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Notes:

Questions marked thus **[R]** indicate that a relevant interest has been declared.

Questions with identification numbers of **900000 or greater** indicate that the question was originally tabled as an oral question and has since been unstarred.

ANSWERS

BUSINESS, INNOVATION AND SKILLS

■ Apprentices: Taxation

Karen Lumley:

[\[40284\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of the new Apprenticeship Levy on the number of apprenticeship start-ups from September 2016.

Nick Boles:

The Department does not produce forecasts for apprenticeship starts. Apprenticeships are paid jobs and their availability is dependent on employers offering opportunities and hiring apprentices.

The levy will fund a step-change in apprenticeship numbers and quality – delivering on our commitment to 3 million new apprenticeship starts in England by 2020. It will put apprenticeship funding on a sustainable footing and improve the technical and professional skills of the workforce.

It will encourage employers to invest in their apprentices and take on more. Employers in England who pay the levy and are committed to apprenticeships training will be able to get out more than they pay in to the levy through a top-up of additional funding to their digital accounts. The government will apply a 10% top-up to monthly funds entering levy paying employers digital accounts, for apprenticeship training in England, from April 2017. Apprentices who have been accepted on to an apprenticeship before April 2017 will be funded for the full term of the apprenticeship under the terms and conditions that were in place at the time their apprenticeship started.

■ Automation

Adam Afriyie:

[\[40325\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, whether his Department has made an estimate of the potential number of jobs which will be replaced by automation over the next two decades.

Nick Boles:

The Department has not made a specific forecast of how many jobs will be replaced (or how many additional jobs will be created) over the next two decades due to automation. However, the Government's Horizon Scanning Programme exploring the impacts of automation on the labour market, and engaging with our international partners.

Government is taking action to provide individuals with the skills that will help prepare them for changes to the labour market, such as the new school computing curriculum, developing new apprenticeship standards, growing the apprenticeships programme, and introducing the Institute for Coding.

■ Counterfeit Manufacturing: Domestic Appliances

Yvonne Fovargue:

[38446]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps his Department is taking to raise awareness of the dangers of purchasing counterfeit electrical goods.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

[Holding answer 6 June 2016]: The Intellectual Property Office does not undertake any awareness raising activities that specifically highlight the dangers of purchasing counterfeit electrical goods.

The Intellectual Property Office works with partners including trading standards, Border Force and industry on a range of initiatives to tackle IP crime. . These initiatives include outreach campaigns aimed at consumers and workplaces, as well as enforcement action and support for businesses. They are not however focused on counterfeit electrical goods in isolation.

Yvonne Fovargue:

[38447]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what meetings he has had with (a) Amazon, (b) eBay and (c) other online retailers on the prevention of the sale of counterfeit electrical goods in the UK.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

[Holding answer 6 June 2016]: Details of Ministerial meetings, are published quarterly on gov.uk at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?keywords=ministerial+meetings&publication_filter_option=transparency-data&topics%5B%5D=all&departments%5B%5D=all&official_document_status=all&world_locations%5B%5D=all&from_date=&to_date=

■ Counterfeit Manufacturing: Electronic Equipment

Carolyn Harris:

[38203]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, if he will estimate the number of counterfeit electrical goods that were sold in the UK in each of the last three years.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Government does not hold data estimating the number of counterfeit electrical goods that were sold in the UK during the last 3 years.

Carolyn Harris:

[38204]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps his Department is taking to prevent counterfeit electrical goods being sold in the UK; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Intellectual Property Office (IPO) works closely with law enforcement, government and industry partners such as the Police IP Crime Unit, Trading Standards and Border Force to prevent counterfeit electrical goods from being sold in the UK. In 2014-15, Border Force detained over 1.6 million IP infringing items in total. Industry initiatives such as the Real Deal have also reduced the availability of counterfeit electrical goods at local markets.

In February 2015 the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills pledged an extra £400,000 to help trading standards officers prevent dangerous goods, many of which are counterfeit, being sold in the UK, and this includes £182,000 for its ports and borders project which is improving surveillance at Southampton and Felixstowe ports. This has resulted in 487,000 products being intercepted at the border and a further 1,100,575 non-compliant products identified and addressed.

Ongoing joint enforcement initiatives also include Operation Jasper, which is tackling the use of social media to sell counterfeit goods, and work by National Trading Standards and the IPO Intelligence Hub to deal with the risks posed by 'fulfilment houses' that supply many items purchased online.

Carolyn Harris:[\[38205\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, how many fines were issued for the sale of counterfeit electrical products in (a) 2013-14, (b) 2014-15 and (c) 2015-16.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Government does not hold data on the number of fines that have been issued for offences related to the sale of counterfeit items.

The IP Crime Report does contain data on the number of cautions and convictions for IP offences in England and Wales from 2002 – 2014. According to Ministry Of Justice data, during 2014 456 people were found guilty of offences under the Trade Mark Act and 61 under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act.

Carolyn Harris:[\[38206\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what penalties there are for selling counterfeit electrical products.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

Sale of counterfeit items may be prosecuted under trade mark and/or design legislation. These offences can be heard in the Magistrates or the Crown Court. The maximum sentence in the Magistrates is 6 months imprisonment and/or a £5,000 fine. The maximum sentence in the Crown Court is 10 years imprisonment and/or an unlimited fine.

■ **Counterfeit Manufacturing: Internet**

Carolyn Harris:

[38165]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps he is taking to reduce the number of counterfeit electrical goods being sold online in order better to protect consumers; and whether he plans to bring forward legislative proposals to help reduce that number.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Government takes the issue of IP infringement seriously, including in relation to counterfeit electrical goods, and is working with industry and law enforcement agencies on a number of initiatives to tackle this issue.

The Police IP Crime Unit was launched in September 2013 and has had significant impact having arrested over 60 people and suspended over 5,000 internet domain names. In 2014/15 Border Force detained over 1.6 million IP infringing items. If genuine the retail value of these items would have been in excess of £56 million. Ongoing enforcement initiatives include Operation Jasper, which is tackling the use of social media to sell counterfeit items, and work by National Trading Standards and the IPO Intelligence Hub to deal with the risks posed by 'fulfilment houses' that supply many items purchased online.

The Government keeps the regulatory framework under review but believes the existing legislative framework enables the appropriate action to be taken against suppliers of counterfeit goods.

Carolyn Harris:

[38207]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, if he will make an assessment of the effect of the growing use of online shopping on the incidence of sales of counterfeit electrical products.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Government has no plans to make an assessment of the effect of the growing use of online shopping on the incidence of sales of counterfeit electrical products. However, we have commissioned research into the sale of counterfeits through online platforms such as social media websites.

