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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF LORDS

WRITTEN ANSWERS

Written Answers..... 1

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<i>Minister</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
Baroness Stowell of Beeston	Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal
Earl Howe	Minister of State, Ministry of Defence and Deputy Leader of the House of Lords
Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office and Department for Transport
Baroness Anelay of St Johns	Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Baroness Altmann	Minister of State, Department for Work and Pensions
Lord Ashton of Hyde	Whip
Lord Bridges of Headley	Parliamentary Secretary, Cabinet Office
Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy and Climate Change, Wales Office and Whip
Baroness Chisholm of Owlpen	Whip
Earl of Courtown	Whip
Lord Dunlop	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Scotland Office
Baroness Evans of Bowes Park	Whip
Lord Faulks	Minister of State, Ministry of Justice
Lord Freud	Minister of State, Department for Work and Pensions
Lord Gardiner of Kimble	Deputy Chief Whip and Spokesman for Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Lord Keen of Elie	Advocate-General for Scotland
Lord Nash	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education
Baroness Neville-Rolfe	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Lord O'Neill of Gatley	Commercial Secretary to the Treasury
Lord Price	Minister of State, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Lord Prior of Brampton	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health
Baroness Shields	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Culture Media and Sport and Home Office
Lord Taylor of Holbeach	Chief Whip
Baroness Verma	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for International Development
Baroness Williams of Trafford	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government
Viscount Younger of Leckie	Whip

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Written Answers

Monday, 27 June 2016

Acts

Asked by Lord Lexden

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Bridges of Headley on 6 June (HL132), how many sections of, and Schedules to, Acts passed since 2010 have yet to be commenced because ministers have not made a relevant commencement order. [HL485]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: The Cabinet Office does not keep a central record of when each section and Schedule is commenced, but do monitor progress in implementing key policy commitments across the Government's programme. It is Government policy to only legislate where legislation is required to deliver a policy.

Apprentices

Asked by Baroness Corston

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Baroness Evans of Bowes Park on 7 June (HL Deb, col 656), of the 499,900 apprenticeship starts as published in government statistics for 2014–15, what percentage met the definition of an apprenticeship of (1) being a job in a skilled occupation, (2) having substantial and sustained training lasting a minimum of 12 months, (3) leading to full competency in an occupation, and (4) developing transferable skills. [HL669]

Asked by Baroness Corston

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Baroness Evans of Bowes Park on 7 June (HL Deb, col 656), of the 6,660 apprenticeship starts in the constituency of Richmond, Yorkshire, as published in government statistics for 2014–15, what percentage met the definition of an apprenticeship of (1) being a job in a skilled occupation, (2) having substantial and sustained training lasting a minimum of 12 months, (3) leading to full competency in an occupation, and (4) developing transferable skills. [HL670]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The Skills Funding Agency 2014 to 2015 funding rules set out the eligibility requirements for apprenticeships started in 2014/15. These include points (1) to (4).

Only apprenticeships which adhere to this definition of an apprenticeship are recognised within these published statistics. On point (2), the statistics also include apprenticeships with an agreed planned duration of less than 12 months in exceptional circumstances, for example, for apprentices with prior qualifications that cover part of their framework.

Asylum: France

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government what legal resources they are providing to refugees in the camps in Calais and Dunkirk to make asylum applications to the UK. [HL715]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: Asylum seekers cannot claim asylum in the UK if they are in France. If a person requires international protection they should claim asylum in France, which is bound by the same EU and international obligations as the UK.

If after claiming asylum in France it is established that the UK is the state responsible for examining their claim on the basis of Dublin Regulation, including under its family unity provisions, a take charge request may be submitted to the Home Office.

Asylum: LGBT People

Asked by Lord Storey

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 13 June (HL433), when they expect the quality assurance of the Home Office's Case Information Database data relating to sexuality-based asylum claims to be completed, and whether they plan routinely to record asylum claims based on, or relating to, gender identity issues in a way that can be easily aggregated. [HL731]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The process of quality assuring the data held on the Home Office's Case Information Database relating to sexuality based asylum claims continues to be undertaken by the Home Office. We are currently looking at ways to expedite this process. There are no current plans to record information where the detail of the asylum claim basis relates to gender identity issues on Home Office databases.

Asylum: Syria

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government what percentage of asylum applications over the past 12 months came from Syrian minors, and what percentage of those were accepted. [HL719]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: In the year ending March 2016, there were 41,563 applications for asylum from main applicants and dependants. Of these applications, 1% (367) were made by Syrian nationals aged under 18 at the time of application.

In the year ending March 2016, there were 268 initial decisions for Syrian main applicants and dependants, who were aged under 18 at the time of decision. Of these decisions, 94% (253) were grants of asylum or an alternative form of protection.

Initial decisions may not necessarily relate to applications made in the same period.

In addition to those asylum seekers who apply in the UK, resettlement schemes are offered to those who have been referred to the Home Office by UNHCR (the UN agency for refugees). The figures above exclude such resettled persons.

The Home Office publishes quarterly figures on asylum applications and initial decisions within the Immigration Statistics release. A copy of the latest release, Immigration Statistics January to March 2016, is available from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-january-to-march-2016>.

Attendance Allowance

Asked by Baroness King of Bow

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they will publish details of their plans to devolve responsibility for Attendance Allowance to local authorities. [HL690]

Baroness Altmann: The Government has announced that by the end of the Parliament local government will retain 100% of local business rates and new responsibilities will be devolved alongside this. As part of this, the government will consider giving councils in England more responsibility to support older people with care needs. Any change would not affect existing Attendance Allowance claimants, and any new responsibilities would be matched by the transfer of equivalent spending power. The Government intends to consult on this in due course.

Attendance Allowance: Pensioners

Asked by Baroness King of Bow

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many pensioners received Attendance Allowance in (1) London, and (2) the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, in each year since 2012, broken down between (a) the higher, and (b) the lower, rate. [HL689]

Baroness Altmann: The numbers of claimants receiving higher or lower rate Attendance Allowance in (1) London and (2) the London Borough of Tower Hamlets are detailed below:

	Nov - 2012	Nov - 2013	Nov - 2014	Nov - 2015
London Total	138,710	133,470	131,930	130,760
Higher	80,690	78,510	78,790	79,800
Lower	58,050	54,950	53,120	51,000
Tower Hamlets Total	3,420	3,310	3,380	3,460
Higher	2,030	2,020	2,100	2,200
Lower	1,380	1,290	1,290	1,260

Source: DWP Tab Tool (Cases in Payment)

Note: Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10.

Figures may not sum due to rounding.

Bangladesh: Religious Freedom

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Bangladesh about the case of Anata Gopal Ganguly and the murders of atheists and Christians. [HL609]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The Government is extremely concerned by the increase of extremist-related violence in Bangladesh since September 2015, including the murder of Ananda Gopal Ganguly and other individuals from religious and minority groups. We are in regular contact with the Bangladesh government about extremism, human rights and a range of other issues. The Prime Minister, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Witney (Mr Cameron), most recently raised this with the Prime Minister of Bangladesh in the margins of the G7 meeting in Japan on 27 May. Our High Commissioner regularly discusses these issues with Bangladesh government ministers.

British Home Stores: Sales

Asked by Lord Myners

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have asked the Serious Fraud Office to investigate matters related to the sale and purchase of BHS. [HL561]

Lord Keen of Elie: In all cases decisions to investigate are made by the Director of the Serious Fraud Office, who acts independently. In respect of BHS, the SFO has confirmed that it is reviewing material in its possession. If the Director considers there are reasonable grounds to suspect serious or complex fraud which meets his Statement of Principle, he will open a formal criminal investigation.

Broadband: Business

Asked by Lord Allen of Kensington

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to introduce a broadband universal service obligation for businesses. [HL634]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The Government has committed to putting in place a new broadband Universal Service Obligation (USO) by the end of this Parliament. Once in place the USO will act as a safety net, giving both households and businesses the legal right to request an affordable broadband connection of at least 10 Mbps (Megabits per second). A connection speed of 10 Mbps will support many small businesses, and will help them make an even greater contribution to our economy.

Cancer: Medical Treatments

Asked by Baroness Cumberlege

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether cancer treatments submitted to, but not assessed by, the

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) before 1 April will be approved under the new NICE framework for cancer treatments. [HL672]

Lord Prior of Brampton: The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has confirmed that appraisals of cancer technologies started prior to 1 April 2016 will be considered using the updated NICE methods and processes which came into effect on 1 April 2016. Companies whose technologies fall under this scenario have been offered the opportunity to make a case for consideration within the Cancer Drugs Fund.

Charitable Donations: Occupied Territories

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they will take with the Charity Commission to prevent UK charitable giving to Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. [HL491]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: The Charity Commission for England and Wales is the independent registrar and regulator of charities and is not subject to Ministerial direction or control.

The Charity Commission publishes safer giving advice for members of the public to ensure their generous donations support legitimate charitable activities. The advice includes checking that the organisation is a registered charity and verifying further information on the Register of Charities. Any evidence of a registered charity funding illegal activities should be reported to the independent regulator as a matter of priority.

Children in Care: Personal Records

Asked by Baroness Young of Hornsey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the impact the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) will have on care leavers' full access to their care records. [HL661]

Lord Nash: The Government is currently assessing the full impact that the General Data Protection Regulation will have on individual areas of data processing. Certain provisions of the Regulation will have direct effect in UK law, including a continuing right of access for data subjects to their personal data and other information. In certain areas, the regulation leaves the option for domestic legislation to restrict rights that arise under it in certain circumstances (article 23).

