

Wednesday 06 March 2019

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Economy

Rhoda Grant (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to the third supplementary to question S5F-03014 by Nicola Sturgeon on 31 January 2019 (*Official Report*, c. 16), whether it held any discussions with Talk Talk when it announced the planned closure of the call centre and, if so, what the outcome was.

(S5W-21386)

Fergus Ewing: The Scottish Government and our economic development agency, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), are in continuous contact with HIE and TalkTalk with a view to mitigating against job loss, and exploring what support we can offer staff affected.

I have written to the CEO of TalkTalk seeking a meeting to discuss their decision to close the call centre. HIE have met with TalkTalk on two occasions and on the 14 th of February the Deputy First Minister met with them to discuss the ongoing situation.

Mark Ruskell (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Green Party): To ask the Scottish Government what discussions it has had with the British Horseracing Authority regarding the deaths of four horses at Musselburgh Racecourse at a meeting on 3 December 2018, and what action it can take to encourage the authority to publish the full findings of the inquiry that it carried out regarding the incident.

(S5W-21418)

Mairi Gougeon: The Scottish Government has not held any discussions with the British Horseracing Authority (BHA) in regard to the deaths of four horses at Musselburgh Racecourse at a meeting on 3 December 2018.

The BHA ensures racehorse welfare in Scotland, including compliance with all aspects of the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) 2006 Act, through its Rules of Racing, the licensing and inspection of participants, education, training and monitoring.

The Scottish Government is aware that the BHA is carrying out a full investigation of the incident at Musselburgh and will consider the findings of the BHA investigation when they are published.

Mark Ruskell (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Green Party): To ask the Scottish Government whether its proposal to introduce and reform the

licensing of animal activities, including their use in public displays or performances, will apply to (a) horse and (b) greyhound racing.

(S5W-21421)

Mairi Gougeon: In the 2018-19 Programme for Government, the Scottish Government committed to continue work to introduce and reform licensing of animal activities including animal sanctuaries, rehoming centres, breeding and the use of animals in public display or performance. There is no specific mention of horse racing or greyhound racing in the Programme for Government, however the scope of reforms to licensing of animal activities, including their use in public displays or performances, will be considered in due course after discussion with stakeholders.

Rachael Hamilton (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to increase cultural participation among children and young people.

(S5W-21647)

Fiona Hyslop: Through the Youth Music Initiative, Cashback for Creativity programme and funding for Sistema Scotland we are enabling young people all over Scotland to take part in culture. The Cultural Youth Experience Fund will also help more young people to engage with culture.

Creative Scotland continue to work with a range of partners to ensure young people have the opportunity to engage in cultural activity. The National Collections and National Performing Companies also undertake significant education programmes which support cultural engagement in schools, this includes free entry for school groups to National Museums sites and free guided tours for school groups at the National Galleries of Scotland.

Angela Constance (Almond Valley) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government how much Scottish Enterprise has invested in video games companies in each year since 2008.

(S5W-21861)

Fiona Hyslop: Over the past six years (2011-12 to 2017-18), Scottish Enterprise has invested over £13 million (£13.4 million) in games companies. Just under half of this investment (£6.5 million) was through the Scottish Investment Bank and the remainder split between Innovation Grants and Regional Selective Assistance.

Education, Communities and Justice

Liam Kerr (North East Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government how many police officers are working

in administrative roles, and whether it will provide an update on Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary in Scotland's (HMICS) independent oversight of the removal of officers from corporate support functions.

(S5W-21696)

Humza Yousaf: The requested data on police officers working in administrative roles is not held centrally by the Scottish Government. HMICS continues to work with the Scottish Police Authority and Police Scotland to provide independent assurance on the measurement and delivery of increased operational policing capacity.

It is a matter for the Chief Constable, with oversight from the Scottish Police Authority, to consider the size and shape of the policing workforce, taking into account the needs of our communities and in light of changing demands.

