

Wednesday 25 September 2013

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Enterprise and Environment

Alison Johnstone (Lothian) (Scottish Green Party): To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the use of zero-hours contracts in universities.

(S4W-17083)

Fergus Ewing: Employment law is currently reserved to the UK Government. Universities are autonomous institutions that set terms and conditions for their own staff. However, the Scottish Government welcomes the announcement on 6 September 2013 that the University of Edinburgh has agreed to review its use of zero hours contracts. We commend this approach and urge employers in all sectors who employ staff on zero hours contracts to consider carefully their use of such contracts.

Angus MacDonald (Falkirk East) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what information is required by competent authorities wishing to consent plans or projects in cases where adverse impacts on European wildlife sites cannot be ruled out, and whether it will issue guidance on this matter.

(S4W-17124)

Paul Wheelhouse: In keeping with the requirements of the EU Habitats Directive, the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 ("the Habitats Regulations") set out certain procedural requirements which competent authorities must apply when considering plans or projects which are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of European sites and are likely to have a significant effect on such sites.

In general terms, the regulations prohibit competent authorities from granting consent unless such authorities can ascertain, by means of an appropriate assessment (and in consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage), that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of a European site. However, the habitats directive provides a derogation for exceptional situations whereby consent may be granted in spite of a negative assessment. The derogation may be applied if there are no alternative solutions, there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest and provided any necessary compensatory measures are taken to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. Accordingly, regulations 49 and 53 of the Habitats Regulations make provision and, in this context, the information required by competent authorities will vary on a case-by-case basis subject to the particulars of the plan or project and the European sites which might be affected.

A further revision of the Scottish Government's revised guidance updating circular no. 6/1995 on implementation in Scotland of the Habitats and Birds Directives is in preparation. Guidance on various aspects of the EU Habitats Directive is provided by the European Commission at the following web address:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm.

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what information it has on how many compulsory control schemes have been implemented since the introduction of the Deer (Scotland) Act 1959, broken down by (a) location, (b) estate and (c) area covered.

(S4W-17128)

Paul Wheelhouse: No compulsory control schemes have been implemented since the introduction of the Deer (Scotland) Act 1996. Prior to 1996 the former Red Deer Commission operated control schemes under the Deer (Scotland) Act 1959 but these were entered into on a voluntary basis. The Deer (Scotland) Act 1996 made a distinction between voluntary control agreements and statutory control schemes.

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what (a) areas are covered by deer management groups, (b) groups have deer management plans in place that are regarded by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) as competent and (c) groups have implemented plans in a way regarded by SNH as competent.

(S4W-17130)

Paul Wheelhouse: (a) A link to a map showing areas covered by deer management groups (DMGs) and a table setting out the area of land covered by each DMG are as follows:

<http://www.deer-management.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/dmgmap.jpg>

DMG	Area (Ha)
North Uist	30,016
Harris and Lewis	109,468
South Uist	30,765
Skye	174,730
Rum	10,731
Northern	180,963
Gairloch Conservation Group	42,600
West Ross	113,493
West Sutherland	149,344
North Ross	148,432
North West Sutherland	169,975
East Ross	20,476
East Sutherland	127,141
South West Ross	64,434
South Ross	222,475
Glenelg	38,394
Knoydart	77,416
West Lochaber	51,937
Moidart	22,010
East Loch Shiel	47,972
Morven	48,607
Ardrnamurchan	22,827
Mull	88,171
Jura	36,505
Islay	14,081
Arran	21,832
Monadhliaths	175,734
Cairngorm/ Speyside	104,493
Mid West Association	109,602
West Grampians	80,852
East Grampians	263,586
Blackmount	112,533
East Loch Etricht	35,261
Breadalbane	95,135
Strath Tay	17,324
South Perthshire	76,910

DMG	Area (Ha)
Inveraray and Tyndrum	56,982
Cowal	86,430
Balquhidder	46,172
West Loch Lomond	36,081
East Loch Lomond	20,306
Glenartney	20,063
Total Upland DMG Area	3,402,259

Lowland DMGs	Area (Ha)
South West Scotland	681,571
North Lanarkshire	47,212
South Lanarkshire	158,531
West Lothian	43,159
Borders	129,346
Eskdalemuir	125,694
Buchan	693,459
Total Lowland DMG Area	1,878,972

(b) There are 42 areas identified as upland DMG areas in Scotland, of which two no longer function (Cowal and West Loch Lomond). Of the remaining 40 groups, 16 have current deer management plans in place, 13 have plans in development or which require review, and 11 groups have no current deer management plan.

