

Friday 23 January 2015

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

### Health and Social Care

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government which third sector organisations received Section 10 Grant Scheme funding in 2014-15.

**(S4W-23927)**

**Jamie Hepburn:** In 2014-15 there were 32 applications received, 14 of which were funded from Section 10 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968. They were:

CALL Scotland University of Edinburgh  
Deafblind Scotland  
Hearing Link  
Pain Association Scotland  
Partners in Advocacy  
Scottish Accessible Information Forum  
Moirra Anderson Foundation  
UPDATE Disability Information Scotland  
Shared Care Scotland  
The Coalition of Carers in Scotland  
MECOPP  
Penumbra  
Support in Mind Scotland  
The Food Train (subsequently their bid was withdrawn)

These 14 new successful applications were in addition to 43 existing recipients of Section 10 funding in 2014-15.

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking in light of reports that third sector organisations are notifying staff of redundancies because of delays in announcing whether their application for Section 10 Grant Scheme funding has been approved.

**(S4W-23931)**

**Jamie Hepburn:** All organisations are advised that they should not become solely reliant on Section 10 funding nor expect it to be renewed following a subsequent application.

They are advised of the importance in seeking alternative sources of funding and must have adequate financial management controls and systems in place when applying for Section 10 funding.

**Jackson Carlaw (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government how it will ensure that people who have been provided with NHS hearing aids with the assistance of Action on Hearing Loss Scotland's Hear to Help service will have their devices maintained or replaced after funding for the scheme is withdrawn in March 2015.

**(S4W-24026)**

**Jamie Hepburn:** Funding for the Hear to Help service has not been withdrawn. The Scottish Government provided funding for the Borders project over the financial years 2007-10 with further funding made available to seven pilot projects in 2011-12.

The services provided by the Hear to Help initiative are complementary to those provided by NHS boards, and indeed other third sector organisations, and do not substitute or replace the services already provided by the NHS. People provided with NHS hearing aids will continue to be able to access maintenance and replacement services provided by their local NHS audiology department and from other third sector organisations where they provide a service.

**Jackson Carlaw (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party):** To ask the Scottish Government, in light of funding for Action on Hearing Loss Scotland's Hear to Help service being withdrawn from March 2015, what contingencies it has introduced to deal with any (a) increase in demand and (b) impact on waiting times at audiology departments in NHS (i) Greater Glasgow and Clyde, (ii) Ayrshire and Arran, (iii) Tayside and (iv) Borders.

(S4W-24027)

**Jamie Hepburn:** Funding for the Hear to Help service has not been withdrawn. The Scottish Government provided funding for the Borders project over the financial years 2007-10 with further funding made available to seven pilot projects in 2011-12.

The services provided by the Hear to Help initiative are complementary to those provided by NHS boards, and indeed other third sector organisations, and do not substitute or replace the services already provided by local NHS audiology departments. Individual boards determine what action is required to meet demand for services in their area.

#### Learning and Justice

**Neil Findlay (Lothian) (Scottish Labour):** To ask the Scottish Government how many modern apprentices are paid the basic apprentice rate.

(S4W-23957)

**Roseanna Cunningham:** The UK *Apprenticeship pay survey 2014* ([https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/387319/bis-14-1281-apprenticeship-pay-survey-2014.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/387319/bis-14-1281-apprenticeship-pay-survey-2014.pdf)) was published on 18 December 2014. The survey showed that for level 2 and 3 apprentices in Scotland, 87 per cent had a gross hourly wage at or above the appropriate national minimum wage.

I have written to Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills, Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable MP, to ask him what action the UK Government is taking to ensure that all apprentices are paid at least the minimum rate to which they are entitled.

**John Mason (Glasgow Shettleston) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether, in light of paragraph 27 of *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools*, no teacher will be required to teach aspects of such education to which they fundamentally object.

(S4W-23990)

**Alasdair Allan:** Paragraph 27 of the *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood (RSHP) Education in Schools* guidance makes plain that "In issuing this guidance it is the Scottish Government's expectation that if a teacher is asked to teach aspects of RSHP education to which they fundamentally object, they should feel comfortable raising this with the school or local authority. The Scottish Government expects that these matters would be dealt with in an appropriate manner by the local authority, whereby teachers are made aware of the relevant sections from the General Teaching Council for Scotland's *Code of Professionalism and Conduct*, in particular part 5 on equality and diversity. Where teachers raise religious or belief concerns about teaching aspects of RSHP education, local authorities may wish to take account of the guidance issued by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on religion or belief in the workplace at: <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/publication/religion-or-belief-and-workplace-acas>. The Scottish Government expects all local authorities to consider objections which teachers have to any aspects of RSHP education. The Scottish Government expects that the teaching of the RSHP programme would continue."

In addition, paragraph 28 of the guidance then makes plain that "no school, or individual teacher, is under a duty to support, promote or endorse one type of relationship over another. Discussions about relationships should acknowledge that same sex couples can now marry as a result of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014. Teaching should be based on facts and should enable pupils to develop an understanding of how the law applies to different relationships."

**John Mason (Glasgow Shettleston) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether, in light of paragraph 28 of *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools*, no teacher will be required to promote a particular type of relationship to which they have a deeply held objection.

**(S4W-23991)**

**Alasdair Allan:** It is correct that no teacher should promote or oppose a particular kind of relationship. This is a feature of the guidance on *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools*.

In fact, paragraph 28 of the *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools* states that “no school, or individual teacher, is under a duty to support, promote or endorse one type of relationship over another. Discussions about relationships should acknowledge that same sex couples can now marry as a result of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014. Teaching should be based on facts and should enable pupils to develop an understanding of how the law applies to different relationships.”

**John Mason (Glasgow Shettleston) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government whether, in light of paragraph 25 of *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools*, individual teachers will have the final say over which resources they choose to use for such education.

**(S4W-23992)**

**Alasdair Allan:** The choice of resources in any part of the curriculum, including relationships, sexual health and parenthood education, is decided in partnership between the teacher, school and local authority. Individual teachers are expected to work within that context and in line with the General Teaching Council for Scotland's *Code of Professionalism and Conduct* [which includes a requirement that teachers help pupils to understand different views, perspectives and experiences].

In addition, paragraph 28 of the guidance on *Conduct of Relationships, Sexual Health and Parenthood Education in Schools* makes plain that “no school, or individual teacher, is under a duty to support, promote or endorse one type of relationship over another. Discussions about relationships should acknowledge that same sex couples can now marry as a result of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014. Teaching should be based on facts and should enable pupils to develop an understanding of how the law applies to different relationships.”