Lewis Macdonald (North East Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to ensure that new housing developments do not have a negative impact on existing live music venues.

(S5O-1176)

Kevin Stewart: It is for local authorities, through their development plans, to direct the right development to the right place and support existing business sectors. Scottish Planning Policy provides a framework of guidance to support authorities, in terms of promoting a sustainable pattern of development and decision-making on individual planning applications.

John Mason (Glasgow Shettleston) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government how it can ensure that organisations in the third sector are able to have their voices heard.

(S5O-1177)

Angela Constance: Hearing from the third sector is a vital part of our civic society and we value the experience and insight charities bring to public policy development as well as their willingness to speak truth to power. The third sector is making a real difference to the lives of individuals and communities right across Scotland on a daily basis, which is why we have protected funding to the sector for 2017-18 at the 2016-17 level of £24.5 million. This investment will not only allow the third sector to continue to deliver real change on the ground, but it will also support them to have their voice heard at a local and national level.

Liam Kerr (North East Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what progress it is making in tackling poverty.

(S5O-1178)

Angela Constance: Our Fairer Scotland Action Plan sets out 50 concrete actions that we will take to tackle poverty and inequality. These include the Child Poverty Bill, currently at Stage 2, with ambitious targets to reduce and eradicate child poverty and establishing a Poverty and Inequality Commission to provide expert advice on tackling poverty.

These and many other positive measures are happening against a backdrop of challenging welfare cuts and austerity measures from the UK government. We have already invested over £350 million since 2013-14 to mitigate these unnecessary and punitive cuts and to support low income families.

George Adam (Paisley) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government how it will protect and promote the rights of disabled people, including those guaranteed under international conventions, in light of the reported possible impact of a so-called hard Brexit.

(S5O-1179)

Jeane Freeman: There is no doubt that a hard Brexit will be deeply damaging, but our commitment to delivering transformational change to improve the lives of disabled people remains resolute. Remaining part of the European Single Market will allow greater scope for the continuation of social protections. We also want repatriated EU competence in reserved areas such as employment and equality law to be devolved, to ensure that the Scottish Parliament has the powers to continue to provide the necessary protections for our citizens.

I am committed to ensuring that the rights of disabled people are protected and earlier this month I met with members of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament to talk about our action plan which demonstrates our commitment to upholding the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government when it last organised a nationwide street count of rough sleepers.

(S5O-1180)

Kevin Stewart: Information on whether someone has slept rough within the past three months is collected by local authorities when a homeless application is made.

The Scottish Government has been working with third sector organisations such as Glasgow Homelessness Network and partners to gather more robust data on those who are rough sleeping. This is so that we can ensure we are improving our responses to those who may have more complex needs but are not approaching or engaging with statutory services.

Finlay Carson (Galloway and West Dumfries) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to tackle poverty.

(S5O-1182)

Angela Constance: The Scottish Government is committed to tackling poverty. Our Fairer Scotland Action Plan sets out 50 concrete actions that we will take in this Parliamentary term.

We are making considerable progress on delivery of these actions; on 9 February, we introduced the Child Poverty (Scotland) Bill which will establish Scotland as the only part of the UK with ambitious statutory income targets to reduce child poverty by 2030. We will shortly consult on a socio-economic duty, which will ensure that public bodies take full consideration of socio-economic disadvantage when making key decisions. Other key actions include the expansion of early learning and childcare provision and the establishment of a national poverty and inequality commission.

Alongside these actions to develop a fairer future we continue to mitigate the damning welfare cuts imposed by Westminster. Since 2013-14 we have invested over £350 million to mitigate the worst impacts of the UK Government welfare cuts to protect those on the lowest income. This includes fully mitigating the Bedroom Tax and helping 241,000 individual households, a third of which include children, through the Scottish Welfare Fund.

Maurice Corry (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what action is being taken to reduce the number of empty residential properties.

(S5O-1183)

Kevin Stewart: Empty homes can be a blight on communities and are, clearly, a missed opportunity at a time when we desperately need more homes in our communities across Scotland.