The Regulation will apply from 25 May 2018. Before then, the Department for Education will assess whether the current statutory guidance covering care leavers' access to their case records needs to be revised.

Cinemas: Kensington

Asked by Baroness Goudie

To ask Her Majesty's Government what action, if any, they plan to take to save and preserve the

Kensington Odeon, maintain its classic art deco design, and reverse the impact of its closure upon the neighbourhood and community. [HL646]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: Kensington Odeon is subject to a Certificate of Immunity (COI) which precludes the building being listed until 2018. The Odeon has been considered for listing twice before. It was rejected because it does not possess the special architectural or historic interest features required.

Colombia: Human Rights

Asked by Lord Pendry

To ask Her Majesty's Government what step they are taking to ensure that British businesses in Colombia do not contribute to human rights abuses there. [HL744]

Asked by Lord Pendry

To ask Her Majesty's Government how they are supporting British businesses in Colombia so that they do not contribute to the human rights violations against, in particular, the indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples. [HL745]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: Encouraging businesses to respect human rights is a global priority for this Government. We recognise that communities such as indigenous and afro-descendant people and those in isolated rural areas are particularly vulnerable.

The UK National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights sets out how the Government is implementing the UN Guiding Principles. British firms are expected to uphold these principles in their overseas operations, as well as in the UK. It is for each country to implement a National Action Plan to ensure compliance with the Guiding Principles.

We worked closely with the Colombian authorities to develop their National Action Plan, published in December. All companies operating in Colombia, including British ones, should comply with the requirements and guidelines set out in that National Action Plan.

The Minister for Trade and Investment, my noble Friend, the Lord Price of Sturminster Newton, launched a campaign for British businesses to support peace, primarily through respect for human rights, during his visit to Colombia last month. Twenty of the largest British companies operating in Colombia subsequently agreed to align themselves to the Colombian National Action Plan for business and human rights.

Asked by Lord Pendry

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to make representations to the President of Colombia during his state visit to the UK in November, about domestic laws that potentially conflict with international human rights obligations and the rights of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples. [HL746]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The State Visit presents an opportunity for us to continue our engagement with the Government of Colombia on a wide variety of themes.

We continue to raise the issue of human rights with the Colombian Government at the highest levels. In recent months the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, my Rt. Hon Friend, the Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond), the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, my Rt. Hon Friend, the Member for East Devon (Mr Swire), and I have all urged President Santos to continue Colombia's efforts to address human rights concerns.

We support the peace process and hope that achieving a sustainable peace agreement will benefit all Colombian citizens, including indigenous and afro-descendant communities.

I am pleased to note that at the 46th session of the Organisation of American States and General Assembly, the Colombian Government supported the adoption of the instrument for the rights of indigenous peoples of the Americas and renewed its commitment to continue advancing respect for pluralism and ethnic and cultural diversity.

Asked by Baroness Coussins

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have plans to arrange for a meeting between the President of Colombia and representatives from non-governmental organisations in the UK concerned with human rights in Colombia, when the President makes his State Visit to the UK in November. [HL750]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The upcoming State Visit is an excellent opportunity to continue our engagement with the Government of Colombia on a variety of issues. We are working closely with Buckingham Palace and the Colombian government on the details of the President's programme, which will be developed over the next few months.

Courts: Sunderland

Asked by Lord Shipley

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they expect work to begin on the new court complex in Sunderland under the Court Reform Programme. [HL729]

Lord Faulks: No decisions have been taken regarding the court estate in Sunderland.

Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) keeps its operational estate under review to make sure that it aligns with the delivery of reformed court and tribunal services. The reform of court and tribunal services which is underway will provide greater access to the courts using modern technology, reducing the need for attendance at court.

Culture, Practices and Ethics of the Press Inquiry

Asked by Baroness Hollins

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the remarks by Baroness Neville-Rolfe on 26 January (HL Deb, col 1152), who, in addition to Sir Brian Leveson, will be consulted before a decision on Leveson Part 2 is made, and what form that consultation will take. [HL743]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: Criminal proceedings connected to the subject matter of the Leveson Inquiry, including the appeals process, have not yet been completed. We have always been clear that these cases must conclude before we consider Part 2 of the Inquiry.

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills: Redundancy

Asked by Baroness Burt of Solihull

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many staff of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills have (1) been made redundant, and (2) taken voluntary redundancy, in each of the last five years. [HL749]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The number of employees of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills HQ who have (1) exited via a Compulsory Redundancy scheme, and (2) exited via a voluntary redundancy scheme, in each of the last five financial years (April to March) are shown in the table below.

<i>Year (Apr – Mar)</i>	<i>Exited via a Compulsory Redundancy scheme</i>	<i>Exited via a Voluntary Redundancy Scheme</i>
2011-12	4	93
2012-13		3
2013-14	2	7
2014-15		7
2015-16		1
Grand Total	6	111

Drugs

Asked by Lord Hylton

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 13 June (HL Deb, col 1000–1002), what plans they have to remove the supply of illegal drugs and psychoactive substances from the control of organised criminals throughout the world; and what consultations they have had at an international level about achieving that goal. [HL674]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: Her Majesty's Government is deeply concerned about the involvement of Organised Criminal Groups (OCGs) in facilitating the trafficking of both psychoactive substances and illegal drugs.

The UK works internationally with a range of partners to tackle the involvement of OCGs in drug trafficking using both bilateral and multilateral policy levers; including the UN and EU. We also have strong operational links with law enforcement partners in other countries. This work includes the sharing of operational information and expertise, the provision on capacity building, and policy dialogue.

We have committed to implementing The Psychoactive Substances Act, which commenced on 26 May 2016, and are monitoring law enforcement activity to determine what impact the Act has already had. The 2010 Drug Strategy also commits us to 'combat the international flow of drugs to the UK, collaborating with international partners to disrupt drug trafficking upstream', and the 2013 Serious and Organised Crime Strategy highlights that 'capacity building, across government and in coordination with other states, is essential'. International engagement underpins the delivery of these strategies.

Economic Situation

Asked by Baroness Kramer

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of (1) the amount of spending, (2) the growth in spending, (3) the number of people employed, and (4) the proportion of GDP contributed to the UK economy, by each of the following sectors in each of the last five years: (a) wholesale and retail trade; (b) repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; (c) transportation and storage; (d) accommodation and food service activities; (e) information and communication; (f) financial and insurance activities; (g) real estate activities; (h) professional, scientific and technical activities; (i) administrative and support service activities; (j) public administration and defence; (k) compulsory social security; (l) education; (m) human health and social work activities; (n) arts, entertainment and recreation; (o) other service activities; and (p) activities of households as employers. [HL615]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: The independent Office for National Statistics have published an output breakdown of GDP and employment statistics to Q1 2016. These can be found on the ONS website alongside the latest Second Estimate of GDP Q1 2016 release and UK Labour Market May 2016 release. The relevant extract is provided in the attached.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Data from ONS. [GVA by Sector.docx]

The material can be viewed online at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL615>

Electoral Register

Asked by Lord Beecham

To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the fact that four million people have been added to the

electoral register in recent months, whether they will publish details of the comparison between the final register for the EU referendum and that as at December 2015, and if so when. [HL575]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: The Electoral Commission will publish the total electorate for the EU referendum in due course.

EU Action

Asked by Lord Pearson of Rannoch

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many EU proposals and initiatives, of which they are aware, are being delayed for publication until after 23 June, and what are those initiatives. [HL533]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: Decisions on the timing of proposals for EU Laws and Directives are solely the responsibility of the European Commission. The European Parliament publishes details of current legislation under negotiation on its website.

EU External Trade

Asked by Viscount Waverley

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many trade agreements are currently being negotiated by the EU, and with which countries. [HL601]

Lord Price: The European Commission is actively negotiating seven bilateral trade and investment agreements. These are with the following countries: USA, Japan, Philippines, India, the Mercosur bloc, Morocco and Tunisia. The European Commission is negotiating bilateral investment agreements with Burma and China. In addition, the European Commission is also engaged in the negotiation of two "plurilateral" agreements on behalf of the EU: the Trade in Services Agreement and the Environmental Goods Agreement.

Asked by Viscount Waverley

To ask Her Majesty's Government which European trade agreements are awaiting ratification by the UK Parliament. [HL602]

Lord Price: The EU-Southern Africa Economic Partnership Agreement and the EU-Central America Association Agreement are expected to be presented to Parliament in the near future.

The EU has concluded negotiations with the following partners and, assuming that these agreements are approved in Council as being of "mixed competence", each will need to be approved by Parliament: Canada, Ecuador, Singapore, Vietnam, Eastern Africa, and Western Africa.

EU Immigration

Asked by Lord Hylton

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to speed up family reunions for refugees and

migrants now in Europe, particularly in Greece, Italy and France; and whether special provision has been made for the 1,400 unaccompanied children in Greece, and households headed by women. [HL649]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The Government continues to work with key EU Member States to ensure the Dublin Regulation family reunification process works effectively.

Under the UK-France Joint Declaration of 20 August 2015, the UK and France have committed to ensuring that provisions of the Dublin III Regulation are used efficiently and effectively. To assist the handling of such cases, the two Governments have established a permanent official contact group, agree single points of contact within respective Dublin Units and a UK asylum expert was seconded to the French administration to facilitate the improvement of all stages of the process. The UK and France are running regular joint communication campaigns in northern France which inform unaccompanied children and others of their right to claim asylum in France and the family reunion process.

We are also providing support to the Dublin units in Greece and Italy, both bilaterally and through European Asylum Support Office (EASO).

