

Wednesday 19 December 2012

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

### Enterprise and Environment

**Ken Macintosh (Eastwood) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it remains its position that a Scotland separated from the rest of the United Kingdom would form a formal currency union with the remaining members of the United Kingdom and, if so, what (a) discussions it has had and (b) agreement it has reached on this issue in the last 12 months and with whom, broken down by (i) date, (ii) means of contact and (iii) ministers involved.

(S4W-11779)

**John Swinney:** Scottish Ministers have outlined that their proposal is to retain sterling as part of a formal monetary union with the rest of the UK.

The Fiscal Commission Working Group is continuing its work to oversee the development of a robust macroeconomic and fiscal framework for an independent Scotland, and will be publishing its' recommendations in the New Year.

Under the Edinburgh Agreement, the Scottish and UK Governments are committed to continue to work together constructively in the light of the outcome of the referendum, whatever it is, in the best interests of the people of Scotland and of the rest of the United Kingdom.

The Scottish Government engages in discussions with key stakeholders on a regular basis about matters of relevance to Scotland.

### Finance

**Willie Rennie (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government for each of the projects referred to in its news release of 9 March 2012, Shovel ready projects, which have (a) started, and what the source of the funding was, (b) been delayed because of a lack of suitable planning permissions, (c) been included in its news release of 25 November 2012, Swinney outlines further shovel-ready projects, and under what heading and (d) been removed from the list and for what reason.

(S4W-11544)

**Nicola Sturgeon:** The Scottish Government published a list of Shovel Ready projects requiring £302 million in March 2012 in advance of the 2012 UK Budget. The Shovel Ready list was then updated in November 2012 in advance of the UK Autumn Statement with projects requiring £820 million of capital funding.

Despite capital allocations made available through the recent UK Autumn Statement (of £394.1m in total over three years), the Scottish Government's real terms capital DEL budget will still decrease by 25.9% over the four years of the UK Spending Review from 2010-11 to 2014-15.

The information relating to the list of Shovel Ready projects published on 9 March 2012 that you request is contained in the following table. Some of these projects received funding via the £105 million stimulus announcement that the Scottish Government made in June 2012 to boost jobs and the economic recovery. By accelerating the programme of capital investment we were taking action where the UK Government was failing to

Project Name	a)Project started and source of funding	b)Project delayed because of a lack of suitable planning permission	c)Project included in news release 25 November 2012 and sector heading	d)Project removed from the list and reason
Ullapool Pier- Passenger access system, traffic management, new berthing dolphin and replacement linkspan £4m	Yes  Project has proceeded to design & development stage with 75% funding from Transport Scotland.	No	No	Yes A limited option has been identified with Ullapool Harbour Trust. Transport Scotland has re-prioritised this and this will now be funded through their current spending review budgets.
Gourock-Dunoon shore side infrastructure £2m	No	No	Yes Transport: Ferry port infrastructure	Not applicable
Kennacraig Phase 2, £4m	Yes  The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
A96 Threapland, £6m	No	No	Yes Transport	Not applicable
A68 Pathhead to Tynehead Junction, £6m	No	No	Yes Transport	Not applicable
A95 Lackgie, £4m	No	No	Yes Transport	Not applicable
A702 Candymill Bend and Edmonstone Brae, £4m	No	No	Yes Transport	Not applicable
A737 Head Street Roundabout, £1.5m	No	No	No	Yes Transport Scotland is re-visiting the benefits of this scheme.
A876 Kincardine Bridge Refurbishment, £14m	No	No	No	Yes This has been put on hold until after the completion of the new Forth Replacement Crossing.
A75 Hardgrove to Kinmount, £10m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

Project Name	a)Project started and source of funding	b)Project delayed because of a lack of suitable planning permission	c)Project included in news release 25 November 2012 and sector heading	d)Project removed from the list and reason
	as announced 27 June 2012.			
M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements: Advance Public Utilities, £37.8m	Yes Funded from repayment of Business Stream loan.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Health Maintenance to ensure assets are safe, effective and person centred, £50m	No Only £15m could be funded by way of the £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	Not applicable	Yes Health	Not applicable
Accelerating Schools for the Future – worth £30.8m	Yes Scotland's Schools for the Future Programme will deliver 12 more schools than the 55 initially envisaged.  £80 million was brought forward from future years in the Draft Budget 2013-14 to accelerate delivery of secondary schools in the third and final phase of the programme.	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
University projects worth £35m including: University of Glasgow - Centre for Virology Research; University of Dundee - Phases 2 and 3 - refurbishment of Duncan of Jordanstone; University of Abertay / Dundee College - Dundee Academy of Sport; University of Edinburgh - Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences.	No  Only £1.5m could be funded for West Highland College by way of the £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	College projects: targeted investment in priority estates included  Further and Higher Education	Not applicable
Dundee Central Waterfront, £4.5m	Yes Scottish Enterprise funded from other budgets.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

