

# Written Answers to Questions

Official Report (Hansard)

**Friday 2 December 2011**

**Volume 69, No WA2**



# Contents

## Written Answers to Questions

Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister .....	WA 161
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development .....	WA 166
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure .....	WA 193
Department of Education .....	WA 290
Department for Employment and Learning.....	WA 298
Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment .....	WA 304
Department of the Environment.....	WA 316
Department of Finance and Personnel .....	WA 336
Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.....	WA 341
Department of Justice .....	WA 363
Department for Regional Development.....	WA 377
Department for Social Development .....	WA 393

Suggested amendments or corrections will be considered by the Editor.  
They should be sent to:

The Editor of Debates, Room 248, Parliament Buildings, Belfast BT4 3XX.  
Tel: 028 9052 1135 · e-mail: [simon.burrowes@niassembly.gov.uk](mailto:simon.burrowes@niassembly.gov.uk)

to arrive not later than two weeks after publication of this report.

# Assembly Members

Agnew, Steven (North Down)  
Allister, Jim (North Antrim)  
Anderson, Ms Martina (Foyle)  
Anderson, Sydney (Upper Bann)  
Attwood, Alex (West Belfast)  
Beggs, Roy (East Antrim)  
Bell, Jonathan (Strangford)  
Boylan, Cathal (Newry and Armagh)  
Boyle, Ms Michaela (West Tyrone)  
Bradley, Dominic (Newry and Armagh)  
Bradley, Ms Paula (North Belfast)  
Brady, Mickey (Newry and Armagh)  
Buchanan, Thomas (West Tyrone)  
Byrne, Joe (West Tyrone)  
Campbell, Gregory (East Londonderry)  
Clarke, Trevor (South Antrim)  
Clarke, Willie (South Down)  
Cochrane, Mrs Judith (East Belfast)  
Copeland, Michael (East Belfast)  
Craig, Jonathan (Lagan Valley)  
Cree, Leslie (North Down)  
Dallat, John (East Londonderry)  
Dickson, Stewart (East Antrim)  
Dobson, Mrs Jo-Anne (Upper Bann)  
Doherty, Pat (West Tyrone)  
Douglas, Sammy (East Belfast)  
Dunne, Gordon (North Down)  
Durkan, Mark H (Foyle)  
Easton, Alex (North Down)  
Eastwood, Colum (Foyle)  
Elliott, Tom (Fermanagh and South Tyrone)  
Farry, Dr Stephen (North Down)  
Flanagan, Phil (Fermanagh and South Tyrone)  
Ford, David (South Antrim)  
Foster, Mrs Arlene (Fermanagh and South Tyrone)  
Frew, Paul (North Antrim)  
Gardiner, Samuel (Upper Bann)  
Gildernew, Ms Michelle (Fermanagh and South Tyrone)  
Girvan, Paul (South Antrim)  
Givan, Paul (Lagan Valley)  
Hale, Mrs Brenda (Lagan Valley)  
Hamilton, Simon (Strangford)  
Hay, William (Speaker)  
Hilditch, David (East Antrim)  
Humphrey, William (North Belfast)  
Hussey, Ross (West Tyrone)  
Irwin, William (Newry and Armagh)  
Kelly, Mrs Dolores (Upper Bann)  
Kelly, Gerry (North Belfast)  
Kennedy, Danny (Newry and Armagh)  
Kinahan, Danny (South Antrim)  
Lewis, Ms Pam (South Antrim)  
Lo, Ms Anna (South Belfast)  
Lunn, Trevor (Lagan Valley)

Lynch, Seán (Fermanagh and South Tyrone)  
Lyttle, Chris (East Belfast)  
McCallister, John (South Down)  
McCann, Fra (West Belfast)  
McCann, Ms Jennifer (West Belfast)  
McCarthy, Kieran (Strangford)  
McCartney, Raymond (Foyle)  
McCausland, Nelson (North Belfast)  
McClarty, David (East Londonderry)  
McCrea, Basil (Lagan Valley)  
McCrea, Ian (Mid Ulster)  
McDevitt, Conall (South Belfast)  
McDonnell, Dr Alasdair (South Belfast)  
McElduff, Barry (West Tyrone)  
McGimpsey, Michael (South Belfast)  
McGlone, Patsy (Mid Ulster)  
McGuinness, Martin (Mid Ulster)  
McIlveen, David (North Antrim)  
McIlveen, Miss Michelle (Strangford)  
McKay, Daithí (North Antrim)  
McKevitt, Mrs Karen (South Down)  
McLaughlin, Mitchel (South Antrim)  
McMullan, Oliver (East Antrim)  
McNarry, David (Strangford)  
McQuillan, Adrian (East Londonderry)  
Maginness, Alban (North Belfast)  
Maskey, Alex (South Belfast)  
Maskey, Paul (West Belfast)  
Molloy, Francie (Mid Ulster)  
Morrow, The Lord (Fermanagh and South Tyrone)  
Moutray, Stephen (Upper Bann)  
Murphy, Conor (Newry and Armagh)  
Nesbitt, Mike (Strangford)  
Newton, Robin (East Belfast)  
Ní Chuilín, Ms Carál (North Belfast)  
Ó hOisín, Cathal (East Londonderry)  
O'Dowd, John (Upper Bann)  
O'Neill, Mrs Michelle (Mid Ulster)  
Overend, Mrs Sandra (Mid Ulster)  
Poots, Edwin (Lagan Valley)  
Ramsey, Pat (Foyle)  
Ramsey, Ms Sue (West Belfast)  
Ritchie, Ms Margaret (South Down)  
Robinson, George (East Londonderry)  
Robinson, Peter (East Belfast)  
Ross, Alastair (East Antrim)  
Ruane, Ms Caitríona (South Down)  
Sheehan, Pat (West Belfast)  
Spratt, Jimmy (South Belfast)  
Storey, Mervyn (North Antrim)  
Swann, Robin (North Antrim)  
Weir, Peter (North Down)  
Wells, Jim (South Down)  
Wilson, Sammy (East Antrim)

# Northern Ireland Assembly

Friday 2 December 2011

## Written Answers to Questions

### Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister

#### **Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration**

**Mrs Cochrane** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister for an update on the Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration.

**(AQO 376/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness (The First Minister and deputy First Minister):** The consultation on the Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration (CSI) attracted 288 written responses and included a wealth of views and material gathered from 11 public meetings and 15 targeted sectoral meetings. Those were in addition to the information that was collected through the omnibus survey. Our priority now is to achieve political consensus on the range of issues that will enable a final document and an associated high-level action plan to be published. To that end, all parties represented on the Executive have nominated members to the cross-party working group. That group has been meeting weekly since Tuesday 27 September.

The public consultation's purpose was to garner wider opinion on the draft proposals, to enable all points of view to be considered and to draft the final version of the policy. The individual responses and the consultation analysis will inform the group's work plan over the coming weeks as it seeks to agree on a strategic direction against each of the themes that have emerged.

We expect that the final programme and an associated action plan will be published in early 2012.

#### **Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration**

**Mr Kinahan** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister for an update on the Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration.

**(AQO 381/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The consultation on the Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration (CSI) attracted 288 written responses and included a wealth of views and material gathered from 11 public meetings and 15 targeted sectoral meetings. Those were in addition to the information that was collected through the omnibus survey. Our priority now is to achieve political consensus on the range of issues that will enable a final document and an associated high-level action plan to be published. To that end, all parties represented on the Executive have nominated members to the cross-party working group. That group has been meeting weekly since Tuesday 27 September.

The public consultation's purpose was to garner wider opinion on the draft proposals, to enable all points of view to be considered and to draft the final version of the policy. The individual responses and the consultation analysis will inform the group's work plan over the coming weeks as it seeks to agree on a strategic direction against each of the themes that have emerged.

We expect that the final programme and an associated action plan will be published in early 2012.

## Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration

**Mr Storey** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister for their assessment of the contribution that the Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration will make to a shared education system.  
**(AQO 500/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The aim of the Strategy for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration is to bring about real changes for people and places across our society. The Strategy aims to recognise and support the aspirations of the very many people who wish to see change permeate through all aspects of everyday life.

We held public consultations inviting everyone to put forward their views. The consultation included 11 public meetings and 15 sectoral events. A specific meeting with the Education sector was held on 7 October 2010 at Clifton House, Belfast. A wide range of representatives attended the event, including those from the controlled, integrated and maintained elements of the sector.

The quality of engagement; the feedback received; and constructive dialogue that took place during the consultation period reflected clearly the importance of this policy initiative.

Our priority now is to achieve political consensus on the range of issues that will enable a final document and an associated high-level action plan to be published. To that end, all parties represented on the Executive have nominated members to the cross-party working group. That group has been meeting weekly since Tuesday 27 September.

The public consultation's purpose was to garner wider opinion on the draft proposals, to enable all points of view to be considered and to draft the final version of the policy. The individual responses and the consultation analysis will inform the group's work plan over the coming weeks as it seeks to agree on a strategic direction against each of the themes that have emerged.

We expect that the final programme and an associated action plan will be published in early 2012.

## Cross-Departmental Report by the Fermanagh Flooding Taskforce

**Mr Flanagan** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister for an update on the progress of the measures outlined in the cross-departmental report by the Fermanagh Flooding Taskforce.  
**(AQW 3809/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The recommendations of the Fermanagh Flooding Taskforce fall to a number of departments and agencies to progress.

The Minister for Regional Development has advised that the recommendation to deliver a substantial £1.165 million programme of works to raise many parts of the road network in Fermanagh above previous flood levels was successfully completed within the 2010/11 financial year, with 57 hollows where flooding had occurred removed on 40 different roads. The positive impact and benefits of this work has been clearly demonstrated during the recent flooding event.

In addition, Northern Ireland Water commissioned a substantial capital project to increase the resilience of the Killyhevlin Water Treatment Works to flooding from high water levels in Lough Erne. This project will provide protection from flood levels similar to those experienced in November 2009 and is expected to be completed before the end of 2011. Physical flood defences are already in place and civil construction of the emergency pumping station is complete.

The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development has confirmed that the Rivers Agency is working with the Electricity Supply Board to examine options for improvement to the operational regime governing the management of the Erne system to reduce flood risk. The first stage of this work, to model the Erne system, is currently being procured following receipt of funding and is due for completion next year. If changes to the operating regime are recommended there will be a need for consultation to ensure that all stakeholders have the opportunity to influence any changes. The Lough Erne Management Co-ordination Committee will be engaged in this process.

The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development has also advised that Rivers Agency and Roads Service have co-operated closely to provide a pumped system at Derrychara Link to alleviate flooding in that area in the event of high lough levels. Rivers Agency has also completed works on the Killynure Lough drain to further help contain flows.

The recommendation for an education and awareness programme to inform the local community, including school children, about flooding in the Fermanagh area and how to deal with it is also being progressed. The Rivers Agency assisted with the production of a public information leaflet on the Lough Erne System providing information on preparing for a flood, and has provided marker boards at bridges to facilitate the public monitoring of levels. In addition, the Western Education and Library Board has established a working group to investigate existing resources that might be used to inform school children in the area. The group aims to complete this work by December 2011.

More generally, organisations involved in the response to and recovery from the November 2009 flooding in Fermanagh have reported that they have reviewed and developed their contingency plans in order to enhance their response capabilities in the event of any future serious flooding that may occur. Those responsible for the delivery of essential services to the local community in Fermanagh have similarly developed their plans to better protect the provision of these services to those areas affected by serious flooding.

## Bill of Rights

**Mr Gardiner** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister for an update on the proposals to create a Bill of Rights.

**(AQO 614/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** In line with the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement and Article 69(7) of the NI Act 1998, the Secretary of State for NI invited the Human Rights Commission, “to consult on the scope for defining in Westminster legislation, rights supplementary to those in the European Convention on Human Rights, to reflect the particular circumstances of NI, drawing as appropriate on international instruments and experience”.

These additional rights were, “to reflect the principles of mutual respect for the identity and ethos of both communities and parity of esteem, and – taken together with the ECHR – to constitute a Bill of Rights for NI”.

As part of the St Andrews Agreement in 2006, the UK Government committed to the setting up of a forum to help build consensus on a Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights Forum was inaugurated in December 2006 and chaired by Chris Sidoti, an international human rights lawyer. Its role was to provide advice to the NI Human Rights Commission on a Bill of Rights here.

The Bill of Rights Forum completed its report on 31 March 2008 and the NI Human Rights Commission submitted its advice on a Bill of Rights to the Secretary of State on 10 December 2008. The UK Government published its paper ‘A Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland: Next Steps’ for consultation from 30 November 2009 and 31 March 2010 and the consultation responses were published in December 2010.

As part of a separate process, the UK Government is considering the creation of a UK Bill of Rights. Earlier this year, the Lord Chancellor wrote to us to advise that the UK Government was setting up a Commission on a UK Bill of Rights and an advisory panel to the Commission made up of two representatives from each of the devolved administrations. The Commission has now been set up and we are considering who our nominees to the advisory panel should be. The advisory panel members and Ministers here will assess the implications of any UK Bill of Rights for this devolved administration while proposals are being developed and following publication of the Commission’s advice to the UK Government.

## Freedom of Information Report 2010

**Mr Allister** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister (i) why their Department's Freedom of Information Report 2010 was published on their Department's website without a press release being issued to alert the public to its publication; and (ii) whether a press release had been issued in previous years.

**(AQW 4419/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The Department is under no obligation to publish an FOI Annual Report; however, it does so proactively on behalf of all Executive Departments. The 2010 Report was published in the same manner as the previous year – no press release was issued and no hard copies printed.

## Freedom of Information Report 2010

**Mr Allister** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister when their Department's Freedom of Information Report 2010 was (i) finalised; and (ii) posted on their Department's website.

**(AQW 4422/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The FOI Annual Report 2010 was finalised on 6 September 2011, and posted on the OFMDFM website on 20 September 2011.

## Freedom of Information Requests

**Mr Allister** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister why there has been a 10 percent drop, between 2005 and 2010, in the number of responses to Freedom of Information requests which provided the full information requested.

**(AQW 4485/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** Requests for information are examined individually to determine whether information, if held, should be disclosed fully or partially or withheld. The outcome will depend on the nature and scope of the request, whether exemptions apply and, if appropriate, public interest considerations. When withholding information, public authorities must issue a refusal notice explaining the authority's decision. The notice must also inform the requester about the appeals process, including the right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

## Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People

**Lord Morrow** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister for their assessment of the success of the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People since the office was established.

**(AQO 730/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** We commissioned an independent review last year to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the work of the Commissioner, within the legislative terms set out in The Commissioner for Children and Young People (Northern Ireland) Order 2003.

In December 2010, the report concluded, on the basis of the available evidence, that the rationale for establishing the Commissioner for Children and Young People was still valid. It also concluded that the role of the Commissioner continues to be best achieved through a separate independent arms length body, providing both advice and challenge on children's rights issues.

The report did identify some positive results including the range of policy and research material which had been developed, the active engagement of the Commissioner in awareness raising activities to raise the profile of the organisation and children's rights and the impact on the lives of individual children and young people. The report also raised a number of concerns which we have been working closely with the Commissioner on to progress and address.

The report recognised that the role of the Commissioner seven years on is still evolving and that there was now an opportunity to reshape and reprioritise the activities associated with the post. In that light,

we continue to work closely with the Commissioner to ensure the maximum effectiveness and efficiency of the Office in addressing the wide range of needs and rights of our children and young people.

### **Establishment of North/South Bodies**

**Ms Ritchie** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister what progress has been made towards the establishment of more North/South bodies.

**(AQW 4697/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** This issue is a matter for consideration as part of a Review established under the St Andrews Agreement which is being taken forward under the auspices of the North South Ministerial Council (NSMC) with the following Terms of Reference:

- (i.) examine objectively the efficiency and value for money of the existing Implementation Bodies;
- (ii.) examine objectively the case for additional bodies and areas of co-operation within the NSMC where mutual benefit would be derived; and
- (iii.) input into the work on the identification of a suitable substitute for the proposed Lights Agency of the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission.

At its 13th Plenary meeting, which was held in Armagh on 18 November 2011, the NSMC agreed that a number of proposals to advance the first element of the Review would be discussed at the next round of NSMC meetings in sectoral format with a view to decisions being taken at the NSMC Plenary meeting in June 2012.

As indicated in the Joint Communiqué issued following the meeting, a way forward on the other elements of the Review was also agreed. This will include consultation within the Executive and within the Irish Government; discussion at the NSMC Institutional meeting in Spring 2012; and final proposals agreed at the NSMC Plenary meeting in June 2012.

In accordance with the statutory provisions, we will report to the Assembly on 29th November 2011 on the decisions taken at the 13th NSMC Plenary meeting. Any decisions following the June 2012 NSMC Plenary meeting will also be reported to the Assembly.

### **Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016**

**Mr Lyttle** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister whether the Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016 is being reviewed; and if so, to provide details of this review.

**(AQW 4762/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** There is no plan to review the Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-16.

### **Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016**

**Mr Lyttle** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister to detail the on-going work in relation to developing the next action plan for the implementation of the Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016.

**(AQW 4763/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The future delivery of the Ten Year Strategy for Children and Young People and the structures and processes needed to support this are currently being reviewed by Junior Ministers and will be discussed at the next meeting of the Ministerial Sub-Committee for Children and Young People.

They plan to discuss how we can work collaboratively to progress key issues through a new strategy action plan in order to meet our commitments under the overarching Ten Year Strategy for Children and Young People and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

We shall also continue to engage with our departmental colleagues to ensure the Action Plan is focused and relevant to the needs of the sector.

## **Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016**

**Mr Lyttle** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister, given that the last action plan for the implementation of the Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016 ended in March 2011, when the next action plan will be made available for consultation.

**(AQW 4766/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** It is planned that the consultation for the next Action Plan will take place early next year.

## **Ministerial-led Poverty Forum**

**Mr Elliott** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister to provide details of (i) the date on which the Ministerial-led Poverty Forum was established; (ii) how many members make up the Forum; (iii) what political parties are represented; (iv) the minutes of the meetings held; and (v) the date of the next meeting.

**(AQW 4792/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The Ministerial-led Poverty and Social Inclusion Stakeholder Forum was established and met just the once in March 2007 during direct rule.

The Forum was re-established on 2 June 2010 under the joint chairmanship of OFMDFM Junior Ministers and has since met on two further occasions, 3 March 2011 and 27 October 2011.

There are a total of 28 Forum members. Membership consists of representatives from each government department, the major voluntary and community sector organisations and arms length bodies and an academic. Political parties are not represented on the Forum.

Minutes of the meetings have not yet been made public as matters discussed can relate to policy still under development.

The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled to take place in January 2012.

## **Programme for Government**

**Ms Ritchie** asked the First Minister and deputy First Minister what progress has been made on the evaluation of the Programme for Government against the 2011-15 budget.

**(AQW 4849/11-15)**

**Mr P Robinson and Mr M McGuinness:** The draft Programme for Government (PfG) (2011-15) which was published on 17 November 2011 represents a visible commitment by the Executive to address the issues facing the economy. In this way it will provide the groundwork for economic and social recovery.

The PfG has been developed taking into account the Budget settlement and the financial constraints which government departments face at this time. The commitments in the PfG have been developed to ensure that they are both challenging and achievable within the existing resource envelope.

# **Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**

## **Public Contracts**

**Mr McCartney** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to list all the current public contracts within her Department, including to whom each contract was awarded; how the contracts were advertised; and when each contract is next due for tender.

**(AQW 4212/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill (The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development):** Attached at Annex A is a list of the current DARD public contracts including details to whom each contract was awarded; how the contracts were advertised; and when each contract is next due for tender.

This list includes those contracts that were awarded through DFP's Central Procurement Directorate (CPD), which is my Department's Centre of Procurement Expertise (CoPE), and those which have been reported by my business areas as having been awarded directly.

It should be noted that this list excludes shared contracts awarded by CPD on behalf of all NICS departments, including for example, security, catering, and cleaning contracts.

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
LESLIE McGUCKIN	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-13
T.K. Contracts (Ireland) Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-13
RDA LOWRY	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-13
Digit Site Services Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-13
Scottish Woodlands Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-13
STEPHEN COLHOUN LIMITED	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Dec-13
Scottish Woodlands Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Dec-13
Brown Bros	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
LESLIE McGUCKIN	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
william doherty Construction	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Wateresq Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
R HEATRICK LTD	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
R & M GREENKEEPER LTD	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Mc Manus Contracts Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Maurice Flynn & Sons Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
MILLIGAN BROS. LTD	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
GF Wilson	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
Conwell Contracts UK Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Boyd Bros	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Arnold Walker Contracts	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
A G Wilson	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
A & T Contracts	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Harold Graham Building Contractor & Plant Hire	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
D A Contracts	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Farm Woodlands Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Scottish Woodlands Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Pat Mc Sorley	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
M&H Tree and Garden Services	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Gardiner Farm And Forest Services	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Farm Woodlands Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Gardiner Farm And Forest Services	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Pat Mc Sorley	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
T.K. Contracts (Ireland) Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Pat Mc Sorley	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Farm Woodlands Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
M&H Tree and Garden Services	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-12
Pat Mc Sorley	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Dec-13
Kevin Harrold Contracts Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Dec-13

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
Riada Signs	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Oct-14
Soil Association	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-15
Coillte Teoranta	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	May-16
Moore Timber	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Moore Timber	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
J Thompson & sons	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-12
Northern Lift Trucks (NI) Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
A Hyde Farm Feeds	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-12
Fane Valley	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Nov-11
Landscapeing Centre Lintied	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-14
A E Kenwell & Sons	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-12
J Thompson & sons	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-12
S H COLEMAN (GLARRYFORD) LTD	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-12
Compass Group UK & Ireland	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	August 2014 - 2016
JOHN MCELDERRY M&T LIMITED	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Saville Machinery	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
STEPHEN MOORE FARM MACHINERY	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Sep-14
Reiser UK Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Zwick Testing Machines Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
MultiVibe Systems Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
PricewaterhouseCoopers	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
PARITY SOLUTIONS LIMITED	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Pira International	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Scantech	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Systech Instruments	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Versaperm Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Matrix Management Consultancy	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
SpotOn Software Pvt. Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
ASG	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Insituform Environmental Techniques	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Kelly Engineering (IR) Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Contract ends Aug 2012
McAllister Bros Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Contract ends Jan 2012
JBA Consulting	By Invitation Only	4 Year Framework runs to 2014
RPS Consulting Engineers	By Invitation Only	4 Year Framework runs to 2014
AECOM	By Invitation Only	4 Year Framework runs to 2014
Blenheim Systems Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
RPS Consulting Engineers	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
bc plant jcb limited*	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
FGS McClure Watters	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
BC Plant JCB Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
OTT Hydrometry Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Contract end Feb 2013
RPS Consulting Engineers	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
Environmental Techniques Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Contract ends June 2013

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
JBA Consulting	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
STAR-APIC	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
ABP Newry	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Glenfarm Holdings Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
OCS Group UK Ltd T/A: Cannon	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	May-14
W.D. MEATS LTD	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Jun-12
Rural Development Council	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Clogrennane Lime Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Dec-12
Bio-Rad Laboratories Ltd. UK	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Coote's (Concrete Products) Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
ROBINSON QUARRY MASTERS	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
TRACEY CONCRETE LIMITED	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
PricewaterhouseCoopers	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Peter Quinn Consultancy Services Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
BDO STOY HAYWARD	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Cogent Management Consulting LLP	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
FGS McClure Watters	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
KPMG	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Edentrillick and Budore Quarries Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Armagh City Quarries	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Coote's (Concrete Products) Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
Harold Graham Building Contractor & Plant Hire	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Northstone (NI) Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Patrick Bradley Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Peter Fitzpatrick Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
R J MITTEN & SONS	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
ROBINSON QUARRY MASTERS	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
W J & H Crozier	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
loughran rock industries	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Collen Brothers (Quarries)	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Tullyraine Quarries Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	March 2012-13
Goldblatt McGuigan	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Pierce Communications	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
Deloitte	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
Rural Community Network	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Countryside Services Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
PricewaterhouseCoopers	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
Baltic Workboats AS	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
FGS McClure Watters	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
Komatsu Forest	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
DGP	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Mar-12
KPMG	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
Deloitte	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
Deloitte	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
FPM Accountants LLP	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
Mentor Economic Developments Limited	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
BSS	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
Goldblatt McGuigan	By Invitation Only	NICS retendering exercise Jan 2012
Hewlett-Packard Limited - Northern Ireland	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
PricewaterhouseCoopers	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Laboratory Supplies & Instruments Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
VWR International	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Deloitte	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
EXCLAIM	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
JBS Group	By Invitation Only	Not currently being considered for retender
McAvoy Offsite Solutions	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
DD Consultancy Ltd	By Invitation Only	NICS retendering exercise Jan 2012
SureCloud Ltd	By Invitation Only	NICS retendering exercise Jan 2012
RPS Group	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Feb-12
Northgate Managed Services	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
RW Pierce Security Print Solutions Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Apr-14
Salford GIS Limited	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
IT Guarded Ltd	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	NICS retendering exercise Jan 2012
Open Sky Data Systems	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not to be Retendered
Rural Development Council	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Not currently being considered for retender
Pierce	By Invitation Only	Mar-14
FGS McClure Watters	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
BDO STOY HAYWARD	By Invitation Only	Not to be Retendered
Computacenter (UK) Ltd.	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Dec-11
Event Exhibition & Display	Invitation To Tender Open to All Suppliers	Mar-13
Sopra Group	By Invitation Only	NICS retendering exercise Jan 2012
<b>Forest Service Response</b>		
Advanced Parking Solutions.	Invite to Tender	17/08/2015
ELM FORESTRY + LANDSCAPING LTD.	Invite to Tender	Apr-12
L G Hygiene LTD	Invite to Tender	May-12
<b>Veterinary Service Response</b>		
LP Associates	Invited to Tender	After 31 December 2011
CIPFA NI	Invited to Tender	01-Jun-13
<b>Service Delivery Group Response</b>		
William Bell Tractors	Letter to main providers	N/A
Stewarts Commercial	Letter to main providers	Jul-12
ACSR	Letter to main providers	Jul-12
Rural Generation	Letter to main providers (11) plus biomass network	Sep-12
Northern Bio Energy	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
Graham Wilson	Letter to main providers	Sep-13
RD Services	Letter to main providers	Nov-12
Still to be determined	Letter to main providers	Nov-12
Still to be determined	Letter to main providers	Nov-12
Still to be determined	Letter to main providers	N/A
Trafalgar Scientific	Letter to main providers	May-12
Davidson and Hardy Ltd	Letter to main providers	May-12
Premier Scientific	Letter to main providers	May-12
Fannin	Letter to main providers	May-12
Annalab	Letter to main providers	May-12
VWR International	Letter to main providers	May-12
Mason Technology	Letter to main providers	May-12
Ulster Anaesthetics	Letter to main providers	May-12
Focus Scientific	Letter to main providers	May-12

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
Solutions	Letter to main providers	May-12
Premier Scientific	Letter to main providers	May-12
Annalab	Letter to main providers	May-12
Puley Equipment	Letter to main providers	May-12
Lennox Laboratory	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
Lab Supplies	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
Rotronic	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
Instrument UK	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
Embroiderus Ireland	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
Clare-Maria Campbell	Letter to main providers	Apr-12
Anthony Jones	Letter to main providers	Apr-12
A&R Armstrong, P Croft	Letter to main providers	Sep-12
A&R Armstrong	Letter to main providers	N/A
Greenacre Composting	Letter to main providers	Oct-13
Woodbine Skips	Letter to main providers	Dec-12
AtLast! Training Ltd	Letter to main providers	N/A
Total Treecare Co	Letter to main providers	N/A
<b>Central Services Group Response</b>		
Act Now,	Invitations to tender	Dec-12
Mullan Training,	Invitations to tender	Apr-12
SureSkills,	Invitations to tender	Apr-12
SureSkills,	Invitations to tender	Apr-12
BT Training Solutions,	Invitations to tender	Apr-12
Rosepark Training Services,	Invitations to tender	Not to be retendered
Farmdata Ltd	Single Tender Action	Mar-12
SAC Commercial Ltd	Single Tender Action	Mar-12
GMAC	Invitations to tender	Sep-12
Civia	Invitations to tender	Feb-12
EOS	Invitations to tender	Sep-12
JBA Consulting	Single Tender Action	Jun-12
Mapinfo (CDR Group)	Single Tender Action	Apr-12
Capita	Single Tender Action	Mar-15
Novosco	Invitations to tender	Jan-12
QuestMark Ltd	Invitations to tender	Mar-12

<b>Supplier</b>	<b>How was it advertised?</b>	<b>When is it to be retendered?</b>
QuestMark Ltd	Invitations to tender	Mar-12
Regional Services Ltd	Single Tender Action	Mar-12
Geosolutions	Single Tender Action	Feb-12
BSS - Lotus	Invitations to tender	Apr-12
Singularity ISB	Single Tender Action	Aug-11
Star Apic	Single Tender Action	Apr-12
SirsiDyrix	Single Tender Action	Dec-12
ComTag Ltd	Single Tender Action	Mar-12
Mead & Co	Single Tender Action	Dec-11
Inphoactive	Single Tender Action	Apr-12
SPSS	Single Tender Action	Jun-12
Singularity	Single Tender Action	Sep-11
Palisade	Invitations to tender	Jan-12
RMA	Single Tender Action	Sep-12
Steria	Single Tender Action	Mar-12
Northgate	Single Tender Action	Oct-12
CareTower	Invitations to tender	Mar-14
Quest	Invitations to tender	Jun-12
STAR APIC	Single Tender Action	Sep-12
British Telecom	Invitations to tender	May-13
Northgate	Single Tender Action	Mar-12
Comodo	Invitations to tender	Oct-12
Korec	Invitations to tender	Feb-12
Kelway	Invitations to tender	Sep-13
Niavac	Invitations to tender	Mar-12
HP	Invitations to tender	Feb-16
QuestMark Ltd	Invitations to tender	Mar-12
Kelway	Invitations to tender	Mar-12
Satisnet	Invitations to tender	Mar-14
Quest Software	Invitations to tender	Mar-13
Business Scientific Services	Invitations to tender	Nov-12
Access Information Security Ltd	Invitations to tender	Feb-13
Survey Monkey	Invitations to tender	Sep-12
Farmwizard	Invitations to tender	Sep-11

Supplier	How was it advertised?	When is it to be retendered?
<b>Central Policy Group Response</b>		
Seazonen Ltd	Single Tender Action	To be re-evaluated annually, retendered if possible in 3 years
Thistle Marine	Invited to tender/Letter	Oct-15
Richard McLernon	Invited to tender/Letter	Aug-15
VH Electrics	Invited to tender/Letter	Jun-15
Jim Coulter	Invited to tender/Letter	Dec-13
CEFAS	Single Tender Action	Mar-14
<b>Rivers Agency Response</b>		
Met Office	Single Tender Action	2012
UKCMFS	Single Tender Action	2012
Kisters	Single Tender Action	2012
OTT Hydrometry	Single Tender Action	2012
Kisters	Single Tender Action	2012
Environment Agency	Single Tender Action	2012
Environment Agency	Single Tender Action	2012
Wolters Kluwer	Single Tender Action	2012
Wallingford Software Ltd	Single Tender Action	2012
Systems Network	Single Tender Action	2013
STAR-Apic	Single Tender Action	2012
Pentagon	Single Tender Action	2012
CSSP	Single Tender Action	2012
CIVICA	Single Tender Action	2012
CADS	Single Tender Action	2012

## Forestry Grant Scheme

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development how many farmers in the North Down area have (i) applied for; and (ii) received funding under a forestry grant scheme in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 4397/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** In the last three years, 11 new applicants applied to plant trees in this constituency and all received approval. Over the same period, 10 people received payments for planting trees. A yearly breakdown is shown in the table below. The table shows that more people received funding in some years compared with applications approved in that year. This is because an approved application is valid for two years after the date of approval.