Since 2010 the Scottish Government has been working with Shelter (Scotland) to bring long term empty homes back into use through the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership, support for local empty homes officers and empty homes loan funds.

Around 1,700 homes were brought back into use by 31 March 2016. This figure will substantially increase when the annual report for 2016-17 is published shortly.

Alexander Burnett (Aberdeenshire West) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what initiatives it is introducing to help integrate minority community groups into wider society.

(S5O-1184)

Angela Constance: The Scottish Government is committed to building cohesive and resilient communities where everyone enjoys the opportunity to flourish. Integration is a long-term and two-way process, and we are very clear that it is not something that can or should be ‘done to’ people. It needs people and communities to be involved, and to take steps which will enable everyone to be active citizens. We are taking forward a range of approaches - like implementing the Race Equality Framework and developing a refreshed New Scots refugee strategy - to ensure this, and today I had the pleasure to visit Fife Migrant Forum to hear about their important work as well as announce over £20m funding for the next year to promote equality and cohesion across Scotland.
Rhoda Grant (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how much of the substantive CAP payments for (a) 2015, (b) 2016 and (c) 2017 remains unpaid, also broken down by how much (i) has been subject to loans being paid out and (ii) is not covered by loans.

Holding answer issued: 12 June 2017 (S5W-9476)

Fergus Ewing: 2015 -

Basic Payment Scheme (including Greening and Young Farmers Payment) – £95,798 (0.28%) is unpaid (£38,300 of this has been covered by loans, £57,498 has not been the subject of a loan)

Rural Development - £0.59 million (1.98%) is unpaid – no loans made for these schemes

LFASS – £14.19 million (21.6%) is unpaid - of this £11.19 m are covered by loans - £3 m not covered by loans.

Scottish Suckler Beef Support Scheme - £47,314 (0.15%) is unpaid – no loans made for this scheme.

Scottish Upland Sheep Support Scheme - £50,678 (0.86%) is unpaid – no loans made for this scheme

2016 - not all claims are validated so it is not currently possible to calculate the total amount which is unpaid. Loans to the value of £372.36 million have been issued to provide support to farmers and crofters

2017 – no payments have been made for scheme year 2017 – applications for these payments have just been received via the Single Application Form 2017 and the payments cannot be made until the payment window opens on 1 December 2017.

Rhoda Grant (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how much of the substantive CAP payments for (a) 2015, (b) 2016 and (c) 2017 has been paid.

Holding answer issued: 12 June 2017 (S5W-9477)

Fergus Ewing: 2015 - 96.8% of total CAP payments paid - £457.18 million

2016 - total CAP payments paid - £251.29 million. As claims are still being validated it is not possible to provide the percentage of eligible claims which this represents at this time.

2017 – no payments have been made for scheme year 2017 – applications for these payments have just been received via the Single Application Form 2017 and payments cannot be made until the payment window opens on 1 December 2017.

Tavish Scott (Shetland Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government what support it is providing to energy suppliers to ensure that they are able to install smart meters across Scotland.

Holding answer issued: 27 June 2017 (S5W-9651)

Paul Wheelhouse: The Smart Meters rollout is a UK Government policy, led by BEIS and implemented by suppliers. The Scottish Government recognises the importance of the roll-out of smart meters as an important national modernisation programme that will bring benefits to Scottish energy consumers. Supplier cost savings are expected to account for almost half of the total benefits with saving expected in reduced costs related to meter reading and complaints handling.

The Scottish Government are working with suppliers, as well as consumer groups and national groups involved in the smart meter rollout, to ensure that the programme is delivered to the greatest number of Scottish consumers, at the lowest possible cost, whilst enhancing the benefits to the most vulnerable in our society and those at risk of fuel poverty. A key factor in helping promote the deployment of smart meters will be to effectively communicate the benefits to consumers.