Neil Findlay (Lothian) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government which universities offer degree courses in audiology, and what plans there are for other institutions to offer these.

(S5W-21746)

Richard Lochhead: Glasgow Caledonian University offer an integrated BSc in Clinical Physiology made up of four specialities, including Audiology. This course is unique, developed to provide a high quality honours degree which can meet the needs of the profession and of the NHS in Scotland. Individuals are employed by their NHS board and released for the educational component, specialising within their profession. Additionally, Queen Margaret University offers a 2 year Diploma in Higher Education in Hearing Aid Audiology. It is a matter for universities, as autonomous institutions, to make decisions over course provision.

Edward Mountain (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5O-02853 by John Swinney on 6 February 2019 (*Official Report*, c. 19), regarding the support for local authorities to access mental health first aid training, what positions "key staff" hold, and whether these include teaching assistants and additional support needs staff.

(S5W-21825)

John Swinney: Mental Health First Aid Training can be delivered to all staff within school settings which could include teaching assistants and additional support needs staff. Local authorities and schools are encouraged to identify members of the school community who are best placed to identify pupils who may be struggling with mental health issues.

This approach empowers local authorities and schools to target the support to the communities within the school that need it most.

Murdo Fraser (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government how many (a) prosecutions and (b) convictions there have been in each year since 2001 for illegally releasing beavers into the wild.

(S5W-21842)

Humza Yousaf: There were no prosecutions/convictions for illegally releasing beavers into the wild.

Bill Bowman (North East Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking in response to figures that show that, since 2015-16, Tayside schools lost 395,330 hours of teacher and support staff days as a result of mental health issues, and that teachers in Dundee accrued 3,615 days in stress-related sickness absence in the year to January 2019.

(S5W-21850)

John Swinney: Teacher absences and the causes of these absences are matters for individual local authorities as employers. Each authority is responsible for supporting its employees' health and wellbeing at work and will have locally agreed systems in place for managing this.

The Scottish Government takes the issue of mental health seriously and in March 2017 we published our 10 year Mental Health Strategy for tackling mental health. Our vision, set out in the Mental Health Strategy is of a Scotland where people can get the right help at the right time and to work on achieving parity between mental and physical health.

We have undertaken a range of actions to reduce teacher workload, acting to clarify and simplify the curriculum framework and to remove unnecessary bureaucracy while our work on empowering schools will also create new opportunities for teachers to develop their careers.

Health and Social Care

Rachael Hamilton (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will consider changing legislation to ensure that smoking will become prohibited around children's playgrounds, outdoor sports facilities and play parks.

(S5W-21470)

Joe FitzPatrick: Our Action Plan in 2018 stated that we will monitor the implementation of smoking bans in Wales and the implementation of guidance produced by COSLA and NHS Health Scotland on creating smoke-free areas to assess whether legislation is warranted in Scotland.

Rachael Hamilton (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what engagement it has had with children's health charities and other organisations regarding the effects of passive smoking around children's playgrounds, outdoor sports facilities and play parks.

(S5W-21471)

Joe FitzPatrick: Smoke-free local authority implementation guidance was published in 2017 to support local authorities implement their policies at publicly owned sites. This focusses on implementing smoke-free buildings and grounds and outlines the responsibilities of partner organisations. The guidance covers: schools, playgrounds, nurseries and day centres, parks, local authority premises and grounds.

Tavish Scott (Shetland Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government what measures it is taking to increase the number of dermatologists working in the NHS, and what it is doing to encourage doctors to specialise in dermatology.

(S5W-21506)

Jeane Freeman: Under this government, the number of Consultants in NHS Scotland have increased by 51.3% to record high levels, with a 35% increase in dermatology consultants over the same period (Sep-06 to Sep-18) .

To promote long term sustainability within this specialty, Scottish Government Officials are working with stakeholders on the future development of clinical training pathways, including proactively considering specialty training numbers.

Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5O-02865 by John Swinney on 6 February (*Official Report*, c. 29), how many children and young people have died by suicide in each of the last five years, broken down by local authority area, and what information it has regarding how many were not enrolled at school.

(S5W-21577)

Clare Haughey: Further to the answer to question S5O-02865 by John Swinney - the data requested is only partially held. It is not possible to identify which individuals are not enrolled at school at the time of their death. Furthermore, it has not been possible to provide information on local authority of residence due to the potential risk of disclosure.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government how many people have been referred to

residential rehabilitation for drug or alcohol misuse in each year since 1999, and how much these referrals cost.

(S5W-21594)

Joe FitzPatrick: The Scottish Government does not hold a breakdown of information on how many people have been referred to residential rehabilitation projects for alcohol and drug addiction since 1999, how much these referrals cost, or the average waiting time information by NHS Board. Service decisions are made by each local area and it would be for individual Health Boards or Alcohol and Drug Partnerships (ADPs) to provide a complete breakdown of this information.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what the average waiting time has been for accessing residential rehabilitation for drug or alcohol misuse in each year since 1999, broken down by NHS board.

(S5W-21596)

Joe FitzPatrick: I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-21594 on 6 March 2019. 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>.

Michelle Ballantyne (South Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government how it plans to reduce colonoscopy waiting times in the Borders, in light of reports that the region's waiting times are the longest in Scotland.

(S5W-21658)

Jeane Freeman: For the Quarter ending December 2018 there were 41 patients waiting over 6 weeks for an appointment for a scope investigation in NHS Borders. Of these, 32 of were waiting for a colonoscopy.

I recognise that performance across a range of diagnostic tests is lower than I want to see. That is why I launched the Waiting Times Improvement Plan in October 2018 which is supported by £850 million and will significantly and substantially improve NHS performance by the Spring of 2021.

The Waiting Times Improvement Plan has allowed NHS Borders to extend capacity, to share good practice, such as waiting list validation and pre-assessment, and to future proof activity including the training of nurse endoscopists. In addition we will shortly be publishing an Endoscopy Action Plan that will support the actions needed to reduce patients waiting over six weeks for these key tests, through the provision of additional clinics, implementing key improvement programmes such as the use of qFIT to

support primary care referral, and use of endoscopy management systems to aid booking and scheduling of patients.

My officials are also working directly with the NHS Borders to support them to deliver extra colonoscopy appointments at weekends throughout the period of March to June this year. As part of its sustainability plan, the Board is developing a new service which will be delivered in a community setting and will increase clinic and endoscopy capacity.

Fulton MacGregor (Coatbridge and Chryston) (Scottish National Party):

To ask the Scottish Government what plans it has to introduce the screening of adolescents for scoliosis.

(S5W-21698)

Joe FitzPatrick: The Scottish Government works closely with the UK National Screening Committee (UK NSC). This independent expert advisory group advises Ministers and the NHS in the four UK countries about all aspects of screening policy using the international research evidence base and establishing pilot programmes where appropriate to collect additional evidence.

The UK NSC last reviewed screening for Scoliosis in 2016 and did not recommend introducing a national screening programme. This is because there is no agreed cut off for the Adam Forward Bend Test where doctors would agree that treatment is necessary. The further test is an x-ray examination and this would expose people to radiation which is harmful. It is also unclear whether treating people found through screening is better than waiting for symptoms to develop.

Although the UK NSC does not currently recommend a national screening programme for Scoliosis, all policies are reviewed regularly and screening for scoliosis will be reviewed again in 2019-20. Any change to the recommendation will be carefully considered by the Scottish Government.

Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what its response is to the Standard Commission's recent survey, which recorded almost a quarter of NHS board members reporting that they have experienced "disrespectful conduct".

(S5W-21712)

Jeane Freeman: The Scottish Government is clear that that disrespectful conduct in our NHS is unacceptable under any circumstances. We expect board members to act in line with the values and behaviours expected of everyone in NHS Scotland.