On the 4 May the Prime Minister announced the Government will work with local authorities on plans to resettle unaccompanied refugee children from Europe. We are looking to transfer children who are already present in Europe before the EU-Turkey deal came into force on 20 March.

Ministers and senior officials are engaged in ongoing discussions with Greece, Italy, and France to identify and transfer to the UK unaccompanied refugee children where it is in their best interests. We are also consulting local authorities, non-governmental organisations, UNICEF and UNHCR.

The UK is the largest bilateral contributor to the humanitarian response to the crisis in Europe and the Balkans with a total contribution of £65 million. This includes nearly £46 million to provide life saving aid to migrants and refugees including food, water, hygiene kits and infant packs, and protection for the most vulnerable, as well as support to organisations helping governments build their capacity to manage arrivals in Greece and the Balkans. The efforts of the partners we fund are targeted to reach the most vulnerable including children.

It also includes the £10 million Refugee Children Fund the Department for International Development (DFID) has created the needs to vulnerable refugee and migrant children specifically in Europe. The fund will support three specialist and mandated organisations the UNHCR, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee to work with host authorities to care for and assist unaccompanied or separated children in Europe and the Balkans.

Asked by Lord Hylton

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they expect the new draft EU Resettlement Scheme to be made public; and what progress, if any, has been made in re-opening EU frontiers. [HL650]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We understand the Commission are going to bring out a legislative proposal on resettlement with a Title V legal base shortly. We will consider the detail of the proposal once published.

The Schengen States agreed on 12 May that certain Schengen internal border controls in Germany, Austria, Denmark, Sweden and Norway can remain raised until November.

Female Genital Mutilation

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government who is responsible for follow-up health and welfare checks of newborn female babies whose mothers have been victims of female genital mutilation. [HL625]

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government at what intervals female newborn babies born to mothers who have been victims of female genital mutilation will receive follow-up health and welfare checks. [HL627]

Lord Prior of Brampton: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is illegal, extremely harmful and it is child abuse. Girls born to mothers who have had FGM are offered the same range of newborn and infant health checks as offered to all families.

In addition to the routine newborn and infant health checks offered to all families as part of the Healthy Child Programme, professionals have safeguarding responsibilities meaning that if they have any concerns about FGM they should take appropriate safeguarding actions, including sharing this with key professionals within the child's life as part of local safeguarding procedures. In addition, any concerns about potential risk of FGM must be recorded within the child's Red Book.

A multi-agency approach is essential to protect girls from harm and as such, midwives, health visitors, general practitioners and school nurses amongst others are all responsible for the health and welfare of all children they see, irrespective of whether the mother has had FGM or not.

The document *Female Genital Mutilation Risk and Safeguarding Guidance for professionals* (Department of Health, May 2016) provides information for health professionals on the specific issues frequently encountered when dealing with FGM. A copy of this document is attached.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

FGM Safeguarding Report [FGM_safeguarding_report_A (1).pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL625>

*Asked by **Baroness Tonge***

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have instigated, or plan to instigate, undercover police investigations into potential female genital mutilation perpetrators in the UK. [HL629]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: How the police enforce the law in any particular case, including decisions on arrests, is an operational matter. This is in line with their duties to keep the peace, protect communities and prevent the commission of offences, working within the provisions of the legal framework set by Parliament. It is for the police to decide what might assist them in enforcement. The instigation of undercover investigations and the deployment of undercover officers is an operational matter for chief officers. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls. To support the police in investigating cases of FGM, in March 2015 the College of Policing published Authorised Professional Practice and on 1 April we published updated multi-agency guidance on FGM for all professions, which we have put on a statutory footing to support compliance.

*Asked by **Baroness Tonge***

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to instigate targeted investigations into potential female genital mutilation perpetrators in the UK. [HL681]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. We will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls. To support the police in investigating cases of FGM, in March 2015 the College of Policing published Authorised Professional Practice and on 1 April we published updated multi-agency guidance on FGM for all professions, which we have put on a statutory footing to support compliance.

How the police enforce the law in any particular case is an operational matter. This is in line with their duties to keep the peace, protect communities and prevent the commission of offences, working within the provisions of the legal framework set by Parliament. It is for the police to decide what might assist them in that enforcement.

Female Genital Mutilation Protection Orders

*Asked by **Baroness Tonge***

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether current female genital mutilation protection orders contain information on girls' country of origin and nationality. [HL628]

Lord Faulks: An application for an FGM protection order may include information in relation to the country of origin or nationality of the person to be protected if it is relevant to the application. This information would not necessarily be included in every application or order granted.

Financial Services: North Korea

*Asked by **Lord Alton of Liverpool***

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the North Korean Embassy in London has access to any UK financial system, including the banking and insurance systems. [HL608]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: The UN Security Council and EU have implemented sanctions targeted at North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile programmes. These sanctions are in effect in the UK but are not targeted at the North Korean Embassy or its staff.

HM Treasury is aware that the Embassy has had difficulty in finding a bank in the UK to open an account. It is for banks to decide on their risk appetite and to take into account the costs of managing those risks when determining whom they do business with.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Vetting

*Asked by **Lord Balfe***

To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the security implications arising from the reported leak of telegrams from the British Embassy in Ankara, whether they will conduct a review of security vetting of Foreign and Commonwealth office staff. [HL636]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) regularly reviews its policy on security clearance and did this most recently in October 2015. Our policy is to vet our UK-based staff to 'Developed Vetting', the highest level of security clearance, which provides a high level of security assurance. We are satisfied that this is appropriate. Locally Engaged staff are vetted to the level required by their job and the Post.

Free Schools: Location

*Asked by **Lord Storey***

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Nash on 6 June (WA273), whether local consultations are the only means by which the Education Funding Agency is accountable to residents of an area where a new school is planned and specifically to those residents who wish to protest against such a decision. [HL622]

*Asked by **Lord Storey***

To ask Her Majesty's Government to what extent neighbouring schools are included in the consultation

process of site selection by the Education Funding Authority. [HL623]

Lord Nash: Free school trusts are required, under Section 10 of the Academies Act 2010, to consult those they think appropriate before the school opens and to have due regard to the outcome of that consultation. The duty to consult rests solely with the trust.

In addition, all new free schools must comply with planning legislation and almost all require the submission of a planning application to permit the establishment of a new school. This means that local communities have an opportunity to express their views both supporting and objecting to the school proposal. The local planning authority must fully consider all such submissions in deciding whether to grant planning permission.

The Secretary of State has a duty, under Section 9 of the Academies Act 2010, to consider the likely impact of opening a new academy on maintained schools, academies and institutions within the further education sector in the area in which the additional school is, or is proposed to be, situated. The Department for Education publishes impact assessments for new schools on GOV.UK.

Gaza: Overseas Aid

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to support Gaza and Gazan refugees in the light of warnings from the UN that Gaza will be uninhabitable by 2020. [HL624]

Baroness Verma: As part of its Bilateral Aid Review, DFID is in the process of agreeing future multi-year support for Palestinian development, which will include support for Gaza. This will include access for reconstruction materials, basic service delivery, support to the private sector and assistance for the most vulnerable.

Genetics: Screening

Asked by Lord Freyberg

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Prior of Brampton on 4 February (HL5344), how many of the 1,286 genomes processed by 4 February came from (1) the rare disease programmes, and (2) elsewhere in the cancer programme; and how many of those genomes from (1) the rare disease programmes and (2) the cancer programme have now been interpreted clinically, either by GeL or the General Medical Council. [HL642]

Lord Prior of Brampton: Genomics England (GeL) has confirmed that all 1,286 of the genomes quoted in my Written Answer of 4 February related to the cancer programme. GeL has also confirmed that at that time 5,102 rare disease genomes had been sequenced.

GeL is in the process of developing rare disease and cancer reports and is discussing these with clinical sites.

Significant work has gone into building a pipeline to process genomic and clinical data at scale. This requires collection of complete datasets and a complex design process to minimise manual interaction with the process to improve accuracy.

The work on the pipeline is not planned to have been completed and thoroughly tested until later this year, but early results are already flowing through it and GeL has returned 39 reports to pilot sites. This number will increase steadily over the coming year as experience is gained.

Asked by Lord Freyberg

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Prior of Brampton on 11 February (HL5970), how many of the 8,000 planned reports in 2016 will come from (1) the rare disease programme, and (2) the cancer programme. [HL643]

Lord Prior of Brampton: At this stage, Genomics England cannot provide an exact breakdown of the 8,000 planned reports. This will depend on the participants that NHS Genomic Medicine Centres recruit.

Asked by Lord Freyberg

To ask Her Majesty's Government what success Genomic England has had in engaging the NHS with (1) the number of informed consents captured by each of the 13 Genomic Medical Centres (GMCs), (2) the number of samples supplied by each of the 13 GMCs to Genomic England, (3) the number of usable samples received from each of the 13 GMCs by Genomic England, (4) the number of Binary Alignment Map files generated to date for each of the 13 GMCs, (5) the number of variant files (VCF) generated to date for each of the 13 GMCs, and (6) the number of clinical reports returned to patients for each of the 13 GMCs, in (a) the rare disease and (b) the cancer programme. [HL644]

Lord Prior of Brampton: Genomics England (GeL) and NHS England have confirmed that:

The total number of informed consents as reported by NHS Genomic Medicine Centres (GMCs) is 9,939. The breakdown by NHS GMC can be found in the table below.

The total number of samples sent to the United Kingdom biobank from NHS GMCs is 6,777. The breakdown by GMC can be found in the table below.

Over 99% of samples have passed quality control first time in the biorepository, and the others are being followed up with NHS GMCs directly to obtain replacement samples.

