be 40 instead of 50

#### **1965**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to retain capital punishment until a national plebiscite has been taken.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is seriously concerned about the mis-use of drugs. It calls upon the Department of Education and Science and LEA's to provide information, especially for students in colleges and senior classes, particularly those about to leave school, on the manifest danger of improper use of all kinds of drugs.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to include mobile Physiotherapy Units in the National Health Service and that these Units be made available to isolated districts only.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to extend the existing Acts covering third party insurance to cover all passengers carried or on all vehicles covered by private taxation.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to legalise abortion, when personally desired by the woman concerned and when advised by a medical panel and performed by a suitable qualified member of the medical profession in the following circumstances:

1. Where it is necessary to preserve her physical or mental health.
2. Where there is a serious risk of a defective child being born.
3. Where the pregnancy results from a sexual offence (such as rape or incest).

### **1966**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to authorise grants to the chronic sick, seriously disabled persons and persons suffering from progressive and/or incurable diseases, including those who, for technical reasons, do not qualify for National Insurance benefits and who arrange to be cared for in their own home.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the Minister of Health, in the view of the increase in venereal disease among young people, to publicise more widely especially in the national press, on television and radio and with posters, the ease with which venereal disease is contracted and the serious consequences therefrom and that it be added to the curriculum of senior classes in all schools.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government, in the interest of the economy of the country, to introduce legislation whereby students receiving state grants be bound by declaration to undertake employment in the United Kingdom for a period of not less than two years.

The NUTG in Council assembled is in favour of holding a National Hospital Sweepstake.

That the NUTG in Council assembled regrets the lack of safety in legislation for amusement devices and structures at all fairs and amusement parks and urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to ensure that such equipment be subject to annual inspection and maintenance regulations.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to make it possible for drivers of invalid motors displaying a badge of the disabled to park for an agreed period in shopping areas and without charge in car parks overlooking the sea and national beauty spots and that these concessions shall apply in all areas of the UK irrespective of the county issuing the badge.

### **1967**

That the NUTG in Council assembled supports the British Safety Council in its campaign this year to get sewage cleaned up from Britain's beaches and urges Her Majesty's Government to deal with the danger to public health caused by lack of control of sewage round the coastline and the fouling of beaches.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government in view of the increase of crimes of violence to ensure that in all cases the sternest penalties of the law be imposed and that where these are insufficient laws adequate to our times be passed.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to take immediate steps to see that drugs and medicines prescribed be dispensed in containers which shall be clearly labelled with the exact dose, the frequency and time of administration and the expiry date where relevant.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the Lord Chancellor's suggestion that subject to safeguards, divorce should be made available upon the proof that the marriage had irretrievably broken down and upon no other ground.

### **1968**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges that the maintenance payment from the spouse, plus any additional Social Service grant, to separated or divorced persons and their children be paid regularly and automatically through the agency of a Government department by encashment of an allowance book at the Post Office, the onus being on the managing Government agency for the collection from the responsible party.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the Bill of Mrs Joyce Butter MP to set up a Board to examine and remove discrimination against women in employment, education and social and public life.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to provide that the principle of law as the equal shares between husband and wife introduced by the Married Women's Property Act 1964 shall be extended in the absence of a contrary intention to assets acquired during the period of the marriage and to the matrimonial home and its contents.

That the NUTG in Council assembled strongly urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to make it a statutory requirement that notices warning of the necessity for adequate airing to remove fumes of articles cleaned in self service dry cleaning machines be displayed prominently on every such machine.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to take immediate action to see that the widows of service men who retired on pension prior to September 1st 1950 get the same treatment as those who retired on or after that date and are awarded forth with one third of their husband's pension.

### **1969**

That the NUTG in Council assembled are deeply concerned with the menace to civilisation of chemical and biological weapons and urge Her Majesty's Government to make every effort to achieve an early conclusion of a new Convention for the prohibition of chemical and biological methods of warfare, to supplement the 1925 Geneva Protocol.

That the NUTG in Council assembled view with disquiet developments in science and technology which, if uncontrolled, are likely to have major effects on human life and environment. They, therefore, welcome the formation by scientists of the British Society for Social Responsibility in Science and the aim of that Society as presented at the inaugural meeting on 19th April 1969.