Year	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Applications	2	3	6
Received Funding	5	2	3

In addition, there are approximately 15 people who received an annual farm woodland premium payment over this three year period.

### Cost of Air Travel

**Mr McLaughlin** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the total cost incurred by her Department on air travel (i) between Northern Ireland and Heathrow Airport from January to December 2010; and (ii) between Northern Ireland and all airports in Great Britain, excluding Heathrow Airport, from January to December 2010.

**(AQW 4409/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The total cost incurred by officials in my Department on air travel for the period January to December 2010 is as follows:

Heathrow Airport	Other Great Britain Airports	Total
£48,970	£63,623	£112,593

### Rural Support

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for her assessment of the role that Rural Support plays in supporting mental health and wellbeing.

**(AQW 4413/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Rural Support plays an important role in supporting mental health and wellbeing issues amongst the rural community and this is recognised through our ongoing funding commitment to the charity.

The Rural Support provision of a helpline and support service to farming and rural families across the north to help deal with stress, mental ill-health or emotional distress is all the more important given the difficult economic climate. Rural support are working closely with my officials and other statutory and community organisations to ensure that their services are known as widely as possible and I commend all their work.

### Community Based Health Checks in Rural Areas

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, in relation to her Department's proposal to work with the Public Health Agency to roll-out community based health checks in rural areas, (i) whether she has consulted Rural Support; and (ii) if Rural Support will be involved if rural dwellers are to be given advice on a range of health matters, including mental health.

**(AQW 4415/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** DARD officials are currently scoping and developing a number of potential initiatives and schemes as part of the package of interventions to tackle rural poverty and isolation over the current budget period. One such initiative would include community based health checks in rural areas and Rural Support has attended and contributed positively to the steering group established to develop this initiative.

Whilst the initiative is still under development and subject to approvals I can tell you that it is planned that Rural Support will be involved.

## Rural Development Programme

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to specify the machinery which is considered ineligible for the (i) Diversification into Non-Agricultural Activities; (ii) Business Creation and Development; and (iii) Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population elements of the Rural Development Programme.

**(AQW 4433/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Under the Rural Development Programme all machinery can be considered eligible unless it falls into the category of mobile infrastructure or agricultural equipment for example a minibus, quad bike, tractor etc. The exception to this is bespoke designed and built mobile infrastructure that is not available 'off the shelf' for example in a showroom, catalogue, internet or other retail source.

## Flooding: Belcoo

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what steps her Department is taking to prevent a recurrence of the flooding incident on 17 October 2011 in Belcoo, County Fermanagh.

**(AQW 4506/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The flooding incident on 17 October 2011 occurred at the Lattone Road on the outskirts of Belcoo village adjacent to a designated watercourse within the meaning of the Drainage (NI) Order 1973, known to Rivers Agency as the Lurgan River, MW540 and upstream of a road bridge. It is difficult to be definitive about the exact cause of the flooding on 17 October 2011 however exceptionally heavy rainfall at this time may have produced flows which exceeded the capacity of the bridge which was built by DRD Roads Service to the appropriate design standard in 2003. My Rivers Agency inspected the watercourse for any signs of blockages following the flooding but found nothing of any significance. There is a sewage pumping station at this location which may have had an influence on flooding in the area. There is also a small weir just above the bridge if removed, it may improve the venting capacity of the bridge and my Rivers Agency is currently investigating this option. As this is a designated watercourse Rivers Agency will continue to periodically inspect and when required maintain it to ensure the free flow of water.

## Flooding of Farmland in Upper Bann

**Mr Moutray** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what steps her Department is taking to prevent the flooding of farmland in Upper Bann.

**(AQW 4513/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The Upper Bann area has watercourses which are designated under the terms of the Drainage (NI) Order 1973 and for which my Rivers Agency has a maintenance responsibility. Watercourses are categorised as "urban" or "rural". Generally urban open watercourses are inspected and maintained on a yearly basis, while rural watercourses are inspected and maintained at least every six years. If significant weed, bush or tree growth or significant localised accumulations of silt are encountered in watercourses during routine maintenance inspections, consideration is given to their removal in order that a free flow of water in the watercourses can be preserved. Such maintenance works must be carried out in accordance with any relevant environmental legislation. My Rivers Agency also has responsibility for maintaining the level of Lough Neagh within a stipulated control range in so far as climatic conditions allow.

Many undesignated open watercourses are also located in the Upper Bann area and the maintenance responsibility for these rests with the riparian occupiers of the land.

It should be recognised however that it is not possible to prevent all flooding, particularly of farmland which often constitutes the natural floodplain of rivers and watercourses

## Rural Development Programme

**Mr D Bradley** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the total budget allocated for the Rural Development Programme in the (i) North East Cluster; (ii) Assisting Rural Communities North West Cluster; (iii) South West Action Rural Development Cluster; (iv) Southern Organisation for Action in Rural Areas Cluster; (v) Down Rural Area Partnership Cluster; (vi) Grow South Antrim Cluster; and (vii) Lagan Rural Partnership for 2007-2013.

**(AQW 4565/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The total budget allocated by cluster for Axis 3 of the NIRDP 2007-2013 is as follows:

(i)	North East Region	£13,181,300
(ii)	Assisting Rural Communities North West	£18,484,112
(iii)	South West Action Rural Development	£20,522,227
(iv)	Southern Organisation for Action in Rural Areas	£16,731,839
(v)	Down Rural Area Partnership	£13,498,066
(vi)	Grow South Antrim Cluster	£8,890,899
(vii)	Lagan Rural Partnership	£8,691,556

## Rural Development Programme

**Mr D Bradley** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the administrative costs allocated for the Rural Development Programme in the (i) North East Cluster; (ii) Assisting Rural Communities North West Cluster; (iii) South West Action Rural Development Cluster; (iv) Southern Organisation for Action in Rural Areas Cluster; (v) Down Rural Area Partnership Cluster; (vi) Grow South Antrim Cluster; and (vii) Lagan Rural Partnership for 2007-2013.

**(AQW 4568/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Joint Council Committees are permitted to utilise, by way of an administration budget, an amount equivalent to 20% of the funds disbursed on project grants. This means that for every £5 pounds of project spend £1 may be used towards administration. However Joint Council Committees in partnership with their LAGs may, with prudent financial management, assign a lesser percentage to administration and a greater amount to project expenditure.

To date the administration expenditure is as follows:

Cluster	Project Spend	Admin Spend	Equivalent % of Admin against Project spend
(i) NER	£1.94m	£0.87m	44.8
(ii) ARC	£1.79m	£1.26m	70.7
(iii) SWARD	£2.67m	£1.51m	56.7
(iv) SOAR	£1.33m	£0.97m	73.2
(v) DRAP	£1.06m	£0.84m	79.9
(vi) GROW	£1.04m	£0.53m	51.2
(vii) LRP	£0.61m	£0.61m	101.3

## Rural Development Programme

Mr D Bradley asked Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development whether her Department remains committed to the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013; and whether any attempts will be made by her Department to halt any further calls for applications being submitted.

**(AQW 4570/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** I can assure the member that both myself and my Department remain totally committed to the NIRDP 2007-2013. The member will be aware that on 14th June 2011, I gave a commitment to the Agriculture Committee that the NIRDP money would be spent in its entirety and that I would not allow any money to be sent back to Europe. That commitment remains in place today.

I can also confirm that my Department has not halted any further calls for applications being submitted. However, officials are working with each cluster to assist in clearing their backlogs of applications prior to opening. This will help clusters to urgently process some 556 applications worth £34.6m currently awaiting full assessment. It is vitally important to clear this backlog in order to establish an accurate picture of the current commitment.

As Managing Authority for Axis 3, my Department takes its responsibilities seriously and, at times, may instruct council clusters to suspend the opening of calls for applications particularly at times where there are large numbers of applications to clear.

## Development and Promotion of Sports

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the funding her Department has provided for the development and promotion of (i) rugby; (ii) soccer; (iii) Gaelic games; and (iv) motor sports in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 4639/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** My Department has not funded projects where the specific aim is the development and promotion of any sport. Financial support under these terms would not be eligible under DARD rural funding Programmes. However, through Axis 3 of the Rural Development Programme and my Tackling Poverty initiative, some rural community facilities have been funded where sports organisations have acted as the lead project sponsor. These projects were eligible under the respective terms and conditions of these programmes and designed primarily to benefit the wider rural community by affording local people the opportunity to access facilities and undertake a vast range of community activities at suitable venues in their areas.

## Rivers Agency

**Mrs D Kelly** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development whether the Rivers Agency has drawn up a list towns and villages that are at risk of flooding; and if so, to provide a copy of this list.

**(AQW 4678/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Communicating flood risk is a complex topic and it is not a matter of simply drawing up a list of towns and villages that may be at risk. The accepted best practice uses flood maps to identify risk areas. The Strategic Flood Map for the north was jointly launched in November 2008 by my predecessor, Michelle Gildernew and the then Minister of Environment, Minister Wilson. This publically available map shows the areas which may be inundated by a river or tidal flood event.

As a direct response to recent flooding I have also asked my Rivers Agency to include the map layers showing the risk from surface water, that is flooding caused by rainfall which exceeds the capability of the ground or manmade drainage systems, and to update the historical flood outlines. This will be made available to the public during the 2nd week in December.

I also plan to make public the areas of potential significant flood risk as identified by the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, required by the EU Floods Directive, early in the New Year. These areas will

then be subject to further study in order to map the risk in detail which will inform the development of objectives and measures to manage the flood risk.

## Bovine TB

**Mrs Dobson** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development why targets have not been set out within the Programme for Government for the reduction and eradication of Bovine TB.

**(AQW 4721/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** We are now in a good position to eradicate Brucellosis within the timeframe of the draft Programme for Government.

I am also committed to the eradication of TB and I will continue to work towards this end, but eradication will not be achievable within the timeframe of the draft Programme for Government.

We have a rigorous programme for TB eradication in place and considerable progress has been made in reducing TB incidence in cattle here. The annual herd incidence has almost halved from nearly 10% in 2002 to 5.15% at 30 September 2011. The equivalent herd incidence rates are 8.72% in England, 6.58% in Wales and 4.65% in the south. Our TB eradication programme is approved by the EU Commission, which is vital to safeguard our annual £1,000 million plus export-dependent livestock and livestock products industry.

While the progress made in reducing the incidence of TB is encouraging, we continue to seek more effective and efficient ways of reducing transmission of bovine TB from cattle to cattle and between wildlife and cattle. TB is a very complex, multi-factorial and challenging disease that is difficult to eradicate and science still does not know with certainty how the disease is spread between cattle and between wildlife and cattle and what can be done to prevent its spread. There is no simple, cost-effective, solution or 'quick-fix'. If there had been an easy solution, TB would have been eradicated before now.

Additional funding of around £4 million has been allocated in my Department's budget to conduct TB and wildlife research and studies to help ensure we have well informed and evidence based strategies to address the issue of cattle to cattle spread as well as the wildlife issue. We are engaging with industry and wider stakeholders to help us identify and refine our TB evidence needs and priorities.

## Rural Development Programme

**Mr Frew** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, in relation to the Rural Development Programme, to detail (i) how much has been paid out to claimants under each Axis, and parts of the Axis; and (ii) the cost of administering each Axis, and parts of the Axis, to date.

**(AQW 4725/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:**

- (i) Payments to claimants under each Axis of the Rural Development Programme 2007-13 up to 31 October 2011 are listed below.

**Total Axis 1 payments = £14.64m**

Split by measure (parts of Axis):

- 1.1 Vocational Training and Information Actions = £1.5m
- 1.2 Adding Value to Agriculture and Forestry Products Improving Marketing Capability = £5.3m
- 1.3 Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings = £6.73m
- 1.3 Short Rotation Coppice = £0.87m
- 1.4 Supply Chain Development Programme = £0.24m

The above figures exclude delivery agent costs (see part ii).

**Total Axis 2 payments = £240.22m**

Split my measure (parts of Axis):

- 2.1 Less-Favoured Areas Compensatory Allowances = £114.4m
- 2.2 Agri-Environment Programme = £119.5m
- 2.3 Woodland Grant Scheme = £2.43m
- 2.3 Farm Woodland Premium Scheme = £3.89m

**Total Axis 3 payments = £10.003m**

Split by measure (parts of Axis):

- 3.1 Diversification into Non-Agricultural Activities = £3.177m
- 3.2 Support for Business Creation and Development = £3.145m
- 3.3 Encouragement of Tourism Activities = £2.048m
- 3.4 Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population = £1.098m
- 3.5 Village Renewal and Development = £0.448m
- 3.6 Conservation and Upgrading the Rural Heritage = £0.087m

The above figures exclude council clusters' administration costs (see part ii).

- (ii) Administration costs under each Axis of the Rural Development Programme 2007-13 up to 31 October 2011 are listed below. It is to be noted that administration costs are not provided for those measures wholly or partly delivered by DARD as it is not feasible to disaggregate such costs from general DARD administrative expenditure.

**Axis 1 (cash payments to delivery agent) = £2.87m**

Split by measure (parts of Axis):

- 1.1 = £1.37m
- 1.2 = NIL
- 1.3 = £1.1m
- 1.4 = £0.4m

**Axis 2 = NIL****Axis 3 (cash payments to council clusters) = £6.096m**

Administrative costs are not available for individual measures within Axis 3 as such information is not required within the delivery contract.

**Cost of Answering Assembly Questions**

**Mr F McCann** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for an estimate of the average cost to her Department to respond to written and oral Assembly Questions tabled by Jim Allister MLA, since May 2011.

**(AQW 4735/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** It is not possible to provide the information requested as my Department does not routinely estimate the cost of answering Assembly Questions.

## Bovine Tuberculosis

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development how much has been spent on tackling bovine tuberculosis in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4742/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has spent the following amounts on tackling bovine tuberculosis in each of the last 5 years:-

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
£22,758,922	£21,235,717	£23,560,115	£23,047,144	£22,096,909

## Ulster Wildlife Trust

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development how much funding her Department, or its agencies, have awarded to the Ulster Wildlife Trust in each of the last 5 years.

**(AQW 4745/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The table below reflects the amount of funding awarded to the Ulster Wildlife Trust from my Department during the last five (financial) years.

Period	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Funding	£19,230	£30,689	£6,659	£31,927	£18,727

## Bovine TB

**Mr Frew** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, given that one of the key commitments in the Draft Programme for Government is to eradicate Brucellosis in cattle by March 2014, why there are no targets or commitments on the eradication of Bovine TB included in the document.

**(AQW 4799/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** We are now in a good position to eradicate Brucellosis within the timeframe of the draft Programme for Government.

I am also committed to the eradication of TB and I will continue to work towards this end, but eradication will not be achievable within the timeframe of the draft Programme for Government.

We have a rigorous programme for TB eradication in place and considerable progress has been made in reducing TB incidence in cattle here. The annual herd incidence has almost halved from nearly 10% in 2002 to 5.15% at 30 September 2011. The equivalent herd incidence rates are 8.72% in England, 6.58% in Wales and 4.65% in the south. Our TB eradication programme is approved by the EU Commission, which is vital to safeguard our annual £1,000 million plus export-dependent livestock and livestock products industry.

While the progress made in reducing the incidence of TB is encouraging, we continue to seek more effective and efficient ways of reducing transmission of bovine TB from cattle to cattle and between wildlife and cattle. TB is a very complex, multi-factorial and challenging disease that is difficult to eradicate and science still does not know with certainty how the disease is spread between cattle and between wildlife and cattle and what can be done to prevent its spread. There is no simple, cost-effective, solution or 'quick-fix'. If there had been an easy solution, TB would have been eradicated before now.

Additional funding of around £4 million has been allocated in my Department's budget to conduct TB and wildlife research and studies to help ensure we have well informed and evidence based strategies to address the issue of cattle to cattle spread as well as the wildlife issue. We are engaging with industry and wider stakeholders to help us identify and refine our TB evidence needs and priorities.

## Veterinary Surgeons: Herd Tests

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development how much her Department has paid to veterinary surgeons for conducting herd tests in each of the last three years, broken down by constituency; and how many veterinary surgeons conducted herd tests during this period.

**(AQW 4802/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** This information is not available by constituency but has been broken down by Divisional Veterinary Office (DVO). The information provided below relates to bovine tuberculosis tests carried out by Private Veterinary Practitioners (PVP) in each of the last 3 years:-

<b>DVO</b>	<b>2008/09 (£)</b>	<b>2009/10 (£)</b>	<b>2010/11 (£)</b>
Armagh	646,358.15	650,144.62	642,686.84
Ballymena	393,480.25	426,544.70	424,219.01
Coleraine	705,901.87	729,819.74	810,578.18
Dungannon	643,576.28	611,668.03	648,135.51
Enniskillen	737,896.00	712,400.44	714,749.38
Mallusk (previously Larne)	459,915.54	511,587.43	540,695.22
Londonderry	224,143.17	222,147.26	234,486.76
Newry	1,095,607.68	1,236,230.67	1,064,713.23
Newtownards	529,765.39	540,590.47	657,270.45
Omagh	807,860.33	759,998.49	741,674.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,244,504.66</b>	<b>6,401,131.85</b>	<b>6,479,209.08</b>
Number of PVPs	329	340	333

## Bovine Tuberculosis

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what her Department is doing to combat Bovine Tuberculosis.

**(AQW 4806/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** We have a rigorous programme for TB eradication in place. We have achieved EU Commission approval for this programme for 2010 and 2011 and formal approval for our 2012 programme is expected in the near future. This eradication programme is vital in safeguarding our annual £1,000 million plus export-dependent livestock and livestock products industry. Having EU Commission approval also enables DARD to draw down €5 million co-funding from Europe for 2010 and €4 million co-funding for 2011 to offset a proportion of the costs of the programme.

I am pleased that considerable progress has been made in reducing TB incidence in cattle here. The annual herd incidence has almost halved from nearly 10% in 2002 to 5.15% at 30 September 2011. The equivalent herd incidence rates are 8.72% in England, 6.58% in Wales and 4.65% in the south. My aim is to reduce and ultimately eradicate TB in cattle here and I will continue to work towards this end.

Considerable work has been undertaken to enhance the TB eradication programme in recent years. We now remove as reactors those animals that give an inconclusive result to a second consecutive TB test rather than after a third test as before. We have improved communications with Private Veterinary Practitioners and strengthened the supervision process. We have improved DARD's own delivery of TB testing through monitoring Key Performance Indicators. We also use DNA identity tags on reactors to help reduce reactor identity queries, substitution fraud and associated disease risks.

While the progress made in reducing the incidence of TB is encouraging, we continue to seek more effective and efficient ways of reducing transmission of bovine TB from cattle to cattle and between wildlife and cattle. TB is a very complex, multi-factorial and challenging disease that is difficult to eradicate and science still does not know with certainty how the disease is spread between cattle and between wildlife and cattle and what can be done to prevent its spread. There is no simple, cost-effective, solution or 'quick-fix'. If there had been an easy solution, TB would have been eradicated before now.

Additional funding of around £4 million has been allocated in my Department's budget to conduct TB and wildlife research and studies to help ensure we have well informed and evidence based strategies to address the issue of cattle to cattle spread as well as the wildlife issue. We are engaging with industry and wider stakeholders to help us identify and refine our TB evidence needs and priorities.

### Cost of Tree Planting

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the cost to her Department of (i) planting trees; and (ii) providing grants to other parties to plant trees, in each of the last three years. **(AQW 4839/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** My Department's Forest Service spent the following on planting trees over the last three financial years:

2009/10	2010/11	2011/2012 year to date
£1.1m	£1.1m	£0.48m

The following grant assistance was provided by Forest Service to private landowners during these years:

2009/10	2010/11	2011/2012
£1.4m	£1.6m	£0.55m

Also, planting native trees is one of many habitat management options that can be undertaken by agri-environment scheme participants. My Department holds records, by calendar year, of the area of native trees planted for which a management payment was made. Using this information I have provided an estimate of the total annual management payments made to scheme participants for each of the last three calendar years as follows:

2008	2009	2010
£0.68m	£0.69m	£0.69m

### Destruction of Trees by Ivy

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what financial incentives her Department has in place to encourage the removal of ivy from trees where the ivy is a threat to the trees.

**(AQW 4840/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Ivy is important for wildlife particularly insects, bats and birds. It provides shelter and berries for food in winter and also provides nesting and roosting sites in the spring and summer. Except for health and safety reasons it should be left untouched. Ivy is not usually a threat to trees and therefore my Department does not have any policies in place to address the destruction of trees by ivy, does not have any plans to carry out a survey of the number of trees that are under threat of destruction by ivy growth and does not offer financial incentives to remove ivy from trees.

## Destruction of Trees by Ivy

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what plans are in place to carry out a survey of the number of trees that are under threat of destruction from ivy.

**(AQW 4841/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** I refer the member to AQW 4840/11-15.

## Destruction of Trees by Ivy

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what policies her Department has in place to address the destruction of trees by ivy.

**(AQW 4842/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** I refer the member to AQW 4840/11-15.

## Tree Planting Campaigns

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development how much her Department has spent on tree planting campaigns in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 4843/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** My Department's Forest Service has spent the following on providing grants for tree planting in each of the last three financial years:

2009/10	2010/11	2011/12 year to date
£1.4m	£1.6m	£0.55m

Also, my Department holds records, by calendar year, of the area of native trees planted for which a management payment was made to agri-environment scheme participants. The estimated total annual management payments made to scheme participants for each of the last three calendar years is as follows:

2008	2009	2010
£0.68m	£0.69m	£0.69m

Tree planting has been promoted by: Forest Service and Countryside Management staff visiting landowners, DARD press releases, Balmoral Show, a targeted leaflet drop, and meetings with Councils, Government Agencies, and non-government organisations.

## Horse Mussel Beds in Strangford Lough

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what steps her Department has taken to protect and restore the horse mussel beds in Strangford Lough since 2007.

**(AQW 4857/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** This Department initially took action in 1993 to protect mussel beds introducing measures to remove fishing activity over such habitat through the Inshore Fishing Prohibition Regulations (NI) 1993, and acted to introduce a total prohibition on all mobile fishing gear in the lough since 2003 by an amendment to that Regulation. The Department maintains protection from collateral damage by divers through retention of the original 1993 prohibition on scallop diving north of Danes Rock. The Department has provided 50 % funding of The Modiolus Restoration Research project at a total cost of £1m between 2008 and 2011, receiving the final report of that project in May 2011. In 2010 the Department contracted AFBINI to conduct an appropriate assessment of the impacts of pot fishing on horse mussels which concluded that there was little effect, however in March 2011 the Department

introduced two non-fishing zones over approximately 300 Hectares of mussel beds through The Strangford Lough (Sea Fisheries Exclusion Zones) Regulations (NI) 2011.

### **Horse Mussel Beds in Strangford Lough**

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what plans her Department has to protect and restore the horse mussel beds in Strangford Lough.

**(AQW 4859/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The Department has co-funded the Modiolus Restoration Research project conducted by QUB since 2008 and has taken delivery of the final report and recommendations in May 2011. Officials have noted the recommendations and together with colleagues in the NIEA are currently drafting a revised Modiolus restoration plan to take matters forward. I expect to be in a position to announce the content of that plan in the near future.

### **Farm Modernisation Programme**

**Mr Frew** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what changes were made to the Rural Development Programme to provide additional funding for a further tranche of the Farm Modernisation Programme.

**(AQW 4871/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Changes to the Rural Development Programme, in response to the British Government spending review were approved by the European Commission on 19 October 2011. These changes included adjusting the Axis 2 co-financing rates to the maximum EU contribution permissible, increasing the allocation to the Less Favoured Areas scheme, reducing the allocations for agri-environment and forestry measures and taking account of exchange rate movements since the programme was approved in 2007. As a result of these changes additional funding was also added to the information and training measure and the modernisation of agricultural holdings measure, which includes the Farm Modernisation Programme.

### **Northern Ireland Lamb**

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to outline the differences between the quality assurance and traceability of Northern Ireland lamb and lamb from the Republic of Ireland.

**(AQW 4945/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** In the north, quality assurance of lamb is provided for via the NI Farm Quality Assurance Scheme (NIFQAS). The scheme is owned by the Livestock and Meat Commission (LMC) and is funded by way of a voluntary industry levy. In the south, it is the Lamb Quality Assurance Scheme (LQAS) which is also an industry funded scheme, provided through Bord Bia.

In relation to differences between these quality assurance schemes, the NIFQAS requires lambs to have adhered to a 60 consecutive day residency period on quality assured farm/farms prior to slaughter, while LQAS requires lambs to have adhered to a 42 day residency period.

There is also some variation between the schemes' certification requirements and also between standards with regards to environmental care aspects and animal traceability, identification and records.

While there are some differences between both schemes, it should be noted that the principles behind both quality assurance schemes are the same, with both setting out requirements for best practice in beef and lamb production. Both schemes are also accredited to EN45011, which is the standard for the European accreditation of bodies who are involved in certification of the various scheme requirements.

The traceability of live sheep, both here and in the south, is based on Council Regulation (EC) 21/2004. The systems are based on the principle of individual traceability and include: identification of animals on the holding of birth, a register on each holding, a movement document for each movement, and a central database of all holdings and sheep movements.

The main differences are (1) all sheep here must bear two identical identifiers including an electronic device before they are moved off the holding of birth, while the south operate a derogation whereby lambs can be moved to slaughter bearing a single conventional tag; and (2) when sheep are moved here all identifiers are read electronically and recorded on the keeper's behalf by a Central Point of Recording (for example, a market or meat plant), while in the south identification numbers are recorded by the keeper.

## **Funding Applications**

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development why Local Action Groups, Joint Council Committees and the Rural Development Programme are no longer calling for funding applications.

**(AQW 4959/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** I can confirm that my Department has not halted any further calls for applications being submitted. Officials are working with each cluster to assist in clearing their backlogs of applications prior to opening for new applications. This has resulted in the clearance of just over £2m of applications in the past 2 weeks and I can confirm that to date 2 clusters have cleared their backlogs to the point where they can now open again for applications. There are some 556 applications worth £34.6m currently awaiting full assessment. It is vitally important to clear this backlog in order to establish an accurate picture of the current commitment.

As Managing Authority for Axis 3, my Department takes its responsibilities seriously and, at times, may ask council clusters to suspend the opening of calls for applications particularly at times where there are large numbers of applications to clear.

## **Strategic Plan for the Agri-Foods Sector**

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what work has taken place on the development of a strategic plan for the agri-foods sector, and to what effect; and when this strategy will be published.

**(AQW 4991/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The Focus on Food Strategy was published in June 2010. It was developed in conjunction with the Industry Advisory Panel and Invest NI. These arrangements have also given the industry unprecedented access to government ensuring that policy development meets the needs of the industry. A number of actions have been taken forward within the various sub groups which were established under the strategy, for example the recent Innovation Stakeholder event which I opened at Loughry campus.

Focus on Food provides a good foundation for the next phase of work, which is to develop this into a longer-term strategy up to 2020. In line with the findings of an independent review of the agri-food support structures, DARD and DETI/Invest NI are now in the process of establishing a Food Strategy Board whose role will be to develop this strategic plan.

The appointment of the Food Strategy Board independent chairperson is in progress and it is intended that the Board will become operational in the New Year. Given that these structures are not yet in place, it is not possible for me to indicate when the new strategic plan will be published. However, I do see this as an important piece of work and will want to meet with the FSB on its appointment so that this work commences without delay.

I look forward to working with the FSB and Executive colleagues in doing what I can do help the industry plan and implement its growth strategy, reflecting the economic performance of the food industry here.

## Food Strategy Board

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the budget available for the (i) formation; and (ii) year-on-year operation of the Food Strategy Board.

**(AQW 5028/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** In relation to the formation of the Food Strategy Board, the anticipated budget is approximately £5,000. This represents the cost incurred of recruiting an independent chair. This cost will be split equally between DARD and Invest NI.

In relation to the year-on-year operation of the Board, the Chair will receive an honorarium of £500 per day for approximately 5 days per month (up to 60 days per annum). This cost will also be split equally between DARD and Invest NI, while Board members shall be unpaid positions.

## Food Strategy Board

**Mrs Dobson** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the extent and nature of the industry engagement and involvement during the process of formulating proposals for a Food Strategy Board.

**(AQW 5041/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** Support arrangements for policy development for the agri-food industry are currently comprised of an Inter-Departmental Group (IDG) and an Industry Advisory Panel (IAP) made up of key industry stakeholders.

With the agreement of the IAP, my predecessor and the DETI Minister commissioned an independent review of these structures which recommended the establishment of a body which would bring together agri-food industry and Government representatives. The IAP was represented on the project management board of the review and the findings and recommendations of the report were presented to, and agreed by, the IAP.

We continue to keep the IAP fully informed of progress with regard to the establishment of the Food Strategy Board structures and I would like to pay tribute to the industry representatives for their commitment during this process and for working with us in the best interests of the sector.

I very much look forward to continuing to work constructively with the industry in helping to develop a longer-term strategy for its continued growth through the work of the Food Strategy Board.

## Bee Population

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the impact of colony collapse on the bee population; and whether her Department has directed any resources to address this issue.

**(AQW 5047/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** There is no evidence that Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) is present in the north of Ireland, the island of Ireland or GB. My Department's inspectors check managed bees for notifiable diseases and pests, and any unusual colony losses are investigated to try to ascertain the cause. As there is no evidence of CCD here, no current resources are directed to address this specific issue. However, locally, through the implementation of the Strategy for the Sustainability of the Honey Bee, beekeepers and officials are working in partnership to protect and improve the health of honey bees and this will include consideration of all issues affecting bees and beekeepers.

## Animal Welfare Regulations

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development how many convictions have been secured against farmers for failing to adhere to animal welfare regulations in each of the last four years.

**(AQW 5055/11-15)**

Mrs O'Neill:

Dates of Conviction	Number of persons convicted	Number of offences
25/11/2007-24/11/2008	10	43
25/11/2008-24/11/2009	8	23
25/11/2009-24/11/2010	13	56
25/11/2010-25/11/2011	6	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>142</b>

## Maximising Access to and Uptake of Grants, Benefits and Services

**Mr Brady** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for an analysis of the Maximising Access to Benefits Scheme and whether she intends to continue this scheme.

**(AQO 844/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The Maximising Access project facilitates a cross-departmental co-ordinated service to maximise access to benefits, grants and local services to support rural dwellers living in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion. Using grassroots information the project sought to identify the most vulnerable rural households in each of the targeted super output areas. Trained enablers visited the households, completed a detailed household and personal questionnaire and provided a range of information to occupants regarding locally available services. From the information gathered householders were in turn referred to various agencies and departments and provided with follow-up support to assist in accessing the grant, benefit or service that they were entitled to.

It is clear to me that this has been a very successful scheme in delivering on the primary aim of assisting our most vulnerable rural households but also as an example of statutory and community coming together in partnership to maximise impact. The independent evaluation of this first phase of the scheme strongly supports this assessment. Following this and the completion of a positive business case I have agreed the continuation of the scheme over the current budget period. Officials are working with the Public Health Agency to roll out the newly named Maximising Access in Rural Areas (MARA) project, encompassing the learning to date.

## Rural Crime

**Mr B McCrea** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what advice she is providing to farmers on combating the recent increase in rural crime.

**(AQO 846/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** I understand the difficulties increasing levels of crime causes for rural communities and sympathise with them. However, the remit of DARD does not include responsibility for providing advice to farmers or the wider rural community on how to combat crime. While this responsibility rests with the Department of Justice, I would encourage farmers to participate in local initiatives by Community Safety Partnerships to prevent rural crime. I am aware of a number of local initiatives that have been taken forward by the Police Service of NI (PSNI). I believe these have worked well and have been well received by local communities. My Department has also worked closely with officials from the Department of Justice, to ensure that appropriate actions to address rural crime, have been included in the Rural White Paper.

I have also asked for a meeting with the Department of Justice and the PSNI and I am aware that the PSNI are working closely with An Garda Síochána in dealing with crime that impacts on rural communities in the border areas.