Project Name	a)Project started and source of funding	b)Project delayed because of a lack of suitable planning permission	c)Project included in news release 25 November 2012 and sector heading	d)Project removed from the list and reason
Fife Energy Park - Site Development, £3.5m	Yes Scottish Enterprise funded from other budgets.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
ITREZ Technology Innovation Centre, £4m	No	No	Yes Scottish Enterprise – Economic Development Projects.	Not applicable
ATOS - Forres Enterprise Park, £3m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Inverness Campus, £6m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Forres Enterprise Park - Extension of Roads, £2m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.			
European Marine Science Park - Ground works, £3.5m	Yes Highlands and Islands Enterprise funded from other budgets.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Creative Clyde, £1.7m	No	No	Yes Scottish Enterprise – Economic Development Projects	Not applicable
National Renewable Infrastructure Plan - Hunterston Quay Upgrade, £2m	Yes Scottish Enterprise funded from other budgets.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Priority investments within Local Authority Strategic Housing Investment Plans, £15m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

Project Name	a)Project started and source of funding	b)Project delayed because of a lack of suitable planning permission	c)Project included in news release 25 November 2012 and sector heading	d)Project removed from the list and reason
Clyde Gateway developments at Bridgeton Cross, Dalmarnock Cross, Rutherglen and Shawfield, £37m	No Only £5.6m could be funded for Rutherglen and Bridgeton by way of the £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Yes Regeneration: Clyde Gateway Office and Industrial Developments for Economic Growth.	Not applicable
Ayr Gaiety Theatre regeneration, £1m	Yes Funded from Creative Scotland.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
National Records of Scotland - Thomas Thomson House - urgent roof repairs, £1.5m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Historic Scotland - Abbotsford House - restoration to bring into public use, £0.7m	Yes Funded from Scottish Government	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Historic Scotland - Lews Castle development, £1m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Forestry Commission Scotland - upgrade of visitor facilities at David Marshall Lodge,	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
Aberfoyle and Queen's View, Perthshire, £1m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable
National Parks - visitor facility improvements within the National Parks, £1m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

Project Name	a)Project started and source of funding	b)Project delayed because of a lack of suitable planning permission	c)Project included in news release 25 November 2012 and sector heading	d)Project removed from the list and reason
Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh - commence replacement of the Garden's ageing glasshouses, £1.5m	Yes The £105m capital funded package of economic stimulus for 2012-13 as announced 27 June 2012.	No	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Willie Rennie (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide details of what schemes will be included in the (a) cycling infrastructure, (b) ferry port infrastructure, (c) canal infrastructure, (d) Highlands and Islands Enterprise economic development, (e) Scottish Enterprise economic development, (f) VisitScotland, investment in visitor infrastructure, (g) forestry, access, road infrastructure and buildings refurbishment, (h) national parks, developing the rural economy, (i) Scottish Court Service, estate improvement, essential maintenance and statutory compliance, (j) work to Historic Scotland's estate, (k) National Museums of Scotland, maintenance, (l) Creative Scotland, grants programme, (m) college, targeted investment in priority estates, (n) national sporting facility and (o) community hub investment projects referred to in its news release of 25 November 2012, Swinney outlines further shovel-ready projects.

**Holding answer issued: 13 December 2012**

**(S4W-11545)**

**Nicola Sturgeon:** Further details relating to these schemes are as follows:

(a) Cycling infrastructure: Investment in infrastructure that will extend safe cycling routes in different regions of Scotland and encourage active travel, tourism and commuting to school by bike.

(b) Ferry port infrastructure: Essential port infrastructure improvements required to ensure the safe operation of the ferry services.

(c) Canal infrastructure: Investment in a range of projects that will stimulate regeneration and improve tourism and the visitor experience across our canal network.

(d) Highlands and Islands Enterprise economic development: Various projects to provide infrastructure, services, access and support to business and communities that will provide economic development opportunities across the Highlands and Islands.

(e) Scottish Enterprise economic development: Various projects to provide infrastructure, services, access and support to business that will provide economic development opportunities across the country.

(f) VisitScotland, investment in visitor infrastructure: Investment in VisitScotland's Glasgow Visitor Information Centre and the network of Visitor Information Centres across the country, which provide information to visitors and act as development hubs for the visitor economy in rural areas, towns and cities.

(g) Forestry, access, road infrastructure and buildings refurbishment: A range of projects promoting access, through paths and road infrastructure, and refurbishment of key buildings.