That the NUTG in Council assembled deplore the violence resulting from the increasing number of students taking part in mass demonstrations and they urge that stricter disciplinary measures be taken by Governing Bodies against students who are arrested by the Police at these demonstrations.

### **1970**

That the NUTG in Council assembled deplores Her Majesty's Government's action in depriving old age pensioners of all but a small proportion of their part time earnings. It strongly urges Her Majesty's Government to abolish these deductions in the interests of our national production as well as of the pensioners themselves.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the increasing pollution of air in our cities by petrol exhaust gases and urges Her Majesty's Government to expedite legislation requiring motor manufacturers to incorporate an exhaust emission control in all new petrol driven vehicles.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges that the Medical Research Council of the Department of Health and Social Security investigate possible harmful effects of using 'biological' detergents containing enzymes and to consider making it a mandatory requirement for manufacturers to print explicit warnings on every packet.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to prohibit the retail sale of fireworks, except for organisations licensed by the local authority.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the Ministry of Transport's measures for safer operation of goods vehicles and urges the MOT to introduce measures to ensure the security of divisible loads by controlling the height of such and by statutorily regulating the methods of containing loads in transit.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the cost to the economy that British Standard Time is incurring and urges Her Majesty's Government to discontinue BST and revert to Greenwich Meantime from the end of October to the beginning of March.

#### **1971**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to allow Members of Parliament a free vote on the subject of Britain's entry into the Common Market.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the Standing Royal Commission's report on Environmental Pollution and urges Her Majesty's Government to implement the recommendations therein, with particular regard to the desirability for mandatory control.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the increasing incidence of food poisoning and in the interests of food hygiene requests that Her Majesty's Government make obligatory the prior approval and licensing of commercial premises used for the preparation and sale of food in England and Wales: such licence to be renewable annually and granted only if the Food Hygiene regulations have complied with.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the BBC and ITV companies to take measures to curb the portrayal of immoral behaviour and violence except for news items and the use of bad language in television and radio.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges that a further Department of Health circular be issued based on a Parliamentary regulation making the 1967 Family Planning Act mandatory rather than permissive: also that pressure be brought to bear on local health authorities to provide a free family planning service.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to grant compensation based on the report of an independent valuer to owners of property which suffers serious worsenment as the result of the beginning of new roads, bridges and other major works of construction.

### **1972**

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the increase in crimes of violence and as a deterrent urges Her Majesty's Government to restore the death penalty for the murder of police and prison officers killed in the performance of their duties.

That the NUTG assembled urges local education authorities to implement the recommendations of the National Gypsy Education Council.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to implement the enabling clauses of the Development of Tourism Act 1969 which refers to the registration of hotels and boarding houses.

### **1973**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to ensure that, on both humanitarian and economic grounds, all export of live animals for food should cease and be replaced by carcase only trade at the earliest possible moment.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to provide for the case of a foster parent wishing to adopt a child where neither parent has had any regular and meaningful contact with that child for a preceding period of five years so that the parents of the child should be legally obliged to relinquish all rights as parent or parents.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the recommendations of the Russell Report, 'Adult Education/A Plan for Development' and calls upon the Secretary of State for Education and Science to implement the Report at the earliest possible time.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to pay the proposed child credits directly to the mother as is done with the present family allowances should the proposals for a tax credit system be adopted.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the proposals as set out in paragraph 72 of the Green Paper on Tax credits that tax should in future be deducted at source from 'Small Maintenance Payments' as many of the recipients would suffer considerable hardship whilst awaiting repayments and moves that this proposal be deleted from the scheme and the present arrangements whereby such payments are paid gross be continued.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government that, in view of the increasing volume of traffic on the roads with the attendant serious threat to health and the environment, a comprehensive plan for transport in the UK be adopted to include:

1. Developing the railways as a comprehensive alternative to the road system.
2. Serious disincentives for heavy freight to travel long distances by road.
3. Elimination of private transport from congested city areas co-existent with subsidised public service vehicle facilities.

### **1974**

That the NUTG in Council assembled is of the opinion that it is not possible for all members of the general public to understand fully the complicated financial and strategic effects of Britain's terms of entry into the European Economic Community and consequently they should not be asked to vote upon this important issue. We therefore urge Her Majesty's Government to abandon the proposed National Referendum.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the Department of the Environment to designate the existing chartered Green Belts in the United Kingdom making them statutory without further delay.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to make legally binding any written declaration made by a person over the age of 18 years and of sound mind and after death he/she wishes his/her body or parts thereof, to be used for therapeutic purposes or purposes of medical education or research provided that any such written declaration be accompanied by the signature of one witness.

