



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street

16 April 2024

Dear Prime Minister

Re. Dame Vera Lynn Memorial

We are writing to ask you to provide taxpayer support for a memorial to the late Dame Vera Lynn CH DBE OStJ.

Dame Vera, who passed away in 2020, was a Great Briton. She made an enormous contribution to our country's morale in the Second World War. Thereafter, Dame Vera worked tirelessly in charity work for ex servicemen, disabled children and breast cancer. In 2000 she was voted the Briton who best exemplified the spirit of the 20th Century.

It is a matter of national regret that there are hardly any national memorials to great women in our country. Just 3 out of every 100 national statues commemorate non-Royal women. This memorial would make an important difference.

The memorial would serve to inspire women and girls by telling Dame Vera's story. A story of unshakeable duty to country at a time of national peril and a lifelong commitment to helping others through charity and community work. It will celebrate a life whose contribution touched all corners and all nations of our United Kingdom.

You will no doubt be aware of the national importance of this project from the Parliamentary debates on this campaign led by our late colleague Sir David Amess as well as Natalie Elphicke with the Dame Vera Lynn: National Memorial Adjournment debate that took place on 11 May 2021 and your predecessor's generous comments of 21 July 2021 in support of it.

Local groups and individuals have worked hard to raise funds for this important project. They have done well, led by Dame Vera's daughter, Virginia and son-in-law, Tom. Yet it is a big project and they need taxpayer support to complete the memorial. Given that taxpayer funding for memorials became available in the recent Budget, we would be grateful if you would consider supporting this important project so that this important memorial can be completed.

Best regards,

[Please See MP Signatories Overleaf]



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**MP Signatories in Support of the Dame Vera Lynn Memorial Letter
to the Prime Minister Rishi Sunak (16 April 2024)**

Nickie Aiken MP	Nick Fletcher MP	Rt Hon Dame Maria Miller MP
Peter Aldous MP	Marcus Fysh MP	Damien Moore MP
Caroline Ansell MP	Rt Hon Vicky Ford MP	Sheryl Murray MP
Dame Harriett Baldwin MP	Jo Gideon MP	Sir Robert Neill MP
Paula Barker MP	Sir Robert Goodwill MP	Lia Nici MP
Clive Betts MP	Helen Grant MP	Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP
Bob Blackman MP	James Gray MP	Ian Paisley MP
Rt Hon Sir Graham Brady MP	Rt Hon Damian Green MP	Yasmin Qureshi MP
Paul Bristow MP	James Grundy MP	Rt Hon Sir John Redwood MP
Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP	Carolyn Harris MP	Ms Marie Rimmer MP
Dr Lisa Cameron MP	Sally-Ann Hart MP	Andrew Rosindell MP
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Sarah Champion MP	Gordon Henderson MP	Selaine Saxby MP
Rehman Chishti MP	Sharon Hodgson MP	Jim Shannon MP
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Rt Hon Sir Simon Clarke MP	Christine Jardine MP	Henry Smith MP
Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP	Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP	Royston Smith MP
Dame Tracey Crouch MP	Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson MP	Alexander Stafford MP
Virginia Crosbie MP	Danny Kruger MP	Jane Stevenson MP
Rt Hon Ed Davey MP	Ben Lake MP	Alistair Strathern MP
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Natalie Elphicke OBE MP	Caroline Lucas MP	Martin Vickers MP
Michael Fabricant MP	Craig Mackinlay MP	Rt Hon Theresa Villiers MP
Stephen Farry MP	Julie Marson MP	Matt Warman MP
Simon Fell MP	Jason McCartney MP	Heather Wheeler MP
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