(h) National parks, developing the rural economy: A range of projects in the Cairngorms and Loch Lomond National Parks aimed at facilitating improvements to visitor infrastructure and buildings, and developing community projects.

(i) Scottish Court Service, estate improvement, essential maintenance and statutory compliance: Projects focusing on essential estate maintenance and compliance, and estate improvements at Airdrie and Aberdeen, as well as civil court reform and carbon reduction.

(j) Work to Historic Scotland's estate: Various conservation and repair works to Historic Scotland's estate including investment in new visitor facilities.

(k) National Museums of Scotland maintenance: Backlog maintenance and energy improvement projects across the National Museums of Scotland estate.

(l) Creative Scotland, grants programme: Grants programmes for improvements to local and regional culture and arts infrastructure across Scotland.

(m) College, targeted investment in priority estates: Projects to develop those college estates currently in the poorest condition.

(n) National sporting facility: This commitment aims to support the delivery of facilities that play an important role in the player pathway and allow our top athletes to prepare for competing successfully on the international stage. These facilities build on existing provision and contribute to creating a lasting legacy from the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

(o) Community hub investment projects: Projects to promote community access to sports and physical activities across Scotland.

**Liam McArthur (Orkney Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government what estimates it has of the annual running costs of operating a new tax system in an independent Scotland.

**(S4W-11678)**

**John Swinney:** There are a number of variables that could affect the annual running costs for operating a new tax system in an independent Scotland. The Scottish Government will publish estimates in due course.

We will always seek to maximise efficiency, reducing the costs of tax collection to both taxpayers and the Government through modernising and streamlining tax legislation and administration. Under the new powers given in the Scotland Act 2012, we have proposed the introduction of the Land and Buildings Transaction Tax and a new Scottish Landfill Tax. As announced in June 2012, our estimate is that the administrative cost of collecting these taxes through Revenue Scotland will be at least 25 per cent less than the cost of asking HMRC to continue to collect Stamp Duty Land Tax and the current Landfill Tax in Scotland after April 2015.

### **Governance and Communities**

**Nanette Milne (North East Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what support it gives to school pupils who want to learn to ski at centres in Scotland.

**Holding answer issued: 18 December 2012**

**(S4W-11675)**

**Shona Robison:** Through the Active Schools programme and in partnership with Snowsport Scotland, school children are able to access a range of opportunities to learn to ski. This has seen a steady increase in the number of school age pupils skiing.

**Willie Rennie (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the statement by John Swinney on 27 November 2012 (Official Report, c. 13912), when it will inform (a) local authorities and (b) the Parliament of how much additional revenue support each council will receive in 2013-14 from the (i) £70 million available to freeze the council tax, (ii) £39 million for teacher commitments and (iii) funding floor system to keep all councils above 85% of the per capita average.

**(S4W-11680)**

**John Swinney:** The distributions of the £70 million for the council tax freeze and the £25 million to deliver the Scottish Government's commitment for the 85% per capita floor, which was implemented as part of the 2012-15 settlement following Spending Review 2011, are both separately identifiable within the 2013-14 provisional revenue allocations published in Local Government Finance Circular 5/2012\*. The £39 million for the teacher commitments is included within the 2013-14 general revenue funding allocations in column nine of Annex B of the Local Government Finance Circular 5/2012.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/17999/11203/LGFC-5-2012>

As part of the established practice agreed with COSLA, three year settlements, including the floors, are not reopened during the period of the Spending Review except for agreed additions or reductions in funding.

**Willie Rennie (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it plans to provide additional guidance to community planning partnerships on the process required to reach single outcome agreements.

**(S4W-11689)**

**John Swinney:** Guidance to community planning partnerships on the scope and content of their new Single Outcome Agreements (SOAs), including the timetable for their submission and agreement with the Scottish Government, was published on 4 December 2012 and is available on the Scottish Government website at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/local-government/CP/SOA2012/SOA2012>.

There are no plans for the issue of further formal written guidance to CPPs on preparation of their new SOAs. Instead, as stated in the guidance published on 4 December, the Scottish Government has offered to provide practical advice and support to CPPs to help them prepare their new SOAs.

#### **Health and Social Care**

**Alex Johnstone (North East Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what progress it has made on considering the adoption of the 111 telephone number for non-emergency healthcare services.

**(S4O-1632)**

**Alex Neil:** Consideration for the adoption of the “111” number, for access to non-emergency healthcare services in Scotland is ongoing. As members will appreciate, it is important to ensure decisions affecting access to NHS services are based on the best available evidence and informed by engagement with stakeholders.

Should it be adopted, this number would replace the existing number for NHS 24. As members may be aware, the two key benefits for patients would be that the number is memorable and would be free to call from both a mobile phone and a landline.