All NHS Boards have in place a Code of Conduct which board members are required to adhere to. Complaints or allegations about breaches of the Code

are investigated by the Commissioner for Ethical Standards in Public Life in Scotland and then acted upon by the Standards Commission for Scotland.

Neil Findlay (Lothian) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what analysis it carries out of the user experience reported by deaf and hearing impaired people who do not use BSL when accessing NHS services, including those who use systems such as Minicom, Next Generation and Text Relay, and how it assures the quality of the services provided.

(S5W-21738)

Clare Haughey: Ensuring that the views of people who use healthcare services are heard and can influence the design and delivery of healthcare services is a priority for the Scottish Government.

We have introduced a range of ways for people to tell us what they think about their NHS Service:

- We support NHS Boards to engage with the independent website Care Opinion, where people can share their stories of care in Scotland - whether good or bad - anonymously online and engage in constructive dialogue with healthcare service providers about how those services could be improved.
- We have funded and supported the Our Voice Citizens' Panel, which has enabled the voices of people to be heard on a range of important issues including how to make communication between health and care services and those that use them more inclusive.
- The Scottish Care Experience Survey Programme is a suite of national surveys which aims to provide local and national information on the quality of health and care services from the perspective of those using them. Surveys within this programme ask a series of demographic questions to allow further analysis of responses by different groups of people, including a question on long-term conditions, such as deafness and severe hearing impairment. However, these surveys do not capture data on whether individuals who report being deaf / having a severe hearing impairment do or do not use BSL as it is likely that the sample size for this specific sub-group would make the value of any analysis very limited.

Each NHS Board is committed to improving the services it provides, and we expect NHS Boards to listen to, and take account of, feedback from people about their experience of care.

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Edinburgh Western) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the findings of The Queen's Nursing Institute of Scotland's project, Three Bridges-Promoting Blood Borne Virus (BBV) wellness within Police Custody Suites, what its position is on (a)

including BBV-testing as part of a package of care and (b) implementing an opt-out testing model to help to reduce some of the stigma and inequalities surrounding hepatitis C care and treatment.

(S5W-21768)

Joe FitzPatrick: The Scottish Government is committed to eliminating hepatitis C as a public health concern, and is supporting work to improve opt-out testing in prisons as we recognise that this population is at particular risk. We are providing funding of over £2m between 2018 and 2021 to organisations tackling poor sexual health and blood borne viruses, including to Hepatitis Scotland and Waverley Care for their work to support people living with or at risk of hepatitis C and HIV.

The Scottish Government supports the integration of blood borne virus (BBV) testing into treatment as part of the care available to those in police custody. As part of nationwide efforts to increase testing for BBV, a number of NHS Boards have elected to develop BBV testing in police custody for those populations most at risk. Lessons learned from these service developments are being shared with services across Scotland to support our commitment to eliminate hepatitis C as a public health concern.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-19321 by Joe Fitzpatrick on 6 November 2018, whether the information has now been collated and assessed and, if so, (a) by what date it will be published and (b) whether it will show how many (i) sessions and (ii) hours each profession in a team provides to the pain service each week.

(S5W-21802)

Joe FitzPatrick: Further to the answer provided to question S5W-19321, the collated information is undergoing quality assurance checks. We anticipate that the National Advisory Committee for Chronic Pain (NACCP) will consider the draft findings at its next meeting on 18 March and information will then be published alongside minutes of its meeting in due course. The information disclosed will be in accordance with the data protection laws. Where practitioner groups at NHS Board or national level refer to fewer than 10 individuals this will not be disclosed, as it is considered not sufficiently anonymised by the Office of National Statistics and will be treated as if it is personal data.

Pauline McNeill (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what the average waiting time is from positive diagnosis of cataract to corrective surgical intervention.

(S5W-21806)

Jeane Freeman: This information on specific procedures are not held centrally.