Suppliers will require a significant number of skilled workers to complete the roll-out and the Scottish Government’s £12 million Transition Training Fund is actively engaged in supporting former oil and
gas workers or those threatened by redundancy to transition into smart metering through its second procurement round. A smart metering skills action group has also been set up open to smart metering contractors, colleges, SP Energy Networks, SSE, SDS, and the National Skills Academy of Power.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what the economic inactivity rate was in March 2017, and how this compared to the rest of the UK.

(S5W-9701)

Jamie Hepburn: Official regional labour market statistics produced by ONS are only available for rolling three month periods, rather than individual months.

Data from the ONS’ Labour Force Survey for the quarter ending March 2017 shows that the economic inactivity rate in Scotland during this period was 22.5 per cent. The economic inactivity rate for the UK over the same period was 21.5 per cent.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how many businesses have been registered in Scotland in each year since 2007.

(S5W-9704)

Paul Wheelhouse: The number of VAT and/or PAYE registered enterprises, for 2007 to 2016, in Scotland are provided in the table below. Note that these figures refer to all registered enterprises operating in Scotland regardless of where the enterprise is based.

Number of registered enterprises in Scotland, 2007-2016:

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>151,145</td>
<td>155,285</td>
<td>155,320</td>
<td>155,045</td>
<td>154,365</td>
<td>159,580</td>
<td>160,050</td>
<td>166,525</td>
<td>170,335</td>
<td>173,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Note:
1. These figures exclude enterprises classified as both central or local government.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government when the (a) Berlin and (b) Brussels hub will be operational.

(S5W-9856)

Keith Brown: Plans to establish the Berlin Hub are currently in development and details will be made available in due course.

The Scottish Government has had a presence in Brussels since 1999 and the work on developing the Innovation and Investment Hub, building on the current operation, is continuing and will be operational in the Autumn of 2017.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what inward investment there has been for each of its identified growth sectors, broken down by year.

(S5W-9857)

Keith Brown: The number of inward investment projects in each identified growth sector over the past five years, as recorded by Scottish Development International, is set out in the following table:

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy Oil and Gas</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Renewables</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial and Business Services</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Drink</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life and Chemical Sciences</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and Adult Education</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
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<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total numbers of projects</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide a list of its (a) past and (b) present trade envoys.

(S5W-9859)

Keith Brown: Trade envoys are yet to be appointed. There have not been any previous Scottish Government trade envoys.

Christine Grahame (Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what legislation is in place to support and protect equine welfare.

(S5W-9867)

Roseanna Cunningham: The Scottish Government considers that the provisions of the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 are sufficient to ensure that action can be taken if the welfare of horses is not being met. The provisions of Part 2 of the Act apply to all people responsible for animals.

In addition, The Riding Establishments Acts of 1964 and 1970 require such establishments to be licenced by a local authority following inspection by a veterinarian and consideration of the ongoing provision of health and welfare.

Jamie Greene (West Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what progress Scottish Enterprise is making in achieving the goals set out in A Manufacturing Future for Scotland.

(S5W-9913)

Keith Brown: The manufacturing action plan is based on a commitment to raising productivity through increased investment and innovation and a long-term partnership between government, industry, our Enterprise Agencies and other key stakeholders.

Key actions to date include:

Nine proposals for manufacturing have reached the final stage of evaluation to receive funding from the new £18m Circular Economy Investment Fund established by Zero Waste Scotland.

On 19 June 2017, the First Minister announced the funding of £8.9m for the new Lightweight Manufacturing Centre – a significant first step towards realising the plan’s commitment to establish a new joint Centre for Manufacturing Excellence and Skills Academy, and a National Manufacturing Institute for Scotland.

Over 125 business leaders have taken part in workshops to strengthen ambition and increase understanding of the latest available technology.

Scottish Enterprise has introduced a new Workplace Innovation service to provide support for firms to increase workplace innovation.

The Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Service (SMAS) held a major conference in September 2016 attended by c.400 manufacturing leaders.

In summer 2016, Scottish Enterprise launched a new Capital Asset Review service delivered by SMAS. Over 100 reviews have already been carried out to support manufacturers to develop future proofing investment plans.