I expect to be in a position to make an announcement on this early in the New Year and I will ensure members, including Mr Johnstone, are updated at that time.

**Jenny Marra (North East Scotland) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what recent discussions it has had with NHS Tayside about waiting times.

**(S4O-1633)**

**Alex Neil:** The Health Directorate meets with all boards, including NHS Tayside on a regular basis to discuss waiting times.

**Colin Keir (Edinburgh Western) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with NHS Lothian and the City of Edinburgh Council regarding the delivery of the North West Edinburgh Partnership Centre.

**(S4O-1634)**

**Alex Neil:** The Scottish Government has had no specific discussions with NHS Lothian and the City of Edinburgh Council regarding the delivery of the North West Edinburgh Partnership Centre. The Scottish Government continues to engage with NHS Lothian regarding the development of its investment programme.



**John Scott (Ayr) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what recent discussions it has had with NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

(S4O-1635)

**Alex Neil:** As Mr Scott knows, I chaired the board's annual review in Kilmarnock on Monday. This covered many issues of importance to local people, as outlined in my earlier response to Adam Ingram.

**Joan McAlpine (South Scotland) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what benefits it considers single-bed hospital wards will bring to patient care and wellbeing.

(S4O-1636)

**Alex Neil:** The provision of single room patient accommodation will bring a number of improvements to patient care and wellbeing, including better infection control, reduced length of stay, reduction in the incidence of medical errors, improved patient satisfaction, and flexibility in the use of accommodation as well as improved privacy and dignity.

In addition, single room provision will give NHS boards more flexibility to manage its accommodation and help to avoid the need to shuffle patients to keep multi-bedded room's single sex.

**Linda Fabiani (East Kilbride) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government when it last met NHS Lanarkshire.

(S4O-1637)

**Alex Neil:** Scottish Ministers and officials regularly meet with representatives of all Health boards, including NHS Lanarkshire.

**Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many (a) oncologists and (b) specialist cancer nurses the NHS has employed in each year since 2007.

(S4W-11696)

**Alex Neil:** The number of a) oncologists and b) specialist cancer nurses employed in NHS Scotland each year since 2007 are shown in the following tables:

Table 1. The number of Medical and Clinical Oncologist staff in post in NHS Scotland (WTE)

WTE	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Sep-10	Mar-11	Jun-11	Sep-11	Dec-11	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12
Oncology	71.3	98.8	55.3	89.6	92.0	91.6	91.1	91.1	90.0	89.6	89.9

Source: ISD Scotland

Notes:

1. Figures include Medical and Clinical Oncologists

Table 2. The number of Medical and Clinical oncologist staff in post in NHS Scotland (Headcount)

Headcount	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Sep-10	Mar-11	Jun-11	Sep-11	Dec-11	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12
Oncology	77	108	61	98	101	99	101	100	99	98	98

Source: ISD Scotland

Notes:

1. Figures include Medical and Clinical Oncologists

During July 2008 medical and dental information was migrated from the MEDMAN web based system to the Scottish Workforce Information Standard System (SWISS). This alignment provided the opportunity to capture all NHS Scotland staff in post information in the one system, which has resulted in more robust information being captured and reported.

Table 3. The number of specialist cancer nurses in post in NHS Scotland (WTE)

	WTE						
	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Sep-10	Sep-11	Sep-12	

Cancer	173.9	165.2	170.0	182.6	245.1	242.8
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Source: ISD Scotland

Table 4. The number of specialist cancer nurses in post in NHS Scotland (Headcount)

	Headcount					
	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Sep-10	Sep-11	Sep-12
Cancer	189	180	187	198	271	269

Source: ISD Scotland

**Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many vacancies for consultant oncologists the NHS has advertised in each year since 2007 and how many posts have been filled.

**(S4W-11697)**

**Alex Neil:** The information requested on how many of the posts have been filled is not held centrally. Vacancy figures as reported on the ISD Scotland website are given in the following tables. The total number of consultant oncologist vacancies in NHS Scotland whole time equivalent (WTE) and headcount are shown in tables 1 and 2.

Table 1. Total Vacancies in NHS Scotland for Oncologists (WTE)

	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Sep-10	Mar-11	Jun-11	Sep-11	Dec-11	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12
Oncology	7.0	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.6	2.2	1.0	1.0	4.0	3.0	5.0

Source: ISD Scotland

Notes:

1. Figures include Medical and Clinical Oncologists

Table 2. Total Vacancies in NHS Scotland for Oncologists (Headcount)

	Sep-07	Sep-08	Sep-09	Sep-10	Mar-11	Jun-11	Sep-11	Dec-11	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12
Oncology	7	2	3	2	2	3	1	1	4	3	5

Source: ISD Scotland

Notes:

1. Figures include Medical and Clinical Oncologists

**Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many vacancies there are for consultant oncologists in each NHS board.