That the NUTG in Council assembled deplores the lack of effort shown by the majority of local authorities and industry in the reclamation and recycling of waste and urges women's organisations to put all possible pressure on their local authority and on industry to rectify this matter.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is concerned by the rapid spread of so many domestic fires and urges Her Majesty's Government to make it compulsory for all manufacturers to state the degree of flammability of the material used in the making of furniture, ceiling and wall covering.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the findings and recommendations of the Committee on the Working of the Abortion Act and calls upon Her Majesty's Government to implement the recommendations without delay.

#### **1975**

That the NUTG in Council assembled, conscious of the widespread concern of parents regarding the loss of parental rights and the inherent physical and moral hazards associated with the issue of contraceptives to girls under 16 years of age, urges the Secretary of State for Social Services to reconsider the advice to medical practitioners contained in paragraphs 40 and 41 of Part G 'The Young' of the Family Planning Service memorandum of Guidances dated May 1974.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the recommendation of the Sexual Law reform Working Party to lower the age of consent to 14 years and opposes strongly to any such reduction.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is concerned that the precedent created by the imminent Referendum could undermine our present Parliamentary system. The NUTG therefore opposes the holding of any further referenda.

That the NUTG in Council assembled greatly concerned by the desperate situation of wives who seek refuge and help on leaving the matrimonial home after physical assaults by their husbands, urges Her Majesty's Government to take steps to help them by the provision of local authority and grant aided charitable 'Refuge Hostels' in which they and their children may obtain emergency accommodation.

That the NUTG in Council views with grave concern the recent decision of the Law Lords in the rape case of Regina v Parker and Others and gives full support to Mr Jack Ashley MP's Bill which provides that it shall not be a defence for a man accused of rape to state he believes the woman consented unless the Court finds the man had reasonable grounds for so believing.

#### **1976**

In view of the alarming increase in juvenile crime the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation making fines and compensation orders realistic in amount and enforceable against young children including local authorities.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to increase the fee for dog licenses to £2.00 payable when the dog is twelve weeks old or when ownership of the dog changes for the first time whichever shall occur first and that the licence fee for unspayed bitches should be increased to £3.00.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is deeply concerned about the risk to security when British Nuclear Fuel's Windscale plant begins reprocessing other countries' waste nuclear fuels and urges Her Majesty's Government to give serious consideration to the findings and recommendation of the meeting of the international nuclear scientists due in May this year and to provide adequate opportunity for public debate.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation to ensure that, where sterilisation of mentally handicapped girls and boys is considered for reasons other than to save life, the wishes of the parents and their medical advisors determine the action to be taken.

In view of the 17.5% loss incurred by the Post Office last Christmas, the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to request the Post Office to introduce a cheaper postal rate for letters for the Christmas season as an experiment and as a gesture of goodwill to a general public hard hit by inflation.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern that insurance companies are no longer obliged to submit the log book or vehicle registration document of a write off vehicle to the appropriate licensing authority for endorsement as 'seriously damaged vehicle: insurance total loss payment' and urges Her Majesty's Government to make such an endorsement compulsory before the vehicle is sent for salvage and on any duplicate log book subsequently issued.

### **1977**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's government to restore capital punishment for terrorist offences causing death.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges the Secretary of State for Social Services, as a matter of urgency and without waiting for the recommendations of the Pearson Commission to make arrangements for the payment of compensation to an agreed formula to vaccine damaged children and their parents or legal guardian.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation requiring the registration by local authorities of private Children's Homes and those run by voluntary organisations.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the increase in drinking and alcoholism, especially among the young and urges Her Majesty's Government to promote an education campaign warning of the dangers of alcohol.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to press for greater attention to be given to a thorough grounding in numeracy and literacy, especially for the 5 to 11 year olds.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcome the Department of Energy's Discussion Papers on Research into Alternative Energy Sources and urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage and support with financial assistance where necessary all viable schemes designed to supplement our existing expendable resources.

That the NUTG in Council assembled is concerned by the increase in dental charges and urges Her Majesty's Government to end free treatment for young persons at the age of eighteen, except when the young person is still in full time education.