In terms of the number of Binary Alignment Map files generated to date, GeL does not break its figures down in this way. It has confirmed that the number of completed Whole Genome Sequences (WGS) is 10,079 consisting of 8,408 rare disease and 1,671 cancer.

In terms of the number of variant files generated to date, GeL does not break its figures down in this way. It has confirmed that the number of completed WGS is 10,079 consisting of 8,408 rare disease and 1,671 cancer. GeL is in the process of developing rare disease and cancer reports and is discussing these with clinical sites. GeL has returned 39 reports to pilot sites and expects the number of reports to increase steadily over the coming year.

<i>NHS GMC</i>	<i>GMC self-reported recruitment</i>	<i>Samples received at UK Biobank</i>
North East and North Cumbria	426	357
West London	307	262
Greater Manchester	666	232
South London	1,436	1,316
East of England	923	795
Oxford	927	678
South West	337	221
North Thames	2,483	1,290
Wessex	638	510
West Mids	1,327	786
North West Coast	434	321
Yorks and Humber	35	0
Total	9,939	6,777

Asked by Lord Freyberg

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many patients have died to date having supplied consent without receiving a clinical report in (1) the rare disease programme, and (2) the cancer programme; and in each case what percentage of total consents that figure represents. [HL645]

Lord Prior of Brampton: The information requested is not yet available. The 100,000 Genomes Project is a research project which is investigating the benefits of whole genome sequencing for patients with cancer and rare diseases. One of the objectives of the Project is to establish the evidence to inform future decisions on National Health Service testing.

Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

Asked by Lord Chidgey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions the Secretary of State for International Development has had with the Chancellor of the Exchequer about replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. [HL703]

Baroness Verma: The UK Government has enjoyed a successful partnership with the Global Fund to date. As the third largest donor for the replenishment period 2014-

16, the UK's investment will improve the lives of millions of people – helping to save approximately 580,000 lives through the prevention of 8.4m malaria, HIV and TB infections.

Earlier this year, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and I committed that the UK would spend £500 million a year battling malaria. The UK's contribution to the replenishment of the Global Fund will play an important role in meeting the commitment.

The UK wishes to see a successful replenishment; the final decision on a UK contribution is yet to be made and will depend on a multitude of factors, including the outcome of DFID's Multilateral Aid Review to be published later in the summer, and I look forward to discussing it with the Chancellor.

Government Efficiency Review

Asked by Lord Myners

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to publish the savings in public sector procurement as a result of following the advice of Sir Philip Green; and whether they will consider inviting Sir Philip to review the adequacy and effectiveness of implementation. [HL562]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: I refer the noble Lord to the answers I gave him on 11 April 2016 to Question HL7227 and on 9 May to Question HL7900.

We have published details of savings made through efficiency and reform each year since 2010-11. The most recent report can be found on www.gov.uk.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Attachment 1 [HL562 Attachment 1.pdf]

Attachment 2 [HL562 Attachment 2.pdf]

Attachment 3 [HL562 Attachment 3.pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-08/HL562>

Green Belt

Asked by Lord Storey

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 7 June (HL272), what are the National Planning Policy Framework guidelines about what constitutes an exceptional circumstance that necessitates building on Green Belt land. [HL591]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Green belts are created and protected by local authorities in line with national policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). A Green Belt boundary can only be altered where there are exceptional circumstances and only by means of the Local Plan process of public consultation and independent examination.

We do not define exceptional circumstances as these can vary from instance to instance. The NPPF however does outline that exceptions in regards to the construction of new buildings in the Green Belt may include:

- buildings for agriculture and forestry;
- provision of appropriate facilities for outdoor sport and recreation and for cemeteries as long as it preserves the openness of the Green Belt and does not conflict with the purposes of including land within it;
- the extension or alteration of a building provided that it does not result in disproportionate additions over and above the size of the original building;
- limited infilling in villages, and limited affordable housing for local community needs under policies set out in the Local Plan.

Heritage Lottery Fund

Asked by Lord Smith of Finsbury

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to reduce the delays that occur between the announcement of a Heritage Lottery Fund grant being made and permission to start being given to the recipient organisations. [I] [HL656]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The Heritage Lottery Fund work closely to support grant recipients in meeting the essential requirements prior to works starting. The HLF are not aware of a general problem with delays around the existing permission to start process, though timings can vary.

History: Publications

Asked by Lord Lexden

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to continue the Official History Programme; and if so, how. [HL549]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: I refer the Noble Lord to the statement given by my Noble Friend Lord Gardiner of Kimble on 10 December 2015.

House of Lords: Facilities

Asked by Baroness Lister of Burtersett

To ask the Chairman of Committees whether he has any plans to (1) monitor use of the Committee Corridor Writing Room, and (2) consider returning the room to its original use if usage is low. [HL676]

Lord Laming: Some light-touch monitoring of the Committee Corridor Writing Room is being undertaken. We are seeking to publicise the room as a flexible working space for Members to make use of, in the same way as the Peers' Writing Room which is currently well used. Pressure on space is increasing as Members are decanted for essential works, such as fire life safety improvements.

Housing Associations: Right to Buy Scheme

Asked by Lord Young of Cookham

To ask Her Majesty's Government when the Secretary of State will commence making grants to private registered providers under section 64 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. [HL605]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Section 64 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016 enables the Secretary of State to pay grant to private registered providers to cover the cost of the voluntary Right to Buy discount. Grant will only be paid out once a tenant has purchased their home and the provider has submitted a claim. Systems are in place with the five housing associations that are taking part in the voluntary Right to Buy pilot so that the Government can compensate them for the discount that their tenants get when they purchase their home.

We are currently working with the National Housing Federation and the housing association sector on the implementation of the main scheme and will announce more details in due course.

Housing Market

Asked by The Earl of Lytton

To ask Her Majesty's Government what evidence they have collected that buy-to-let investors and prospective residential owner-occupiers are in competition in the market for the same properties. [HL581]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Whilst private landlords are competing for properties in the same housing market as owner occupiers, the types and locations of properties that they prefer will not always be identical to owner occupiers. Recent research by the Bank of England – see <https://bankunderground.co.uk/2015/07/21/five-facts-about-buy-to-let/> - shows that buy to let investors have a greater tendency to purchase apartments and properties in London than owner occupiers.

Immigration

Asked by Lord Tebbit

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 8 June (HL380), when they expect immigration to fall below 100,000 a year; and how they define "sustainable levels" of immigration. [HL680]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We consider net migration of tens of thousands per year to be sustainable.

We will continue to work towards achieving the ambition to reduce net migration to sustainable levels over the course of this Parliament.

Iran: Human Rights

Asked by Baroness Afshar

To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Iran about the protection of the human rights of Iranian women and scholars. [HL630]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: As mentioned in the 2015 Foreign and Commonwealth Office Annual Human Rights report, women do not enjoy the same rights and privileges as men in Iran and continue to face discrimination. There are continued restrictions on freedom of expression and belief. We repeatedly call on the Iranian government to guarantee the human rights of all Iranians and will continue to do so. The Foreign Secretary, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond), most recently raised the issue of human rights with Foreign Minister Zarif when they met on the 17 May.

Iraq: Islamic State

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of reports of the public burning to death by ISIS of 19 women from Iraqi religious minorities in Mosul; what assessment they have made of the UN's calculation that a further 3,500 are being held as slaves; and whether they plan to lay evidence of genocide before the Security Council, and if so, when. [HL611]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: Although we are aware of reports of the burning to death of up to 19 Yezidi women in Mosul, we are not able to verify these reports. We are also aware of the UN's calculation that up to 3,500 women are being held by Daesh. However, it is difficult to accurately estimate the number of women who remain in Daesh captivity so we cannot confirm this figure.

It is clear however, that Daesh has carried out appalling atrocities against Muslims, Christians, Yezidis and other communities in Iraq and Syria. Ultimately the only way to stop Daesh carrying out such abuses and to free those they hold captive is to liberate all of the people currently under their control.

Genocide should be a matter for judicial authorities rather than a political decision, but it is clear there is a growing body of evidence that terrible crimes have been committed. We are working with our partners in the international community to do everything we can to support the gathering of evidence which could be used by courts to hold Daesh to account and bring justice to those who have suffered at the hands of Daesh. This is vital because ultimately this is a question for courts to decide. It is not for governments or the UN Security Council to be prosecutor, judge and jury.

Asked by Baroness Cox

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the likelihood of securing a UN Security Council Resolution focused on the actions of Daesh in Iraq, in the light of the previous vetoes by Russia. [HL707]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: Any decision to refer to the International Criminal Court must be made on the basis of what will be the most effective means to bring perpetrators of atrocities to account. In close consultation with the Government of Iraq, we will continue to look at every available option to ensure accountability, and to work with our international partners on what can be done both to assist the victims and to bring those responsible to justice.

Islam

Asked by Lord Lester of Herne Hill

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon on 3 June (HL311), whether one of the ideologies they are directly challenging is Wahhabism. [HL524]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The Counter-Extremism Strategy set out our approach to tackling extremist ideologies. We will challenge all those groups or individuals who vocally or actively oppose our fundamental values, who seek to promote, encourage and spread intolerance of individuals of different faith and beliefs. We are clear that this approach tackles all forms of extremism: violent and non violent, Islamist and neo-Nazi.

Islamic State

Asked by Baroness Cox

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their policy regarding the legal possibility of bringing before the UN Security Council a resolution seeking to refer the actions of Daesh in Iraq and Syria to the International Criminal Court. [HL706]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The International Criminal Court (ICC) Prosecutor set out some of the complicated issues involved in the ICC investigating Daesh in her press statement of 8 April 2015. We are exploring, with international partners, all legal possibilities for investigating Daesh and holding them to account for their actions.