## Flooding

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, in light of the recent serious flooding incidents, what plans she is putting in place to allow the Rivers Agency to be more proactive in informing people, who own property on, or near, a flood plain, when there is an increased risk of flooding.

**(AQO 847/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** As a direct response to the recent flood events, which highlighted to me the potential for nature to impact on people's lives, I have asked my Rivers Agency to update the strategic flood map. This is to make as much up to date information available to the public as possible, and to ensure the data covers the risks from rivers, the sea and surface water, as well as showing those areas for which historical flood information has been collated. I am pleased to announce that it is my intention to make this information available from the second week in December on the Departmental Website.

This builds on the Strategic Flood Map (NI) – Rivers and the Sea which was jointly launched by my predecessor Michelle Gildernew and the then Minister of the Environment Mr Wilson in November 2008.

In addition I have also asked that Rivers Agency review the other information they have available to identify opportunities which could provide early alerts of any developing flood situation.

## Brucellosis

**Mr Molloy** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development what progress is being made in reducing the incidences of brucellosis.

**(AQO 848/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** I am pleased to state that the confirmed herd incidence rate for brucellosis here is down to 0.044% at 31 July 2011.

This is a remarkable achievement. Indeed this figure may well have been much lower had it not been for 2 infection hot-spots developing in 2010, which were attributable in part to suspected reckless or fraudulent activities by some herdkeepers.

Eradication of brucellosis by 2014, which is one of our objectives in the draft Programme for Government, will subsequently allow us to seek EU Officially Brucellosis Free (OBF) status.

Achieving OBF status will benefit farmers from anticipated reductions in the level of routine and pre-movement testing, which represents a £7 million per year compliance cost for farmers.

It is necessary for farmers to continue to observe good biosecurity practices and report any abortions in their cattle to DARD veterinarians.

## Common Agricultural Policy: Greening

**Mr Elliott** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for her assessment of the greening element in the European Commission's proposals for the Common Agricultural Policy.

**(AQO 849/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** First of all, I should point out that I totally agree that, the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) must deliver for the environment as well as supporting farm incomes. Indeed it already does so through Cross Compliance and our Agri-Environment Schemes. The main difficulty from the greening proposals stems from the fact that they are intended to be common across the EU. But agricultural practices and land use varies greatly from region to region. The greening proposals are aimed at the arable sector but in the north of Ireland, the arable sector is relatively small. The impact is likely to be that arable production will shrink further, creating a move towards a grass monoculture which would be undesirable from an environmental point of view. Some of the greening proposals such as the requirement to retain permanent grassland will unnecessarily restrict farmers in their ability to shape their business according to market needs and thereby have an adverse impact on agricultural competitiveness.

Another concern is that there will be a significant administrative burden both for farmers and the Department in implementing these measures.

To sum up, I am not against a CAP that delivers for the environment, but the greening proposals need considerable work to ensure that they actually deliver environmental benefits, do not hinder the development of a competitive agricultural industry and can be implemented without disproportionate cost.

## Comber Potatoes

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development for her assessment of whether the Comber Potato will be granted Protected Geographical Indication this year by the European Commission.

**(AQO 850/11-15)**

**Mrs O'Neill:** The Potato Stakeholder Forum's application to register "New Season Comber Potatoes/Comber Earlies" as a Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) was published on the EC's official journal on 14 May 2011 to allow other Member States and third countries to comment on the application. If no comments/objections are received then "New Season Comber Potatoes/Comber Earlies" will be registered as a PGI.

You will appreciate that the timescale for the process of granting registration is entirely a matter for the Commission, however, I hope that in the coming months, "New Season Comber Potatoes/Comber Earlies" will become the North's second successful PGI.

## Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

### Public Contracts

**Mr McCartney** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to list all the current public contracts within her Department, including to whom each contract was awarded; how the contracts were advertised; and when each contract is next due for tender.

**(AQW 4213/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín (The Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure):** The table below provides a list of all current public contracts within DCAL, including to whom each contract was awarded, how the contracts were advertised and when each contract is due for tender.

Current Public Contract	To whom Contract was awarded	How Contract was Advertised	When is Contract next due for Tender
NICS Irish translation service	Central Translations	CPD's website, Belfast Telegraph, Irish News and Newsletter	July 2013
Legal Fees for Enforcement court cases	Murnaghan & Fee Solicitors	eSourcingNI portal. Open to All Suppliers	July 2014
Indigenous Erne Trout Fry	EMEC	Specialised Provider Approached	March 2014
Movanagher Hatchery	R J McKelvey (Castlederg) and H & J Martin	CPD Call Off List	No renewal at contract end
Derry Live Site	Derry City Council	Specialised Provider Approached	No renewal at contract end

<b>Current Public Contract</b>	<b>To whom Contract was awarded</b>	<b>How Contract was Advertised</b>	<b>When is Contract next due for Tender</b>
Photocopier Rental/ Office Machinery Rental	Xerox	eSourcingNI portal -Invitation Only	3 years per piece of equipment
Facilities Management	Aramark/Vector FM	eSourcingNI portal -open to All Suppliers	July 2015
Estate Agency Services iro sale of former PRONI site at Balmoral Avenue.	Hampton Estates.	Contract awarded by LPS.	No renewal at contract end
Chroma Map Scanner Support contract	Digiscan Ltd	Specialised Provider Approached	October 2014
PRONI Public catalogue hardware	TCS Solutions Ltd	eSourcingNI portal -open to All Suppliers	August 2015
PCP software support	CADAN Solutions Ltd	eSourcingNI portal -Invitation Only	Contract awarded in January 2009 for three years with options to extend for two further one year periods
Street Directories hosting, licence maintenance and support	Aetopia Ltd	Specialised Provider Approached	Replacement contract currently being tendered
CALM software support	Axiell Ltd	CPD Call Off List	March 2013
Exhibition	Tandem Design	eSourcingNI portal -Invitation Only	No renewal at contract end
Archival Storage	Oasis Group (McConnell Archive Storage)	CPD Call Off List	Contract awarded to August 2014, with an option to extend for two further periods of 5 years each
N.I. Web Archiving Project	The National Archives/ Internet Memory Foundation	Specialised Provider Approached	December 2011
Microfilm camera and processor maintenance:  Maple 3000 Microfilm Processor s/n 974040 & ICAM 35mm Microfilm Camera s/n 208	ICAM Archive Systems	CPD Call Off List	March 2013
Titanic Quarter Exhibition Display Case	Click Netherfield Ltd	eSourcingNI portal -Invitation Only	No renewal at contract end

<b>Current Public Contract</b>	<b>To whom Contract was awarded</b>	<b>How Contract was Advertised</b>	<b>When is Contract next due for Tender</b>
Supply and Maintenance of Microfilm Readers	Digital Imaging Services	eSourcingNI portal -open to All Suppliers	March 2014
Supply of Titanic Quarter Exhibition Boards / Panels	MBA Great Britain	eSourcingNI portal -Invitation Only	No renewal at contract end
Lough Erne Trout Fishery Enhancement Contract	Erne & Melvin Enhancement Company	eSourcingNI portal -Invitation Only	No renewal at contract end

## Irish Language Act

**Mr Moutray** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure whether the introduction of an Irish Language Act would require cross-community support.

**(AQW 4514/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** The St Andrews Agreement of October 2006 committed the UK Government to: introduce an Irish Language Act based on the experience of Wales and Ireland; and to work with the incoming Executive to enhance and protect the development of the Irish language.

I am keen to ensure that the appeal of the Irish language is broadened to include all groups in the North. I am hopeful that through meaningful and extensive stakeholder engagement about the proposals that those who are unconvinced by the need for legislation may be persuaded.

## Líofa 2015

**Mr S Anderson** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure, pursuant to AQW 3403/11-15, to outline the methodology by which she determined that some people have sought to portray the promotion of the Gaelic culture and the Irish language as the preserve of one section of the community.

**(AQW 4520/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** As previously stated I am aware that there are differing viewpoints in relation to the Irish language across the North. I am keen to broaden the appeal of Irish and ensure that it is seen as part of our shared cultural heritage. The opportunity to learn the language is open to everyone.

I hope that the Líofa campaign and future Irish language initiatives will illustrate the benefits and opportunities that learning the Irish language can bring to everyone in our society.

## Funding from the National Lottery

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure whether there are any opportunities for her Department to draw on funding from the National Lottery to create new community sports and play facilities.

**(AQW 4731/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** Under current legislation Lottery Distributors are wholly responsible for the development of Lottery Programmes and the funding of projects. My Department's role is to set broad policy directions within which programmes are developed and the Department cannot therefore directly prescribe that a specific programme is created for new community and play facilities.

## Public Appointments

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to list the public appointments both she and her predecessor have made since May 2007.

**(AQW 4749/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** The names, position and date of appointment of the individuals appointed to Public Bodies under the remit of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure since May 2007 are listed per body in Annex A attached.

Please note, the Fisheries Conservancy Board was abolished on 31st May 2009 and the functions were transferred into the Department.

### ANNEX A

Public Body	Individual/Position (Appointment Date )
Armagh Observatory and Planetarium - Board of Governors	Mr William Gregory Hamilton Berry – Member ( 01/01/11)
Armagh Observatory and Planetarium - Management Committee	Mr Eamonn Peter Donnelly – Member (01/11/08)
	Councillor James Ignatius Shields – Member (01/11/08)
	Mr Alastair Peoples – Member (01/11/08)
	Mrs Primrose Eileen Wilson – Member (01/11/08)
	Dr Áine Downey – Member (01/07/08)
	Mrs Sue Hogg – Member (01/07/08)
	Dr Michael McKay – Member (01/01/11)
	Mr Richard Brett Hannam – Member (01/01/11)
Arts Council NI	Mrs Rosemary Kelly – Chair (01/07/07)
	Mrs Eithne Benson – Member (01/07/07)
	Mrs Katherine Bond – Member (01/07/07)
	Mrs Lucia Finnegan – Member (01/07/07)
	Mr Anthony Kennedy – Member (01/07/07)
	Mr William H C Montgomery – Member (01/07/07)
	Ms Sharon O'Connor – Member (01/07/07)
	Mr Peter Spratt – Member (01/07/07)
	Mr Raymond Fullerton – Member (01/07/07)
	Mr Damien Coyle – Vice-Chair (01/12/07)
	Professor Paul Seawright – Member (01/12/07)
	Mr Joseph Rice – Member (01/12/07)
	Mr David Irvine – Member (01/12/07)
	Mr Brian Sore – Member (01/12/07)
	Mrs Janine Walker – Member (01/12/07)

Public Body	Individual/Position (Appointment Date )
	Professor Ian Montgomery – Member (09/04/08)
Fisheries Conservancy Board	Dr Robert Hanna – Chair (01/01/08)
	Mr Mick Cory – Member (01/01/08)
	Ms Hazel Campbell – Member (01/09/08)
	Rev OP Kennedy – Member (14/10/08)
	Mr Edward Montgomery – Member (01/10/08)
	Mr David Cowan – Member (01/12/08)
	Mr Robbie Marshall – Member (15/12/08)
National Museums NI	Miss Linda Beers – Member (01/07/08)
	LT Colonel (Rtd) Reginald Harvey Bicker – Member (01/07/08)
	Dame Geraldine Keegan – Member (01/07/08)
	Mrs Wendy Osborne – Member (01/07/08)
	Mr Thomas Shaw – Member (01/07/08) – Vice-Chair (13/02/09)
	Dr Alastair Walker – Member (01/07/08)
	Mr James Neil Bodger – Member (01/07/08)
	Mr Pat Carvill – Member (01/07/08)
	Mr Joe Kelly – Member – Member (01/07/08)
	Dr John Richard Browne McMinn – Member (01/07/08)
	Mr John David William Moore (01/07/08)
	Ms Margaret Anne Peoples – Member (01/07/08)
	Dr Brian Scott – Member (01/07/08)
	Mr Daniel Harvey – Member (01/07/08) Chair (01/01/09)
NI Library Authority	Dr D S Elliott – Chair (01/12/08)
	Mr Patrick Carvill – Member (01/04/09)
	Mr Alastair James McDowell OBE – Member (01/04/09)
	Ms Jane Roberta Williams – Member (01/04/09)
	Councillor Hubert Nicholl – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Councillor Ms Evelyne Robinson – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Councillor Jim Rodgers – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Councillor Patrick Cathal Mullaghan – Member (01/08/09)

Public Body	Individual/Position (Appointment Date )
	Councillor Ms Carla Lockhart – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Councillor Samuel Cole – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Councillor Allan Ewart – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointment (28/06/11)
	Councillor Mrs Anne Brolly – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointment (28/06/11)
	Councillor Charlie Casey – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Councillor Mrs Roberta Dunlop – Member (01/08/09)
	Councillor James Ignatius Shields – Member (01/08/09) – Reappointed (28/06/11)
	Mr David Roger Dixon, MBE – Member (01/10/09)
	Mr Nigel S Macartney – Member (01/10/09)
	Ms Angela Matthews – Member (01/10/09)
	Ms Helen Elizabeth Roulston – Member (01/10/09)
NI Screen Commission	Mr Richard ( Rick ) Hill – Vice Chair (01/01/08) Chair (01/01/09)
	Mr Phillip Morrow – Member (01/09/07)
	Ms Mairead Regan – Member (01/09/07)
	Ms Maria McCann – Member (01/09/07)
	Mr Terry Loane – Member (01/09/07)
	Dr Roger Austin – Member (01/09/07)
	Mr Peter Quinn – Member (01/09/07)
	Mr Tim McKane – Member (01/01/08)
	Ms Ruth Helene McCance – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr James Michael Penny – Member (01/01/08)
	Ms Anne Therese Cormican – Member (01/01/08)
	Ms Kate Smith – Member (01/01/08)
	Dr Maurice Hayes – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Brian McMahon – Vice-Chair (01/04/10)
Sport NI	Mr Dominic Walsh Vice Chair (01/01/08) Chair (01/08/08)
	Dr Olive Brown – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Murray Cowan – Member (01/01/08)

<b>Public Body</b>	<b>Individual/Position (Appointment Date )</b>
	Mr John D'Arcy – Member (01/01/08)
	Ms Una Duncan – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Barry Macaulay – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Brian McCargo – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Hugh McCaughey – Member (01/01/08)
	Ms Maura Muldoon – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Danny O'Connor – Member (01/01/08)
	Councillor Jim Rodgers – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Alan Strong – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Patrick Turnbull – Member (01/01/08)
	Mr Alan Moneypenny - Member (01/01/08) Vice Chair (01/10/09)
Architecture & the Built Environment – Ministerial Advisory Group	Mr Arthur Acheson – Member (01/09/07) – Chair (01/09/10)
	Mr James Donnelly – Member (01/09/10)
	Mr Andrew Gault – Member (01/09/07) – Reappointed (01/09/10)
	Mr Gerard Lynch – Member (01/09/07)
	Mr Ian McKnight – Member (01/09/07) – Reappointed (01/09/10)
	Mr Marcus Patton – Member (01/09/07) – Reappointed (01/09/10)
	Mr Wesley Strong – Member (01/09/07) – Reappointed (01/09/10)
	Mrs Diana Fitzsimons – Member (01/09/10)
	Ms Emily Smyth – Member (01/09/07) – Reappointed (01/09/10)
	Prof Hisham Elkadi – Member (01/07/08)
	Prof Barrie Todd – Chair (01/09/07)
	Prof Tom Woolley – Member (01/09/07) – Reappointed (01/09/10)
Ministerial Advisory Group for the Ulster Scots Academy	Mr Iain Carlisle – Member (24/03/11)
	Mr John Erskine – Member (24/03/11)
	Mr Alister John McReynolds – Member (24/03/11)
	Mr Tom Scott – Member (24/03/11)
	Dr Caroline Baraniuk – Member (24/03/11)

Public Body	Individual/Position (Appointment Date )
	Dr Ivan Herbison – Member (24/03/11)
	Dr David Hume – Member (24/03/11)
	Dr John McCavitt – Member (24/03/11)
	Dr William Beattie Smith – Chair (24/03/11)
World Police & Fire Games Ltd 2013	Mr Peter Craig – Member (28/02/11)
	Mr Edgar Jardine – Member (28/02/11)
	Mr Brian McCargo – Member (28/02/11)
	Mr Duncan McCausland – Chair (28/02/11)
	Mr Max Murray – Member (28/02/11)
	Mr Michael Murray – Member (28/02/11)
	Mr Dominic Walsh – Member (28/02/11)
	Mrs Kathryn Thompson – Member (28/02/11)
	Cllr Pat McCarthy – Member (28/02/11)
	Cllr Gavin Robinson – Member (28/02/11)
	Ms Cynthia Smith – Member (30/05/11)
	Mr William Humphrey – Member (01/06/11)
	Mr Alistair Finlay – Member (01/06/11)
	Ms Judith Gillespie – Chair (26/09/11)
	Ms Cathy Gallagher – Member (01/11/11)
	Mr Adam Newton – Member (10/11/11)

## Erne Eel Fishery

**Mr Lynch** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure, given that other EU fisheries, including Lough Neagh, are re-stocking with elver eels, why the Erne Eel Fishery has not been allowed to re-stock with elver eels; and how this situation can be resolved.

**(AQW 4867/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** DCAL works with the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) to operate a trap and truck policy to overcome high levels of glass eel mortality caused by the turbines at the hydro electric station at Ballyshannon. The trapped glass eels are released throughout Upper and Lower Lough Erne, where they have the opportunity to grow and mature. When mature they are trapped again for transporting around the dams to contribute to spawner escapement to sea.

The European Commission would not have approved the North West Eel Management Plan if it had involved the stocking of the rapidly dwindling European glass eel resource into Lough Erne, as there are two dams forming significant barriers to their escapement as mature adults.

There are no significant barriers to migration of eels through the Lower Bann system to and from Lough Neagh.

## Lough Erne: Eel Fishing

**Mr Lynch** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure why Lough Erne is currently closed to fishing for eels.

**(AQW 4868/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** The North West Eel Management Plan (NWEMP) was approved by the European Commission on 4 March 2010. The NWEMP stipulated that the eel fishery on Lough Erne must demonstrate at least 40% escapement of sexually mature silver eels to spawn at sea. Escapement data confirmed that this figure was not being met and consequently the eel fishery in Lough Erne had to be closed in 2010.

Failure to comply with the requirements of the North West Eel Management Plan could result in infraction proceedings being taken against Britain as a Member State by the European Commission.

## Sports Projects in the North Down area

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the funding that her Department has earmarked for sports projects in the North Down area in the 2011-15 budgetary period.

**(AQW 4927/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** Sport NI is the lead development agency for sport in the north of Ireland with responsibility for the distribution of exchequer funding. Sport NI has earmarked £11,232,303 in the 2011-15 budgetary period for sporting projects in the North Down area. A breakdown of this figure is provided below:

Programme	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	Totals
50m Pool	£7,000,000	£3,843,834	£385,137	-	£11,228,971
Awards for Sport	£3,332	-	-	-	£3,322
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£7,003,332</b>	<b>£3,843,834</b>	<b>£385,137</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>£11,232,303</b>

Furthermore, Sport NI has allocated a budget of £10.25m for its Community Capital Programme during the current CSR period. A total of 141 applications for funding were received under this programme, three of which are from the North Down area. Applications under this programme are currently being considered by Sport NI.

## Arts Projects in the North Down Area

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the funding that her Department has earmarked for arts projects in the North Down area in the 2011-15 budgetary period.

**(AQW 4928/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** My Department's funding in support of the arts is disbursed by the Arts Council through a number of funding programmes. This funding is not allocated on the basis of area but on the merits of the application to the relevant funding programme.

It is not possible to provide details of future funding in the North Down area, but the current Arts Council budget figure for 2011/12, and the indicative allocations to the Arts Council for each subsequent year of the Budget period are as follows:

	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Total resource budget	14.4	13.2	12.8	12.9

	<b>11/12</b>	<b>12/13</b>	<b>13/14</b>	<b>14/15</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Total Capital Budget	3.8	0.6	0.5	0.5

**NB.** Above figures exclude the Creative Industries Innovation Fund allocation.

In this current year (2011/12) the Arts Council has awarded funding of £283,748 in the North Down area.

North Down Borough Council also received £4,000 from the Department's Community Festivals Fund, some of which may relate to arts type projects.

## Funding for Protestant and Orange Bands

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure how much funding her Department has provided to bands from the Protestant and Orange community (i) in total; and (ii) for instruments and tuition; in each of the last three years, broken down by constituency.

**(AQW 4960/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** Funding in support of bands in the North of Ireland is disbursed through the Arts Council and the Ulster Scots Agency.

Funding awarded by the Arts Council through its Musical Instruments for Bands Programme for the purchase of instruments in each of the last 3 years broken down by constituency is shown in Annex A.

Funding awarded by the Arts Council through the Small Grants Programme for band related activity (including musical instruments and tuition) in each of the last 3 years broken down by constituency is shown in Annex B.

The Arts Council has not made a judgment on these bands as "Protestant or Orange"

Funding awarded by the Ulster Scots Agency through its Financial Assistance Scheme is not held in the format requested but the link below to the Agency's website will provide information on all grant recipients from 2008 – 2011

<http://www.ulsterscotsagency.com/community-projects/projects-funded-by-the-agency/>

My Department also allocates funding to bands through the Community Festivals Fund administered by the local councils. Information is not held at constituency level but I have listed the funding provided by Councils to bands considered to be from the Protestant and Orange community at Annex C. If you require a further breakdown, you should contact the councils directly.

## ANNEX A

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR BANDS PROGRAMME

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
Belfast East		4,583	5,000
Belfast North	4,900	4,878	
Belfast South			4,253
Belfast West		4,658	
East Antrim		4,266	5,000
East Londonderry	9,492		17,579
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	50,364	15,000	

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
Foyle			3,000
Lagan Valley	5,000	4,889	19,940
Mid Ulster	32,345	25,619	34,684
Newry and Armagh		5,000	5,000
North Antrim	10,000	5,000	19,129
North Down		4,845	
South Antrim	3,750	4,680	
South Down	4,999	16,404	29,737
Strangford	9,999		4,973
Upper Bann	3,750		8,643
West Tyrone	14,712	5,000	8,190
<b>Total</b>	<b>149,311</b>	<b>104,822</b>	<b>203,761</b>

**NB.** Does not make a judgment on these bands as “Protestant or Orange”

## **ANNEX B**

### **SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (FORMERLY AWARDS FOR ALL\*)**

<b>Constituency</b>	<b>2008/09*</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
Belfast West		2,500	
East Londonderry	800		
Fermanagh and South Tyrone	9,370	3,725	
Foyle		10,000	
Newry and Armagh		4,000	4,220
South Antrim			1,200
South Down	2,200		
Upper Bann			7,531
West Tyrone	3,650.		
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,020</b>	<b>20,225</b>	<b>12,951</b>

**NB.** Does not make a judgment on these bands as “Protestant or Orange”

## **Annex C**

### **Community Festivals Fund**

<b>Council</b>	<b>2008/2009</b>	<b>2009/2010</b>	<b>2010/2011</b>
Antrim		2,250	
Ballymena		1,439	1,590
Ballymoney	1,470	1,260	1,430

<b>Council</b>	<b>2008/2009</b>	<b>2009/2010</b>	<b>2010/2011</b>
Castlereagh	3,000	830	1,525
Coleraine		506	
Derry		1,500	3,000
Down		12,000	8,000
Magherafelt	400		1,500
Moyle	300		771
Newry & Mourne		915	
North Down	6,000		
Omagh	1,000		1,550
Strabane			900
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,170</b>	<b>20,700</b>	<b>20,276</b>

**NB.** It is not possible to be certain that figures refer to exclusively protestant bands in all instances

### Special Olympic Groups in Rural Areas

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure what support her Department provides for small Special Olympic groups in rural areas which are trying to become established.

**(AQW 4961/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** My Department is providing support to Special Olympics Ulster as part of a cross-departmental funding package covering the 4-year period 2011/12 to 2014/15. The funding that is being provided across the five departments involved totals £2.296m, with my Department's contribution being £0.459m. This funding is being provided to assist the development of Special Olympics throughout the north of Ireland, including the establishment of new clubs.

### Library Terminal Statistics

**Mr D Bradley** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the (i) issue; and (ii) public access terminal statistics in each library, for each month between April 2010 and November 2011, broken down by (a) adult fiction; (b) adult non-fiction; (c) children's fiction; and (d) children's non-fiction issues.

**(AQW 4992/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** Libraries NI has provided me with the following information:

- (i) Issues broken down by (a) adult fiction; (b) adult non-fiction; (c) children's fiction; and (d) children's non-fiction are enclosed for April 2010 to March 2011 at Annex A and April 2011 to October 2011 at Annex B.
- (ii) Libraries NI has informed me that Public access terminal statistics in each library are unable to be recorded into categories (a), (b), (c) and (d).

The total public access terminal statistics for each Library are enclosed for April 2010 to March 2011 at Annex C and April 2011 to October 2011 at Annex D.

November 2011 figures are not yet available.