The IP Crime Group which is comprised of representatives from private sector, law enforcement agencies and government departments publishes an annual report into IP crime in the UK. The Crime Report contains a survey of Trading Standards departments and they report that in 2014/15 electrical items were the seventh most investigated product. The survey also reports that websites and online auction sites are two of the locations most investigated for counterfeit goods in 2014/15.

IP Crime Report - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/annual-ip-crime-report-2014-to-2015>

■ Department for Business, Innovation and Skills: Staff

Louise Haigh:

[39462]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, how much was spent on non-payroll staff in his Department in 2015-16.

Joseph Johnson:

In 2015-16, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) spent £7.3m on non-payroll staff, which represents 4.7% of the total paybill. This includes agency staff, specialist contractors, Interim Managers, consultants and consultancy costs.

BIS has a clear strategy to reduce our costs for agency and contractor spend by at least 20% over the current Spending Review period.

TREASURY

■ Child Benefit

Marion Fellows:

[40400]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, for what reasons the income of the highest-earning parent is used to assess eligibility for child benefit rather than the joint incomes of both parents.

Damian Hinds:

If the Government were to use total household income as the criteria for the High Income Child Benefit Charge on households, this would require collecting information of the incomes of everyone in each of the eight million households receiving Child Benefit. This would effectively introduce a new means test. The Government's approach withdraws Child Benefit from those on high incomes, whilst having no impact on the majority of claimants.

COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

■ Kingston upon Hull City Council

Diana Johnson:

[40188]

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, pursuant to the Oral Answer of 6 June 2016, Official Report, column 825, what the source is for the comments attributed to the Leader of Hull City Council.

Greg Clark:

[Holding answer 14 June 2016]: The source was the Hull Daily Mail on the 4th February 2016. The full article can be found through the following link:

<http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/Hull-people-happy-UK-average-official-statistics/story-28672567-detail/story.html>

CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT

■ Cabinet Office: Publications

Andrew Gwynne:

[40336]

To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, how many copies of The Gazette at what cost are printed each day.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Gazette (<https://www.thegazette.co.uk/>) is the UK's official public record and is published by Authority. First printed in 1665, The Gazette has evolved into a sophisticated online digital platform that is accessed and used by tens of thousands of commercial organisations, local and central government, and the general public, every day.

Some notices are required by statute to be published in The Gazette, whilst others are placed voluntarily, to put official information permanently on the public record and in the public domain, including state notices such as the Queen's Birthday and New Year Honours; insolvency notices such as bankruptcy and winding up orders; legal notices relating to probate and deceased estates; public sector notices; and other notices such as the dissolution of companies or recording a change of name by deed poll.

Today, most people access and use The Gazette online. Online access to all published notices (including an archive of notices) is free, and users can easily download a pdf of the latest Gazette and print it for free. Libraries get a free pdf copy which they can make available for readers to view or print. Additionally, printed copies can be ordered from The Stationery Office at a small cost.

The London Gazette has an average daily print run of 114 copies. The Belfast Gazette has an average weekly print run of 91. The Edinburgh Gazette is printed twice a week, and has an average print run of 165. The publicly procured concession contract under which the Gazette is produced is subject to commercial confidentiality. A link to the contract can be found at <https://data.gov.uk/data/contracts-finder-archive/contract/749253/>.

DEFENCE

■ Armed Forces: Complaints

Kirsten Oswald:

[40240]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what interim milestones he has set for the armed forces to improve their response time to complaints to the target level of 90 per cent closed within 24 weeks.

Mark Lancaster:

The Secretary of State for Defence has set no interim milestones. The single Services continually monitor and assess the performance of the service complaints system to learn lessons, and to understand what might be causing Service personnel to make

complaints. Where it is identified that there are issues that are causing undue delay in the resolution of complaints, action can be taken to prevent this from occurring in the future.

■ Armed Forces: Information Warfare

Jim Shannon: [\[40340\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what expertise on Russia is required of members of the 77th Brigade; what the operational deployment standards are of that brigade; and how many members of that brigade were recruited from the Reserves.

Penny Mordaunt:

Russia is just one of a wide range of different nations that elements of 77th Brigade are studying in order to develop a deep understanding of their approach to operations. The focus is on specific aspects of these countries' operational concepts and doctrine including information warfare and the use of non-military means.

As is normal for operational deployments overseas, personnel will only deploy once they have met standards laid down for each theatre by the Joint Commander.

There are currently 141 reserve personnel serving with 77th Brigade.

Jim Shannon: [\[40341\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, which languages to what level members of the 77th Brigade speak.

Penny Mordaunt:

77th Brigade does not specifically select personnel for language capability. However, personnel within the brigade hold 59 'standard level profile' (GCSE - to master's degree level) qualifications in languages including Dari, Pashtu, Russian and Urdu. Some personnel hold more than one of these qualifications.

Jim Shannon: [\[40342\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many members of the (a) Royal Navy and (b) Royal Air Force are deployed to the 77th Brigade.

Penny Mordaunt:

77th Brigade includes 10 members of the Naval Service (Royal Navy and Royal Marines) and 11 Royal Air Force personnel.

Jim Shannon: [\[40343\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the doctrine and concepts are of the 77th Brigade; and how those doctrines and concepts were developed.

Penny Mordaunt:

Doctrine provides the philosophy and enduring principles by which military forces guide their actions. 77th Brigade uses a combination of NATO and UK doctrine including for Civil Military Cooperation, Security, Stabilisation, Information and Media Operations, as well as Peace Support and Humanitarian Assistance.

The doctrine applied by 77th Brigade has been developed through collaboration with NATO allies, within the UK military and with other Government Departments. It will also have called on the experience and expertise of other nations and academia. The doctrine is dynamic, being constantly tested against experience, and crafted for a contemporary environment, and will therefore continue to develop as new or anticipated challenges appear.

Jim Shannon: [\[40344\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what discussions he has had with his (a) US counterpart and (b) other NATO counterparts on the role of the 77th Brigade.

Penny Mordaunt:

None.

Jim Shannon: [\[40345\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what (a) exercises and (b) deployments the 77th Brigade has conducted in each of the last three years.

Penny Mordaunt:

Since 77th Brigade was formed in April 2015, 116 personnel have deployed on 30 exercises, the vast majority of which have been UK based; 20 personnel have deployed on four separate operations; and a further 23 personnel have deployed non-operationally as part of Short Term Training Teams to five countries.

Jim Shannon: [\[40346\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether 77th Brigade's full operating capability has been met.

Penny Mordaunt:

Following its establishment in April 2015, 77th Brigade is planned to reach full operating capability in December 2019.

■ AWE Blacknest

Paul Flynn: [\[40354\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether he plans to extend the remit of his Department's Blacknest verification centre to verify nuclear disarmament and warhead dismantlement.