Kidney Cancer

Asked by Baroness Cumberlege

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the average time from diagnosis to treatment for patients with metastatic kidney cancer in England. [HL673]

Lord Prior of Brampton: No assessment has been made. NHS England collects data on cancer waiting times and these data are published on their website. The data comprises of organisational performance against operational standards that support waiting time commitments laid out in the NHS Constitution. These include the standard that 96% of patients should begin first definitive treatment for all cancers within a maximum of 31 days from diagnosis.

In April 2016 97.4% of patients waited 31 days from diagnosis to first definitive treatment for all cancers and 94.9% for urological cancers.

The data is collected at tumour group level and it is not possible to identify metastatic kidney cancer.

Latrunculins

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask Her Majesty's Government what field safety notices the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has issued for latrunculin A and latrunculin B; when these substances were first licensed by the MHRA for use in any medicinal products; and whether the MHRA has issued any advice regarding the clinical use of these substances. [[HL664](#)]

Lord Prior of Brampton: Latrunculin A and Latrunculin B are not contained in any licensed medicinal products and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency has not issued any advice regarding the clinical usage of these substances, any field safety notices or other communications.

Lebanon: Refugees

Asked by Lord Hylton

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking in co-operation with the government of Lebanon and UN agencies to ensure that all refugee children in Lebanon receive the basic and remedial education that they need. [[HL651](#)]

Baroness Verma: The UK has committed up to £40m per year to support education in Lebanon up to 2019/20 as part of our £2.3bn response to the Syria crisis. We are a key proponent of the regional No Lost Generation Initiative, and endorsed an agreement at the London Supporting Syria and the Region conference in February that all refugee and affected host community children should be in education by the end of the 2016/17 school year.

We are aligning our support behind the Government of Lebanon's second Reaching All Children with Education Programme (RACE II), working with a range of partners to scale up quality formal and non-formal education. We have already helped expand the Lebanese education system to reach 200,000 Syrian children and are also supporting the expansion of high-quality, standardised non-formal education and training. This includes basic numeracy and literacy and catch-up learning programmes

to reach the most vulnerable out of school Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian children and youth. We are also tackling barriers to school entry, protection issues and psycho-social problems that prevent children accessing education. We also support the United Nations Relief and Works Agency to ensure Palestinian refugees have access to education and training in Lebanon.

Legislation: Parliamentary Scrutiny

Asked by Lord Lisvane

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many of the measures announced in the Queen's Speech will be published in draft and subject to pre-legislative scrutiny. [[HL550](#)]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: The Government is committed to facilitating pre-legislative scrutiny when it is possible to do so. In the last session five draft Bills or packages of draft legislation were published. Announcements will be made in due course about draft legislation to be published in the current session.

Maternity Services

Asked by Lord Birt

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Prior of Brampton on 11 May (HL8238) and the response deposited by Peterborough and Stamford Hospital NHS Trust on 18 May which showed that Peterborough's City Hospital maternity unit has been closed to women about to give birth 41 times in the past three years, whether they will review the adequacy of the arrangements within the NHS for forecasting and meeting national and local demand for maternity services. [[HL638](#)]

Lord Prior of Brampton: The Maternity Transformation Programme (MTP) has been established to drive the implementation of the recommendations of *Better Births*, the report of the National Maternity Review. A copy of the report is attached. The MTP is overseen by the Maternity Transformation Board which met for the first time on 8 June and is chaired by Sarah-Jane Marsh, Chief Executive of Birmingham Children's Hospital and Birmingham Women's Hospital.

The safety of mother and baby is paramount. We want to ensure that women have as many choices as possible, while minimising any known risk to either themselves or their baby.

Maternity services are unable to plan the exact time and place of birth and there are occasions when a unit cannot safely accept more women into their care. In such cases, the only safe alternative is to close the unit temporarily. It is important of course, that where a unit closes, there are systems and guidelines in place to ensure pregnant women have access to the next closest maternity unit and the type of care they have chosen, including midwifery-led care.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Better Births Report [national-maternity-review-report.pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL638>

Middle East: Crimes against Humanity

Asked by Baroness Cox

To ask Her Majesty's Government what funding they have made available to the Free Yazidi Foundation and other organisations in Iraq and Syria to aid the collection of evidence of genocide and crimes against humanity. [HL708]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We have a long-standing commitment to accountability for human rights violations and abuses and have supported efforts to document them in Syria and Iraq. The UK co-sponsored the UN Human Rights Council Resolution in September 2014 mandating the investigation of Daesh abuses in Iraq. We continue to support the UN Commission of Inquiry's investigations into human rights violations and abuses in Syria.

We have provided over £8 million to support the documentation of human rights abuses and violations in Syria and Iraq. We also supported the translation of the International Protocol for the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict into Arabic and Kurdish to further build the capacity of human rights, justice and healthcare professionals to respond to and document these terrible crimes.

Asked by Baroness Cox

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they or the UN are collecting reports or intelligence detailing suspected crimes against humanity or genocide in Iraq and Syria, and if so, whether that information will be used to profile people who wish to enter the UK from that region. [HL709]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We have provided over £8 million to support the documentation of human rights abuses and violations in Syria and Iraq.

In Syria, we support the work of the UN Commission of Inquiry and continue to call for them to be given unhindered access to investigate human rights violations and abuses. The UK provides financial support to a specialist organisation to collate and build prosecution-ready criminal case files against the high level perpetrators in Syria. These cases are built for international prosecution should a referral to the International Criminal Court be forthcoming, or should individuals be subject to litigation by hybrid, specialised and national courts.

In Iraq, the UK co-sponsored the UN Human Rights Council Resolution in September 2014 mandating the investigation of Daesh abuses. The UN continues to issue regular reports on abuses committed by Daesh in Iraq. Through our Human Rights and Democracy Fund we

funded a project that documents case of sexual violence crimes.

A unit within the Office of Counter-Terrorism monitors various country situations, focusing on issues such as international crimes. This information can be used to help identify possible perpetrators and also to support any decision to refuse their application to enter or stay in the UK.

Where there is credible evidence that a visa applicant has been involved in international crimes (war crimes and crimes against humanity) their case will be investigated further. This applies to any nationality. If there is sufficient evidence, the applicant would be refused entry on the grounds of their character, conduct or associations. It is also possible to exclude such people from the UK by virtue of the Home Secretary, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Maidenhead (Theresa May)'s powers under the Immigration Act. With regard to Syria, applicants under the Syrian Humanitarian Assistance Programme are also screened for any security concerns; including international crimes.

Monarchy: EU Law

Asked by Lord Tebbit

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the Sovereign is subject to legislation originating in the EU. [HL657]

Lord Bridges of Headley: In relation to UK law civil and criminal proceedings cannot be taken against the Sovereign as a person under UK law.

Under EU law, EU Heads of State enjoy a special status, in accordance with generally accepted principles of international law.

New Businesses: Females

Asked by Baroness Burt of Solihull

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to increase the number of female role models for women entrepreneurs. [HL667]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: We support the aim of having more female role models for women entrepreneurs. We are working to ensure we have the right business environment for everyone, including women, to set up and grow a business. The *Business is GREAT* website (<http://www.greatbusiness.gov.uk/women-in-enterprise/>) includes case studies of women who have started and grown successful businesses. In 2015 the Global Entrepreneurship Development Institute ranked the UK as the best country in Europe for female entrepreneurs.

The Start-Up Loans Company is celebrating the achievements of British businesses with the launch of the Start-Up Loans Ambassador Programme to showcase success stories. Four of the six businesses selected as ambassadors are owned by women. We have been working with businesses to increase representation of

women on boards, which we hope will also continue to create more female role models across all sectors.

North Korea: Embassies

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of paragraph 170 of the 2016 report of the United Nations Panel of Experts, whether they are aware of any attempts to aid illicit activities through banking, bulk cash or trade by the North Korean Embassy in London. [HL607]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We are concerned by the evidence in the UN Panel of Experts' report that officials of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) continue to support illicit activities. In accordance with Article 41 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office expects all foreign diplomats and members of their families in the UK to abide by UK laws at all times. We treat all allegations of criminal offences committed by those with diplomatic immunity seriously, and work closely with police and other law enforcement agencies to ensure an appropriate response to all allegations.

North Korea: Hezbollah

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the 23 July 2014 ruling of the US District Court for the District of Columbia of "clear and convincing evidence" of the government of North Korea's support for Hezbollah; and whether support for Hezbollah may fall under the proscriptions of the Terrorism Act 2000. [HL606]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We are aware of the ruling made by the US District Court for the District of Columbia in 2014.

There is a substantial body of evidence that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) supplies arms to customers worldwide. Its sale of arms and related material to countries already in the grip of conflict exploits and increases regional instability. UN Security Council Resolution 2270, adopted on 2 March 2016, contains a range of robust measures to tackle the DPRK's proliferation networks.

The UK proscribed Hizballah's External Security Organisation in 2001, extending this in 2008 to include Hizballah's Military Wing, namely the Jihad Council and all units reporting to it. However, the group is not proscribed in its entirety. The provisions of the Terrorism Act regarding support for proscribed organisations only apply to activity which has taken place in the UK.

North Korea: Politics and Government

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the allegations of violence by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's against its citizens, and its use of threats to the international community for the purpose of advancing its political cause. [HL541]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK) arbitrary use of violence against its citizens, as documented in the UN Commission of Inquiry report, underlines the brutality of the regime and its lack of respect for basic human rights. The Government has made clear its concerns about the appalling human rights situation in North Korea, directly with the regime and in international fora, including at the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.