The following tables provide the median for speciality ophthalmology waiting times for the quarters ending September and December 2018 (inpatient and day case from referral date) and new inpatients. This data also includes cataract operations.

Table 1: Inpatient and Day Case median wait time (days) from referral date for the specialty Ophthalmology

NHS Health Board	Specialty	Indicator	Quarter End Date	
			30 Sep 2018	31 Dec 2018
NHSScotland*	Ophthalmology	Median wait (days)	70	74

Source: ISD waiting times warehouse

* excluding NHS Ayrshire & Arran due to data quality issues

Table 2: New outpatient median wait time (days) from referral date for the specialty Ophthalmology

NHS Health Board	Specialty	Indicator	Quarter End Date	
			30 Sep 2018	31 Dec 2018
NHSScotland**	Ophthalmology	Median wait (days)	46	42

Source: ISD waiting times warehouse

** excluding NHS Ayrshire & Arran and NHS Tayside due to data quality

Edward Mountain (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the commitment in its suicide prevention action plan, what action has been taken regarding its aim to create and implement refreshed mental health and suicide prevention training by May 2019.

(S5W-21823)

Clare Haughey: The Scottish Government continue to work with NHS Health Scotland and NHS Education for Scotland to refresh Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Training. An online universal product will be available from 31 May 2019. Further products will be developed tailored to the needs of staff groups after this. This will complement existing resources.

Edward Mountain (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-20262 by Clare Haughey on 11 December 2018, when the Autism Strategy Review Group was established; who its members are; on

what dates it has met; which (a) NHS boards and (b) local authorities it has met, broken down by date, and how it will review and monitor progress towards achieving the priorities and outcomes set out in the strategy.

(S5W-21826)

Clare Haughey: The Scottish Government is committed to improving the lives of autistic people through the implementation of the Scottish Strategy for Autism.

The Scottish Strategy for Autism Review Group was established in 2018 following the publication of the Scottish Strategy for Autism: outcomes and priorities 2018-2021 document in March 2018.

The Scottish Government reviews the progress of the strategy through quarterly meetings with the Autism Review Group. This group provides service expertise, strategic leadership and challenges the delivery of the strategy's outcomes - aimed at improving outcomes for individuals and families living with autism.

The members are key representatives from Scottish Government, Third Sector, NHS, COSLA, Autistic People's Organisations, parent/carers and Autism Network Scotland.

The group has met twice since it was formed, the first public meeting was hosted by the Borders Health and Social Care Partnership on 6 December. A closed meeting was held on 25 January 2019 in Edinburgh. The next public meeting of the group is currently being planned for NHS Highland in April/May.

The strategy's progress is highlighted at the annual autism conference, this year's event will take place on 26 March.

The strategy's progress is also being monitored by the Autism Cross Party Group. Policy officials attended the last meeting on 26 February to give a strategy update.

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Edinburgh Western) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):

To ask the Scottish Government what proportion of the components in the home screening kit for bowel cancer kit are recyclable.

(S5W-21830)

Joe FitzPatrick: The bowel cancer screening kit comprises of an outer envelope, a letter with instructions, an information booklet, a return postage-paid envelope and a test kit.

The outer envelope, the letter with instructions, and the information booklet are all paper and can be recycled. Until 11th February 2019, the programme

used a foil return envelope which was not recyclable, however the programme now uses a different type of envelope which is recyclable.

After being analysed at the lab the used test kits are disposed of in clinical waste bags (i.e. treated in the same way as blood tubes), and are not recycled.

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Edinburgh Western) (Scottish Liberal Democrats):

To ask the Scottish Government what action it takes to (a) minimise waste and (b) maximise recycling in healthcare.

(S5W-21831)

Jeane Freeman: NHS Boards are required to develop and implement plans to reduce waste and increase recycling to meet the targets set out in the NHSScotland Waste Management Action Plan 2016–2020.