**ANNEX A****ISSUES:****(I) APRIL 2010- MARCH 2011**

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Antrim Library	Apr	2,819	1,306	2,667	453	327	7,572	72,829
	May	2,344	1,205	2,364	398	296	6,607	
	Jun	2,297	1,036	2,210	350	241	6,134	
	Jul	2,637	1,222	3,046	471	347	7,723	
	Aug	2,196	1,093	2,459	359	283	6,390	
	Sep	2,279	1,089	2,191	328	245	6,132	
	Oct	2,148	1,123	2,334	368	219	6,192	
	Nov	2,316	969	2,178	317	219	5,999	
	Dec	1,689	548	1,162	145	120	3,664	
	Jan	2,083	867	1,902	336	175	5,363	
	Feb	1,977	986	2,083	369	202	5,617	
	Mar	1,973	947	1,961	289	266	5,436	
Ardayne Library	Apr	620	191	479	74	36	1,400	17,437
	May	542	146	423	56	21	1,188	
	Jun	543	181	568	73	29	1,394	
	Jul	739	218	706	96	49	1,808	
	Aug	641	209	549	67	46	1,512	
	Sep	582	231	601	77	39	1,530	
	Oct	640	249	632	61	57	1,639	
	Nov	548	200	532	60	36	1,376	
	Dec	521	138	249	46	28	982	
	Jan	620	173	492	63	24	1,372	
	Feb	602	201	668	47	71	1,589	
	Mar	632	204	694	77	40	1,647	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Armagh Library	Apr	2,266	854	2,021	258	224	5,623	63,042
	May	1,977	800	1,822	319	216	5,134	
	Jun	2,165	736	1,895	294	190	5,280	
	Jul	2,305	814	2,840	449	278	6,686	
	Aug	2,105	873	2,446	401	285	6,110	
	Sep	2,070	889	2,005	348	237	5,549	
	Oct	1,994	821	1,963	333	187	5,298	
	Nov	1,726	728	1,899	321	292	4,966	
	Dec	1,605	513	929	159	142	3,348	
	Jan	1,815	751	1,604	283	190	4,643	
	Feb	1,872	857	1,802	271	262	5,064	
	Mar	2,080	873	1,847	280	261	5,341	
Ballycastle Library	Apr	981	490	924	236	183	2,814	31,627
	May	870	358	829	139	143	2,339	
	Jun	898	439	801	149	148	2,435	
	Jul	1,083	557	1,288	210	198	3,336	
	Aug	1,013	393	1,151	165	193	2,915	
	Sep	948	531	1,032	218	150	2,879	
	Oct	820	492	1,167	246	211	2,936	
	Nov	935	458	1,054	183	182	2,812	
	Dec	824	280	500	77	152	1,833	
	Jan	937	427	694	157	139	2,354	
	Feb	875	465	760	135	125	2,360	
	Mar	1,012	493	831	105	173	2,614	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Ballyclare Library	Apr	1,464	532	1,681	360	169	4,206	46,129
	May	1,323	442	1,552	356	70	3,743	
	Jun	1,507	457	1,573	333	107	3,977	
	Jul	1,593	555	2,041	365	158	4,712	
	Aug	1,461	554	1,807	251	150	4,223	
	Sep	1,399	519	1,642	269	172	4,001	
	Oct	1,381	512	1,728	279	171	4,071	
	Nov	1,386	415	1,550	228	186	3,765	
	Dec	1,128	241	982	86	138	2,575	
	Jan	1,211	435	1,357	226	124	3,353	
	Feb	1,101	446	1,484	239	139	3,409	
	Mar	1,461	512	1,687	272	162	4,094	
Ballyhackamore Library	Apr	1,925	602	1,843	242	138	4,750	59,813
	May	1,643	536	1,708	230	119	4,236	
	Jun	1,909	521	1,638	235	146	4,449	
	Jul	2,145	608	2,319	269	169	5,510	
	Aug	2,019	638	2,413	291	175	5,536	
	Sep	1,905	684	2,387	336	179	5,491	
	Oct	1,995	620	2,522	306	226	5,669	
	Nov	1,786	681	2,220	307	172	5,166	
	Dec	1,552	417	1,151	160	159	3,439	
	Jan	1,811	574	2,163	324	210	5,082	
	Feb	1,758	585	2,213	254	206	5,016	
	Mar	1,903	555	2,462	339	210	5,469	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Ballymena Central Library	Apr	3,347	1,362	3,239	445	431	8,824	112,343
	May	3,211	1,210	3,218	393	378	8,410	
	Jun	3,622	1,305	3,508	350	447	9,232	
	Jul	4,015	1,609	5,145	458	498	11,725	
	Aug	3,872	1,543	4,617	474	515	11,021	
	Sep	3,812	1,627	3,986	439	422	10,286	
	Oct	3,421	1,655	4,155	500	426	10,157	
	Nov	3,469	1,523	3,262	290	373	8,917	
	Dec	2,680	924	1,835	197	315	5,951	
	Jan	3,501	1,505	3,139	346	453	8,944	
	Feb	3,550	1,538	3,397	363	471	9,319	
	Mar	3,644	1,623	3,424	359	507	9,557	
Ballymoney Library	Apr	1,702	628	1,743	282	175	4,530	57,103
	May	1,713	623	1,877	252	178	4,643	
	Jun	1,756	651	1,724	281	182	4,594	
	Jul	2,310	796	2,467	340	292	6,205	
	Aug	1,901	704	2,260	277	264	5,406	
	Sep	1,880	725	1,958	317	243	5,123	
	Oct	1,845	620	1,979	280	215	4,939	
	Nov	1,758	617	1,601	218	165	4,359	
	Dec	1,531	431	889	101	133	3,085	
	Jan	1,625	647	1,520	243	176	4,211	
	Feb	1,625	752	1,896	310	200	4,783	
	Mar	1,832	791	1,993	365	244	5,225	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Ballynahinch Library	Apr	873	315	1,002	171	20	2,381	24,589
	May	885	292	998	239	21	2,435	
	Jun	916	287	1,076	181	16	2,476	
	Jul	1,025	317	1,311	170	9	2,832	
	Aug	873	337	1,281	125	14	2,630	
	Sep	852	347	1,188	205	17	2,609	
	Oct	928	309	1,780	310	20	3,347	
	Nov	829	280	1,730	313	69	3,221	
	Dec	694	185	850	171	36	1,936	
	Jan	153	33	116	14	5	321	
	Feb	87	18	102	7	4	218	
	Mar	102	21	49	8	3	183	
Banbridge Library	Apr	2,159	775	2,806	423	252	6,415	72,139
	May	1,891	683	2,250	363	193	5,380	
	Jun	1,944	694	2,388	357	168	5,551	
	Jul	2,235	846	3,233	492	239	7,045	
	Aug	2,055	875	3,201	431	279	6,841	
	Sep	2,047	874	2,822	458	255	6,456	
	Oct	1,999	867	3,104	641	275	6,886	
	Nov	1,755	725	3,043	459	259	6,241	
	Dec	1,495	440	1,235	203	128	3,501	
	Jan	1,810	750	2,518	499	236	5,813	
	Feb	1,697	793	2,503	502	203	5,698	
	Mar	2,054	735	2,817	464	242	6,312	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Bangor Carnegie Library	Apr	7,210	2,636	7,901	1,219	243	19,209	205,324
	May	6,390	1,840	6,561	1,110	273	16,174	
	Jun	6,936	2,114	6,392	998	420	16,860	
	Jul	7,657	2,580	8,714	1,262	456	20,669	
	Aug	7,088	2,524	8,432	1,277	416	19,737	
	Sep	6,658	2,367	7,047	1,095	384	17,551	
	Oct	6,802	2,375	8,151	1,178	375	18,881	
	Nov	6,243	2,090	6,570	977	349	16,229	
	Dec	4,954	1,401	3,886	506	274	11,021	
	Jan	6,039	2,018	6,250	1,133	450	15,890	
	Feb	5,825	2,077	6,718	1,098	493	16,211	
	Mar	6,685	2,089	6,534	1,105	479	16,892	
Bessbrook Library	Apr	711	190	739	197	42	1,879	29,102
	May	642	175	783	192	47	1,839	
	Jun	704	213	807	139	40	1,903	
	Jul	756	176	967	181	49	2,129	
	Aug	638	175	843	183	82	1,921	
	Sep	798	140	740	168	75	1,921	
	Oct	683	144	985	231	81	2,124	
	Nov	702	177	1,030	242	75	2,226	
	Dec	528	107	479	144	45	1,303	
	Jan	1,406	390	1,467	383	124	3,770	
	Feb	1,590	407	1,460	375	148	3,980	
	Mar	1,580	339	1,737	329	122	4,107	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Broughshane Library	Apr	619	196	515	66	24	1,420	18,018
	May	579	163	615	67	15	1,439	
	Jun	603	145	508	71	9	1,336	
	Jul	717	152	786	85	22	1,762	
	Aug	610	131	623	56	23	1,443	
	Sep	657	142	709	76	20	1,604	
	Oct	630	148	674	76	22	1,550	
	Nov	610	133	687	87	28	1,545	
	Dec	566	85	413	42	17	1,123	
	Jan	649	122	557	70	16	1,414	
	Feb	684	129	743	73	23	1,652	
	Mar	701	145	751	111	22	1,730	
Brownlow Library	Apr	1,189	454	1,403	278	64	3,388	38,908
	May	1,168	417	1,409	300	90	3,384	
	Jun	1,196	394	1,438	281	75	3,384	
	Jul	1,185	435	1,807	364	92	3,883	
	Aug	1,164	362	1,762	333	97	3,718	
	Sep	1,113	439	1,652	334	101	3,639	
	Oct	1,019	415	1,559	342	90	3,425	
	Nov	1,039	384	1,294	305	72	3,094	
	Dec	829	241	723	124	50	1,967	
	Jan	912	314	1,235	282	70	2,813	
	Feb	1,017	345	1,274	230	74	2,940	
	Mar	1,048	400	1,462	264	99	3,273	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Carnlough Library	Apr	289	98	129	21	6	543	10,248
	May	330	79	123	18	3	553	
	Jun	290	133	153	37	6	619	
	Jul	340	173	247	88	8	856	
	Aug	419	124	135	37	13	728	
	Sep	287	130	112	30	5	564	
	Oct	363	183	172	26	4	748	
	Nov	371	171	218	33	15	808	
	Dec	274	98	108	28	18	526	
	Jan	355	207	144	22	16	744	
	Feb	589	297	388	115	27	1,416	
	Mar	540	319	1,030	215	39	2,143	
Carrickfergus Library	Apr	2,887	1,215	1,645	267	372	6,386	70,941
	May	2,788	1,044	1,747	351	336	6,266	
	Jun	2,545	767	1,092	161	172	4,737	
	Jul	3,166	985	1,883	289	253	6,576	
	Aug	2,943	990	1,704	191	213	6,041	
	Sep	3,027	967	1,577	211	157	5,939	
	Oct	2,947	1,043	1,719	259	250	6,218	
	Nov	2,947	1,037	1,460	157	286	5,887	
	Dec	2,346	698	889	81	217	4,231	
	Jan	2,880	1,052	1,308	203	303	5,746	
	Feb	2,629	955	1,344	201	311	5,440	
	Mar	3,040	1,358	2,378	335	363	7,474	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Carryduff Library	Apr	96	52	86	9	8	251	18,588
	May	400	179	746	113	6	1,444	
	Jun	470	230	779	115	25	1,619	
	Jul	553	229	843	128	24	1,777	
	Aug	444	228	685	126	12	1,495	
	Sep	490	262	1,012	190	17	1,971	
	Oct	458	232	968	186	18	1,862	
	Nov	412	230	987	191	37	1,857	
	Dec	364	131	357	46	27	925	
	Jan	555	216	733	134	34	1,672	
	Feb	528	236	865	117	40	1,786	
	Mar	498	193	1,014	185	39	1,929	
Castledearg Library	Apr	618	154	945	165	93	1,975	21,900
	May	459	138	775	129	49	1,550	
	Jun	503	193	673	108	44	1,521	
	Jul	529	207	1,038	114	79	1,967	
	Aug	585	196	1,169	144	66	2,160	
	Sep	578	218	1,156	239	55	2,246	
	Oct	541	256	1,047	203	65	2,112	
	Nov	495	199	883	194	41	1,812	
	Dec	440	106	467	43	52	1,108	
	Jan	466	202	759	164	49	1,640	
	Feb	451	223	890	181	81	1,826	
	Mar	472	223	979	238	71	1,983	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Castlewellan Library	Apr	547	190	693	179	30	1,639	21,875
	May	566	184	837	296	30	1,913	
	Jun	440	158	737	156	31	1,522	
	Jul	532	213	877	195	48	1,865	
	Aug	431	123	733	143	23	1,453	
	Sep	493	201	872	164	19	1,749	
	Oct	583	220	1,158	293	26	2,280	
	Nov	573	214	1,131	224	53	2,195	
	Dec	439	110	598	118	57	1,322	
	Jan	552	191	948	245	79	2,015	
	Feb	494	205	976	259	77	2,011	
	Mar	487	177	927	244	76	1,911	
Central Lending Library Belfast	Apr	2,373	1,198	609	146	208	4,534	58,577
	May	2,419	1,096	702	154	135	4,506	
	Jun	2,501	1,352	578	100	144	4,675	
	Jul	2,640	1,274	1,017	133	187	5,251	
	Aug	2,755	1,409	951	140	166	5,421	
	Sep	2,644	1,353	865	147	161	5,170	
	Oct	2,572	1,321	814	107	184	4,998	
	Nov	2,549	1,329	727	90	255	4,950	
	Dec	2,036	872	550	48	175	3,681	
	Jan	2,399	1,311	673	122	173	4,678	
	Feb	2,586	1,325	893	106	284	5,194	
	Mar	2,849	1,448	856	95	271	5,519	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Chichester Library	Apr	1,542	610	993	171	98	3,414	37,372
	May	1,344	399	977	151	63	2,934	
	Jun	1,407	428	972	114	55	2,976	
	Jul	1,634	449	1,054	176	99	3,412	
	Aug	1,632	470	1,045	130	142	3,419	
	Sep	1,601	523	1,081	184	110	3,499	
	Oct	1,516	519	960	115	116	3,226	
	Nov	1,475	438	903	182	94	3,092	
	Dec	1,153	279	368	61	70	1,931	
	Jan	1,427	446	887	119	108	2,987	
	Feb	1,427	421	1,051	155	162	3,216	
	Mar	1,447	508	955	156	200	3,266	
Cloughfern Library	Apr	556	102	468	84	12	1,222	14,147
	May	475	77	452	89	9	1,102	
	Jun	510	68	374	91	17	1,060	
	Jul	623	101	530	92	19	1,365	
	Aug	580	109	524	108	18	1,339	
	Sep	471	114	509	98	37	1,229	
	Oct	567	77	439	94	14	1,191	
	Nov	469	112	493	112	35	1,221	
	Dec	344	74	271	52	11	752	
	Jan	495	130	451	119	25	1,220	
	Feb	479	84	439	88	14	1,104	
	Mar	600	100	508	112	22	1,342	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Coalisland Library	Apr	978	188	1,354	183	87	2,790	34,242
	May	853	251	1,273	217	82	2,676	
	Jun	947	211	1,142	195	57	2,552	
	Jul	987	262	1,894	337	101	3,581	
	Aug	971	234	1,546	353	97	3,201	
	Sep	910	278	1,503	254	94	3,039	
	Oct	926	278	1,746	360	135	3,445	
	Nov	849	256	1,597	185	117	3,004	
	Dec	740	144	638	99	47	1,668	
	Jan	712	227	1,412	184	95	2,630	
	Feb	840	244	1,442	280	91	2,897	
	Mar	820	238	1,396	224	81	2,759	
Coleraine Library	Apr	2,266	950	2,155	256	295	5,922	71,089
	May	2,255	832	2,007	184	232	5,510	
	Jun	2,387	804	1,977	155	216	5,539	
	Jul	2,696	999	2,991	359	311	7,356	
	Aug	2,667	957	2,437	318	308	6,687	
	Sep	2,519	913	2,027	244	272	5,975	
	Oct	2,496	993	2,458	346	317	6,610	
	Nov	2,526	787	2,284	266	309	6,172	
	Dec	1,913	530	1,120	94	225	3,882	
	Jan	2,328	883	2,022	287	220	5,740	
	Feb	2,197	880	2,199	332	282	5,890	
	Mar	2,386	877	1,995	263	285	5,806	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Colin Glen Library	Apr	1,075	421	789	149	72	2,506	33,607
	May	1,137	403	854	188	105	2,687	
	Jun	1,138	418	811	134	88	2,589	
	Jul	1,322	437	1,065	168	96	3,088	
	Aug	1,243	489	928	176	104	2,940	
	Sep	1,339	500	1,191	312	90	3,432	
	Oct	1,128	460	1,329	316	109	3,342	
	Nov	979	473	1,129	228	83	2,892	
	Dec	733	250	585	92	60	1,720	
	Jan	963	389	1,001	209	108	2,670	
	Feb	1,028	379	1,074	241	150	2,872	
	Mar	1,045	444	1,087	175	118	2,869	
Comber Library	Apr	66	2	5	0	0	73	34,033
	May	1,006	386	831	173	24	2,420	
	Jun	1,332	429	1,294	220	15	3,290	
	Jul	1,653	470	1,412	201	32	3,768	
	Aug	1,582	464	1,315	204	45	3,610	
	Sep	1,482	487	1,321	243	60	3,593	
	Oct	1,445	445	1,226	224	26	3,366	
	Nov	1,339	349	968	173	40	2,869	
	Dec	1,030	208	526	91	27	1,882	
	Jan	1,316	382	913	156	50	2,817	
	Feb	1,260	336	1,025	153	58	2,832	
	Mar	1,476	402	1,378	195	62	3,513	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Cookstown Library	Apr	1,892	685	2,515	404	186	5,682	69,130
	May	1,860	668	2,384	406	184	5,502	
	Jun	2,070	591	2,608	298	192	5,759	
	Jul	2,298	727	3,606	478	203	7,312	
	Aug	2,221	724	3,451	518	207	7,121	
	Sep	2,078	706	2,868	497	191	6,340	
	Oct	1,832	727	2,610	483	205	5,857	
	Nov	1,827	638	2,497	448	205	5,615	
	Dec	1,505	439	1,399	175	168	3,686	
	Jan	1,780	679	2,235	471	177	5,342	
	Feb	1,714	680	2,392	483	252	5,521	
	Mar	1,765	645	2,335	429	219	5,393	
Cregagh Library	Apr	1,249	490	1,269	174	46	3,228	40,421
	May	1,084	439	1,342	176	21	3,062	
	Jun	1,262	427	1,419	150	24	3,282	
	Jul	1,397	567	1,473	228	31	3,696	
	Aug	1,351	480	1,434	278	51	3,594	
	Sep	1,197	571	1,609	317	35	3,729	
	Oct	1,260	556	1,687	312	56	3,871	
	Nov	1,261	472	1,377	220	72	3,402	
	Dec	987	272	858	98	60	2,275	
	Jan	1,268	507	1,187	203	47	3,212	
	Feb	1,084	477	1,349	276	60	3,246	
	Mar	1,257	449	1,688	339	91	3,824	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Creggan Library	Apr	667	149	690	83	21	1,610	18,402
	May	746	171	670	86	12	1,685	
	Jun	544	155	597	73	30	1,399	
	Jul	525	172	653	67	31	1,448	
	Aug	548	147	581	77	22	1,375	
	Sep	710	138	798	90	35	1,771	
	Oct	518	161	900	106	18	1,703	
	Nov	507	149	784	81	23	1,544	
	Dec	355	59	222	31	11	678	
	Jan	496	130	756	119	26	1,527	
	Feb	458	127	747	102	17	1,451	
	Mar	720	165	1,165	135	26	2,211	
Crossmaglen Library	Apr	323	100	724	110	17	1,274	16,743
	May	329	103	673	142	38	1,285	
	Jun	412	132	879	135	33	1,591	
	Jul	488	145	1,114	223	68	2,038	
	Aug	386	180	1,028	154	56	1,804	
	Sep	374	173	853	119	55	1,574	
	Oct	377	111	755	97	55	1,395	
	Nov	360	91	682	82	33	1,248	
	Dec	241	55	325	17	20	658	
	Jan	388	138	725	108	40	1,399	
	Feb	360	130	540	128	42	1,200	
	Mar	390	116	650	71	50	1,277	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Crumlin Library	Apr	430	151	650	152	7	1,390	15,866
	May	380	164	734	157	20	1,455	
	Jun	433	142	660	141	10	1,386	
	Jul	436	154	764	104	18	1,476	
	Aug	460	191	910	116	11	1,688	
	Sep	376	163	850	141	12	1,542	
	Oct	363	154	757	136	7	1,417	
	Nov	358	147	646	129	13	1,293	
	Dec	257	92	321	37	10	717	
	Jan	334	95	568	134	12	1,143	
	Feb	321	123	501	137	12	1,094	
	Mar	381	129	620	124	11	1,265	
Cushendall Library	Apr	707	138	356	18	21	1,240	16,160
	May	761	236	436	65	20	1,518	
	Jun	753	164	442	46	13	1,418	
	Jul	757	191	676	55	23	1,702	
	Aug	615	137	505	40	39	1,336	
	Sep	634	115	389	54	31	1,223	
	Oct	601	139	495	64	17	1,316	
	Nov	634	131	502	70	24	1,361	
	Dec	435	62	240	35	20	792	
	Jan	670	135	500	71	27	1,403	
	Feb	665	93	597	70	26	1,451	
	Mar	596	122	586	64	32	1,400	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Derry Central Library	Apr	3,405	1,936	2,084	353	571	8,349	96,000
	May	3,347	1,832	1,881	249	500	7,809	
	Jun	3,342	1,872	1,864	160	387	7,625	
	Jul	3,797	1,996	2,802	286	306	9,187	
	Aug	3,627	2,029	2,341	233	295	8,525	
	Sep	3,522	2,294	2,030	240	344	8,430	
	Oct	3,155	2,322	2,253	312	425	8,467	
	Nov	3,243	2,196	1,944	281	414	8,078	
	Dec	2,495	1,151	1,081	134	330	5,191	
	Jan	3,198	1,843	1,811	208	466	7,526	
	Feb	3,301	2,041	2,132	235	542	8,251	
	Mar	3,628	2,148	2,026	269	491	8,562	
Donaghadee Library	Apr	1,658	510	855	240	24	3,287	41,844
	May	1,725	403	835	202	57	3,222	
	Jun	1,991	422	777	154	28	3,372	
	Jul	2,109	475	889	197	29	3,699	
	Aug	1,914	474	947	177	20	3,532	
	Sep	2,020	555	1,102	304	43	4,024	
	Oct	1,885	555	1,147	250	33	3,870	
	Nov	1,747	520	1,403	299	50	4,019	
	Dec	1,575	356	544	146	28	2,649	
	Jan	1,621	453	875	217	70	3,236	
	Feb	1,779	380	836	210	63	3,268	
	Mar	1,871	480	1,020	198	97	3,666	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Downpatrick Library	Apr	1,856	692	2,048	229	85	4,910	60,658
	May	1,718	667	1,945	269	112	4,711	
	Jun	1,822	660	1,963	186	149	4,780	
	Jul	1,971	751	2,788	284	220	6,014	
	Aug	1,811	753	2,600	291	212	5,667	
	Sep	1,739	828	2,172	326	168	5,233	
	Oct	1,692	716	2,536	344	185	5,473	
	Nov	1,543	751	2,288	444	221	5,247	
	Dec	1,333	485	1,305	181	160	3,464	
	Jan	1,502	683	2,044	355	205	4,789	
	Feb	1,584	734	2,160	427	256	5,161	
	Mar	1,651	687	2,189	310	372	5,209	
Draperstown Library	Apr	275	74	536	132	2	1,019	12,653
	May	286	88	599	124	9	1,106	
	Jun	355	102	568	95	7	1,127	
	Jul	303	99	631	91	16	1,140	
	Aug	291	86	554	69	9	1,009	
	Sep	312	133	553	79	17	1,094	
	Oct	338	107	469	97	16	1,027	
	Nov	356	119	518	83	14	1,090	
	Dec	256	69	261	39	15	640	
	Jan	308	101	494	88	11	1,002	
	Feb	367	103	472	88	29	1,059	
	Mar	430	122	679	96	13	1,340	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Dromore Library	Apr	472	177	610	108	20	1,387	18,648
	May	436	151	829	85	22	1,523	
	Jun	574	137	803	101	17	1,632	
	Jul	641	152	766	114	19	1,692	
	Aug	542	157	761	111	34	1,605	
	Sep	518	175	743	125	28	1,589	
	Oct	549	190	999	146	34	1,918	
	Nov	507	148	826	111	23	1,615	
	Dec	389	83	396	69	15	952	
	Jan	420	135	838	86	41	1,520	
	Feb	484	105	804	108	49	1,550	
	Mar	466	122	935	119	23	1,665	
Dundonald Library	Apr	1,217	445	1,120	210	26	3,018	31,923
	May	1,086	389	910	120	9	2,514	
	Jun	1,065	362	825	113	19	2,384	
	Jul	1,139	331	1,091	169	21	2,751	
	Aug	1,067	368	819	157	38	2,449	
	Sep	1,141	397	1,148	209	28	2,923	
	Oct	1,020	388	1,144	249	59	2,860	
	Nov	1,114	384	1,012	217	47	2,774	
	Dec	849	244	563	72	32	1,760	
	Jan	1,075	449	938	218	67	2,747	
	Feb	932	374	980	264	72	2,622	
	Mar	1,166	420	1,238	222	75	3,121	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Dungannon Library	Apr	1,988	864	2,317	407	240	5,816	68,832
	May	1,776	830	2,009	332	188	5,135	
	Jun	1,848	802	2,257	361	212	5,480	
	Jul	2,126	1,027	3,889	663	267	7,972	
	Aug	1,945	838	3,123	451	274	6,631	
	Sep	1,960	1,022	2,438	357	228	6,005	
	Oct	1,836	918	2,672	459	183	6,068	
	Nov	1,814	934	2,353	440	267	5,808	
	Dec	1,502	488	1,308	225	157	3,680	
	Jan	1,783	887	2,025	403	251	5,349	
	Feb	1,641	1,011	2,249	443	294	5,638	
	Mar	1,826	905	1,927	353	239	5,250	
Dungiven Library	Apr	433	105	766	67	43	1,414	24,537
	May	435	120	633	87	37	1,312	
	Jun	468	129	779	81	33	1,490	
	Jul	494	109	1,263	168	76	2,110	
	Aug	426	99	981	102	78	1,686	
	Sep	483	93	841	75	67	1,559	
	Oct	602	254	1,710	267	143	2,976	
	Nov	683	224	1,479	229	132	2,747	
	Dec	581	134	697	101	51	1,564	
	Jan	662	205	1,353	200	104	2,524	
	Feb	605	218	1,288	231	121	2,463	
	Mar	708	219	1,499	156	110	2,692	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Enniskillen Library	Apr	1,939	1,210	2,313	351	265	6,078	71,953
	May	1,737	1,048	2,069	302	162	5,318	
	Jun	2,049	1,086	1,929	262	194	5,520	
	Jul	2,256	1,253	3,678	428	300	7,915	
	Aug	2,186	1,260	2,974	437	234	7,091	
	Sep	2,018	1,299	2,284	417	259	6,277	
	Oct	1,958	1,312	2,514	372	222	6,378	
	Nov	1,873	1,300	2,336	424	285	6,218	
	Dec	1,673	812	1,329	227	131	4,172	
	Jan	1,790	1,105	1,933	335	142	5,305	
	Feb	1,773	1,165	2,394	348	184	5,864	
	Mar	1,911	1,192	2,227	335	152	5,817	
Falls Road Library	Apr	828	304	453	99	73	1,757	20,151
	May	678	271	448	108	69	1,574	
	Jun	771	215	386	68	30	1,470	
	Jul	851	335	526	61	59	1,832	
	Aug	831	338	513	50	61	1,793	
	Sep	823	314	574	89	62	1,862	
	Oct	762	280	560	103	55	1,760	
	Nov	806	252	621	106	80	1,865	
	Dec	572	192	268	28	57	1,117	
	Jan	773	299	559	74	118	1,823	
	Feb	803	289	434	87	102	1,715	
	Mar	778	286	366	84	69	1,583	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Finaghy Library	Apr	1,828	469	1,697	358	132	4,484	53,097
	May	1,737	423	1,837	401	107	4,505	
	Jun	1,929	475	1,435	271	89	4,199	
	Jul	2,271	526	1,484	217	190	4,688	
	Aug	1,962	442	1,475	239	222	4,340	
	Sep	2,050	523	1,700	318	189	4,780	
	Oct	1,821	470	1,883	397	223	4,794	
	Nov	1,866	477	2,109	404	181	5,037	
	Dec	1,256	236	872	147	123	2,634	
	Jan	1,575	361	1,413	298	135	3,782	
	Feb	1,665	430	1,865	388	232	4,580	
	Mar	2,014	461	2,080	439	280	5,274	
Fintona Library	Apr	323	53	436	38	30	880	9,594
	May	225	71	348	28	15	687	
	Jun	224	51	275	23	5	578	
	Jul	282	85	454	26	15	862	
	Aug	312	82	435	43	31	903	
	Sep	298	54	443	46	34	875	
	Oct	283	74	507	53	15	932	
	Nov	279	57	412	50	30	828	
	Dec	219	53	185	34	6	497	
	Jan	237	53	361	44	12	707	
	Feb	256	71	477	50	24	878	
	Mar	289	85	508	49	36	967	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Fivemiletown Library	Apr	530	183	801	118	58	1,690	19,100
	May	507	167	739	101	44	1,558	
	Jun	422	161	680	85	43	1,391	
	Jul	506	163	1,236	123	47	2,075	
	Aug	501	229	1,031	131	80	1,972	
	Sep	406	146	893	96	57	1,598	
	Oct	468	172	952	131	41	1,764	
	Nov	449	170	843	122	46	1,630	
	Dec	319	90	407	79	20	915	
	Jan	416	149	741	85	41	1,432	
	Feb	431	140	819	126	42	1,558	
	Mar	408	168	783	101	57	1,517	
Garvagh Library	Apr	320	70	361	32	6	789	10,986
	May	280	69	418	58	19	844	
	Jun	294	83	393	56	5	831	
	Jul	363	92	644	40	20	1,159	
	Aug	350	93	490	37	32	1,002	
	Sep	323	77	392	66	18	876	
	Oct	274	80	625	41	23	1,043	
	Nov	248	85	470	61	19	883	
	Dec	203	34	308	22	15	582	
	Jan	277	55	506	92	6	936	
	Feb	297	51	478	32	8	866	
	Mar	307	69	673	100	26	1,175	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Gilford Library	Apr	252	44	292	45	34	667	7,050
	May	252	49	223	56	26	606	
	Jun	260	55	380	44	11	750	
	Jul	260	44	455	56	7	822	
	Aug	239	49	291	27	26	632	
	Sep	216	40	264	21	31	572	
	Oct	209	62	179	22	12	484	
	Nov	199	47	314	33	26	619	
	Dec	136	25	87	13	7	268	
	Jan	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Feb	258	83	264	34	20	659	
	Mar	302	146	422	81	20	971	
Glengormley Library	Apr	3,648	1,274	2,282	432	285	7,921	102,399
	May	3,530	1,230	2,520	526	271	8,077	
	Jun	4,051	1,302	2,394	380	214	8,341	
	Jul	4,419	1,492	3,500	477	304	10,192	
	Aug	4,044	1,354	3,198	506	276	9,378	
	Sep	4,163	1,480	3,044	554	261	9,502	
	Oct	3,895	1,509	2,875	566	243	9,088	
	Nov	3,842	1,347	2,703	516	252	8,660	
	Dec	3,034	769	1,422	203	170	5,598	
	Jan	3,631	1,338	2,567	483	280	8,299	
	Feb	3,525	1,223	2,667	594	319	8,328	
	Mar	3,994	1,346	2,784	578	313	9,015	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Greenisland Library	Apr	760	222	881	110	29	2,002	23,299
	May	688	198	852	163	27	1,928	
	Jun	648	231	705	105	26	1,715	
	Jul	862	225	818	121	28	2,054	
	Aug	773	268	813	95	41	1,990	
	Sep	763	247	1,024	151	25	2,210	
	Oct	683	265	1,146	193	33	2,320	
	Nov	679	213	927	134	69	2,022	
	Dec	583	110	531	74	25	1,323	
	Jan	790	203	922	138	42	2,095	
	Feb	631	174	811	129	25	1,770	
	Mar	687	209	794	156	24	1,870	
Greystone Library	Apr	942	219	662	88	38	1,949	20,923
	May	787	184	542	112	50	1,675	
	Jun	830	191	606	88	28	1,743	
	Jul	946	242	564	80	36	1,868	
	Aug	878	179	434	53	24	1,568	
	Sep	827	211	652	95	37	1,822	
	Oct	819	234	608	94	37	1,792	
	Nov	797	216	405	89	28	1,535	
	Dec	642	138	236	40	18	1,074	
