

Monday 24 June 2013

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

### Enterprise and Environment

**Alison Johnstone (Lothian) (Scottish Green Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what sanctions are available if the fuel used at the biomass plant to be built at Grangemouth is deemed to be unsustainable.

**Holding answer issued: 18 June 2013**

**(S4W-15477)**

**Fergus Ewing:** Condition 4 of the Port of Grangemouth consent does not allow commencement of operation of the plant until Scottish Ministers have approved a biomass sustainability plan. The company are also required by condition 12 of the consent to keep written records throughout the lifetime of the development recording the quantities, nature and sources of fuel including details of certification. This will ensure that only certified biomass fuel feedstocks are used and to ensure that the plant operates according to sound sustainable principles and policies.

If the Grangemouth plant were to be operated using fuel of a kind which breached the terms of the conditions of consent action could be taken to seek interdict from the courts to prohibit the continued use of that kind of fuel. Also in terms of section 36(6) of the Electricity Act 1989 any person who without reasonable excuse operates the generating station other than in accordance with the consent granted by the Scottish Ministers would be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale.

**John Finnie (Highlands and Islands) (Independent):** To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-15192 by Richard Lochhead on 6 June 2013, what steps the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has taken to engage with communities and local authorities in Scotland.

**(S4W-15532)**

**Richard Lochhead:** Further to the answer to question S4W-15192, engagement with communities and local authorities on the subject of movements of nuclear materials by rail from Dounreay is a matter for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).

In July 2011, the NDA published a joint Credible and Preferred Options paper on the management of the Dounreay Fast Reactor (DFR) breeder material at Dounreay. The NDA responses to stakeholder comments on the options were published in November 2011, when the decision to transfer the DFR breeder material to Sellafield by rail was announced.

In July 2012, the NDA wrote to every local authority in Scotland offering briefing on the proposals to transport nuclear material from Dounreay to Sellafield.

The NDA also regularly attends the Dounreay Stakeholder Group where they engage with community representatives about the NDA's activities in relation to Dounreay.

The NDA consults on its business plan activities on an annual basis.

**Margaret McCulloch (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what assistance it provides to help companies promote research and development.

**(S4W-15571)**

**Fergus Ewing:** Through the enterprise agencies and other intermediary bodies, the Scottish Government delivers a range of programmes to help companies engage in research and development. These include large collaborative research and development grants, discretionary grants to support technical and commercial feasibility studies and research and development projects; and access to interface, which provides a free brokerage service and innovation vouchers for businesses seeking to collaborate with Scottish academia.

In addition to providing financial support, there are also a number of advisory services for companies seeking to participate in research and development. These include a service to support inventors; the Enterprise Europe Network, which promotes collaborative opportunities for Scottish businesses to work across Europe and beyond; and promotion of existing and future European Union competitive research and development funding programmes, currently being delivered through a series of Scottish-wide road shows.

**Kenneth Gibson (Cunninghame North) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government when Scottish Natural Heritage and Marine Scotland will hold a public meeting on Arran to discuss the proposed South Arran Marine Protected Area.

**(S4W-15587)**

**Michael Matheson:** We are developing management options for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) where scientific advice suggests that some form of management may be necessary to achieve the conservation objectives for each proposed protected feature in each possible MPA. The approach to identifying management options for each activity, including those for impacts of creelers and anglers, will be risk-based, which means options will be presented where there is a risk to the achievement of the conservation objectives.

The management options will be informed by discussion with stakeholders and will be consulted on this summer. If new information becomes available during the consultation, the management options may be revised. We recognise that stakeholders can provide local, practical environmental knowledge and more detailed information on activities, including in relation to intensity, frequency, and methods. This additional information will help us to develop more specific management options, focussed on interactions between features and activities. To better understand this and to raise awareness of the proposal for the South Arran possible MPA, we intend to invite members of the Arran community, and any other interested parties, to attend a joint Marine Scotland and Scottish National Heritage drop in session on MPAs towards the start of the summer consultation. We are in discussions with the Community of Arran Seabed Trust over arrangements for this event on Arran.

In addition there is also a review period every six years to assess the efficacy of the network in achieving its conservation objectives, where the first review would be held in 2018-19.

**Kenneth Gibson (Cunninghame North) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government when it will review the management options for marine protected areas and publish that review.

**(S4W-15588)**

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15587 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Kenneth Gibson (Cunninghame North) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether management options for marine protected areas take account of the impacts on non-mobile stakeholder groups such as creelers and anglers.

**(S4W-15589)**

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15587 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on how the UK Government's proposals in its response to the UK Parliament's Business, Innovation and Skills Committee's 2012 report, *Pub Companies*, might impact on the licensed trade, and which of the potential legislative powers the response refers to are devolved.