**(S4W-11698)**

**Alex Neil MSP:** The total number of consultant oncologist vacancies in NHS Scotland whole time equivalent (WTE) and headcount as at 30 September 2012 is shown in the following table:

Table 1. Total Vacancies as at 30th September 2012

NHS Board	Oncology	
	Total Vacancies (WTE)	Total Vacancies (Headcount)
NHS Ayrshire & Arran	0	0
NHS Borders	0	0
NHS Dumfries & Galloway	0	0
NHS Fife	0	0
NHS Forth Valley	0	0
NHS Grampian	2	2
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	2	2
NHS Highland	0	0
NHS Lanarkshire	0	0
NHS Lothian	1	1
NHS Orkney	0	0

NHS Shetland	0	0
NHS Tayside	0	0
NHS Western Isles	0	0
Scotland Total	5	5

Source: ISD Scotland

Notes:

1. Figures include Medical and Clinical Oncologists

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what reviews have been carried out to ensure that intensive rehabilitation services are fit for purpose.

**(S4W-11699)**

**Alex Neil:** It is for NHS boards to ensure that the rehabilitation services they provide are appropriate in their intensity and duration.

The Scottish Government's Rehabilitation Framework encourages NHS boards to ensure that as well as providing intensive rehabilitation where appropriate, re-ablement services are also available and provided where appropriate.

We have established a Centre of Excellence in Rehabilitation and Re-ablement Research at Strathclyde University. The Centre will work with researchers and practitioners from the NHS and social care across Scotland to strengthen the evidence base, further evaluate and support the development of rehabilitation and re-ablement services.

**Jim Hume (South Scotland) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government how many operations have been postponed in each NHS board area in the last three years and for what reasons.

**(S4W-11734)**

**Alex Neil:** The specific information is not available centrally as it is not possible to identify operations cancelled for non-clinical reasons.

Information although limited, is available on the number of hospital stays where operation/procedure was not carried out following admission. This information for the financial years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 is provided in the following tables.

Operations may be cancelled due to a number of reasons such as particularly high levels of emergency admissions, staff sickness, patient is unfit for treatment on admission or the patient has failed to follow pre-admission advice such as fasting before admission.

The total number of hospital stays and the number of inpatient and day case hospital stays where a cancelled operation or procedure not being carried out has been recorded for 2009-10 by NHS board

NHS Board of Treatment	Total Number of Stays	The Number of Hospital Stays Where A Cancelled Operation/Procedure Not Carried Out	Rate (%)
Scotland	1,159,536	17,004	1.5
NHS Ayrshire & Arran	88,367	1,444	1.6
NHS Borders	21,712	147	0.7
NHS Dumfries & Galloway	31,886	614	1.9
NHS Fife	60,320	934	1.5
NHS Forth Valley	38,169	145	0.4
NHS Grampian	107,411	1,775	1.7
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	352,762	5,244	1.5
NHS Highland	60,339	913	1.5
NHS Lanarkshire	119,962	2,469	2.1

NHS Lothian	166,723	1,625	1.0
NHS Orkney Islands	4,463	46	1.0
NHS Shetland Islands	4,139	76	1.8
NHS Tayside	78,895	871	1.1
NHS Western Isles	6,347	67	1.1
Golden Jubilee	18,041	634	3.5

The total number of hospital stays and the number of inpatient and day case hospital stays where a cancelled operation or procedure not being carried out has been recorded for 2010-11 by NHS board

NHS Board of Treatment	Total Number of Stays	The Number of Hospital Stays Where A Cancelled Operation/Procedure Not Carried Out	Rate (%)
Scotland	1,154,012	16,498	1.4
NHS Ayrshire & Arran	89,821	1,422	1.6
NHS Borders	22,296	153	0.7
NHS Dumfries & Galloway	31,567	607	1.9
NHS Fife	57,757	962	1.7
NHS Forth Valley	37,399	148	0.4
NHS Grampian	105,666	1,732	1.6
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	361,020	5,048	1.4
NHS Highland	58,263	812	1.4
NHS Lanarkshire	115,386	2,380	2.1
NHS Lothian	163,419	1,543	0.9
NHS Orkney Islands	4,981	43	0.9
NHS Shetland Islands	4,152	55	1.3
NHS Tayside	79,441	1,019	1.3
NHS Western Isles	5,763	68	1.2
Golden Jubilee	17,081	506	3.0