Mr Philip Dunne:

There are no plans to expand the remit of the Blacknest facility, which is primarily concerned with fulfilling the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty UK national data centre requirements.

■ Military Aircraft

Andrew Gwynne: [\[40378\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many and what proportion of aircraft in the Voyager surge fleet has been used by the Royal Air Force in each month since the first aircraft of that fleet was delivered.

Mr Philip Dunne:

Voyager surge aircraft are owned by AirTanker Services Ltd and leased to civil airlines. No Voyager surge aircraft have been recalled to the military aircraft register for use by the Royal Air Force's Voyager Squadrons. However, there have been seven occasions when Civilian registered Voyager surge aircraft have been chartered for individual tasks to transport troops.

■ Ministry of Defence Police: Staff

Deidre Brock: [\[40416\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what changes his Department plans to make to the size of the workforce of the Ministry of Defence Police.

Mr Julian Brazier:

The Department plans to recruit around 260 new police officers to the Ministry of Defence Police during the course of 2016-17 to offset anticipated attrition rates and maintain sufficient resource to the level of tasking required.

■ Ministry of Defence Police: Trident

Deidre Brock: [\[40414\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment he has made of the effect of changes to the size of the workforce of the Ministry of Defence Police on (a) public safety and (b) safeguarding the Trident nuclear deterrent.

Mark Lancaster:

The safety and security at all of our nuclear facilities is of the utmost importance and the Ministry of Defence has several security providers which deliver this capability. Our arrangements are frequently tested and kept under continual review. We would never make changes that would place these in jeopardy.

Deidre Brock: [\[40415\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many Ministry of Defence Police officers are employed in safeguarding the Trident nuclear deterrent.

Mark Lancaster:

I am withholding the numbers of Ministry of Defence Police officers deployed to protect the Trident nuclear deterrent for the purpose of safeguarding national security.

■ Saudi Arabia: Cluster Munitions

Margaret Ferrier: [\[40457\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, pursuant to the oral contribution of the Minister for Europe on 8 June 2016, Official Report, column 137WH, when the UK last maintained cluster munitions held by Saudi Arabia.

Michael Fallon:

The UK has never maintained cluster munitions held by Saudi Arabia.

■ Trident

Deidre Brock: [\[40417\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the annual cost is of safeguarding the Trident nuclear deterrent.

Mr Philip Dunne:

The Department does not cost the safeguarding and security of individual capabilities. Given the multi-layered make up of security arrangements protecting the deterrent, overlapping with those of wider defence personnel and capabilities, identifying accurate costs could be achieved only at disproportionate cost.

The in-service costs of the UK's nuclear deterrent, including the costs of safeguarding, is estimated to be around six per cent of the annual defence budget.

EDUCATION**■ Children in Care**

Craig Whittaker: [\[40397\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what information her Department holds on the number of young people who are cared for in (a) local authority-run and (b) private or voluntary sector children's homes in each local authority area.

Edward Timpson:

The information requested is attached.

Attachments:

1. Looked_after_children_31_March_2015 [40397_Children_Looked_After_2015.xls]

■ Education: Assessments

Craig Whittaker: [\[40393\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps her Department is taking to close attainment gaps between the best and worst performing local authority areas as judged by GCSE and A Level results.

Nick Gibb:

Our recent White Paper, 'Educational Excellence Everywhere', set out our intention to place a new focus on 'Achieving Excellence Areas' where too few children have access to a good school and there are insufficient high quality teachers, leaders, system leaders and sponsors. By doing this we will enable the school-led system to deliver rapid and sustainable improvement.

We want to eradicate the pockets of underperformance in our school system and will do so by targeting the Department for Education's programmes in the areas of greatest need. We intend to pilot this approach from September 2016.

■ Languages: Qualifications

Rushanara Ali:

[40316]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many foreign languages have been available at (a) GCSE and (b) A-Level in each of the last 10 years; and how many such languages will be available at both levels of examination in each of the next three academic years.

Nick Gibb:

Full historical data about all qualifications (including GCSEs and A levels in modern foreign languages) and the respective dates when they were available to pupils across England are available at <http://www.education.gov.uk/section96/download.shtml>.

The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) maintains a register of current, withdrawn and expired regulated qualifications and their operational start and end dates. The register includes qualifications available in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and is available at <http://register.ofqual.gov.uk/>.

19 modern foreign languages are available to students starting courses in September 2016. These are: Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Modern Greek, Gujarati, Modern Hebrew, Italian, Japanese, Panjabi, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Turkish and Urdu. Classical languages - classical Greek, Latin and Biblical Hebrew - are also available.

We expect all of these, except Dutch, to continue to be available for students starting courses in September 2017 and September 2018.

■ Pupils: Bullying

Craig Whittaker:

[40382]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what funding her Department has allocated to schools in (a) Calderdale and (b) West Yorkshire to tackle bullying in the last (i) 12 months and (ii) five years.

Edward Timpson:

The Government continues to make tackling all forms of bullying a top priority. All schools are required by law to have a behaviour policy with measures to tackle bullying

among pupils. While they are free to develop their own anti-bullying strategies they are held clearly to account for their effectiveness through Ofsted.

School funding to prevent and tackle bullying is part of their overall funding allocation, and is not separately identified at school or local authority level. In addition, the Department has directly funded a number of national anti-bullying organisations, supporting their work within schools across England to combat bullying.

In 2015/16 we provided around £1.3 million to various anti-bullying charities including the Diana Award, Kidscape and the National Children's Bureau (hosted by the Anti-bullying Alliance). These organisations train teachers and pupils in schools to prevent bullying and deal with its impact when it occurs so that bullied children do not suffer continuing distress. Additionally in the past 12 months we have supported the Government Equalities Office (GEO) to deliver a £2 million grant programme aimed at combatting homophobic bullying in schools.

Between 2011 and 2016 we provided over £6.6 million to these and other charities to help them to support schools to support pupils who are bullied and to develop strategies to prevent bullying from happening.

The Department and GEO will both be funding further projects this year.

■ Schools: Vacancies

Imran Hussain:

[40352]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how her Department collects the vacancy rates of individual (a) maintained schools and (b) academies.

Nick Gibb:

The number of full-time vacant teaching posts in state funded schools (both maintained schools and academy schools) in England is available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/school-workforce-in-england-november-2014>

The information is provided by schools as part of the annual School Workforce Census which is carried out in November each year. As part of this census, all state funded schools (maintained schools and academies) in England provide to the Department the number of vacant teaching posts that exist in November. The data is published in the following June.

