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WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND WRITTEN ANSWERS

Written Statements 1

Written Answers.....3

[I] indicates that the member concerned has a relevant registered interest. The full register of interests can be found at <http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-interests/register-of-lords-interests/>

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| <i>Minister</i> | <i>Responsibilities</i> |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Baroness Evans of Bowes Park | 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, Department for Transport |
| Baroness Anelay of St Johns | Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Department for International Development |
| Lord Ashton of Hyde | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Whip |
| Lord Bridges of Headley | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Exiting the European Union |
| Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Communities and Local Government, Wales Office, Whip |
| Baroness Chisholm of Owlpen | Whip and Spokesperson on Cabinet Office Business in the House of Lords |
| Earl of Courtown | Deputy Chief Whip |
| Lord Dunlop | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Scotland Office and Northern Ireland Office |
| Lord Freud | Minister of State, Department for Work and Pensions |
| Lord Gardiner of Kimble | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs |
| Baroness Goldie | Whip |
| Lord Keen of Elie | Advocate-General for Scotland |
| Lord Nash | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education |
| Baroness Mobarik | Whip |
| Baroness Neville-Rolfe | Minister of State, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy |
| Lord O'Neill of Gatley | Commercial Secretary to the Treasury |
| Lord Price | Minister of State, Department for International Trade |
| Lord Prior of Brampton | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health |
| Baroness Shields | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office and Department for Culture Media and Sport |
| Lord Taylor of Holbeach | Chief Whip |
| Baroness Williams of Trafford | Minister of State, Home Office |
| Viscount Younger of Leckie | Whip |

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Written Statements

Tuesday, 19 July 2016

Community Sponsorship

[HLWS94]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: My rt hon Friend the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Amber Rudd) has today made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

The Refugee Resettlement Programme Team is a tri-departmental team, based in the Home Office. This reflects the cross cutting nature of the resettlement programme. This Written Ministerial Statement has been prepared by officials from the joint team and agreed by both myself and the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.

The response of the British public to the refugee crisis resulting from the conflict in Syria has been one of overwhelming generosity, and many have been moved to make offers of assistance. At the Conservative Party Conference, the then Home Secretary said that we would build on offers of support to develop a community sponsorship scheme to allow individuals, charities, faith groups, churches and businesses to support refugees directly.

I am pleased to announce today details of how the Government will empower local communities to support the most vulnerable refugees through community sponsorship. This includes a 'Help Refugees in the UK' digital register of offers from the public, and a scheme for full community sponsorship.

The 'Help Refugees in the UK' register, hosted on the gov.uk website, will make it easier for the public to support vulnerable refugees in the UK. Local authorities will be able to identify the goods and services that they require to support refugees, individuals will then be able to submit their offers, and the system will channel them to the areas where they are going to be used. 'Help Refugees in the UK' is being launched in nine pilot local authorities initially. (They are, Broxtowe, Cambridge, Cornwall, Coventry, Gateshead, Lambeth, City of Nottingham, Wiltshire, and City of York.) Offers of help made by members of the public in all non-pilot areas will be considered centrally by the Resettlement Programme Team before being passed on to local authorities. In Scotland, offers of support will be directed to the 'Scotland Welcomes Refugees' website through a link on the gov.uk website.

The full community sponsorship scheme will enable community groups to take on the challenging but rewarding role of welcoming and supporting a refugee family in the UK. Full community sponsorship will commence on a small scale, and the resettled families will be among those referred by the UNHCR under the Syrian resettlement and vulnerable children's resettlement schemes.

Accordingly, a Ministerial Arrangement under paragraph 1 (d) of Schedule 23 to the Equality Act 2010 has been made to allow a community sponsorship scheme for vulnerable Syrians resettled in the UK. I am placing a copy of the Arrangement for this concession in the Library of both Houses of Parliament.

