SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Communities

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservatives and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what support it has provided to neighbourhood watch schemes in each year since 1999.

(S5W-6790)

Annabelle Ewing: The Scottish Government has supported Neighbourhood Watch Scotland (NWS) since it was established in 2008. Over this period, the Scottish Government has provided funding of £652,152.

The Scottish Government continues to work closely with Neighbourhood Watch Scotland to offer reassurance to local communities and advice on keeping safe. It has also supported NWS in the establishment of Rural Watch Scotland and the development of the Neighbourhood ALERT system, which provides real time community messaging and shares alerts on potential criminal activities.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservatives and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what information it has regarding how many neighbourhood watch schemes there have been in each year since 1999.

(S5W-6791)

Annabelle Ewing: The Scottish Government does not hold all the information requested. However, we know that in 2012, there were approximately 1,500 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Scotland and the most recent figures show that there are now 1,723 Schemes in Scotland.

Oliver Mundell (Dumfriesshire) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has made of the impact of water charges on small community halls and buildings.

(S5W-6861)

Roseanna Cunningham: The Scottish Government recognises that small community halls and buildings are essential to the vibrancy of Scotland’s small communities. Where these community halls are registered as charities with the Office for the Scottish Charity Regulator, have incomes of less than £200,000 and don’t operate retail facilities, then they are eligible for full exemption on their water charges. Eligible charities must apply annually for their exemption from their Licensed Provider.

Annie Wells (Glasgow) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on promoting a policy among local authorities of additional housing points for victims of domestic abuse.

(S5W-6919)

Kevin Stewart: The Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 requires local authorities to give reasonable preference, or priority, to applicants for social housing who are living under unsatisfactory housing conditions, or who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. The Scottish Government expects victims of domestic abuse to be included in these categories. In practice guidance on social housing allocations that it has issued to social landlords, the Scottish Government has advised that social landlords:

“need to develop an approach to deal sensitively with victims of abuse and to award them with priority to make sure that they can be re-housed quickly to remove themselves from the abuse. This can include dealing with harassment and abuse issues under the homeless legislation, which gives those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness reasonable preference in housing allocations.”

The guidance is available online at:

Richard Lyle (Uddingston and Bellshill) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government how many accidental electrical house fires there were in each month in each of the last five years; how many of these were in homes in the owner-occupied sector, and what steps it is taking to reduce such fires.

(S5W-7212)

Annabelle Ewing: This information is not held centrally.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) publishes statistics on accidental dwelling fires and cause, however this data is not presented on a monthly basis, nor is data on tenure given.

These statistics are available to the public on SFRS’s website, and can be found at this link http://www.firescotland.gov.uk/about-us/fire-and-rescue-statistics.aspx

The SFRS has a statutory duty to promote fire safety across Scotland. Additionally, in the Fire and Rescue Framework for Scotland 2016, Scottish Ministers require SFRS to fully contribute to improving the safety and well-being of Scotland’s communities and to ensure that there is a clear process for working with partners to identify the risks faced by communities and individuals so that the SFRS can target activity on a risk-based approach.

The SFRS itself will consider how best to reduce dwelling fires, including those caused by electricity, what the focus of its preventative action will be, and with which partner organisations it will work to achieve this.

In addition to a programme of fire safety awareness campaigns and community safety engagement events, the SFRS carried out 71,743 Home Fire Safety Visits in 2015-16. The SFRS website also carries safety information for householders on a range of issues, including home appliances and electrical safety.

Economy

Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what the (a) terms of reference and (b) parameters are for its Consultation on Implementation of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive in Scotland; what its timescale is; by what date the findings will be published; whether it will publish the review in full, and when it will be in a position to implement any recommendations.

(S5W-6754)

Roseanna Cunningham: The Scottish Government's consultation on transposition of the EU Medium Combustion Plants Directive closes on 10 March and a summary of the consultation responses will be published in the Spring. The Directive sets out a number of legal requirements that apply across the EU. It provides for a number of potential derogations and the consultation seeks views as to if, and how, they should be applied in Scotland. The Directive requires transposition into domestic legislation by December 2017.

Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what support it will give to NHS boards to ensure that they have sufficient funds to meet their new requirements under any new legislation arising from its consultation on the implementation of the medium combustion plant directive.

(S5W-6755)

Roseanna Cunningham: The Medium Combustion Plants Directive requirements are phased over a number of years with full implementation required by 2030. This supports the incorporation of the Directive's requirements into new and forthcoming investment decisions. The health resource budget will increase by almost £2 billion by the end of this Parliament. From that increase, NHS boards will manage the requirement of any new legislation in respect of the Medium Combustion Plants Directive.