The following vacant posts, for all grades of teacher (classroom teacher to head teacher), should be reported by the school:

Posts that are either vacant or are filled by a teacher on a contract of less than a term's duration,

Vacancies that the school has tried to fill but which were not filled on the November census day,

Vacancies where an appointment has been made but the appointee was not in post on the census day.

The following are excluded:

Vacancies that did not become vacant until after the census day, for example, where a teacher has resigned but is serving notice.

The vacancy rate is then calculated as the ratio of the number of vacant posts to the number of teaching posts.

■ Special Educational Needs: Extended Schools

Jess Phillips:

[40399]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many special needs schools offer (a) before-school care, (b) after-school care and (c) both before and after-school care in England; and what proportion of special needs schools each of those numbers represents.

Edward Timpson:

This data was collected for the first time in the January 2016 school census. Later this year we will update the school performance tables and plan to publish alongside them information about all schools' childcare provision including breakfast clubs. This will include information on all state funded and non-maintained special schools.

■ Teachers: Bureaucracy

Karen Lumley:

[40285]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment she has made of the extent of changes in the workload of teachers arising from the new Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 testing regime.

Nick Gibb:

The removal of unnecessary workload is a priority for this Department and is considered carefully when introducing any significant change for schools. Our primary assessment reforms have been designed to put arrangements for the majority of classroom assessment back into the hands of the school and to reduce the tracking burdens that national curriculum levels previously encouraged. We believe schools are best placed to decide how to assess pupils in line with their curriculum and that over time this should lead to a reduction in workload for teachers.

Following the introduction of the new national curriculum and the removal of levels, we have developed new forms of statutory assessment at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2. The duty to report assessment at these points remains unchanged from previous years. We do recognise, however, that in this first year of the new forms of assessment teachers will be adapting their approach. Significant reforms like take time to embed and the best way to prepare pupils remains to focus on teaching the core knowledge set by new national curriculum, which schools have been doing since September 2014.

Throughout the introduction of our important reforms to primary assessment, we have worked closely with teachers and head teachers and continue to listen to the concerns of the profession as the details of the new arrangements are finalised. We are working

constructively with the teaching profession and their representatives to find solutions to some of the remaining issues.

■ Teachers: Pay

Mr Jim Cunningham: [40302]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what comparative assessment she has made of trends in teachers' salaries and the average salary in the UK in each of the last five years; and if she will make a statement.

Nick Gibb:

On 4 December 2015, the Department published its most recent assessment of median teachers' pay compared to that of graduates employed in the private sector in England. The pay of graduates in the private sector has been used because teaching is a graduate job and therefore provides a better comparator than an average of pay across all jobs in the UK economy. The comparative assessment was included in the evidence that government submitted to the School Teachers Review Body (STRB). The comparative assessment can be found in figure 11 on page 45 of the publication, available here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/482257/STRB_government_evidence_2016_pay_award.pdf.

■ Teachers: Resignations

Mr Jim Cunningham: [40307]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment her Department has made of the number of teachers who have left that profession in each of the last five years; and if she will make a statement.

Nick Gibb:

Statistics showing the number of teachers that leave state funded schools in England in each year can be found in table c1b of the additional tables, available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/school-workforce-in-england-november-2014>

The total number of FTE teachers leaving in any one year includes those who are retiring, those moving to schools elsewhere in the UK, those moving to other education sectors (e.g. Independent schools or further education), those on maternity leave/career break (some of whom do return) and those leaving the profession.

During the same period (2013 to 2014), 44,900 FTE teachers entered service in a state funded school. This is equivalent to 10.3% of teachers. The rate of entry of teachers has been higher than the rate of those leaving throughout the period of 2010 to 2014. In 2014, 14,100 FTE teachers returned to the profession.

These statistics are sourced from the annual School Workforce Census and the next update is scheduled for June 30th 2016.

ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS**■ Climate Change**

Barry Gardiner: [\[40434\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, which authorities she has directed since May 2015 to prepare a report assessing and managing their level of climate risk under Section 62 of the Climate Change Act 2008.

Rory Stewart:

No direction has been issued since May 2015 under Section 62 of the Climate Change Act 2008. As required by Section 65 of the Act, the second strategy for exercising the power under Section 62 of the Act (the adaptation reporting power) was published alongside the first National Adaptation Programme report in July 2013. The strategy and the list of organisations invited to provide reports between 2013 and 2016 can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/adapting-to-climate-change-2013-strategy-for-exercising-the-adaptation-reporting-power>.

■ Fly-tipping

Craig Whittaker: [\[40394\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to encourage local authorities to adopt proactive enforcement policies to help combat fly-tipping.

Rory Stewart:

We are committed to tackling fly-tipping, and as set out in the Government's manifesto we have given local authorities the power to issue fixed penalty notices for small-scale fly-tipping. These new enforcement tools provide local authorities with an alternative to prosecutions and will assist them to take a proportionate enforcement response.

This builds on other Government action to tackle fly-tipping, which has included: working with the Sentencing Council on its guideline for sentencing for environmental offences, which came into force on 1 July 2014; making it easier for vehicles suspected of being involved in waste crime to be stopped, searched and seized; and continuing our work with the Defra-chaired National Fly-Tipping Prevention Group to promote and disseminate good practice in the prevention, reporting, investigation and clearance of fly-tipped waste.

■ Recycling

Craig Whittaker: [\[40395\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to encourage recycling by local authorities.

Rory Stewart:

I refer the hon Member to the reply given to the hon. Member for Hornsey and Wood Green, Catherine West, on 8 June 2016, PQ UIN 38978.

■ Waste and Resources Action Programme

Mr Jim Cunningham: [\[40412\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, pursuant to the Answer of 7 June 2016 to Question 38501, when she plans to finalise the budget allocation for the Waste and Resources Action Programme for the financial years beyond 2016-17; and if she will make a statement.

Rory Stewart:

Defra's funding allocation to the Waste and Resources Action Programme is agreed on an annual basis and will be considered during the business planning process in the autumn, aiming to be finalised in March for the following financial year.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE**■ Asia: Climate Change**

Chris Law: [\[40245\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, with reference to the Answer of 26 April 2016 to Question 35542, on Asia: climate change, if he will draw to the attention of the Department for Energy and Climate Change the report to which he refers in that Answer.

Mr Hugo Swire:

We have drawn the report prepared by the International Campaign for Tibet entitled "Tibet's water and global climate change" to the attention of the Department for Energy and Climate Change.

■ Brazil: Olympic Games

Craig Whittaker: [\[40396\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what discussions he has had with the Brazilian government on ensuring adequate security for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Mr Hugo Swire:

I refer my hon. Friend to my answer of 29 May given in response to PQ 38251.

■ China: Tibet

David Mackintosh: [\[40200\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if he will make representations to his Chinese counterpart on releasing the Tibetan blogger Druklo.