	Jan	789	213	493	91	29	1,615	
	Feb	753	248	475	127	47	1,650	
	Mar	955	298	1,049	280	50	2,632	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Grove Library	Apr	867	346	1,057	174	146	2,590	33,149
	May	806	247	982	195	176	2,406	
	Jun	906	275	1,004	235	165	2,585	
	Jul	889	270	1,318	264	222	2,963	
	Aug	1,005	384	1,343	244	211	3,187	
	Sep	995	382	1,407	299	174	3,257	
	Oct	925	362	1,498	317	203	3,305	
	Nov	937	290	1,222	228	272	2,949	
	Dec	650	188	518	130	161	1,647	
	Jan	857	291	991	264	192	2,595	
	Feb	847	274	1,233	251	244	2,849	
	Mar	932	294	1,109	240	241	2,816	
Holywood Arches Library	Apr	1,841	517	978	125	108	3,569	44,644
	May	1,607	456	851	98	108	3,120	
	Jun	1,842	411	953	141	187	3,534	
	Jul	2,015	554	1,130	163	157	4,019	
	Aug	2,037	521	1,223	170	199	4,150	
	Sep	2,026	562	1,102	170	163	4,023	
	Oct	1,973	573	1,316	147	198	4,207	
	Nov	2,058	516	987	124	141	3,826	
	Dec	1,515	334	508	71	100	2,528	
	Jan	1,928	453	827	129	161	3,498	
	Feb	1,892	542	988	109	203	3,734	
	Mar	2,126	587	1,338	155	230	4,436	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Hollywood Library	Apr	1,785	654	1,375	235	65	4,114	41,938
	May	1,487	540	1,127	167	92	3,413	
	Jun	1,619	607	1,191	201	128	3,746	
	Jul	1,865	786	1,557	231	144	4,583	
	Aug	1,699	709	1,363	215	116	4,102	
	Sep	1,657	716	1,426	227	118	4,144	
	Oct	1,590	727	1,451	251	149	4,168	
	Nov	1,727	564	1,315	213	125	3,944	
	Dec	1,198	420	755	98	61	2,532	
	Jan	928	344	709	142	34	2,157	
	Feb	1,020	404	936	104	32	2,496	
	Mar	1,103	467	831	78	60	2,539	
Irish and Local Studies Library	Apr	2	2	0	0	0	4	86
	May	0	7	0	0	0	7	
	Jun	2	2	0	0	1	5	
	Jul	0	5	0	0	4	9	
	Aug	2	2	0	0	0	4	
	Sep	4	7	1	0	2	14	
	Oct	1	3	0	0	0	4	
	Nov	0	2	0	0	8	10	
	Dec	0	2	0	0	4	6	
	Jan	0	1	0	0	2	3	
	Feb	0	1	0	0	11	12	
	Mar	1	2	0	0	5	8	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Irvinestown Library	Apr	870	219	807	69	49	2,014	24,396
	May	774	199	679	95	36	1,783	
	Jun	886	170	884	112	40	2,092	
	Jul	911	192	1,126	119	95	2,443	
	Aug	826	273	1,054	84	119	2,356	
	Sep	723	230	840	132	49	1,974	
	Oct	808	217	804	97	49	1,975	
	Nov	891	207	889	78	50	2,115	
	Dec	749	132	478	70	26	1,455	
	Jan	838	206	712	144	50	1,950	
	Feb	793	214	892	139	69	2,107	
	Mar	718	237	984	132	61	2,132	
Keady Library	Apr	229	66	251	28	11	585	21,188
	May	197	42	321	34	15	609	
	Jun	643	213	1,330	147	115	2,448	
	Jul	581	206	1,177	187	95	2,246	
	Aug	453	134	937	150	101	1,775	
	Sep	550	152	1,053	154	103	2,012	
	Oct	722	162	1,162	166	134	2,346	
	Nov	662	124	968	155	82	1,991	
	Dec	462	78	515	53	51	1,159	
	Jan	790	222	917	100	72	2,101	
	Feb	558	225	915	113	75	1,886	
	Mar	593	262	1,003	105	67	2,030	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Kells & Connor Library	Apr	280	89	213	26	10	618	9,220
	May	322	78	229	35	9	673	
	Jun	280	101	219	28	11	639	
	Jul	346	65	366	34	4	815	
	Aug	339	58	247	35	7	686	
	Sep	258	88	312	43	6	707	
	Oct	310	95	315	44	16	780	
	Nov	237	93	298	43	10	681	
	Dec	205	32	130	10	2	379	
	Jan	264	73	255	31	16	639	
	Feb	339	79	452	29	16	915	
	Mar	491	274	798	113	12	1,688	
Kilkeel Library	Apr	1,500	449	1,441	242	161	3,793	42,853
	May	1,279	410	1,300	306	139	3,434	
	Jun	1,336	381	1,514	220	116	3,567	
	Jul	1,547	485	2,405	427	179	5,043	
	Aug	1,273	448	2,155	371	155	4,402	
	Sep	1,273	353	1,372	325	123	3,446	
	Oct	1,196	405	1,597	272	147	3,617	
	Nov	1,078	389	1,485	300	119	3,371	
	Dec	941	205	792	106	90	2,134	
	Jan	1,118	383	1,272	241	108	3,122	
	Feb	979	384	1,528	362	156	3,409	
	Mar	1,206	383	1,473	288	165	3,515	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Killyleagh Library	Apr	387	170	505	114	20	1,196	14,268
	May	423	139	408	74	24	1,068	
	Jun	422	125	379	69	19	1,014	
	Jul	490	158	398	57	18	1,121	
	Aug	442	108	253	50	18	871	
	Sep	458	122	319	74	18	991	
	Oct	429	133	454	150	16	1,182	
	Nov	405	141	538	176	30	1,290	
	Dec	331	84	181	43	14	653	
	Jan	542	223	702	187	22	1,676	
	Feb	656	337	785	237	61	2,076	
	Mar	460	191	345	89	45	1,130	
Kilrea Library	Apr	376	131	541	52	19	1,119	13,402
	May	399	110	572	60	7	1,148	
	Jun	398	90	461	49	11	1,009	
	Jul	479	142	798	70	23	1,512	
	Aug	365	81	697	60	29	1,232	
	Sep	431	153	602	86	20	1,292	
	Oct	415	121	567	90	30	1,223	
	Nov	373	113	586	63	19	1,154	
	Dec	313	78	214	24	14	643	
	Jan	377	99	437	45	17	975	
	Feb	367	111	377	46	18	919	
	Mar	429	123	518	66	40	1,176	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Larne Library	Apr	2,613	1,078	1,533	234	376	5,834	66,749
	May	2,404	871	1,518	214	278	5,285	
	Jun	2,608	887	1,572	239	213	5,519	
	Jul	2,584	991	2,156	234	314	6,279	
	Aug	2,551	971	1,637	225	331	5,715	
	Sep	2,926	1,072	1,652	318	275	6,243	
	Oct	2,533	996	1,743	310	293	5,875	
	Nov	2,609	989	1,642	242	340	5,822	
	Dec	2,019	667	848	110	261	3,905	
	Jan	2,388	990	1,259	181	299	5,117	
	Feb	2,244	1,022	1,658	236	338	5,498	
	Mar	2,541	999	1,511	250	356	5,657	
Limavady Library	Apr	1,847	627	1,997	182	198	4,851	63,485
	May	1,781	608	2,073	211	177	4,850	
	Jun	1,918	566	2,114	210	188	4,996	
	Jul	2,274	684	3,232	307	278	6,775	
	Aug	2,023	612	2,952	236	334	6,157	
	Sep	1,995	715	2,806	336	279	6,131	
	Oct	1,942	673	2,521	286	234	5,656	
	Nov	1,850	620	2,292	287	261	5,310	
	Dec	1,732	305	1,355	138	141	3,671	
	Jan	1,805	579	1,911	269	208	4,772	
	Feb	1,849	621	2,160	256	253	5,139	
	Mar	1,985	563	2,198	215	216	5,177	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Lisburn City Library	Apr	4,126	2,494	5,557	874	385	13,436	154,099
	May	3,461	2,145	4,537	734	332	11,209	
	Jun	4,033	2,367	4,426	557	394	11,777	
	Jul	4,270	2,576	6,472	881	552	14,751	
	Aug	4,097	2,455	6,378	761	564	14,255	
	Sep	4,169	2,650	5,678	849	406	13,752	
	Oct	3,936	2,601	6,098	959	489	14,083	
	Nov	4,040	2,387	5,405	840	432	13,104	
	Dec	2,987	1,352	2,746	324	327	7,736	
	Jan	3,838	2,425	5,147	718	518	12,646	
	Feb	3,836	2,403	5,889	877	535	13,540	
	Mar	4,118	2,392	5,940	867	493	13,810	
Lisburn Road Library	Apr	1,697	552	1,690	214	71	4,224	48,722
	May	1,608	458	1,373	170	70	3,679	
	Jun	1,792	507	1,341	140	65	3,845	
	Jul	2,090	660	1,485	191	71	4,497	
	Aug	1,960	577	1,610	193	83	4,423	
	Sep	1,852	585	1,575	225	76	4,313	
	Oct	1,827	542	1,658	220	84	4,331	
	Nov	1,587	467	1,576	241	91	3,962	
	Dec	1,561	384	804	106	105	2,960	
	Jan	1,879	582	1,403	261	102	4,227	
	Feb	1,736	582	1,307	217	165	4,007	
	Mar	1,812	580	1,525	175	162	4,254	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Lisnaskea Library	Apr	477	226	678	99	63	1,543	23,270
	May	440	265	853	129	68	1,755	
	Jun	556	253	767	104	67	1,747	
	Jul	479	289	1,350	166	120	2,404	
	Aug	490	255	1,307	166	162	2,380	
	Sep	492	281	983	115	57	1,928	
	Oct	497	315	1,250	161	105	2,328	
	Nov	504	271	1,037	156	83	2,051	
	Dec	384	159	488	37	55	1,123	
	Jan	440	252	827	126	77	1,722	
	Feb	486	316	1,103	125	84	2,114	
	Mar	497	391	1,081	124	82	2,175	
Lurgan Library	Apr	2,809	985	2,233	385	252	6,664	86,253
	May	2,673	904	2,173	373	287	6,410	
	Jun	2,957	899	2,555	484	175	7,070	
	Jul	3,308	1,139	3,913	613	287	9,260	
	Aug	3,249	1,080	3,343	556	288	8,516	
	Sep	3,106	1,108	2,746	488	267	7,715	
	Oct	2,940	1,125	2,902	538	240	7,745	
	Nov	2,843	1,043	2,366	425	243	6,920	
	Dec	2,334	611	1,437	218	180	4,780	
	Jan	2,967	1,014	2,297	433	224	6,935	
	Feb	2,710	976	2,534	434	283	6,937	
	Mar	3,215	965	2,473	390	258	7,301	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Maghera Library	Apr	1,032	353	1,290	230	72	2,977	34,796
	May	1,003	235	1,111	194	46	2,589	
	Jun	1,026	288	1,088	206	42	2,650	
	Jul	1,169	333	1,529	262	78	3,371	
	Aug	1,046	292	1,247	195	69	2,849	
	Sep	959	322	1,402	270	84	3,037	
	Oct	947	307	1,492	305	87	3,138	
	Nov	913	310	1,432	228	88	2,971	
	Dec	847	180	607	108	64	1,806	
	Jan	993	318	1,285	289	86	2,971	
	Feb	963	356	1,287	266	88	2,960	
	Mar	1,135	392	1,474	386	90	3,477	
Magherafelt Library	Apr	1,357	506	2,315	443	225	4,846	56,312
	May	1,244	389	2,046	514	210	4,403	
	Jun	1,228	388	1,821	279	197	3,913	
	Jul	1,560	488	2,577	386	267	5,278	
	Aug	1,449	429	2,359	384	261	4,882	
	Sep	1,384	538	2,345	470	199	4,936	
	Oct	1,345	516	2,749	466	260	5,336	
	Nov	1,287	452	2,505	430	230	4,904	
	Dec	1,111	261	1,328	165	178	3,043	
	Jan	1,305	557	2,084	479	201	4,626	
	Feb	1,285	553	2,225	501	308	4,872	
	Mar	1,342	573	2,525	515	318	5,273	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Moir Library	Apr	638	113	1,253	167	6	2,177	23,107
	May	410	122	1,127	128	4	1,791	
	Jun	539	134	1,023	147	10	1,853	
	Jul	587	123	1,078	93	9	1,890	
	Aug	534	130	1,083	122	5	1,874	
	Sep	523	155	1,347	217	12	2,254	
	Oct	544	155	1,341	191	6	2,237	
	Nov	524	136	1,243	192	10	2,105	
	Dec	384	83	557	103	10	1,137	
	Jan	424	149	1,150	215	12	1,950	
	Feb	418	170	1,054	212	22	1,876	
	Mar	491	144	1,132	172	24	1,963	
Moneymore Library	Apr	339	64	298	59	18	778	9,627
	May	367	78	392	103	15	955	
	Jun	328	56	348	65	10	807	
	Jul	379	70	399	82	17	947	
	Aug	331	68	334	80	43	856	
	Sep	270	71	304	68	22	735	
	Oct	289	62	332	84	29	796	
	Nov	321	48	367	120	30	886	
	Dec	187	18	134	36	6	381	
	Jan	283	44	314	83	41	765	
	Feb	301	68	291	57	19	736	
	Mar	316	63	464	117	25	985	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Moy Library	Apr	275	68	449	153	32	977	12,705
	May	308	120	366	126	24	944	
	Jun	349	70	469	144	36	1,068	
	Jul	358	91	569	229	31	1,278	
	Aug	296	87	573	168	22	1,146	
	Sep	301	67	517	167	19	1,071	
	Oct	292	81	509	118	41	1,041	
	Nov	283	71	495	90	52	991	
	Dec	260	53	225	24	22	584	
	Jan	280	76	503	146	38	1,043	
	Feb	309	120	588	141	37	1,195	
	Mar	421	83	669	152	42	1,367	
Newcastle Library	Apr	1,862	780	1,631	323	101	4,697	51,393
	May	1,531	594	1,390	269	148	3,932	
	Jun	1,762	719	1,485	242	181	4,389	
	Jul	2,013	793	1,643	247	226	4,922	
	Aug	1,715	726	1,525	249	220	4,435	
	Sep	1,681	738	1,528	250	184	4,381	
	Oct	1,698	737	1,490	254	188	4,367	
	Nov	1,537	631	1,770	350	212	4,500	
	Dec	1,399	429	1,092	172	126	3,218	
	Jan	1,604	647	1,425	278	183	4,137	
	Feb	1,576	639	1,308	250	189	3,962	
	Mar	1,600	666	1,598	372	217	4,453	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Newry Library	Apr	3,475	1,183	2,923	401	255	8,237	75,313
	May	2,903	997	2,888	366	294	7,448	
	Jun	3,199	1,078	3,016	328	336	7,957	
	Jul	3,453	1,222	4,422	518	386	10,001	
	Aug	3,418	1,228	4,022	443	384	9,495	
	Sep	3,330	1,260	2,984	385	302	8,261	
	Oct	3,074	1,421	3,516	451	375	8,837	
	Nov	2,976	1,240	2,903	369	295	7,783	
	Dec	2,168	686	1,501	152	191	4,698	
	Jan	362	105	204	18	8	697	
	Feb	414	142	387	43	19	1,005	
	Mar	389	114	327	29	35	894	
Newtownards Library	Apr	2,536	825	1,501	202	31	5,095	60,563
	May	2,417	735	1,641	297	51	5,141	
	Jun	2,509	767	1,472	206	41	4,995	
	Jul	2,577	729	1,940	226	46	5,518	
	Aug	2,539	739	1,724	239	40	5,281	
	Sep	2,507	773	1,664	292	59	5,295	
	Oct	2,374	810	1,738	288	68	5,278	
	Nov	2,303	775	1,527	314	44	4,963	
	Dec	1,876	487	1,020	187	35	3,605	
	Jan	2,283	790	1,397	199	44	4,713	
	Feb	2,136	784	1,814	297	61	5,092	
	Mar	2,392	817	2,012	285	81	5,587	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Newtownbreda Library	Apr	1,696	578	1,648	310	59	4,291	54,474
	May	1,413	511	1,653	310	106	3,993	
	Jun	1,634	498	1,701	316	74	4,223	
	Jul	1,949	564	2,141	239	115	5,008	
	Aug	1,878	620	1,979	291	151	4,919	
	Sep	1,817	640	2,140	364	157	5,118	
	Oct	1,772	515	2,400	369	142	5,198	
	Nov	1,716	443	2,053	322	152	4,686	
	Dec	1,446	310	1,159	150	80	3,145	
	Jan	1,516	546	2,059	312	115	4,548	
	Feb	1,482	572	2,010	326	140	4,530	
	Mar	1,708	516	2,163	299	129	4,815	
Newtownstewart Library	Apr	306	78	318	54	5	761	10,203
	May	269	78	417	76	19	859	
	Jun	302	91	352	70	11	826	
	Jul	376	71	563	55	21	1,086	
	Aug	350	102	545	85	12	1,094	
	Sep	230	83	433	86	3	835	
	Oct	288	90	550	95	20	1,043	
	Nov	294	82	501	75	15	967	
	Dec	151	31	104	11	2	299	
	Jan	207	52	262	49	8	578	
	Feb	195	91	525	89	11	911	
	Mar	298	82	438	111	15	944	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Omagh Library	Apr	3,023	1,746	4,358	675	439	10,241	128,170
	May	2,914	1,646	4,350	577	358	9,845	
	Jun	3,130	1,647	4,346	602	287	10,012	
	Jul	3,816	1,874	7,119	855	358	14,022	
	Aug	3,523	2,068	6,381	830	431	13,233	
	Sep	3,270	2,019	4,981	667	354	11,291	
	Oct	3,198	2,019	5,523	644	314	11,698	
	Nov	3,026	1,722	4,271	573	358	9,950	
	Dec	2,513	959	2,776	346	279	6,873	
	Jan	3,098	1,745	4,051	537	302	9,733	
	Feb	2,801	1,838	4,649	753	440	10,481	
	Mar	3,240	1,906	4,460	695	490	10,791	
Ormeau Road Library	Apr	1,749	900	1,287	225	125	4,286	51,717
	May	1,610	737	1,211	231	95	3,884	
	Jun	1,767	823	1,063	145	127	3,925	
	Jul	1,945	963	1,902	308	289	5,407	
	Aug	1,799	875	1,535	247	285	4,741	
	Sep	1,705	961	1,393	270	267	4,596	
	Oct	1,731	927	1,414	325	274	4,671	
	Nov	1,736	824	1,436	247	272	4,515	
	Dec	1,065	407	611	109	129	2,321	
	Jan	1,632	790	1,372	330	250	4,374	
	Feb	1,507	780	1,541	301	287	4,416	
	Mar	1,743	850	1,423	278	287	4,581	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Portadown Library	Apr	2,426	776	1,745	288	204	5,439	69,047
	May	2,310	798	1,681	309	181	5,279	
	Jun	2,590	781	1,933	303	219	5,826	
	Jul	2,653	827	2,946	376	249	7,051	
	Aug	2,341	855	2,568	371	302	6,437	
	Sep	2,396	882	2,046	321	191	5,836	
	Oct	2,462	821	2,140	319	230	5,972	
	Nov	2,394	880	2,147	327	191	5,939	
	Dec	1,935	538	1,271	201	129	4,074	
	Jan	2,430	841	1,750	333	148	5,502	
	Feb	2,251	831	1,967	349	216	5,614	
	Mar	2,368	862	2,210	380	258	6,078	
Portaferry Library	Apr	720	212	765	139	15	1,851	20,703
	May	669	218	654	121	9	1,671	
	Jun	708	275	833	115	14	1,945	
	Jul	795	221	703	89	11	1,819	
	Aug	758	207	827	116	5	1,913	
	Sep	809	229	778	108	21	1,945	
	Oct	836	239	830	93	14	2,012	
	Nov	714	190	678	48	25	1,655	
	Dec	523	179	385	28	19	1,134	
	Jan	749	221	547	87	33	1,637	
	Feb	693	213	637	74	29	1,646	
	Mar	692	152	530	65	36	1,475	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Portglenone Library	Apr	342	108	560	49	8	1,067	14,417
	May	392	85	690	97	14	1,278	
	Jun	305	102	639	65	3	1,114	
	Jul	382	106	887	81	14	1,470	
	Aug	457	113	896	91	26	1,583	
	Sep	380	79	663	91	21	1,234	
	Oct	412	129	699	123	19	1,382	
	Nov	366	100	614	66	19	1,165	
	Dec	215	39	387	52	7	700	
	Jan	291	72	588	88	18	1,057	
	Feb	313	85	663	84	21	1,166	
	Mar	359	87	656	88	11	1,201	
Portrush Library	Apr	1,151	322	630	115	97	2,315	25,086
	May	966	244	522	98	150	1,980	
	Jun	1,016	256	587	112	117	2,088	
	Jul	1,227	319	1,078	137	172	2,933	
	Aug	1,086	296	859	99	149	2,489	
	Sep	1,113	283	537	88	103	2,124	
	Oct	1,015	314	712	107	84	2,232	
	Nov	906	280	648	114	96	2,044	
	Dec	758	171	294	28	51	1,302	
	Jan	863	198	492	87	68	1,708	
	Feb	830	246	574	88	123	1,861	
	Mar	914	242	633	73	148	2,010	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Portstewart Library	Apr	1,002	389	891	97	126	2,505	28,218
	May	886	270	651	68	144	2,019	
	Jun	1,049	344	775	94	113	2,375	
	Jul	1,047	464	1,543	192	170	3,416	
	Aug	1,158	360	1,219	153	175	3,065	
	Sep	847	360	778	112	100	2,197	
	Oct	843	361	860	76	88	2,228	
	Nov	926	334	825	84	107	2,276	
	Dec	721	217	435	35	79	1,487	
	Jan	817	306	684	101	140	2,048	
	Feb	841	284	860	95	151	2,231	
	Mar	908	381	854	109	119	2,371	
Randalstown Library	Apr	960	166	755	91	26	1,998	23,081
	May	753	136	771	90	30	1,780	
	Jun	885	152	788	65	33	1,923	
	Jul	918	209	934	102	58	2,221	
	Aug	894	160	851	79	47	2,031	
	Sep	852	156	857	136	37	2,038	
	Oct	892	168	938	107	42	2,147	
	Nov	905	160	858	95	58	2,076	
	Dec	729	107	469	63	32	1,400	
	Jan	783	173	695	86	41	1,778	
	Feb	782	154	699	81	42	1,758	
	Mar	769	182	844	95	41	1,931	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Rathcoole Library	Apr	1,125	369	536	57	152	2,239	26,354
	May	1,029	312	458	78	114	1,991	
	Jun	1,088	334	488	85	85	2,080	
	Jul	1,193	364	760	156	111	2,584	
	Aug	1,213	398	628	128	100	2,467	
	Sep	1,174	356	648	89	73	2,340	
	Oct	1,169	387	635	133	65	2,389	
	Nov	995	317	593	79	71	2,055	
	Dec	802	210	288	31	38	1,369	
	Jan	1,096	342	622	108	99	2,267	
	Feb	929	364	610	112	98	2,113	
	Mar	1,037	401	761	139	122	2,460	
Rathfriland Library	Apr	509	163	956	199	36	1,863	23,594
	May	539	188	826	178	21	1,752	
	Jun	523	139	803	124	26	1,615	
	Jul	617	179	1,017	162	42	2,017	
	Aug	485	193	1,030	144	39	1,891	
	Sep	555	197	1,129	322	34	2,237	
	Oct	608	235	1,160	353	41	2,397	
	Nov	567	147	1,140	325	38	2,217	
	Dec	421	118	465	65	34	1,103	
	Jan	600	156	1,027	276	40	2,099	
	Feb	511	237	1,048	283	32	2,111	
	Mar	542	227	1,209	263	51	2,292	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Richhill Library	Apr	398	145	716	155	26	1,440	16,508
	May	366	130	563	102	26	1,187	
	Jun	352	125	653	106	23	1,259	
	Jul	429	146	741	129	22	1,467	
	Aug	385	131	635	93	37	1,281	
	Sep	365	155	731	104	43	1,398	
	Oct	469	170	785	115	54	1,593	
	Nov	507	170	615	86	29	1,407	
	Dec	332	69	344	34	18	797	
	Jan	392	183	529	107	16	1,227	
	Feb	517	214	740	112	28	1,611	
	Mar	559	216	891	145	30	1,841	
Saintfield Library	Apr	741	292	839	242	25	2,139	24,566
	May	566	260	790	168	36	1,820	
	Jun	587	232	765	220	18	1,822	
	Jul	701	295	992	134	17	2,139	
	Aug	640	227	973	144	29	2,013	
	Sep	593	245	1,116	193	27	2,174	
	Oct	581	284	1,276	306	56	2,503	
	Nov	535	248	1,105	276	40	2,204	
	Dec	496	126	445	67	29	1,163	
	Jan	678	241	886	165	50	2,020	
	Feb	767	258	1,039	185	63	2,312	
	Mar	760	226	1,011	196	64	2,257	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Shankill Road Library	Apr	1,223	295	545	81	100	2,244	22,723
	May	999	298	423	82	98	1,900	
	Jun	1,145	248	514	75	140	2,122	
	Jul	1,089	219	480	74	86	1,948	
	Aug	1,169	260	429	83	179	2,120	
	Sep	1,047	277	505	93	134	2,056	
	Oct	1,080	238	463	85	140	2,006	
	Nov	1,035	281	632	86	95	2,129	
	Dec	740	205	302	37	59	1,343	
	Jan	1,043	253	338	71	76	1,781	
	Feb	893	187	375	59	52	1,566	
	Mar	945	152	318	53	40	1,508	
Shantallow Library	Apr	1,266	312	1,608	197	46	3,429	39,150
	May	1,020	257	1,566	181	44	3,068	
	Jun	1,241	267	1,250	139	35	2,932	
	Jul	1,335	271	1,948	205	54	3,813	
	Aug	1,366	351	1,754	173	102	3,746	
	Sep	1,197	347	1,591	226	77	3,438	
	Oct	1,188	388	1,689	288	59	3,612	
	Nov	1,297	271	1,329	221	48	3,166	
	Dec	886	162	565	64	37	1,714	
	Jan	1,307	309	1,484	223	65	3,388	
	Feb	1,012	346	1,603	283	62	3,306	
	Mar	1,109	341	1,775	241	72	3,538	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Strabane Library	Apr	1,620	424	1,773	198	119	4,134	51,758
	May	1,454	407	1,739	306	79	3,985	
	Jun	1,583	460	1,641	208	86	3,978	
	Jul	1,805	450	2,198	282	100	4,835	
	Aug	1,555	453	2,224	260	102	4,594	
	Sep	1,838	525	1,957	304	79	4,703	
	Oct	1,806	512	2,073	281	98	4,770	
	Nov	1,655	398	2,293	352	87	4,785	
	Dec	1,352	258	862	114	33	2,619	
	Jan	1,588	493	1,614	228	103	4,026	
	Feb	1,590	424	2,019	339	123	4,495	
	Mar	1,730	474	2,170	341	119	4,834	
Strathfoyle Library	Apr	220	96	862	169	37	1,384	16,449
	May	182	87	870	119	32	1,290	
	Jun	245	99	793	129	29	1,295	
	Jul	242	105	756	92	50	1,245	
	Aug	208	71	883	81	63	1,306	
	Sep	220	109	987	183	57	1,556	
	Oct	199	102	1,132	327	52	1,812	
	Nov	222	115	1,094	284	56	1,771	
	Dec	125	37	290	29	18	499	
	Jan	227	105	975	173	29	1,509	
	Feb	195	72	842	198	46	1,353	
	Mar	265	79	833	208	44	1,429	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Suffolk Library	Apr	767	278	545	68	51	1,709	27,681
	May	624	196	566	61	42	1,489	
	Jun	789	224	708	72	28	1,821	
	Jul	1,117	263	905	103	63	2,451	
	Aug	1,192	363	988	136	54	2,733	
	Sep	1,247	328	983	139	60	2,757	
	Oct	1,085	366	858	155	113	2,577	
	Nov	1,177	305	986	171	115	2,754	
	Dec	859	195	453	92	73	1,672	
	Jan	1,086	342	643	117	95	2,283	
	Feb	940	346	1,087	151	119	2,643	
	Mar	1,150	421	941	170	110	2,792	
Tandragee Library	Apr	791	248	964	254	44	2,301	26,643
	May	674	231	1,030	305	39	2,279	
	Jun	766	231	893	216	23	2,129	
	Jul	797	253	1,042	253	30	2,375	
	Aug	833	217	879	198	38	2,165	
	Sep	785	275	879	227	54	2,220	
	Oct	656	259	1,084	282	59	2,340	
	Nov	633	214	1,009	239	54	2,149	
	Dec	641	161	578	81	38	1,499	
	Jan	629	192	1,135	260	65	2,281	
	Feb	658	258	1,064	290	90	2,360	
	Mar	685	210	1,254	346	50	2,545	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Tullycarnet Library	Apr	993	347	500	74	30	1,944	22,560
	May	729	247	484	68	53	1,581	
	Jun	883	284	421	49	90	1,727	
	Jul	1,129	287	561	91	65	2,133	
	Aug	1,096	366	481	74	52	2,069	
	Sep	1,064	350	516	96	90	2,116	
	Oct	988	276	507	64	71	1,906	
	Nov	882	275	540	87	80	1,864	
	Dec	755	186	188	38	59	1,226	
	Jan	918	305	443	77	70	1,813	
	Feb	987	337	506	94	127	2,051	
	Mar	945	344	623	139	79	2,130	
Warrenpoint Library	Apr	1,426	497	1,765	314	137	4,139	49,879
	May	1,161	393	1,669	246	120	3,589	
	Jun	1,167	364	1,598	215	117	3,461	
	Jul	1,538	478	2,009	213	146	4,384	
	Aug	1,482	482	2,277	282	193	4,716	
	Sep	1,385	603	1,888	238	163	4,277	
	Oct	1,342	556	2,111	304	147	4,460	
	Nov	1,288	427	1,826	239	161	3,941	
	Dec	1,065	304	1,061	106	90	2,626	
	Jan	1,679	549	1,985	233	121	4,567	
	Feb	1,688	567	2,185	277	130	4,847	
	Mar	1,701	572	2,183	292	124	4,872	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Waterside Library	Apr	2,281	827	2,511	301	199	6,119	78,424
	May	2,331	819	2,610	319	253	6,332	
	Jun	2,589	883	2,717	316	231	6,736	
	Jul	2,744	903	3,372	464	285	7,768	
	Aug	2,375	807	3,050	392	200	6,824	
	Sep	2,489	907	2,877	382	222	6,877	
	Oct	2,461	926	3,069	394	276	7,126	
	Nov	2,408	797	2,910	335	311	6,761	
	Dec	1,840	493	1,561	196	174	4,264	
	Jan	2,240	745	2,655	279	239	6,158	
	Feb	2,098	806	2,963	389	259	6,515	
	Mar	2,466	866	2,902	405	305	6,944	
Whitehead Library	Apr	1,232	468	760	126	8	2,594	29,049
	May	1,136	428	766	83	18	2,431	
	Jun	1,239	429	708	109	6	2,491	
	Jul	1,387	498	881	169	15	2,950	
	Aug	1,239	452	847	102	26	2,666	
	Sep	1,156	489	625	118	40	2,428	
	Oct	1,178	459	733	145	72	2,587	
	Nov	1,118	425	713	128	30	2,414	
	Dec	779	293	404	72	34	1,582	
	Jan	1,083	423	568	128	37	2,239	
	Feb	1,041	506	629	93	48	2,317	
	Mar	1,158	458	590	105	39	2,350	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Whiterock Library	Apr	392	161	338	70	21	982	9,398
	May	352	170	428	55	11	1,016	
	Jun	358	144	418	43	12	975	
	Jul	373	132	545	49	16	1,115	
	Aug	400	136	523	99	15	1,173	
	Sep	409	161	490	65	17	1,142	
	Oct	391	130	441	57	25	1,044	
	Nov	424	134	325	68	36	987	
	Dec	238	93	134	39	27	531	
	Jan	215	62	124	25	7	433	
	Feb	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Mar	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Woodstock Road Library	Apr	1,766	441	692	118	37	3,054	34,971
	May	1,477	364	514	122	28	2,505	
	Jun	1,708	411	687	141	50	2,997	
	Jul	1,867	480	990	171	39	3,547	
	Aug	1,772	418	885	140	35	3,250	
	Sep	1,702	422	732	182	41	3,079	
	Oct	1,604	430	894	140	39	3,107	
	Nov	1,723	333	903	95	44	3,098	
	Dec	1,067	170	366	25	26	1,654	
	Jan	1,627	354	677	93	48	2,799	
	Feb	1,589	388	690	125	53	2,845	
	Mar	1,696	388	757	145	50	3,036	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1,545,485</b>	<b>566,278</b>	<b>1,584,380</b>	<b>248,092</b>	<b>137,517</b>	<b>4,081,752</b>	<b>4,081,752</b>