Christine Grahame (Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government when regulations for the use of electric shock collars for dogs will be introduced.

(S5W-6979)
Roseanna Cunningham: The Scottish Government are currently in discussion with stakeholders from the veterinary profession, pet industry, animal training and animal welfare sectors with a view to bringing in tough new regulations on the use of electronic training collars for animals in this parliamentary term.

Gillian Martin (Aberdeenshire East) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs regarding recycling targets.

(S5W-7357)

Roseanna Cunningham: The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs wrote to me in December 2016 and January 2017, indicating that the UK Government would not support the current EU Circular Economy package proposal for a 65% recycling target by 2030.

I have placed the correspondence in SPICE, Bib No. 58541.

Learning and Justice

Angus MacDonald (Falkirk East) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-03435 by Annabelle Ewing on 27 October 2016, on what date it will publish its response to the consultation paper, Developments in environmental justice in Scotland.

(S5W-6691)

Annabelle Ewing: The Scottish Government is currently considering its response and will publish it as soon as possible but no date has been set.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the University of Glasgow and West of Scotland Local Authority partners report, How to engage with MD40 pupils in higher progression schools; whether it will fulfil the recommendations in the report, and how it will communicate the recommendations to other relevant stakeholders.

(S5W-6713)

John Swinney: The Scottish Government welcomes this report and notes that many of the recommendations reinforce those made by the Commission on Widening Access. The research provides new evidence on how best to target access programmes and identify individuals when supporting learners in the west of Scotland and this will be considered by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) as part of its planned review of SFC funded programmes. The findings will also inform work to develop more individualised measures to support access, as recommended by the Commission on Widening Access.

The Scottish Funding Council will consider the recommendations within the report as part of its work to support access and will engage with relevant stakeholders as necessary.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how many staff the Commissioner for Fair Access has and, of these, how many are (a) full-time equivalent and (b) secondments from the Scottish Government or its agencies, broken down by salary range.

(S5W-6719)

John Swinney: At the current time, the Commissioner for Fair Access has the following staff available to him to support his work:

1 x full time SG Statistician (salary range £46,424 to £55,275)
1 x full time Implementation Adviser/Researcher who is seconded from the university sector (salary range £46,424 to £55,275)
1 x 0.5 full time equivalent SG Policy Team Leader (salary range £46,424 to £55,275)
1 x 0.25 full time equivalent SG Policy Officer (salary range: £23,383 to £26,448)
This support complement will be further expanded if and as required and will be informed by the Commissioner’s assessment of his needs for staffing support.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what staffing support it will make available to the Commissioner for Fair Access.

John Swinney: At the current time, the Commissioner for Fair Access has the following staff available to him to support his work:
- 1 x full time SG Statistician (salary range £46,424 to £55,275)
- 1 x full time Implementation Adviser/Researcher who is seconded from the university sector (salary range £46,424 to £55,275)
- 1 x 0.5 full time equivalent SG Policy Team Leader (salary range £46,424 to £55,275)
- 1 x 0.25 full time equivalent SG Policy Officer (salary range: £23,383 to £26,448)
This support complement will be further expanded if and as required and will be informed by the Commissioner’s assessment of his needs for staffing support.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government where the Commissioner for Fair Access will work, and what the cost of this will be.

John Swinney: The Commissioner for Fair Access is based in London and much of his work in Scotland will involve engagement with stakeholders across the education sector at a variety of locations. The Commissioner will have access to Scottish Government meeting rooms should he require meeting space in Scotland and is likely to undertake some work from London. There are therefore no direct accommodation costs associated with this role.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what budget the Commissioner for Fair Access will have, and what is expected to be delivered with this.

John Swinney: In line with recommendation 1 of the Commission on Widening Access’s final report, the Scottish Government will ensure an appropriate budget is available to support the Commissioner for Fair Access’s work to develop an improved evidence base. The Commissioner is currently considering the priorities for research on access in Scotland and resources made available for research will be informed by Professor Scott’s assessment of the need for new work to be carried out.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how each of the recommendations of the Commission on Widening Access has been implemented and, for those that have not been implemented, when they will be.

John Swinney: The Commission made 34 recommendations for different parts of the education system, a number of which were for the Scottish Government to take forward. In line with dates set by the Commission, the Government has appointed a Commissioner for Fair Access and has also made arrangements for the provision of a care experience bursary for those studying in 2017-18. The Government immediately accepted the targets proposed by the Commission and officials have liaised with the Scottish Funding Council to ensure that these are reflected in the latest outcome agreement guidance.

