**Press Release**

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**24 April, 2017**

**Event hashtag is #FQT**

**The Landscape of Fashion**

**Fashion Question Time at the Houses of Parliament**

**Hosted by Mary Creagh MP and Fashion Revolution**

On 24 April 2017, Fashion Revolution will hold *Fashion Question Time* at the Houses of Parliament to explore how the garment industry landscape has changed four years on from Rana Plaza.

Hosted and chaired by Mary Creagh MP, the event will follow a BBC Question Time format. The panel will bring together leading figures across government and the fashion industry to discuss a wide range of issues affecting the garment sector today, focusing on the fashion supply chain.

Findings from Fashion Revolution’s second edition of the Fashion Transparency Index will be published that day, and will provide the panel with an overview of the extent to which 100 of the biggest global fashion and apparel brands and retailers are publicly disclosing information about their suppliers, supply chain policies and practices, and social and environmental impact.

It will highlight how many of the biggest global brands that make our clothes still don’t disclose enough information about their impact on the lives of workers in their supply chain and on the environment.

Panellists will include Jenny Holdcroft, Policy Director at IndustriALL Global Union, Frances Corner, Head of London College of Fashion, Guy Stuart of Micro Finance Opportunities who are working on the Worker Diaries, Claire Bergkamp, Sustainability Manager at Stella McCartney, and Arne Lietz MEP, Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats.

Carry Somers, co-founder of Fashion Revolution will say: “We’ve seen some emerging trends in transparency in 2016, but there is still much crucial information about the practices of the fashion industry that remains concealed. While we are seeing brands begin to publish more social and environmental information, which is welcome and necessary, many remain focused on compliance with minimum legal requirements, and notmany brands are engaging past the first tier.

“Lack of transparency costs lives.  It is impossible for companies to ensure that human rights are respected and that environmental practices are sound without knowing where their products are made, who is making them and under what conditions from farm to final product. By encouraging greater transparency from the industry, we hope that eventually producers’ lives may be improved. And we as consumers have the right to know that their money is not supporting exploitation, human rights abuses and environmental destruction.”

Mary Creagh MP will say: “I am delighted to host the third Fashion Question Time in Parliament. The EU has played a crucial role in improving the sustainability of supply chains around the world, and membership has allowed the UK to punch above our political weight, achieve change and improve the lives of garment workers around the globe. It is vital that the UK continues to co-operate with our European partners and allies after we leave, and that the Government maintains its commitment to spend 0.7% of GDP on overseas development aid.”

The event marks the start of Fashion Revolution Week 2017, a week of activities in over 90 countries worldwide to demand a fairer, cleaner, more transparent fashion industry.

Fashion Revolution seeks to ignite a revolution to radically transform the way our clothes are sourced, produced and purchased by demanding greater transparency, with one simple question: who made my clothes?

* Ends –

**Date: 24th April 2017**

**Time: 9.45 am for a 10.00 am start**

**Press call: 11.45 am
Location:** Attlee Room, Portcullis House, Houses of Parliament, Westminster, SW1A 2LW

**Event hashtag is #FQT**

**For interviews, images and footage, Contact: Press Contact: Ben Nelmes Tel: 020 7219 or Martine Parry Tel: 020 7440 7695 / 07886 301486**

**Notes to Editors**

Fashion Revolution Week 2017 is a week of activities to remember the anniversary of the Rana Plaza factory complex collapse in Dhaka, Bangladesh, killing 1134 and injuring 2500 people in 2013.

The Rana Plaza tragedy was a metaphorical call to arms.  That’s when Fashion Revolution was born.

Fashion Revolution runs all year round, raising awareness of the fashion industry’s most pressing issues, showing that change is possible and celebrating those who are on a journey to create a more ethical and sustainable future for fashion.

**Consumers:** Show your label and ask brands #whomademyclothes?
**Industry:** Demonstrate transparency in your supply chain and show us the people who made our clothes #imadeyourclothes

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