**ANNEX B****ISSUES:****(I) APRIL 2011 – OCTOBER 2011**

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Antrim Library	Apr	1,736	671	1,569	216	171	4,363	38,400
	May	1,957	797	1,990	342	205	5,291	
	Jun	1,847	801	1,727	287	212	4,874	
	Jul	2,061	854	2,500	390	203	6,008	
	Aug	2,062	834	2,943	458	275	6,572	
	Sep	2,010	884	2,087	324	198	5,503	
	Oct	1,945	913	2,335	389	207	5,789	
Ardoyne Library	Apr	617	173	439	33	36	1,298	11,083
	May	655	216	530	74	37	1,512	
	Jun	745	176	613	74	26	1,634	
	Jul	668	163	603	70	34	1,538	
	Aug	707	239	817	81	54	1,898	
	Sep	652	200	624	101	73	1,650	
	Oct	633	189	599	90	42	1,553	
Armagh Library	Apr	1,801	599	1,676	238	182	4,496	37,628
	May	1,972	691	1,843	269	231	5,006	
	Jun	1,961	676	1,803	248	204	4,892	
	Jul	2,011	728	2,796	415	254	6,204	
	Aug	2,178	773	2,834	458	234	6,477	
	Sep	2,038	689	1,889	238	196	5,050	
	Oct	1,897	794	2,226	373	213	5,503	
Ballycastle Library	Apr	835	305	719	98	118	2,075	17,931
	May	838	405	862	134	167	2,406	
	Jun	869	413	893	144	107	2,426	
	Jul	1,015	443	1,192	187	165	3,002	
	Aug	973	454	1,046	148	163	2,784	
	Sep	915	393	857	196	133	2,494	
	Oct	969	437	968	215	155	2,744	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Ballyclare Library	Apr	1,279	400	1,288	192	120	3,279	26,407
	May	1,337	457	1,413	282	119	3,608	
	Jun	1,279	427	1,563	220	110	3,599	
	Jul	1,423	464	1,941	249	132	4,209	
	Aug	1,411	454	1,658	194	139	3,856	
	Sep	1,276	459	1,471	201	109	3,516	
	Oct	1,409	494	1,946	373	118	4,340	
Ballyhackamore Library	Apr	1,634	530	1,834	265	209	4,472	35,928
	May	1,788	581	2,288	299	157	5,113	
	Jun	1,796	606	2,174	232	143	4,951	
	Jul	1,827	558	2,135	313	179	5,012	
	Aug	2,031	580	2,362	366	224	5,563	
	Sep	1,856	578	2,510	377	188	5,509	
	Oct	1,895	618	2,312	311	172	5,308	
Ballymena Central Library	Apr	3,183	1,163	2,926	276	358	7,906	65,763
	May	3,563	1,424	3,280	343	358	8,968	
	Jun	3,628	1,361	3,411	290	351	9,041	
	Jul	3,865	1,333	4,331	332	408	10,269	
	Aug	4,092	1,632	4,777	358	478	11,337	
	Sep	3,368	1,505	3,282	374	385	8,914	
	Oct	3,358	1,557	3,718	348	347	9,328	
Ballymoney Library	Apr	1,447	532	1,471	225	161	3,836	36,365
	May	1,740	671	1,993	379	194	4,977	
	Jun	1,851	692	2,082	373	201	5,199	
	Jul	2,034	709	2,423	329	189	5,684	
	Aug	1,993	722	2,708	382	299	6,104	
	Sep	1,774	653	2,149	420	233	5,229	
	Oct	1,782	669	2,234	425	226	5,336	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Ballynahinch Library	Apr	568	224	748	133	24	1,697	19,488
	May	763	421	1,487	254	62	2,987	
	Jun	765	329	1,192	223	40	2,549	
	Jul	858	382	1,483	221	55	2,999	
	Aug	846	362	1,646	216	42	3,112	
	Sep	808	405	1,478	277	58	3,026	
	Oct	779	300	1,658	314	67	3,118	
Banbridge Library	Apr	1,752	593	2,357	342	181	5,225	44,257
	May	1,931	703	2,700	432	174	5,940	
	Jun	1,779	730	2,602	365	160	5,636	
	Jul	2,200	740	3,299	375	214	6,828	
	Aug	2,025	731	3,718	437	260	7,171	
	Sep	1,940	726	3,117	531	267	6,581	
	Oct	2,048	723	3,352	515	238	6,876	
Bangor Carnegie Library	Apr	5,883	1,705	5,676	863	339	14,466	115,101
	May	6,467	1,826	6,196	1,171	327	15,987	
	Jun	6,470	1,896	6,421	892	292	15,971	
	Jul	6,170	1,772	7,394	961	246	16,543	
	Aug	6,583	2,144	8,058	1,177	281	18,243	
	Sep	6,188	2,101	7,094	1,129	239	16,751	
	Oct	5,945	2,054	7,662	1,166	313	17,140	
Bessbrook Library	Apr	1,180	301	1,399	203	88	3,171	17,771
	May	961	278	1,052	210	49	2,550	
	Jun	830	175	1,143	191	47	2,386	
	Jul	770	180	1,133	219	58	2,360	
	Aug	837	130	1,054	199	103	2,323	
	Sep	846	209	1,062	262	86	2,465	
	Oct	839	150	1,227	242	58	2,516	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Broughshane Library	Apr	552	129	460	83	21	1,245	10,459
	May	716	125	604	79	24	1,548	
	Jun	619	127	689	85	21	1,541	
	Jul	684	98	494	96	5	1,377	
	Aug	712	142	754	129	16	1,753	
	Sep	680	104	552	99	17	1,452	
	Oct	647	135	608	130	23	1,543	
Brownlow Library	Apr	875	274	1,221	183	77	2,630	23,624
	May	1,000	309	1,567	275	100	3,251	
	Jun	1,029	335	1,748	301	96	3,509	
	Jul	981	344	1,570	313	74	3,282	
	Aug	1,003	369	1,822	440	145	3,779	
	Sep	1,110	363	1,616	334	91	3,514	
	Oct	1,051	332	1,803	407	66	3,659	
Carnlough Library	Apr	399	151	419	75	25	1,069	9,486
	May	431	195	535	95	17	1,273	
	Jun	463	186	394	80	23	1,146	
	Jul	396	142	358	82	16	994	
	Aug	687	377	481	84	31	1,660	
	Sep	566	279	663	80	26	1,614	
	Oct	674	292	635	106	23	1,730	
Carrickfergus Library	Apr	3,352	1,383	2,167	318	315	7,535	57,489
	May	3,509	1,315	2,460	448	339	8,071	
	Jun	3,524	1,238	2,154	358	251	7,525	
	Jul	3,585	1,321	2,841	404	339	8,490	
	Aug	3,969	1,434	3,027	422	352	9,204	
	Sep	3,609	1,428	2,668	373	305	8,383	
	Oct	3,531	1,341	2,735	334	340	8,281	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Carryduff Library	Apr	442	138	639	135	29	1,383	11,497
	May	466	176	744	142	23	1,551	
	Jun	487	194	906	111	20	1,718	
	Jul	539	121	625	86	22	1,393	
	Aug	607	191	784	86	27	1,695	
	Sep	496	210	822	144	18	1,690	
	Oct	576	138	1,140	189	24	2,067	
Castledearg Library	Apr	499	182	794	157	42	1,674	12,751
	May	489	171	795	215	58	1,728	
	Jun	514	128	803	128	40	1,613	
	Jul	554	129	1,012	103	49	1,847	
	Aug	519	190	983	165	69	1,926	
	Sep	421	193	915	198	42	1,769	
	Oct	497	180	1,168	280	69	2,194	
Castlewellan Library	Apr	457	178	791	177	92	1,695	12,452
	May	489	131	854	213	56	1,743	
	Jun	457	160	957	224	85	1,883	
	Jul	437	170	811	185	75	1,678	
	Aug	493	119	839	137	91	1,679	
	Sep	559	178	798	205	84	1,824	
	Oct	506	186	966	223	69	1,950	
Central Lending Library Belfast	Apr	2,503	1,240	683	126	185	4,737	37,090
	May	2,823	1,481	881	158	195	5,538	
	Jun	2,910	1,467	897	133	168	5,575	
	Jul	2,634	1,361	1,155	179	155	5,484	
	Aug	2,748	1,449	1,071	118	193	5,579	
	Sep	2,629	1,338	743	150	202	5,062	
	Oct	2,649	1,393	732	133	208	5,115	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Chichester Library	Apr	1,409	353	807	131	101	2,801	21,916
	May	1,497	375	931	143	74	3,020	
	Jun	1,401	476	828	108	60	2,873	
	Jul	1,502	447	1,126	123	106	3,304	
	Aug	1,494	493	1,101	132	170	3,390	
	Sep	1,492	459	1,117	148	132	3,348	
	Oct	1,369	410	1,151	130	120	3,180	
Cloughfern Library	Apr	492	114	439	115	14	1,174	8,739
	May	546	83	533	93	16	1,271	
	Jun	532	94	531	98	22	1,277	
	Jul	512	96	436	71	14	1,129	
	Aug	537	85	577	104	25	1,328	
	Sep	500	68	576	106	31	1,281	
	Oct	527	105	543	85	19	1,279	
Coalisland Library	Apr	757	185	1,062	183	68	2,255	20,529
	May	908	195	1,355	227	87	2,772	
	Jun	880	252	1,271	258	122	2,783	
	Jul	898	244	1,820	306	99	3,367	
	Aug	942	208	1,701	318	79	3,248	
	Sep	853	238	1,605	324	112	3,132	
	Oct	906	238	1,496	217	115	2,972	
Coleraine Library	Apr	2,142	634	1,734	199	211	4,920	40,854
	May	2,272	648	2,106	255	215	5,496	
	Jun	2,362	746	1,921	260	231	5,520	
	Jul	2,374	637	2,908	355	270	6,544	
	Aug	2,470	891	2,909	379	258	6,907	
	Sep	2,384	749	2,072	257	235	5,697	
	Oct	2,360	799	2,102	292	217	5,770	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Colin Glen Library	Apr	992	322	749	134	80	2,277	18,890
	May	1,051	364	1,088	216	71	2,790	
	Jun	1,027	339	993	145	92	2,596	
	Jul	1,049	389	1,072	150	101	2,761	
	Aug	1,143	327	1,069	186	60	2,785	
	Sep	1,121	411	971	202	85	2,790	
	Oct	988	423	1,162	228	90	2,891	
Comber Library	Apr	1,265	285	1,236	158	58	3,002	23,464
	May	1,369	305	1,336	219	76	3,305	
	Jun	1,397	312	1,229	207	61	3,206	
	Jul	1,541	296	1,257	201	67	3,362	
	Aug	1,568	294	1,380	192	59	3,493	
	Sep	1,529	374	1,359	163	38	3,463	
	Oct	1,595	337	1,480	157	64	3,633	
Cookstown Library	Apr	1,719	506	1,901	353	169	4,648	41,242
	May	1,837	660	2,404	459	182	5,542	
	Jun	1,817	687	2,240	328	161	5,233	
	Jul	2,035	637	3,651	527	171	7,021	
	Aug	2,003	703	3,142	508	231	6,587	
	Sep	1,893	677	2,636	564	174	5,944	
	Oct	2,006	768	2,791	493	209	6,267	
Cregagh Library	Apr	1,085	323	1,066	178	35	2,687	24,316
	May	1,281	369	1,331	298	68	3,347	
	Jun	1,339	503	1,446	256	55	3,599	
	Jul	1,197	429	1,546	212	50	3,434	
	Aug	1,303	478	1,819	298	91	3,989	
	Sep	1,263	458	1,619	289	56	3,685	
	Oct	1,272	450	1,536	259	58	3,575	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Creggan Library	Apr	472	131	634	59	19	1,315	10,817
	May	555	123	945	111	29	1,763	
	Jun	552	109	744	59	25	1,489	
	Jul	575	105	483	21	22	1,206	
	Aug	828	149	498	55	15	1,545	
	Sep	463	111	1,005	46	13	1,638	
	Oct	552	150	1,043	91	25	1,861	
Crossmaglen Library	Apr	364	84	582	69	18	1,117	10,598
	May	433	76	719	100	38	1,366	
	Jun	375	118	736	102	50	1,381	
	Jul	487	103	1,013	168	47	1,818	
	Aug	476	98	978	183	44	1,779	
	Sep	465	101	870	123	58	1,617	
	Oct	438	129	771	133	49	1,520	
Crumlin Library	Apr	338	108	410	77	6	939	9,354
	May	394	133	630	176	12	1,345	
	Jun	374	112	607	110	13	1,216	
	Jul	481	112	787	94	14	1,488	
	Aug	525	135	801	123	17	1,601	
	Sep	391	109	715	182	12	1,409	
	Oct	429	153	650	114	10	1,356	
Cushendall Library	Apr	521	106	559	88	19	1,293	9,918
	May	536	132	489	76	13	1,246	
	Jun	560	175	493	87	12	1,327	
	Jul	710	139	624	63	22	1,558	
	Aug	680	166	677	96	24	1,643	
	Sep	657	167	430	68	36	1,358	
	Oct	643	164	563	81	42	1,493	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Derry Central Library	Apr	3,110	1,542	1,727	175	390	6,944	57,110
	May	3,523	1,871	1,979	226	339	7,938	
	Jun	3,507	1,959	2,085	164	352	8,067	
	Jul	3,378	1,772	2,698	235	390	8,473	
	Aug	3,700	1,924	2,727	300	402	9,053	
	Sep	3,541	1,957	2,022	189	365	8,074	
	Oct	3,696	2,006	2,292	262	305	8,561	
Donaghadee Library	Apr	1,589	376	789	128	77	2,959	24,615
	May	1,975	440	1,180	226	53	3,874	
	Jun	1,833	419	929	198	80	3,459	
	Jul	1,904	438	896	122	42	3,402	
	Aug	2,066	478	951	133	30	3,658	
	Sep	1,771	468	1,093	197	46	3,575	
	Oct	1,826	467	1,116	233	46	3,688	
Downpatrick Library	Apr	1,573	495	1,616	188	198	4,070	34,903
	May	1,625	664	1,794	203	210	4,496	
	Jun	1,793	655	2,071	215	219	4,953	
	Jul	1,778	578	2,398	277	217	5,248	
	Aug	1,836	727	2,472	256	252	5,543	
	Sep	1,714	708	2,195	269	181	5,067	
	Oct	1,868	689	2,360	322	287	5,526	
Draperstown Library	Apr	441	189	969	165	18	1,782	8,871
	May	424	119	692	96	19	1,350	
	Jun	398	85	507	48	10	1,048	
	Jul	405	68	654	79	14	1,220	
	Aug	390	85	569	72	11	1,127	
	Sep	387	89	549	66	23	1,114	
	Oct	403	114	607	95	11	1,230	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Dromore Library	Apr	453	95	614	59	45	1,266	9,870
	May	555	129	927	117	33	1,761	
	Jun	502	93	888	128	31	1,642	
	Jul	526	99	944	112	23	1,704	
	Aug	472	122	950	94	34	1,672	
	Sep	315	68	336	47	13	779	
	Oct	385	78	511	60	12	1,046	
Dundonald Library	Apr	1,091	369	865	148	49	2,522	19,425
	May	1,064	338	1,033	240	50	2,725	
	Jun	1,152	380	964	179	44	2,719	
	Jul	1,118	327	1,181	135	34	2,795	
	Aug	1,095	318	1,274	155	55	2,897	
	Sep	1,038	407	1,222	272	36	2,975	
	Oct	1,012	324	1,181	234	41	2,792	
Dungannon Library	Apr	1,600	726	1,888	297	190	4,701	38,339
	May	1,761	813	2,449	391	186	5,600	
	Jun	1,836	866	2,355	390	157	5,604	
	Jul	1,864	873	3,851	570	195	7,353	
	Aug	1,895	1,002	3,320	575	260	7,052	
	Sep	1,783	866	2,196	327	180	5,352	
	Oct	1,046	338	1,064	177	52	2,677	
Dungiven Library	Apr	528	153	982	119	67	1,849	15,461
	May	635	196	1,330	203	80	2,444	
	Jun	590	133	1,134	137	69	2,063	
	Jul	653	194	1,336	169	86	2,438	
	Aug	658	182	1,431	180	84	2,535	
	Sep	580	162	1,075	154	71	2,042	
	Oct	582	156	1,149	140	63	2,090	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Enniskillen Library	Apr	1,515	909	2,060	267	155	4,906	42,476
	May	1,744	1,088	2,259	340	167	5,598	
	Jun	1,779	1,014	2,183	258	156	5,390	
	Jul	1,829	1,069	3,269	365	212	6,744	
	Aug	2,058	1,078	3,311	450	227	7,124	
	Sep	1,992	1,230	2,496	296	151	6,165	
	Oct	2,226	1,291	2,500	393	139	6,549	
Falls Road Library	Apr	382	130	215	46	26	799	11,756
	May	270	61	111	8	26	476	
	Jun	878	442	613	119	74	2,126	
	Jul	783	407	763	128	77	2,158	
	Aug	830	401	637	115	83	2,066	
	Sep	850	360	704	121	65	2,100	
	Oct	862	350	634	100	85	2,031	
Finaghy Library	Apr	1,687	427	1,465	297	166	4,042	33,201
	May	2,011	469	2,031	425	197	5,133	
	Jun	1,908	492	1,776	293	177	4,646	
	Jul	2,114	440	1,585	193	170	4,502	
	Aug	2,280	550	1,967	234	247	5,278	
	Sep	2,001	566	1,789	296	158	4,810	
	Oct	2,014	481	1,814	302	179	4,790	
Fintona Library	Apr	240	48	386	30	4	708	6,013
	May	291	57	420	58	17	843	
	Jun	225	43	442	55	6	771	
	Jul	245	62	578	48	14	947	
	Aug	230	86	502	72	31	921	
	Sep	301	55	529	60	33	978	
	Oct	232	85	462	54	12	845	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Fivemiletown Library	Apr	364	112	735	98	36	1,345	11,801
	May	451	159	810	87	41	1,548	
	Jun	443	105	896	85	41	1,570	
	Jul	441	169	1,077	140	57	1,884	
	Aug	458	138	1,121	118	135	1,970	
	Sep	405	150	977	138	57	1,727	
	Oct	417	154	999	136	51	1,757	
Garvagh Library	Apr	245	62	462	58	21	848	7,380
	May	341	47	547	91	5	1,031	
	Jun	287	61	642	68	12	1,070	
	Jul	287	53	578	72	21	1,011	
	Aug	274	59	616	92	36	1,077	
	Sep	272	53	592	56	29	1,002	
	Oct	352	69	794	74	52	1,341	
Gilford Library	Apr	267	94	310	40	5	716	5,783
	May	299	71	393	84	22	869	
	Jun	248	92	487	67	18	912	
	Jul	256	87	413	54	14	824	
	Aug	371	64	547	59	33	1,074	
	Sep	301	83	297	42	19	742	
	Oct	242	52	307	31	14	646	
Glengormley Library	Apr	3,479	1,114	2,301	387	272	7,553	62,182
	May	3,860	1,300	2,847	530	237	8,774	
	Jun	3,967	1,201	2,852	487	239	8,746	
	Jul	3,977	1,242	3,331	550	286	9,386	
	Aug	3,966	1,144	3,597	670	282	9,659	
	Sep	3,666	1,257	3,116	542	219	8,800	
	Oct	3,802	1,272	3,469	492	229	9,264	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Greenisland Library	Apr	665	160	730	95	29	1,679	12,755
	May	769	218	791	136	23	1,937	
	Jun	650	183	697	82	22	1,634	
	Jul	705	190	817	87	19	1,818	
	Aug	655	209	908	113	19	1,904	
	Sep	655	190	855	146	25	1,871	
	Oct	651	153	953	130	25	1,912	
Greystone Library	Apr	782	218	582	90	30	1,702	11,480
	May	736	179	566	195	25	1,701	
	Jun	820	257	655	145	41	1,918	
	Jul	724	169	458	30	35	1,416	
	Aug	740	159	387	48	49	1,383	
	Sep	729	173	668	87	45	1,702	
	Oct	758	173	572	133	22	1,658	
Grove Library	Apr	826	256	1,018	192	146	2,438	19,512
	May	862	299	1,206	283	164	2,814	
	Jun	920	296	1,303	209	136	2,864	
	Jul	837	257	1,305	236	138	2,773	
	Aug	881	258	1,254	245	249	2,887	
	Sep	923	351	1,312	238	180	3,004	
	Oct	942	284	1,146	201	159	2,732	
Holywood Arches Library	Apr	1,789	412	913	98	146	3,358	28,444
	May	2,069	497	1,216	161	175	4,118	
	Jun	2,055	552	1,180	120	172	4,079	
	Jul	1,930	509	1,435	150	192	4,216	
	Aug	2,088	609	1,484	204	169	4,554	
	Sep	1,895	526	1,363	215	193	4,192	
	Oct	1,820	571	1,184	162	190	3,927	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Holywood Library	Apr	1,040	380	764	73	18	2,275	26,253
	May	1,386	618	1,288	224	96	3,612	
	Jun	1,616	599	1,305	151	113	3,784	
	Jul	1,727	572	1,405	142	105	3,951	
	Aug	1,754	591	1,601	224	168	4,338	
	Sep	1,655	607	1,511	202	173	4,148	
	Oct	1,590	632	1,635	146	142	4,145	
Irish and Local Studies Library	Apr	0	0	2	0	2	4	44
	May	0	0	0	0	1	1	
	Jun	0	1	4	0	0	5	
	Jul	1	3	0	0	5	9	
	Aug	0	5	0	0	2	7	
	Sep	0	1	3	2	0	6	
	Oct	6	4	0	0	2	12	
Irvinestown Library	Apr	832	169	869	134	40	2,044	15,112
	May	812	222	920	82	41	2,077	
	Jun	863	214	902	110	46	2,135	
	Jul	957	216	1,115	172	72	2,532	
	Aug	837	200	1,232	137	90	2,496	
	Sep	713	190	726	92	56	1,777	
	Oct	760	180	946	100	65	2,051	
Keady Library	Apr	529	170	906	69	58	1,732	13,865
	May	358	130	793	109	68	1,458	
	Jun	455	221	971	126	79	1,852	
	Jul	432	134	1,066	117	74	1,823	
	Aug	663	220	1,184	206	102	2,375	
	Sep	505	166	978	125	77	1,851	
	Oct	849	330	1,377	144	74	2,774	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Kells & Connor Library	Apr	329	162	486	57	11	1,045	6,175
	May	340	118	468	29	7	962	
	Jun	325	115	367	25	6	838	
	Jul	282	71	332	34	6	725	
	Aug	299	93	427	43	14	876	
	Sep	296	84	369	37	7	793	
	Oct	336	68	443	79	10	936	
Kilkeel Library	Apr	1,103	301	1,346	234	128	3,112	26,613
	May	1,223	317	1,742	400	112	3,794	
	Jun	1,108	284	1,342	253	134	3,121	
	Jul	1,107	391	2,131	342	155	4,126	
	Aug	1,324	371	2,304	416	197	4,612	
	Sep	1,157	337	1,560	323	120	3,497	
	Oct	1,302	522	2,012	389	126	4,351	
Killyleagh Library	Apr	470	141	317	87	31	1,046	9,439
	May	466	122	301	127	24	1,040	
	Jun	505	144	429	81	39	1,198	
	Jul	575	217	385	60	31	1,268	
	Aug	688	263	544	102	57	1,654	
	Sep	550	234	541	120	55	1,500	
	Oct	630	214	688	157	44	1,733	
Kilrea Library	Apr	411	136	446	49	23	1,065	9,028
	May	384	118	552	80	23	1,157	
	Jun	423	111	550	66	26	1,176	
	Jul	488	116	799	73	34	1,510	
	Aug	394	121	758	62	49	1,384	
	Sep	401	147	534	84	32	1,198	
	Oct	419	145	825	105	44	1,538	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Larne Library	Apr	2,440	801	1,204	160	298	4,903	38,352
	May	2,667	970	1,469	261	334	5,701	
	Jun	2,377	811	1,359	175	309	5,031	
	Jul	2,781	767	1,767	209	276	5,800	
	Aug	2,564	837	1,756	230	340	5,727	
	Sep	2,368	947	1,765	243	288	5,611	
	Oct	2,304	925	1,853	247	250	5,579	
Limavady Library	Apr	1,637	403	1,943	195	201	4,379	37,471
	May	1,938	500	2,125	196	212	4,971	
	Jun	1,803	479	2,467	202	195	5,146	
	Jul	1,890	520	2,978	276	241	5,905	
	Aug	1,995	490	2,794	282	283	5,844	
	Sep	1,871	527	2,619	343	226	5,586	
	Oct	1,890	522	2,636	364	228	5,640	
Lisburn City Library	Apr	3,552	1,862	4,556	599	332	10,901	91,003
	May	3,904	2,066	5,455	830	317	12,572	
	Jun	3,709	2,023	5,490	707	357	12,286	
	Jul	3,696	2,108	6,954	826	348	13,932	
	Aug	4,124	2,304	6,901	829	408	14,566	
	Sep	3,692	2,349	5,811	691	373	12,916	
	Oct	3,887	2,362	6,338	825	418	13,830	
Lisburn Road Library	Apr	1,680	447	1,437	168	93	3,825	28,854
	May	1,887	441	1,452	197	84	4,061	
	Jun	1,870	478	1,388	137	111	3,984	
	Jul	1,922	505	1,447	152	87	4,113	
	Aug	1,781	538	1,521	198	111	4,149	
	Sep	1,841	486	1,775	243	85	4,430	
	Oct	1,871	552	1,550	208	111	4,292	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Lisnaskea Library	Apr	389	264	811	73	65	1,602	14,204
	May	393	323	1,161	107	105	2,089	
	Jun	408	226	930	123	40	1,727	
	Jul	408	260	1,304	183	110	2,265	
	Aug	481	331	1,537	200	123	2,672	
	Sep	396	264	1,008	101	66	1,835	
	Oct	449	289	1,099	129	48	2,014	
Lurgan Library	Apr	2,581	746	2,169	290	157	5,943	50,742
	May	3,029	935	2,434	508	182	7,088	
	Jun	2,890	804	2,397	426	173	6,690	
	Jul	3,085	938	3,479	462	155	8,119	
	Aug	2,955	909	3,293	497	190	7,844	
	Sep	2,781	903	2,989	590	160	7,423	
	Oct	2,828	844	3,194	586	183	7,635	
Maghera Library	Apr	980	246	1,204	183	68	2,681	21,978
	May	1,047	342	1,361	217	55	3,022	
	Jun	999	294	1,377	208	69	2,947	
	Jul	1,192	316	1,793	205	74	3,580	
	Aug	1,024	318	1,674	208	66	3,290	
	Sep	988	354	1,496	352	59	3,249	
	Oct	1,038	329	1,544	240	58	3,209	
Magherafelt Library	Apr	1,240	426	1,978	351	207	4,202	35,504
	May	1,384	432	2,525	466	227	5,034	
	Jun	1,330	456	2,233	345	218	4,582	
	Jul	1,478	476	2,703	345	274	5,276	
	Aug	1,545	401	2,775	436	282	5,439	
	Sep	1,420	559	2,676	548	213	5,416	
	Oct	1,422	475	2,901	550	207	5,555	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Moir Library	Apr	407	78	800	114	8	1,407	13,056
	May	567	130	1,352	264	5	2,318	
	Jun	476	93	1,027	173	21	1,790	
	Jul	521	95	1,042	136	16	1,810	
	Aug	443	94	1,053	104	7	1,701	
	Sep	452	120	1,280	228	21	2,101	
	Oct	404	110	1,212	190	13	1,929	
Moneymore Library	Apr	336	99	408	91	35	969	6,870
	May	337	55	443	85	44	964	
	Jun	313	50	457	84	29	933	
	Jul	382	53	474	117	36	1,062	
	Aug	343	55	388	82	26	894	
	Sep	297	63	554	102	34	1,050	
	Oct	336	60	486	89	27	998	
Moy Library	Apr	555	117	839	224	70	1,805	9,091
	May	441	68	638	161	39	1,347	
	Jun	365	71	575	82	36	1,129	
	Jul	404	105	767	101	51	1,428	
	Aug	306	39	617	93	42	1,097	
	Sep	311	49	557	116	43	1,076	
	Oct	275	89	676	120	49	1,209	
Newcastle Library	Apr	1,556	527	1,255	191	181	3,710	30,429
	May	1,669	637	1,623	296	156	4,381	
	Jun	1,648	580	1,468	252	140	4,088	
	Jul	1,885	647	1,666	204	172	4,574	
	Aug	1,860	687	1,739	231	195	4,712	
	Sep	1,738	750	1,455	272	163	4,378	
	Oct	1,710	635	1,748	284	209	4,586	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Newry Library	Apr	338	77	199	30	16	660	45,848
	May	1,963	909	2,171	293	227	5,563	
	Jun	2,795	1,054	2,793	287	249	7,178	
	Jul	2,861	1,126	4,041	481	346	8,855	
	Aug	2,789	1,104	3,834	429	265	8,421	
	Sep	2,795	1,192	3,151	293	259	7,690	
	Oct	2,659	1,162	3,057	336	267	7,481	
Newtownards Library	Apr	2,192	628	1,568	230	80	4,698	36,470
	May	2,421	690	1,572	273	84	5,040	
	Jun	2,488	637	1,480	281	123	5,009	
	Jul	2,385	590	1,764	211	80	5,030	
	Aug	2,776	716	2,045	224	105	5,866	
	Sep	2,582	677	2,002	251	78	5,590	
	Oct	2,557	621	1,686	276	97	5,237	
Newtownbreda Library	Apr	1,605	412	1,673	204	95	3,989	34,782
	May	1,718	466	2,159	355	156	4,854	
	Jun	1,762	474	2,268	265	107	4,876	
	Jul	1,694	502	2,189	287	76	4,748	
	Aug	1,837	549	2,595	371	153	5,505	
	Sep	1,688	550	2,509	372	112	5,231	
	Oct	1,735	547	2,821	383	93	5,579	
Newtownstewart Library	Apr	250	46	381	81	3	761	5,716
	May	300	98	445	91	4	938	
	Jun	241	67	378	57	6	749	
	Jul	273	57	451	47	9	837	
	Aug	222	69	490	59	13	853	
	Sep	221	85	402	59	12	779	
	Oct	199	69	459	63	9	799	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Omagh Library	Apr	2,850	1,453	3,905	562	340	9,110	77,036
	May	3,243	1,675	4,363	546	393	10,220	
	Jun	3,213	1,735	4,272	606	329	10,155	
	Jul	3,370	1,661	6,620	812	403	12,866	
	Aug	3,439	1,677	6,498	898	524	13,036	
	Sep	2,924	1,725	4,676	583	394	10,302	
	Oct	3,016	1,772	5,461	690	408	11,347	
Ormeau Road Library	Apr	1,465	721	1,208	218	198	3,810	32,365
	May	1,727	807	1,454	315	209	4,512	
	Jun	1,763	850	1,286	273	137	4,309	
	Jul	1,731	857	1,612	226	197	4,623	
	Aug	1,833	940	1,766	319	303	5,161	
	Sep	1,756	888	1,696	346	238	4,924	
	Oct	1,798	872	1,763	372	221	5,026	
Portadown Library	Apr	2,147	619	1,861	281	188	5,096	41,550
	May	2,434	752	1,924	302	190	5,602	
	Jun	2,498	768	2,252	339	186	6,043	
	Jul	2,353	606	2,760	360	188	6,267	
	Aug	2,568	811	2,800	457	297	6,933	
	Sep	2,412	742	1,965	346	177	5,642	
	Oct	2,413	708	2,298	366	182	5,967	
Portaferry Library	Apr	597	151	514	64	16	1,342	11,830
	May	668	180	652	103	21	1,624	
	Jun	698	190	548	74	22	1,532	
	Jul	737	174	794	102	36	1,843	
	Aug	629	160	776	109	40	1,714	
	Sep	672	231	825	130	78	1,936	
	Oct	735	204	741	116	43	1,839	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Portlengone Library	Apr	319	78	554	75	10	1,036	9,060
	May	348	91	757	83	14	1,293	
	Jun	379	63	692	58	11	1,203	
	Jul	403	70	835	81	22	1,411	
	Aug	409	74	918	73	18	1,492	
	Sep	410	65	725	95	28	1,323	
	Oct	365	93	748	74	22	1,302	
Portrush Library	Apr	937	211	557	41	69	1,815	14,707
	May	897	215	570	71	79	1,832	
	Jun	940	201	513	53	65	1,772	
	Jul	1,087	210	1,048	118	100	2,563	
	Aug	1,003	244	924	104	120	2,395	
	Sep	971	252	681	88	90	2,082	
	Oct	973	228	843	106	98	2,248	
Portstewart Library	Apr	804	284	700	48	89	1,925	17,229
	May	870	291	796	93	83	2,133	
	Jun	973	315	750	109	90	2,237	
	Jul	1,118	354	1,281	178	154	3,085	
	Aug	1,099	315	1,307	182	166	3,069	
	Sep	903	328	849	100	107	2,287	
	Oct	954	324	1,006	107	102	2,493	
Randalstown Library	Apr	724	127	652	62	32	1,597	13,496
	May	813	171	831	87	30	1,932	
	Jun	808	117	726	86	28	1,765	
	Jul	881	119	901	81	29	2,011	
	Aug	920	147	1,044	120	52	2,283	
	Sep	724	145	770	118	42	1,799	
	Oct	891	138	941	107	32	2,109	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Rathcoole Library	Apr	979	256	537	94	81	1,947	14,491
	May	1,114	325	546	73	91	2,149	
	Jun	992	300	589	88	70	2,039	
	Jul	1,067	306	611	112	67	2,163	
	Aug	1,060	335	648	158	57	2,258	
	Sep	887	241	531	110	105	1,874	
	Oct	946	338	597	98	82	2,061	
Rathfriland Library	Apr	503	124	708	192	19	1,546	12,813
	May	477	163	911	212	33	1,796	
	Jun	400	109	829	155	24	1,517	
	Jul	483	133	935	194	37	1,782	
	Aug	433	166	1,161	178	57	1,995	
	Sep	449	133	1,018	181	30	1,811	
	Oct	501	167	1,360	293	45	2,366	
Richhill Library	Apr	390	135	562	57	29	1,173	9,639
	May	494	177	764	115	26	1,576	
	Jun	472	158	585	64	20	1,299	
	Jul	477	120	872	120	36	1,625	
	Aug	433	132	691	96	28	1,380	
	Sep	417	114	647	54	29	1,261	
	Oct	375	168	669	84	29	1,325	
Saintfield Library	Apr	554	141	685	94	42	1,516	13,888
	May	703	167	933	217	44	2,064	
	Jun	608	199	857	163	31	1,858	
	Jul	628	172	899	96	33	1,828	
	Aug	692	208	994	167	43	2,104	
	Sep	768	292	1,079	228	58	2,425	
	Oct	654	214	982	190	53	2,093	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Shankill Road Library	Apr	666	93	225	36	10	1,030	11,536
	May	647	78	199	9	7	940	
	Jun	852	231	486	70	96	1,735	
	Jul	955	270	495	95	43	1,858	
	Aug	1,045	301	603	83	78	2,110	
	Sep	893	290	554	119	66	1,922	
	Oct	997	240	534	107	63	1,941	
Shantallow Library	Apr	886	238	1,404	236	70	2,834	21,459
	May	1,179	248	1,467	247	65	3,206	
	Jun	1,052	287	1,186	122	42	2,689	
	Jul	1,162	277	1,424	124	55	3,042	
	Aug	1,109	242	1,531	136	56	3,074	
	Sep	1,196	358	1,590	262	64	3,470	
	Oct	1,082	262	1,541	194	65	3,144	
Strabane Library	Apr	1,568	285	1,991	236	78	4,158	31,527
	May	1,756	448	2,037	304	109	4,654	
	Jun	1,680	338	1,830	247	106	4,201	
	Jul	1,625	398	2,311	352	102	4,788	
	Aug	1,713	426	2,158	289	131	4,717	
	Sep	1,697	490	1,908	218	86	4,399	
	Oct	1,646	441	2,144	249	130	4,610	
Strathfoyle Library	Apr	238	70	890	221	40	1,459	9,377
	May	317	85	775	140	37	1,354	
	Jun	266	99	887	175	26	1,453	
	Jul	252	89	718	90	45	1,194	
	Aug	223	60	758	95	46	1,182	
	Sep	242	84	852	141	39	1,358	
	Oct	201	67	903	187	19	1,377	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Suffolk Library	Apr	893	343	674	97	91	2,098	19,349
	May	1,072	391	920	143	113	2,639	
	Jun	1,162	353	936	149	76	2,676	
	Jul	1,089	371	1,035	153	133	2,781	
	Aug	1,216	507	1,000	216	169	3,108	
	Sep	1,123	383	1,199	205	134	3,044	
	Oct	1,123	392	1,128	245	115	3,003	
Tandragee Library	Apr	656	154	973	238	54	2,075	15,522
	May	634	138	1,194	340	37	2,343	
	Jun	644	151	1,099	192	47	2,133	
	Jul	735	166	1,143	155	41	2,240	
	Aug	721	176	1,130	211	72	2,310	
	Sep	647	229	826	172	45	1,919	
	Oct	661	249	1,233	305	54	2,502	
Tullycarnet Library	Apr	901	269	416	50	60	1,696	13,763
	May	958	288	639	98	75	2,058	
	Jun	931	276	540	68	58	1,873	
	Jul	1,013	265	663	76	51	2,068	
	Aug	952	295	697	112	102	2,158	
	Sep	923	277	629	91	56	1,976	
	Oct	849	255	670	96	64	1,934	
Warrenpoint Library	Apr	1,596	512	1,834	232	140	4,314	29,855
	May	1,454	454	2,076	302	114	4,400	
	Jun	1,416	474	1,662	207	103	3,862	
	Jul	1,457	447	2,218	253	134	4,509	
	Aug	1,579	437	2,368	278	158	4,820	
	Sep	1,322	436	1,892	178	137	3,965	
	Oct	1,363	447	1,777	255	143	3,985	