The Government will publish a formal report on progress against the Commission’s recommendations in Spring 2017.
Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what the cost was of the appointment process for the Commissioner for Fair Access.

(S5W-6725)

John Swinney: There was no direct cost associated with the appointment of a Commissioner for Fair Access. Work to support the appointment was undertaken by Scottish Government officials.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what the running costs will be of the Commissioner for Fair Access.

(S5W-6726)

John Swinney: Exact running costs associated with the position of Commissioner for Fair Access cannot be identified, as they may be subject to change as the requirements of the role itself adjust and mature. Relevant costs will include the Commissioner’s fees and expenses and staffing costs as outlined in the answer to question S5W-66719 on 21 February 2017. Staffing support and the level of required investment will be dependent on need as work progresses, and therefore may vary. The Commissioner’s own fees are not expected to exceed £1,000 per month. Further, the Commissioner will be reimbursed for expenses at the Scottish Government’s normal travel and subsistence rates.

All answers to written Parliamentary Questions are available on the Parliament’s website, the search facility for which can be found at:
http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx

Tavish Scott (Shetland Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-6407 by Mark McDonald on 1 February 2017, whether it has received any plans from local authorities setting out how they plan to allocate the additional places in their areas.

(S5W-6834)

Mark McDonald: We are currently working closely with local authorities to progress this commitment, including on the development of supporting plans. Following discussion with local authorities we will set a deadline for plans to be submitted.

Tavish Scott (Shetland Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-6405 by Mark McDonald on 1 February 2017, whether it will provide the figures that were requested.

(S5W-6835)

Mark McDonald: As I highlighted in the response to question S5W-6405 to ensure that as many children as possible benefit from this commitment local authorities will have flexibility to draw on their local data to prioritise how they allocate their additional graduates.

We are currently working closely with local authorities on progressing this commitment, and will ask them provide plans setting out how they propose to allocate the additional places in their area and which settings will receive the graduates. This will provide a final list of the 435 nurseries that will receive an additional graduate.

The list of nurseries in each local authority who will receive an additional graduate will be published on the Scottish Government web site once local authorities have submitted their final plans for implementing this commitment.

I will provide the Education and Skills Committee with an update once this information is available.

Daniel Johnson (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to questions S5W-6400 and S5W-6391 by Mark McDonald on 1 February 2017, where it will list each of the nurseries, broken down by local authority.

(S5W-6874)
Mark McDonald: The list of nurseries in each local authority who will receive an additional graduate will be published on the Scottish Government web site once local authorities have submitted their final plans for implementing this commitment.

I will provide the Education and Skills Committee with an update once this information is available.

Liam McArthur (Orkney Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-06442 by Michael Matheson on 3 February 2017, when it will publish its response to the consultation.

Annabelle Ewing: I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-06563 on 8 February 2017. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at: http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx.

Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-05422 by Mark McDonald on 15 December 2016, what its response is to the findings and recommendations on breastfeeding in the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health report, State of Child Health.

Mark McDonald: Following the findings in the Royal College of Paediatric Child Health “State of Child Health” report, I can confirm that the Scottish Government is committed to supporting breastfeeding. Since 2011 we have invested more than £11.2m to enable Health Boards to promote breastfeeding and to support women to breastfeed for as long as they wish to do so. It is for NHS boards to take responsibility for monitoring the local breastfeeding trends for their area.

Funding is also provided to several voluntary organisations and peer support programmes including the Breastfeeding Network which provides a National Breastfeeding Helpline

In addition, we directly fund a Scottish UNICEF post and the first stage UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative accreditation. Scotland was the first country in the UK to have 100% of its maternity units meeting the UNICEF Baby Friendly best practice standards. Over 80% of our Health and Social Care Partnerships, 50% of our Universities and three (20%) of the largest Scottish Neonatal units are at stage 2 of the accreditation process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Accreditation in Scotland</th>
<th>Maternity</th>
<th>HSCPs</th>
<th>NNU</th>
<th>Uni</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full accreditation</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2 accreditation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1 accreditation</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of commitment</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intent registered/No current information</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As part of our 2016 Breastfeeding Awareness week activity we created the Feedgood.scot website to support women to initiate and continue breastfeeding. This was designed following detailed insight gathering with pregnant women and mothers of young children, and has already seen higher usage than the previous site.

