

Monday 22 July 2019

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Economy

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

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the report, *Beyond Holyrood: Why Scotland's economic future depends on local power*, by Reform Scotland, for what reason there has been a policy change towards localisation in Scotland.

(S5W-24223)

Aileen Campbell: The Local Governance Review reflects a shared commitment from the Scottish Government and COSLA to Scotland's different places and diverse communities having a direct say over decisions which affect them. Ministers want to strengthen local decision-making and democratic governance in ways that improve outcomes for people, grow Scotland's economy for everyone's benefit, support communities to focus on their priorities, and help new ideas to flourish. The Review will help deliver the National Performance Framework outcomes, "We tackle poverty by sharing opportunities, wealth and power more equally", and "We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe".

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

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the Reform Scotland report, *Beyond Holyrood: Why Scotland's economic future depends on local power*, how it plans to boost economic activity through employment in specific regions to increase localisation in businesses.

(S5W-24225)

Derek Mackay: The Scottish Government jointly launched the Local Governance Review with COSLA to consider how powers are shared across national and local government, and with communities. The Review reflects our shared commitment to Scotland's different places and diverse communities having a direct say over decisions which affect them.

The Scottish Government is committed to stimulating investment and creating vibrant and inclusive regional economies. City and Regional Growth Deals represent significant investments in our regional economies, with local authorities leading the development of proposals that reflect their region's economic strengths, and comprise of a programme of interventions to support transformative change.

Deals represent a partnership of investment between the Scottish Government, the UK Government and local government partners. The Scottish Government has committed over £1.7 billion over the next 10 to 20 years to Deals and associated regional investments. We have made clear that

we want to ensure that all of Scotland is covered by a growth deal, and have challenged the UK government to match this.

We are also working with partners to facilitate the development of new Regional Economic Partnerships. These are collaborations between local authorities, the private sector, education and skills providers, our economic agencies and the third sector. By bringing together regional interests, aligning resources, sharing knowledge, and developing joined-up plans, these partnerships, supported by the Scottish Government and our agencies, seek to drive inclusive economic growth at a regional scale.

Education, Communities and Justice

Colin Smyth (South Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5O-02383 by Kevin Stewart on 20 September 2018 (*Official Report*, c.5) on funding for the Stranraer Waterfront regeneration, whether the £6 million will be in addition to any funding allocated through the Borderlands Growth Deal.

(S5W-24120)

Aileen Campbell: Funding allocated to projects through the Borderlands Growth Deal is separate and additional to the £6m commitment made in relation to the Stranraer Waterfront.

Alex Cole-Hamilton (Edinburgh Western) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the Reform Scotland report, *Beyond Holyrood: Why Scotland's economic future depends on local power*, and the Barclay Review, which recommended the removal of charitable rates relief from independent schools, what consideration it has given to the impact of these on (a) local schools' resources and (b) the attainment gap.

(S5W-24220)

Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government jointly launched the Local Governance Review with COSLA to consider how powers are shared across national and local government, and with communities. The Review reflects our shared commitment to Scotland's different places and diverse communities having a direct say over decisions which affect them. We are taking a whole system approach which looks across Scotland's public services and ensures that measures to empower people and places in different spheres of governance are cohesive and mutually supportive.

Local Authorities have a statutory responsibility to provide education to all children of school age. The Scottish Government estimates how much local government needs to fund local services and then applies a needs-based formula to allocate the total available funding, which is agreed by the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities on behalf of all 32 councils.

This Government is committed to closing the poverty related attainment gap and that is why we are investing £750 million in the Attainment Scotland Fund over the course of this parliament. We know that empowered teachers, given the right resources and appropriate support, are making a massive difference in our classrooms and are transforming lives.

Pupil Equity Funding was introduced in 2017 as a new way of working to close the attainment gap by providing money directly to head teachers, who know their young people best. Giving head teachers and schools the power to choose where to target support and interventions and decide what will make a real difference to their pupils and communities means the life chances of our young people can be significantly improved.

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

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the Reform Scotland report, *Beyond Holyrood: Why Scotland's economic future depends on local power*, how it plans to reform the local government system and whether it will give consideration to (a) the number of councils, (b) council boundaries and (c) who should govern each council.

(S5W-24221)

Aileen Campbell: The Scottish Government jointly launched the Local Governance Review with COSLA to consider how powers are shared across national and local government, and with communities. Engagement extended beyond local government to consider all public services. Summary reports of the initial findings can be found at <https://www.gov.scot/democracymatters>. We didn't specifically ask about the number of councils, council boundaries, or who should govern each council. Instead, we asked a short set of broad questions about the future of local democracy in Scotland. From over 350 responses from individuals, communities and public institutions, the number, size, or shape of councils, or who should govern them, didn't appear in the analysis. A key theme which did emerge was the need to consider the right level of place for the delivery of different services – local, regional or national. On 16 May 2019, the Scottish Government and COSLA announced the initial findings and set out next steps. A further round of widespread engagement will take place later in 2019 in order to help create a new system of community-led decision-making that can become integrated into Scottish society.