The DPRK's flagrant violation of UN Security Council Resolutions and its continuing provocative behaviour is a clear threat to regional stability and international security. The UN Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 2270 on 2 March 2016 in response to the DPRK's nuclear test of 6 January and satellite launch, using ballistic technology, of 7 February. The EU has implemented additional measures.

Olympic Games: Brazil

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Neville-Rolfe on 22 February (HL6127), what assessment they have made of how long men who carry the Zika virus remain infected, and whether there is a lasting risk that they can infect their partner. [HL618]

Lord Prior of Brampton: Zika virus has been detected up to 62 days in the semen of men with symptomatic Zika infections, but this does not indicate whether the man can pass on the infection for this length of time.

Current Public Health England (PHE)/National Travel Health Network and Centre guidance advises that if a man has clinical illness compatible with Zika virus infection, precautions are taken to avoid transmission for six months after returning from a Zika transmission area. The PHE guidance is believed to be precautionary in light of the available evidence, and the recommendations are modified as evidence emerges. The current guidance can be found in the attached document *Zika infection – Guidance related to Sexual Transmission*.

The guidance is reviewed regularly by the pre-Scientific Advisory Group of Experts and is in line with guidance from World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Zika Infection Guidance Sexual Transmission [Zika infection - Guidance related to sexual transmission.pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-13/HL618>

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government what advice on the risk and potential consequence of infection from the Zika virus during the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio 2016 is being given by the British Olympic Association and the British Paralympic Association to members of the British Olympic and Paralympic teams. [HL619]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The UK Government, the National Travel Health Network and Centre and the British Olympic Association and British Paralympic Association have issued guidance and advice on Zika for those competing and attending the Rio Games. All organisations continue to review and update this guidance and the Government will take into account World Health Organisation guidelines should they be revised following their latest risk assessment.

My department and the Department of Health recently convened an Olympic and Paralympic health advisory group including academic experts and cross-government representatives to support the British Olympic Association (BOA) and British Paralympic Association (BPA) in updating their guidance to athletes and staff travelling to Brazil for the Olympics. The Foreign Office will link this to their wider consular campaign 'Stay ahead of the Games'.

Overseas Visitors: EU Nationals

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many visitors from the EU came to the UK in (1) 2000, (2) 2010, and (3) 2015. [HL584]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: In 2010 there were 20.3 million visits to the UK from the EU, and 24.2 million in 2015. This data is not available for 2000. This Government is committed to further increasing the number of visitors to the UK and growing the tourism industry across the whole of Britain, as set out in our Five Point Plan, which can be found on the attached report.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Backing the Tourism Sector - a five point plan [Tourism_-_A_Five_Point_Plan.pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-09/HL584>

Palestinians: EU Aid

Asked by Baroness Deech

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the 2013 Report of the European Court of Auditors EU Direct Financial Support to the Palestinian Authority said (1) that a number of civil servants in Gaza were being paid without going to work, and (2) that the EU was not using its leverage on the Palestinian Authority to promote reforms; and what assessment they have made of the EU allocation of 252.5 million euros to the Palestinian Authority in 2016 through PEGASE. [HL641]

Baroness Verma: The European Court of Auditors report of the EU's Direct Financial Support to the Palestinian Authority assessed the European External Action Service's and the European Commission's management of the direct financial support provided through the PEGASE mechanism to the Palestinian Authority. The report is accessible in the public domain.

The UK is supportive of the EU's programme of financial assistance to the Palestinian Authority, which supports delivery of essential basic services to Palestinians and helps maintain the viability of the two-state solution.

Passports: Personation

Asked by Lord Rooker

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many passport applications have been made using the legend of a deceased person in each of the past six years. [HL322]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We do not routinely publish this data.

Peers: Females

Asked by Lord Lexden

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the answer given by Baroness Chisholm of Owlpen on 9 June (HL Deb, col 817), how the consideration of honorary titles for the spouses of women members of the House of Lords will be conducted; whether same sex spouses and civil partners will be included in the exercise; and when that exercise will be completed. [HL662]

Lord Bridges of Headley: The Government recognises that there are some intrinsic inequalities within the courtesy titles system as it relates to honorifics. We have sympathy with those who are seeking to resolve such inequalities and we are looking into the process around courtesy titles, including in relation to same sex spouses and civil partners. The resolution of these inequalities is a very complex issue and we are at an early stage. We will provide an update in due course.

Postgraduate Education

Asked by Lord Freyberg

To ask Her Majesty's Government what sources of funding are available for students on two-year masters courses, and whether they have plans to increase the size of government-backed loans to cover the tuition fees for courses of longer than one year. [HL698]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: The new master's loan for postgraduate study of up to £10,000 will be available to eligible students studying on master's courses from Academic Year 2016/17, including eligible master's courses that last two years. This loan has been designed to provide a contribution to costs for students and the £10,000 maximum will apply to all eligible courses regardless of course length.

We have no current plans to offer larger loans for students on longer courses.

Other sources of finance for students include:

- Professional Career Development Loans of between £300 and £10,000 are bank loans and are available to eligible students for postgraduate study. Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/career-development-loans/overview>.
- Some charities, foundations and trusts award partial funding for postgraduate study. Further information is available at: http://www.prospects.ac.uk/charities_foundations_and_trusts.htm.
- Information is also available on a wide range of scholarships. Further information is available at <http://www.scholarship-search.org.uk/>

Primary Education: Assessments

Asked by Lord Storey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the annual cost of providing assessment and testing materials in primary schools in England in each of the last five years. [HL277]

Lord Nash: The comprehensive net expenditure of the Standards and Testing Agency in each of the last five years was as follows:

<i>Year ending</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Year ending March 2015	£46.2m
Year ending March 2014	£45.9m
Year ending March 2013	£38.7m
Year ending March 2012	£28.8m
Year ending March 2011	£40.3m

Prisoners: Radicalism

Asked by The Lord Bishop of Rochester

To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they are having with prison chaplains, including those of Muslim and Christian faith, to address concerns about radicalisation and extremism in prisons. [HL599]

Lord Faulks: Prison staff regularly discuss issues relating to radicalisation and extremism with prison chaplains of all faiths, both at a local and regional level. Prisoners who are identified as holding extremist views or being vulnerable to radicalisation are managed through a range of interventions to tackle and disrupt extremist behaviour.

Last year the Justice Secretary commissioned A review of extremism in prisons

As we have made clear, the report has been received and a summary document will be published in due course.

Public Sector: Borrowing

Asked by Lord Empey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the current borrowing limits imposed on (1) the Scottish Parliament, (2) the National Assembly for Wales, and (3) the Northern Ireland Assembly. [HL545]

Asked by Lord Empey

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they permit the devolved administrations in the UK to borrow money for resource budget purposes. [HL547]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: The Scotland Act 2014 permits the Scottish Government to borrow up to £2.2 billion for capital purposes and £0.5 billion to cover shortfalls in cash receipts. The Scotland Act 2016 provides for these to be revised in due course to £3bn and £1.75bn respectively.

The Welsh Government may borrow up to £500 million to cover shortfalls in the Welsh Consolidated Fund as set out in the Government of Wales Act 2006. The Wales Act 2014 confers aggregate capital borrowing powers of up to £500 million on the Welsh Government. In response to a specific request from the Welsh Government, the Government has also provided early access to these capital borrowing powers in order to support the delivery of the M4 relief road.

The Northern Ireland Executive has a statutory borrowing limit of £3 billion for capital purposes as set out in the Northern Ireland (Loans) Act 1975 as amended by the Northern Ireland (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006. The Northern Ireland Executive may borrow up to £250 million to cover shortfalls in the Northern Ireland Consolidated Fund as set out in the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

Asked by Lord Empey

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether any requests have been received from the devolved administrations to raise their borrowing limits; and if so, what increases were requested, when such requests were made, and whether any have been agreed to. [HL546]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: Treasury Ministers are in regular contact with Devolved Administration Ministers on a variety of matters.

Each of the Devolved Administrations has a range of capital and resource borrowing powers set out in legislation.

In addition to these, the Stormont House Agreement provided flexibility to use £700m of capital borrowing to fund a voluntary exit scheme over a period of 4 years with £200m in 2015-16, £200m in 2016-17, £200m in 2017-18 and £100m in 2018-19 as well as up to an additional £350m borrowing for infrastructure projects with a profile over four years with £100m in 2015-16, £100m in 2016-17, £100m in 2017-18 and £50m in 2018-19.

The Fresh Start Agreement and Implementation Plan provided assurances that the NI Executive could access the full amount of additional borrowing provided by the Stormont House Agreement even if it is able to realise agreed efficiency savings from Voluntary Exit Scheme without switching the full amount of existing borrowing for that purpose.

The Government is working closely with the Northern Ireland Executive to implement the Fresh Start Agreement.

In response to a specific request from the Welsh Government, the Government has provided early access to the capital borrowing powers in the Wales Act 2014 in order to support the delivery of the M4 relief road.

Again, the Government is working closely with the Welsh Government on this matter.

Refugees: Children

Asked by Baroness Sheehan

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the remarks by Lord Bates on 21 March (HL Deb, col 2149), what evidence they have that allowing child refugees to sponsor relatives would "create a situation that encourages children to risk hazardous journeys to and across Europe". [HL487]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: There are a range of factors that affect migrants decisions to leave their countries and travel across Europe to seek asylum. The Government believes that allowing children to sponsor relatives would create further incentives for children to be encouraged, or even forced, to leave their family and risk hazardous journeys to the UK in order to act as sponsors.