That the NUTG in Council assembled reaffirms its support for the recommendations of the Lane Committee on the Working of the Abortion Act and rejects the amendments set out by Mr Benyon's Abortion (Amendments Bill) 1977.

### **1978**

That the NUTG in Council assembled is deeply concerned at the number of live animals used in non medical experiments and urges Her Majesty's Government actively to encourage and promote the use of alternative methods for such experiments.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government at the next meeting of the International Whaling Commission to call for a moratorium on whaling for at least ten years, to enable endangered and exploited species to avoid extinction.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the continued foul pollution of our beaches and urges Her Majesty's Government to implement parts of the 'Control of Pollution Act 1974' as they relate to the discharge of untreated sewage.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to issue guidance to hospital staff through the statutory authority ensuring that mixed sex wards be applicable to patients in intensive care only.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to reform the income tax system to eliminate discrimination against married women living with their husbands so that they are treated as individuals in their own right.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the damage done to minor roads surfaces and buildings through the uncontrolled use of these roads by extra heavy goods vehicles and urges Her Majesty's Government that it be mandatory for each large vehicle landing at our ports to drive over a weight bridge and proceed only be major routes.

### **1979**

That the NUTG in Council assembled recognising the injustice and danger to the general public of industrial action in the health and emergency services and appreciating the essential service given by these workers calls upon the Government employers and unions to include a 'no industrial action' agreement and guarantee of annual income review in their conditions of service.

That the NUTG in Council assembled considers that the greatest misfortune a person can suffer is to be born handicapped and in view of this urges Her Majesty's Government to take prompt action towards reducing the needlessly high rate of perinatal death and handicap.

That, in view of the injustice of the unacceptably high number of cases of cot death (that is, in every week 30/35 babies who die silently and unexpectedly in their sleep in the United Kingdom alone), the NUTG in Council assembled urges the Department of Health and Social Security actively to encourage each Area Health Authority to study, investigate and finance further research into infant mortality amongst babies aged between one week and one year.

Conscious that millions of children throughout the world are seriously deprived in a variety of ways, the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the initiative of the United Nations in designating 1979 'The International Year of the Child'. It pledges its members to support all measures proposed to ensure justice and basic human rights for children everywhere.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to give greater recognition to the changed financial circumstances of married women after the death of their husbands by amending existing legislation on the income tax liability, pension rights and social security of all widows.

That the NUTG in Council assembled strongly urges Her Majesty's Government to reject the recommendation of the Advisory Council on the Penal System that the maximum sentence for rape be seven years (except in cases where in the opinion of the court a longer sentence should be imposed) and to retain the existing maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

### **1980**

That the NUTG in Council assembled, appalled by increasing evidence of the distressing conditions in which animals bred under intensive farming systems pass their lives, strongly urges Her Majesty's Government to encourage the practice of humane, yet commercially viable, animal rearing systems.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government not only to review the principle on which the Department of Health and Social Security death grant is based, but in the light of ever increasing costs, to restore to the grant the value which appertained to it when first introduced.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to initiate a national scheme for concessionary bus fares to enable retired and handicapped persons and others in receipt of a state pension to benefit equally throughout the UK.

That the NUTG in Council assembled strongly urges Her Majesty's Government to bring in the necessary legislation which will oblige all Health Authorities whilst retaining small hospitals in rural areas to make savings in expense by reducing the number of administrative staff at all levels rather than by the closure of wards, accident and emergency units and reductions in nursing staff which can only lead to a further deterioration in the hospital service.

That the NUTG in Council assembled alarmed at the very serious and worsening overcrowding in British prisons, welcomes the admission by the Home Secretary of the need for urgent reforms in our penal system. It urges her Majesty's Government to take immediate action to implement the recommendations of Mr Justice May's report on the state of the prison service in the UK.

That the NUTG in Council assembled, mindful of the increasing wastage of scarce natural resources, urges Her Majesty's Government to promote as soon as practicable a programme of conservation and recycling of waste materials in which local authorities, industry, commerce and consumers would be required to play a major and constructive part.

That the NUTG in Council assembled, believing the present rating system based as it is on grossly out of date rental evidence to be inequitable, urges Her Majesty's Government to expedite legislation providing for the payment of domestic rates by a form of local taxation.