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

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the recent publication by Barnardos, *Closing the poverty related attainment gap*, which states that, "Relationships are central, but developing and sustaining relationships takes time, consistency and resources. Short term funding and reporting undermine relationship-based approaches", what plans it has to adjust the funding it

gives schools to help Barnardos create relationships with children from low income backgrounds.

(S5W-24257)

John Swinney: The Government recognises the value of building relationships in work to tackle the poverty related attainment gap and is investing £750m in the Scottish Attainment Challenge over the course of this Parliament. Funding for the programmes delivered by this funding is committed until the end of the current parliament, allowing local authorities and schools to plan across multiple years. The Government is committed to closing the poverty related attainment gap and has no plans to stop further investment in the Attainment Scotland Fund in future years.

Further, the Scottish Government and Education Scotland provide a variety of comprehensive guidance to Local Authorities and schools on the use of this funding. Each Local Authority also has a dedicated Attainment Advisor from Education Scotland. Attainment Advisors play a significant role in helping schools to plan and develop sustainable strategies and approaches to closing the poverty-related attainment gap, and supporting them to use data to plan, monitor and evaluate their impact.

Health and Social Care

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answers to questions S5W-20442 and S5W-20444 by Jeane Freeman on 6 December 2018, what progress it has made in ensuring that all cancer patients receive a treatment summary at the end of their treatment.

(S5W-24020)

Jeane Freeman: The Scottish Government's Cancer Strategy 'Beating Cancer: Ambition and Action' sets out our £100 million ambition to support everyone in Scotland with a cancer diagnosis. Following the successful Transforming Care After Treatment programme, we are continuing to work with Macmillan to ensure the commitments set out in the cancer strategy are delivered.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on the number of operations that have taken place in the private healthcare sector in each year since 1999.

(S5W-24098)

Jeane Freeman: The figures in the following table represent the number of NHS funded operations that have been undertaken in independent hospitals in each year since 1999 and reported to ISD.

This Government is absolutely committed to a publicly-owned, and operated NHS. So the people of Scotland continue to have free timely access to health services.

Through the Waiting Times Improvement Plan, activity undertaken by the Independent Sector has been brought under a National contract. This will reduce costs, maximise effectiveness and enable value for money and performance to be clearly evidenced. The new approach will only be used as required while NHS capacity is expanded over the longer term.

Calendar Year	Number of Inpatient Operations	Number of Outpatient Operations 4
1999	397	-
2000	245	-
2001	638	-
2002	645	-
2003	1,066	3
2004	1,185	-
2005	1,922	38
2006	1,807	50
2007	2,288	419
2008	4,085	364
2009	6,075	395
2010	2,447	401
2011	1,581	221
2012	6,592	383
2013	7,832	1,608
2014	9,034	1,386
2015	8,864	1,366
2016	4,022	227
2017	3,734	491
2018	4,230	130

- denotes zero

1 Relates to NHS patients treated in non-NHS locations such as private hospitals, hospices, nursing homes, care homes etc. The data recording/completeness of Non-NHS Provider data varies from year to year. Therefore, please treat any data provided with caution. If a patient is treated privately (i.e. treatment paid for by patient or private insurer) and there is no NHS involvement, then this patient activity is not recorded in SMR and is not included in the figures above.

2 Note that figures for the years 1999 to 2002 exclude the Golden Jubilee National Hospital as data were not provided to ISD.

3 There was no activity reported to ISD for the Scottish Regional Treatment Centre at Stracathro Hospital after January 2010.

4 There is variation in the completeness of recording of outpatient procedures. Outpatient data only include patients that attended their outpatient appointment and were seen.

Source: ISD Scotland, SMR00 and SMR01, extracted July 2019

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what action NHS Scotland is taking to reduce its carbon footprint.

(S5W-24101)

Jeane Freeman:

NHSScotland has already made significant progress in reducing the emissions from its estate. At the end of 2018-19, greenhouse gas emissions were down by more than 61.6% on 1990 levels.

Measures in place to see these reductions include:

- the eradication of the use of coal, and significant reduction in the use of heavy fuel oil;
- upgrading energy centres to take advantage of latest energy efficiency technologies;
- upgrading lighting across their estates to enable the use of high efficiency LED lighting;
- the procurement of a national contract with WarplT to enable Boards to reuse office equipment across their estate and within other public and third sector estates; and
- the development of a plastics hierarchy to assist the movement towards a single-source recyclable plastic for use across all NHS applications.

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

To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the Chronic Pain Specialty Group's *Design Workshop Report June 2019*, how it plans to make information about chronic pain self-management widely (a) accessible and (b) used.

(S5W-24114)

Jeane Freeman: I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-24115 on 18 July 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>.

Neil Findlay (Lothian) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what quality control measures are in place to assess how well full mesh removal procedures are carried out.