Refugees: Interpreters

Asked by Lord Hylton

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they and other EU member states are taking to increase the number of competent interpreters available for interviewing and assessing refugees on (1) the islands and mainland of Greece, and (2) in south-east Europe. [HL648]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK continues to assist Member States facing particular migratory pressures and has responded to the request by the European Asylum Support Office (EASO) for Member States to provide interpreters to support the function of the Greek asylum system.

The UK has offered up to 20 interpreters to help with the processing of migrants on the Greek Islands, a number of whom have already been deployed. We are working with EASO, the Greeks and the European Commission to plan further deployments. We also continue to work with Greece and the European Commission on how the UK can most effectively bolster their operational and deployment plan(s) and are very clear that we stand ready to do more.

Robbery: Greater London

Asked by The Lord Bishop of St Albans

To ask Her Majesty's Government what proportion of reported commercial robberies in London in 2015 were targeted at betting shops. [HL730]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The Home Office does not hold data on the number of police recorded crimes made in licensed premises such as betting shops in London.

The Home Office collects data on the number of notifiable offences broken down by offence group and police force area, but these do not routinely include information on the specific location.

Service Industries: EU Nationals

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many hospitality industry employees in the UK were from other EU member states in each of the last five years, and which countries they were from. [HL586]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: In 2011, 2.8 per cent of employment in all UK tourism industries came from the pre-accession EU 15 member states. An additional 3.9 per cent of employment in all UK tourism industries came from the newer EU states: Poland, Lithuania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Romania, Latvia, Czech Republic, Malta, Estonia, Cyprus, and Slovenia. This data is the most up to date that we hold.

Small Businesses

*Asked by **Baroness Burt of Solihull***

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the financial and administrative burden to small businesses of the proposals to introduce mandatory quarterly reporting. [HL668]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: HM Revenue and Customs will publish an initial assessment of the impacts of the new requirements for businesses alongside an overview of the potential costs and savings as part of consultations planned this year. This will include the contribution these reforms will make towards the £400m administrative burdens reduction target for business.

Social Rented Housing: Empty Property

*Asked by **Lord Young of Cookham***

To ask Her Majesty's Government when the Secretary of State will make a determination under section 69 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. [HL603]

*Asked by **Lord Young of Cookham***

To ask Her Majesty's Government when local authorities have to make the first payment under section 69 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016. [HL604]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Before any determination is issued and any payments made under that determination, regulations on the definition of higher value assets must first be passed by both Houses of Parliament. We are currently working on the detail of the regulations.

We shall consult with local authorities and other stakeholders before issuing the determination.

Social Security Benefits

*Asked by **Baroness King of Bow***

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Freud on 21 July 2015 (HL1153), whether they will now provide an estimate of how many, and what proportion of, households affected by the proposed reduction of the benefit cap to £23,000 per year receive (1) Employment and Support Allowance, (2) Income Support, and (3) Jobseeker's Allowance. [HL691]

Lord Freud: We will publish an impact assessment in due course.

Soil: Research

*Asked by **Baroness Miller of Chilthorne Domer***

To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the expenditure on soil research by all UK research councils in each year since 2006. [HL725]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The annual spend on research related to soil science through the Research Councils is provided in the table below.

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>Spend</i>
2005-06	£13.3M*
2006-07	£16.9M*
2007-08	£19.7M*
2008-09	£15.4M*
2009-10	£17.3M*
2010-11	£24.1M
2011-12	£20.6M
2012-13	£24.2M
2013-14	£31.2M
2014-15	£20.8M
2015-16	£45.1M

*Data is not available for the Arts and Humanities Research Council prior to 2010-11.

Soil: Scientists

*Asked by **Baroness Miller of Chilthorne Domer***

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many soil scientists are currently employed by (1) universities and colleges, (2) research institutions, and (3) the private sector, in the UK. [HL724]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: This level of detail is not held by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

South Sudan: Administration of Justice

*Asked by **Baroness Cox***

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the progress of justice and reconciliation processes in South Sudan. [HL704]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: Both accountability and reconciliation remain essential for South Sudan to move forward. The formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity in April marked an important step in political reconciliation and we welcome the ongoing efforts of community groups, including churches, to pursue reconciliation at the local level. We look forward to the establishment of the Commission for Truth, Reconciliation and Healing and welcome the steps already taken by the African Union on the Hybrid Court, which needs to be set up as a matter of priority.

South Sudan: Politics and Government

*Asked by **Baroness Cox***

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their response to the UN Security Council resolution of 31 May calling for a suspension of the Transitional

Government of National Unity's decision to increase the number of states in South Sudan to 28. [HL705]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We have consistently expressed serious concern at President Kiir's decision on 2nd October 2015 to create 28 states in South Sudan, in contradiction to the peace agreement he signed in August 2015. The UK voted in favour of UN Security Council Resolution 2290 of 31 May 2016, which underlined the need to address this issue. We welcome that the Transitional Government of National Unity has subsequently begun the process of forming a Boundary Commission that should resolve this dispute.

Sports: Drugs

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to (1) extend the powers of UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) to investigate doctors administering performance enhancing drugs to athletes outside the control of British governing bodies of sport, and (2) introduce new powers to enable UKAD to take legal action should such doctors be found to have breached the World Anti-Doping Agency Code; and if so, when. [HL595]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The Government will review the outcomes of the independent review of UK Anti-Doping's processes following allegations made in the Sunday Times. DCMS is currently undertaking a review of current legislation and, as part of this, will consider the independent review's findings to determine whether any new powers are necessary.

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they expect the independent review by Andy Ward into UK Anti-Doping's handling of intelligence in relation to Dr Mark Bonar to be finalised, and whether they intend to lay a copy of that report before Parliament. [HL596]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The review is expected to conclude during the summer. UK Anti-Doping will publish the report.

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, in carrying out its assignment in Russia on behalf of the World Anti-Doping Agency, UK Anti-Doping has at any time (1) been asked for 30 days' notice of tests by Russian authorities; (2) disputed payments for doping control officers; or (3) faced customs delays preventing the transport of blood samples to laboratories outside Russia within the 48-hour window needed for accurate testing or at any time been unable to match the tests being undertaken by the Russian Anti-Doping Agency to Russian athletes; and if so, on which occasions those events occurred. [HL598]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: UK Anti-Doping has not been asked to provide 30 days' notice by Russian authorities.

UK Anti-Doping is not involved in the contractual agreement between the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA) and sample collection agencies. This would be a matter for RUSADA and the World Anti-Doping Agency. While UK Anti-Doping has encountered challenges due to customs delays, it does not discuss details of its testing programmes as doing so might undermine what it is trying to achieve and the processes involved.

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government which new testing techniques have become available in the UK to retest samples for re-analysis from the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic athletes since 2012; how often UK Anti-Doping has used such technology; when that technology was introduced; and for what category of drug testing in sport that technology can be used. [HL617]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: UK Anti-Doping cannot disclose details of new technology used in relation to retrospective testing as this might undermine what it is trying to achieve when re-testing samples.

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their assessment of support for the "Statute of Limitations" policy pursued by the International Olympic Committee as it impacts on British athletes denied medals by athletes who have subsequently admitted to taking performance-enhancing drugs. [HL620]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The 'Statute of Limitations' policy assists further in the worldwide effort in combatting doping in sport and sends another clear message ahead of Rio 2016 that there is no hiding place for doping cheats.

The awarding of medals to athletes who have lost out to competitors who have subsequently tested positive is a matter for the International Olympic Committee. Its 2020 Agenda does however recommend that there should be formal ceremonies to be organised for medal-winners who receive their Olympic medal following the disqualification of a competitor. The Government is supportive of this approach.

Asked by Lord Moynihan

To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the suspension of the All-Russia Athletic Federation by the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) in November 2015 following allegations of state-sponsored doping published by the World Anti-Doping Agency Independent Commission, what is their assessment of whether the All-Russian Athletic Federation should (1) be readmitted at the IAAF Council meeting on 17 June in Vienna, and (2) participate in the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio. [HL621]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The re-enforcement of the ban on the All-Russia Athletic Federation to international competition by the International Association of Athletics Federations demonstrates the need for athletes to compete in a clean sport environment.

This was underlined further by the International Olympic Committee announcement that athletes from Russia, Spain and Kenya, countries that are currently non-compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code, that wish to participate in Rio will be subject to a pre-Games testing programme before being admitted to the Games.

Syria: Refugees

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to take steps to encourage Gulf States to allocate asylum spaces for Syrian refugees. [HL716]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We recognise and welcome the substantial contribution made by Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states to the humanitarian aid response for Syria and the numbers of Syrians already in the Gulf. The Gulf states are now home to almost one million Syrians, and have pledged more than \$3 billion in humanitarian assistance. Kuwait co-hosted the London Donor Conference in February 2016 where Gulf states pledged \$739 million.

Taxation: Uniforms

Asked by Baroness Young of Hornsey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of how many corporate uniforms in the UK could be diverted from landfill or incineration if the tax regime relating to permanent branding were changed. [HL658]

Asked by Baroness Young of Hornsey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the financial implications of changing taxation requirements to replace permanent branding on corporate uniforms with non-permanent branding. [HL659]

Asked by Baroness Young of Hornsey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what are the barriers to amending taxation requirements so that the permanent branding on corporate uniforms could be replaced with non-permanent branding. [HL660]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: There is an income tax deduction available where an employer provides corporate uniforms, or where an employee must purchase such clothing. To be considered a uniform clothing must meet certain criteria. The clothing must be: specialised, recognisable as a uniform and intended to identify its wearer as having a particular occupation. These requirements ensure that the tax deduction is used as intended.