The total number of hospital stays and the number of inpatient and day case hospital stays where a cancelled operation or procedure not being carried out has been recorded for 2011-12 by NHS board

NHS Board of Treatment	Total Number of Stays	The Number of Hospital Stays Where A Cancelled Operation/Procedure Not Carried Out	Rate (%)
Scotland	1,169,030	16,563	1.4
NHS Ayrshire & Arran	89,618	1,383	1.5
NHS Borders	23,223	181	0.8
NHS Dumfries & Galloway	31,141	597	1.9
NHS Fife	57,410	997	1.7
NHS Forth Valley	37,928	136	0.4
NHS Grampian	107,756	1,603	1.5
NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	367,182	4,833	1.3
NHS Highland	56,119	752	1.3
NHS Lanarkshire	118,700	2,608	2.2
NHS Lothian	168,236	1,784	1.1
NHS Orkney Islands	4,981	66	1.3
NHS Shetland Islands	4,570	65	1.4

NHS Board of Treatment	Total Number of Stays	The Number of Hospital Stays Where A Cancelled Operation/Procedure Not Carried Out	Rate (%)
NHS Tayside	80,072	925	1.2
NHS Western Isles	5,502	75	1.4
Golden Jubilee	16,592	558	3.4

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on whether there will be sufficient staffing to provide out of hours cover across the NHS over the 2012-13 Christmas and New Year period.

**(S4W-11743)**

**Alex Neil:** NHS boards plan the staffing levels required to meet predicted demand throughout the year. The winter presents additional challenges and the Scottish Government has a well established process in place to support NHS Scotland to prepare for the winter period.

This year's "Preparing for Winter Guidance" was circulated to NHS board Chief Executives on 16 October 2012 and copied to a range of partners who play a critical role in supporting the delivery of NHS services over the winter period.

The guidance focuses on supporting NHS boards to make efficient utilisation of capacity and to optimise patient flow from point of admission through to point of discharge. It sets out a number of priority actions, including agreeing on staff rotas in November for the fortnight in which the two festive holiday periods occur to match projected peaks in demand. These rotas should include services that support the management of inpatient pathways, (e.g.) diagnostics, pharmacy, phlebotomy, Allied Health Professions (AHPs), Infection Protection Control Team, etc. It also asks NHS boards to ensure that appropriate medical staff are available, and that AHP rotas are structured, to facilitate the discharging of patients throughout weekends and the fortnight in which the two festive holiday periods occur in order to maximise capacity.

As part of their winter planning arrangements NHS boards conduct a primary care out of hour's self-assessment to ensure that primary care services are fully sustained over the winter period and especially around the Christmas and New Year period.

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with NHS boards regarding staff cover over the 2012-13 Christmas and New Year period.

**(S4W-11744)**

**Alex Neil:** The Scottish Government has supported NHS boards, throughout the year to develop and refine their winter plans for 2012-13. As part of this process, the Scottish Government held a national winter planning meeting and two regional winter planning events with NHS boards to review last year's winter and to make preparations for this winter, including discussions on staff cover.

Winter preparations have been discussed with the chairs of all NHS boards at our monthly meetings. The NHS Scotland chief executive has also held discussions with NHS board chief executives.

The Scottish Government issued "Preparing for Winter Guidance" to NHS board chief executives on 16 October 2012.

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government whether any consultant-led clinics will be cancelled over the 2012-13 Christmas and New Year period.

**(S4W-11745)**

**Alex Neil:** It is for individual NHS boards to plan how their services are going to be provided for over the holiday period to ensure that patients have no delay in their care.

**David Stewart (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-11413 by Michael Matheson on 3 December 2012, what percentage of (a) adults and (b) children with type 1 diabetes uses insulin pumps, broken down by NHS board.

**(S4W-11803)**

**Michael Matheson:** The information requested is contained within the Scottish Diabetes Survey which was published on 20 August 2012 and is available at the following link:

<http://www.diabetesinscotland.org.uk/Publications/SDS%202011.pdf>.

The percentage of (a) adults and (b) children with type 1 diabetes receiving insulin pump therapy in each NHS board, as of December 2011, is set out in the following table:

NHS Board	Number of people under 18 on an insulin pump	Percentage of under 18 Type 1 population on an insulin pump	Number of people over 18 on an insulin pump	Percentage of over 18 Type 1 population on an insulin pump
NHS Ayrshire and Arran	29	11.33%	28	1.41%
NHS Borders	19	26.39%	33	6.06%
NHS Dumfries and Galloway	5	6.25%	24	2.69%
NHS Fife	31	17.32%	108	6.18%
NHS Forth Valley	14	7.95%	46	3.17%
NHS Grampian	32	9.94%	57	2.09%
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	68	11.76%	71	1.26%
NHS Highland	4	1.90%	37	2.36%
NHS Lanarkshire	5	1.25%	57	1.81%
NHS Lothian	54	13.17%	202	5.23%
NHS Orkney	3	20.00%	2	1.90%
NHS Shetland	2	11.76%	3	2.75%
NHS Tayside	68	33.01%	82	4.91%
NHS Western Isles	0	0.00%	2	1.18%
Scotland	334	11.36%	752	2.94%

The progress that NHS boards are making with increasing insulin pump provision against the commitments set out within the Chief Executive Letter CEL 4 (2012) on Insulin Pump Therapy for People with Type 1 Diabetes, will be published soon after March 2013.