(S5W-24135)

Jeane Freeman: Appropriate training, revalidation, benchmarking and peer review of clinicians ensures quality of service. Further, surgeons are expected to record the details and outcomes of operations in patients' notes, as per standard practice. Photographic evidence will be taken when appropriate.

NHS Information Services Division records data relating to national routine surgical outcomes.

Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answers to questions S5W-14658 and S5W-14655 by Shona Robison on 6 and 13 March 2018 respectively, on what date the Essure contraceptive implant was approved for use in Scotland, and on what date NHS boards stopped offering this device.

(S5W-24160)

Jeane Freeman: The regulation of medical devices is a matter that is reserved to Westminster and, as such, medical devices are approved for use on a cross-UK basis. Essure model ESS305, the version of the device made available in the UK, received a CE mark in 2006 and was therefore available for use in the UK from that date. Four Health Boards previously offered the Essure device in Scotland and, with the exception of a small number of procedures that went ahead as outlined in answer to S5W-14658 all stopped fitting the device following withdrawal of its CE mark in August 2017.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on how many operations have been undertaken in independent hospitals in each year since 2007.

(S5W-24171)

Jeane Freeman: I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-24098 on 22 July 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>.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government how many "did not attend" appointments have been recorded in each NHS board in each year since 2007.

(S5W-24189)

Jeane Freeman: The table on the number of Did Not Attends (DNA's) for New Outpatient Appointments in each NHS Health Board of Treatment from 2007-2018 is available from the Scottish Parliament Information Centre (Bib. number 60855)

Please note that DNA recording for NHS Lothian from May 2018 is incorrect resulting in lower than expected DNA figures for 2018.

The Modern Outpatient Programme is working within NHS Boards to test a 'Smarter Booking' system which will allow patients to re-engage with secondary care specialist services and to cancel appointments on-line. The system would also allow short notice and same day cancellations to be notified to individuals on the waiting list thus reducing the impact of wasted appointments.

Monica Lennon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-18525 by Jeane Freeman on 18 September 2018, when it will review the national Adverse Event framework to ensure that it is fit for purpose, and what progress has been made to address the concerns expressed by the Health and Sport Committee in its report, *The Governance of the NHS in Scotland - ensuring delivery of the best healthcare for Scotland* (SP Paper 367) in relation to areas and processes that require improvement and a recommendation "that Healthcare Improvement Scotland should be tasked with bringing forward these changes in order to improve the operation of the current system."

(S5W-24239)

Jeane Freeman: As part of the response to the Health and Sport Committee Governance Report of July 2018, I asked Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) to carry out a review of its role and approach to the adverse events process.

As a first step, HIS has been working to establish a baseline to determine where there is uniformity and divergence in the way that NHS Boards approach significant adverse event reporting and to gain a greater understanding of the contributing factors to this variation. The baseline report has involved detailed engagement with individual NHS Boards and I understand that it will be published in the next few weeks.

I have been clear that health and social care providers throughout Scotland must use learning from all reporting systems to support a culture of openness and learning. I have asked HIS to look further than the existing National Adverse Events Framework, which while essential, is only part of the solution to developing a reporting and learning system which drives continuously improving services and outcomes for patients, carers and staff.

I have instructed my officials to work closely with HIS, NHS Education for Scotland and other stakeholders to ensure that now that the baseline review is concluded, actions can be identified and implemented, as quickly as possible.

Neil Findlay (Lothian) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will instruct an independent review of the delays in the opening and the project management of the new Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh.

(S5W-24254)

Jeane Freeman: I refer the member to the answer to question S5W-24397 on 18 July 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>.

Transport Scotland

Elaine Smith (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update regarding the tendering process for the 2019-27 Northern Isles Ferry Services' contract, and what the cost has been of this process.

(S5W-23841)

Paul Wheelhouse: The procurement process for the Northern Isles Ferry Services contract is progressing on schedule and within budget. Tenders received on 29 April from CalMac Ferries Ltd and Serco Ltd are currently being evaluated. Subject to the conclusion of the on-going Judicial Review appeal and associated complaint lodged with the European Commission, we anticipate that the outcome of the tender procedure for the Northern Isles Ferry Services will be announced in August 2019.

The total cost to Transport Scotland of undertaking the procurement process is estimated to be approximately £700,000.

Miles Briggs (Lothian) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government whether it or Transport Scotland plans to publish guidance regarding the use of rear-facing child car seats similar to that published in Sweden.

Holding answer issued: 22 July 2019

(S5W-24000)

Michael Matheson: A holding answer was provided.

Liam McArthur (Orkney Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government on what dates the working group on internal ferry services in the Northern Isles has met over the last 12 months, and who chaired each meeting.

(S5W-24054)

Paul Wheelhouse: The Working Group meets in Edinburgh on a monthly basis.

The meetings are normally chaired by Michael Craigie (Shetlands Islands Council), in his capacity as lead officer for ZETRANS, however officials from both Orkney Islands Council and Transport Scotland have also chaired meetings.