### **1981**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to restrict the import of cheap milk from the Continent in order to maintain health standards, thus helping to ensure the continuation of doorstep deliveries.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation abolishing prescription charges for medicine or appliances supplied to any person in receipt of invalidity benefit pension.

That the NUTG in Council assembled, deeply troubled by the much reported high level of toxic lead in the atmosphere and its suggested association with learning difficulties in young children, commends Her Majesty's Government on their recent decision to reduce the percentage of lead in petrol, but deplores the fact that the programme will not have become effective until 1985.

That the NUTG in Council assembled welcomes the amendment to the Transport Bill which forbids babies under one year old to sit in the front seats of cars and makes it illegal for children under the age of 13 to sit in car front seats without wearing a seat belt.

### **1982**

That the NUTG in Council assembled, having twice in the last decade called upon the Government of the day to restore the death penalty for the murder of police and prison officers killed in the performance of their duties and for terrorist offences causing death, now urges Her Majesty's Government at the earliest opportunity to seek the views of the people of this country on the restoration of capital punishment by way of a referendum.

That the NUTG in Council assembled, being greatly concerned at the increasing incidence of glue sniffing by young people, urges the Health Education Council with the active co-operation of local education authorities to mount a campaign to bring home to the young people and their parents the grave danger to health consequent upon the sniffing of glue and other solvents.

As the interest of producers have for far too long overridden those of the community as a whole and consumers in particular, the NUTG in Council assembled strongly urges the UK MEPs to bring pressure to bear on the Commission and the Council of Ministers to reform the Common Agricultural Policy so as to bring EEC support prices more in line with realistic world prices.

That the NUTG in Council assembled strongly advocates the parents of severally disabled babies should make the final decision, with the advice of the medical team involved, as to whether the child's life should take its natural course, or whether surgical procedures should be involved which would prolong the life but not necessarily improve the underlying disability and deformity.

That the NUTG in Council assembled calls upon all appropriate authorities to make available the resources essential for the provision of facilities for regular medical examination by all.

### **1984**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to tighten up existing legislation and, where necessary, introduce new legislation to control the amount of sulphur and nitrogen oxides being released into the atmosphere, causing the destruction of British, European and Scandinavian environments by acid rain.

In view of the present anomalies in the legal system, the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to review the whole body of criminal and civil law as it relates to minors.

### **1985**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to include shotguns and cartridges under Section One of the Firearms Act 1968 and that legal provision to ensure the security of guns under Section One should be included.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce new legislation to establish a National Dog Warden Service, financed by a realistic Dog Licence Fee to nurture a responsible attitude in dog ownership for the benefit of the community as a whole.

That the NUTG in Council assembled recommends to Her Majesty's Government that the Standard Penalty for murder by terrorism, bombing, assassination, death resulting from robbery with violence, sexual and sadistic killings and the murder of police and prison officers should be life imprisonment and that this should mean imprisonment for life.

That the NUTG in Council assembled because of their potential danger urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation for Sinclair C5 Electric Vehicles to be made subject to the Road Traffic Acts: Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) and (Constructions and Use) Regulations and Vehicles (Excise) Act.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to allow women widowed during pregnancy or shortly after childbirth to receive maternity allowance payable on their own National Insurance contributions in addition to their Widow's Benefit.

#### **1986**

That the NUTG in Council assembled being increasingly concerned at the widespread use of food additives some of which are known to cause allergic reactions call on Her Majesty's Government to ensure that food manufacturers restrict the use of additives to the minimum necessary and do not use them merely for cosmetic purposes.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce as a matter of urgency, legislation to determine the legal status of children born to surrogate mothers, to ensure that commissioning parents and prospective surrogate mothers are fully aware of all implications before the commencement of any treatment.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to take action to stop the use of shallow land burial of radioactive waste at any of the proposed sites planned by NIREX around our countryside.

#### **1987**

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to bring pressure to bear on relevant Water Authorities with coastlines to prioritise immediate compliance with the EEC Directive of 1975 for all 388 beaches designated by the Government on February 3rd 1987.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation permitting individuals right of access to all their own non computerised personal files and right of amendment to same.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to note that women of this country want some straightforward, non-technical, practical information on what action to take in the event of an emergency arising from a fire or leak at a Nuclear Power Station, similar to that which happened at Chernobyl.