18 case studies on Digital World and 200 manufacturing related job profiles and case studies have been added to “My World of Work” site to improve awareness of careers in manufacturing and a major refresh of skills investment plans is underway led by Skills Development Scotland.
A number of Industry Leadership Groups have refreshed their sector strategies with an increased emphasis on investing in capabilities which will enhance manufacturing competitiveness going forward.

**Health and Social Care**

**Brian Whittle (South Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist):** To ask the Scottish Government who has responsibility for ensuring that NHS boards that are subject to Health Improvement Scotland reviews implement the recommendations; how it measures the effectiveness of the implementation, and what action it can take if a board does not comply.

(S5W-9655)

**Shona Robison:** NHS Boards have a duty to ensure they deliver high quality safe, effective and person-centred care and therefore it is their responsibility to act on and implement the recommendations and requirements from a Healthcare Improvement Scotland inspection or review. All Boards are required to have a committee to oversee governance of quality, observe and check on activities being delivered and assure the Board that effective support arrangements are in place and that action is being taken to address any areas of concern.

Follow up activity varies depending on the nature of the review. Healthcare Improvement Scotland are resourced to routinely follow up inspection activity to ensure that requirements and recommendations have been acted upon.

NHS Boards are accountable to Ministers and the Scottish Parliament. If necessary, the Scottish Government can put in place, through existing escalation arrangements, a range of measures and interventions to support improvements in the quality of healthcare.

From 1 April 2018, a Statutory Organisational Duty of Candour will be implemented in Scotland. From that date, it will be a legal requirement for all care providers, including NHS Boards, to review certain types of adverse events, meet personally with those affected and to publish an annual report to support openness and learning.

**Bob Doris (Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government when the analysis of the Consultation on Increasing Organ and Tissue Donation will be published and what the next steps will be.

(S5W-9973)

**Aileen Campbell:** The Analysis of the Consultation on Increasing Organ and Tissue Donation was published today. The document is available in SPICe, Bib number 58865. The Scottish Government intends to introduce legislation in this Parliament which will provide for an opt out system of organ and tissue donation.

**Clare Haughey (Rutherglen) (Scottish National Party):** To ask the Scottish Government when the National Health & Social Care Workforce Plan will be published.

(S5W-9978)

**Shona Robison:** To ensure that NHSScotland and the Social Care sector have the right skills mix, we will introduce national and regional workforce planning.

Workforce planning already happens locally within NHSScotland Boards, but we want to develop a National Health and Social Care Workforce Plan that looks to:

- strengthen and harmonise workforce planning practice, nationally, regionally and locally;
- take full account of the future demand for safe and high quality services for Scotland’s people;
- accurately identify gaps in supply;
- help deliver the vision set out in the Delivery Plan published in December 2016.

The Plan will be published in three distinct parts:

Part 1 will focus on NHSScotland workforce planning and is being published today, on Wednesday 28 June 2017.
Part 2 will be published jointly with COSLA in Autumn 2017. This timeframe reflects the process currently underway to establish new leadership within COSLA in light of the local election results in May 2017. The approach will enable different workforce planning systems to take stock, and move forward incrementally towards improved integrated planning across the full social care landscape.

We will also publish a supplement following the conclusion of the General Medical Services contract negotiations in late 2017, of which workforce planning is a key part. Investment in an enhanced multi-disciplinary workforce will be integral to supporting a new GP contract and this will help to address workforce challenges for GPs in the Primary Care sector.

This approach will enable the different healthcare systems to move together towards publication of a second full Health and Social Care Workforce Plan in 2018 and beyond.

Staff side organisations have been formally invited to join the National Workforce Planning Group and we will continue to work in partnership around the delivery of the Plan. The Group will strengthen and improve consistency in workforce planning practice and will help to support implementation of the National Health and Social Care Workforce Plan by health and social care providers across Scotland.