(c) For privately funded deer management plans, SNH are not required to assess the competence of their implementation. Deer managers are beginning to implement the SNH code of practice on deer management, agreed by the Scottish Parliament in 2012, to which a deer management planning process is central. SNH is required to assess overall compliance with the deer code and is working with the deer sector to develop an agreed methodology.

In cases where plan development has been in receipt of public funding, SNH take an active role in the plan development, ensuring plans are competent in content and will, along with DMG members, monitor implementation.

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government how many deer have been culled by Forestry Commission Scotland in each of the last 10 years, broken down by species.

(S4W-17133)

Paul Wheelhouse: The number of deer culled by Forestry Commission Scotland on the National Forest Estate from 2003-04 to 2012-13, broken down by species is set out in the following table:

Year	Total Red Cull	Total Roe Cull	Total Sika Cull	Total Fallow Cull	Total Deer Cull
2003-04	10,263	12,922	2,562	273	26,020
2004-05	10,436	12,794	2,662	274	26,166
2005-06	9,414	12,282	2,830	434	24,960
2006-07	9,027	11,659	2,913	426	24,025
2007-08	8,821	11,485	2,662	367	23,335
2008-09	8,579	12,063	2,639	419	23,700
2009-10	11,523	12,315	2,775	332	26,945
2010-11	11,157	12,255	3,196	424	27,032
2011-12	10,633	13,254	3,247	408	27,542
2012-13	11,854	14,259	3,241	432	29,786

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government how much has been paid to landowners in grants in each of the last 10 years to support activities designed to protect agricultural and forestry production from damage by deer.

(S4W-17136)

Paul Wheelhouse: The amount of grants paid out in each of the last 10 years to support activities designed to protect agricultural and forestry production from damage by deer is shown in the following table. The figures include legacy agri-environment and Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme payments and the current Scottish Rural Development Programme Rural Priorities. The figures include all participants who have claimed these grants, not just landowners. The costs also include "one off" capital works such as fencing:

Year	Legacy Agri-Environment	Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme - Grant S2 Reducing Deer Numbers	Rural Priorities	Total
2004	18,134	192,681	-	210,815
2005	11,304	667,551	-	678,855
2006	22,191	148,555	-	170,746
2007	18,700	120,809	-	139,509
2008	14,098	6,706	-	20,804
2009	13,451	16,791	349,886	380,128
2010	4,248	347,245	1,931,831	2,283,324
2011	7,628	112,823	3,416,241	3,536,692
2012	685	79,972	3,093,543	3,174,200
2013*	-	1,561	2,000,025	2,001,586

Note: *The 2013 figure is the position at 18-09-2013.

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what the cost has been of deer damage to (a) forestry and (b) agricultural production in each of the last 10 years.

(S4W-17137)

Paul Wheelhouse: No figures are available for the overall cost of deer damage to agricultural production in Scotland. However, by way of a comparator, an analysis commissioned by Scottish Natural Heritage has put the annual cost of lost agricultural production in England at £4.3 million (see Putman, R. (2012) Scoping the economic benefits & costs of wild deer and their management in Scotland, *Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report No. 526*).

No figures are available for the overall cost of deer damage to the forestry sector, however surveys on the national forest estate indicate that 15-20% of young trees have suffered some deer damage.

Angus MacDonald (Falkirk East) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what information it requires in order to determine whether compensatory measures under regulation 49 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) are sufficient.

(S4W-17167)

Paul Wheelhouse: Regulation 53 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) provides for compensatory measures to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. In this context, the information required will vary on a case-by-case basis subject to the particulars of the plan or project, the nature of the European sites which might be affected and the range of options available for the implementation of compensatory measures.

Tavish Scott (Shetland Islands) (Scottish Liberal Democrats): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will begin consulting on crofting law reform in 2013.

(S4W-17299)

Paul Wheelhouse: My officials have already begun discussions with key stakeholders on how to take this issue forward and discussions will continue on an ongoing basis.

However, as I indicated in the Scottish Parliament on 25 June 2013 (Official Report column 21444), addressing issues relating to crofting legislation is a complex task which cannot happen overnight. All concerned need some time to take stock and to ensure that what we do next is right for crofting and for remote and rural Scotland.