Mr Hugo Swire:

We plan to raise the case of Druklo (also known as Shokjang) at the next round of the UK-China human rights dialogue.

David Mackintosh:

[\[40201\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what representations he has made to the Chinese government on the detention and charging of Tibetan education advocate Tashi Wangchuk; and what response he has received to those representations.

Mr Hugo Swire:

We plan to raise the case of Tashi Wangchuk at the next round of the UK-China human rights dialogue.

David Mackintosh:

[\[40229\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if he will make representations to his Chinese counterpart for the release of Tashi Wangchuk.

Mr Hugo Swire:

We plan to raise the case of Tashi Wangchuk at the next round of the UK-China human rights dialogue.

■ **Dalai Lama**

Chris Law:

[\[40268\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if he will make it his policy not to recognise any future Dalai Lama where that person has been selected by the Chinese government.

Mr Hugo Swire:

I refer the Hon. Member to my answer to his question of 26 April (35532). The Government does not have a policy on the reincarnation of Tibetan Lamas, which includes the Dalai Lama.

■ **Fiji: Russia**

Toby Perkins:

[\[40219\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent reports he has received of delivery of arms by Russia to Fiji.

Mr Hugo Swire:

The Republic of Fiji Military Forces received a shipment of small arms, ammunition and mobile repair workshops from Russia in January. The equipment is consistent with that required to support Fiji's deployments to international peacekeeping operations in Golan, Lebanon, Sinai, and South Sudan.

■ **Sudan: Intelligence Services**

Mark Durkan:

[\[40436\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what assessment he has made of whether the Sudan's National Intelligence and Security Services had a role in the recent deaths of student protestors.

James Duddridge:

We are deeply concerned by the deaths of two students during recent protests, including allegations of the National Intelligence and Security Service's involvement. We have raised our concerns with the Government of Sudan and believe that a full and transparent investigation should be undertaken to ensure those responsible are held to account.

HEALTH■ **Brain: Tumours**

Rushanara Ali: [\[40315\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many applications for brain tumour research were made to the National Institute for Health Research in the last 24 months; and how many of those applications were successful.

George Freeman:

In the last 24 months, 12 brain tumour research applications have been submitted to National Institute for Health Research programmes and fellowship schemes. Three are under review and nine have been rejected.

I am convening a Task and Finish Working Group on Brain Tumour Research to bring together clinicians, charities and officials to discuss how, working together with research funding partners, we can address the need to increase the level and impact of brain tumour research.

■ **Dental Services**

Charlotte Leslie: [\[40380\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what assessment he has made of the adequacy of the mechanisms in place for patients to pursue complaints against dentists who leave the country before the General Dental Council can investigate.

Ben Gummer:

The General Dental Council (GDC) is an independent statutory body. As the regulator of all registered dentists it has the power to take fitness to practise action, and investigate any complaints made against a dentist who is currently registered with the GDC. The Professional Standards Authority conducts annual reviews of the GDC's fitness to practise process, to ensure it meets the set professional standards. The Dental Complaints Service, run by the GDC, can assist in resolving complaints raised about private dental treatment provided by all GDC registered dentists in the United Kingdom. Furthermore, if a dentist is registered with the GDC, the GDC has the power to investigate that dentist, whether they are in the UK or not. Therefore, if a dentist is registered with the GDC and was working in the UK but returned to their home country, the GDC would be able to take action. If the dentist does not hold a current registration with the GDC, the GDC cannot investigate further, but an unregistered dentist, whether

they have a complaint against them or not, cannot practise in the UK, which ensures UK patient safety, and maintains professional standards.

■ Junior Doctors

Craig Whittaker:

[\[40398\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many junior doctors were employed by the NHS in (a) West Yorkshire and (b) England in each of the last five years.

Ben Gummer:

The information is shown in the following table:

Doctors in Training as at 30 September between 2011 and 2015 in England and Yorkshire and Humber

YEAR	ENGLAND	YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER
2011	50,059	5,124
2012	50,318	5,024
2013	51,013	4,994
2014	51,686	4,944
2015	51,308	4,895

Source : NHS Workforce Statistics, February 2016, published by Health and Social Care Information Centre

Notes:

1. The figures include Specialty Registrars, Core Medical Training, Core Dental Training, Foundation Doctor Years 1 and 2.
1. Figures are published in Health Education England regions. Yorkshire and Humber region includes figures for West Yorkshire.

■ NHS: Sustainable Development

Justin Madders:

[\[40377\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what recent representations he has received from Sustainability and Transformation Plan leadership teams on the deadline for delivery of Sustainability and Transformation Plans.

George Freeman:

Footprints were asked to make a submission by 15 April focusing on the critical decisions needed to drive sustainability and transformation. The next checkpoint will be on 30 June, when each footprint will submit the next draft of their plans. These will form the basis of a conversation with each of the 44 footprints. We are not aware of any representations on this deadline.

HOME OFFICE■ **Borders: Personal Records**

Gareth Thomas: [\[39493\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she has taken steps to make advance passenger information available to Border Force general maritime officers; and if she will make a statement.

Gareth Thomas: [\[40057\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether she plans to introduce compulsory advanced notification for (a) commercial and (b) pleasure craft of arrival in the UK; and if she will make a statement.

James Brokenshire:

[Holding answer 13 June 2016]: The security of our border remains a absolute priority. Border Force works closely with domestic and international partners on an intelligence-led approach to identify unlawful maritime activity including facilitation and illegal entry.

Information on vessels travelling to and from the UK is collected from a range of sources and analysed at the National Maritime Information Centre. The Government keeps all options relating to advance notification requirements under review and will continue to ensure proportionate measures are in place to secure our border.

■ **Cybercrime: Young People**

Mr Barry Sheerman: [\[38297\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether her Department has received representations from professionals working in criminal justice on the appropriate punishment for young people who have committed cyber crimes.

Mr John Hayes:

The Home Office have not received any representations from professionals working in criminal justice on the appropriate punishment for young people who have committed cyber crimes.

The Computer Misuse Act 1990 provides the legislative framework for cyber offences and sets out the sentencing for each of the five offences. Determination of sentencing guidelines is a matter for the Ministry of Justice.

■ **Detainees: Children**

Rushanara Ali: [\[40318\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children in England have been detained in immigration removal centres in each year since 2015; how many of those children so detained have been deported; and how many children are still in detention.

James Brokenshire:

In 2015, 133 children left detention, of which: 50 were removed, 81 were granted temporary admission or release and 2 for other reasons. As at 31 December there were no children held in detention.

The Home Office publishes quarterly and annual statistics on the number of persons removed or departed voluntarily from the UK within Immigration Statistics. Information on those leaving detention is available in the latest release, Immigration Statistics: January to March 2016, table dt_09 from GOV.UK on the statistics web pages at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/series/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>.