(S4W-15595)

**Richard Lochhead:** The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) issued a consultation document on the possible introduction of legislation to create a statutory code and pub adjudicator. That consultation recognised that the proposals were not a reserved issue. Discussions with BIS are on-going to determine whether or not these proposals should be extended to Scotland. This consultation closed on 14 June 2013. We encouraged Scottish interests to respond to the consultation on the basis that while we have not come to a formal view on whether to support this measure, if it were to progress as a UK Bill, Scottish industry interests will have been considered.

While we do not hold statistical data on the makeup of the pub trade, through discussions with the industry we have established that in England around 70% is leasehold and 30% freehold, whereas the Scottish industry is made up of 65% freehold and 35% leasehold (of which, less than half fall within the control of the larger pub companies). Of the seven large pub companies in operation in the UK, only three operate in Scotland. The interest of these large pub companies covers around 800 pubs (or around 16% of the market) in Scotland.

Fergus Ewing, Minister for Energy, Enterprise and Tourism met with representatives from the Fair Deal for Your Local campaign to discuss the proposed introduction by the UK Government of an adjudicator and statutory code. The Scottish Government will work with the group to identify all relevant research to help understand the implications for Scotland. Official-level discussions have been held with the Scottish Licenced Trade Association, the Scottish Beer and Pub Association, Heineken UK and the Pubs Independent Rent Review Scheme.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the Fair Deal for Your Local campaign, which calls for a code of practice to protect the tenants and licensees of so-called pubcos.

(S4W-15597)

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15595 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what information it has regarding how many licensed premises in Scotland are owned by so-called pubcos.

(S4W-15598)

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15595 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the Scottish Licensed Trade Association regarding how so-called pubcos operate.

(S4W-15599)

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15595 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it has carried out research on how so-called pubcos deal with their tenants and licensees.

(S4W-15600)

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15595 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is regarding introducing legislation to prevent so-called pubcos in Scotland from overcharging tenants and licensees for the products that they are obliged to sell.

**(S4W-15601)**

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15595 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**Bruce Crawford (Stirling) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what legislative powers it has to ensure that tenants and licensees of so-called pubcos are not exploited regarding the price of beer that they are contractually obliged to purchase.

**(S4W-15602)**

**Richard Lochhead:** I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-15595 on 24 June 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

#### **Governance and Communities**

**Margaret McCulloch (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government who the approved primary contractors are for its Energy Assistance Package.

**(S4W-15567)**

**Margaret Burgess:** Stage 4 of the Energy Assistance Package ended on 31 March 2013. It has been replaced by the new Home Energy Efficiency Programmes for Scotland: Energy Assistance Scheme. For the new Energy Assistance Scheme, the approved primary contractors are:

The Energy Saving Trust, as package administrator, Scottish Gas, as managing agent, and Bierce Technical Services Ltd, to provide inspection and ad hoc audit services.

**Margaret McCulloch (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government which subsidiaries of primary contractors to its Energy Assistance Package have won tenders from their parent companies.

**(S4W-15568)**

**Margaret Burgess:** As explained in the answer to S4W-15567 on 24 June 2013, the approved primary contractors for the Energy Assistance Scheme are:

The Energy Saving Trust, as package administrator,  
Scottish Gas, as managing agent, and Bierce Technical Services Ltd, to provide inspection and ad hoc audit services.

Please note that the information provided in this answer is current as of June 2013 but is subject to change.

The Energy Saving Trust has five Energy Saving Scotland advice centres and has contracted the following four companies to run them:

Changeworks Resources for Life: South East Scotland, Highlands and Islands

The Energy Agency: South West Scotland

S.C.A.R.F. (Save Cash and Reduce Fuel): North East Scotland

The WISE Group: Strathclyde and Central Scotland

Scottish Gas has advised that they have contracted, or otherwise made arrangements with the following companies to deliver elements of the service they provide:

A and R Hepburn  
Alba Gas  
Baxi Heat team  
BCA Insulation  
BRB Electrical  
BSS Gas  
Building Insulation Services (BIS)  
City Technical Services (UK)  
Complete Heat Scotland  
Cool Planet  
Dalex Systems  
Devine Electrics  
Dimplex  
ESP Pipelines  
Fyrebite Heating & Building Service  
Gas Call Services  
Gas Services Direct  
Heating 4 U Fife  
ILM Highland  
Mains Gas Services  
McTear Electrical Services  
Mitie Property Services (UK)  
Mitsubishi Electric  
Omega Electrical Contractors  
PH Jones  
Quality Gas Services  
RDI Solutions  
Robertson and Peterson  
Scotia Gas Networks  
Scottish Power  
Shetland Heatwise  
South East Heating Services  
Scottish and Southern Energy  
Tighean Innse Gall  
TK Murray Electrical  
William Wilson Plc  
Wiseman (Plumbing & Heating)  
Worcester Bosch

The Scottish Government does not hold information on the use of subsidiaries by Bierce Technical Services Ltd.