Scottish Ministers will keep members informed of progress via correspondence with the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee and the Cross Party Group on Crofting.

Rob Gibson (Caithness, Sutherland and Ross) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what voluntary control agreements under section 7 of the Deer (Scotland) Act 1996 (a) are in force and (b) have expired since 2000, broken down by (i) location, (ii) estate and (iii) area covered.

(S4W-17127)

Paul Wheelhouse: Information is available from 2003. The following table gives detail on the Section 7 agreements signed since 2003:

Area	Year Signed	Status
Ardvar	2009	Current
Beinn Dearg SAC	2010	Current
Ben Wyvis SAC	2010	Current
Breadalbane	2010	Current
Caenlochan	2003	Current
Fannichs SAC	2010	Current
Inverpolly SAC	2010	Current
Kinveachy	2005	Current
Mar Lodge	2010	Current
Glenfeshie	2000	Concluded
Inchnadamph	2003	Concluded
Glen Prosen Agreement Area (Caenlochan Extension)	2005	Current

The following tables list Section 7 Agreements currently in force broken down by (i) location, (ii) estate and (iii) area covered:

Caenlochan - Angus / Aberdeen - shire	
Property	Planar Area (ha)
Alrick (Part)	1,406
Auchavan	952
Balmoral (Bachnagairn)	3,411
Corrie Fee	164
Glen Isla	1,544
Glencally, Fergus and Glenmarkie	2,077
Invercauld (Glencallater) (Part)	6,111
Invercauld (Glenshee)	4,057
Tulchan	4,926
Fcs Glendoll	690
Total Area	25,338

Caenlochan Extension - Angus	
Property	Planar Area (ha)
Glen Prosen	5,707
Glenhead/Glen Damff	2,700
Total Area	8,407

Ben Wyvis SAC - Ross-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Ben Wyvis Nnr	2300
Clach Liath	998
Wyvis Estate	7848
Total Area	11,146

BeinDearg SAC - Ross-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Alladale and Deanich	9,245
Braemore	4,433
Corriemulzie	9,595
Inverlael	5,893
Inverlael Farm	1,536
Loch Droma	569
Strathvaich and Strathrannoch	15,156
Total Area	46,427

Breadalbane DMG - Perth-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Auch Estate	3,524
Auchessan	1,147
Auchlyne/Bovain	4,138
Ben Lawers	4,803
Blackmount (East Of Railway)	3,431
Blackmount Dalness and Etive	2,171
Blackmount West Of Railway	5,208
Boreland	6,227
Carie Farm	526
Cashlie	3,007
Chesthill North	2,746
Chesthill South	1,509
Coire Carie	1,090
Croftintygan	133
Crossmount	1,595
Dalchosnie	350
Dun Coillich	411
East Schiehallion	793

Breadalbane DMG - Perth-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Fcs Lassintulloch	210
Fcs South Rannoch	3,522
Finnart	2,468
Garth	1,679
Glenlochay	5,171
Glenlyon Estate	3,006
Innerhadden	1,743
Innerwick	2,395
Innischoarach	2,106
Inverinian	837
Invermearan	7,811
Kiltyrie Farm	77
Kirkton and Auchtertyre	2,209
Kynachan	1,314
Lochdochart	2,443
Lochs	7,193
Meggernie	7,427
Morenish	150
Rannoch Moor Nnr	1,416
Roro	2,996
Tirarthur	213
West Tempar	737
Total Area	99,932

Ardvar Woodlands - Sutherland	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Ardvar	1,881
Quinag	3,563
Total Area	5,444

Mar Lodge - Aberdeen - shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Mar Lodge	29,322
Total Area	29,322

Fannich Hills - Ross-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Fannich	3,761
Strone (Foich)	3,945
Kinlochewe, Loch Rosque and West Fannich	12,702
Kinlochluichart	9,611
Total Area	30,019

Inverpolly Ross-shire / Sutherland	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Inverpolly Estate	4,885
Eisg-brachaidh Estate	2,000
Drumrunie	4,764
Total Area	11,649

Kinveachy - Inverness-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Kinveachy Estate	5,335
Total Area	5,335

The following tables list Section 7 Agreements which have expired since 2000 broken down by (i) location, (ii) estate and (iii) area covered:

Inchnadamph - Sutherland	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Inchnadamph Estate	3,600
Total Area	3,600

Glen Feshie - Inverness-shire	
Property	Planar Area (Ha)
Glenfeshie	17,212
Invereshie	3,078
Killiehuntly	1,787
Mar Lodge (part)	2,951
Total Area	25,028

Finance

Fiona McLeod (Strathkelvin and Bearsden) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government whether the proposed Sustainable Procurement Bill will include provisions relating to fairly traded products.