■ Home Office: Pay**Louise Haigh:**[\[39403\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many civil servants in her Department are paid through limited companies.

James Brokenshire:

The Home Office have no civil servants employed that are paid through limited companies.

■ Islam: Culture**Andrew Rosindell:**[\[38374\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment her Department has made of the potential link between the foreign-funded Islamic cultural centres in the UK and the Muslim Brotherhood; and if she will make a statement.

Karen Bradley:

HM Government does not collect information on the funding of religious institutions in the UK. If such institutions, in England and Wales, are registered charities with the Charity Commission and have an annual income of over £25,000, their accounts are made publically available on the charity's entry on the Public Register of Charities, which is accessible from www.charitycommission.gov.uk

In addition to the requirement to file accounts, the Charity Commission, as the charity regulator in England and Wales, can review and inspect the financial records of charities to ensure that their trustees comply with their duty to account. The Prime Minister last year commissioned a review into the funding of extremism in the UK. This will examine specifically the nature, scale and origin of Islamist extremist activity in the UK including any overseas sources.

In December last year, the Prime Minister commented on the conclusions of the Muslim Brotherhood Review that was commissioned to improve the Government's understanding of the Group. The Government will keep under review the views that are promoted and activities that are undertaken by Muslim Brotherhood associates in the UK.

TRANSPORT■ **Bus Services: Disability**

Dawn Butler: [40319]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will bring before the House legislative proposals on requiring bus companies to instal audio-visual technology to aid visually impaired passengers.

Andrew Jones:

I know that accessible on-board information can give a range of passengers the confidence to use bus services, safe in the knowledge that they will know when to alight.

Previously, the systems to provide such information have been expensive to fit and maintain, but I understand that new technology may make it more affordable.

We are currently considering the most appropriate next steps, but in the meantime I encourage bus operators to consider the benefits of better, more accessible information for all their customers.

■ **Bus Services: Standards**

Mr Jim Cunningham: [40303]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what assessment his Department has made of the timeliness of bus services across England and Wales in each of the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

Andrew Jones:

Bus punctuality data for England are collected and managed by local authorities, and published by the Department for Transport in online statistical tables. Not all local authorities collect bus punctuality data. The Department does not collect or publish bus punctuality data for Wales.

The Department publishes two measures of bus punctuality for frequent and non-frequent bus services. A frequent service is one that has six or more buses per hour. For frequent services, statistics are only available for some local authorities in table BUS0903, available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/463885/bus0903.xls. An England-wide figure is not available.

The proportion of non-frequent bus services in England running on-time is published in table BUS0902, available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/463884/bus0902.xls. The latest statistics show that in 2014/15, 83% of non-frequent services across England ran on-time compared with 81% in 2010/11. 'On-time' is defined as one between 1 minute early and 5 minutes 59 seconds late.

■ Cardiff Central Station

Kevin Brennan: [\[40292\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what recent representations he has received about plans to redevelop Cardiff Central railway station.

Claire Perry:

I am aware of local stakeholder interest in the redevelopment of Cardiff Central Station which was identified by the rail industry in the Welsh Route Study as a choice for funders for the next five year Network Rail funding period (CP6, 2019-2024). I stand ready to discuss with the Welsh Government and the new Cardiff City Region Capital Transport Authority how a potentially viable and fundable scheme for Cardiff Central Station could be developed.

Later this year, the rail industry will present its initial advice on investment needs for the national network, for 2019 onwards. On the basis of this advice, Government intends to articulate its emerging priorities for improvements to the national network during 2017.

■ Cycling: Finance

Daniel Zeichner: [\[40300\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 13 June 2016 to Question 39159, what the figures for his Department's spending on cycling programmes in each year to 2021 are in real terms.

Mr Robert Goodwill:

PROGRAMME	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	TOTAL
Cycling	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Real term spending	£185.20	£199.56	£115.07	£87.98	£54.41	£642.23

We have applied the GDP deflator rates to the figures that were provided in response to the original PQ 37870. It should be noted that the future years GDP deflator rates are estimates only.

Note that the above totals include sums from within current Local Growth Fund allocations. Not all of the Local Growth Fund is currently allocated, so as future allocations of the Local Growth Fund are made to Local Enterprise Partnerships, the amount supporting cycling projects through to 2020/21 is likely to rise.

In addition to the totals above, from within the record £6 billion allocated to local highways authorities between 2015 and 2021 for road maintenance, this funding can help maintain footways and cycleways.

■ Driving Tests: Waiting Lists

Craig Whittaker:

[40334]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what the average waiting time is for a driving test appointment (a) in England, (b) at the Halifax test centre and (c) at the Huddersfield test centre.

Andrew Jones:

The average waits for a practical car driving test appointment in (a) England and (b) at Halifax test centre and (c) at Huddersfield test centre are as follows:

England – 12 weeks

Halifax driving test centre – 18 weeks

Huddersfield driving test centre – 17 weeks

The main cause of current high practical driving test waiting times across the country is a significant and sustained surge in demand for driving tests. The last time there was demand at such high levels was in 2005/6.

To help address the demand, the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency's (DVSA) 2015/16 recruitment campaigns resulted in 193 new examiners starting work at test centres across Britain. A further 48 examiners have started testing since April 2016, and DVSA has made employment offers to an additional 110 people, who are currently either attending the new entrant training course, or waiting to attend one.

The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) also deploys driving examiners between test centres accordingly to help balance variations in demand for tests. Resources have been pooled between Huddersfield, Halifax, Steeton and Skipton, and the DVSA is currently using resource from Huddersfield and Halifax to help service demand at Steeton and Skipton.. There are five new entrant examiners currently attending training who, if successful, will be deployed into Steeton and Skipton. This will have the knock on effect of helping to reduce waiting times at both the Halifax and Huddersfield test centres.

■ Govia Thameslink Railway

Caroline Lucas:

[40384]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will release a copy of the modelling analysis referred to in the GTR Remedial Plan, published on 12 February 2016, on the combined impact of the infrastructure restrictions at London Bridge, the diversion of Thameslink services and the increased use of London Victoria as a terminus on the punctuality and reliability of the network.

Claire Perry:

The results of Network Rail's modelling analysis of the combined impacts of changes to rail operations at London Bridge were discussed with rail operators and the Department for Transport. The Department does not, however, hold a copy of this analysis.

■ **Heathrow Airport**

Adam Afriyie:

[40330]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what steps his Department has taken to assess the potential cost of relocating the Lakeside Energy from Waste Facility in the event of a decision being made to permit the construction of the North West Runway at Heathrow Airport.