Clare Haughey (Rutherglen) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on when the third dementia strategy will be published, and what its priorities are for dealing with dementia over the next three years. (S5W-9979)

Maureen Watt: The Scottish Government has maintained a priority focus on dementia since 2007. We have had two national strategies so far, and I am pleased to confirm that we are today publishing the third Scottish Dementia Strategy, for 2017-2020. The strategy can be accessed at the following link: [www.gov.scot/dementiastrategy](http://www.gov.scot/dementiastrategy)

During the last three years we have focused on making sure that people with dementia get the care, treatment and support they are entitled to in all care settings, at all ages and at all stages of their illness. There has been significant progress in many aspects of dementia care in that time, including improved diagnosis rates, the introduction of the human-rights based Standards of Care for Dementia in Scotland and a national dementia workforce training and education framework, Promoting Excellence.

During the next phase of our national work and the third dementia strategy we will build on the progress which has already been made in transforming services and outcomes for people with dementia and their carers.

We will continue our focus on diagnosis and post-diagnostic support. The optimum model of post-diagnostic support is one where the person with dementia is diagnosed early enough that they can take as active a part as possible, and have as much control and choice as they want in the process. To make that happen, we want to make more progress in getting more people diagnosed earlier.

For that reason, we are testing the re-location of post-diagnostic services into modern primary care settings, with the aim that this will make post-diagnostic dementia services more accessible, thereby encouraging more people to come forward earlier for a dementia diagnosis or for a memory assessment, in a setting where the appropriate post-diagnostic support services are on hand to respond to the individual’s needs.

Our national priorities on dementia are informed by continuing to listen to people with dementia, their family carers and the professionals working with them. Their stories have helped us to clearly identify our key priorities on post-diagnostic support, care coordination, care and support in all settings, and how to make Scotland a more Dementia friendly country.

We legislated to integrate health and social care in 2014. Integrated home care is essential in order to enable people with more advanced symptoms of dementia to live, not only safely, but with a good quality of life in their own home for as long as possible – and with families and carers who feel supported in their key caring role. Our approach to integration is focused on person-centred planning and delivery - bringing together services and professionals to ensure that an integrated, holistic, person-centred experience will improve the whole system, the whole pathway of care, and the wellbeing of the whole person.
Improving the care of people with dementia in acute general hospitals and in specialist NHS dementia settings also remains a key part of national dementia policy.

We also have a significantly enhanced focus on palliative and end of life care for people with dementia, with the overall aim that by 2021 everyone with dementia has access to high-quality palliative and end of life care, based on the principles of early planning and services working holistically with people with dementia and their loved ones, to reflect their wishes in the care provided.

More than 500 people took part in a series of National Dementia Dialogue Engagement Events between 2015 and 2016, to help inform the development of this new strategy. We have worked with experts from a range of organisations including Alzheimer Scotland, CoSLA, Healthcare Improvement Scotland, the Alliance, Scottish Care, the Scottish Social Services Council, NHS Education for Scotland, the Care Inspectorate, Integrated Joint Boards, academics and people with dementia and their carers to develop the new dementia strategy to ensure that people get the right care, in the right place, at the right time. I would like to thank them for their considered and constructive contribution to the development of this third dementia strategy.

Learning and Justice

Graeme Dey (Angus South) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to provide disabled people with the necessary skills and tools to have an equal chance of competing in the labour market.

Jeane Freeman: There is no doubt that the employment gap for disabled people in Scotland is too high and I am determined to meet our commitment to halve that.

A commitment that requires concerted action across all areas of government and with public and private sector employers, unions and crucially, disabled people.

This includes improvements through our devolved employment programmes, increased programme of internships, increased flexibility in modern apprenticeship programme and work with partners to agree a public sector employment target.

Finlay Carson (Galloway and West Dumfries) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what guidance it provides to teachers and schools on sex education for primary school children.

John Swinney: All schools under local authority control are expected to teach the experiences and outcomes for relationships, sexual health and parenthood (RSHP) education in Curriculum for Excellence. The statutory responsibility for delivering the curriculum rests with local authorities and schools.

Curriculum for Excellence is intended for all children and young people in Scotland, aged 3 to 18, according to their stage of development. There is specific guidance for schools on RSHP education which was issued in 2014 and recognises that education on this should be delivered within the wider context of a child’s education and overall wellbeing.

Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-07442 by Annabelle Ewing on 13 March 2017, whether it is possible to gather information on racist hate crime from the recorded crime database.

Annabelle Ewing: It is not possible to gather information on all racist offending from the recorded crime database. Information is available on the offences of racially aggravated harassment and racially aggravated conduct, however this does not include cases where racism was considered an aggravator to the main crime or offence. Statistics for racially aggravated offences (racially aggravated harassment and racially aggravated conduct) from 2006-07 to 2015-16 are shown in the following table.
We are currently working with Police Scotland as they develop the data they hold on their Vulnerable Persons Database with a view to producing new analysis on police recorded Hate Incidents (which would include incidents with a race element). We anticipate a further update for users on the development of this work later in the year.

Number of racially aggravated offences recorded by the police in Scotland, 2006-07 to 2015-16:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Racially aggravated offences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>4,474</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>4,543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>4,564</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009-10</td>
<td>4,513</td>
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<td>2010-11</td>
<td>4,173</td>
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<td>2011-12</td>
<td>3,486</td>
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<td>2012-13</td>
<td>2,903</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013-14</td>
<td>2,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-15</td>
<td>2,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>2,132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-07442 by Annabelle Ewing on 13 March 2017, for what reason (a) it and (b) the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service does not hold information on the faith group, gender, race, or country of origin of victims of racist or religious hate crime, and what its position is on collecting such information when implementing the recommendations of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion.

Annabelle Ewing: The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) and Scottish Government’s statistics on court proceedings are derived from IT systems designed to facilitate operational needs of reporting crime and prosecuting individuals. These systems were not primarily designed for the reporting of the characteristics of victims of hate crime.

Dr Morrow’s independent advisory group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion reported in September 2016 and recommended that the SG works with partners to improve the monitoring and data collection in relation to hate crime, and to develop methods to include qualitative indices of improvement in community cohesion for minorities.

We are currently working with Police Scotland as they develop the data they hold on their Vulnerable Persons Database with a view to producing new analysis on police recorded Hate Incidents (which would include incidents with a race or religious element). We anticipate a further update for users on the development of this work later in the year.

Anas Sarwar (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it holds information on the (a) faith group, (b) gender, (c) race and (d) country of origin of the perpetrators of (i) racist and (ii) religious hate crime and, if not, what its position is on collecting such information when implementing the recommendations of the Independent Advisory Group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion.

Annabelle Ewing: The Scottish Government report “Religiously Aggravated Offending in Scotland 2016-2017” includes information on the gender of the accused for religious aggravation charges reported to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal (COPFS). This information is derived from the COPFS database with the report available here: [http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/06/6107/0](http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/06/6107/0)

For race crime, as recorded on the COPFS database, 77% of the charges reported to them in 2016-17 related to a male accused.

Statistics on other characteristics of the perpetrator are not available centrally.
Dr Morrow’s independent advisory group on Hate Crime, Prejudice and Community Cohesion reported in September 2016 and recommended that the SG works with partners to improve the monitoring and data collection in relation to hate crime, and to develop methods to include qualitative indices of improvement in community cohesion for minorities.

We are currently working with Police Scotland as they develop the data they hold on their Vulnerable Persons Database with a view to producing new analysis on police recorded Hate Incidents (which would include incidents with a race or religious element). We anticipate a further update for users on the development of this work later in the year.

Transport Scotland

Gail Ross (Caithness and Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government when it will publish the High Level Output Specification and Statement of Funds Available for Control Period 6 (CP6), spanning the period from April 2019 to March 2024.

(S5W-9983)

Humza Yousaf: Under notice from the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) I have a statutory duty to produce a High Level Output Specification, and Statement of Funds Available, or likely to be made available by 20 July 2017.

This will be subject to timely confirmation from HM Treasury of both adequate funds and governance arrangements which do not compromise the Scottish Government’s discretion with current constitutional arrangements for rail.