(S4O-2431)

Nicola Sturgeon: The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Bill is aimed at ensuring public procurement processes are transparent, streamlined and proportionate and that they take into account social and environmental sustainability, including fair trade where appropriate. The Bill will also seek to address the use of technical specifications in procurement, again including fair trade where appropriate. The Scottish Fair Trade Forum has agreed to work with the Scottish Government to progress the uptake of fair and ethically traded goods and services through public procurement.

Health and Social Care

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what action it has taken since 2007 to improve access to health and social care for black and minority ethnic communities.

(S4W-17156)

Shona Robison: Under the Equality Act 2010, NHS boards and local authorities are required to achieve equality for people including those from black and minority ethnic communities. This is

primarily done through Equality Impact Assessments, an approach which NHSScotland has operated since 2005. Specific “*Fair for All*” guidance on responding to the needs of black and minority ethnic communities has been in place since 2002.

NHSScotland is supported by the equality team within NHS Health Scotland, who are working to strengthen equality access for all through their Health Inequalities Impact Assessment. Support has included training for staff in equality and diversity, improving equality monitoring particularly for ethnicity and delivering interpreting and translation services.

Learning and Justice

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what action it is taking to tackle revenge porn.

(S4W-17151)

Kenny MacAskill: There are a range of laws that may be applicable in dealing with the issue of revenge porn, including both criminal laws and civil laws, depending on the specific circumstance of each incident.

The Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service officials met with and attended a round-table event organised by Scottish Women’s Aid on 5 September 2013 with representatives from Scottish Women’s Aid, Rape Crisis Scotland, White Ribbon Scotland, Victim Support Scotland and Police Scotland to discuss the issue of revenge porn and how best it could be dealt with. The Scottish Government will consider any issues or specific proposals arising from the event.

Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what legal actions are available to tackle revenge porn and whether such actions are monitored.

(S4W-17152)

Kenny MacAskill: There are a number of offences which may, depending on the facts and circumstances of each specific case, be used to prosecute a person who publishes, or threatens to publish, pornographic images of another person without their consent. These include the common law offences of breach of the peace or blackmail, statutory offences of “threatening or abusive behaviour” and “stalking” at sections 38 and 39 of the Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 and the offence at section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 of “improper use of a public electronic communications network”. Where the images are of a child under the age of 18, the offences at sections 52 and 52A of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 will be relevant. It is not possible to separately identify convictions for these offences which relate to the publication of revenge porn as opposed to other conduct which is criminal but not falling within the definition of revenge porn.

In addition, it may also be open to victim to seek remedies under civil law. The availability of civil remedies will turn on the facts and context of each case, including who is being sued and for what reason. Anyone who considers they have been the subject of “revenge porn” should consider seeking legal advice as to the legal options available to them.

Christine Grahame (Midlothian South, Tweeddale and Lauderdale) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S4W-05956 by Kenny MacAskill on 8 March 2013, how many (a) investigations have been carried out and (b) control notices have been issued by each local authority in each year since 5 March 2012.

(S4W-17160)

Kenny MacAskill: Based on the most recent information provided to the Scottish Government by individual local authorities, the following table provides a breakdown of the number of investigations carried out and the number of dog control notices served by each local authority during the period 27 February 2012 to 26 February 2013. The Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010 came into force on 26 February 2011 and so the period covered in the table below represents the second full year of operation of the 2010 Act.