Community sponsors will be responsible for supporting the resettled family from the moment of their arrival in the UK. This will include, for example, meeting the family at the airport, giving a warm welcome and explaining UK and local culture, providing housing, helping them register with medical and social services, arranging English language tuition, and supporting them towards employment and self-sufficiency.

Supporting a vulnerable resettled family is a significant responsibility. The Home Office will approve every sponsoring organisation. The approval process will ensure that each prospective sponsor has sufficient resources (housing, financial and personnel); has a credible plan for supporting a resettled family, backed by relevant experience; and does not present a risk to the resettled family.

In order to develop the scheme, the Government has been working with a number of prospective sponsors and local authorities. Lambeth Palace are the first community group to be approved and receive a Syrian family.

Guidance on how to become a community sponsor will be published on the gov.uk website today. This is an exciting and ground-breaking new development for resettlement in the UK. I hope that this new approach will help bring communities together and support these often traumatised and vulnerable families as they rebuild their lives, and contribute to and thrive in our country.

Machinery of Government Changes

[HLWS95]

Baroness Evans of Bowes Park: This written ministerial statement sets out several machinery of government changes that have been made.

A new Department for Exiting the European Union has been created, with responsibility for overseeing preparations for the withdrawal of the UK from the EU and conducting these withdrawal negotiations in support of the Prime Minister. It will also lead work to establish the future relationship between the UK and EU. In doing this it will work very closely with the UK's Devolved Administrations, the UK Parliament, other government departments and a wide range of other interested parties. The new department will be formed by combining staff from the Cabinet Office's Europe Unit, the Europe Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the UK's Permanent Representation to the EU; and in time will take on staff from other government departments as is needed.

A new Department for International Trade has also been created, with overall responsibility for promoting British trade across the world. It will develop, coordinate and deliver a new trade policy for the UK, including

preparing for and then negotiating Free Trade Agreements and market access deals with non-EU countries. The new department will be a specialised body with significant new trade negotiating capacity. It will take on the responsibilities of UK Trade and Investment, the relevant trade functions of the former Department for Business Innovation and Skills; and take on responsibility for UK Export Finance.

The functions of the former Department for Business, Innovation and Skills in respect of higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and skills have been transferred to the Department for Education. Bringing these responsibilities together in a single department will mean that the Government can take a comprehensive, end-to-end view of skills and education, supporting people from early years through to postgraduate study and work.

The Department for Energy and Climate Change and the remaining functions of the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills have been merged to form a new Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, bringing together responsibility for business, industrial strategy, and science and innovation with energy and climate change policy. The new department will be responsible for helping to ensure that the economy grows strongly in all parts of the country, based on a robust industrial strategy. It will ensure that the UK has energy supplies that are reliable, affordable and clean; and it will make the most of the economic opportunities of new technologies, and support the UK's global competitiveness more effectively.

More detailed Cabinet Office papers on each of these changes have been placed in the Library of both Houses.

The Statement includes the following attached material:

DBEIS Explanatory Note [DBEIS Explanatory Note.pdf]

DEEU Explanatory Note [DEEU Explanatory Note.pdf]

DIT Explanatory Note [DIT Explanatory Note.pdf]

DfE and BIS Explanatory Note [DfE and BIS Explanatory Note.pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Lords/2016-07-19/HLWS95/>

Members' Finance Scheme

[HLWS96]

Lord Laming: On 29 June the House Committee agreed the following administrative changes to the Members' Finance Scheme. First, Members on the Armed Forces, Police Service and Industry and Parliament Trust schemes are no longer required to apply in advance for approval for travel costs in relation to these schemes. Second, the form for Members claiming travel costs for their spouse, civil partner or child will now require Members to identify their spouse or civil partner.

Information on travel expenses for spouse, civil partner and child travel, travel expenses for the Lords outreach programme, travel as a representative of the House, and additional costs in respect of disability will be added to the information already routinely published about allowances and expenses claimed by Members. The information will relate to expenses from 1 September 2016 and will have due safeguards for personal data. Expenses for spouse, civil partner and child travel will be added to the regular monthly online publication of information. The other information will be published annually.