#### Learning and Justice

**Hugh Henry (Renfrewshire South) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government on what date the note lodged in the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (SPICe) by the First Minister (Official Report, c. 13591) was prepared.

**Holding answer issued: 4 December 2012**

**(S4W-11341)**

**Michael Russell:** The note lodged with SPICe is an extract from a ministerial briefing created at the start of the Parliamentary term, and which is updated regularly.

**Alison McInnes (North East Scotland) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):** To ask the Scottish Government how many cases of animal cruelty have been recorded in each year since 2008-09 and how many were successfully prosecuted, broken down by police force area.

**Holding answer issued: 17 December 2012**

**(S4W-11649)**

**Kenny MacAskill:** Please note that police recorded crime statistics are not directly comparable with statistics on action taken against offenders, as one offence may lead to several persons being charged. Equally, an offender may be charged with several offences. In addition, an offence could be recorded in one financial year, but action could be taken in another.

The offence categories included in these tables all involve cruelty to animals. However, other offence categories exist that will include small proportions of animal cruelty offences.

Offences of animal cruelty recorded by the police, 2008-09 to 2011-12, broken down by police force area

Cruelty to animals (excluding dogs) including killing and maiming cattle

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central	3	7	2	0
Dumfries and Galloway	3	5	1	5
Fife	0	1	4	15
Grampian	6	2	0	3
Lothian and Borders	15	8	6	6
Northern	45	5	4	5
Strathclyde	10	6	4	4
Tayside	4	3	1	2
Scotland	86	37	22	40

Source: Scottish Government Recorded Crime in Scotland.

Cruelty to dogs

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central	1	9	4	14
Dumfries and Galloway	5	0	1	3
Fife	0	0	0	1
Grampian	5	5	6	10
Lothian and Borders	11	3	11	21
Northern	0	1	0	2
Strathclyde	6	6	3	2
Tayside	0	4	4	3
Scotland	28	28	29	56

Source: Scottish Government Recorded Crime in Scotland.

Cruelty to wild animals

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central	6	2	3	7
Dumfries and Galloway	2	2	3	1
Fife	2	2	0	1
Grampian	8	8	14	8
Lothian and Borders	0	6	3	3
Northern	1	0	8	4
Strathclyde	1	1	4	0
Tayside	0	6	5	2
Scotland	20	27	40	26

Source: Scottish Government Recorded Crime in Scotland.

Total offences of animal cruelty

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central	10	18	9	21
Dumfries and Galloway	10	7	5	9
Fife	2	3	4	17
Grampian	19	15	20	21

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Lothian and Borders	26	17	20	30
Northern	46	6	12	11
Strathclyde	17	13	11	6
Tayside	4	13	10	7
Scotland	134	92	91	122

Source: Scottish Government Recorded Crime in Scotland.

People prosecuted for offences of cruelty to animals, 2008-09 to 2011-12, broken down by police force area

Cruelty to animals including killing and maiming cattle<sup>1,2</sup>

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central:				
Not Guilty	1	1	1	2
Guilty	4	13	7	7
Dumfries and Galloway:				
Not Guilty	3	3	1	1
Guilty	4	11	5	10
Fife:				
Not Guilty	0	0	4	2
Guilty	2	5	5	4
Grampian:				
Not Guilty	4	1	0	3
Guilty	6	7	5	6
Lothian and Borders:				
Not Guilty	2	3	7	3
Guilty	9	10	14	15
Northern:				
Not Guilty	0	2	2	1
Guilty	7	7	7	1
Strathclyde:				
Not Guilty	9	16	8	10
Guilty	37	55	34	50
Tayside:				
Not Guilty	1	1	0	3
Guilty	4	1	2	3
Unknown:				
Not Guilty	1	0	0	0
Scotland	94	136	102	121

Source: Scottish Government: Criminal Proceedings in Scotland.