All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

**David Stewart (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many houses in multiple occupation (HMO) licences were granted by each local authority in (a) 2011-12 and (b) 2012-13 and how many have been granted since April 2013.

**(S4W-15584)**

**Margaret Burgess:** The following table provides information on the number of new and renewal Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) licence applications granted in 2011-12 (to 31 March 2012) by each local authority.

Houses in multiple occupation: year ending 31 March 2012:

New applications received under the mandatory licensing scheme		Renewal applications received under the mandatory licensing scheme	
Scotland	1,682	Scotland	7,670

New applications received under the mandatory licensing scheme		Renewal applications received under the mandatory licensing scheme	
Aberdeen City	133	Aberdeen City	280
Aberdeenshire	25	Aberdeenshire	27
Angus	1	Angus	7
Argyll and Bute	1	Argyll and Bute	0
Clackmannanshire	1	Clackmannanshire	2
Dumfries and Galloway	7	Dumfries and Galloway	37
Dundee City	84	Dundee City	239
East Ayrshire	0	East Ayrshire	0
East Dunbartonshire	2	East Dunbartonshire	4
East Lothian	2	East Lothian	11
East Renfrewshire	0	East Renfrewshire	8
Edinburgh, City of	950	Edinburgh, City of	4,919
Eilean Siar	1	Eilean Siar	14
Falkirk	2	Falkirk	5
Fife	76	Fife	443
Glasgow City	306	Glasgow City	1,027
Highland	16	Highland	60
Inverclyde	4	Inverclyde	5
Midlothian	9	Midlothian	0
Moray	7	Moray	6
North Ayrshire	2	North Ayrshire	4
North Lanarkshire	0	North Lanarkshire	0
Orkney	1	Orkney	0
Perth and Kinross	5	Perth and Kinross	30
Renfrewshire	3	Renfrewshire	52
Scottish Borders, The	11	Scottish Borders, The	16
Shetland	0	Shetland	2
South Ayrshire	4	South Ayrshire	11
South Lanarkshire	3	South Lanarkshire	15
Stirling	18	Stirling	433
West Dunbartonshire	2	West Dunbartonshire	2
West Lothian	6	West Lothian	11

Source: HMO returns by local authorities to the Scottish Government, Communities Analytical Services (Housing Statistics)

Note: Figures for 2012-13 (to 31 March 2013) are currently being collected from local authorities and will be published towards the end of August 2013. Those for 2013-14 are due to be published in August 2014.

**David Stewart (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what percentage of houses in multiple occupation (HMO) licences was granted by each local authority in (a) 2011-12 and (b) 2012-13 and have been granted since April 2013 for properties for people considered vulnerable because they (a) are homeless, (b) live in a hostel, (c) have mental health issues and (d) are recovering from substance misuse.

**(S4W-15585)**

**Margaret Burgess:** The information requested is not held by the Scottish Government. We do collect information on the type of Houses in Multiple Occupation, and this can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Housing-Regeneration/HSfS/HMO>.

However, it should be noted that these figures relate to the number of licences in force as at 31 March 2012 rather than the number granted during the year.

Figures for the number of licences in force for 2012-13 (to 31 March 2013) are currently being collected from local authorities and will be published towards the end of August 2013. Those for 2013-14 are due to be published in August 2014.

**Clare Adamson (Central Scotland) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government when it will publish a new policy statement on architecture and place.

**(S4W-15861)**

**Fiona Hyslop:** I will this morning, 24 June 2013, be launching the Scottish Government's new policy statement on architecture and place. The policy statement is available from the Scottish Parliament's Reference Centre (Bib. number 55045), and will be available on the Scottish Government website at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/06/9811>.

The launch will take place at Hillhead Primary School in Glasgow, an award winning building which itself exemplifies the benefits of good design and showcases Scotland's architectural talent.

Scottish Ministers recognise the important role that Scotland's architecture and places play in supporting a high quality of life, developing our economic potential and in reflecting our vibrant and creative culture. Our new architecture and place policy statement contains a series of commitments to support Scottish architecture and placemaking for the benefit of Scotland's communities.

### **Strategy and External Affairs**

**Ken Macintosh (Eastwood) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many full-time equivalent civil servants are working on the white paper on independence.

**Holding answer issued: 21 June 2013**

**(S4W-15520)**

**Nicola Sturgeon:** Officials in policy teams across a number of areas in the Scottish Government are working on contributions which will be included in the White Paper.

*The following questions received holding answers:*

S4W-15557

S4W-15569

S4W-15582

S4W-15583