The key waste regulatory requirements are outlined in the following table:

Year	Requirement	Source
2017	Reduce waste arisings by 7% against a 2011 baseline	Making Things Last strategy
2020	Landfill ban on biodegradable municipal waste	Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012
2025	Maximum 5% of waste to landfill	Making Things Last strategy
2025	Reduce waste arisings by 15% against a 2011 baseline	Making Things Last strategy
2025	70% recycling rate	Making Things Last strategy
2025	Reduce food waste arisings by 33% against a 2011 baseline	Making Things Last strategy

Each Board, in partnership with NHS National Procurement, must develop a single overarching plan covering the prevention and re-use of waste that details the specific opportunities that will be taken forward in order to achieve the waste prevention targets.

In addition, each NHS Board is required to work with their domestic waste management contractor to develop a single overarching plan covering the recycling and recovery of domestic waste in order to achieve recycling targets.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what action it will take to ensure that the recommendations in its report, *Coming Home*, are implemented.

(S5W-21875)

Clare Haughey: The Scottish Government is committed to improving the lives of people with learning disabilities, their families and carers and welcomes the findings of Dr Anne MacDonald's report: Coming Home.

The Scottish Government will be funding a post to support Health and Social Care Partnerships as they consider and take forward the recommendations of the report, including considering different models of care for people with learning disabilities and complex needs.

The Scottish Government will also be commissioning further work with Glasgow University to develop front line training resources around 'Positive Behavioural Support,' one of the forms of support, identified in the Coming Home report, that can be effective and appropriate for those with additional and complex needs.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it plans to draft a new learning disability strategy to follow the current strategy, The keys to life, which ends in 2021.

(S5W-21879)

Clare Haughey: The Scottish Government is committed to improving the lives of people with learning disabilities, their families and carers.

The Scottish Government is pleased to announce that a new learning disability framework, 'The keys to life: unlocking futures for people with learning disabilities' will be published by the Scottish Government and COSLA on 13 March 2019. This framework will support the existing strategy.

The framework was produced following consultation and collaboration with people with learning disabilities and stakeholders. It identifies our key priorities and the commitment of the Scottish Government and COSLA to collaborate with public and third sector partners to deliver real change in the lives of people with learning disabilities.

This collaborative approach will also inform our actions beyond the life of the existing strategy.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what progress has been made on the implementation of the learning disability strategy, The keys to life.

(S5W-21880)

Clare Haughey: Many actions included in the strategy when it was published in 2011 have been delivered and others continue to be delivered through the work of the Scottish Commission for Learning Disabilities and the Learning Disabilities Observatory.

I am delighted to announce that the new framework to support the strategy 'The keys to life: unlocking futures for people with learning disabilities " will be published on 13 March by the Scottish Government and COSLA.

The new framework sets out some of our achievements over the last few years and highlights our key priorities for the remaining period of the strategy. The framework takes a whole life approach with an emphasis on supporting people from childhood to adulthood and covers a range of priorities across the themes of living, learning, working and wellbeing. The framework consolidates our work and also reflects the feedback we received from a wide range of stakeholders and people with learning disabilities on what matters to them.

The Scottish Government firmly believes that people with learning disabilities can and do play a full part in our communities and looks forward to working with COSLA, Local Authorities, Health and Social Care Partnerships and the Third Sector on the next phase of our work.

Organisational Development and Operations

Michelle Ballantyne (South Scotland) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government how Social Security Scotland plans to carry out face-to-face assessments, or the Scottish equivalent, and what specific consideration it has given to people living in rural and remote areas and the islands.

Holding answer issued: 06 March 2019

(S5W-21728)

Shirley-Anne Somerville: A holding answer was provided.

Transport Scotland

Kezia Dugdale (Lothian) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what estimate it has made of how many people will transition to public transport in light of its decision to tax workplace parking.

Holding answer issued: 06 March 2019

(S5W-21515)

Michael Matheson: A holding answer was provided.