Cruelty to wild animals<sup>1</sup>

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central:				
Guilty	0	0	0	2
Dumfries and Galloway:				
Guilty	2	1	1	0
Fife:	0	0	0	0



	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Grampian:				
Guilty	1	2	0	1
Lothian and Borders:				
Not Guilty	0	0	0	1
Northern:				
Not Guilty	1	0	0	0
Guilty	1	0	0	0
Strathclyde:				
Not Guilty	0	1	0	0
Guilty	3	0	0	0
Tayside:				
Guilty	1	0	1	0
Scotland	9	4	2	4

Source: Scottish Government: Criminal Proceedings in Scotland.

Total number of people prosecuted for animal cruelty<sup>1,2</sup>

	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Central:				
Not Guilty	1	1	1	2
Guilty	4	13	7	9
Dumfries and Galloway:				
Not Guilty	3	3	1	1
Guilty	6	12	6	10
Fife:				
Not Guilty	0	0	4	2
Guilty	2	5	5	4
Grampian:				
Not Guilty	4	1	0	3
Guilty	7	9	5	7
Lothian and Borders:				
Not Guilty	2	3	7	4
Guilty	9	10	14	15
Northern:				
Not Guilty	1	2	2	1
Guilty	8	7	7	1
Strathclyde:				
Not Guilty	9	17	8	10
Guilty	40	55	34	50
Tayside:				
Not Guilty	1	1	0	3
Guilty	5	1	3	3
Unknown:				
Not Guilty	1	0	0	0
Scotland	103	140	104	125

1. Where main offence.

2. May include offences related to cruelty to dogs.  
Source: Scottish Government: Criminal Proceedings in Scotland.

### Strategy and External Affairs

**Jackson Carlaw (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether any (a) minister or (b) official has visited (i) Switzerland, (ii) Norway, (iii) Sweden or (iv) Denmark since 2007.

(S4W-11690)

**Fiona Hyslop:** Yes. The number of journeys made by ministers to these countries is included in the information which is proactively published in each year since 2007 on the Scottish Government website which is updated on a regular basis and I attach a link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/People/14944/travel/visitoverseas>

The number of journeys made by officials to these countries in each year since 2003 is set out in the following table:

	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (Nov)
Switzerland	3	2	2	9	5	12	13	9	11	9
Norway	13	11	48	25	32	38	36	33	20	26
Sweden	12	8	8	12	9	8	31	1	9	6
Denmark	4	17	22	19	16	43	47	40	19	10

**Jackson Carlaw (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether the Deputy First Minister has visited (a) Switzerland, (b) Norway, (c) Sweden or (d) Denmark since 2007.

(S4W-11691)

**Fiona Hyslop:** No. The Scottish Government proactively publishes information on overseas visits carried out by Scottish Government Ministers on the Scottish Government website which is updated on a regular basis and I attach a link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/About/People/14944/travel/visitoverseas>

**Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what communication it has had with the Israeli (a) Government or (b) Embassy following the recent visit to Edinburgh of the Israeli Ambassador to the UK and what meetings or contact have taken place or been arranged by the Minister for Enterprise, Energy and Tourism or his officials.

(S4W-11703)

**Humza Yousaf:** The First Minister held a courtesy meeting with Mr Daniel Taub, Israel's Ambassador to the UK on 24 October. The Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism, Fergus Ewing met with Noah Shani, the Israeli Embassy's Minister for Trade and Economic Affairs in London on 13 November, before the recent escalation in violence. I also met with Mr Manuel Hassassian, the Palestinian Ambassador on 15 November to discuss the ongoing situation in the Middle East and how Scotland and Palestine can forge closer links.

The Scottish Government currently has no contracts with Israel suppliers and we have no plans to visit Israel in the near future.

**Alex Johnstone (North East Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to publish a five-year strategy for engagement between Scotland and Japan.

**(S4W-11768)**

**Humza Yousaf:** The Scottish Government is very pleased with the long and positive relationship we have built with Japan, who has been an important trading partner for Scotland for many years. In 2010, Scottish exports to Japan were valued at £295 million. Last month the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment undertook a visit to Japan with a delegation of 20 Scottish food and drink companies for an in-market workshop, promoting the best of Scottish food and drink.

Today we have 65 Japanese companies in Scotland employing approximately 5,000 people in a range of sectors. Recently we have seen a significant build-up of activity between Scotland and Japan in the area of renewable energy and this is welcomed. This includes the announcement by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries in December 2010 of their plans to invest up to £100 million in a new research centre focusing on offshore wind turbine technologies in Scotland.

We are committed to delivering maximum value for Scotland through our overseas engagement which is guided by our *International Framework*, published on 23 October this year. We have no plans at the present time to publish a specific engagement strategy between Scotland and Japan.

*The following questions received holding answers:*

S4W-11677