Local Authority	Number of dog control notices served during period 27 February 2012 to 26 February 2013	Number of investigations conducted during period 27 February 2012 to 26 February 2013
Aberdeen City Council	4	317
Aberdeenshire Council	14	198
Angus Council	0	80
Argyll and Bute Council	5	43
Clackmannanshire Council	0	51
Dumfries and Galloway Council	4	17
Dundee City Council	0	136
East Ayrshire Council	9	17
East Dunbartonshire Council	0	20
East Lothian Council	4	5
East Renfrewshire Council	0	1
Edinburgh City Council	4	164
Falkirk Council	4	82
Fife Council	37	159
Glasgow City Council	1	5
Highland Council	8	38
Inverclyde Council	1	3
Midlothian Council	1	39
Moray Council	0	99
North Ayrshire Council	1	24
North Lanarkshire Council	0	13
Orkney Council	0	1
Perth and Kinross Council	1	36
Renfrewshire Council	9	89
Scottish Borders Council	8	35
Shetland Islands Council	2	9
South Ayrshire Council	0	21
South Lanarkshire Council	4	48
Stirling Council	1	8
West Dunbartonshire Council	7	55
West Lothian Council	18	214
Western Isles Council	0	53
Total	147	2,080

Elaine Murray (Dumfriesshire) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it has responded to the UK Government's consultation on the controlled substances and impairment thresholds in relation to the offence of driving under the influence of drugs.

(S4W-17163)

Kenny MacAskill: I refer the member to the answer to question S4W-17164 on 25 September 2013. All answers to written parliamentary questions are available on the Parliament's website, the search facility for which can be found at:

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx>.

Elaine Murray (Dumfriesshire) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government when it will bring forward regulations on the controlled substances and impairment limits for the offence in Scotland of driving under the influence of drugs and whether it plans to hold a separate consultation from the UK Government's consultation on the issue.

(S4W-17164)

Kenny MacAskill: The UK Government consultation on “Regulations to specify the drugs and corresponding limits for the new offence of driving with a specified controlled drug in the body above the specified limit” covers Scotland following a request made by the Scottish Government.

The GB-wide consultation closed on 17 September 2013. Following the analysis of Scottish consultation responses, it will be for the Scottish Government to consider bringing forward regulations to the Scottish Parliament for approval setting the drug driving limits that might apply in Scotland and for the UK Government to do likewise for England and Wales in the UK Parliament.

Any final policy proposals on the specific issue of drug driving in Scotland will be for the Scottish Government and the Scottish Parliament and will be taken within the wider context of Scotland's national drugs strategy.

Elaine Murray (Dumfriesshire) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what actions it is considering taking to ensure that people with chronic pain are not criminalised when the offence of driving under the influence of drugs is introduced.

(S4W-17165)

Kenny MacAskill: The proposed new offence of drug driving in section 5A of the Road Traffic Act 1988 contains a medical defence. This defence applies where the specified controlled drug, which the person has taken was prescribed or supplied for medical or dental purposes; where the accused person took the drug in accordance with any directions given by the healthcare professional who prescribed it or supplied it, or with any accompanying instructions given by the manufacturer (to the extent that these were consistent with the advice of the healthcare professional); and provided that the accused person's possession of the drug was not unlawful under section 5(1) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971.

The approach taken in the offence provides specific protection to those who legitimately and safely use medicines which contain controlled drugs. The proposed approach will not criminalise drivers who have taken properly prescribed or supplied medicines in accordance with the advice of a healthcare professional.

Siobhan McMahon (Central Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how many (a) violent and (b) non-violent crimes have been recorded against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in each year since the introduction of the Offences (Aggravation by Prejudice) (Scotland) Act 2009.

(S4W-17203)

Kenny MacAskill: The requested information is not held centrally.

The police recorded crime data collected centrally is based on an aggregate return from each of the eight legacy police forces in Scotland and does not include details relating to aggravations.

John Lamont (Ettrick, Roxburgh and Berwickshire) (Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party): To ask the Scottish Government when the Scottish Firearms Consultative Panel last met and whether it will meet to discuss the licensing of air weapons under the proposed Licensing Bill and, if so, when.

(S4W-17225)

Kenny MacAskill: The Scottish Firearms Consultative Panel last met on 14 August 2012. There are no plans at present to reconvene the full panel. We continue to engage with stakeholders, including panel members, as we develop a system of air weapon licensing that is both practicable and effective.

Lewis Macdonald (North East Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what progress it is making with its plan to roll out fiscal work orders nationally and whether this will be completed before the end of 2013.

(S4W-17229)

Kenny MacAskill: Work is underway in collaboration with the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service, Criminal Justice Social Work and the Scottish Police Authority to ensure that robust processes are in place to support the use of fiscal work orders nationwide.

The roll-out will not be completed before the end of 2013. We remain committed to ensuring that fiscal work orders are made available across the country and it is planned that the roll-out will now be completed by the end of 2014.