Written Answers

Tuesday, 19 July 2016

Arts: Youth Organisations

Asked by **Lord Storey**

To ask Her Majesty's Government what funding (1) the National Youth Theatre, (2) the National Youth Orchestra, (3) the National Youth Dance Company, and (4) the Youth Music Theatre UK, receive from (a) the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, and (b) the Department for Education. [\[HL1031\]](#)

Lord Ashton of Hyde: Government funding between 2014/15 and 2015/16 to the National Youth Theatre Great Britain, the National Youth Orchestra, the National Youth Dance Company, and the Youth Music Theatre UK is set out in the table. Youth Music Theatre UK and the National Youth Orchestra receive funding as National Youth Music Organisations, which is jointly funded through the Department for Education and Arts Council England lottery money.

These figures include total funding provided through Grant in Aid and Lottery funding.

| | DFE | DCMS | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Organisation | Grant in Aid 2014/15 – 2015/16 | Grant in Aid 2014/15 – 2015/16 | Lottery Funding 2014/15 – 2015/16 | *Grants for the Arts 2014/15 – 2015/16 |
| National Youth Theatre of Great Britain | £611,538 | | | |
| National Youth Orchestra** | £500,000 | | £44,441 | |
| Sadler's Wells Trust Ltd. (National Youth Dance Company specific)*** | £650,000 | £200,000 | | |
| Youth Music Theatre UK** | £300,000 | | | £37,250 |

* Grants for the arts is the Arts Council's Lottery-funded grant programme for individuals, arts organisations and other people who use the arts in their work. Grants are available for activities carried out over a set period and which engage people in England in arts activities and help artists and arts organisations in England carry out their work

**National Youth Music Organisation funding

*** The funding is paid to Sadler's Wells as the grant recipient for use specifically for National Youth Dance Company activities

Community Rehabilitation Companies

Asked by **Baroness Corston**

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many organisations named as second- and third-tier subcontractors to community rehabilitation companies in successful bids have ended their contract in 2016. [\[HL985\]](#)

Earl of Courtown: We are aware of three organisations named as second and third tier subcontractors to community rehabilitation companies in successful bids that have ended their contract in 2016.

This excludes organisations named as second and third tier subcontractors to community rehabilitation companies with whom sub contracts were not executed, or contracts which have reached the end of their term and expired.

Females: Offenders

Asked by **Baroness Corston**

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the National Offender Management Service is still providing prison officer training under the Women Awareness Staff Programme. [\[HL987\]](#)

Earl of Courtown: Staff who work within women's prisons are able to undertake two additional training programmes, 'Women Awareness Staff Programme' and 'Sex Workers in Custody and the Community'.

Additionally, nearly 2,000 staff in women's prisons and providers of community services in England and Scotland have received training on developing 'trauma informed' practice, which entails understanding and responding to behaviours arising from a history of trauma.

Gambling: Internet

Asked by **Baroness Howe of Idlicote**

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Neville-Rolfe on 21 April (HL7422), how many of the 60 foreign unlicensed online gambling websites to which the Gambling Commission has written have (1) obtained a licence, (2) ceased offering facilities for gambling in Britain, and (3) been subject to payment blocking by payment providers. [\[HL1055\]](#)

Lord Ashton of Hyde: Of the 60 foreign unlicensed online gambling websites which the Gambling Commission wrote to, 3 obtained a licence; 41 ceased offering facilities for gambling; and 11 were subject to payment blocking by payment providers. The remainder are the subject of ongoing enforcement activity by the Gambling Commission.

Genocide

Asked by Lord Patten

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Anelay of St Johns on 30 June (HL758) about the recognition of genocide, which judicial bodies could take such a decision. [HL1204]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We continue to believe that recognition of genocide should be a matter for competent courts, decided by judges after consideration of all the evidence available in the context of a credible judicial process.