That the NUTG in Council assembled, conscious of the increase, incidence of and rise in fatalities due to cervical cancer, urges Her Majesty's Government to inject additional funding into the District Health authorities for the specific purpose of providing Well Woman Clinics and to include in the staff the necessary trained technicians and professional counsellors.

That the NUTG in Council assembled views with concern the increase in crimes of rape and urges the Lord Chief Justice to amend his guidelines of 1986 on Rape Sentencing to set a higher starting point of 10 years with no remission.

### **1988**

In view of the mounting consumer debt in this country caused by the increased growth of credit cards and other forms of lending, the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to issue a code of practice so that stricter screening procedures may be adopted nationally, before granting a sum of credit.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to reform the 'No Smoking' law and ban smoking in public buildings and places of entertainment.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce the use of Identity Cards with a view to assist in the implementation of Law and Order, prevention of Fraud/Deception and to come into line with other EEC countries.

That the NUTG in Council assembled are concerned about the haphazard attitude in this country to waste disposal and recycling and urges Her Majesty's Government to provide an overall co-ordinating role in the promotion and development of recycling waste.

That the NUTG in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to restore the ages at which full and reduced widows' pensions are paid to 50 and 40 respectively.

### **1989**

Mindful of the fact that a mere 3 out of 10 people who seek compensation for medical negligence receive payment, the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to take action to facilitate appropriate and timely compensation.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to tighten legislation in order to exercise more control on the high pressure selling of credit.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled, whilst welcoming the Government initiative in integrated pollution control, urges more immediate coherent legislation to control all forms of environmental pollution.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government in view of its new stance on environmental pollution and in the light of recent research in Sweden and America to ban the manufacture and import of wood pulp bleached by chlorine which produces dioxine.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government at a time when violence in society is of great public concern, to amend Section 73 of the 1983 Mental Health Act, so that the Mental Health Review Tribunal may not order the absolute discharge of a part 111 patient subject to a restriction order, even if the criteria laid down is satisfied, without the consent of the Home Secretary.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to introduce legislation requiring newly qualified drivers to display on their vehicles probationary plates front and rear.

### **1990**

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to ensure that testing for Toxoplasmosis immunity is carried out on one of the early blood samples given by a pregnant woman, thereby giving the opportunity for treatment to improve the chance of the foetus developing into a healthy baby.

#### Caring for Carers

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to place a statutory duty on local authorities to provide both financial and practical support.

### **1991**

In view of our concern at the tragic consequences of the rising rate of HIV/AIDS in young people, the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to insist that the local education authorities ensure mandatory HIV/AIDS education in secondary schools by appropriately trained teachers and visiting experts.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to ban journeys exceeding eight hours in the transportation both at home and abroad of all farm livestock for human consumption under distressing conditions causing needless suffering, injury and sometimes death before they reach their destination.

That the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges Her Majesty's Government to amend the vehicle driving licence application form to include consent for the licence holder's organs after death to be used for transplantation or the treatment of others. The right to withhold consent to be included.

### **1992**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to amend UK law to extend equal conditions of employment on a pro rata basis to all employees, full and part time.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government and the Council of Europe to fund research into diagnostic tests for breast cancer in pre-menopausal women.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to withdraw the Value Added Tax from child car seats.

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government to equalise the state pension at 60 for men and women.

### **1993**

Mindful of the findings of the Howitt and Cumberbatch Report (1990), Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled believes that there is a correlation between pornographic materials and violent sexual crimes.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to revise the test of killing under provocation and to amend the Homicide Act 1957 accordingly.

Mindful of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, Sections 1 to 8, the Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to take immediate action and set up a commission with the remit to register all disqualified directors and monitor continuously their actions to prevent such persons from promoting, forming or managing any other company.

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government not to impose VAT on domestic fuel.

That the Townswomen's Guilds adopt a policy of equal opportunity, allowing TG to campaign on issues that discriminate directly or indirectly against women, without specific mandate. (e.g. childcare, DSS benefits).

#### **1994**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges the Department of Health to monitor the implementation and outcome of all genetic screening programmes, by establishing a central co-ordinating body to review these programmes.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled, in the light of the Lyme Bay canoeing tragedy, calls for a compulsory system of independent regulation and registration to be introduced for all outdoor activity centres.

Townswomen's Guilds urges television companies and video film makers to take measures to reduce the content of violence and sexual explicitness in their production.