To further strengthen our understanding of behaviours around breastfeeding, vitamin supplementation during pregnancy and early toddler diet we have commissioned a National Maternal and Infant Nutrition Survey for Scotland, following the withdrawal of the previous UK Infant Feeding Survey, and are the only UK country to do so.

Tavish Scott (Shetland Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government what the impact is on children’s education of the number of principals employed by local authorities being its lowest since 2007.

(S5W-7122)
John Swinney: The management structure in schools, including the appointment of Principal Teachers, is a matter for individual local authorities to determine in line with their local needs and priorities. The latest summary statistics for Schools in Scotland published in December 2016 shows an overall increase of 253 in the total number of teachers employed across Scotland.

Iain Gray (East Lothian) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how many people have been recruited by each teacher recruitment campaign it has introduced since 2007.

(S5W-7150)

John Swinney: The Scottish Government has delivered one teacher recruitment campaign, with a focus on the STEM subjects, since 2007. The #inspiringteachers campaign launched in 2015 resulted in an increase of 190 students entering PGDE Secondary teacher education courses at Scottish universities in 2016 compared to the previous year which represents a rise of 19% on the total number of students in 2015.

The recruitment of teachers in Scotland is a matter for individual local authorities. They have the statutory duty for education expenditure and are responsible for providing a complement of teachers which best meets the needs of each of their schools.

Christine Grahame (Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-26149 by Paul Wheelhouse on 10 July 2015, how many dog wardens there are, broken down by local authority.

(S5W-7221)

Annabelle Ewing: The information provided in S4W-26149 is the most recent information held by the Scottish Government in relation to the number of dog wardens broken down by local authority.

Christine Grahame (Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-22841 by Kenny MacAskill on 27 October 2014, how many (a) investigations have been carried out and (b) control notices have been issued by each local authority under the Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 since 27 February 2013.

(S5W-7222)

Annabelle Ewing: Information on the number of dog control notices issued by local authorities is contained in the following table. Information on the number of investigations is not held centrally.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>Number of DCNs Issued (February 2016)</th>
<th>Total for each local authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen City</td>
<td>4 4 5 8 6 27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeenshire</td>
<td>3 14 10 4 11 42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angus</td>
<td>0 0 2 2 6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argyll &amp; Bute</td>
<td>7 5 9 16 17 54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clackmannanshire</td>
<td>0 0 0 3 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comhairle nan Eilean Siar</td>
<td>0 0 3 5 4 12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dumfries &amp; Galloway</td>
<td>2 4 14 7 28 55</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dundee City</td>
<td>0 0 4 15 15 34</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Ayrshire</td>
<td>8 9 4 0 5 26</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Dunbartonshire</td>
<td>10 0 5 5 0 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Lothan</td>
<td>12 4 17 11 7 51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Renfrewshire</td>
<td>0 0 0 0 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Edinburgh</td>
<td>0 4 5 17 14 40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falkirk</td>
<td>0 4 14 4 19 41</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fife</td>
<td>10 37 48 57 44 196</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Glasgow</td>
<td>1 1 0 1 0 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### USE OF THE CONTROL OF DOGS (S) ACT 2010 BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Authority</th>
<th>Number of DCNs Issued (February 27 to February 26)</th>
<th>Total for each local authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inverclyde</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlothian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moray</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Ayrshire</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Lanarkshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orkney</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perth &amp; Kinross</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renfrewshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scottish Borders</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shetland Islands</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Ayrshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Lanarkshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stirling</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Dunbartonshire</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Lothian</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total for year (all local authorities)</strong></td>
<td><strong>92</strong></td>
<td><strong>147</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1050</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Strategy and Operations

**Christina McKelvie (Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to comments by the Secretary of State for Scotland that a differentiated deal in Scotland maintaining single market membership is still possible. (S5W-7075)

**Michael Russell:** The UK Government White Paper on Exiting the European Union (EU) makes it clear that the UK Government will not be seeking membership of the European Single Market. However, the Scottish Government’s paper “Scotland’s Place in Europe” sets out proposals that would protect Scotland’s interests through a differentiated deal for Scotland based on examples from across the EU. A differentiated solution would allow Scotland to remain a member of the European Single Market, while providing a structure for continued free trade and movement of people and goods across the UK. The Scottish Government will continue to press the UK Government to act on these proposals, in line with the Prime Minister’s commitment on 15 July for full engagement with Scotland, and for Article 50 not to be triggered until there are objectives for negotiations “that deliver a Brexit that works for the whole of the UK.”

(S5W-7075)