Heathrow Airport: Air Pollution

Asked by Baroness Randerson

To ask Her Majesty's Government which organisation is responsible for the monitoring and collection of pollution data in and around Heathrow airport. [HL992]

Asked by Baroness Randerson

To ask Her Majesty's Government from how many air-pollution monitors official data on air quality within the perimeter of Heathrow airport are derived; and where those monitors are located. [HL993]

Lord Gardiner of Kimble: As I said in my answer to PQ HL7316 on 5 April this year, air quality monitoring data collected in and around Heathrow Airport is presented on the Heathrow AirWatch website which is funded via a joint working partnership consisting of Heathrow Airport Ltd, London Boroughs of Hillingdon and Hounslow, Slough and Spelthorne Borough Councils and British Airways. It is managed by the consultant Ricardo Energy and Environment.

Two local monitoring sites are included in the Government's national monitoring network (the Automatic Urban and Rural Network). All national air quality monitoring data is available on the Government's UK-Air website.

The two monitoring sites are London Hillingdon which is located in a suburban residential area approximately 30 metres from the M4 motorway and London Harlington which is located close to a minor road to the east of Harlington village.

Human Trafficking: Children

Asked by Baroness Doocey

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of how many independent child trafficking advocates will be needed to fulfil the requirements under section 48 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. [HL1039]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: As the Minister for Preventing Abuse, Exploitation and Crime set out on 28 June:

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2016-06-28/debates/16062854000001/IndependentAdvocatesForTraffickedChildren>

The Government is committed to commencing section 48 of the Modern Slavery Act and developing the accompanying secondary legislation and statutory guidance. As part of the commencement process, we will work with interested parties, including Non-Governmental Organisations to determine the scale of the service.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Read out of debate - Hansard [Hansard Extract - Independent Advocates for Trafficked Children.doc]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-07-06/HL1039>

Israel: Palestinians

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Israel concerning reports of Israeli troops shooting a Palestinian with Down's Syndrome who posed no threat to those troops. [HL1113]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: While we have not made any representations to the Israeli authorities on this specific case, we have raised our concerns with the Israeli authorities in the past about the Israel Defence Forces' use of live fire, urging robust and transparent investigations where appropriate.

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they plan to make to the government of Israel in the light of remarks by the UN Secretary General following his visit to Israel on 28 June urging the Israeli Prime Minister to work towards a negotiated two-state solution. [HL1114]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The British Government believes that a negotiated two-state solution is in the interests of both Israel and the Palestinians. While we do not plan to make specific representations to the Government of Israel about the remarks by the UN Secretary General, we will continue to work with our international partners, including the UN, in support of a two-state solution.

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government what representations they have made to the government of Israel concerning reports of continuing and increasing collective punishment of Palestinian communities, including punitive demolitions of private homes in the West Bank and the withholding of tax revenues from the Palestinian Authority. [HL1116]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: We have serious concerns about the use of punitive demolitions by the Israeli authorities to destroy the homes of the families of Palestinian suspected terrorists. Officials from our Embassy in Tel Aviv have expressed concerns about this policy to a number of Israeli officials: we fear that rather than acting as a deterrent, it has the potential to increase tension. We believe that a stable, well functioning, and fiscally viable Palestinian Authority (PA) is an important contributor to stability, and that it is in Israel's own interests to secure this stability. As part of this, it is important Israel carries out the regular monthly transfer of tax revenues it collects on behalf of the PA in line with its international obligations.

Prisons

Asked by Baroness Corston

To ask Her Majesty's Government what the decision-making criteria are for the closure and sale of prisons as part of their prison building programme. [HL986]

Earl of Courtown: Prisons are selected for closure through a well-established process including an economic analysis that identifies those prisons that are no longer fit for purpose in the modern prison estate and/or are most expensive to operate or maintain. The assessment also considers the impact of closure on the ability of the National Offender Management Service to deliver its business effectively.