<b>Library Location</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Adult Fiction</b>	<b>Adult Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Fiction</b>	<b>Junior Non-Fiction</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Branch Total</b>
Waterside Library	Apr	2,061	686	2,428	320	168	5,663	46,660
	May	2,416	824	2,737	357	272	6,606	
	Jun	2,306	711	2,754	377	244	6,392	
	Jul	2,415	674	3,605	446	229	7,369	
	Aug	2,548	761	3,277	391	194	7,171	
	Sep	2,422	855	2,879	346	225	6,727	
	Oct	2,339	771	3,014	434	174	6,732	
Whitehead Library	Apr	1,022	339	460	77	39	1,937	15,940
	May	1,160	501	653	82	24	2,420	
	Jun	976	327	554	110	32	1,999	
	Jul	1,175	373	638	112	21	2,319	
	Aug	1,212	414	702	125	46	2,499	
	Sep	1,042	409	663	165	50	2,329	
	Oct	1,099	437	747	129	25	2,437	
Whiterock Library	Apr	206	81	339	78	5	709	8,270
	May	441	181	615	120	14	1,371	
	Jun	406	154	495	66	12	1,133	
	Jul	420	147	330	79	7	983	
	Aug	456	227	577	124	11	1,395	
	Sep	438	216	507	114	29	1,304	
	Oct	288	189	746	140	12	1,375	
Woodstock Road Library	Apr	1,556	320	682	118	32	2,708	20,397
	May	1,650	356	750	157	38	2,951	
	Jun	1,545	320	763	147	31	2,806	
	Jul	1,682	356	812	136	39	3,025	
	Aug	1,749	354	769	179	53	3,104	
	Sep	1,493	379	691	149	60	2,772	
	Oct	1,453	414	987	143	34	3,031	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>909,420</b>	<b>313,833</b>	<b>1,012,196</b>	<b>149,269</b>	<b>76,924</b>	<b>2,461,642</b>	<b>2,461,642</b>

(II) PUBLIC ACCESS TERMINALS APRIL 2010 – MARCH 2011 ANNEX C

	April 2010 - March 2011												
	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Grand Total
Library	Antrim Library	2,718	2,656	2,858	3,075	3,216	2,976	3,347	3,206	1,989	3,213	3,630	35,783
	Ardoyne Library	791	816	1,061	876	1,014	1,025	954	1,118	735	1,110	1,224	11,626
	Armagh Library	3,017	3,144	2,983	2,652	2,935	3,079	2,929	3,014	2,280	2,678	2,901	34,418
	Ballycastle Library	613	584	680	742	726	708	800	758	620	637	676	8,255
	Ballyclare Library	672	767	729	637	661	791	840	830	482	730	872	8,750
	Ballyhackamore Library	726	614	687	678	788	923	776	691	471	744	964	8,794
	Ballymena Central Library	4,378	4,022	4,250	4,058	4,667	4,478	4,089	3,674	2,597	3,902	4,668	48,459
	Ballymoney Library	1,471	1,555	1,459	1,424	1,426	1,538	1,332	1,341	778	1,300	1,285	16,304
	Ballynahinch Library	626	551	576	662	629	708	648	719	478			5,597
	Banbridge Library	2,200	2,084	2,155	2,105	2,414	2,635	2,633	2,506	1,621	2,480	2,354	27,795
	Bangor Carnegie Library	4,926	4,433	4,399	4,984	5,081	4,972	5,143	5,392	3,473	4,826	5,052	58,271
	Belfast Central Library	10,771	9,532	10,730	11,198	12,850	12,179	11,983	12,409	8,907	11,658	12,601	138,581
	Bessbrook Library	232	231	222	249	244	236	244	308	219	805	899	756
Broughshane Library	99	105	121	123	153	138	123	134	96	133	142	142	1,509
Brownlow Library	1,113	1,220	1,088	1,177	1,128	1,236	1,251	1,089	735	968	1,094	1,159	13,258
Carnlough Library	122	134	176	239	187	174	150	183	129	114	178	175	1,961

	April 2010 - March 2011												
	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Grand Total
Library													
Carrickfergus Library	2,781	2,560	1,799	2,547	2,875	2,968	2,742	2,566	2,003	2,578	2,638	2,825	30,882
Carryduff Library	11	197	227	287	245	249	221	239	163	269	310	237	2,655
Castlederg Library	672	573	725	735	865	811	783	741	496	626	685	672	8,384
Castlewellan Library	311	390	344	326	315	352	416	389	272	363	404	422	4,304
Chichester Library	970	959	942	844	855	913	793	690	447	796	736	798	9,743
Cloughfern Library	117	133	153	216	260	120	218	150	142	179	234	232	2,154
Coalisland Library	724	719	743	775	887	777	855	756	439	640	729	892	8,936
Coleraine Library	3,375	3,309	3,445	3,195	3,580	3,720	3,600	3,553	2,466	3,266	3,391	3,467	40,367
Colin Glen Library	1,366	1,484	1,412	1,548	2,006	2,015	2,091	2,194	1,327	1,690	1,759	1,991	20,883
Comber Library		272	438	443	502	611	524	465	282	596	637	716	5,486
Cookstown Library													
	3,125	2,978	3,135	2,962	3,157	3,458	3,334	2,921	1,925	2,769	3,102	3,177	36,043
Cregagh Library	745	702	714	665	821	951	922	905	560	719	693	865	9,262
Creggan Library	462	449	607	665	823	703	732	718	398	514	411	485	6,967
Crossmaglen Library													
	330	359	389	408	426	437	375	341	214	304	291	287	4,161
Crumlin Library	284	284	280	267	258	221	284	301	148	174	211	223	2,935
Cushendall Library													
	133	180	194	290	287	178	208	178	133	140	147	170	2,238
Derry Central Library													
	7,150	7,217	7,606	7,373	8,379	8,975	8,719	8,647	5,347	7,333	7,976	8,973	93,695
Donaghadee Library													
	691	633	660	768	844	837	866	772	498	617	749	738	8,673

	April 2010 - March 2011												
Library	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Grand Total
Downpatrick Library	3,088	3,341	3,211	3,047	2,917	3,441	3,301	3,334	2,148	3,233	3,275	3,289	37,625
Draperstown Library	159	207	174	192	192	215	190	216	129	148	194	254	2,270
Dromore Library	306	341	345	293	332	381	354	320	210	274	330	403	3,889
Dundonald Library	725	686	777	693	797	901	804	792	456	723	756	826	8,936
Dungannon Library	5,332	4,926	4,406	4,399	5,131	5,350	5,771	5,405	3,919	4,319	3,734	3,744	56,436
Dungiven Library	211	254	282	283	296	271	363	422	256	438	473	671	4,220
Enniskillen Library	3,890	3,719	3,878	3,681	3,772	4,113	3,631	3,808	2,706	3,542	3,689	4,081	44,510
Falls Road Library	986	989	1,035	1,140	1,183	1,154	1,108	1,098	824	940	428	393	11,278
Finaghy Library	1,160	1,149	1,074	1,046	1,052	1,324	1,223	1,200	792	855	1,109	1,299	13,283
Fintona Library	337	244	300	373	429	329	321	286	235	232	303	304	3,693
Fivemiletown Library	640	659	674	670	567	452	622	683	359	552	414	529	6,821
Garvagh Library	41	48	58	116	82	76	81	82	64	74	86	96	904
Gilford Library	101	104	138	142	131	143	152	141	69		86	155	1,362
Glengormley Library	2,347	2,162	2,254	2,214	2,495	2,487	2,419	2,414	1,376	2,054	2,039	2,511	26,772
Greenisland Library	506	581	532	439	661	698	786	809	502	608	602	528	7,252
Greystone Library	683	588	730	824	782	547	623	667	495	486	609	687	7,721
Grove Library	736	825	719	965	957	940	983	917	639	890	1,008	977	10,556
Holywood Arches Library	1,615	1,398	1,566	1,556	1,619	1,840	1,633	1,576	1,003	1,476	1,664	1,711	18,657

	April 2010 - March 2011												
	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Grand Total
Library													
Hollywood Library	1,224	971	1,199	1,701	1,696	1,584	1,744	1,609	1,090	525	651	666	14,660
Irish & Local Studies Library	135	204	184	116	126	168	152	202	83	238	167	197	1,972
Irvinestown Library	252	287	294	293	425	401	356	400	284	404	438	504	4,338
Keady Library		92	506	611	548	561	736	776	512	781	811	739	6,673
Kells & Connor Library	73	113	104	171	184	157	185	244	193	257	278	299	2,258
Kilkeel Library	579	504	626	721	704	632	673	593	353	602	662	709	7,358
Killyleagh Library	211	213	233	255	267	348	288	286	191	227	262	262	3,043
Kilrea Library	139	159	152	162	155	202	213	199	95	151	152	174	1,953
Larne Library	1,861	1,786	2,016	1,846	1,999	2,296	2,160	2,539	1,530	1,851	1,886	2,091	23,861
Limavady Library	2,362	2,100	2,368	2,330	2,368	2,658	2,283	2,292	1,601	2,101	2,140	2,343	26,946
Lisburn Library	5,956	5,995	5,881	5,699	6,157	7,005	6,822	7,089	4,070	6,216	6,452	7,392	74,734
Lisburn Road Library	394	427	448	462	546	513	489	465	376	521	474	497	5,612
Lisnaskea Library	533	522	573	529	612	472	550	506	373	493	578	591	6,332
Lurgan Library	3,287	3,379	3,524	3,183	3,520	3,595	3,914	3,500	2,591	3,156	3,352	3,672	40,673
Maghera Library	709	752	852	940	920	996	923	839	575	826	866	856	10,054
Magherafelt Library	2,641	2,967	3,383	2,826	2,975	3,527	3,287	3,072	2,089	2,702	2,620	2,621	34,710
Moirra Library	129	123	162	134	125	140	121	127	58	81	93	119	1,412
Moneymore Library	93	184	183	131	230	137	176	175	77	116	150	150	1,802
Mov Library	77	90	95	108	97	109	117	89	72	123	103	129	1,209

	April 2010 - March 2011												
	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	Grand Total
Library													
Newcastle Library	1,465	1,393	1,532	2,084	1,934	1,721	1,451	1,491	1,323	1,461	1,504	1,661	19,020
Newry Library	4,298	4,092	4,422	4,151	4,710	4,524	4,406	4,060	2,597				37,260
Newtownards Library	1,167	1,154	1,239	1,072	1,190	1,307	1,253	1,216	877	1,250	1,151	1,302	14,178
Newtownbreda Library	607	598	652	665	792	794	742	701	518	581	637	662	7,949
Newtownstewart Library	244	200	222	219	259	250	346	359	118	165	398	352	3,132
Omagh Library	5,036	5,305	5,384	5,228	6,052	6,339	5,261	4,777	3,507	4,968	4,837	5,396	62,090
Ormeau Road Library	2,506	2,166	2,406	2,901	3,141	2,933	2,813	2,795	1,216	2,427	2,610	3,140	31,054
Portadown Library	2,637	2,403	2,715	2,617	2,918	3,346	3,639	3,408	2,598	3,300	3,659	3,972	37,212
Portaferry Library	388	343	437	437	711	581	627	501	593	427	461	323	5,829
Portglenone Library	127	145	114	120	121	110	129	97	64	82	104	101	1,314
Portrush Library	1,141	1,029	1,257	1,588	1,462	1,351	1,299	1,248	1,014	1,165	1,250	1,360	15,164
Portstewart Library	996	757	881	1,133	1,114	951	923	794	530	623	834	944	10,480
Randalstown Library	329	435	363	410	565	506	586	482	398	448	499	656	5,677
Rathcoole Library	985	1,112	1,337	1,275	1,338	1,219	1,106	924	704	887	992	1,093	12,972
Rathfriland Library	215	250	328	304	277	340	284	231	148	165	183	190	2,915
Richhill Library	399	393	386	283	298	368	426	375	286	346	312	438	4,310
Saintfield Library	334	283	282	266	270	301	345	331	192	269	341	393	3,607

WA 285

**(II) PUBLIC ACCESS TERMINALS APRIL 2011 – OCTOBER 2011 ANNEX D**

<b>April 2011 - October 2011</b>							
<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
2,787	2,900	2,987	2,445	2,462	2,491	2,513	<b>18,585</b>
963	963	798	580	829	960	1,042	<b>6,135</b>
2,673	3,219	2,989	2,331	2,795	2,792	2,971	<b>19,770</b>
579	667	696	758	698	748	623	<b>4,769</b>
698	839	873	721	750	775	942	<b>5,598</b>
709	784	825	797	872	889	873	<b>5,749</b>
3,760	4,343	4,402	3,860	4,327	4,315	4,329	<b>29,336</b>
1,148	1,465	1,348	1,285	1,457	1,470	1,482	<b>9,655</b>
251	629	584	431	582	664	651	<b>3,792</b>
1,977	2,757	2,398	2,294	2,466	2,624	2,527	<b>17,043</b>
4,401	4,836	5,061	4,256	4,939	5,062	4,873	<b>33,428</b>
11,608	13,049	12,923	11,542	11,995	11,714	11,440	<b>84,271</b>
640	436	313	233	242	323	366	<b>2,553</b>
114	125	137	114	136	102	127	<b>855</b>
904	1,121	1,060	908	997	1,228	1,195	<b>7,413</b>
147	131	122	132	137	106	172	<b>947</b>
3,285	3,531	3,283	2,842	3,496	3,404	3,271	<b>23,112</b>
183	166	207	148	136	214	195	<b>1,249</b>
601	709	583	454	616	588	426	<b>3,977</b>
332	366	397	244	277	338	379	<b>2,333</b>
683	710	751	765	710	815	779	<b>5,213</b>
161	191	213	116	111	143	177	<b>1,112</b>
727	679	655	654	766	672	699	<b>4,852</b>
2,956	3,192	3,368	3,127	3,426	3,276	3,465	<b>22,810</b>
1,305	1,873	2,031	1,463	1,880	1,880	1,995	<b>12,427</b>
518	590	620	486	470	616	579	<b>3,879</b>
2,801	3,210	3,279	2,898	3,013	2,995	3,246	<b>21,442</b>
543	722	761	740	778	845	739	<b>5,128</b>
350	488	571	457	497	540	497	<b>3,400</b>
209	329	379	334	327	326	263	<b>2,167</b>

<b>April 2011 - October 2011</b>							
<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
152	210	177	230	252	214	256	<b>1,491</b>
189	185	177	271	254	141	131	<b>1,348</b>
7,214	8,276	8,498	7,325	7,662	8,286	7,719	<b>54,980</b>
519	551	611	600	603	696	709	<b>4,289</b>
2,692	3,319	3,456	2,666	2,750	3,083	2,964	<b>20,930</b>
190	261	244	214	212	202	200	<b>1,523</b>
303	328	377	269	262			<b>1,539</b>
675	805	811	737	860	887	788	<b>5,563</b>
3,262	3,687	3,279	3,345	4,036	3,723	911	<b>22,243</b>
321	520	458	346	496	458	454	<b>3,053</b>
3,547	3,878	3,894	3,489	4,026	3,763	3,615	<b>26,212</b>
190	133	857	953	1,216	1,261	1,228	<b>5,838</b>
916	1,212	1,257	942	1,083	1,266	1,223	<b>7,899</b>
243	291	293	283	255	322	223	<b>1,910</b>
571	708	734	768	685	536	637	<b>4,639</b>
90	133	107	78	69	110	101	<b>688</b>
106	201	216	177	232	169	142	<b>1,243</b>
1,890	2,382	2,387	1,793	2,137	2,130	2,298	<b>15,017</b>
437	681	473	502	748	751	858	<b>4,450</b>
583	571	655	480	463	484	535	<b>3,771</b>
676	862	770	652	728	748	746	<b>5,182</b>
1,424	1,578	1,750	1,504	1,764	1,728	1,749	<b>11,497</b>
554	1,142	1,428	975	1,171	1,305	1,234	<b>7,809</b>
191	278	243	255	183	225	194	<b>1,569</b>
449	449	456	395	462	320	282	<b>2,813</b>
664	846	969	1,011	916	891	1,053	<b>6,350</b>
241	276	184	181	227	219	212	<b>1,540</b>
569	634	665	689	814	694	722	<b>4,787</b>
172	205	218	145	165	212	187	<b>1,304</b>
99	120	136	148	153	196	230	<b>1,082</b>

<b>April 2011 - October 2011</b>							
<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>August</b>	<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
1,693	1,798	1,905	1,735	1,842	2,205	2,053	<b>13,231</b>
2,092	2,220	2,283	2,035	2,363	2,775	2,439	<b>16,207</b>
5,884	6,782	5,967	4,700	5,529	6,489	6,110	<b>41,461</b>
455	493	544	497	499	426	448	<b>3,362</b>
471	556	539	517	586	479	519	<b>3,667</b>
2,872	3,586	3,377	2,872	3,261	2,947	3,071	<b>21,986</b>
795	792	802	715	929	864	975	<b>5,872</b>
2,363	2,547	2,423	1,887	2,342	2,878	2,973	<b>17,413</b>
99	88	97	94	71	99	82	<b>630</b>
110	132	108	110	136	119	117	<b>832</b>
106	123	120	101	92	70	129	<b>741</b>
1,425	1,552	1,888	1,791	1,922	1,696	1,626	<b>11,900</b>
	2,612	3,827	3,250	3,337	3,854	3,718	<b>20,598</b>
1,145	1,270	1,247	1,027	1,191	1,229	1,180	<b>8,289</b>
627	706	608	621	751	593	627	<b>4,533</b>
367	336	350	447	572	376	378	<b>2,826</b>
4,546	5,473	5,548	4,941	5,559	5,262	5,371	<b>36,700</b>
2,283	2,730	2,708	2,519	2,949	2,697	2,772	<b>18,658</b>
3,216	3,139	2,945	2,600	3,046	3,023	3,080	<b>21,049</b>
375	401	514	374	392	413	380	<b>2,849</b>
67	95	103	107	103	102	101	<b>678</b>
1,168	1,329	1,330	1,502	1,538	1,178	1,147	<b>9,192</b>
869	806	797	1,035	1,117	951	864	<b>6,439</b>
430	509	492	368	403	476	401	<b>3,079</b>
808	1,003	1,052	1,029	1,285	1,020	1,363	<b>7,560</b>
137	198	204	150	120	185	226	<b>1,220</b>
300	368	337	289	443	344	246	<b>2,327</b>
245	276	252	250	213	350	327	<b>1,913</b>
339	285	897	1,280	1,631	1,405	1,351	<b>7,188</b>
846	1,247	1,096	1,013	1,113	1,378	1,310	<b>8,003</b>

April 2011 - October 2011							
April	May	June	July	August	September	October	Grand Total
2,018	2,456	2,513	2,344	2,491	2,280	2,327	<b>16,429</b>
532	538	638	687	776	637	861	<b>4,669</b>
898	957	928	824	1,097	971	1,094	<b>6,769</b>
469	277	370	353	438	399	504	<b>2,810</b>
493	610	629	593	700	439	440	<b>3,904</b>
1,206	1,195	1,027	974	1,117	1,029	1,082	<b>7,630</b>
1,517	1,732	1,685	1,387	1,442	1,767	1,655	<b>11,185</b>
414	433	412	377	411	415	395	<b>2,857</b>
286	568	591	530	553	584	751	<b>3,863</b>
807	952	939	767	910	785	861	<b>6,021</b>
121,915	142,912	144,486	127,530	142,341	143,124	139,791	<b>962,099</b>

### Portavoe Reservoir

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure for her assessment of the impact of the proposed sale of Portavoe Reservoir on fishing in the area.

**(AQW 5069/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** NI Water owns Portavoe Reservoir and has informed the Department of its intention to sell the facility. DCAL is not aware of the current position on the sale, but the water will remain part of the Public Angling Estate until it is sold.

NI Water has also advised the Department that Portavoe will be closed from January 2012 for essential maintenance work, which will require the reservoir to be drained. The Department has already publicised this and advised anglers intending to buy DCAL permits for 2012 that the water will be closed.

Portavoe is a popular water and DCAL Inland Fisheries Group is currently giving consideration other waters which may be suitable to augment Public Angling Estate provision in the area.

### Community Festival Fund

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure how each council's allocation from the Community Festival Fund is determined.

**(AQW 5070/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** I would refer the member to the answers provided to AQW 4147/11-15 and AQW 4532/11-15.

### Community Festival Fund

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure what criteria are applied to individual applications for funding under the Community Festival Fund.

**(AQW 5071/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** My Department doesn't directly fund festivals. It has overall policy responsibility for the Community Festivals Fund but delivery of awards to individual festivals is devolved to local authorities.

Each Council is required to adhere to the overarching policy framework but within this each Council has the flexibility to develop its own application process and detailed criteria for funding.

For details of the criteria applied to individual applications you should contact the councils directly.

### Staff Mileage Claims

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the cost to her Department of staff mileage claims in each of the last two financial years.

**(AQW 5102/11-15)**

**Ms Ní Chuilín:** In the last two financial years, the Department incurred the following costs in respect of staff mileage claims:

2009-11	2009-10
£102,184	£113,666

## Department of Education

### Public Contracts

**Mr McCartney** asked the Minister of Education to list all the current public contracts within his Department, including to whom each contract was awarded; how the contracts were advertised; and when each contract is next due to go out to tender.

**(AQW 4254/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd (The Minister of Education):** The Department of Education has 31 current public contracts as detailed in the table attached.

Contract Awarded to	How Contract was advertised	Due to go out to Tender on
New Life Counselling	Contract arranged through Central Procurement Directorate (CPD) - Invitation To Tender (ITT)	August 2014
North Down Family Works	Contract arranged through CPD - ITT	August 2014
Counselling 4 Youth	Contract arranged through CPD - ITT	August 2014
Barnardos	Contract arranged through CPD - ITT	August 2013
Counselling 4 Youth	Contract arranged through CPD - ITT	August 2013
Pierce Communication	Contract arranged through CPD - By Invitation only	N/A
Robinson McIlwaine	Official Journal European Union	N/A
Turner and Townsend	Official Journal European Union	N/A

Contract Awarded to	How Contract was advertised	Due to go out to Tender on
John McQuillan Contracts	Contract arranged through CPD	N/A
EMQC Ltd	Oral quotations in line with procurement control limits.	April 2013
DTZ McCombe Pierce	Office accommodation sourced late 2006 and leases renewed as and when required.	N/a
Capital Hartshead Ltd	Open competition	June 2016
Paragon Group (UK) Ltd	Single Tender Action	N/A
Pitney Bowes	Single Tender Action	N/A
Oasis Group	Contract set up by Properties Division - ITT	January 2013
Danwood	Contract arranged through CPD	April 2012
Canon	Single Tender Action	N/A
Sandhill	Single Tender Action	July 2012
IBM	Single Tender Action	December 2012
ESRI Ireland	Single Tender Action	October 2012
E-business Implementation Services	Single Tender Action	November 2012
Formic	Single Tender Action	October 2012
Bottomline Technology	Single Tender Action	March 2012
Sage	Single Tender Action	N/A
Cannon Hygiene	Contract arranged through CPD	Currently out to tender
Resource (Cleaning contract)	Contract arranged through CPD	Currently out to tender
Resource (Portering contract)	Contract arranged through CPD	Currently out to tender
Sodexo (Catering contract)	Contract arranged through CPD	Currently out to tender
All Water Systems	Single Tender Action	September 2014
The Early Years Organisation	Contract arranged through CPD - By Invitation Only	N/A
RMS McClure Watters	Contract arranged through CPD – ITT	N/A

## Education Orders

**Mr McCallister** asked the Minister of Education whether, under existing Education Orders, the Commission governing the South Eastern Education and Library Board can continue to operate indefinitely.

**(AQW 4378/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The decision to appoint commissioners was taken in accordance with the Department's legislative powers in the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986. The terms and conditions of their

appointment advised that the period of appointment would be until such times as the Department terminates their appointment.

I have no plans to replace the commissioners at this time and reconstitute the SouthEastern Education and Library Board. However, I will keep the position under review, taking account of the timescale for the establishment of the Education and Skills Authority.

### South Eastern Education and Library Board

**Mr McCallister** asked the Minister of Education when the South Eastern Education and Library Board will be re-established.

**(AQW 4414/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The decision to appoint commissioners was taken in accordance with the Department's legislative powers in the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986. The terms and conditions of their appointment advised that the period of appointment would be until such times as the Department terminates their appointment.

I have no plans to replace the commissioners at this time and reconstitute the SouthEastern Education and Library Board. However, I will keep the position under review, taking account of the timescale for the establishment of the Education and Skills Authority.

### Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

**Mrs Dobson** asked the Minister of Education how many children have been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder in each of the last four years.

**(AQW 4587/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The Department of Education does not hold information on the total number of children diagnosed with specific medical conditions. However, it does hold information collected via the annual school census on the number of pupils attending grant-aided schools here, who have been recorded by the school on the Register of Special Education Needs as having been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder/Attention Deficit Disorder. This information is presented in the table below.

#### PUPILS AT SCHOOLS AND IN FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION WITH ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER/ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER 2007/08 – 2010/11

Year	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Pupils with ADD/ADHD	2,190	2,284	2,353	2,477

**Source:** NI school census.

**Note:**

- 1 Figures relate to pupils in funded places in voluntary and private pre-school centres, nursery schools, primary schools, post-primary schools and special schools.
- 2 Figures relate to pupils recorded at Stage 1 – 5 of the Special Education Needs Code of Practice, recorded as ADD/ADHD.

### Schools who Provide School Dinners for Other Schools

**Mr Lynch** asked the Minister of Education, in relation to schools which provide school dinners for other schools, to detail (i) how this arrangement is decided; and (ii) the rationale behind why a school with 30 pupils should provide school dinners for 3 other larger schools.

**(AQW 4621/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The day-to-day operation of the school meals service is a matter for the Education and Library Boards (ELBs) in the controlled and maintained sectors and individual voluntary grammar and grant maintained schools.

The ELBs assess the viability of school meals kitchens and dining centres using a number of factors which vary from Board to Board. They include the expected daily uptake of meals; kitchen capacity and location; equipment capability; availability of staff; availability of transport and the distance and time taken for food to be transported.

There are a number of reasons why a kitchen serving only 30 meals may transport to other schools. Many transporting schools have been doing so over a considerable number of years, some in predominately rural areas. The rationale for any decisions taken at that time would have included the factors detailed above. In addition, the following circumstances may now apply:

- The transporting school will have a large kitchen which was equipped in a time when the meal numbers were higher.
- The transporting kitchen will have a high structural standard so meeting the relevant health and safety legislation.
- Enrolment in the transporting school may have fallen over the years with the resultant drop in meals uptake.
- The associated dining centres may have no cooking facilities – they may have a servery only.
- The geographical nature of the area – the transporting kitchen may be equidistant from the associated dining centres so reducing transport costs.

## Capital Works Projects

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister of Education (i) how much his Department spent on capital works projects; and (ii) of this, how much was paid to building contractors, in each of the last three years. **(AQW 4657/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The following tables set out the information requested:

### (I)

	<b>2008/09 (£000s)</b>	<b>2009/10 (£000s)</b>	<b>2010/11 (£000s)</b>
Total Major Works Capital Expenditure	69,989	73,354	38,392
Total Minor Works Capital Expenditure	68,248	82,774	42,211
<b>Total Capital Works Expenditure</b>	<b>138,237</b>	<b>156,128</b>	<b>80,603</b>

### (II)

	<b>2008/09 (£000s)</b>	<b>2009/10 (£000s)</b>	<b>2010/11 (£000s)</b>
Major Works Building Contractors Cost	58,422	44,677	23,039

The total figure for Major and Minor Works Capital expenditure includes payments to contractors and consultants fees associated with each works. Information on minor capital works building contractor cost is not held separately and is not readily available.

## Pre-School Places

**Mr T Clarke** asked the Minister of Education how many children in the South Antrim area aged (i) two; (ii) three; and (iii) four currently have a pre-school place.

**(AQW 4699/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** Information on the number of children in DE funded pre-school places will not be available until the publication of the outcome of the annual School Census in mid – December 2011.

## Children Attending Grammar Schools

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister of Education for his assessment of the correlation between children attending grammar schools and the affluence of the area in which they live.

**(AQW 4760/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The correlation between the level of affluence of an area and the likelihood that children from that area will attend a grammar school suggests that there are several factors that may impact on the type of school a pupil attends.

There is a significant difference between the percentage of pupils attending grammar schools from the 10% most deprived wards compared to the percentage of pupils attending grammar schools from the 10% least deprived wards. Figures from the school census in 2010/11 showed 42.0% of post-primary pupils attended grammar schools. Of those pupils who lived in the 10% most deprived wards, 20.4% attended grammar schools. This compared to 68.9% of those pupils who lived in the 10% least deprived wards, as ranked in the local Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010 report.

Admissions to grammar schools are based on tests. The families who can afford private tuition may secure an advantage in these tests over those who cannot afford it. I want to ensure that children are able to access all post-primary schools on the basis of equality. That is why my Department recommends that schools do not use unregulated entrance tests which from the figures above appear to favour the more affluent.

## Bullying in Schools

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of Education what further action his Department intends to take to address bullying in schools.

**(AQW 4820/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** Bullying, in whatever form and for whatever reason, has no place in schools. The Department recognises that it cannot tackle bullying alone and it is for this reason that it continues to fund and participate in the local Anti-bullying Forum (NIABF).

The Forum's Strategy which is published on its website ([www.niabf.org.uk](http://www.niabf.org.uk)) sets out its programme of work for 2010-2013. Work is being progressed through a number of task groups established to examine specific types of bullying such as homophobic, disablist, transphobic and sectarian. The Education and Library Boards' Inter-Board Group supports this work.

Of specific mention is the development of a resource to support schools in the management of alleged bullying incidents. "Effective Responses to Bullying" takes schools on a staged journey to resolving a concern, offering levelled interventions for both the recipient of bullying and the pupils displaying bullying behaviour. This resource will be distributed to all schools in early 2012. Plans are also underway for Anti-Bullying Week 2012.

My Department has recently published a research report about "The Nature and Extent of Pupil Bullying in Schools in the North of Ireland" and is considering the recommendations in line with the Department's and the Forum's future work plans.