No assessment has been made of how many corporate uniforms in the UK could be diverted from landfill or incineration if these tax rules were changed. No assessment has been made of the financial implications of changing these taxation requirements.

Telecommunications

Asked by Lord Allen of Kensington

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they plan to introduce a new Electronic Communications Code. [HL631]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: Government published full details of its proposals for a new Electronic Communications Code on 17 May 2016. The new Code will form part of the Digital Economy Bill, which was announced in the Queen's Speech on 18 May 2016 and is due to be introduced during the current Parliamentary session.

Asked by Lord Allen of Kensington

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the planned new Electronic Communications Code will be a statutory code. [HL632]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The existing Electronic Communications Code is already enshrined in primary legislation, it is currently set out at Schedule 2 of the Telecommunications Act 2003.

Asked by Lord Allen of Kensington

To ask Her Majesty's Government which regulator will have responsibility and oversight of the planned Electronic Communications Code. [HL633]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: Under paragraphs 106 -119 of the Communications Act 2003 OFCOM are responsible for application of the Code to electronic communications providers.

Tourists: EU Nationals

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the estimated income from tourists from the EU who visited the UK in each of the last five years. [HL585]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: In 2011, tourists from the EU spent £8.26 billion in the UK. This was £8.28 billion in 2012, £9.19 billion in 2013, £9.55 billion in 2014 and £9.71 billion in 2015. This Government is committed to further growing the tourism industry across the whole of Britain, encouraging more visitors to travel beyond the capital.

Treasury: Labour Turnover

Asked by Baroness Kramer

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many civil servants within HM Treasury have (1) been recruited

into the department (a) from within the civil service, and (b) from outside the civil service, and (2) left the department to (a) other posts within the civil service, and (b) other roles outside the civil service, in each of the last five years. [HL612]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: The numbers of staff recruited into the department from within the Civil Service and outside the Civil Service can be found in the table below:-

	<i>Civil Service Wide</i>	<i>External</i>
Apr 2011 to Mar 2012	124	94
Apr 2012 to Mar 2013	89	162
Apr 2013 to Mar 2014	126	128
Apr 2014 to Mar 2015	132	201
Apr 2015 to Mar 2016	197	275

The numbers of staff leaving HM Treasury and moving to Civil Service Departments and to other roles outside of HM Treasury can be found in the table below:-

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Apr 2011 to Mar 2012</i>	<i>Apr 2012 to Mar 2013</i>	<i>Apr 2013 to Mar 2014</i>	<i>Apr 2014 to Mar 2015</i>	<i>Apr 2015 to Mar 2016</i>
End Fixed Term	13	13	4	2	43
End Loan/secondment In	76	69	54	61	71
Permanent Transfers Out (Civil Service)	52	60	84	87	63
Resignation	103	78	87	105	84
Other	30	34	27	12	10
Total leavers	274	254	256	267	271

Asked by Baroness Kramer

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the average duration of employment for civil servants within HM Treasury in each of the last five years. [HL613]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: The table below shows the average duration of employment in each of the last 5 years.

	<i>Apr 2011 to Mar 2012</i>	<i>Apr 2012 to Mar 2013</i>	<i>Apr 2013 to Mar 2014</i>	<i>Apr 2014 to Mar 2015</i>	<i>Apr 2015 to Mar 2016</i>
Average duration	7.0	6.8	6.8	6.4	5.8

Asked by Baroness Kramer

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many HM Treasury civil servants involved in (1) the 2010

Comprehensive Spending Review, (2) the 2013 Comprehensive Spending Review, (3) the 2015 Spending Review and Autumn Statement, (4) the Summer 2015 budget, and (5) the 2016 budget, have since left the Treasury. [HL614]

Lord O'Neill of Gatley: We do not hold data on this centrally therefore to answer this question would be at disproportionate cost.

Type 45 Destroyers

Asked by The Marquess of Lothian

To ask Her Majesty's Government who is responsible for (1) the reported design flaw in the engines of the Type 45 destroyers, and (2) the costs of the refit in the light of those flaws; and what assessment they have made of the impact of that design flaw on the capacity and efficacy of the Royal Navy. [HL560]

Earl Howe: I refer my noble Friend to the answer given by my hon. Friend the Minister of State for Defence Procurement (Mr Philip Dunne) in the House of Commons on 6 June 2016, to Question number 38719.

On the question of any impact on the capacity and efficacy of the Royal Navy, the Type 45 destroyers are hugely capable ships. They have consistently made a difference to our safety and security, and continue to make an enormous contribution to the defence of the UK and our international partners

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Type 45 Destroyers [Hansard Extract 6 June 2016 HOC38719.docx]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-08/HL560>

Asked by Lord Hoyle

To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to remedy the problems caused by the failure in hot climates of intercooler units on Type 45 destroyers. [HL577]

Earl Howe: I refer the noble Lord to the answer given by my hon. Friend the Minister of State for Defence Procurement (Mr Philip Dunne) in the House of Commons on 8 February 2016, to Question number 25165. Type 45 destroyers were designed for world-wide operations, from sub-Arctic to extreme tropical environments and continue to operate effectively in the Persian Gulf and South Atlantic at all times of the year.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Type 45 Destroyers: Repair and Maintenance [Hansard Extract 8 February 2016 HOC 25165.docx]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-09/HL577>

Undocumented Migrants: Albania

Asked by Lord Blencathra

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many illegal Albanian migrants have been captured in the UK in the last 12 months, how many have asked for asylum, and how many have been removed from the UK. [HL474]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The attached tables shows the number of Albanian immigrants arrested on Enforcement Visits and as a result of Police Enquiries from the 1 April 2015 to the 31 March 2016 inclusively.

Year/Month	Number of Enforcement visits	Year/Month	Number of Police Enquiries
2015 04	37	2015 04	117
2015 05	46	2015 05	135
2015 06	57	2015 06	109
2015 07	28	2015 07	119
2015 08	60	2015 08	120
2015 09	55	2015 09	128
2015 10	66	2015 10	151
2015 11	30	2015 11	134
2015 12	40	2015 12	117
2016 01	35	2016 01	127
2016 02	19	2016 02	147
2016 03	23	2016 03	154
Total	496	Total	1558

Asylum applications and returns of nationals of Albanian are released on the GOV.UK website at in the latest Immigration statistics January to March 2016:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release> In the asylum table as_02_q

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/525625/asylum2-q1-2016-tabs.ods and the returns table rv_03_q

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/525001/returns1-q1-2016-tabs.ods

The Answer includes the following attached material:

PQ HL474 - Table [Table - HI474.docx]

The material can be viewed online at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-06-06/HL474>

Universal Credit

Asked by Baroness Manzoor

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many civil servants involved in the delivery of Universal Credit have left the Department for Works and Pensions in each of the last five years; how large is the team working on Universal Credit delivery; and how many people involved in the delivery team when it was

originally created remain within the department. [HL652]

Lord Freud: Universal Credit rollout started in April 2013. At the same time the Universal Credit Directorate was established within Operations, to deliver Universal Credit with 80 paid employees.

AT 31st March 2016, the Universal Credit Directorate consisted of 4,295 paid employees.

The numbers of Universal Credit Directorate employees who have left DWP since April 2013 are as follows:

Leaving Period	Number of Employees who left DWP
April 2013 to March 2014	5
April 2014 to March 2015	46
April 2015 to March 2016	357

Of the original 80 employees who were part of Universal Credit Directorate in April 2013, 67 are still employed by DWP.

Asked by Baroness Manzoor

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many council tenants in receipt of Universal Credit were in rent arrears in (1) 2014, and (2) 2015; and how many are currently in arrears. [HL653]

Asked by Baroness Manzoor

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many of the Universal Credit claimants currently in rent arrears did not have a record of being behind with their payments before moving to Universal Credit. [HL654]

Lord Freud: The Department holds a range of information relating to Universal Credit and housing but do not hold the information you have requested.

Asked by Baroness Manzoor

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to undertake a review of the impact of the policy by which Universal Credit is paid monthly in arrears. [HL655]

Lord Freud: The payment arrangements for Universal Credit are designed to help reduce welfare dependency by mirroring the world of work, in which 75 per cent of employees are paid monthly. Appropriate budgeting support is available to ensure recipients are supported effectively.

World Humanitarian Summit

Asked by Lord McConnell of Glenscorrodale

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the outcome of the United Nations World Humanitarian Summit held in Istanbul in May. [HL616]

Baroness Verma: The World Humanitarian Summit was a success with widespread agreement that the

humanitarian system needs to reform and an emerging consensus on the way forward, in particular a renewed commitment to compliance with International Humanitarian Law. Improving the architecture to tackle forced displacement and migration was a major theme running throughout the Summit as was the need to ensure the most vulnerable are not left behind.

Yemen: Military Intervention

Asked by The Marquess of Lothian

To ask Her Majesty's Government what conclusions they have reached following their investigations into the allegations that British-made cluster munitions have

been used by Saudi Arabia during the conflict in Yemen. [[HL557](#)]

Earl Howe: We are aware of reports, including from Amnesty International on 6 June, of the alleged use of cluster munitions in the Saudi-led Coalition campaign in Yemen. The Government takes such allegations very seriously. We are analysing the case and seeking clarification from the Saudi-led Coalition.

We have raised this issue with the Saudi Arabian authorities and, in line with our obligations under the Convention on Cluster Munitions, we continue to encourage Saudi Arabia, as a non-party to the Convention, to accede to it. The UK last provided cluster munitions to Saudi Arabia nearly 30 years ago; the final delivery was in 1989.

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