Following a decision to close a prison and it subsequently being decommissioned the Ministry of Justice will prepare the site for disposal. At that stage, the Ministry of Justice will work closely with the local authority and others, on future options for the site. No decisions have yet been made about closures, other than those already announced.

Royal Artillery Museum

Asked by Lord Hutton of Furness

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they plan to take to ensure continued public access to the archives and collections of the Royal Artillery museum once the existing site at Woolwich is closed. [HL1128]

Earl Howe: Regimental museums are provided and sustained by individual Regiments. However, I understand that the Royal Artillery intends to follow the precedent set by the National Army Museum, which is to close all access to the archives and collections during the transition of the Royal Artillery Museum to a new location. I understand that the Royal Artillery is examining ways to provide some access to a limited selection of archive materials whilst it develops longer term plans.

Slavery

Asked by Baroness Doocey

To ask Her Majesty's Government when and how local authority chief executives have been informed about their statutory duty to notify information about suspected victims of slavery or human trafficking under section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015. [HL1040]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: On 7 November, the day that s52 of the Act came into Force, the Government issued full guidance on GOV.UK. A circular providing information to all bodies subject to the duty, including local authority Chief Executives, was sent the next day. Further communications to raise awareness of the Duty to Notify are planned this summer.

St Helena: Transport

Asked by Lord Shutt of Greetland

To ask Her Majesty's Government what research they have undertaken as a direct consequence of the recommendations and observations regarding operational limitations set out in paragraphs 7.57–7.82 and 13.133 of the 2005 report by Atkins Management Consultants St Helena Access Feasibility Study: Final Report. [HL1001]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The operational limitations set out in paragraphs 7.57 to 7.67 of the Atkins' Feasibility Study refer to work undertaken to assess the feasibility of a 1,400 m landing runway. This option was not adopted and the St Helena Airport has landing runways of 1,550 m from the north, and 1,535 m from the south. This addresses the limitation referred to. With regard to cargo provision, the proposed Comair flights were to have carried a minimum of one tonne of air freight, and the St Helena Government has already entered into a contract for sea freight on a commercial basis.

Paragraphs 7.68 to 7.81 concern the procurement of an air service which was undertaken through competitive tender in 2014 and resulted in the appointment of Comair to provide scheduled services.

Paragraphs 7.82 and 13.113 both refer to the requirement for flight trials to be carried out. Flight trials were undertaken on 2 May 2007 and concluded that turbulence at the North and South ends of the runway was acceptable.

UNRWA

Asked by Baroness Tonge

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they plan to take to ensure that UNRWA has adequate funding for the annual Children's Summer Camp in Gaza this year. [HL1002]

Baroness Anelay of St Johns: The UK is a long-term supporter of UNRWA, between 2011 and 2015, DFID provided just over £200m to UNRWA, including £63.5 million in 2015/16.

The UK regularly engages in discussion with UNRWA and other donors about UNRWA's financial situation. We are aware of the budget shortfall for children's summer camps in Gaza this summer. The UK remains committed to support UNRWA and my officials remain in close and regular dialogue with UNRWA about its funding position.

Index to Statements and Answers

| | |
|--|----------|
| Written Statements..... | 1 |
| Community Sponsorship | 1 |
| Machinery of Government Changes..... | 1 |
| Members' Finance Scheme | 2 |
| Written Answers..... | 3 |
| Arts: Youth Organisations..... | 3 |
| Community Rehabilitation Companies | 3 |
| Females: Offenders..... | 3 |
| Gambling: Internet..... | 3 |
| Genocide..... | 4 |
| Heathrow Airport: Air Pollution | 4 |
| Human Trafficking: Children | 4 |
| Israel: Palestinians | 4 |
| Prisons | 5 |
| Royal Artillery Museum..... | 5 |
| Slavery..... | 5 |
| St Helena: Transport..... | 5 |
| UNRWA..... | 5 |