#### **1995**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled is very concerned about the profits of the current National Lottery operator and urges that a proportion of these be redistributed to smaller charities who have suffered a loss of income since the launch of the lottery in 1994.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government, heeding the recommendations of the Task Force set up to investigate M.E. (Myalgic Encephalomyelitis), to take a lead in funding research and providing guidelines so that professionals, sufferers and carers are correctly informed about the serious nature of the illness.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to amend the 1990 Environmental Protection Act so that, in line with the Control of Pollution Act 1974 and the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, it becomes a criminal matter when a noisy neighbour ignores an initial warning by an environmental health officer.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to revise the guidelines issued to local authorities so that where only one person has an occupational pension, the unaffected spouse is entitled to 50% of that pension when the other enters long-term care in a residential or nursing home.

Townswomen's Guilds supports an investigation into the diet culture and would favour a campaign which urged a healthy approach to eating.

#### **1996**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges the travel and hotel industries to abolish single person supplements.

Townswomen's Guilds supports the document, 'Health of the Nation'.

**(renewed from 1973)**

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government that, in view of the increasing volume of traffic on our roads with the attendant serious threat to health and the environment, a comprehensive plan for transport in the UK be adopted to include:

1. Developing the railway systems as a comprehensive alternative to the road system.
2. Serious disincentives for heavy freight to travel long distances by road.
3. Elimination of private transport from congested city areas, co-existent with subsidised public service vehicle facilities.

Townswomen's Guilds is opposed to the use, production, stockpiling, sale and export of anti-personnel landmines which kill and maim thousands of innocent civilians every year.

The Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government, following the UN 4th World Conference on Women, to implement the National Agenda for Action drawn up by the Women's National Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commissions of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

**1997**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to legalise voluntary euthanasia.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to ban the sale of alcopop drinks in supermarkets and to regulate against the marketing of such products to under-18s.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to halt the sale of Forestry Commission woodlands until firm guarantees are given protecting the rights of public access to such woodlands and this guarantee is written into all conditions of sale.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to establish a Commission on Disability with sufficient powers to enforce the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act effectively.

While mindful of the actual and potential benefits of genetic research, the Townswomen's Guilds urges caution and would welcome further public information and education on these issues.

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government to give full support to initiatives promoting energy and environmental conservation.

**1998**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to legalise the use of cannabis for specific medical purposes.

**1999**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled calls upon HM Government to define more precisely the rights and status of the unborn child, to restrict the availability and application of the developing reproductive and genetic technology, to regulate carefully and monitor the practitioners in this field.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government and the European Union to extend the moratorium on the marketing of BST in the UK and Europe and to label imported products containing BST.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government not to amend the law to allow organ donation by presumed consent.

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government to persist in its efforts to carry out its manifesto commitment to 'work for...a strengthening of the Biological Weapons Convention', and to ask the United Nations to provide a determined response to non-compliance concerning both production and supply of microbial and other biological agents or toxin weapons.

#### **2000**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to establish further the rights of the same-sex couple in law.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to make better provision for processing the applications of asylum seekers.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to lobby against the power of the World Trade Organisation to impose products upon countries who may have concerns about the safety or ethics of these products.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government not to introduce any measures that would be detrimental to the continued operation of our rural Post Offices. This network is an essential element of the British way of life and this should be positively reflected in policy making.

#### **2001**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to make complementary and alternative therapies, that have either statutory or a strong system of voluntary regulation, available on the National Health Service.

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to implement already existing pilot schemes that make parents more accountable for their children's criminal actions. We would like to see policies further extended and to take into consideration anti-social behaviour.

#### **2002**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to permit previous convictions to be heard in court during trial proceedings. Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government for greater security at airports and seaports to prevent the importation of animal, plant and human health disease.

#### **2003**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to take more action to tackle the problem of Human Traffickers in the UK who are exploiting women and committing crime against humanity.

#### **2004**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to take more action for equal consideration to be given to the rights and access of both parents upon divorce and separation cases, with further consideration given to the rights of fathers.

#### **2005**

Townswomen's Guilds in Council assembled urges HM Government to reconsider its 3% cut in subsidy for evening and part-time classes, which will lead to the loss of 200,000 adult education and training places in September, hitting the most vulnerable in our society the hardest and threatening the UK's strong culture of lifelong learning.

## **2006**

Townswomen's Guilds is committed to raising awareness of the role that grandparents can play in children's lives and to informing members and the general public of the current laws and services relating to contact with grandchildren through the courts.