Mr Robert Goodwill:

On 14 December 2015, the Government formally announced that it accepted the case for airport expansion in the South-East and agreed with the Airports Commission's shortlist of options. The Government also decided to undertake a package of further work which it anticipates will conclude over the summer. This has included further work to help develop the best possible package of measures for all the shortlisted schemes to mitigate the impacts on local people and the environment.

The decision on a preferred scheme is of huge importance and the Government continues to consider the detailed analysis contained in the Airports Commission's final report before taking any decisions on next steps. The costs associated with the Lakeside Energy from Waste Plant were considered in the Airports Commission's assessment of land acquisition costs in the report "*Cost and Commercial Viability : Cost and Revenue Identification Update Heathrow Airport North West Runway*".

Decisions have not yet been taken on a preferred scheme. However, if the Government was minded to support the North-West runway at Heathrow, the planning and costs of moving the Energy from Waste Plant would be a matter for the airport to take forward with the owners of the site.

■ **Network Rail: Contracts**

Lilian Greenwood:

[40374]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 8 June 2016 to Question 39089, on railway signals, and with reference to Network Rail's press release of 29 May 2014, entitled Britain's rail revolution quickens pace as first contracts for new traffic management technology are awarded, what the reason is for the difference in the values for Network Rail's traffic management first deployment contract.

Claire Perry:

In the 29 May 2014 press release, Network Rail quoted the cost incurred with the supplier, whereas the answer to Question 39089 stated the total deployment cost, which also includes installation and operational costs.

■ Pedestrians: Accidents

Daniel Zeichner:

[40290]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what assessment he has made of the reasons for the increase in pedestrian fatalities between 2013 and 2014.

Andrew Jones:

The Reported Road Casualties in Great Britain: Main Results 2014 statistical report (available at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/438040/reported-road-casualties-in-great-britain-main-results-2014-release.pdf) provides some analysis relating to this topic.

Every death is one too many. However, in terms of a statistical analysis, the specific conclusions outlined in the report are that, despite the rise of pedestrian fatalities in 2014, the increase is unlikely to be statistically significant. This means that the increase is more likely to be explained by natural variation between years in the figures. This type of pattern is typical for rare events (such as the very low number of fatalities per mile walked in Britain) in that the numbers are likely to change between years to a certain degree without having an underlying cause. The Department's estimates indicate that the change observed was within this expected range.

There was also some evidence that the number of fatalities of pedestrians aged 60 or over in 2013 was unusually low. Therefore the increase in fatalities could have been driven by the value returning to the expected or normal level. This is a common phenomenon known as 'regression to the mean' – i.e. that any abnormally large change in statistics (in this case, a sudden decrease in pedestrian fatalities aged 60 or over) will revert back to the normal level after some time.

Although the provisional figures for the year ending September 2015 do not include pedestrian fatalities specifically, the estimate for the number of pedestrians killed or seriously injured (KSI casualties) was 4 per cent lower than for the year ending September 2014. If this is proved true in the final figures for 2015 it will support the hypothesis that there was no identifiable cause for the increase between 2013 and 2014.

■ Railway Signals

Lilian Greenwood:

[40373]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 8 June 2016 to Question 39089, on railway signals, what the scope of work covered by the installation programme is for the (a) Wales and (b) Romford Rail Operating Centre.

Claire Perry:

The scope of works covered by the installation programme at the two Rail Operating Centres includes:

- procurement & installation of hardware and software
- training simulator

- maintenance support
- interface with train control

■ Railway Stations: Calderdale

Craig Whittaker: [\[40375\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what recent representations he has received from Calderdale Council on the construction of a new rail station at Elland.

Claire Perry:

We are aware of aspirations for a new station at Elland but have not received any representations about it from Calderdale Council. The promotion of any new station is a matter for the relevant local transport authority, in this case West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

Craig Whittaker: [\[40376\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what recent representations he has received from Calderdale Council on the construction of a new rail station at Hipperholme.

Claire Perry:

We are aware of aspirations for a new station at Hipperholme but have not received any representations about it from Calderdale Council. The promotion of any new station is a matter for the relevant local transport authority, in this case West Yorkshire Combined Authority.

■ Railways: East of England

Lilian Greenwood: [\[40309\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what recent discussions his Department has had with (a) East Anglia franchise bidders on rolling stock and (b) rolling stock companies on the East Anglia franchise.

Claire Perry:

The procurement process for the operator of the East Anglia franchise is ongoing. We will make an announcement in due course and communications in regards to the rolling stock solution will be made at that point in time.

Lilian Greenwood: [\[40322\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what his Department's policy is on maintaining an intercity standard train service between (a) Norwich and London, (b) Ipswich and London, (c) Colchester and London and (d) Chelmsford and London.

Claire Perry:

In our invitation to tender for the East Anglia franchise we have asked bidders to:

- As a minimum meet the train services we have specified in the invitation to tender and to develop train services that are attractive to passengers within each of the different Market Segments served by the Franchise which includes the Intercity Services that offer long distance rail services between London and Norwich operating on the Great

Eastern Mainline and calling at the stations you mention. This includes train services between Norwich and London that have a journey time of 90 minutes or less each weekday and between Ipswich and London that have a journey time of less than 60 minutes.

- Furthermore they have been asked to implement a rolling stock fleet solution that delivers the train services to consistently high standards of rolling stock availability, reliability and presentation through effective management, maintenance and improvement of rolling stock assets. As a minimum this includes ensuring that all rolling stock that forms part of the Train Fleet is compatible with the infrastructure throughout the Core Franchise Term and any Extension and has an internal lay out and facilities appropriate for the Market Segments served.

I look forward to saying more in the coming weeks.

■ Railways: Standards

Mr Jim Cunningham:

[\[40304\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what assessment his Department has made of the punctuality of railway services across England and Wales in each of the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

Claire Perry:

The Department closely monitors the punctuality of rail services across England and Wales, and holds regular meetings with industry partners during which this issue is discussed.

Punctuality across the network as a whole has fallen over the last five years, although six Train Operating Companies have either improved or maintained their performance levels during that period. We are investing record sums in the network to improve services for passengers, and although inevitably there is a risk of some temporary disruption while these major schemes are being implemented, we have made clear to the industry that we expect them to do all they can to improve the situation.

■ Thameslink Railway Line: Rolling Stock

Lilian Greenwood:

[\[40331\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 26 May 2016 to Question 37807, on Thameslink railway line: rolling stock, whether he expects the Class 700 Thameslink rolling stock to come into revenue-earning service in 2016.

Claire Perry:

The new Class 700 Thameslink trains are expected to enter into revenue earning service shortly.

■ Walking: Finance

Daniel Zeichner:

[\[40301\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 13 June 2016 to Question 39160, what the figures for his Department's spending on walking programmes in each year to 2021 are in real terms.