Lewis Macdonald (North East Scotland) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what support it gives to local authorities for the supervision of people serving fiscal work orders.

(S4W-17230)

Kenny MacAskill: The Scottish Government currently provides £50,000 a year to each local authority in which a Fiscal Work Order pilot scheme is running. These funds are paid through the annual grant to Community Justice Authorities as part of the ring-fenced funding allocations for the delivery of Criminal Justice Social Work Services.

Strategy and External Affairs

Jim Eadie (Edinburgh Southern) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government what recent representations it has received regarding the terms and conditions of gallery attendants and security staff employed by the National Galleries of Scotland.

(S4O-2421)

Fiona Hyslop: This is an operational matter for the National Galleries of Scotland (NGS). I understand that the NGS is currently negotiating with the staff unions on the proposals.

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government on what date it will publish its white paper on its plans to separate Scotland from the rest of the UK and whether this will be on a sitting day of the Scottish and UK parliaments.

(S4W-16867)

Nicola Sturgeon: The white paper will be published in November 2013. The precise date will be confirmed in due course.

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether a ministerial statement will be made on the day that it publishes its white paper on its plans to separate Scotland from the rest of the UK.

(S4W-16870)

Nicola Sturgeon: The white paper will be published in November 2013. Final plans for the launch of the document will be confirmed in due course.

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide a breakdown of how much it will cost to (a) produce and (b) distribute its white paper on its plans to separate Scotland from the rest of the UK.

(S4W-16872)

Nicola Sturgeon: Parliament will be updated on the costs of production and distribution of the white paper following its production and publication.

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how many copies of its white paper on its plans to separate Scotland from the rest of the UK will be printed and how these will be circulated.

(S4W-16874)

Nicola Sturgeon: The white paper will be widely available. Final details of print run and circulation will be confirmed on publication.

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what companies will (a) design, (b) print and (c) distribute its white paper and associated material on its plans to separate Scotland from the rest of the UK, and what the cost will be.

(S4W-16875)

Nicola Sturgeon: The white paper will be designed, printed and published in Scotland, in line with the Scottish Government Design, Printing, Publishing and Associated Services Framework which is used to produce all Scottish Government documents. Its distribution will reflect its significance and importance in the debate on Scotland's future.

Drew Smith (Glasgow) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government for what reason its website now states that its white paper on its plans to separate Scotland from the rest of the UK will be published in "autumn 2013" when it previously said "November".

(S4W-16876)

Nicola Sturgeon: The white paper will be published in November 2013.

Christina McKelvie (Hamilton, Larkhall and Stonehouse) (Scottish National Party): To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on its plans for the international development small grants scheme.

(S4W-17454)

Humza Yousaf: The Scottish Government's International Development Small Grant Scheme will be launched on 7 October 2013 by the Lloyds TSB Foundation. At the launch the Lloyds TSB Foundation will provide further details on the timetable for applications.

The Scheme will distribute approximately £500,000 per year between 2014 and 2017. Organisations with an annual turnover of £150,000 or less will be eligible to apply. The Scheme will be used to support projects that fit within the Scottish Government's International Development Policy. This means that eligible projects must be based in one of our priority countries, contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (and under the post-2015 Framework in due course), and the alleviation of poverty and economic growth in our priority countries. Applications will therefore be sought for activities in relation to the following priority areas:

- Education
- Health
- Sustainable Economic Development
- Civic Governance and Society
- Food Security
- Renewable Energy
- Climate Change
- Water

Transport Scotland

David Stewart (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what harbour charges Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) is applying at Gourock harbour; whether they include a subsidy for other CMAL-owned harbours, and, if so, whether this contravenes EU law.

(S4W-17222)

Keith Brown: Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) apply a network wide charge for their harbours which includes Gourock.

The harbour charges at Gourock do not include subsidy for other CMAL owned harbours.

CMAL's schedule of dues is published at:

www.cmassets.co.uk/en/harbours/fees-and-charges.html.

David Stewart (Highlands and Islands) (Scottish Labour): To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on Transport Scotland's advice in relation to harbour charges and whether such charges should be based on an analysis of actual cost recovery.

(S4W-17224)

Keith Brown: As with any Statutory Harbour Authority, the harbour charges set by Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) must comply with the requirements of Section 27 of the Harbours Act 1964.

CMAL's harbour charges reflect the costs to maintain, operate and provide the necessary capital investment to improve their harbour facilities.