Townswomen's Guilds is committed to educating members and the general public of the vital role that unpaid carers undertake and to ensuring that those who assume such a role are aware of their entitlement to Carer's Allowance and how this impacts on their state pension.

## **2007**

*No new mandates passed*

## **2008**

Townswomen's Guilds is committed to raising awareness of the issues surrounding prostitution in the UK, informing members about the current laws governing the sale and purchase of sex and examining alternative measure to regulate prostitution and protect those involved in the industry, including the possibility of following Sweden's lead in shifting culpability to those purchasing, rather than selling, sexual services.

## **2009**

Townswomen's Guilds supports the notion that by considering each case on its merit, lifelong anonymity could be granted by the state to those who are convicted of causing or assisting in the death or persistent ill-treatment of one of more individuals unless premeditation can be proved.

## **2010**

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government to ensure the UK improves self-sufficiency and food security by supporting UK farmers and getting UK food processors to use British milk, meat and other ingredients in their products.

Townswomen's Guilds wishes to express concern over the proposed abolition of cheques in 2018 and urges HM Government and those in the financial sector to reconsider this decision.

## **2011**

Townswomen's Guilds urges the Minister of State for Health to ensure that every hospital has on its staff, or has access to, a consultant geriatrician to oversee the training of staff in the welfare of elderly, frail and vulnerable patients under their care.

Townswomen's Guilds, having repeatedly campaigned for higher standards in television and film broadcasting, is concerned that the rapid technological advances over the past decade have left the UK's young people more susceptible to media influence than ever and feels that far more should be done to restrict access to internet content which could have a harmful influence.

## **2012**

Townswomen's Guilds is appalled that so much adequate housing is being put to waste, either through houses being kept empty and boarded up or through the demolition of habitable properties, and urges HM Government to take action to make these properties available in order to help tackle the current housing crisis



Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government to ensure that monies sent overseas for a specific purpose, such as international development or disaster relief, is spent only on projects connected to the cause for which funds were sent.

### **2013**

Townswomen's Guilds supports a change in the law to allow for terminally ill, mentally competent people to have a right to an assisted death.

Townswomen's Guilds is concerned that the current reliance on modern technology leaves those who are unable to access and/or afford said technology at a disadvantage.

### **2014**

Townswomen's Guilds urges HM Government to enforce and extend the existing legislation regarding female genital mutilation.

### **2015**

TG urges HM Government to amend existing legislation, with reference to Advertising to Gamble in the Gambling Act 2005, so as to ban public advertising which encourages the practice of gambling, in the same way that advertising the use of tobacco is banned.

TG is in full support of any initiative to enable those with severe mental and physical disabilities to live in places, close to their families, where they can be properly looked after with assured long term continuity of care.

### **2016**

TG firmly believes that next of kin should not have the right to prevent doctors from taking any parts from the body that a registered donor has consented to donate and urges HM Government and the medical sector to ensure the wishes of organ donors are upheld upon their death.

TG applauds the passing of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and urges local authorities, law enforcement agencies, immigration officers and all others involved in tackling human trafficking and modern slavery to cooperate and ensure this legislation is upheld.

### **2017**

TG urges HM Government to enforce tight regulation and control on those involved in the fracking industry, ensuring adherence, to avoid detrimental impacts upon people's health and well being and the environment.

### **2018**

TG believes that marriage before the age of 18 should be made illegal in the UK.

TG urges HM Government, local authorities, and those responsible in law for the maintenance of educational facilities, to ensure that every establishment that contains asbestos must produce an annual report for staff, pupils and their families. The annual report must explain how asbestos can affect health, where asbestos is present, how it is being monitored and maintained.

### **2019**

TG calls on HM Government to require all medical staff, police and other relevant agencies to inform the DVLA if an individual's health is reducing their ability to drive safely.



## **2020**

*No new mandates passed*

## **2021**

TG calls for a framework of legally enforceable rights and responsibilities for cyclists using roads and shared pedestrian areas, making them (and/or legal guardians, for minors) accountable for their behaviour

TG is concerned that the decline in the number of free-to-access public toilets is a threat to citizens' hygiene, health, mobility, dignity and equality. We therefore urge Her Majesty's Government to make adequate provision of free public toilets a legal requirement for local authorities, supported by protected, sustained funding.