Mr Robert Goodwill:

PROGRAMME	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	TOTAL
Walking	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Real term spending	£97.00	£88.45	£67.01	£42.10	£21.60	£316.16

We have applied the GDP deflator rates to the figures that were provided in response to the original PQ 37869. It should be noted that the future years GDP deflator rates are estimates only.

Note that the above totals include sums from within current Local Growth Fund allocations. Not all of the Local Growth Fund is currently allocated, so as future allocations of the Local Growth Fund are made to Local Enterprise Partnerships, the amount supporting walking projects through to 2020/21 is likely to rise.

In addition to the totals above, from within the record £6 billion allocated to local highways authorities between 2015 and 2021 for road maintenance, this funding can help maintain footways and cycleways.

WORK AND PENSIONS

■ Older Workers

Craig Whittaker:

[\[40431\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what steps the Government is taking to support women and men who want to remain in employment after reaching state pension age.

Justin Tomlinson:

This Government believes that there are huge benefits to working longer including keeping active, boosting financial prospects and a better quality of life.

The Government has taken several steps to support people who want to remain in employment after State Pension age. In the last Parliament, this included:

- Removing the Default Retirement age, enabling older people to remain in employment and retire when the time is right for them.
- Extending the right to request flexible working, enabling all employees with 26 weeks' continuous service to agree a working pattern which suits them and their employer.
- Maintaining the exemption from paying National Insurance contributions to those over State Pension age, unless they are self-employed and are paying Class 4 contributions.
- Appointing a Business Champion for Older Workers, who produced a report and worked with employers to explore the benefits of fuller working lives.

In this Parliament, we are working in partnership with employers to improve the retention, retraining and recruitment of people aged 50 and over, by:

- Publishing a new, Employer-led National Strategy setting out our vision for older workers, later this year.
- Reviewing the availability of Advanced Learner Loans and the Higher Education student support package, which contribute to the costs of study for all ages, including those beyond the State Pension age.
- Minister for Pensions attended meetings and events with businesses to promote the Fuller Working Lives agenda and encourage employers to overcome age discrimination.

■ Pensions: British Nationals Abroad

Mr Jim Cunningham: [40305]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what estimate his Department has made of the number of British nationals claiming pensions who live outside the UK and the European Economic Area; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Jim Cunningham: [40306]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what estimate his Department has made of the number of British nationals claiming pensions who live outside the UK and in the European Economic Area; and if he will make a statement.

Justin Tomlinson:

No information is available concerning the number of British individuals who are living outside the UK and inside/outside the European Economic Area who are in receipt of a UK State Pension. This is because the UK State Pension is a contributory based pension, where nationality or citizenship do not form part of the eligibility criteria.

Information is available on the number of UK State pension recipients who live outside the UK by country; this can be found on the link below to the Department's Tabulation tool.

http://tabulation-tool.dwp.gov.uk/100pc/sp/cccountry/ccsex/a_carate_r_cccountry_c_ccsex_nov15.html

■ **Winter Fuel Payments**

Justin Madders:

[\[40227\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many winter fuel payments were delayed by administrative problems in the last year for which figures are available.

Justin Tomlinson:

The information is not available.

Where a customer holds an active relationship with DWP either through claiming a Winter Fuel Payment previously or being in receipt of a benefit, such as a state pension, their Winter Fuel Payment is made automatically.

Claims are required from those where DWP does not hold the data necessary to generate an automatic payment.

MINISTERIAL CORRECTIONS

ATTORNEY GENERAL

■ Gurpal Virdi

Sir Peter Bottomley: [\[40180\]](#)

To ask the Attorney General, how and why the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) joined the Metropolitan Police in announcing that retired police sergeant Gurpal Virdi was charged with misconduct in public office and with indecent assault on a person under 16 years; what publicity the CPS recorded as resulting at the time; when the memorandum of a conviction proved 1 April 1987 for offences on 7 November 1986 of a defendant born on 5 September 1970 with informant or complainant recorded as PC Markwick came to the attention of the CPS; what steps were taken to put right the effect of the wrong statement; when those steps were taken; and what the results of those steps were.

An error has been identified in the written answer given on 14 June 2016. The correct answer should have been:

Jeremy Wright:

A press release was issued by the Metropolitan Police Service which stated that the complainant was under 16. The CPS was not a party to this release and did not issue any other release. The CPS does not retain records of publicity resulting at the time.

When the case was reviewed in 2014 for charging, the complainant and the witness clearly stated that the complainant had been 15 when the incident took place in 1986.

~~In addition Mr Virdi also said in interview that the complainant had been 15 at the time of the incident.~~ The police summary stated that the complainant was 15. However the complainant's date of birth and the date of his arrest were known and this mistake should not have been made.

The CPS was supplied with the memorandum of conviction referred to on 17 September 2014. ~~The indictment was formally amended thereafter.~~

No steps were taken to publicise the fact that the charge was later amended in open court to remove the assertion that the complainant was under 16.

HOME OFFICE

■ Asylum: Deportation

Gareth Thomas: [\[39763\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what proportion of failed asylum seekers who have been removed or voluntarily deported were (a) overstayers and (b) illegal entrants in each of the last seven years.

An error has been identified in the written answer given on 15 June 2016. The correct answer should have been:

James Brokenshire:

Our records indicate that:

Our records show what proportion of failed asylum seekers who have been removed or voluntarily deported were overstayers between 2009 and 2015; in table 1

Table 1: Proportion of failed asylum seekers with an enforced removal or voluntary departure who had been served a notice of liability for removal for being an overstayer, 2009-2015

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Enforced Removal	17%	21%	30%	31%	34%	35%	31%
Voluntary Departure	9%	16%	15%	24%	38%	32%	24%

Our records show what proportion of failed asylum seekers who have been removed or voluntarily deported were illegal entrants between 2009 and 2015; in table 2

Table 2: Proportion of failed asylum seekers with an enforced removal or voluntary departure who had been served a notice of liability for removal for being an illegal entrant, 2009-2015

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Enforced Removal	48%	56%	54%	45%	42%	40%	44%
Voluntary Departure	42%	40%	30%	40%	36%	39%	40%

NOTES

The category 'voluntarily deported' does not exist and was interpreted as those who had voluntary departed instead. Figures represent the proportion of failed asylum seekers returned who were served a notice of liability for removal with a case type relating to them being an overstayer or an illegal entrant. The data may not, therefore, include all failed asylum seekers who were overstayers or illegal entrants.

Enforced removal and voluntary departure data is based on published data from Migration Statistics. This was matched to management information data (extracted on 17 May 2016) on individuals served a notice of liability for removal as described above. This is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics.