



This report shows written answers and statements provided on 3 June 2016 and the information is correct at the time of publication (03:46 P.M., 03 June 2016). For the latest information on written questions and answers, ministerial corrections, and written statements, please visit: <http://www.parliament.uk/writtenanswers/>

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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

■ Business: Stafford

Jeremy Lefroy:

[\[38309\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps his Department is taking to support businesses in Stafford constituency.

Anna Soubry:

The Government is working to make the UK the best place to start and grow a business by supporting businesses across the country. In Stafford, 42 Government backed Start-Up Loans have been drawn down since September 2012 with a value of over £218,000. A Regional Growth Fund award of £4m made in 2011 has attracted private investment of £56.5 million, delivering 1,600 jobs. Since May 2010, 26 loans have been drawn down in Stafford, worth over £2.6 million, from the Enterprise Finance Guarantee scheme. Businesses in Stafford also have access to the Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire Growth Hub which was live from September 2014, which is one of a network of 39 Growth Hubs set up across England.

Jeremy Lefroy:

[\[38310\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what recent steps his Department has taken to increase the level of access to credit for businesses in Stafford constituency in the last 12 months.

Anna Soubry:

The Small Business, Enterprise and Employment Act 2015 contained two specific policies to support Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in accessing finance.

The first requires major banks to refer SMEs they reject for finance to designated 'finance platforms' that can help match SMEs with alternative finance providers. This will ensure that viable SMEs, including businesses in Stafford, that may not fit the major banks' risk appetite can still get the finance they need to grow and expand. Three platforms have recently been designated by HM Treasury on the advice of the British Business Bank and are expected to come into operation later this year.

The second requires the major banks to share information on their SME customers, with the SME's permission, with other lenders through designated Credit Reference Agencies. This will improve the ability of challenger banks and alternative finance providers to conduct accurate risk assessments and level the playing field between providers and make it easier for SMEs to get finance from providers other than their bank.

The Government is supporting the Peer-to-Peer (P2P) and Crowdfunding sectors, which provide alternative sources of finance for both businesses and individuals. The British Business Bank, for example, has invested £100m in SMEs via five P2P platforms.

In addition, the British Business Bank's Enterprise Finance Guarantee (EFG) scheme has facilitated over £2.6 billion of bank lending and other finance to over 25,000 SMEs. Since the start of the scheme, 45 EFG loans have been drawn down in Stafford worth over £5 million. Government has also provided loans through the Start Up Loans Company to help new businesses in Stafford. 42 start up businesses in Stafford have secured a loan from the Start Up Loans Company, with a total value of over £218, 000.

More widely, credit conditions for business continue to improve with net lending to SMEs in 2015 positive across the complete year, the first time this has happened since the financial crisis.

■ Companies: Ownership

Tulip Siddiq:

[37717]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, whether it is his policy that the proposed public register of beneficial owners of companies will provide details of the names of (a) trust or company service providers and (b) other third parties which incorporate those companies.

Anna Soubry:

[Holding answer 25 May 2016]: Since 6 th April this year, UK companies (with exception of listed companies), limited liability partnerships and societates europaeae have been required to hold a register of people with significant control (PSC register). The register records the ultimate owners and controllers of UK companies. It is designed to record individuals. However, where a company is owned by another company that is also required to hold a PSC register, or is subject to equivalent disclosure requirements, those companies should be recorded on the register.

Where a company is owned and or controlled by a third party incorporation agent including Trust and Company Service Providers (TCSP) and they are also required to hold a PSC register or are subject to equivalent transparency requirements then they would be required to be registered on that company's PSC register. If the third party incorporation agent is not required to hold its own PSC register then the UK company would be required to look further up the ownership chain to identify who owns and controls the TCSP. The ultimate owner would be recorded on the PSC register.

Where a third party incorporation agent has incorporated a company on behalf of someone else and they do not own or control the company, then the register would not record the third party incorporation agent details. It would instead record who actually owns and controls that UK company.

How the PSC register works is explained in detailed guidance that has been prepared by BIS with the help of a working group of businesses, lawyers and civil society organisations. The guidance can be found here:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-the-people-with-significant-control-requirements-for-companies-and-limited-liability-partnerships.

■ Department for Business, Innovation and Skills: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37823\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for his Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Joseph Johnson:

The Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) does not set a budget for food served in its offices. Catering services are provided by private companies under contract to BIS which lease facilities in its London offices at 1 Victoria Street, 151 Buckingham Palace Road and Fleetbank House and provide food to staff without subsidy. Spending on food is determined by the contractor based on sales receipts.

BIS has worked with its current suppliers to align the existing contract with the requirements of the "balanced scorecard" for public food procurement.

The amount of food sourced from British producers for the Department's three London offices is approximately 75% per month on average based on data for the period January - March 2016.

Items that are not available as British produce are fruits (for example – melons, pineapples, grapes, lemons, oranges), continental meats and Fairtrade coffee which is a large part of the sales volume.

■ Disabled Students' Allowances

Tim Farron:

[\[37890\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, how many students received support from specialist study skills tutors in English universities in the most recent period for which figures are available.

Tim Farron:

[\[38016\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, whether the funding of Band 4 specialist study skills tutors will be a permissible use of the disabled student allowance under the Government's proposed changes to that allowance.

Tim Farron:

[\[38018\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of proposed changes to the disabled students allowance on the ability of disabled student to access non-medical help and to develop coping strategies and learning styles during their time at university.

Joseph Johnson:

We do not hold information on the expenditure on individual types of non-medical help support that are available to disabled students through Disabled Students' Allowances.

The Government's response to the consultation on reforms to Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs), published in December 2015, confirmed that from 2016/17 support roles from band 4 will continue to be primarily funded through DSAs, unless reasonable adjustments are in place that remove the need for such support.

A full equality impact assessment on the proposed changes to Disabled Students' Allowances was published in December 2015.

Tim Farron: [38017]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of proposed changes to the disabled students allowances on the number of disabled students accessing higher education.

Joseph Johnson:

The reform of Disabled Students' Allowances is intended to ensure higher education institutions are consistently meeting their duties to disabled students under the Equality Act, and is not expected to impact on the number of disabled students accessing higher education.

The Government carried out an Equality Analysis as part of the recent consultation on reforms to Disabled Students' Allowances. This is available online at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/481527/bis-15-658-disabled-students-allowances-equality-analysis.pdf

Steve McCabe: [38172]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, with reference to the Answer of 20 April 2016 to Question 34012, what estimate he has made of the average time the new Exceptional Case Process will take from receipt of an application to awarding interim support; and who will be responsible for assisting applicants with that process.

Joseph Johnson:

When an application is received for interim support through the Exceptional Case Process, Student Finance England (SFE) will assess that request and confirm as quickly as possible whether interim support will be awarded. SFE expects that this will be within one month.

In applying for interim support, the student and their higher education provider will need to confirm that the provider will not meet the students' needs through a reasonable adjustment, and that the student has made a formal complaint to their higher education provider about this. Students are advised to speak to their disability adviser if they wish to apply under the Exceptional Case Process.

■ Laboratories: Investment

Chris Green: [38141]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps he is taking to encourage private investment in laboratories involved in research and science.

Joseph Johnson:

Government has put in place incentives to encourage private investment in capital facilities (which includes investment in research facilities) and to encourage business investment in research and development.

The Government is providing £900m through the UK Research Partnership Investment Fund (UKRPIF) to secure and accelerate private co-investment into university research infrastructure. It provides funding for large long-term capital projects, which must demonstrate at least double external private co-investment and build on a strong record of research excellence. So far £500m from the Fund has levered over £1.4bn additional investment into over 30 strategic research collaborations between universities and businesses and charities.

Annual UK Government support for innovation includes £800m through the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, predominantly through Innovate UK and around £1.75bn through fiscal support measures. The Government's investment in innovation is attracting increasing investment from private sources. In 2014, UK Business Enterprise Research and Development expenditure, increased by 6% to its highest level on record (£19.9 billion), surpassing 2013's high by £0.9 billion. In the same year, total business employment in R&D in the UK increased by 7% to 192,000 (Full Time Equivalents).

■ Minimum Wage**Caroline Lucas:**[\[38140\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, with reference to the Answer of 14 September 2015 to Question 8859, how many employers took advantage of the National Minimum Wage campaign announced on 30 July 2015 to self-report their non-compliance with the National Minimum Wage; how many workers were identified as having been underpaid by those employers; and what the total sum was of arrears recovered for those workers.

Nick Boles:

60 employers responded to the National Minimum Wage campaign announced by HM Revenue and Customs on 29 July 2015. Between them, these employers voluntarily disclosed arrears of £786,038 owed to 4869 workers.

■ Minimum Wage: Arrears**Caroline Lucas:**[\[38139\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, with reference to the Answer of 10 May 2016 to Question 36447, how much of the £10.3 million of minimum wage arrears recovered in 2015-16 was recovered from the 145 employers who were not issued with a Notice of Underpayment and who did not have to pay a penalty.

Nick Boles:

60 employers responded to the National Minimum Wage campaign announced by HM Revenue and Customs on 29 July 2015. Between them, these employers voluntarily disclosed arrears of £786,038 owed to 4869 workers.

■ **Nurses: Training****Toby Perkins:**[\[38147\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, how many students who completed access courses secured places on nursing degrees in each of the last three years.

Joseph Johnson:

The number of students who entered nursing degrees at English Higher Education Institutions having previously completed Access Courses is recorded by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) and has been provided in the table.

FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE ENTRANTS TO NURSING BY HIGHEST QUALIFICATION ON ENTRY

English Higher Education Institutions

Academic Years 2012/13 to 2014/15

Academic Year	Entrants who had completed Access Courses	Total entrants
2012/13	4,275	21,510
2013/14	4,925	22,920
2014/15	5,515	23,310

Source: BIS Analysis of HESA Student Record Notes: (1) Figures have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 5 (2) Nursing students were determined to be those in courses falling under JACS3 code B7-"Nursing" <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/jacs3> (3) Counts refer to the total Full-Person Equivalents (FPE). These are derived by splitting student instances between the different subjects that make up their course aim (4) Access Courses were determined to be those with a highest entry qualification (QUALENT3) code of X00 or X01 - higher education access course

■ **Overseas Trade: Mexico****Andrew Rosindell:**[\[38367\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps the Government is taking to increase UK trade with Mexico.

Anna Soubry:

Increasing exports is a key focus in the Government's long-term economic plan. There is a cross Whitehall approach to exports and whenever Government Ministers are on overseas trips, they have a trade focus, supporting UK businesses to take advantage of

export opportunities, to help remove barriers to trade and to create a strong business environment.

A key part of this work is to identify export opportunities, many of which are based around the needs of high-growth and emerging markets. We are making those opportunities available to UK businesses through the Exporting is GREAT campaign which has elicited over 25,000 responses to the 7,000 export opportunities published online since it launched in November 2015.

Mexico is an important export market with high potential for growth and, in recognition of this, my noble Friend Lord Price went there on his first overseas visit as Trade and Investment Minister in early April 2016. Mexico is also the recipient of increased FCO Prosperity and Newton Fund budgets. In July, High Level Economic Talks will take place in Mexico.

■ Property: Ownership

Jonathan Ashworth:

[[37730](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, with reference to the press release, PM holds major summit as part of global drive to expose, punish and drive out corruption, published on 12 May 2016, what the timetable is for the (a) formulation and (b) implementation of the Government's plans to require foreign companies that own property in the UK to declare their real owners.

Jonathan Ashworth:

[[37733](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, with reference to the press release, PM holds major summit as part of global drive to expose, punish and drive out corruption, published on 12 May 2016, whether he plans to bring forward legislative proposals requiring foreign companies that own property in the UK to declare their real owners.

Anna Soubry:

At the International Anti-Corruption Summit in London on 12 May, my Rt hon Friend the Prime Minister announced that we will require foreign companies that own or purchase UK properties or bid on UK Government procurement contracts to provide details of their beneficial owners to a public central register. This will be the first register of its kind in the world.

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills will consult with experts to develop the policy throughout the year and consult formally on the detail of the policy in due course. Implementation of the new register requirements is expected to require both primary and secondary legislation, which we intend to introduce when Parliamentary time allows.

Jonathan Ashworth:

[[37744](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, with reference to the press release, PM hosts major summit as part of global drive to expose, publish and drive out

corruption, published on 12 May 2016, whether he plans to publish information on the ownership of property in the UK owned by foreign companies.

Anna Soubry:

[Holding answer 25 May 2016]: At the International Anti-Corruption Summit in London on 12 May, my Rt hon Friend the Prime Minister announced that we will require foreign companies that own or purchase UK properties or bid on UK government procurement contracts to provide details of their beneficial owners to a public central register. This will be the first register of its kind in the world.

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills will consult on the detail of the policy later this year. The Prime Minister has committed to a publicly accessible register of foreign company beneficial ownership on which we plan to consult in due course.

■ Universities: Admissions

Royston Smith:

[\[37905\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what proportion of students from low-income households attended Russell Group universities in the last three years.

Joseph Johnson:

The Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) collects and publishes information on students at UK Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Provider-level measures on the share of their students who have come from disadvantaged backgrounds are available as part of the *UK Performance Indicators*; these include the proportion of young full-time first degree entrants who are from low participation neighbourhoods, otherwise known as POLAR3 quintile 1 wards. POLAR3 is an indicator of disadvantage in the absence of income information. The data is provided in the table:

PERCENTAGE OF UK-DOMICILED YOUNG (1) FULL-TIME FIRST DEGREE ENTRANTS FROM POLAR3 QUINTILE 1 WARDS

English Higher Education Institutions

Academic Years 2012/13 to 2014/15

Academic Year	All Russell Group HEIs in England (2)
2012/13	6.0%
2013/14	6.0%
2014/15	6.4%

Source: HESA Performance Indicators <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/pis/>

Notes: (1) Young students are those younger than 21 at 30 September in the academic year in

which they commenced their studies

(2) The Russell Group HEIs included are all those that were part of the Russell Group on April 13th 2016

My right hon. Friend the Prime Minister announced in January 2016 that the Government intends to legislate to require individual universities to publish statistical information on admissions by gender, ethnicity and social background of students in order to make each institution's record on admissions more transparent.

■ Universities: Finance

Andrew Rosindell:

[\[38366\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps he is taking to reduce the reliance of universities on funding from the public purse.

Joseph Johnson:

Higher education institutions are autonomous and independent from government, and as such they generate income from a variety of sources, alongside public support.

In the 2014-15 academic year, the sector had a total income of £33bn, of which £16bn came from tuition fees and education contracts, £8bn from UK Government grants for both teaching and research, and £9bn from other sources, including commercial income.

Universities now earn the majority of their income for teaching from fees. Detailed information about the exact nature and sources of higher education institution income across the Higher Education Funding Council for England-funded sector is publicly available from the Higher Education Statistics Agency website.

■ Video Games: Internet

Mr Barry Sheerman:

[\[38300\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what steps he is taking to protect children from in-game selling and promotions when playing games online.

Nick Boles:

The Government is committed to ensuring that consumers are properly protected and that children's vulnerability and inexperience is not exploited by aggressive commercial practices. We welcomed the Office of Fair Trading's (OFT) investigation into whether children have been unfairly encouraged to spend money in online games and apps, in breach of consumer laws. The OFT's subsequent *Principles for Online and App-based Games* were published in January 2014, to help ensure that online and app games publishers better understand their responsibilities and do not subject children to unfair or aggressive selling practices. The Competition and Markets Authority subsequently referred 3 games to the Advertising Standards Authority for further enforcement action.

Mr Barry Sheerman:

[\[38301\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, what assessment his Department has made of the effectiveness of legislation for protecting children from in-game selling and promotions when playing games online.

Nick Boles:

The Government is committed to ensuring that consumers are properly protected and that children's vulnerability and inexperience is not exploited by aggressive commercial practices. We welcomed the Office of Fair Trading's (OFT) investigation into whether children have been unfairly encouraged to spend money in online games and apps, in breach of consumer laws. The OFT's subsequent *Principles for Online and App-based Games*, which are based on the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations (2008), were published in January 2014. The Competition and Markets Authority subsequently referred 3 games to the Advertising Standards Authority for further enforcement action. The Government continues to take a close interest in this issue.

CABINET OFFICE

■ Anti-corruption Summit

Jonathan Ashworth:

[\[37712\]](#)

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will publish a list of the people who attended the Anti-Corruption Summit on 12 May 2016.

Matthew Hancock:

A list of attendees at the Anti-Corruption Summit has now been published on gov.uk and laid in the library of the House.

■ Cabinet Office: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37901\]](#)

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how much is spent from the public purse on food procured for (a) his Department and (b) the Prime Minister's Office; and what proportion of food procured for each was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Matthew Hancock:

Information on expenditure on food is not held separately to overall expenditure on catering, hospitality and subsistence, which is normally sold with no subsidy.

■ Census: Armed Forces

Andrew Rosindell:

[\[38371\]](#)

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will take steps with the Office for National Statistics to ensure that questions on the armed forces are better included in the next national census.

Matthew Hancock:

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) this week published their current view on the topics proposed for inclusion in the 2021 Census; this includes a specific report outlining their view on information on Armed Forces. This current position follows a public consultation seeking evidence on the information needs for the 2021 Census which generated nearly 1,100 responses

ONS recognise that "there is a clear need for information on the armed forces community" but currently considers that it would be better to make use of existing administrative data than ask a question of all 26 million households in England and Wales in 2021. ONS will be working with the Ministry of Defence and other relevant agencies across government to consider a range of options to best meet the user need.

■ Passports**Kevin Hollinrake:**[\[37800\]](#)

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many people resident in the UK hold an EU non-British passport and previously held a non-EU country passport.

Mr Rob Wilson:

The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

Attachments:

1. Attachment 1 for Member [Table 1 Passports Held Summary Statistics.docx]
2. Attachment 2 for Member [Table 2 Passports Held by the Usually Resident Population in England and....docx]
3. UKSA Letter to Member - Non-EU Country Passports [UKSA response to PQ37800.pdf]

TREASURY**■ Bank Services****Mr David Lammy:**[\[38318\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what plans his Department has to submit evidence to the independent review of the British Bakers Association Access to Banking Protocol led by Professor Russell Griggs.

Mr David Lammy:[\[38319\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of the efficacy of the British Bankers' Association Industry Protocol on Branch Closures in mitigating the effect of branch closures on local businesses and customers.

Mr David Lammy:[\[38320\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent discussions his Department has had with the British Bankers' Association Industry Protocol on how effectively banks have applied and implemented the Protocol during its first year and the efficacy of the Protocol in

mitigating the effect of branch closures on (a) local businesses and (b) the elderly, disabled and other vulnerable customers.

Mr David Lammy:

[\[38334\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of the extent to which banks have effectively applied and implemented the British Banker's Association Industry Protocol.

Harriett Baldwin:

The Government welcomed the industry-wide Access to Banking protocol announced in March 2015. The Government believes that banks should act in the best interests of their customers and continue to serve the needs of the consumer as well as the wider economy. Although decisions on opening and closing branches are commercial ones, in which the Government does not intervene, it is imperative that the banks live up to the spirit, as well as the letter, of the commitments in the protocol.

The British Bankers' Association consulted relevant government departments and the regulator, as envisaged in the protocol, when it appointed Professor Russel Griggs to lead the independent review. The independent reviewer's role is to consider and identify best practice in implementation and, if appropriate, make recommendations for amendments to the protocol to ensure it continues to meet its objectives.

The Government has not assessed the impact of the protocol or banks' compliance with their commitments in the protocol and as such will not submit formal evidence. However, the Government awaits the independent review's conclusions, and any recommendations that the reviewer makes for the future of the protocol, when they are published later this year.

■ Bank Services: Fees and Charges

Andrew Rosindell:

[\[38413\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of the effect on competition between banks of the adoption of the recent recommendations of the Competition and Markets Authority on the capping of unarranged overdraft fees.

Harriett Baldwin:

The government is committed to increasing competition in banking to improve outcomes for consumers. That is why we set up the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) as a single, stronger competition regulator, to promote competition and ensure markets work well for consumers, businesses and the wider economy.

We support the CMA's ambition to increase competition through its retail banking market investigation, including helping overdraft users understand the fees associated with overdrafts and mitigating the adverse effects of unarranged overdraft fees.

The CMA's investigation is ongoing and it is currently consulting on the provisional decision on remedies. The government welcomes the CMA's work as a crucial step towards the goal of a highly competitive banking system, and stands ready to take action as necessary once the CMA publishes its final report in the summer.

■ Bank Services: ICT

Adam Afriyie:

[\[37958\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of the role of financial technology in encouraging consumers to switch their current account.

Harriett Baldwin:

The government is committed to increasing competition in banking to improve outcomes for consumers. This includes delivering the Current Account Switch Service (CASS) which allows customers to switch their personal or business current account where they see a better deal – simply, quickly and reliably. Consumers have switched over 2.8 million times since the service was launched in 2013.

Making it easier for people to understand and compare banking products and services can help drive consumer engagement and could lead to an increase in switching. Financial technology is an important part of this.

In its recent provisional decision on remedies, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) proposed requiring the largest retail banks in Great Britain and Northern Ireland to develop and adopt an open API banking standard by early 2018.

This will make it easier for financial technology firms to make use of customer bank data in a variety of innovative ways, including providing services that make it easier for consumers to compare products and shop around for a better deal.

The government welcomes the CMA's ongoing work as a crucial step towards the goal of a highly competitive banking sector, and stands ready to take action as necessary once the CMA publishes its final report in the summer.

■ Banks: Closures

Mr David Lammy:

[\[38333\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of the effect of bank branch closures on (a) affected communities, (b) local businesses and (c) customers.

Harriett Baldwin:

The Government believes that banks should act in the best interests of their customers and continue to serve the needs of the consumer as well as the wider economy. This is why the Government welcomed the industry-wide Access to Banking protocol announced in March 2015. The protocol commits each participating bank to carry out a number of steps when it is closing a branch, including the preparation of meaningful local impact assessments. After deciding to close a branch a bank must also engage with key local stakeholders to understand the potential impact of the close on the local community and branch users. The results of the engagement and the impact assessment will be published before the branch is closed.

Professor Russel Griggs is leading an independent 'one year on' review of the protocol. The Government looks forward to seeing the conclusions of the review.

However, banks and building societies need to balance customer interests, market competition, and other commercial factors when considering their strategy. Decisions on the opening and closing of individual branches are taken by the management of each bank on a commercial basis without intervention from Government.

Mr David Lammy: [38336]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent representations his Department has received from (a) Barclays, (b) HSBC, (c) Lloyds, (d) RBS, (e) Santander, (f) Halifax and (g) other retail banks on bank branch closures.

Harriett Baldwin:

Treasury Ministers and officials have meetings with a wide variety of organisations in the public and private sectors as part of the process of policy development and delivery. Details of ministerial and permanent secretary meetings with external organisations on departmental business are published on a quarterly basis and are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hmt-ministers-meetings-hospitality-gifts-and-overseas-travel>

■ Debts: USA

Andrew Rosindell: [38377]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of the effect on the economy of the UK of the recent dumping of US debt by China, Russia and Brazil.

Harriett Baldwin:

The Treasury continuously monitors global economic developments and their impact on the UK, including the debt operations of major countries, as part of the normal process of policy development.

As one of the most open trading economies in the world with a large financial sector, we have to recognise that the UK is not immune to the external events in the world economy. This is precisely why the UK has been working through its long-term economic plan. Since 2010 the plan has been focussed on reducing the deficit and ensuring sound public finances, while delivering the supply side reforms necessary to improve long-term productivity growth. That has allowed an active monetary policy to support the economy while ensuring the fiscal position is sustainable in the long term.

■ EU Budget: Contributions

Mrs Anne Main: [38264]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the UK's *reste à liquider* payments were in each of the last 10 years; and if he will estimate the value of those payments in each of the next 10 years.

Greg Hands:

Reste à liquider (RAL) represents, in a particular year, the sum of outstanding commitments which have been agreed, but that may be paid in a future period. No sum is specifically allocated to the UK.

The total amounts of EU budget payments of RAL are only available for the past 9 years. The payments of RAL sit within the spending limits set out in the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020.

The amount of payments on RAL made in EU budgetary years is provided in the European Commission's annual Report on Budgetary and Financial Management.

The 2015 edition can be viewed at the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/library/biblio/documents/2015/2015_report_budgetary_financialmanagement.pdf.

■ Immigration: Economic Growth

Andrew Bridgen: [38166]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what estimate his Department has made of the proportion of economic growth generated as a direct result of immigration in the last five years; and what estimate he has made of the effect of immigration on the rate of economic growth in the next five years.

Harriett Baldwin:

Analysis undertaken by the independent Migration Advisory Committee in 2012 shows that higher levels of net migration will, all else equal, increase the growth rate of the potential labour supply and therefore the rate of growth of overall GDP.

■ Local Government Finance

Mrs Anne Main: [37942]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether it is his Department's policy to provide additional funding to local authorities for providing public services for nationals of other EU member states who remain in the UK for less than one year; and if he will make a statement.

Harriett Baldwin:

'Additional funding' has been interpreted to mean welfare expenditure. There is no policy of additional welfare expenditure for nationals of other EU member states who remain in the UK for less than one year.

If the UK votes to remain in the EU, the Prime Minister's February deal will take effect. Included in the deal is the 'Emergency Brake', a mechanism to exclude recently-arrived EEA workers from access to full UK in-work benefits for 4 years. Initially the Brake will involve complete exclusion for in work benefits. The deal also confirmed that in future the UK will not have to pay any means-tested unemployment benefits to EU nationals who come to the UK as job seekers.

■ Public Sector: EU Nationals

Mrs Anne Main: [37944]

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what estimate he has made of the cost of providing public services for EU nationals who remain in the UK for less than one year.

Greg Hands:

No estimate has been made of the cost of providing public services for EU nationals who remain in the UK for less than one year.

The Government's ambition is to reduce permanent migration into this country to a more manageable level.

We remain committed to bringing migration down to sustainable levels, which is in the best interests of our country. The Government has taken steps to control migration by dealing with those who shouldn't be here, by deporting illegal immigrants and improving the skills of British workers, so we reduce the demand for skilled migrants.

The Prime Minister has re-negotiated the UK's position within the EU to close back-door routes into the UK and exert greater control over EU migration by tackling the draw of our welfare system.

But net migration remains too high and there is still more work to do.

Data recently released by HMRC showed recently-arrived EU migrants paid £2.5 billion more in tax than they received in tax credits or child benefit in 2013/14.

■ Revenue and Customs: West Yorkshire**Judith Cummins:**[\[38167\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the average cost of floor space (a) will be at the planned HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) office in Leeds and (b) is at the HMRC offices in Bradford.

Damian Hinds:

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) location decisions were based on a number of key principles to enable it to deliver more for less. These plans will generate estate savings of up to £100 million a year by 2025 across HMRC's entire estate. It will do this at a lower cost to the taxpayer by using the best of modern technology and basing its staff in modern and more cost-effective buildings.

■ Treasury: Coventry**Mr Jim Cunningham:**[\[38325\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many visits (a) Ministers and (b) officials in his Department have made to Coventry in each of the last five years.

Harriett Baldwin:

Treasury Ministers and officials have meetings with a wide variety of organisations in the public and private sectors as part of the process of policy development and delivery.

Details of ministerial and permanent secretary meetings with external organisations on departmental business are published on a quarterly basis and are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/hmt-ministers-meetings-hospitality-gifts-and-overseas-travel>

■ Treasury: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37836\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for his Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Harriett Baldwin:

The Treasury does not procure food directly for the Department. The catering facilities are provided by an external company engaged by the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) management company. The catering contract is run on a nil subsidy and therefore is of no cost to the Department. The catering provider is obligated to follow the cross government requirements of sourcing its produce under Red Tractor guidelines.

■ Treasury: Pay

Greg Mulholland:

[\[38229\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the average hourly earnings were of his Department's (a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.

Harriett Baldwin:

	2016		2015	
	BAME	White	BAME	White
Student	9.8	9.8	9.7	9.7
Range B	10.8	10.2	11	10.8
Range C	12.7	12.9	13.1	13.2
Range D	16.4	16.2	16.8	16.8
Range E	25.9	26.7	26.1	27.0
Range E2	30.5	30.6	30.2	30.6
SCS	38.7	41.9	41.1	43.6

■ UK Membership of EU

Andrew Rosindell:

[\[38411\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many officials of his Department were involved in the research, writing and production of his Department's document entitled HM Treasury analysis: the long-term economic impact of EU membership and the alternatives; and if he will estimate the cost to the public purse of the research and production of that document.

Greg Hands:

The British people are asking for the facts before they decide whether to vote Remain or Leave in the EU referendum. The Treasury's analysis shows that if the UK leaves the EU, the UK would be permanently poorer and it estimates an annual loss of 6.2% of GDP after 15 years, which is equivalent to £4,300 per UK household in 2015 terms.

The Treasury is appropriately resourced to support the Government's priorities in Europe. However, it is not practical to identify full-time equivalent staff numbers.

Andrew Rosindell:

[\[38414\]](#)

To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many officials of his Department were involved in the research, writing and production of his Department's recent analysis of the effect of Britain leaving the EU on the value of homes in the UK; and if he will estimate the cost to the public purse of the research and production of that analysis.

Greg Hands:

The British people are asking for the facts before they decide whether to vote Remain or Leave in the EU referendum. Analysis published by HM Treasury shows the impact that a vote to leave the EU would

have on UK output and house prices. In the 'shock scenario', after two years, house prices would be 10% lower compared with a vote to remain in the EU.

The Treasury is appropriately resourced to support the Government's priorities in Europe. However, it is not practical to identify full-time equivalent staff numbers.

COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

■ Communities and Local Government: Coventry

Mr Jim Cunningham:

[\[38323\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, how many visits (a) Ministers and (b) officials in his Department have made to Coventry in each of the last five years.

Mr Mark Francois:

Details of Ministerial overseas travel, and senior officials' business expenses are published on a quarterly basis. The remaining information requested could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

■ Communities and Local Government: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37824\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for his Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Mr Mark Francois:

The Department for Communities and Local Government does not have an annual food budget. Catering services are provided via a contract with Interserve Plc, and is operated on a nil subsidy basis.

Annual spend is determined by the contractor and is informed by private sales to members of staff.

Approximately 34% of products across all food and drink categories were sourced from British producers as at March 2016. This proportion reflects that a large volume of food and drink sold includes non-indigenous products such as rice, pasta, tea, coffee and bananas, and that as this period falls in the Winter season there are out of UK seasonal products procured from the wider EU.

The proportion also reflects consumer trends, and the commercial contractor's pursuit of value for money given the nil subsidy arrangement.

■ Homelessness

Mr Jim Cunningham:

[\[38328\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, how much his Department has spent on tackling homelessness in each of the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Marcus Jones:

Since 2010 we have invested over £500 million to enable local authorities and the voluntary sector to support those vulnerable and at risk of homelessness.

One person without a home is one too many and we are committed to do all we can to prevent homelessness. We have protected the homelessness prevention funding local authorities receive, totalling £315 million by 2019-20. This builds on our Spending Review commitment to increase central government funding to £139 million over the next four years. We are working with homelessness organisations to consider all options, including legislation, to ensure those at risk of homelessness get earlier and more effective support.

We also announced in the Budget £100 million to deliver low cost 'move on' accommodation to enable people leaving hostels and refuges to make a sustainable recovery from a homelessness crisis, providing at least 2,000 places for vulnerable people to enable independent living.

■ Islam: Culture

Andrew Rosindell: [\[38372\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what his policy is on the foreign-funding of Islamic cultural centres in the UK; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Marcus Jones:

The Prime Minister has commissioned a review into the funding of extremism in the UK, including funding that comes from overseas.

■ Leasehold

Gareth Thomas: [\[38168\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what his plans are for the reform of leaseholds related to properties with two households in one building where the freehold is held by one owner; and if he will make a statement.

Brandon Lewis:

The Government has no plans to put in place reforms in this situation.

■ Local Growth Deals

Daniel Zeichner: [\[38192\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, with reference to the Answer of 25 April 2016 to Question 34445, if he will publish on his Department's website the basis on which further Local Growth Fund awards will be made later in 2016; and what criteria his Department uses to assess competitively bids for that fund.

James Wharton:

The Secretary of State has written to all Local Enterprise Partnerships setting out the basis for which awards will be made in this round of Growth Deals. The letter sets out the criteria that will be used in assessment, which include demonstrating strong collaboration across the local area, strong governance, engagement with key government objectives, and delivery of existing Growth Deals. A copy of this letter will be placed in the Library of the House. The outcomes of this round of funding will be published on the Government's website.

■ Qatar Charity

Andrew Rosindell: [\[38376\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, what (a) financial support and (b) other support the Government has given to Qatar Charity in the last five years.

Mr Marcus Jones:

We are not aware of any Government financial support given to Qatar Charity in the last five years.

■ Temporary Accommodation: Sleeping Rough

Paul Blomfield:

[\[37517\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, with reference to the Answer of 18 April 2016 to Question 33117, which programmes the reprioritisation of £100 million in capital funding to deliver low-cost second stage accommodation for rough sleepers will affect.

Mr Marcus Jones:

The Department is not reducing delivery of any existing programmes. We are confident that we will be able to meet this new pressure through careful management and review of existing capital budgets. This may include use of receipts from other programmes and re-profiling underspends on capital grant programmes. The reprioritisation of the money means that the Department's homelessness budget now has an additional £100 million to spend on programmes to help those vulnerable and at risk of homelessness.

CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT

■ BBC

Maria Eagle:

[\[38084\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, with reference to page 31 of the White Paper, A BBC for the future: a broadcaster of distinction, published in May 2016, if he will publish the minutes of the roundtable events held with the creative sector as part of the BBC Charter review process.

Mr Edward Vaizey:

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport will not be publishing minutes of the events held with the creative sector as part of the BBC Charter review process. A list of the attendees of these meetings are however available in Annex 2 of the White Paper.

■ Broadband: Finance

Alex Chalk:

[\[38125\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, how much of £530 million his Department allocated to Broadband Delivery UK remained unspent at the end of the Phase 1 broadband delivery period.

Mr John Whittingdale:

As of 1 May 2016, over £476m of BDUK funding had been spent on Phase 1 of the superfast broadband programme. Funding is released on completion of project delivery milestones. The remainder of the funding will be spent by end 2017 which is the completion date for some of the Phase 1 projects.

Information Commissioner

Kate Green: [\[38213\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what mechanisms the Information Commissioner's Office has in place to ensure decisions of staff of that Office are compliant with Section 42 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Mr John Whittingdale:

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) produces guidance for organisations on their obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA). This guidance is used by the Information Commissioner's staff when assessing concerns and complaints from the public under S42 of the DPA.

In addition, staff receive formal training to ensure that consistent outcomes are achieved in decision making.

DEFENCE**Armed Forces**

Toby Perkins: [\[38262\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the strength of full-time members of the (a) army, (b) Royal Navy and (c) Royal Air Force was on 1 January 2016.

Mark Lancaster:

Full details of trained and untrained strengths of the UK Armed Forces are included in the UK Armed Forces Monthly Service Personnel Statistics, which can be found at the following address:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-2016>

Toby Perkins: [\[38263\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many members of the (a) army, (b) Royal Navy and (c) Royal Air Force were deployed to which countries on (i) 1 May 2016 and (ii) during 2015.

Penny Mordaunt:

Members of the Armed Forces routinely deploy overseas on operational duties or to conduct other Defence activities. The scope, scale and timeframes of some of these deployments mean that it is not always possible to provide comprehensive lists.

The answer to part (i) is provided in the attached map and is accurate as at 6 May 2016. We are, however, unable to break this down by Service.

The answer to part (ii) will take longer to assemble. I will write to the hon. Member in due course.

Attachments:

1. Map to support PQ38263 - Armed Forces deployments [Annex A to PQ38263-MOD Deployments Map.png]

■ **Armed Forces: Housing**

Tom Tugendhat:

[R] [[37893](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the cost was for (a) management of the Defence Infrastructure Organisation estate of Service Family Accommodation (SFA), (b) the maintenance of SFA and (c) improvements to SFA in (i) 2013, (ii) 2014 and (iii) 2015.

Penny Mordaunt:

The cost for the management of the Defence Infrastructure Organisation estate of Service Family Accommodation (SFA), the maintenance of SFA and the improvements to SFA, by financial year (FY), can be found within the table below.

	FY2012-13	FY2013-14	FY2014-15	FY 2015-16	TOTALS
	£million	£million	£million	£million	£million
Management of DIO Estate	20.6	15.7	20.4	18.8	75.5
Maintenance of SFA	42	39.9	41.1	40.9	164.5
Improvements	64.5	96.3	65.9	56.7	283.4
Totals	127.1	151.9	127.4	117.4	523.8

■ **Army: Reserve Forces**

Toby Perkins:

[[38259](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many people have (a) joined and (b) left the army reserve force in each year since 2010.

Toby Perkins:

[[38260](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many people who joined the army reserve force in each year since 2010 subsequently left that force in each of those years.

Mr Julian Brazier:

The information requested is shown in the tables below.

Numbers joining and then leaving the FR20 Army Reserve 1 April 2012 - 31 March 2016

Year of Joining	Total Joining	Of which number who subsequently left	Financial Year (FY) of Leaving				Still in FR20 Army Reserve on 1 April 2016
			FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14	FY 2014-15	FY 2015-16	
Total	18,400	4,040	330	1,080	1,080	1,550	14,360
FY 2012-13	3,960	2,070	330	890	520	330	1,900
FY 2013-14	2,960	930	190	420	320	2,030	
FY 2014-15	5,210	760		130	630	4,440	
FY 2015-16	6,260	270				270	6,000

The overall numbers joining and leaving the Future Reserves 2020 are routinely published by the Ministry of Defence in the UK armed forces monthly personnel statistics, which is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-armed-forces-monthly-service-personnel-statistics-2016>

For convenience, data from that publication have been collated into the table below.

OVERALL NUMBERS JOINING AND LEAVING THE FR20 ARMY RESERVE 1 APRIL 2012 - 31 MARCH 2016

Year	Total joining FR20 Army Reserve	Total leaving FR20 Army Reserve
FY 2012-13	3,960	4,710
FY 2013-14	2,960	4,620
FY 2014-15	5,210	3,350
FY 2015-16	6,260	3,030

Notes:

Validated Figures for the FR20 population are not available before April 2012.

The table above shows the FR20 population only and therefore excludes University Officer Training Corps Cadets, Non-Regular Permanent Staff and Sponsored Reservists.

Intake to the FR20 population includes direct transfers from other parts of the Armed Forces and those with previous UK Armed Forces service.

The numbers of personnel leaving the FR20 population include those transferring to other parts of the Armed Forces, including the Regular Army.

Figures have been rounded to the nearest 10. Numbers ending in 5 have been rounded to the nearest multiple of 20 to prevent systematic bias.

Totals and sub-totals have been rounded separately and so may not equal the sum of their rounded parts.

■ Defence Equipment: Procurement

Andrew Rosindell:

[38369]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what proportion of military equipment procurement was from UK suppliers in each of the last 10 years.

Mr Philip Dunne:

Information on Ministry of Defence (MOD) expenditure with industry, including the amount spent with UK suppliers, is published on gov.uk at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mod-industry-trade-and-contracts-2015>.

The details in table eight show that, since 2010-11, the MOD has spent around £19.5 billion each year with UK industry. The table shows the expenditure broken down by broad industrial group, but information specifically on the proportion of military equipment procured from UK suppliers is not centrally held. Total MOD equipment expenditure (not just with UK industry) can, however, be found in table four at the following link, but this is not broken down by country:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/defence-departmental-resources-2015>.

Details of MOD expenditure with industry for the years prior to 2010-11 are available in table 1.10 at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-defence-statistics-compendium-2011>.

It should be noted that these earlier statistics were prepared using a different methodology, which means that the figures are not directly comparable to those from 2010-11 onwards.

■ Falkland Islands: Armed Forces

Jim Shannon:

[38101]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many (a) helicopters, (b) Royal Navy ships and (c) Royal Air Force aircraft are stationed in the Falkland Islands.

Penny Mordaunt:

Four contractor-owned and operated helicopters are currently stationed in the Falkland Islands. Two AW-189 helicopters deliver search and rescue services and two S-61 helicopters deliver a medium lift capability. One River Class patrol ship (HMS CLYDE), one C-130, one Voyager air-to-air refuelling aircraft, and four Typhoon aircraft are also currently stationed in the Falklands.

In accordance with the Secretary of State's announcement to the House on 24 March 2015 (Official Report, column 1302), two Chinook helicopters are due to return to the Falkland Islands. The first of these will begin operations in July 2016.

Jim Shannon: [\[38102\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many (a) army, (b) Royal Navy and (c) Royal Air Force personnel are stationed in the Falkland Islands.

Penny Mordaunt:

As of 24 May 2016, there were 59 Royal Navy, 483 Army and 600 Royal Air Force personnel stationed in the Falkland Islands.

Jim Shannon: [\[38103\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what facilities are available in the Falkland Islands for the repair of (a) helicopters, (b) ships and (c) aircraft; and on how many occasions military vehicles of each such type have been returned to the UK for repairs which were not capable of being undertaken on those Islands.

Penny Mordaunt:

Technical equipment and personnel are available in the Falkland Islands to conduct routine maintenance on helicopters, ships and aircraft. On-island records extend only to the last 18 months and in that time no helicopters or ships have been returned to the UK for repairs. Aircraft are rotated on occasion between the Falkland Islands and other MOD locations in order to best utilise the fleet and to conduct complex maintenance.

■ **Intelligence and Security Committee: RAF Menwith Hill**

Fabian Hamilton: [\[38281\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, when any member of the Intelligence and Security Committee last visited NSA/NRO Menwith Hill in their capacity as a member of that committee.

Fabian Hamilton: [\[38415\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether any member of the Intelligence and Security Committee visited the US military bases at Mildenhall, USAF Croughton, USAF Lakenheath, USAF Fairford, USAF Molesworth and USAF Feltwell in the last five years.

Michael Fallon:

The Intelligence and Security Committee does not comment on the details of its work programme. Where appropriate it publishes information on visits it has undertaken in its Annual Reports.

■ **Maritime Patrol Aircraft**

Toby Perkins: [\[38258\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of UK allies providing maritime patrol aircraft for use in the UK in advance of the delivery of new P8 aircraft.

Toby Perkins:

[[38261](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what discussions he has had with which of his international counterparts on the provision of maritime patrol aircraft for use in the UK in advance of the delivery of the P8 aircraft.

Mr Philip Dunne:

Since the withdrawal of the Nimrod MR2 in March 2010, we have drawn on other military assets, including Type 23 Frigates, submarines and Merlin Anti-Submarine Warfare helicopters and, where appropriate and possible, assistance from allies. We will continue the present practice of issuing requests to allies to provide Maritime Patrol Aircraft when there is an operational need to do so.

Our allies are well aware of the value of such reciprocal support and there are also many instances of the UK providing support to others. Examples include Quick Reaction Alert aircraft for Baltic Air Policing and the integration of HMS KENT into a French carrier group deployment to the Gulf last year

■ Ministry of Defence Police

Fabian Hamilton:

[[38278](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, who pays for the services of the Ministry of Defence Police when they work on US bases in the UK.

Penny Mordaunt:

The Ministry of Defence Police (MDP) provides services by arrangement to the United States Visiting Forces. The US Authorities are responsible for bearing the cost of the services of the MDP deployed on operational duty at RAF bases in the UK that are made available to the United States Visiting Forces.

Fabian Hamilton:

[[38279](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, to whom Ministry of Defence Police working on US bases in the UK are directly accountable.

Penny Mordaunt:

All Ministry of Defence (MOD) Police Officers deployed on operational duty at RAF bases in the UK that are made available to the United States Visiting Forces are directly accountable to, and under the direction and control of the Chief Constable MOD Police.

■ Ministry of Defence: Empty Property

Tom Tugendhat:

[R] [[37892](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the cost was for maintaining his Department's properties classified as void in (a) 2013, (b) 2014 and (c) 2015.

Mark Lancaster:

Information on the cost of maintaining Service Family Accommodation (SFA) on Ministry of Defence (MOD) properties classed as void prior to 2014-15 is not held.

For 2014-15 the cost was £5.590 million and for 2015-16 the cost was £5.714 million. This covers the standard cost of retaining SFA when it is vacant, regardless of whether any maintenance is required.

Tom Tugendhat: [R] [[37894](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many of his Department's properties classified as void have been empty for over 12 months.

Tom Tugendhat: [R] [[37897](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many of his Department's properties and in which locations are classified as void.

Penny Mordaunt:

The number and locations of properties classified as void as of 24 May 2016 are shown in the table below:

COUNTY	VOIDS
ABERDEENSHIRE	5
ANGUS	20
ARGYLL AND BUTE	237
AVON	42
AYRSHIRE	21
BEDFORDSHIRE	194
BERKS	276
BUCKS	183
CAITHNESS	1
CAMBS	373
CHESHIRE	50
CLWYD	1
CORNWALL	46
*COUNTY ANTRIM	647
*COUNTY DOWN	397
COUNTY DURHAM	16
CUMBRIA	14

COUNTY	VOIDS
ABERDEENSHIRE	5
DEVON	202
DORSET	151
DUMBARTON	4
DUMFRIES	3
DURHAM	8
DYFED	45
EAST SUSSEX	2
EAST YORKSHIRE	4
EDINBURGH	169
ESSEX	155
FIFE	221
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	88
GWENT	45
GWYNEDD	53
**HANTS	1074
HEREFORDSHIRE	8
HERTS	176
INVERNESS-SHIRE	58
ISLE OF BENBECULA	3
KENT	483
LANCASHIRE	86
LEICESTERSHIRE	162
LINCOLNSHIRE	294
LONDON	86
MIDDLESEX	163

COUNTY	VOIDS
ABERDEENSHIRE	5
MIDLOTHIAN	43
MORAY	121
NORFOLK	209
NORTH LANARKSHIRE	4
NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE	3
NORTH YORKS	522
NORTHUMBERLAND	67
NOTTINGHAM	58
ORKNEY ISLANDS	1
OXON	361
OXON	1
PEMBROKE	4
PERTH	3
POWYS	64
RENFREWSHIRE	26
ROSS AND CROMARTY	1
SHETLAND ISLANDS	1
SHROPSHIRE	223
SOMERSET	90
SOUTH GLAMORGAN	111
SOUTH YORKS	2
ST ANDREWS	3
STAFFORDSHIRE	83
STIRLING	1
SUFFOLK	281

COUNTY	VOIDS
ABERDEENSHIRE	5
SURREY	222
SWINDON, WILTS	19
TYNE AND WEAR	12
WARWICKSHIRE	69
WEST MIDLANDS	9
WEST SUSSEX	14
WEST YORKS	2
***WILTS	1294
YORKSHIRE	29
(blank)	
Total Voids	10219

Of these properties 4623 were vacant for more than 12 months.

*The majority of void properties in Northern Ireland are awaiting demolition while 59 have been gifted to the NI Executive.

**Void properties in Hants have been retained due to short term Ministry of Defence requirements and plans have been made to release many of these for disposal.

***In the Wiltshire region a number of properties remain void to accommodate Army personnel returning to the area from Germany as a result of the Army Basing Programme.

Tom Tugendhat: [R] [[37895](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps he is taking to reduce the number of his Department's properties classified as void.

Tom Tugendhat: [R] [[38099](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether he has plans for the disposal of his Department's vacant properties in the UK.

Penny Mordaunt:

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is developing an ambitious programme of estate rationalisation which will provide a plan for a smaller, but significantly better Defence estate to meet the needs of the Armed Forces as set out in the Strategic Defence and Security Review 2015. This strategic review of the Defence estate will provide a more

efficient and better infrastructure laydown in support of military capability for future generations. The MOD expects to announce the final results of this review in the autumn. When the MOD no longer has a requirement for vacant properties they will be disposed of in accordance with the standard disposal procedure.

The MOD is also reducing the number of voids by leasing out vacant properties from directly renting to the general public and through other organisations. A number of properties are also vacant awaiting the return of remaining Army personnel and families from Germany over the next three years who will require accommodation.

Tom Tugendhat: [R] [37896]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what his Department's target is for the proportion of its properties that are classified as void.

Penny Mordaunt:

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) target for the proportion of Service Family Accommodation properties classified as void is 10 per cent which allows the MOD to facilitate moves in and out of each area, support short notice requirements and allow for upgrades to take place.

■ RAF Croughton

Fabian Hamilton: [38280]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether the proposed redevelopment of USAF Croughton by the US has been confirmed to him.

Penny Mordaunt:

I refer the hon. Member to the Written Statement made by my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State (Michael Fallon) on 8 January 2015.

Attachments:

1. Hansard extract on Infrastructure Review
[Hansard_Extract_8_January_2015.[1].docx]

■ Syria: Armed Conflict

Catherine West: [38177]

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what information he holds on the airstrike that hit a Médecins Sans Frontières Hospital in Aleppo on 28 April 2016.

Penny Mordaunt:

The Ministry of Defence has seen published reports in relation to this incident, which is one of a number of such attacks against medical facilities in opposition-held eastern Aleppo since 22 April. We condemn any intentional targeting of medical facilities and, while we are not able to comment on the detail of this particular incident, we consider it likely that most of these attacks have been carried out by the Regime or its backers.

Catherine West:

[\[38178\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many civilian deaths have been recorded from UK airstrikes in Syria since the UK military campaign started.

Michael Fallon:

There has been no credible evidence or report of civilian casualties as a result of UK airstrikes in Syria since the UK military campaign started.

■ Warships: South Atlantic

Richard Fuller:

[\[38134\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, when he expects to deploy a Type 23 Frigate or Type 45 Destroyer as part of the South Atlantic Patrol Tasking.

Penny Mordaunt:

The Royal Navy conducts routine deployments in the Atlantic region. However, for reasons of safeguarding national security, we do not discuss the detail of such operations, as this would or would be likely to prejudice the capability, effectiveness or security of the Armed Forces.

The Royal Navy also maintains a permanent presence in the South Atlantic in the form of the Falkland Islands Patrol Vessel, HMS CLYDE, supported by a Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship. The Royal Navy's Ice Patrol Ship, HMS PROTECTOR, also operates in the South Atlantic region for periods of the year.

■ Yemen: Military Intervention

Stephen Doughty:

[\[38314\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment he has made of the effect of the use of UK-supplied BL-755 cluster munitions by the Saudi Arabian-led coalition on the civilian population in Yemen.

Mr Philip Dunne:

I refer the hon. Member to the Statement I made on 24 May 2016 (Official Report, column 401).

Attachments:

1. Hansard extract on Yemen: Cluster Munitions
[20160524_UQ_on_Yemen_Cluster_Munitions[2].docx]

EDUCATION

■ Animal Welfare: Curriculum

Dr Paul Monaghan:

[\[37861\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, if the Government will take steps to incorporate animal welfare into the national curriculum for primary school children in England.

Nick Gibb:

The National Curriculum, taught from September 2014, focuses on the essential knowledge so that teachers can design a wider school curriculum that best meets the needs of their pupils.

The programmes of study for science include the opportunity to teach children about different animals, their needs for survival and their environment. Beyond the prescribed curriculum, schools have the freedom to teach subjects or topics, such as animal welfare, to ensure that children receive a rounded education.

■ **Audenshaw School**

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38197\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37377, whether she has seen the report commissioned by Audenshaw School as part of an Ofsted requirement into the use of pupil premium money at that school; and if she will make a statement.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38198\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37377, if she will place in the Library a copy of the report commissioned by Audenshaw School as part of an Ofsted requirement into the use of pupil premium money at that school.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38199\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37377, if she will meet with the hon. Member for Denton and Reddish to discuss his concerns about Audenshaw School.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38200\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37377, whether she has discussed the issue of governance, accountability and scrutiny at Audenshaw School with (a) the Regional Schools Commissioner and (b) Ofsted; and if she will make a statement.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38201\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37377, what assessment she has made of the implications of the findings of Ofsted in its report of the inspection of Audenshaw School Academy Trust that approximately £120,000 of pupil premium funding was not spent on pupils for whom that funding was intended on the progress of those pupils; and what estimate she has made of the number of pupils at that school so affected.

Mr Sam Gyimah:

The conditions of grant for the pupil premium make clear that its purpose is to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils. School leaders are best placed to decide how to spend the pupil premium in line with this policy and the needs of their pupils.

It is for schools to commission pupil premium reviews and act upon the recommendations. The recommendations should inform their development of an improved strategy for raising the achievement of disadvantaged pupils and spending their pupil premium funding.

The Department has not seen the pupil premium report which Ofsted asked the school to commission. However, having reviewed the Ofsted report, and information from the school's auditors, we have not identified any grounds for further action.

The Hon. Member, Andrew Gwynne, has met the Regional Schools Commissioner for Lancashire and West Yorkshire, Vicky Beer, on a number of occasions to discuss his concerns about Audenshaw School Academy Trust and contact is ongoing.

■ Exercise

Philip Davies:

[\[38120\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, if she will make an assessment of the effectiveness of the Active Movement programme implemented by Public Health Berkshire; and if she will roll that programme out to other parts of the country.

Edward Timpson:

We want all pupils to be healthy and active and we welcome schemes such as Active Movement, which encourage pupils to participate more in physical activity. However, there are currently no plans to assess or roll out the Active Movement programme to all schools. This Government gives schools the freedom to choose how to use the primary PE and sport premium to improve their PE and sport provision. PE remains a compulsory subject at all four key stages in the national curriculum. The national curriculum sets out the expectation that pupils should be physically active for sustained periods of time.

Through the primary PE and sport premium, the Government has provided over £450 million of ring-fenced funding to primary schools to improve PE and sport^[1]. As announced in the 2016 Budget, revenue from the soft drinks industry levy will be used to double the primary PE and sport premium to £320 million a year from September 2017, enabling them to further improve the quality and breadth of PE and sport they offer.

This is part of a wider government commitment to cut obesity rates; linking in to work across Whitehall, including DCMS' recent Sports Strategy and DH's forthcoming Childhood Obesity Strategy (expected to be launched in summer 2016).

[1] Across the academic years 2013/14 to 2015/16.

■ Future Leaders Trust: Finance

Royston Smith:

[\[37908\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how much funding her Department has provided to The Future Leaders Trust in each of the last three years.

Nick Gibb:

The total funding provided by the Department to The Future Leaders Trust in each of the last three years is available via the links below. The accounts for 2015-16 will be published in July 2016.

For 2014-15 published accounts (page 235):

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/517766/DfE-consolidated-annual-report-and-a-counts-2014-to-2015-Web-version.pdf

For 2013-14 published accounts (page 157):

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/397024/DfE_consolidated_annual_report_and_accounts_2013_to_2014.pdf

For 2012-13 published accounts (page 153):

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/275186/DFE_Group_Consolidated_12-13_ARA.pdf

■ Pupils: Bullying

Mr Barry Sheerman: [38293]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what data her Department collects on incidents of peer-to-peer bullying (a) in schools and (b) online.

Mr Barry Sheerman: [38294]

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what data for recording peer-to-peer bullying by schoolchildren (a) in schools and (b) online exist (i) nationally and (ii) locally.

Mr Barry Sheerman: [38302]

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

Edward Timpson:

It is unacceptable for any child to be victimised, harmed or bullied. All schools are required by law to have a behaviour policy which includes measures to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying. They should exercise their own judgment and develop a consistent approach to monitoring bullying incidents in their school. There is no requirement on schools to record and report incidents of bullying, so the Department does not hold national information on the number of incidents of bullying that take place in schools or online.

The Department provided £1.3 million of funding over twelve months from spring 2015 to three anti-bullying organisations which worked with schools and young people to prevent and tackle all forms of bullying, including cyberbullying; and £2 million to organisations to specifically prevent and tackle homophobic, biphobic and transphobic (HBT) bullying in schools. This was on top of the £4 million provided for similar projects over the period 2013-15. In March the Government Equalities Office announced that £1 million will be made available to tackle HBT bullying this year.

■ Schools: Sexual Offences

Tim Farron:

[\[38202\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37395, if she will estimate the number of cases of sexual assault recorded in schools in England in the last five years.

Edward Timpson:

The Department does not collect information on the number of sexual assaults taking place on school sites, and is not able to estimate the numbers of them occurring.

■ Science: Teachers

Nic Dakin:

[\[37394\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many (a) physics and (b) chemistry trainee teachers undertook a pre-initial teacher training subject knowledge enhancement course, broken down by subject and length of course, in each of the last five years.

Nick Gibb:

[Holding answer 23 May 2016]: The subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) programme supports universities and schools in filling teacher training places in priority subjects. It enables candidates who have the potential to be excellent teachers to overcome gaps in their subject knowledge that would otherwise mean that they would not be recruited to a teacher training course.

Tables 1 and 2 contain the number of trainees (by length of course) registered on SKE courses in chemistry and physics from 2011/12 to 2015/16.

Table 1: Physics SKE recruitment for academic years 2011/12 to 2014/15, and claims to date for academic year 2015/16.

	NUMBER OF TRAINEES				
	2011/12 [1]	2012/13 [1]	2013/14 [1]	2014/15 [1]	2015/16 [2]
Duration of SKE course (weeks)					
2	187	133	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	53	62	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	29	32	161	151	28
12	55	64	45	43	32
16	58	48	13	27	19
18	0	0	0	0	1
20	4	2	7	12	23

	NUMBER OF TRAINEES				
24	51	36	54	49	48
26	0	0	13	1	0
28	56	34	20	3	15
32	6	0	5	4	7
36	57	50	4	32	19

Table 2: Chemistry SKE recruitment for academic years 2011/12 to 2014/15, and claims to date for academic year 2015/16.

	NUMBER OF TRAINEES				
Course duration (weeks)	2011/12 [1]	2012/13 [1]	2013/14 [1]	2014/15 [1]	2015/16 [2]
2	172	83	N/A	N/A	N/A
4	63	66	N/A	N/A	N/A
8	7	14	156	161	52
10	0	0	1	4	0
12	61	73	69	56	36
16	52	19	24	23	24
20	1	1	9	12	15
24	65	40	28	36	39
28	44	31	0	4	2
32	19	0	5	10	7
36	95	93	17	22	17

[1] Submitted trainee data and accepted claims for the full academic year.

[2] Accepted claims as at 6 May 2016.

The final 2015/16 data will not be available until after the end of the academic year; however, the number of people using SKE in the current academic year is 59% of last year's total which, if previous years' trends apply to the current year, would suggest increased use of SKE compared to 2014/15.

■ Teachers: Training

Royston Smith:

[\[37909\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what proportion of teachers who have participated in The Future Leaders Trust programmes in the last three years are now in senior leadership posts.

Nick Gibb:

The Department currently funds two training programmes delivered by the Future Leaders Trust (FLT): the High Potential Senior Leaders programme and the Talented Leaders Programme.

94% of teachers who have participated in the High Potential Senior Leaders programme in the last three years are now in headship or senior leadership posts. This figure includes participants in their first, second or final year of the programme.

In August 2014, FLT was awarded the contract to deliver the Talented Leaders Programme. The first cohort in 2015 was made up of 16 participants. As of May 2016, 100% of these are still in post as head teachers.

FLT also delivered a pilot programme of the Multi-Academy Trusts (MAT) CEO course for 23 participants. Recent analysis shows that all participants were still in leadership posts in MATs or similar educational organisations.

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

■ Carbon Emissions

Alex Cunningham:

[\[37853\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what recent assessment she has made of the financial viability of (a) carbon capture and storage and (b) alternative options in helping to reduce the UK's carbon dioxide emissions.

Andrea Leadsom:

The Government views Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) as having a potentially important role in the long-term decarbonisation of the UK's economy. However, CCS is currently too expensive and costs must come down. Government will set out its approach to CCS in due course, informed by the findings from Lord Oxburgh's CCS Advisory Group.

In comparing the costs of other low-carbon technologies in the future, DECC typically use the levelised costs of electricity generation. Levelised costs include capital and operating costs over the lifetime of a plant, as well as DECC estimates of projected fuel and carbon costs.

We are currently undertaking a comprehensive review of our evidence on levelised costs of electricity generation.

Alex Cunningham:

[\[37854\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, with reference to the Energy Technologies Institute report, published on 12 May 2016, what assessment she has made of the implications for her policy of carbon capture and storage technology contributing to meeting the UK's commitments to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Andrea Leadsom:

The Government views Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) as having a potentially important role in the long-term decarbonisation of the UK's economy. The Government will set out its approach to CCS in due course, and the recent Energy Technologies Institute report, funded by DECC, will inform the Government's thinking.

■ Carbon Sequestration

Alex Cunningham:

[\[37851\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what assessment she has made of the implications for her policy of the conclusion of the Energy Technologies Institute report, published on 12 May 2016, that there are no technical hurdles to permanently and safely storing large quantities of carbon dioxide off the coast of the UK.

Andrea Leadsom:

The Government views Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) as having a potentially important role in the long-term decarbonisation of the UK's economy. The Government will set out its approach to CCS in due course, and the recent Energy Technologies Institute report, funded by DECC, will inform the Government's thinking.

Alex Cunningham:

[\[37852\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, when her Department plans to produce a forward plan for carbon capture and storage strategy in the UK.

Andrea Leadsom:

The Government will set out its approach to Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) in due course, informed by the findings of Lord Oxburgh's CCS Advisory Group which is planning to report to the Government shortly .

■ Coal Fired Power Stations

Mr David Anderson:

[\[38277\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what proportion of coal burnt in UK coal-fired power stations in each of the last three years was mined in the UK.

Andrea Leadsom:

This can be estimated by subtracting the amount of steam coal imports (mainly used by coal-fired power stations) by the total amount of coal used in electricity generation. Please see the table below:

	IMPORTS OF STEAM COAL (THOUSAND TONNES)	COAL USED IN GENERATION (THOUSAND TONNES)	UK PRODUCED COAL USED FOR GENERATION * (THOUSAND TONNES)	PROPORTION OF UK PRODUCED COAL USED FOR GENERATION %
2013	42,995	50,041	7,046	14.0%
2014	35,294	38,400	3,106	8.0%
2015 (provisional)	20,631	29,342	8,711	29.6%

* This includes stocks from earlier years.

Source:

Energy Trends tables 2.1 and 2.4, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/solid-fuels-and-derived-gases-section-2-energy-trends>.

■ Coal: Imports

Mr Mark Williams:

[37519]

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what her Department's policy is on restricting the import of cheap, inferior-quality coal to the UK.

Andrea Leadsom:

The decision of where to source coal is a commercial decision for companies. Through our efforts to decarbonise our electricity system, we are increasing the diversity of our energy mix and reducing our reliance on unabated coal.

■ Department for Energy and Climate Change: Food

Nick Smith:

[37827]

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what the annual budget is for food produced for her Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for her Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Andrea Leadsom:

The Department of Energy and Climate Change does not have an annual food budget. Catering services are provided via a DEFRA contract which is operated on a nil subsidy basis.

Annual spend is determined by the contractor and is informed by private sales to members of staff.

Forty-eight percent of food and drink provided through this contract is sourced from UK producers (based on figures for Jan-Mar 2016). This proportion reflects that a large

volume of food and drink sold to staff includes non-indigenous products such as rice, pasta, tea, coffee and bananas, and that as this period falls in the Winter season there are out of UK seasonal products procured from the wider EU.

One hundred percent of beef, chicken, lamb, pork, free range eggs, milk and yoghurt is sourced from the UK.

■ Department for Energy and Climate Change: Pay

Greg Mulholland:

[\[38219\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what the average hourly earnings were of her Department's (a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.

Andrea Leadsom:

The average hourly earnings for a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016 are set out in the tables below*:

2015 – Hourly earnings

GRADE	ETHNICITY	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS (£)
AO	BME	12.38
	Non-BME	11.89
EO	BME	14.15
	Non-BME	14.07
HEO	BME	16.58
	Non-BME	16.71
SEO	BME	19.55
	Non-BME	20.15
Grade 7	BME	25.73
	Non-BME	26.22
Grade 6	BME	31.94
	Non-BME	31.82
SCS	BME	36.63
	Non-BME	42.28

2016 – Hourly earnings*

GRADE	ETHNICITY	AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS (£)
AO	BME	11.65
	Non-BME	11.21
EO	BME	13.98
	Non-BME	13.45
HEO	BME	16.35
	Non-BME	16.17
SEO	BME	19.47
	Non-BME	19.51
Grade 7	BME	25.73
	Non-BME	26.02
Grade 6	BME	31.58
	Non-BME	31.80
SCS	BME	36.87
	Non-BME	42.04

* Please note:

- Hourly earnings are calculated based on FTE salary, a 37 hour week, and include London and Aberdeen staff.
- Data is based on employees that have declared their ethnicity. Those who have not responded, or 'prefer not to say' are excluded from the data.
- The trend in lower average hourly earnings from 2015 to 2016 is likely to be due to the exit scheme in March 2016, which consisted of generally longer serving and higher paid staff leaving the organisation

■ Green Deal Scheme

Anna Turley:

[\[38176\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what assessment she has made of the performance of the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund.

Andrea Leadsom:

The uptake and implementation of the Green Deal Home Improvement Fund (GDHIF) has been assessed as part of the wider Green Deal evaluation programme. This information can be found via the following links:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/green-deal-and-eco-evaluation>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/green-deal-assessments-research>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-in-to-the-green-deal-and-eco-programme-supply-chain-follow-up-study>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/green-deal-household-tracker-survey-july-2014-dip-headline-findings>.

By the end of February 2016, 35,330 GDHIF vouchers had been paid, following the installation of 41,263 measures. Around three quarters of the measures installed were solid wall insulation (74 per cent of measures installed). These and other latest statistics which include those relating to GDHIF are to be found via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/household-energy-efficiency-national-statistics-headline-release-may-2016>.

■ Hinkley Point C Power Station

George Kerevan: [37660]

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, whether there is any involvement of China National Nuclear Corporation as a stakeholder in the construction or ownership of the Hinkley Point C reactor.

Andrea Leadsom:

This is a commercial matter for EDF Energy.

Any company involved in the UK civil nuclear sector must meet the robust requirements of our regulatory regime.

■ Solar Power

Helen Hayes: [37500]

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what estimate she has made of how many UK solar companies have gone out of business or stopped installing solar PV as a result of policy changes made since May 2015.

Andrea Leadsom:

We recognise the efforts the solar industry is making to adapt following those changes; changes that we had to make to protect billpayers from the ever-increasing costs of support.

We are encouraged by the way the industry is responding: deployment of solar under the revised FIT scheme continues, at rates that match those seen historically following revisions to the scheme.

We expect that deployment will increase further as costs continue to fall, and the industry acclimatizes to the new system.

Helen Hayes:

[37501]

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, what estimate she has made of the number of job losses in the UK solar SME sector arising from the closure of the feed-in tariff scheme and its replacement with a capped scheme.

Andrea Leadsom:

The projected employment impacts of the revised feed-in tariff scheme were set out in Annex C of the impact assessment published alongside the FIT Review government response. This can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486084/A_-_FITs_consultation_response_with_Annexes_-_FINAL_SIGNED.pdf

This is a UK success story with 99% of solar installed since 2010 and 8GW already deployed.

Helen Hayes:

[37502]

To ask the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, how much domestic solar PV by MWp has been deployed in quarter 2 of the new FIT scheme; and what the cap is for this quarter.

Andrea Leadsom:

Domestic solar PV (typically over 4kW) is included within the over 10kW solar PV cap. The quarter two 2016 cap for solar PV over 10kW was set at 76.96 MW, which includes unutilised capacity from the quarter one 2016 cap. As of 17 May, 12.141 MW of capacity had been deployed within this cap.

Ofgem's regular reports on the Feed-In Tariff deployment caps can be found at:

<https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/feed-tariff-fit-scheme/feed-tariff-fit-reports-and-statistics/feed-tariff-deployment-caps-reports>.

More recent deployment levels followed a high number of applications before the introduction of caps and reduced tariffs on 8 February. For example, domestic (over 4kW) deployment in MW in December 2015 was more than double that of December 2014, and January 2016 more than triple that of January 2015.

ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

■ Birds: Conservation

Jim Shannon:

[38092]

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps her Department is taking to protect and help encourage curlew and lapwing habitats.

Rory Stewart:

Both lapwings and curlews are priorities for conservation action. For example, the Government's agri-environment schemes have been designed to encourage habitat

management to promote their conservation in targeted areas, specifically to provide suitable nesting and foraging conditions.

Many of the most important sites for nesting lapwings are managed as nature reserves by Government and non-government organisations. In such cases highly specialised management can lead to high numbers breeding in relatively small areas. Success has also been achieved through agricultural schemes such as the Pepperering Project on the Arundel estate.

Curlews are more widespread and their specific requirements for breeding are less well-understood. Natural England, together with the RSPB, is conducting research to better tailor upland land management to the specific needs of curlews and to support lapwing breeding.

As part of Defra's programme of monitoring agri-environment schemes, Natural England has commissioned a survey of breeding waders (including lapwings and curlews) in upland areas in England to measure the effectiveness of these schemes.

As with all wild birds, lapwings and curlews are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

■ Cats

Dr Paul Monaghan:

[\[37817\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, how many kittens and cats entered the UK under the EU Pet Travel Scheme in (a) 2015 and (b) each previous year since that scheme's introduction.

George Eustice:

The number of pet cats entering Great Britain from January 2004 to December 2015 under the EU Pet Travel Scheme is detailed below.

YEAR	TOTAL
2004	7314
2005	8544
2006	9450
2007	9935
2008	11643
2009	6789
2010	7870
2011	8280

YEAR	TOTAL
2012	14601
2013	14147
2014	15081
2015	21404

Kittens which are old enough to meet the requirements for the scheme will be included in these figures.

The statistics are provided by the carriers transporting pet animals on approved routes into Great Britain.

■ Glyphosate

Mrs Anne Main:

[\[38290\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what assessment she has made of the effectiveness of glyphosate usage in farming and crop production; and what her policy is on the European Commission's proposals to re-approve that use for the next 15 years.

George Eustice:

Glyphosate is an important element of effective and economic weed control in crop production. It is also of value in other sectors, such as the maintenance of roads and railways.

The Government recognises the importance of effective pesticides and believes that they should be authorised where the scientific evidence shows they do not pose unacceptable risks to human health or the environment.

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) concluded that glyphosate met these standards and UK experts agree. The Government therefore considers that glyphosate should be approved.

■ Nature Conservation: Crime

Henry Smith:

[\[38171\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what the status is of the draft Control of Trade in Endangered Species (Enforcement) Regulations; and when those regulations are expected to be adopted into UK law.

Rory Stewart:

Following consultation on proposals to update and consolidate the existing legislation on the control of trade in endangered species last year, work to finalise a new regulation is nearing completion. The aim remains for the new regulation to come into force as soon as possible, in the second half of this year.

■ Pigmeat: Exports

Kevin Hollinrake: [\[38291\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what progress her Department has made on developing the pork export accreditation protocol.

George Eustice:

Defra has submitted detailed information required by the Chinese authorities, which they are reviewing. The UK Agriculture, Food and Drink Counsellor, based in Beijing, has met with the Chinese authorities to raise the importance of this agreement and we continue to press for expeditious consideration of the UK application to allow exports of UK pigs' trotters to commence as soon as possible.

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE**■ Belgium: Radicalism**

Andrew Rosindell: [\[38373\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what assessment his Department has made of the potential link between the foreign funding of Islamic cultural centres in Belgium and a rise in extremism and terrorism (a) in that country and (b) elsewhere; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

We do not have evidence to prove that the funding of Islamic cultural centres is linked to the rise of extremism and terrorism. We work closely with all levels of government in Belgium and with faith communities to discuss issues of mutual concern, including terrorism and extremism. We have a constructive partnership with Belgium to tackle these shared challenges. We will continue to work with a range of partners to protect UK and British interests.

■ British Nationals Abroad: Prisoners

Tom Brake: [\[37910\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what services are provided by the Government for UK citizens who are imprisoned abroad.

James Duddridge:

The UK Government supports British nationals abroad through the FCO's network of consular staff. The assistance we provide to British nationals detained overseas is primarily concerned with supporting their welfare. Consular officers keep in regular contact with British nationals who request our assistance, either by visiting, by telephone or by letter. The frequency of visits will depend on local prison conditions and the circumstances of the case. Staff will visit more frequently if they think it necessary. With consent, we will provide updates to families, ensure that medical problems are brought to the attention of the local authorities, take up allegations of mistreatment, and

consider approaching the local authorities if we believe a British national is not being treated in line with internationally-accepted standards.

Tom Brake: [\[38036\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what estimate he has made of the number of UK citizens imprisoned abroad in each country.

James Duddridge:

We collect global detainee statistics twice a year. On 30 September 2015 we were aware of 2,003 British nationals detained overseas (either pre- or post- sentencing). The largest numbers are detained in USA (499), Spain (186), Ireland (173), Australia (155) and France (102).

Tom Brake: [\[38037\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what estimate he has made of the number of UK citizens in each country who are in prison and facing the death penalty.

James Duddridge:

We are currently aware of 13 British nationals in detention abroad who have been sentenced to death. There are a further 54 cases of British nationals who are under trial, appeal or at a pre-trial stage that could lead to a death sentence. Cases with a potential death penalty sentence in Pakistan make up the biggest number (31).

We oppose the death penalty in all circumstances. If a British national has been sentenced to death or faces a charge that carries the death penalty, we will raise the case at whatever stage and level we judge to be appropriate.

■ Burma: Rohingya

Greg Mulholland: [\[37777\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent discussions he has had with the Burmese Minister of Foreign Affairs, Aung San Suu Kyi, on human rights for the Rohingya.

Mr Hugo Swire:

We remain deeply concerned about the plight of the Rohingya community. The Prime Minister, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Witney (Mr Cameron) raised the situation of the Rohingya with Aung San Suu Kyi during his conversation with her after the Burmese election in November. The Foreign Secretary, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond), subsequently wrote to Daw Suu in December, again raising this issue. The Burma Resolution at the March Human Rights Council, which we co-sponsored, placed Rakhine as the central and most pressing human rights matter facing the incoming administration.

While the new Government has been in power for a few weeks only, we will continue to support and encourage Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy-led Government in making progress on this important issue.

■ China: Nuclear Power

George Kerevan: [\[37782\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what reports the Government has received on involvement by the China National Nuclear Corporation in the illegal supply of 5,000 ring magnets to Pakistan of a type suitable for use in gas centrifuges to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

There were media reports in the mid-1990s of a transfer of 5,000 ring magnets by the China National Nuclear Corporation to Pakistan. China strongly denied government awareness or involvement. In 2004 China joined the Nuclear Suppliers Group, of which the UK is also a member, which agrees guidelines for the transfer of potentially sensitive nuclear-related technologies and material between states.

■ Colombia: State Visits

Christian Matheson: [\[38282\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what information he holds on the (a) military representation that will accompany President Santos of Colombia on his state visit to the UK in November 2016 and (b) rank and function of each such military representative.

Mr Hugo Swire:

I am delighted that Her Majesty The Queen has invited President Santos and the First Lady of Colombia to the UK for the Autumn State Visit. HMG is in regular communication with the Colombian Government in the preparation for the Visit. Details of the programme including the composition of the Official Suite accompanying the President are yet to be confirmed.

Robert Flello: [\[38283\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what parts of the UK the President of Colombia will visit during his state visit in November 2016.

Mr Hugo Swire:

I refer the Honourable Gentleman to my answer to PQ 38282.

Robert Flello: [\[38284\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what information he holds on which members of the Colombian government will accompany President Santos on his state visit to the UK in November 2016; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Hugo Swire:

I refer the Honourable Gentleman to my answer to PQ 38282.

■ Ethiopia: Human Rights

Rebecca Long Bailey: [\[38386\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps his Department is taking to prevent human rights abuses against the Oromo people in Ethiopia; and what recent representations he has made to his Ethiopian counterpart on that issue.

Rebecca Long Bailey: [\[38387\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what assessment he has made of the capacity of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission to investigate the handling of recent protests in Oromia, Ethiopia.

Rebecca Long Bailey: [\[38388\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what assessment he has made of progress in addressing the UK's concerns over human rights abuses in Ethiopia since his meeting with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Tedros in January 2016.

James Duddridge:

We remain deeply concerned about the handling of demonstrations in Oromia, including the reported deaths of a number of protestors, and about those detained under the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation. We have repeatedly made representations to the Ethiopian Government over the situation in that region. Justine Greening, the Secretary of State for International Development, raised our concerns with Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn on 21 January and Her Majesty's Ambassador last raised the issue with Prime Minister Hailemariam on 26 April.

I met with Dr Tedros at the African Union Summit in Addis Ababa on 27 January. I raised the UK's concerns with regards to the human rights situation. We will continue to raise our concerns with the Government of Ethiopia both through our bilateral engagement, most notably through our ongoing Human Rights Dialogue, as well as jointly with our international partners.

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has been appointed to look into the handling of the protests in Oromia. We will not pre-judge the outcome of their investigation and we await the publication of their report. We will continue to urge the EHRC and the Government of Ethiopia to ensure that their report is credible, transparent and leads to concrete action. We will take a view on what further lobbying, if any, might be appropriate following the publication of the EHRC report.

■ Ethiopia: Military Aid

Rebecca Long Bailey: [\[38391\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what military support has been provided to the government of Ethiopia in the last five years; what such support he plans to provide in the next five years; and whether the UK currently provides training for Ethiopian security or military personnel.

James Duddridge:

Ethiopia is one of the world's largest peacekeeping troop contributors, heavily engaged in the fight against Al Shabaab in neighbouring Somalia which is vital to build stability in the region and to UK interests. The UK maintains a Defence relationship with the Ethiopian Ministry of National Defence, focused on education and training in non-combat areas. Over the past five years that has been centred on assisting in the setting up of the Ethiopian Peace Support Training Centre, and providing courses that give members of the Ethiopian military an improved range of non-combat skills as they serve on regional peace support operations. We have run a successful programme of English language training, delivered by the British Council, and a Masters course in Security Sector Management, for students from across the Eastern Africa region. We have provided a small number of places to Ethiopian military students on courses in the UK.

The importance of good governance, accountability and respect for human rights is central to this programme of engagement. Over the next five years, we will continue to focus on helping Ethiopia to develop its capability to conduct peace support operations in the region, and continue to encourage improved governance and accountability within the security sector.

■ EU Law**Mrs Anne Main:**[\[37742\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, with reference to the Answer of 4 May 2016 to Question 33530, on EU law, if he will place in the Library a list of those proposals on which texts have been agreed at COREPER level and which are waiting full council consideration.

Mr David Lidington:

The Committee of Permanent Representatives (COREPER) prepares items for agreement by Ministers attending the Council of the European Union, in line with the UK negotiating position agreed by HMG Ministers. Legislative proposals are subject to scrutiny by Parliament in accordance with the Scrutiny Reserve Resolutions prior to adoption at Council. Council meetings are reported to both Houses by Written or, in exceptional cases, Oral Statements, with letters sent to the European Select Committees in recess. Provisional agendas for Council and COREPER meetings can be accessed through the website of the Council of the European Union:

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/documents-publications/>

■ EU Staff: British Nationality**Stephen Timms:**[\[38071\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many UK nationals have been on the staff of the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU in each year since 2010; and what proportion of such staff in each such year were of administrator grade.

Mr David Lidington:

[Holding answer 26 May 2016]: The General Secretariat of the Council of the EU does not publish statistics on numbers of permanent staff by nationality. According to our own internal records, the total numbers of UK nationals employed by the General Secretariat of the Council of the EU, including secondees, in each year since 2010 are:

2010: 159 (98 at AD) 2011: 100 (50 at AD) 2012: 99 (52 at AD) 2013: 91 (56 at AD) 2014: 87 (55 at AD) 2015: 93 (56 at AD)

The latest figure available is for May 2016 and is 101 (62 at AD).

■ Far East: Nuclear Weapons**Andrew Rosindell:**[\[38368\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent discussions he has had with his (a) Japanese and (b) South Korean counterparts on the development of nuclear weapons by those countries.

Mr Hugo Swire:

While the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond) has discussed nuclear non-proliferation issues with his Japanese and South Korean counterparts this year, the specific issue raised in the question has not arisen: in joining the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty as Non-Nuclear Weapons States, Japan and South Korea have undertaken legally binding commitments not to acquire nuclear weapons. Japan and the Republic of Korea have made clear public statements that strongly support the treaty as the cornerstone of global efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, to promote the safe and secure use of civil nuclear energy, and to pursue nuclear disarmament.

■ Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Food**Nick Smith:**[\[37828\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for his Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Mr David Lidington:

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does not set a budget for food served in its UK food outlets. Catering services in the UK are provided to staff by an external contractor. Spending on food is determined by the contractor based on sales receipts from FCO staff.

The FCO has worked with its supplier to align the existing contract with the requirements of the Government's food procurement balanced scorecard. By value, approximately 84% of dairy produce, 100% of chicken, 77% of beef, 88% of pork and 91% of other meats is sourced from British producers.

The amount of other food sourced from British producers for the FCO was 35% in the last period for which figures are available (January to March 2016); this figure relates to the catering contractor's main supplier only and includes non-indigenous products (eg tea and coffee) and does not include specialist items (eg scampi).

■ **Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Hotels**

Mr Jim Cunningham:

[37631]

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what the cost to his Department was of hotel bookings made for (a) Ministers, (b) special advisers and (c) officials of his Department in each of the last five years.

Mr David Lidington:

In line with UK government commitments to increase transparency, the Department publishes details on our spend, including data on expenses, travel and hotel costs on GOV.UK. Publication includes all spend which, in compliance with HM Treasury guidance, does not compromise national or personal security, foreign relations or legal obligations under acts such as the Data Protection Act.

Total travel and subsistence spend is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/foreign-and-commonwealth-office-annual-report-and-accounts-2014-to-2015>

Information on our Ministers expenses and hospitality are published at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/minister-data>

■ **Human Rights**

Mr Gavin Shuker:

[37161]

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, which Ministers of his Department have raised human rights issues in an official capacity, and with whom, in the last four weeks.

Mr David Lidington:

Foreign and Commonwealth Office ministers raise a broad range of human rights issues on every appropriate occasion with representatives of foreign governments. However, information on each and every occasion on which human rights have been raised during the period in question is not held centrally and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

■ **Ilois: Resettlement**

Andrew Rosindell:

[38412]

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, whether during his recent visit to Mauritius the British Indian Ocean Territory Commissioner discussed prospects for resettlement with Oliver Bancoult, the Leader of the Chagos Refugees Group.

James Duddridge:

The Commissioner of the British Indian Ocean Territory, who also holds the position of Director of Overseas Territories in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, visited Mauritius to lead a UK delegation to continue official-level talks started in November in London to implement the recent UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) Arbitral Tribunal Award. The Commissioner took the opportunity to, once again, seek Mauritius' views on the question of resettlement, though as before this was refused by Mauritius. While in Mauritius, the Commissioner joined meetings between the British High Commissioner to Mauritius and Chagossian leaders, including Mr Bancoult. A range of matters were discussed, including the Government's further work to develop its policy on the question of resettlement of BIOT. The Commissioner indicated that the UK is still considering its policy in this area and will announce developments in due course.

Iran: Baha'i Faith**Mr George Howarth:**[\[38149\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if he will make representations to the government of Iran on the imprisonment in 2008 of seven Bahá'í leaders in that country.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

The UK regularly raises our concerns at the treatment of the Baha'i community in Iran. We call on the Iranian Government to end all persecution of individuals on the basis of their faith and to fulfil its international and domestic obligations to allow freedom of religion to all Iranians.

Iran: Human Rights**Charlotte Leslie:**[\[38148\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent assessment his Department has made of the human rights situation in Iran.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

The human rights situation in Iran continues to cause great concern, in particular its use of the death penalty and the restrictions on freedom of expression and belief. Although President Rouhani pledged to improve the rights and freedoms of the citizens of Iran when he was elected, we are yet to see concrete improvements.

Iraq: Iran**Charlotte Leslie:**[\[38116\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent assessment his Department has made of the human rights situation in Camp Liberty, Iraq.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

We remain concerned about the residents of Camp Liberty. Our Embassy in Baghdad regularly raises this issue with the Government of Iraq and we support the United Nations' calls for more to be done to protect residents. We are working with the United

Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to relocate all the residents to safe third countries.

That being said, Monitors from the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) regularly visit Camp Liberty and issue daily reports which provide an update on the situation there. Their assessment remains that the provision of life support systems such as water, electricity and food continue to be well in excess of basic humanitarian standards. They have reported that the relocation of protective bunkers and installation of additional protective concrete walls, to increase the security and safety of the residents, has been completed. Iraqi government officials have reported that diesel tankers and trucks containing food and other supplies continue to routinely enter the camp, that residents continue to be referred to hospitals and that the clinic remains in operation. Residents' representatives have confirmed this to be accurate.

■ **Israel: Bedouin**

Mr Jim Cunningham: [\[37938\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps his Department is making to help prevent the displacement of Bedouin people in southern Israel; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

We have been encouraging the Israeli authorities and Bedouin communities to find a satisfactory solution to this issue, respecting the equality of all of Israel's citizens.

■ **Israel: Housing**

Mr Jim Cunningham: [\[37940\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what information his Department holds on the number of house demolitions conducted by Israel in each of the last five years; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

We do not hold independent information on the number of house demolitions conducted by the Israeli authorities in the last five years. However, according to United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, between 2011 and 2015, 2851 Palestinian-owned structures were demolished in Area C and East Jerusalem. This figure includes homes, infrastructure and agriculture-related structures. The breakdown is 2011: 560 Palestinian-owned structured demolished (all in West Bank); 2012: 604 (540 in West Bank and 64 in East Jerusalem); 2013: 663 (565 in West Bank and 98 in East Jerusalem); 2014: 493 (98 in East Jerusalem and 395 in West Bank); and 2015: 531 (453 in the West Bank and 78 in East Jerusalem).

■ **Libya: Military Intervention**

Tom Brake: [\[38343\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, pursuant to the Answer of 23 May 2016 to Question 37106, whether the potential use of RAF aircraft to

deliver airstrikes on Daesh targets in Libya has been discussed with the UK's international partners.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

We are working closely with the new Government of National Accord and international partners to develop a comprehensive approach to defeat Daesh in Libya. Planning so far has focused on training Libyan forces to provide their own security.

■ North Korea: Nuclear Weapons

Andrew Rosindell:

[[38370](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent discussions he has had with his (a) Japanese and (b) South Korean counterparts on North Korea's nuclear weapons programme.

Mr Hugo Swire:

We have regular contact with key partners on this issue, including Japan and South Korea. The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, my Rt Hon. Friend the Member for Runnymede and Weybridge (Mr Hammond) discussed this issue with his Japanese counterpart and others at the G7 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Hiroshima on 11 April.

The G7 issued a joint communiqué [<http://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000147440.pdf>] strongly condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)'s nuclear tests and calling upon the international community to enforce the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions to respond to the clear and continuing threat to international peace and security that is posed by the DPRK's nuclear and ballistic missile programmes.

■ Rwanda: Prisoners

Rebecca Long Bailey:

[[38384](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what reports he has received on the imprisonment of Ingabire Umuhoza Victoire in Rwanda; and if he will make a statement.

James Duddridge:

We have been clear in our public and private dialogue with the government of Rwanda that the social and economic progress it has delivered must be mirrored by gains in civil and political rights for its people. This means cultivating a society where a strong opposition and vibrant civil society can flourish. Opposition parties, and their leaders, must be able to operate freely holding the government to account and pushing for change.

We have been monitoring the case of Opposition Coalition Leader Victoire Ingabire closely through our High Commission in Kigali since her arrest in 2010. We will continue to stress our grave concern regarding all cases of arbitrary detention and arrest, including that of Mrs Ingabire, to the government of Rwanda.

■ Syria: Christianity

Jim Shannon:

[\[38256\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what information he holds on the number of Christians in Aleppo.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

There is a lack of reliable information on the number of Christians in Aleppo. At a press conference at the UN in Geneva in March 2016 the Chaldean Bishop of Aleppo, Antoine Audo (also President of Caritas Syria), estimated that the population of Christians in Aleppo had fallen from 160,000 pre-conflict to only 40,000 in 2016. My noble friend, the Rt Hon. Baroness Anelay of St Johns recently met with Armenian Church leaders, including one from Aleppo, who stated his congregation had fallen by 50%.

Overall, prior to the conflict, Christians numbered about 2.2 million — 10% of Syria's population. 40% of the Christian population have now left Syria. Many of the Christians left because of the widespread perception they supported the regime. Those remaining vehemently reject the claim.

■ Syria: Peace Negotiations

Jim Shannon:

[\[38255\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if the Government will raise the link between religious freedom and the degree of broader political liberalisation and stability during peace talks on Syria.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

United Nations Security Council Resolution 2254, which the UK supported, urges all parties to the UN-facilitated political process to adhere to the principle identified by the International Syria Support Group (ISSG) to protect the rights of all Syrians, regardless of ethnicity or religious denomination. Through our membership of the ISSG we will continue to seek to ensure that Syrian minorities will be included and safeguarded as the political process progresses. In our contact with members of the Syrian opposition, who have signed up to the Geneva Communiqué, we have maintained a strong line on our commitment to pluralism and the need to ensure that Freedom of Religion or Belief is enshrined as a constitutional right. A proportion of the High Negotiations Council, including members of the negotiating team, are drawn from religious minority groups in Syria's richly diverse population.

■ Syria: Religious Freedom

Jim Shannon:

[\[38252\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to tackle (a) all the root causes of the conflict and (b) religious persecution of minority faiths in Syria.

Jim Shannon:

[\[38253\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to ensure religious minorities are protected in Syria.

Jim Shannon:

[\[38257\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to protect freedom of religion or belief in Syria.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

Syria's conflict has developed from peaceful protests against the government in 2011 to a violent insurgency that has complex international angles. Asad's brutal actions have fuelled sectarian violence and the growth of Daesh. His regime is ultimately responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of civilians. We support the efforts of the UN Special Envoy for Syria, Staffan De Mistura, to seek agreement on a process of political transition in Syria. We are clear that there can be no military solution to the conflict. The UN led negotiations remain the best opportunity to end the conflict and achieve political transition away from Asad, leading to an inclusive government which can represent all Syrians.

The UK, as a core member of the International Syria Support Group has agreed that protecting the rights of all Syrians, regardless of ethnicity or religious denomination is fundamental. This means seeking to ensure that Syrian minorities are included and safeguarded as the political process progresses. We are supporting non-governmental efforts to promote dialogue between different ethnic and sectarian groups in Syria, as we seek further progress on a political settlement.

Jim Shannon:

[\[38254\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps the Government is taking to promote pluralism and religious freedom in Syria.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

United Nations Security Council Resolution 2254, which we supported, urges all parties to the UN-facilitated political process to adhere to the principle identified by the International Syria Support Group (ISSG) to protect the rights of all Syrians, regardless of ethnicity or religious denomination. Through our membership of the ISSG we will focus all our efforts on ensuring that Syrian minorities are included and safeguarded as the political process progresses. In our contact with members of the Syrian opposition who have signed up to the Geneva Communiqué, we have maintained a strong line on our commitment to pluralism, and the need to ensure that Freedom of Religion or Belief is enshrined as a constitutional right. A proportion of the High Negotiations Council, including members of the negotiating team, are drawn from religious minority groups in Syria's richly diverse population. We are also supporting non-governmental efforts to promote dialogue between different ethnic and sectarian groups and education on tolerance, integration and pluralism.

■ West Bank: Housing

Mr Jim Cunningham: [\[37939\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what steps his Department is taking to help prevent house demolitions in the West Bank; and if he will make a statement.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

We are concerned by reports that there has been a large increase in demolitions since the start of 2016, compared with the monthly average in 2015. Our Ambassador to Tel Aviv has raised our concerns on demolitions with the Israeli authorities, most recently on 15 May, and urged them to provide a legal route for Palestinians to obtain building permits.

■ Yemen: Bomb Disposal

Martyn Day: [\[38339\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if the Government will produce resources, equipment, personnel and training to Yemeni organisations to assist in the de-mining of areas affected by the use of cluster munitions.

Mr Tobias Ellwood:

The UK is supporting UNDP led efforts to urgently re-build the capacity of Yemen's national demining institutions and support mapping and clearance operations to reduce the physical and social-economic impact of mines and explosive remnants of war on people and communities. The UK is contributing £1.05 million for this work in 2016 through the Conflict Stability and Security Fund. This is part of the UK's wider efforts to help address Yemen's urgent humanitarian needs and contribute to effective stabilisation.

HEALTH**■ Alcoholic Drinks: Consumption**

Byron Davies: [\[37848\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will publish all responses received to the Chief Medical Officer's consultation on the revised alcohol guidelines.

Jane Ellison:

As with all consultations of this sort, individual responses to consultations are treated as confidential so not usually published.

However, the Department will provide a summary of all the responses for each of the consultation questions in the Government response to the advice that the UK Chief Medical Officers' guidance.

Byron Davies:

[\[37856\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many EU member states have adopted guidance recommending the same level of weekly alcohol consumption for men and women.

Jane Ellison:

No other European country has carried out a full scientific review of their alcohol guidelines at least in the last ten years.

Byron Davies:

[\[37857\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many consumers and organisations have made representations on the Chief Medical Officer's revised guidelines on alcohol consumption.

Jane Ellison:

We have received 1,017 responses to the UK Chief Medical Officers' alcohol guidelines consultation, including responses as part of a campaign and responses that did not answer some or any of the specific consultation questions.

Byron Davies:

[\[37858\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what assessment he has made of the potential effect of the Chief Medical Officer's revised guidelines on alcohol consumption on consumer behaviour.

Jane Ellison:

The National Institute for Health Research has awarded funding to The University of Sheffield Alcohol Research Group to evaluate the new drinking guidelines. The details will be worked through once the conclusions of the consultation are published.

Byron Davies:

[\[37859\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether he plans to adopt the recommendations made by the Chief Medical Officer on the consumption of alcohol.

Jane Ellison:

The United Kingdom Chief Medical Officers' alcohol guidelines give the public the latest and most up to date scientific information so that they can make informed decisions about their own drinking.

■ Antibiotics

Jim Shannon:

[\[38106\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to reduce the use of antibiotics.

Jane Ellison:

The UK Five Year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy is an ambitious programme to slow the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance, which was published in 2013. The Strategy aims to prevent infection, protect the antibiotics that we have and promote

the development of new drugs and alternative treatments. Each of these initiatives will contribute to reductions in the inappropriate use of antibiotics.

Implementation of our Strategy has met with success in primary care. Between April and December 2015, two million fewer prescriptions were dispensed compared to the same period in 2014, a reduction of 7.9%.

Globally, the United Kingdom has been at the forefront of successful negotiations of the antimicrobial resistance resolution at World Health Organization last year, with equivalent resolutions relating to food and agriculture and animal health. A key part of this work is aimed at reducing the risk of infections and improving antimicrobial stewardship.

We are also aiming to raise the profile of antimicrobial resistance yet higher through a successful high level meeting on antimicrobial resistance at the UN General Assembly in September this year.

Furthermore, we will use the recently published recommendations from Lord O'Neill's Review on antimicrobial resistance to address the global challenge of unblocking the antibiotic pipeline and reducing unnecessary antibiotic usage in both the human and animal health sectors.

■ Antibiotics: Drug Resistance

Chris Green: [\[38142\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what estimate he has made of the effect of antimicrobial resistance on hospital budgets.

Jane Ellison:

The current cost of antimicrobial resistance to the National Health Service is estimated to be in excess of £180 million per annum.

Chris Green: [\[38143\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what estimate his Department has made of the potential number of deaths due to drug-resistant bacteria in the UK in each of the next three years.

Jane Ellison:

Specific information on the number of deaths attributable to antimicrobial resistance is not currently available.

However, a Europe wide study of multi-drug resistance ¹ estimated the number of deaths in the European Union, Norway and Iceland, due to multi-drug resistance in five specific bacteria. On the basis of population size, other things being equal, the conclusions reached in the study would imply that around 3,000 deaths per year in the United Kingdom may be due to multi-drug resistance in those specified infections. This is likely to be an underestimate as it omits consideration of large numbers of other bacteria.

Note:

¹ European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control/European Medicines Agency Joint Technical Report: *The bacterial challenge: time to react* 2009

■ Breastfeeding: Obesity

Dr Sarah Wollaston: [\[37803\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will ensure that the benefits of breastfeeding will be included in the upcoming obesity strategy.

Jane Ellison:

Our Childhood Obesity Strategy, which will be launched in the summer, will look at everything that contributes to a child becoming overweight and obese.

■ Cancer

Andrew Percy: [\[38013\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will take steps to reduce the financial burden on people with cancer which arises from their condition and affects their ability to recover.

Jane Ellison:

In its report *Achieving World Class Cancer Outcomes: A Strategy for England 2015-2020* (July 2015), the independent Cancer Taskforce called for an acceleration of the commissioning and provision of services to support people affected by cancer to live as healthy and as happy lives as possible. Over the last few years, NHS England has been working with Macmillan Cancer Support to roll out the Recovery Package, which describes a set of actions that ensure that the individual needs of all people going through cancer treatment and beyond are met by tailored support and services. By working through a Recovery Package, patients and clinicians assess patients' holistic needs and plan appropriately for their care and support. They ensure that a treatment summary is sent between a patient's hospital and their general practitioner (GP), that they are appropriately followed up by their GP, and can attend health and wellbeing events for patients and carers.

In September 2015, we announced that by 2020, the 280,000 people diagnosed with cancer every year will benefit from a tailored recovery package. In April 2016, NHS England published guidance on the commissioning of these services to support people living with and beyond cancer, and will continue to support both Sustainability and Transformation Plan footprints and clinical commissioning groups to put this guidance into action. Support for patients living with and beyond cancer should be tailored specifically to the needs of every patient, including to access the financial support they need.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38174\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what additional funding his Department plans to make available for implementation of the recommendations of the Independent Cancer Taskforce.

Jane Ellison:

By 2020-21, the Government will increase funding for the National Health Service by £10 billion a year in real terms compared with 2014-15, to support the implementation of the NHS's own plan - the NHS Five Year Forward View - to transform services across the country. The Government is backing the NHS plan and enabling it to go further – by investing £2 billion more than the £8 billion the NHS asked for – delivering government objectives including improved access to cancer treatments.

As part of the response to the independent Cancer Taskforce's recommendations, in September 2015, we announced funding of up to £300 million a year by 2020 to increase diagnostic capacity to meet the new target that patients will be given a definitive cancer diagnosis, or the all clear, within 28 days of being referred by a general practitioner.

Andrew Gwynne:[\[38175\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps have been taken by NHS England to commission access to molecular diagnostic tests for (a) melanoma, (b) lung cancer, (c) colorectal cancer, (d) breast cancer and (e) all paediatric cancers.

Jane Ellison:

The independent Cancer Taskforce recognised the need for more accessible molecular diagnostic provision in its report, *Achieving World-Class Cancer Outcomes: A Strategy for England 2015-2020*, published in July 2015.

Following this, in September 2015, we confirmed a commitment from NHS England to implement the recommendations on molecular diagnostics. This will mean that around 25,000 additional people a year will have their cancers genetically tested to identify the most effective treatments. NHS England worked with partners across the healthcare system to produce an implementation plan, *Achieving World-Class Cancer Outcomes: Taking the strategy forward*, which was published on 12 May 2016.

Also in September 2015, the NHS England Board approved the development of a Personalised Medicine Strategy for the National Health Service, to be discussed at the NHS England Board in the summer. This work will build on the 100,000 Genomes Project, in which the NHS is a key delivery partner. The Project will sequence whole genomes from eligible patients with rare diseases and cancers. It is moving the NHS to a new model of diagnosis and treatment based on understanding of underlying genetic causes and drivers of disease and a comprehensive phenotypic characterisation of the disease (rather than deduction from symptoms and individual diagnostic tests). This will be critical in guiding the approach to molecular diagnostics.

In addition, changes to the section 118 guidance implemented in the national tariff payment system for molecular diagnostics which were implemented from April 2016 will support clinical change and practice and have been broadly welcomed by industry bodies. This means molecular genetic tests which are companion diagnostics being funded separately by commissioners for the first three years before being incorporated into national prices for treatment episodes. There are six tests routinely commissioned in this way in their first three years which have been funded in this way with effect from

April, and an annual process for ensuring that new tests which are clinically and cost-effective and adopted as commissioning policy by NHS England or mandated by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, are reflected in ongoing arrangements.

■ Coeliac Disease

Toby Perkins: [\[38169\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if his Department will ensure that people with coeliac disease can continue to get prescriptions for gluten-free foods.

Alistair Burt:

Gluten-free foods are available on National Health Service prescription to patients with established gluten-sensitive enteropathies. The Department provides general practitioners (GPs) and other prescribers with a list of recommended gluten-free products to help patients, including those with coeliac disease, to manage their condition.

Prescribing decisions are a matter for GPs and other prescribers. They should always satisfy themselves that the medicines or other substances they consider appropriate for their patients can be safely prescribed and that patients are adequately monitored.

■ Department of Health: Pay

Greg Mulholland: [\[38222\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what the average hourly earnings were of his Department's (a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.

Jane Ellison:

The information requested (as at 31 March in each of the two years) is presented below. The figures given take into consideration only information about staff who have formally declared their ethnicity.

	AVERAGE HOURLY RATE 2015	AVERAGE HOURLY RATE 2016
Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Staff	£18.50	£19.03
Non-Black and Minority Ethnic (Non-BME) Staff	£24.23	£24.34

17% of the Department's staff are BME which is above the Civil Service average. The difference in average hourly rates between BME and non BME staff is due to there being a higher proportion of BME staff in junior grades at present.

To encourage recruitment and promotion of talented individuals from a BME background, the Department has undertaken several initiatives including, but not limited to, blind recruitment forms, mandatory unconscious bias training for all staff and a suite

of other Diversity and Inclusion training, such as Race Awareness, Positive Action Pathways, and Future Leaders Schemes.

■ Endometriosis

Nusrat Ghani: [38273]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 9 May 2016 to Question 36176, what steps his Department is taking to increase awareness of endometriosis among (a) primary healthcare professionals and (b) women of reproductive age.

Jane Ellison:

It is important that women with endometriosis receive appropriate treatment and support. Information on endometriosis is readily available to both the public and healthcare professionals. NHS Choices have published information for the public on the symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of endometriosis available at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Endometriosis/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

The Department of Health in England has asked the National Institute of Health and Care Excellence to develop a guideline on the diagnosis and management of endometriosis for healthcare professionals, including those in primary care. The guidance will be published in July 2017.

All obstetricians and gynaecologists have been trained in the diagnosis, investigation and management of endometriosis, which is specifically listed as a topic in the core curriculum for obstetrics and gynaecology.

To support clinicians, the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology has published a comprehensive guideline and app on the management and treatment of endometriosis. Guideline available at:

<https://www.eshre.eu/Guidelines-and-Legal/Guidelines/Endometriosis-guideline.aspx>

Nusrat Ghani: [38274]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 9 May 2016 to Question 36176, what assessment his Department has made of the reasons for the increase in the count of finished admission episodes with a primary or secondary diagnosis of endometriosis, between 2010-11 and 2014-15.

Jane Ellison:

The Department has not conducted a formal assessment of the reasons for the increase in hospital admissions with a primary or secondary diagnosis of endometriosis, between 2010-11 and 2014-15. However, it has asked the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence to develop a guideline on the diagnosis and management of endometriosis. This will include: use of staging systems to guide treatment decisions; timing of interventions; and pharmacological and surgical treatments. A consultation on the draft

guidelines is scheduled to run from 27 February 2017 until the 10 April 2017, with an expected publication date of September 2017.

■ Endometriosis: Diagnosis

Nusrat Ghani: [\[38341\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 9 May 2016 to Question 36175, what steps his Department is taking to reduce the length of time from the onset of symptoms to the diagnosis of endometriosis.

Jane Ellison:

The Department has asked the National Institute of Health for Health and Care Excellence to develop a guideline on the diagnosis and management of endometriosis. This will include: symptoms and signs of endometriosis; and use of diagnostic tests including imaging, biomarkers and surgical diagnosis. The guideline is due to be published in September 2017.

■ Epilepsy: Plymouth

Oliver Colvile: [\[38285\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, for what reasons people in Plymouth who have epilepsy are waiting six months from having a seizure to see a consultant or specialist nurse.

Oliver Colvile: [\[38286\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many people with epilepsy there are in Plymouth.

Oliver Colvile: [\[38287\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what measures his Department uses to identify how often people with a diagnosis of epilepsy receive treatment from a consultant or nurse.

Jane Ellison:

There are no national measures or means by which the Department monitors frequency of patients reviews, either by consultants or nurses. Guidance is issued by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence however this does not replace the skills and knowledge of health professionals in managing patients. The arrangements for the management and follow up of people with epilepsy are a local matter and decisions on the frequency with which patients are seen should be made on a case by case basis, taking into account the individual circumstances of each patient.

NHS England advises that the maximum wait for outpatients to receive a neurology appointment is 12 weeks currently. Additionally 92% of patients are being seen under the specified 'Referral To Treatment' waiting times of 18 weeks which is within the national target.

The information on the number of people with epilepsy in Plymouth is not available in the format requested.

■ Heart Diseases

Fabian Hamilton: [\[38210\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department has taken to ensure equality of access to heart valve replacements.

Fabian Hamilton: [\[38211\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department has taken to improve equality of access to echo-cardiography for the identification of heart valve disease for people aged over 65.

Jane Ellison:

NHS England is holding a Clinical Summit on 15 June 2016, bringing together cardiologists and cardiac surgeons to examine the issues relating to heart valve disease. This will discuss variation and the outputs will be used to inform the future commissioning approach within specialised commissioning.

In addition, the office of the Chief Scientific Officer for NHS England is working with the National Clinical Director for Heart Disease and Health Education England to look at ways to improve provision and increase access to echocardiography for the identification of heart valve disease.

NHS England has also undertaken a significant programme of work on congenital heart services, working very closely with the relevant stakeholders, including patients and their representatives, clinicians and hospital managers. This work produced a new set of service standards with the aim of achieving the best outcomes for all patients, consistently across the whole country and with excellent patient experience. Following consultation these standards were agreed by the board of NHS England in July 2015 and came into effect on 1 April 2016.

■ HIV Infection

Andrew Rosindell: [\[38379\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to advance the development of a cure for HIV; what assessment he has made of the development by the US government of HIV antibodies which bind to the target site and stop the virus from infecting the cell; and what international research partnerships his Department currently has for developing a cure for HIV.

Jane Ellison:

The United Kingdom Government provides funding to the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI). IAVI has been instrumental in working with partners, including the United States National Institutes of Health who have undertaken the work to identify broadly neutralising antibodies from asymptomatic people infected with HIV. IAVI and its partners are still at an early stage of working with these broadly neutralising antibodies, to investigate how they might be used to prevent and treat HIV infection.

Funding from the UK Government has allowed IAVI to bring together expertise from academia and the pharmaceutical sector, and from across regions, including the UK and

Eastern and Southern Africa, to collaboratively design and evaluate novel vaccine candidates, to demonstrate, in the longer-term, that at least one can be fully developed into an effective vaccine to help prevent HIV infection or AIDS.

■ HIV Infection: Drugs

Dan Jarvis:

[\[38315\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will direct the NHS to review its decision on the expansion of access to pre-exposure prophylaxis treatment for people most at risk of contracting HIV.

Jane Ellison:

NHS England's Specialised Services Commissioning Committee (SSCC) have considered and accepted NHS England's external legal advice that it does not have the legal power to commission pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). However, work on PrEP is ongoing and up to £2 million will be invested in a pilot programme to target those at highest risk over the course of two years.

Public Health England is working to identify the most effective locations for the introduction of this pilot. The Department will be discussing future commissioning with stakeholders.

PrEP is a new use of HIV drugs which has shown effectiveness in research trials at preventing HIV in people at high risk of getting HIV such as men who have sex with men and people with HIV-positive partners. The drug used in United Kingdom trials, Truvada, is not yet licenced for use as PrEP. As with any new intervention, PrEP now needs to be properly assessed in relation to clinical and cost effectiveness to see how it could be commissioned in the most sustainable and integrated way and how it compares with other cost-effective approaches.

Our £2.4 million national HIV Prevention and Sexual Health Promotion Programme also gives those at highest risk the best advice to make safer choices about sex.

■ HIV Infection: Males

Andrew Gwynne:

[\[38321\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation has assessed the effect on HIV infection amongst men in sexual contact with unvaccinated women from countries with no or low-uptake HPV vaccination programmes.

Jane Ellison:

No such assessment has been made.

■ Hospitals: Food

Rebecca Long Bailey:

[\[38194\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that outsourced hospital food providers and the places they source their ingredients are monitored regularly to ensure the highest hygiene standards.

Jane Ellison:

All hospital food providers need to register with their local authority Environmental Health Department, who will carry out food safety interventions, including inspections, at a frequency determined by the risk based intervention criteria in the Food Law Code of Practice. The inspections will include consideration of the provider's traceability system.

■ **Human Papillomavirus: Vaccination**

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38128\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether his Department holds information on the number of boys receiving HPV vaccinations through private provision.

Jane Ellison:

The Department does not hold information on the number of boys receiving human papillomavirus vaccinations through private provision.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38131\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, when he plans to publish the equality impact assessment on the proposed HPV vaccination programme for men who have sex with men.

Jane Ellison:

Public Health England is starting a human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination pilot for men who have sex with men in June 2016. Information gathered during the pilot will help inform an equality impact assessment for a national programme if the pilot is successful.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38132\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether he plans for the HPV vaccination programme at sexual health clinics for men who have sex with men to be rolled out nationally at the earliest opportunity or to be implemented through initial pilot projects.

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38133\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what the timetable is for implementing HPV vaccinations at sexual health clinics for men who have sex with men.

Jane Ellison:

The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI), the expert body that advises the Government on all immunisation matters, advised that a targeted human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination programme should be undertaken for men who have sex with men (MSM) up to 45 years of age who attend genitourinary medicine and HIV clinics. They noted that this should be subject to procurement of the vaccine and delivery of the programme at a cost-effective price. JCVI acknowledged that finding a way to implement its advice would be challenging and made clear that work was needed by the Department and others to consider commissioning and delivery routes for this programme.

The Department announced on 26 May 2016 that an HPV vaccination pilot for MSM would start in June.

■ In Vitro Fertilisation

Fiona Bruce: [\[38011\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 11 March 2016 to Question 29747, whether wider disclosure of the content of the personal email exchange between Professor Grifo and a member of the expert panel convened by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority would breach patient confidentiality.

Fiona Bruce: [\[38012\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 11 March 2016 to Question 29747, what prompted the email exchange between the relevant expert panel member and Professor Grifo.

Fiona Bruce: [\[38093\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 11 March 2016 to Question 29747, whether any of the correspondence cited in the oral contribution of the Lord Patel on 24 February 2015 had been given unredacted to concurrently serving members of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority executive.

Jane Ellison:

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) has advised that wider disclosure of the content of the personal email exchange between Professor Grifo and a member of the expert panel convened by the Authority would not breach patient confidentiality. The HFEA has previously advised that the relevant expert panel member contacted Professor Grifo in a personal capacity following the third Scientific Review of the safety and efficacy of methods to avoid mitochondrial disease in 2014.

The HFEA has also advised that the information in question was provided in confidence to the expert panel convened by the Authority. Members of the HFEA Executive who provided administrative support to the work of the panel have seen this information.

Fiona Bruce: [\[38076\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the article by Marta N. Shahbazi et al, entitled Self-organisation of the human embryo in the absence of material tissues, Nature Cell Biology (2016) and by Alessia Deglincerti et al, entitled Self-organisation of the in vitro attached human embryo, Nature 553, 251 to 254, of 12 May 2016, if he will instruct the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority to require prolonged culture for up to 13 days or longer of any human embryos generated by (a) pronuclear transfer and (b) spindle-chromosomal complex transfer prior to clinical application of either of these techniques.

Jane Ellison:

It will be for the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, as the United Kingdom national regulatory body, to determine what evidence must be provided by clinics seeking a licence to provide mitochondrial donation treatment to patients, and any conditions that are to be placed on the licence.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990, as amended, prohibits the keeping or using of embryos for longer than 14 days or the appearance of the primitive streak, whichever is the earlier.

■ Incinerators: Health Hazards

Daniel Zeichner: [\[37871\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what recent progress has been made on Public Health England's study into the health impact of incinerators.

Jane Ellison:

The Public Health England funded study by the Small Area Health Statistics Unit (SAHSU) at Imperial College and the Environmental Research Group at King's College, London, investigating the potential link between emissions from municipal waste incinerators and health outcomes is ongoing. It is expected that papers from the project will be submitted by SAHSU to peer reviewed journals later in 2016.

■ Infectious Diseases: Children

Heidi Alexander: [\[38317\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, with reference to the Answer of 28 April 2016 to Question 36036, for what reason the awareness campaign on the symptoms of serious infections in children is not being extended to all adults including those who are not parents.

Jane Ellison:

Infections can be serious in both adults and children. Public Health England has been commissioned to develop a public awareness campaign for parents and families about serious infections in children, including meningitis, septicaemia and sepsis. Health Education England have been asked to work with National Health Service organisations to develop parallel professional awareness materials for healthcare professionals who work with both children and adults who have serious infections, including sepsis. A range of information materials for the public are also available on the UK Sepsis Trust website and NHS Choices.

■ Medical Equipment

Andrew Gwynne: [\[38127\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what recent progress his Department has made in replacing Linear Accelerators that are older than 10 years old; and if he will make a statement.

Jane Ellison:

In order to provide the very best radiotherapy treatment to patients, NHS England has to urgently address the need to modernise radiotherapy machines. NHS England's Radiotherapy Service Review will establish exactly what is needed, where and when, focussing on the highest priority replacements and upgrades to result in the greatest patient impact. The Review will produce a plan for a modern national radiotherapy

network by September, with a revised radiotherapy service specification by the end of the year.

■ Menopause

Jim Shannon:

[38107]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what assistance his Department provides for women going through the menopause.

Jane Ellison:

Women who experience menopausal symptoms that are difficult for them to manage receive support and advice from their general practitioner (GP). GPs can advise on treatments, suggest lifestyle changes and refer women to menopause specialists.

To help ensure women receive the best possible care, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence published a guideline on the diagnosis and treatment of menopause in November 2015. This sets out the support, information and treatments needed to address the often debilitating symptoms that women suffer.

To raise awareness of the menopause among women and their families, trusted, evidence-based information is available on the NHS Choices website at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Menopause/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

This includes an overview of what the menopause is, what the symptoms and treatment options are and real life examples of women's experiences.

■ Neuromuscular Disorders

Mr Robin Walker:

[38144]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what assessment his Department has made of the health benefits of (a) regular supported activity for people with long-term neurological conditions and (b) the commissioning of services to support such activity.

Jane Ellison:

The Department has made no such specific assessment. The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence recommends the involvement of physiotherapists in the management of a range of neurological conditions including Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis and motor neurone disease. The commissioning of services to provide supported physical activity, such as that provided by physiotherapists, is a local matter, as are the vast majority of services for neurological conditions.

■ Nutrition: Surveys

Richard Fuller:

[38135]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, when the next set of National Diet and Nutrition Survey data is planned to be published.

Jane Ellison:

The next report of the National Diet and Nutrition Survey is being prepared and will be published as an Official Statistic; the publication date will be announced in advance in accordance with the Official Statistics Code of Practice.

■ **Pregnancy: Mental Illness**

Fiona Bruce:

[37959]

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if his Department will review its policy on the provision of independent counselling for women with underlying mental health conditions with unwanted pregnancies, to ensure that such women are provided with information on (a) alternatives to abortion and (b) grants and other assistance available should they decide to continue with their pregnancies.

Jane Ellison:

The Required Standard Operating Procedures (RSOPs) for all abortion service providers states that "All women requesting an abortion should be offered the opportunity to discuss their options and choices with, and receive therapeutic support from, a trained pregnancy counsellor and this offer should be repeated at every stage of the care pathway" (RSOP 14). The RSOPs are contained within the Procedures for the Approval of Independent Sector Places for the Termination of Pregnancy (Abortion) which can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/313443/final_updated_RSOPs_21_May_2014.pdf

This policy is also reflected in the Government's Framework for Sexual Health Improvement in England.

This Government is committed to improving perinatal mental health services for women during pregnancy and in the first postnatal year, so that all women who need services are able to access the right care at the right time and close to home. We have committed to invest £365 million in specialist perinatal mental health services from 2015/16 to 2020/21.

A range of universal and specialist services are involved in the identification, care and support of women experiencing perinatal mental illness. Among women being treated for perinatal mental health problems, the majority (about 90%) are looked after in primary care, including Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence, 2014). Women with more complex or severe conditions require the support of specialist perinatal mental services. These include community perinatal mental health teams that provide treatment and support for women in the community and specialist mother and baby units providing in-patient psychiatric care.

■ Prescriptions: Fees and Charges

Dan Jarvis:

[\[37868\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if his Department will take steps to ensure that the medical exemption criteria for determining prescription charges is suitable to allow for the changing nature and improving prognosis of many medical conditions.

Alistair Burt:

The process for determining entitlement to a medical exemption is suitable for purpose, and takes account of whether someone continues to meet the criteria. We do not have any plans to make any amendments to the list of medical conditions which provide exemption from the prescription charge.

■ Safety of Blood, Tissues and Organs Advisory Committee

Michael Fabricant:

[\[37781\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how he plans to ensure that former sex workers and ex-intravenous drug users will be involved in the SaBTO blood donations review group; and if he will make a statement.

Jane Ellison:

The Advisory Committee on the Safety of Blood Tissues and Organs (SaBTO) is carrying out a review of blood donor selection criteria. Representatives of health charities that work with sex workers and those with a history of intravenous drug use are members of the review group. A public meeting was held on 11 April 2016, which provided an opportunity for anyone with an interest in the review to participate in information exchange.

The terms of reference for the review, and membership, together with questions and answers from the public meeting will shortly be available on the SaBTO website. The review will be holistic and evidence relating to the risks of blood-borne infections in people who have previously injected drugs or received money or drugs for sex will be included. The review will be incremental, with published progress reports and any intermediate advice.

■ Zika Virus

Andrew Rosindell:

[\[38380\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what steps his Department is taking to prevent the spread of the Zika virus to the UK following travel to South America for the 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Jane Ellison:

The risk to the United Kingdom population posed by Zika virus – and of the mosquito species which transmit the virus establishing itself in the UK – remains extremely low.

The Government is ensuring the UK and those travelling to countries with active Zika transmission by mosquitoes are protected. Up-to-date travel advice is in place, and clinical advice is available to UK medical professionals. Public Health England has been

working with Royal Colleges to provide guidance to healthcare professionals on managing symptomatic patients (including pregnant women) returning from areas with active transmission of Zika. This has been cascaded by appropriate Royal Colleges. Furthermore, NHS Blood and Transplant will defer donors returning from areas with active Zika transmission from donating for 28 days.

On 13 May 2016 the Department of Health, along with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, convened an Olympic and Paralympic health advisory group. The group brought together academic experts and cross-government representatives to support the British Olympic Association (BOA) and British Paralympic Association (BPA) in updating their guidance to athletes and staff travelling to Brazil for the Olympics and to ensure consistency with that provided to the travelling public. Zika virus was a key topic for discussion along with other potential health risks. The BOA and BPA are updating their guidance in light of discussions at the meeting and with further input from the academics and clinicians present. The Foreign Office will link this to their wider consular campaign 'Stay ahead of the Games'.

HOME OFFICE

■ Home Office: Coventry

Mr Jim Cunningham: [\[38326\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many visits (a) Ministers and (b) officials in her Department have made to Coventry in each of the last five years.

Karen Bradley:

Details of Ministerial visits and those made by senior officials can be found on the gov.uk website. Details of all visits made by officials who are not Senior Civil Servants, are not centrally recorded. Therefore providing this information would incur a disproportionate cost.

■ Home Office: Food

Nick Smith: [\[37829\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the annual budget is for food produced for her Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for her Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Karen Bradley:

The Home Office does not set a budget for food produced for its offices. Catering services are provided by private companies under contract at Home Office buildings and provided to staff without subsidy. Details of the proportion of food produced for the

Home Office that was sourced from British producers could only be provided at disproportionate cost.

■ Sergei Magnitsky

Mr Ben Bradshaw:

[\[37317\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons the Government permits the 35 people named under the US Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012 to (a) hold assets in the UK and (b) be issued with UK visas.

Richard Harrington:

As we have previously made clear, the Magnitsky case remains of serious concern to the UK Government.

The UK Government has powers in relation to assets that are very similar to those available to the United States under the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act of 2012. These powers are under regular review and the Government will consider further legislation if and when the evidence suggests it is necessary.

Wherever we have evidence that individuals were involved in the Magnitsky case, that evidence is taken very carefully into account in considering visa applications.

For reasons of data protection the Government does not routinely comment on individuals' asset holdings or immigration cases.

■ Social Networking

Andrew Percy:

[\[37989\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been convicted of offences of online abuse on (a) Facebook and (b) Twitter under the Communications Act 2003 since 2010.

Karen Bradley:

The Home Office do not hold the information requested. The Ministry of Justice hold data on the number of offenders found guilty at all courts in England and Wales.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

■ Department for International Development: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37830\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what the annual budget is for food produced for her Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for her Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Mr Desmond Swayne:

Department for International Development does not set a budget for food served in its Department's offices. Catering services are provided by a private company under

contract to Department for International Development and provides food to staff without subsidy. Spending on food is determined by the contractor based on sales receipts from DFID staff.

■ **Developing Countries: Education**

Dan Jarvis: [\[38034\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, whether the Government plans to become a founding donor of the Education Cannot Wait fund for education in emergencies when it is launched at the World Humanitarian Summit 2016.

Mr Nick Hurd:

I refer the Hon. Member to the answer I provided on 24 May to Question number 37332.

■ **Developing Countries: Explosives**

Thangam Debbonaire: [\[38004\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, if she will make a commitment at the World Humanitarian Summit 2016 to work to prevent harm from the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas.

Mr Desmond Swayne:

At the World Humanitarian Summit this week the UK reaffirmed its commitment to promoting and enhancing the protection of civilians and civilian objects, by strengthening compliance with International Law. We condemn targeting of civilians and the indiscriminate or disproportionate use of any weapon.

■ **Ethiopia: Overseas Aid**

Rebecca Long Bailey: [\[38195\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what funding the Government provides to the Protection of Basic Services Programme in Ethiopia.

Mr Nick Hurd:

The Government no longer provides funding to the Protection of Basic Services (later known as the Promotion of Basic Services) Programme in Ethiopia. The International Development Secretary announced withdrawal of funding to this programme in February, 2015.

Rebecca Long Bailey: [\[38389\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what guarantees she has received that UK development aid for Ethiopia is not used for military or security purposes or the so-called villagisation dispersal programme; and what safeguards are in place to ensure that UK aid to Ethiopia is used only for agreed development purposes.

Mr Nick Hurd:

All DFID aid in Ethiopia is administered through specific programmes, each with a strong set of controls, high standard monitoring and strong DFID oversight. Aid in Ethiopia is

distributed through a number of channels. Where a programme is administered using government systems a standard fiduciary risk assessment evaluating the national public financial management system is mandatory. As with all aid spending, strong checks and balances and regular monitoring ensure that aid is used for the purposes intended.

UK aid in Ethiopia has contributed to the remarkable developmental gains the country has made over the past decade. The UK has helped reduce poverty and child mortality in Ethiopia by a quarter and put four more million children in primary school.

Rebecca Long Bailey:

[38390]

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what conditions are applied under the terms of agreement with the Ethiopian government on the provision of UK aid; and what process is used to assess the Ethiopian government's compliance with such conditions.

Mr Nick Hurd:

The United Kingdom's aid relationship with any government is based on an assessment of commitment to our partnership principles, which include economic, social and human rights and financial management. A guidance note which sets out DFID's approach to the partnership principles is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/358341/how-to-partnership-principles-march2014a.pdf. As outlined in the policy, DFID makes regular assessments of partnership principles based on a wide range of sources. Sources include local and international non-governmental organisations and think tanks, academic institutions and other development partners. Overall we currently assess that the Government of Ethiopia remains committed to the underlying principles of our partnership.

■ Sri Lanka: Floods

Tom Brake:

[38035]

To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what assistance her Department is providing to people affected by flooding in Sri Lanka.

Mr Desmond Swayne:

The UK provides substantial funding to international NGOs and UN agencies, enabling them to respond to disasters around the world, including Sri Lanka. This includes the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), which was established by the UN and other leading donors to enable rapid emergency response. The CERF is doing an assessment of the situation following the rainfall and landslips in Sri Lanka. The UK, along with other leading donors, will provide support as required through this coordinated response mechanism.

The UK is the biggest contributor to the CERF, having provided in excess of \$855m in the last 10 years. The UK also provides funding to the European Union humanitarian agency (ECHO) which is also undertaking an assessment.

JUSTICE■ **Civil Proceedings: Fees and Charges**

Philip Davies: [38173]

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, if his Department will conduct a review of the effect of civil court fee increases on people's ability to enforce their legal rights.

Dominic Raab:

We keep court fees under regular review.

■ **Prison Governors**

Jo Stevens: [38292]

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what criteria was used to select the prisons to take part in the planned pilot scheme on further autonomy for prison governors.

Andrew Selous:

The six Reform Prisons have been carefully selected. Each of the prisons are different, which means the National Offender Management Service can test different models, in different locations, with different populations and different local circumstances.

■ **Prisoners: Ethnic Groups**

Philip Davies: [38385]

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many people of each ethnicity were sent to prison in each of the last five years.

Andrew Selous:

The number of offenders sentenced to immediate custody in England and Wales at Crown Courts, by ethnicity, from 2011 to 2015, can be found in the sentencing data tool contained in the annual Criminal Justice Statistics publication, linked below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/criminal-justice-system-statistics-quarterly-december-2015>

It is not possible to present a representative picture of ethnicity at magistrates' courts because data on ethnicity at magistrates' courts is not recorded for all offences.

■ **Young Offenders: Digital Technology**

Mr Barry Sheerman: [38296]

To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps he is taking to ensure that education and training is available to young offenders to help them access the digital economy.

Andrew Selous:

Equipping young offenders with the skills to access the digital economy supports their rehabilitation, and computing forms a core part of the education and training provided to young people in custody.

The Justice Secretary has asked Charlie Taylor to conduct a review of youth justice. His report of emerging findings published in February underlined the importance of education to an effective youth justice system. He will report back this summer with recommendations on how to improve the treatment of young people in our care.

LEADER OF THE HOUSE

■ Leader of the House of Commons: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37832\]](#)

To ask the Leader of the House, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Office; and what proportion of food produced for his Office was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Chris Grayling:

I refer the hon. Member to the answer given to him by my right hon. Friend the Minister for the Cabinet Office on 31 May 2016, to Question UIN 37901.

NORTHERN IRELAND

■ Common Travel Area

Ian Paisley:

[\[37027\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what assessment she has made of the potential effect on the Common Travel Area of the UK voting to leave the EU.

Mr Ben Wallace:

If the UK voted to leave the EU, it is not clear that the Common Travel Area could continue to operate with the UK outside the EU, and Ireland inside, in the same way that it did before both countries joined the EU.

■ Northern Ireland Office: Pay

Greg Mulholland:

[\[38226\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what the average hourly earnings were of her Department's (a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.

Mrs Theresa Villiers:

My Department does not hold the information requested in this format. To create this information would incur a disproportionate cost.

TRANSPORT

■ Department for Transport: Coventry

Mr Jim Cunningham: [\[38324\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, how many visits (a) Ministers and (b) officials in his Department have made to Coventry in each of the last five years.

Mr Robert Goodwill:

Ministers and officials regularly undertake a variety of visits to all areas of the country. To ascertain precisely how many visits may have been made over the specified time period would incur a disproportionate cost.

■ Department for Transport: Pay

Greg Mulholland: [\[38228\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what the average hourly earnings were of his Department's (a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.

Mr Robert Goodwill:

The Department for Transport is made up of the central Department and the following agencies:

- Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
- Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Vehicle Certification Agency

The table below shows the average hourly earnings for both BME and non- BME staff within the Department for Transport in 2015 and 2016. It is voluntary for staff to declare their ethnic origin. Data for staff who have chosen not to declare their ethnic origin is also provided in the tables.

2015	BME	Non BME	NOT DISCLOSED
AA	£8.78	£8.69	£9.11
AO	£10.87	£10.65	£10.55
EO	£13.54	£13.37	£13.02
HEO	£16.73	£16.67	£16.22
SEO	£20.82	£20.96	£20.29
G7	£27.35	£27.62	£26.63
G6	£41.55	£34.92	£34.78
SCS 1	£56.63	£44.72	£47.03

2015	BME	Non BME	Not Disclosed
SCS 2	-	£57.14	£70.92
SCS 3	-	£69.23	£67.67
2016	BME	Non BME	Not Disclosed
AA	£8.88	£8.91	£9.39
AO	£10.97	£10.85	£10.76
EO	£13.58	£13.46	£13.20
HEO	£16.59	£16.65	£16.60
SEO	£21.51	£21.17	£21.43
G7	£27.36	£26.99	£26.50
G6	£41.80	£34.62	£34.80
SCS 1	£42.34	£44.10	£48.40
SCS 2	-	£58.25	£73.56
SCS 3	-	£70.42	£70.36

■ Driving Instruction: Standards

Richard Burden:

[\[38007\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what progress his Department has made on developing a scheme to publish pass rates of instructors as set out in his Department's Motoring Services Strategy; and how much funding he has allocated to that project.

Andrew Jones:

The proposal to publish pass rates of Approved Driving Instructors forms part of the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency's broader plans to improve overall standards and transparency.

The Agency has been exploring with the ADI National Association Strategic Partnership (NASP) the development of a voluntary 'earned recognition' scheme which would acknowledge and recognise the extent to which Approved Driving Instructors are compliant with regulations and/or adopting high professional standards.

The Agency will want to discuss the voluntary publication of pass rates with NASP as part of their ongoing discussions. Once the scope of the proposals has been determined appropriate funding will be allocated to the overall programme of reforms.

■ Driving Tests: Privatisation

Richard Burden:

[\[38098\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, with reference to page 18 of the Motoring Services Strategy consultation, what (a) criteria, (b) process and (c) timeframe his Department plans to use to explore the possible privatisation of practical driving tests.

Andrew Jones:

The Motoring Services Strategy was published on 12 May. As this document explains, we are exploring whether other models of service delivery might offer a better and more flexible range of services to road users, either as alternatives to the current arrangements or to complement them, including involving the private sector in delivering some or all of the services.

This is in line with the Government's wider agenda to ensure that the driver testing and training regime prepares new drivers for a wide range of real life driving conditions and situations.

No decision has been taken about the preferred option or range of options, and we are committed to ensuring that, whatever model may eventually be chosen (including the option of retaining the present system), current standards of propriety and testing will be maintained. We are clear that road safety is our top priority and therefore the high quality and integrity of the UK's driver testing regime must not be compromised by any changes to the delivery model.

We will work with DVSA, stakeholders and customer groups to assess the viability of those options with the aim of improving road safety.

■ Driving Tests: Standards

Richard Burden:

[\[38008\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what the (a) average waiting time for a practical driving test and (b) number of staffing opportunities at test centres not yet filled was in each region of England in the most recent period for which figures are available; and what assessment he has made of the effectiveness of the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency recruitment strategy.

Andrew Jones:

The average waiting time for a car driving test for the 2015/16 financial year was 8.4 weeks. The average waiting time for a car test measured at the time of writing (24 May) was 11.5 weeks.

The following table explains the current driving examiner recruitment position:

	NEW RECRUITS 2015/16	PLANNED RECRUITS 2016/17	COMPLETED TRAINING SINCE 1 APR 2016	CURRENTLY UNDERGOING TRAINING	TRAINING START CONFIRMED	OFFER MADE - UNDERGOING PRE- EMPLOYMENT CHECK	ONGOING RECRUITMENT (LATEST ADVERT)
Scotland & N England	28	58	2	8	16	9	32
Central England & N Wales	64	67	7	4	24	3	49
Southern England & S Wales	59	58	9	8	30	2	45
London & S E England	42	104	8	8	13	7	52
	193	287	26	28	83	21	178

During 2015 DVSA carried out a review of the end to end process of driving examiner resourcing – from forecasting demand for driving tests to understand where and how many driving examiners are needed, through the attraction and selection stages of recruitment to offer of appointment and training. The overall assessment was that there was significant scope for improvement at all stages in the process. The recommendations of the review are being implemented and include:

- the use of improved forecasting models
- modernised attraction approaches
- more focussed assessment methods
- streamlined training programmes.

The overarching objectives are to shorten the time from a driving examiner vacancy being identified to it being filled. DVSA also wants to improve the diversity and capabilities of the new starters it appoints.

Richard Burden:

[\[38009\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what the average waiting time for the driving theory test is in each region of England.

Andrew Jones:

The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) has a target that 95% of candidates should be offered a booking for a driving theory test within two weeks of their preferred

date. DVSA uses that target to measure the length of time candidates have to wait for a theory test.

At the time of writing, the national position, broken down by region, was as follows:

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST	97.12%
Midlands	99.46%
Northern	98.30%
Wales and Western	98.71% (figure includes England only)

■ London Airports

Anna Turley: [\[38316\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what assessment the Government has made of the potential effect of expansion at (a) Heathrow and (b) Gatwick Airport on the number of jobs that will be created in the North East by (i) 2030 and (ii) 2050.

Mr Robert Goodwill:

The Government is currently considering the large amount of very detailed analysis contained in the Airports Commission's final report. The Government is not providing a running commentary on this work and nor would it be appropriate to outline specific pieces of evidence before an announcement. Any work to inform an announcement will be set out in subsequent publications and associated consultation.

■ London-Brighton Railway Line

Caroline Lucas: [\[37855\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, by what date he plans to make a decision on upgrading the Brighton Main Line.

Claire Perry:

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 (including possible upgrades to the Brighton Main Line) during 2017.

The Thameslink Programme is already delivering a significant upgrade to the Brighton Main Line – including the major redevelopment of London Bridge station – which, from 2018 will provide more capacity and more journey options for passengers.

■ Transport: North of England

Lilian Greenwood:

[37933]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, with reference to page 73 of the background document to the Queen's Speech 2016, published on 18 May 2016, what the £15 billion for transport across the North in this Parliament will be spent on.

Andrew Jones:

[Holding answer 26 May 2016]: Government is building for Britain's future by making the biggest investment in transport infrastructure in generations.

We are building a faster, more frequent, fully integrated transport system that will help connect up Northern cities and towns, and support jobs – all of which help rebalance the economy and bring the country together.

In the Queen's Speech debate on Transport and Local Infrastructure (19 May 2016), *[Official Report, column 169]* the Secretary of State for Transport confirmed that the government will invest £13 billion in transport across the North of England.

Together with our partners in the Northern Powerhouse, we have invested £1 billion in rail electrification which will mean more seats, and faster and more frequent rail services for passengers.

We are working towards a faster, less congested road network and that means a reliable motorway network. Government has committed £2.9 billion of strategic road improvements across the North for the five year period to 2020. £500 million will also be invested for Local Authority major schemes. Government has allocated £1.3 billion for local highways maintenance in the North of England.

Further details of how the £13bn will be spent can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-boost-for-northern-powerhouse>

In addition to this investment, the new Northern and TransPennine Express rail franchises will benefit from 500 brand new carriages, replacing the unpopular and outdated Pacer trains across the North. Government have also committed £75 million for further feasibility work on East-West road connections – one of the biggest challenges in the North. And most recently, following winter floods we have invested £180 million in the North to repair transport infrastructure, such as roads and bridges.

■ Vauxhall

Stewart Malcolm McDonald:

[38113]

To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, with reference to the vehicle safety recalls of Vauxhall Zafira B models, what assurances he has received from Vauxhall that all blower motors will be replaced in every vehicle that has been recalled.

Andrew Jones:

Under the secondary safety recall (R/2016/104) all affected Vauxhall Zafira B vehicles equipped with manual control heating and ventilation systems produced between

10/02/2005 and 24/10/2014 will be recalled to receive a new heater blower motor as part of the safety recall.

WALES

■ Wales Office: Food

Nick Smith: [\[37837\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for his Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Guto Bebb:

Given the small amount of expenditure involved, the Wales Office does not have a budget specifically for food. It uses external caterers to supply food and drink for events in its London and Cardiff offices. Records are not kept on where the food is sourced from.

WOMEN AND EQUALITIES

■ Gender Recognition

Thangam Debbonaire: [\[37912\]](#)

To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, when she plans to publish a response to the First Report from the Women and Equalities Committee, Session 2015-16, HC 390, on Transgender equality; and if she will make a statement.

Thangam Debbonaire: [\[37913\]](#)

To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, with reference to the First Report from the Women and Equalities Committee, Session 2015-16, on Transgender equality, HC 390, what consultation she has undertaken on the potential implications for single-sex provision in women's refuges and other services for victims of domestic or sexual violence of changes to the Equalities Act 2010 recommended in that report; and if she will make a statement.

Thangam Debbonaire: [\[37914\]](#)

To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, with reference to the recommendations of the First Report of Session 2015-16, from the Women and Equalities Committee, HC 390, what discussions she has had with the Secretary of State for Health on the implications for sex-specific health planning and provision of amending the Equalities Act 2010 to remove the protection for single-sex provision; and if she will make a statement.

Caroline Dinenage:

The Government has welcomed the report from the Women and Equalities Select Committee into transgender equality.

The report provides a substantial number of recommendations covering almost a dozen public bodies, including several recommendations which call for significant changes to

legislation and reforms to the NHS. Government is carefully considering these recommendations.

We continually engage with stakeholders from women's and transgender communities and we would consider their views before making any changes to legislation.

■ Immigrants: Detainees

Neil Coyle:

[\[905126\]](#)

To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, what discussions she has had with the Secretary of State for Home Affairs on the number of pregnant women who have been detained for immigration purposes since central recording statistics on such cases began and the outcomes of their detention.

Karen Bradley:

The detention of pregnant women under Immigration Act powers occurs only in very limited situations, either where there is a clear prospect of early removal or in very exceptional circumstances. Very few pregnant women are detained. Central recording of the number of detained women who have disclosed their pregnancy started in August 2015. Options for the collection of wider data on pregnant women is being considered as part of the Immigration Act 2016 implementation.

WORK AND PENSIONS

■ Child Support Agency: Expenditure

Richard Fuller:

[\[38136\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how much expenditure was incurred by the Child Support Agency in making ex-gratia or special payments as a result of poor service or errors by that agency in each of the last three years.

Priti Patel:

The information on the total amount paid as ex-gratia or special payments across child maintenance in the last three years is in the attached table.

FINANCIAL YEAR	£'000s
2013 - 2014	£1,090
2014 - 2015	£847
2015 – 2016 *	£941

Notes -

These amounts include payments made across the Child Support Agency and Child Maintenance Service for the following:

Ex-gratia – Actual Financial Loss

Ex-gratia – Consolatory

Compensation for Delay

*The figure for 2015/16 is draft and subject to audit.

■ Children: Maintenance

Steve McCabe:

[\[37474\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the Answer of 8 December 2015 to Question 17583, on child maintenance, for what reason there is a difference between the estimated costs of (a) caseworker activity to review and update Child Support Agency (CSA) arrears and (b) establishing arrears on the CMS system set out in paragraph 93 of the Department's final impact assessment on CSA case closure, dated 10 April 2013, and those supplied in that Answer.

Priti Patel:

The estimates given in the answer to question 17583 differ from the figures in the Impact Assessment (£123m) because:

- i. The actual caseload has been slightly smaller than was forecast at the time of the Impact Assessment and
- ii. There has been improved analysis of the effort required to close cases, informed by the actual experience of closing cases.

■ Department for Work and Pensions: Food

Nick Smith:

[\[37838\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what the annual budget is for food produced for his Department's offices; and what proportion of food produced for his Department was sourced from British producers in the last period for which figures are available.

Justin Tomlinson:

Since 1998 the Department for Work and Pensions has outsourced the provision and maintenance for the majority of its estate to Telereal Trillium under a 20 year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract that expires on 31 March 2018.

Under the terms of the contract, Telereal Trillium provides fully-serviced accommodation, including the provision of catering services. Telereal Trillium provide catering through their Service Partners, Compass Group. The Department pays an all-inclusive facility unit price for sites and we are unable to separate the costs for catering.

The amount of food sourced from British producers for DWP was 42% (Jan – Mar 2016). This figure does not include the considerable spend on non-indigenous products purchased for use in the DWP contract with large volumes of coffee as well as rice, pasta, tea, banana's, citrus, exotic fruits etc. Additionally as this period falls in winter some UK seasonal products are not available so have been procured from the EU.

■ Department for Work and Pensions: Pay

Greg Mulholland:

[38231]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what the average hourly earnings were of his Department's (a) BME and (b) non-BME employees in (i) 2015 and (ii) 2016.

Justin Tomlinson:

The Department for Work and Pensions pays employees an annual salary and does not pay an hourly rate.

The Department uses a grade structure to determine salary rates. The grade structure is underpinned by Job Evaluation and Grading Support (JEGS), an analytical job evaluation tool which meets all requirements of legislation and EHRC statutory codes of practice on Equal Pay. The use of JEGS and its application in determining the appropriate grade for a role enables us to determine where employees are doing equal work based on "work rated as equivalent".

DWP Equality data is published on an annual basis on <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-work-pensions/about/equality-and-diversity> this includes the average pay by indicated ethnicity each year up to 2015.

The main factor influencing the DWP pay gap is the difference in distribution of staff within each of these groups across the grades. DWP continues to regularly review ways to address the pay gap.

This report is usually published in July each year and looks at data over the previous financial year. The report for 2016 is not yet available.

■ Employment and Support Allowance

Dr Eilidh Whiteford:

[37743]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the Answer of 28 April 2016 to Question 34944, on Employment and Support Allowance, if he will publish the guidance on all aspects of the Work Capability Assessment including the application of Regulation 35 of the Employment Allowance Regulations 2008.

Priti Patel:

The revised version of the Work Capability Assessment (WCA) Handbook, which contains written guidance on all aspects of the Work Capability Assessment including the application of Regulation 35, will be published in due course.

■ Jobcentres

Grahame Morris:

[37770]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what data Jobcentre Plus sets down against a claimant who does not attend a non-mandatory group information session.

Priti Patel:

Non-mandatory group information sessions are often used by Jobcentres to offer general information; advice and guidance aimed at helping people improve their employment prospects. Where used, these groups run alongside the personalised one-to-one support, which is provided through the claimant's work coach. Where a claimant has not attended a non-mandatory group information session, work coaches will, as part of their regular contacts with claimants, pick-up a discussion about any help the claimant may need.

■ **Jobseeker's Allowance**

Dr Eilidh Whiteford:

[37728]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many people (a) successfully made an application for Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) and (b) were unsuccessful in an application for JSA following a Genuine Prospect of Work assessment in the last two years.

Priti Patel:

The Department does not record statistics on applications for Jobseeker's Allowance following a genuine prospect of work assessment.

To collate the information requested would take the costs of responding to the question over the disproportionate cost threshold.

Grahame Morris:

[37771]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether a jobseeker's allowance claimant can be sanctioned for failing to attend an interview at an unspecified time.

Priti Patel:

Jobseeker's Allowance claimants can incur a sanction if they fail to participate in an interview, without good reason. However, in accordance with the Jobseeker's Allowance legislation, where a claimant is required to participate in an interview, they must be notified, of the time and place of that interview.

Therefore, Jobseeker's Allowance claimants cannot be sanctioned for failing to attend an interview at an unspecified time.

Grahame Morris:

[37775]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what guidance his Department issues on ensuring that correspondence issued by Jobcentre Plus complies with the provisions of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996 on information relating to notification of the time and place of an interview.

Priti Patel:

Guidance makes clear that when requiring participation in an interview the relevant notification is issued to the claimant, which contains details of the date, time and place of the appointment.

■ Personal Independence Payment

Neil Coyle: [\[37772\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the Answer of 3 May 2016 to Question 35165, on Personal Independence Payments, what steps his Department is taking better to understand why sufficient documentary evidence is not being sought during the assessment and mandatory reconsideration stages.

Neil Coyle: [\[37773\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the Answer of 3 May 2016 to Question 35165, on Personal Independence Payments, what proportion of overturns resulted from (a) oral and (b) documentary evidence submitted to the Tribunal.

Neil Coyle: [\[37774\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the Answer of 3 May 2016 to Question 35165, on Personal Independence Payments, what changes his Department has put in place to take account of the finding that 75 per cent of successful appeals resulted from additional oral or documentary evidence being submitted.

Justin Tomlinson:

The 75% can be broken down as follows:

Cogent oral evidence – 66%

Cogent documentary evidence supplied at the appeal – 9%

These figures are from internal DWP systems, where only one of possible multiple reasons can be recorded, and are derived from unpublished information and have not been quality assured to National Statistics or Official Statistics standard.

The Department encourages claimants to provide as much relevant evidence as necessary to support their claim. The “How your disability affects you” form and accompanying guidance sets out the range of information that can help the Department reach a decision. The guidance for Health Professionals also sets out sources of further evidence which could help inform their advice to the Department.

At the Mandatory Reconsideration stage, again claimants are encouraged to provide any further evidence about their disability. Following the first independent review of Personal Independence by Paul Gray, the Department is reviewing all communications (including those used by Assessment Providers) it has with claimants throughout the claim, assessment and reconsideration process to ensure that claimants clearly understand the importance of providing sufficient evidence to support their claim and application.

Further, once a claimant has submitted their claim, the Department has created a new Standard Work Instructions (SWI) for its decision making staff to gain further evidence, where appropriate. For Mandatory Reconsideration, the SWI puts a process in place to establish what the areas for dispute are, consider any gaps in the evidence, ensure any expected further medical evidence is received and referring that to the Assessment Provider. ”

■ Sign Language

Richard Fuller: [\[38138\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, if his Department will bring forward legislative proposals to apply provisions equivalent to those of the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015 to England.

Justin Tomlinson:

The Government currently has no plans to bring forward legislative proposals to apply provisions equivalent to those of the British Sign Language (Scotland) Act 2015 to England.

Last year the Minister for Disabled People published a written statement announcing that DWP would lead a Market Review of British Sign Language (BSL) interpreting provision, which would engage with Deaf people and stakeholder groups to examine opportunities that could strengthen and improve the market in the long term.

The Call for Evidence for this review opened in January 2016 and closed in March 2016. We received hundreds of comprehensive submissions of evidence, which we are currently analysing.

■ Social Mobility

Mrs Sharon Hodgson: [\[38322\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with which individuals and organisations his Department is consulting to inform the life chances strategy.

Priti Patel:

As is customary in the development of any Strategy, we have engaged in discussions with a range of organisations and individual experts as we develop the Life Chances Strategy.

Mrs Sharon Hodgson: [\[38330\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, when the life chances strategy will be published.

Priti Patel:

My Department's forthcoming Life Chances Strategy will be published later this year.

■ Social Security Benefits: Appeals

Neil Coyle: [\[37715\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many (a) employment and support allowance and (b) personal independence payment appeals his Department conceded prior to their being heard at the First-Tier Tribunal in the last 12 months.

Justin Tomlinson:

The requested information could only be obtained at a disproportionate cost.

■ State Retirement Pensions

Ian Blackford:

[\[38289\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, pursuant to the Answer of 24 May 2016 to Question 37321, on healthy life expectancy, what specific assessment he has made of what account is taken of healthy life expectancy distinct from life expectancy in making decisions on future levels of pension age.

Justin Tomlinson:

In making decisions on future State Pension age arrangements the Secretary of State will be informed by the first review, established under the Pensions Act 2014, which is due to report by May 2017. This review will take into account up to date life expectancy data and the report from the independently led review.

The purpose of the independent report is to recommend to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions what to consider when making decisions on future State Pension age arrangements. In conducting its analysis and reaching recommendations the review will also have regard to variations between different groups and the views of organisation and individuals on factors to be taken into account. It will consult widely to ensure that it has considered the appropriate evidence and the range of views of interested parties.

■ Whooping Cough: Vaccination

Richard Burden:

[\[37766\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many (a) claims and (b) payments were made following claim approval for vaccine damage for whooping cough in each year since 2003.

Justin Tomlinson:

Information regarding claims and awards in respect of each particular disease/vaccine is unavailable. This is because this information is not collected or collated.

The Vaccine Damage Payments Unit administers the Scheme but do not collate information about vaccinations given to those claiming or receiving a payment under the scheme. As a number of vaccinations are often given in close proximity, often on the same day, it is not always possible to state categorically which has caused the adverse reaction. Such data is not required for the administration of the scheme.

■ Work and Health Programme

Neil Gray:

[\[38327\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to his oral evidence to the Work and Pensions Committee of 11 May 2016, when his Department plans to publish its Green Paper on the proposed new Work and Health programme.

Priti Patel:

As the Secretary of State has said, we will be publishing a Work and Health Green Paper later in the year. Separately, it was announced in the 2015 Spending Review that the Department for Work and Pensions would introduce a new Work and Health Programme, following the end of referrals to both the current Work Programme and Work Choice. This programme will be implemented in 2017 and will help to achieve the Government's ambition of halving the disability employment gap.

■ Work Capability Assessment

Dr Eilidh Whiteford:

[37767]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what guidelines his Department issues to its staff on carrying out Genuine Prospect of Work assessments.

Priti Patel:

Guidance for Department for Work and Pensions staff responsible for carrying out Genuine Prospect of Work tests can be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/510008/dmgch0703.pdf

■ Work Programme: Finance

Neil Gray:

[38329]

To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how much funding his Department (a) has allocated since 2011 and (b) plans to allocate by 2020 to the Work Programme.

Priti Patel:

The Departmental Annual Report for 2014/2015 includes the final outturn numbers for Employment Programmes from 2011/12 to 2014/15 (page 181 of the report). These figures have been audited.

2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn
£m	£m	£m	£m
876	802	1,037	950

The Annual Report also includes separately published values for the Work Programme for the years 2011/2012 (£283m), 2012/2013 (£453m) and 2013/2014 (£636m). Work Programme spend has not been separately published beyond 2013/2014.

Figures for the year 2015/2016 and beyond cannot be provided as they are subject to change and have not been published.

Sources:

2011/12 to 2014/15: DWP Departmental Annual Report 2014/2015:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/445950/dwp-annual-report-and-accounts-2014-to-2015.pdf

MINISTERIAL CORRECTIONS

CABINET OFFICE

■ Passports

Kevin Hollinrake:

[37800]

To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many people resident in the UK hold an EU non-British passport and previously held a non-EU country passport.

An error has been identified in the written answer given on 1 June 2016. The correct answer should have been:

Mr Rob Wilson:

The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

Attachments:

1. [Table 1 Passports Held Summary Statistics.docx](#)
2. [Table 2 Passports Held by the Usually Resident Population in England and....docx](#)
3. [UKSA response to PQ37800.pdf](#)

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

■ EU Staff: British Nationality

Stephen Timms:

[38069]

To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many UK nationals have been on the staff of the European Parliament in each year since 2010; and what proportion of such staff in each such year were of administrator grade.

An error has been identified in the written answer given on 26 May 2016. The correct answer should have been:

Mr David Lidington:

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office has indicated that it will not be possible to answer this question within the usual time period. An answer is being prepared and will be provided as soon as it is available.

The European Parliament does not publish statistics on numbers of permanent staff by nationality. According to our own internal records, the total numbers of UK nationals employed by the European Parliament, including secondees, in each year since 2010 are:

2010: 290 (149 at AD) 2011: 306 (159 at AD) 2012: 305 (155 at AD) 2013: 291 (152 at AD) 2014: 271 (152 at AD) 2015: 251 (141 at AD)

The latest figure available is for May 2016 and is 257 (146 at AD).