## Capital Small Grants Schemes

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Education what capital small grants schemes are available from his Department, or its arm's-length bodies, for a group to create a garden, at a residential home, for the benefit of people with disabilities.

**(AQW 4830/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The Department of Education's powers to give capital grants relate to Schools and to voluntary organisations providing facilities for Youth Services. Neither DE nor its arms-length bodies operate capital grants schemes for the development of residential homes for disabled people.

## Academic Selection Tests

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister of Education whether the schools which use academic selection tests have provided his Department with full details of who funds the tests.

**(AQW 4832/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** An attempt was made in 2010 to establish with schools how they were funding their independent entrance tests. Most schools were evasive on the question but some schools using a test for which parents were not charged were clear that they were not using their delegated budget to fund the entrance test. This begs the question of how these tests are being funded which only those involved can answer.

## Asthma Policy

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of Education whether schools are required to have an asthma policy and regular asthma awareness training for staff.

**(AQW 4838/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The Department's guidance in relation to asthma is contained within the document "Supporting Pupils with Medication Needs", which was produced in co-operation with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety and in consultation with a range of education and health bodies and professionals and the teachers' unions. The guidance was distributed to all schools and associated training provided for all principals in the nursery, primary, post-primary and special school sectors.

Each school's employing authority is responsible for ensuring that the school has a policy for supporting pupils with medication needs and managing medication.

There are many competing demands for the inclusion of training on specific topics such as asthma awareness. All Education and Library Boards (ELBs) therefore undertake, on an annual basis, a needs analysis of the training required by schools in the forthcoming academic year. School principals are responsible for determining the training needs of their teachers and they can avail of the wide range of courses on all aspects of special educational needs offered by ELBs.

## Computer Programming

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of Education whether his Department has a strategy in place, or is developing a strategy, to make computer programming part of the curriculum.

**(AQW 4885/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The revised curriculum has been designed to provide flexibility for schools to develop experiences which suit the needs of their pupils. Embedding mandatory cross-curricular skills and keeping prescribed content to a minimum, allows schools to choose the most appropriate approach to take with their pupils to ensure they are engaged and challenged to reach their full potential.

Using ICT is one of the cross-curricular skills. It offers a range of ICT opportunities, developing skills which young people can apply in practical, everyday situations. Progression in these skills is set out in Levels of Progression which will be statutory from 2013/14.

Guidance has been provided to support assessment of Using ICT. This includes activities such as 'Exploring Programming' and 'Game Making'.

At this time there are no plans to make computer programming mandatory in the revised curriculum. However, should schools feel it meets the needs of their pupils, there is sufficient flexibility in the curriculum to allow them to teach it.

### **Loreto Grammar School, Omagh**

**Mr Storey** asked the Minister of Education for an update on the court judgement in relation to Loreto Grammar School, Omagh.

**(AQW 4939/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The judgment in this case is currently under appeal by my Department, with the hearing in the Court of Appeal scheduled to resume on the 12 and 13 December. It is not known at this stage when the outcome will be announced.

### **Helping Hands Programme**

**Mr Storey** asked the Minister of Education for an update on the Helping Hands Programme.

**(AQW 4940/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The Department, as a member of the Regional Strategy Group on Domestic Violence, works with Women's Aid Federation and other statutory and voluntary sector organisations to implement the "Tackling Violence at Home" strategy and related action plan.

As part of the implementation plan the Department agreed to match fund the contribution of Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, some £180k over a 3 year period, to support the work of the Women's Aid Federation in tackling domestic abuse.

The funding from the Department has been used to update the "Helping Hands" materials pack for pupils and to develop a training course for teachers to equip them to deliver the programme for their pupils. This approach addressed an identified need for teachers to have access to professional development which could contribute to increasing protection for children. The 2 day training course is for Key Stage 2 teachers and is intended to increase their confidence, and capability to teach about sensitive topics and to respond appropriately to issues and concerns raised by pupils.

The training provides teachers with the skills and confidence to deliver the "Helping Hands" Programme to their pupils, in place of Women's Aid volunteers. Training the teachers will ensure sustainability for the "Helping Hands" Programme in schools in future years. The current plans are that some 300 teachers will be trained by the end of March 2012.

### **Promotion and Development of Hockey through the Sports Teaching Programme**

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Education what assistance is provided to schools for the promotion and development of hockey through the Sports Teaching Programme.

**(AQW 4984/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The Curriculum Sports Programme is delivered on behalf of the Department of Education by the Irish Football Association and the Gaelic Athletic Association. The programme does not focus specifically on the skills associated with either football or Gaelic games but rather aims to develop the generic physical literacy skills of our youngest pupils through participation in enjoyable sports activities. The Department of Education has made £1.5 million available for the Curriculum Sports Programme in the current financial year and the programme is currently being delivered by 61 coaches to over 36,000 primary school children in 563 schools. I have no plans to introduce coaches from a hockey, cricket or any other sport background.

## Promotion and Development of Cricket through the Sports Teaching Programme

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Education what assistance is provided to schools for the promotion and development of cricket through the Sports Teaching Programme.

**(AQW 4985/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** The Curriculum Sports Programme is delivered on behalf of the Department of Education by the Irish Football Association and the Gaelic Athletic Association. The programme does not focus specifically on the skills associated with either football or Gaelic games but rather aims to develop the generic physical literacy skills of our youngest pupils through participation in enjoyable sports activities. The Department of Education has made £1.5 million available for the Curriculum Sports Programme in the current financial year and the programme is currently being delivered by 61 coaches to over 36,000 primary school children in 563 schools. I have no plans to introduce coaches from a hockey, cricket or any other sport background.

## Sure Start

**Mr Lyttle** asked the Minister of Education whether he has any plans to extend the provision of Sure Start to isolated areas of social disadvantage and need that are located within more affluent Super Output Areas.

**(AQW 5120/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** There are currently 34 Sure Start Programmes across the north of Ireland offering services to an estimated 34,000 children age 0-4 and their parents. Current policy is that Sure Start services are targeted to at least the top 20% most disadvantaged wards in the north of Ireland (as defined by the NI Multiple Deprivation Measures 2005).

Over the past 3 years it has been possible to include the top 20% Super Output Areas, linked to outreach from existing Sure Starts. This is in recognition that there are many disadvantaged children and their families living outside of the designated ward areas covered by Sure Start. Super Output Area (SOA) geography contains an average of 2,000 people. The NI MDM analysis produced by NISRA is a relative measure of deprivation in small areas across Northern Ireland. It is the official measure of deprivation and is used widely across government to target need.

The draft Early Years 0-6 Strategy contained a commitment to seek to expand the reach of Sure Start and work has commenced on identifying the ward areas now falling within the top 25% most disadvantaged areas. The introduction of this and, indeed, the further extension of Sure Start will depend on the availability of additional resources.

## Learning for Life and Work

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister of Education what his Department's practices are in relation to the employability strand of Learning for Life and Work, which is delivered to provide students with the necessary skills in preparation for entry into the workforce.

**(AQO 912/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** Employability is a key theme underpinning the revised curriculum which aims to prepare all our young people for all aspects of life and work and to enable them to develop as confident and articulate individuals, able to play their full part in society and our economy. The area of Personal Development & Mutual Understanding (PDMU) at primary and Learning for Life and Work (LLW) at post-primary will enable all young people to prepare for and engage in career planning from primary school onwards.

At post-primary, the Employability strand of LLW consists of Work in the Local and Global Economy, Career Management and Enterprise and Entrepreneurship. Pupils will continue to reflect on their own skills and areas for self-development and explore the changing concept of 'career' and various types of jobs, including in the local area, as well as exploring enterprise and entrepreneurship which provides opportunities for our young people to investigate the need for creativity and enterprise, whether as

an employer or employee, and to identify and practise some of the skills and develop the attributes associated with being enterprising.

Schools receive delegated budgets to enable them to deliver all aspects of the curriculum, including the PDMU and LLW areas of learning. Additional funding has also been set aside for programmes designed to promote enterprise and entrepreneurship and to introduce young people to the world of work.

The Department provides funding to a number of organisations to provide enterprise, employability and innovation events and programmes either in school or at larger regional events, for both primary and post-primary pupils. These organisations include Young Enterprise, Sentinus, School Employer Connections, Charter Work Experience and a number of Business Education Partnerships. Such events help to create an enterprise culture within the classroom and to develop in our young people more innovative and enterprising skills and attitudes, not just to set up businesses but also to build their own careers and to stay employable

## Chairpersons of Boards of Governors

**Mr Storey** asked the Minister of Education, in light of the most recent correspondence to the Chairpersons of Boards of Governors, what other areas he has identified for savings within the education budget to deliver additional funding for schools.

**(AQW 5184/11-15)**

**Mr O'Dowd:** I am continuing to explore the scope for further savings to supplement the additional £40m that I announced on 17 November to go directly into schools. In this context I have asked officials to carry out a review right across the education budget with the primary focus being on delivering additional funding for the classroom. I have also met with the Finance Minister and discussed in detail the impact of the Education Budget as it currently stands. In addition, I am looking towards the Executive's Budget Review Group, which is seeking to identify further sources of funding, in order to reduce the financial impact on schools.

## Department for Employment and Learning

### Subjects Directly Linked to the Creative Industries

**Mr Ross** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning how many people (i) enrolled; and (ii) graduated in subjects directly linked to the creative industries in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4446/11-15)**

**Dr Farry (The Minister for Employment and Learning):** The number of student enrolments and qualifiers, in Creative Arts and Design, Mass Communications and documentations, Architecture and Software engineering subjects, at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions in each of the last 5 years, is detailed in the table below:

Academic year	Enrolments	Qualifiers
2005/06	3,945	1,125
2006/07	3,795	1,145
2007/08	3,625	1,025
2008/09	3,880	1,095
2009/10	4,190	1,120

**Source:** Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

**Notes:**

1. HESA data are rounded to the nearest 5.

- 2 The 'Creative Arts and Design, Mass Communications and documentations, Architecture and Software engineering' subject areas from the HESA record have been used as a proxy for subjects directly linked to the creative industries.
- 3 It should be noted that the above information on qualifiers relates to students who gain qualifications at all levels of study ie both undergraduate (both first degree and other undergraduate) and postgraduate. Qualifiers have been used as a proxy for graduates.
- 4 Enrolment figures include students in their first and continuing years of study also across all levels. Only a proportion of these students will be in their final year and therefore expected to qualify in any given year.

## Business and Finance Related Subjects

**Mr Ross** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning how many people (i) enrolled; and (ii) graduated in business and finance related subjects in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4447/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The number of student enrolments and qualifiers, in business studies, management studies, finance, accounting, marketing, human resource management, and office skills, at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions in each of the last 5 years, is detailed in the table below:

Academic year	Enrolments	Qualifiers
2005/06	7,260	2,325
2006/07	6,640	1,735
2007/08	6,605	2,010
2008/09	6,670	2,220
2009/10	7,590	2,310

**Source:** Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

- 1 HESA data are rounded to the nearest 5.
- 2 Subjects included in business studies, management studies, finance, accounting, marketing, human resource management, and office skills from the HESA record have been used as a proxy for business and finance related subjects.
- 3 It should be noted that the above information on qualifiers relates to students who gain qualifications at all levels of study ie both undergraduate (both first degree and other undergraduate) and postgraduate. Qualifiers have been used as a proxy for graduates.
- 4 Enrolment figures include students in their first and continuing years of study also across all levels. Only a proportion of these students will be in their final year and therefore expected to qualify in any given year.

## Information and Communication Technology

**Mr Ross** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning how many people (i) enrolled; and (ii) graduated in Information and Communication Technology or computer related subjects in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4448/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The number of student enrolments and qualifiers, in Computer Science, at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions in each of the last 5 years, is detailed in the table below:

Academic year	Enrolments	Qualifiers
2005/06	3,225	895
2006/07	2,825	680
2007/08	2,630	630

Academic year	Enrolments	Qualifiers
2008/09	2,415	585
2009/10	2,675	590

**Source:** Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

- 1 HESA data are rounded to the nearest 5.
- 2 The Computer Science subject area from the HESA record has been used as a proxy for Information and Communication Technology or computer related subjects.
- 3 It should be noted that the above information on qualifiers relates to students who gain qualifications at all levels of study ie both undergraduate (both first degree and other undergraduate) and postgraduate. Qualifiers have been used as a proxy for graduates.
- 4 Enrolment figures include students in their first and continuing years of study also across all levels. Only a proportion of these students will be in their final year and therefore expected to qualify in any given year.

### Construction Related Subjects

**Mr Ross** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning how many people (i) enrolled; and (ii) graduated in construction related subjects in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4449/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The number of student enrolments and qualifiers, in 'Architecture, Building and Planning', 'Civil Engineering' and 'Structural Engineering', subjects, at Northern Ireland Higher Education Institutions in each of the last 5 years, is detailed in the table below:

Academic year	Enrolments	Qualifiers
2005/06	2,885	615
2006/07	2,920	785
2007/08	2,985	735
2008/09	3,235	875
2009/10	3,270	875

**Source:** Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

- 1 HESA data are rounded to the nearest 5.
- 2 The 'Architecture, Building and Planning', 'Civil Engineering' and 'Structural Engineering' subject areas from the HESA record have been used as a proxy for construction related subjects.
- 3 It should be noted that the above information on qualifiers relates to students who gain qualifications at all levels of study ie both undergraduate (both first degree and other undergraduate) and postgraduate. Qualifiers have been used as a proxy for graduates.
- 4 Enrolment figures include students in their first and continuing years of study also across all levels. Only a proportion of these students will be in their final year and therefore expected to qualify in any given year.

### Sentinus Project

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning what involvement his Department has with the Sentinus project in schools, including the issue of any policy directive associated with the project.  
**(AQW 4536/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The Department has not provided any funding directly to Sentinus and has had no involvement in their projects in schools.

## St Mary's University College and Stranmillis University College, Belfast

**Mrs Overend** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning to detail the number of students enrolled in (i) St Mary's University College, Belfast; and (ii) Stranmillis University College, Belfast at (a) 1 October 1990; (b) 1 October 2000; (c) 1 October 2010; and (d) 1 October 2011.

**(AQW 4610/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The number of students enrolled at St Mary's University College, Belfast and Stranmillis University College, Belfast in, 1990/91, 2000/01 and 2009/10 (latest available year) is detailed in the table below:

Academic year	St Mary's University College, Belfast	Stranmillis University College, Belfast
1990/91	691	695
2000/01	970	1,220
2009/10	1,000	1,250

### Sources:

- 1 **1990/91 data** - Stranmillis University College, Belfast and St Mary's University College, Belfast
- 2 **2000/01 and 2009/10 data** - Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)

### Notes:

- 1 Enrolments in 1990/91 related only to teaching courses. Non-teaching courses were introduced after this and are therefore included in the subsequent years.
- 2 HESA data are rounded to the nearest 5.
- 3 The latest available data are for academic year 2009/10.

## St Mary's University College, Stranmillis University College and Queen's University, Belfast

**Mrs Overend** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning to detail what collaboration currently exists between St Mary's University College, Belfast, Stranmillis University College, Belfast and Queen's University, Belfast.

**(AQW 4614/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** Whilst operating as autonomous institutions, St Mary's University College and Stranmillis University College are, academically, fully integrated into Queen's University Belfast. They operate as Schools of the University within the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Students of Stranmillis and St Mary's University Colleges are also students of Queen's and are issued with Queen's University student cards. These student cards enable them to use University facilities, such as libraries, the Students' Union and sporting facilities, in the same way as any other Queen's student. Also, upon graduation, students of Stranmillis and St Mary's are awarded degrees by Queen's University.

The Principals of Stranmillis University College and St Mary's University College are members of Queen's University's Academic Council and both institutions are also represented on the University's Education Committee.

Queen's University has stated that the University shares a considerable amount of academic support advice with the two University Colleges, most notably from the Directorate of Academic and Student Affairs, particularly in relation to quality assurance, regulations review, programme review and the graduation process. Furthermore, Queen's senior management holds regular formal and informal meetings with the College Principals and both Colleges send representatives to the meetings of the Directors of Education, within the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

The University has also said that a small number of staff from both Colleges contribute to Masters teaching at Queen's University and share in the supervision of Queen's Doctoral students. Also, formal research collaboration exists between Queen's, St Mary's and Stranmillis, with staff from all institutions working together on proposing and conducting research projects. The large-scale survey of teachers carried out for the General Teaching Council is a recent example of such research collaboration.

I trust you find this helpful.

## **Development and Promotion of Sports**

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning to detail the funding his Department has provided for the development and promotion of (i) rugby; (ii) soccer; (iii) Gaelic games; and (iv) motor sports in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 4641/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The Department for Employment and Learning has not provided any funding for the development and promotion of these sports.

## **St Mary's College, Belfast**

**Mrs Overend** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning why St Mary's College, Belfast will not be included in the merger of Queen's University, Belfast and Stranmillis University College, Belfast.

**(AQW 4654/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The decision to seek a merger with Queen's University Belfast was one taken by the governing body of Stranmillis University College. Both the College and the University are autonomous bodies and are responsible for determining their own future strategic direction. St. Mary's University College which is also an autonomous body, did not take such a decision. At the time that the merger was first suggested, St. Mary's made it known that it was not interested in merging with any other institution. Its governing body wished to maintain its independence. Both Stranmillis and St. Mary's are, however, colleges of Queen's University and are fully academically integrated with it.

## **Economic Strategy**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning, in relation to the target set out in the Economic Strategy to move 114,000 benefit claimants into employment by March 2015; (i) the rationale behind this figure; (ii) what jobs they can obtain, given that the Economic Strategy proposes to promote only 25,000 jobs; and (iii) whether moving these people into employment, given the lack of available jobs in the economy, will inevitably displace others from their jobs.

**(AQW 4710/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The target to move 114,000 benefit claimants into work by March 2015 reflects the Employment Service's efforts to assist benefit age clients into employment. The commitment was adopted following the application of a statistical model to trends in off-flows to work from JSA and other benefits. This work provided a robust foundation which informed the adoption of the target. The same approach was applied in the previous Programme for Government which set a target of 70,000 for the period 2008-11. That target was well exceeded, with over 90,000 assisted into employment in that period.

The "into employment" target should not be confused with the commitment to create 25,000 new jobs. It is likely that some of the 114,000 will move into some of the 25,000 new jobs but most will fill vacancies advertised by employers through the Employment Service and through other services such as newspapers and private employment agencies.

The purpose of the statutory Employment Service is to help those disadvantaged in the labour market to compete on a more equal basis for the jobs available. No one will lose their job as a consequence of the Employment Service's intervention. More people will simply be competing for the jobs that are available. By preparing benefit claimants for work, the Employment Service will ensure that they do not become detached from the labour market and slip into long-term benefit dependency.

## Dedicated Veterinary College

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning whether he intends to establish a dedicated veterinary college, or make a veterinary degree accessible at universities here, given that prospective students have to leave the jurisdiction to study.

**(AQW 4727/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** My Department has no plans to establish a dedicated veterinary college in Northern Ireland, or develop a veterinary degree course. Northern Ireland's Higher Education Institutions are responsible for their own policies and procedures, including course provision.

The availability, and other trends, within the veterinary profession are regularly surveyed by the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS). The most recent survey does not indicate any impending shortfall in the number of veterinary surgeons, nor has the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development identified any such difficulties within Northern Ireland. Furthermore, research undertaken by my Department in 2009, on forecasting future skills needs in Northern Ireland, shows that the supply of veterinary science graduates is projected to meet the indicative graduate requirement up to 2020.

I recently met with the Agriculture and Rural Development Minister, Ms Michelle O'Neill MLA, and we agreed on this position.

My Department will continue to provide financial support for eligible students from Northern Ireland who commence all undergraduate degree courses (including veterinary science) in Great Britain in academic year 2012/13.

## Cost of Answering Assembly Questions

**Mr F McCann** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning for an estimate of the average cost to his Department to respond to written and oral Assembly Questions tabled by Jim Allister MLA, since May 2011.

**(AQW 4736/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The Department for Employment and Learning does not routinely estimate the cost of answering Assembly Questions and so the information requested is not available.

## Stranmillis University College, Belfast

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning how much capital funding has been allocated to Stranmillis University College, Belfast in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4768/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The amount of capital funding allocated to Stranmillis University College by the Department in each of the last five financial years is shown in the table below:

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
£4,765,479	£4,129,609	£444,448	£145,000	£605,519	<b>£10,090,055</b>

## Employment for Working Age Benefit Claimants

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister for Employment and Learning, following the Economic Strategy statement on 17 November 2011 which stated that the Executive 'will move 114,000 working-age benefit clients into employment by March 2015, what benefits these 114,000 people are claiming; and where his Department intends to find employment for these people.

**(AQW 5285/11-15)**

**Dr Farry:** The target to move 114,000 benefit claimants into work by March 2015 reflects the Employment Service's efforts to assist benefit age clients into employment. The target is based on robust statistical analysis and modelling of trends in off-flows to work from benefits such as Jobseekers Allowance. We

expect 106,000 JSA claimants to move into work with the balance of 8,000 made up of Employment and Support Allowance (ESA), Incapacity Benefit (IB) and Income Support (IS) claimants. The same approach was applied in the previous Programme for Government which set a target of 70,000 for the period 2008-11. That target was well exceeded, with over 90,000 assisted into employment in that period.

The “into employment” target should not be confused with the commitment to create 25,000 new jobs. It is likely that a number of the 114,000 will move into some of the 25,000 new jobs, but the majority is likely to fill vacancies advertised by employers through the Employment Service and through other services such as newspapers and private employment agencies. It therefore mainly represents normal labour market turnover.

The purpose of the statutory Employment Service is to help those disadvantaged in the labour market to compete on a more equal basis for the jobs available. No one will lose their job as a consequence of the Employment Service's intervention. More people will simply be competing for the jobs that are available. By preparing benefit claimants for work, the Employment Service will ensure that they do not become detached from the labour market and slip into long-term benefit dependency.

## Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

### Industrial Development Act 1982

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for her assessment of the impact, should Northern Ireland lose its automatic assisted area status under the proposed changes to the Industrial Development Act 1982.

**(AQW 4466/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster (The Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment):** The Independent Review of Economic Policy recognised the importance of regional aid as a policy lever to grow the economy. It has made a positive impact in attracting new foreign direct investment, as well as encouraging indigenous and FDI companies to expand and/or re-invest.

I believe the proposed change to the Industrial Development Act fails to recognise our long standing economic challenges, as well as the ongoing impact of the global downturn. The proposal is also untimely given the UK Government's commitment to rebalance the Northern Ireland economy.

I and my Executive colleagues have responded to the consultation on Revisions to the Industrial Development Act, highlighting the need for Northern Ireland to retain automatic assisted area status. We have also identified this as an important priority in the recently launched draft economic strategy.

### Annual Tourist Spend in Each District Council Area

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for a breakdown of the annual tourist spend in each district council area for the last available year; and for the estimated spend in each district council area in each year up to 2020.

**(AQW 4473/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** 2009 is the last available year for estimates of annual tourist spend in each district council area and figures are as follows:

2009	SPEND (£ Million)
Antrim	25.6
Ards	8.3
Armagh	8.8
Ballymena	13.4

<b>2009</b>	<b>SPEND (£ Million)</b>
Ballymoney	2.6
Banbridge	4.6
Belfast	128.2
Carrickfergus	9.1
Castlereagh	1.7
Coleraine	59.4
Cookstown	4.3
Craigavon	8.6
Londonderry	28.9
2009	SPEND (£ Million)
Down	40.2
Dungannon	7.4
Fermanagh	32.2
Larne	11.6
Limavady	9.8
Lisburn	13.1
Magherafelt	4.1
Moyle	27.0
Newry & Mourne	12.7
Newtownabbey	8.6
North Down	19.2
Omagh	13.5
Strabane	4.2
<b>Total NI</b>	<b>507.0</b>

- These figures have been produced by the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and, as they are survey based, come with certain caveats. Details can be found by accessing the attached link below.  
<http://www.nitb.com/DocumentPage.aspx?path=2e3c2831-b6cb-4bcd-a276-e0283e5bd203,b5d4e565-ef7a-4afe-b31e-ffff177e70cb,7990e2ce-9eca-4f91-a891-edc6e07db308>
- Estimates for spend in each district council area from 2010 to 2020 are not available. Tourism targets for visitor numbers and expenditure outlined in the Draft Programme for Government 2011-15, and the Draft Tourism Strategy to 2020 are based on the total Northern Ireland figure.

## InvestNI funding for the 'Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems Project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment what has been the outcome and effect of the InvestNI funding for the 'Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster, as measured against the vision and strategic aims set out in the relevant Business Plan.

**(AQW 4552/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** Invest NI funding for the Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster has created a high class research facility. Its research power has been ranked as 15th out of the 81 Computer Science schools in the UK. The Centre which employs 75 staff and 38 PhD students has been successful in securing research funding in excess of £3.8m from a range of sources including national (EPSRC) and international (eg European Union). Commercial Income of £949k has also been secured.

The outcomes achieved for the first 5 years of operation are summarised below:

	Expected 2011	Achieved 2011
Staff Numbers	49	75
PhD students	33	38
Grant income	£1.5m	£3.8m
Commercial income	£500k	£949k
Published papers	35	>200

## InvestNI funding for the 'Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems Project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (i) how much funding InvestNI contributed to the 'Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems (CoEIS)' project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster; (ii) when each tranche of the funding was paid; (iii) whether the strategic objective of recruiting two Professors, two Readers and further research staff was met and, if not, why not; (iv) what academic posts are currently funded and filled by this funding; and (iv) how else the funding has been spent.

**(AQW 4555/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:**

- (i) The project had a total budget of £20 million, with investment of £7.2 million from Invest NI.
- (ii) Each tranche of the funding was paid on a vouched and approved basis as follows:

Payment	Date	Amount (£)
1	Jul-07	409,778
2	Dec-07	340,373.14
3	Apr-08	359,297.98
4	Jul-08	564,616.36
5	Jan-09	707,916.97
6	Oct-09	573,048.32
7	Nov-09	1,707,387.90

Payment	Date	Amount (£)
8	Mar-10	568,291.59
9	Jul-10	579,533.38
10	Feb-11	419,926.15
11	Aug-11	212,857.31
Total		6,443,027

(iii) The project milestone of appointing 2 internationally recognised research professors and associated readers was not fully achieved. The following appointments were made:

- Professor of Cognitive Robotics
- Reader in Wireless Technologies
- Reader in Robotics

Although the Centre had aimed to appoint 2 professors they were unable to find the high calibre researchers who were willing to leave their current positions to fill the post. The Centre has however taken advantage of visiting professorship programme at the University of Ulster and has a Professor in Computational Neuroscience Research available to the team. The team are also currently recruiting for professor in cognitive robotics due the unfortunate death of the existing professor.

In addition to the academic staff funded by Invest NI, the centre currently employs two professors and three readers who are funded by the university.

All the other research staff in the original business plan have been appointed.

(iv) What academic posts are currently funded and filled by this funding

The funding will cover one academic post of a Reader until the 30th November 2011 following which all academic posts will be covered by the University of Ulster.

(v) How else the funding has been spent.

The funding also covered costs relating to recruitment, equipment, refurbishment, consumables, research student support and travel.

## Provision of Evaluation Services

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment how InvestNI's current call to tender for the provision of evaluation services is conducive to its role in supporting new and small businesses.

**(AQW 4556/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** The purpose of evaluation is to assess how Invest NI's programmes are performing and contributing to the Northern Ireland Programme for Government. Whilst evaluation activity does not directly support new and small businesses, the evidence provided enables Invest NI to refine the targeting of its resources in line with the development needs of Northern Ireland businesses and the economy as a whole.

The aim of the current call to tender for the provision of evaluation services to Invest NI is to achieve efficiencies in procurement and obtain better value for money. In particular, savings in staff time, greater consistency and quality of deliverables and economies of scale in the consultancy fees are all expected benefits.

For the budget period 2011/12 to 2014/15 the Executive has agreed a target of year on year reductions of 10% for external consultancy spend. The implementation of the call to tender for the provision of evaluation services is in line with this decision.

## Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation

**Ms Lo** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, pursuant to AQO 684/11-15, for her assessment of whether the current consultation on the proposed changes to the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation will impact on new wind turbines of up to 250kW to claim four Renewable Obligation Certificates for every 1000kWh of electricity generated,  
(AQW 4559/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:** The ongoing consultation on changes to the Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation from 1 April 2013 does not propose a change to the current four Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROCs) for every megawatt hour of electricity generated by an onshore wind turbine with a maximum total installed capacity of 250 kilowatts.

Whilst the consultation covers ROC banding levels for the period 2013 to 2017 it also indicates that ROC levels may be reviewed again during that time period in the wider context of the Coalition Government's Electricity Market Reform initiative and any significant changes to technology costs. This would be subject to consultation. However, a generating station accredited at four ROCs is 'grandfathered' at that level for the 20 years accreditation period.

## Hydraulic Fracturing

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment what consideration she has given to the fact that chemicals which are left in the ground as a result of hydraulic fracturing, would exclude the future use of the contaminated layer of earth.  
(AQW 4615/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:** The use of chemical additives in hydraulic fracturing fluids would be considered as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment associated with a planning application for permission to carry out drilling and hydraulic fracturing for shale gas.

## Development and Promotion of Sports

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to detail the funding her Department has provided for the development and promotion of (i) rugby; (ii) soccer; (iii) Gaelic games; and (iv) motor sports in each of the last three years.  
(AQW 4642/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:** The recently established NI charity 'Happy Children' has secured an exciting opportunity to market and sell the official Liverpool FC 'International Football Academy Soccer Schools'. This agreement has been secured on an 'exclusive franchise' deal, initially for 3 years covering both NI and ROI.

The group recently completed the Invest NI Social Entrepreneurship Programme and received a grant of £8,000. Having demonstrated growth potential Happy Children have been taken on as a mainstream Invest NI client and are currently in negotiation for additional support towards a business development manager and marketing activities in the ROI.

The business will create 5 full time jobs and £300k in revenue over the next 2 years.

NITB's Tourism Events Funding Programme provides support to Events. Financial assistance is channelled towards the costs of hosting the event.

	2010 – 2011	2011 – 2012	Total
(i) Rugby	NIL	NIL	NIL
(ii) Football	£80,000	£80,000	£160,000
(iii) Gaelic games	NIL	NIL	NIL
(iv) Motor sports	£217,217	£158,000	£375,217

	2010 – 2011	2011 – 2012	Total
Total	£297,217	£238,000	£535,217

### Flights from Belfast International Airport

**Mrs D Kelly** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment what her Department is doing to promote and re-establish flights from Belfast International Airport to (i) Canada; (ii) the USA; and (iii) northern European countries.

**(AQW 4649/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** My Department is seeking to build on the reduction in the rate of Air Passenger Duty (APD) applied to direct long haul flights operating in Band B. This has sent a very positive message to airlines (especially those with the potential to provide links with the USA and Canada) that Northern Ireland is a viable option for long haul business. The draft Programme for Government has reinforced this message by setting an objective to eliminate the duty applied to direct long haul flights once APD is devolved.

To maximise the opportunities presented by the reduction in APD, I have asked Tourism Ireland to work with Northern Ireland's airports to identify potential new carriers and routes, both long haul and short haul, into Northern Ireland.

### Home Insulation Products

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment why domestic energy suppliers do not subsidise home insulation products sold in hardware retailers, similar to the scheme in Britain, under the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target Scheme.

**(AQW 4714/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** The Carbon Emissions Reduction Target scheme was not introduced in Northern Ireland because the Northern Ireland Authority for Utility Regulation already had the Energy Efficiency Levy in place, the forerunner to the current Northern Ireland Sustainable Energy Programme (NISEP).

NISEP is funded through the Public Service Obligation, a levy per kWh applied to all electricity supplied in Northern Ireland. Energy suppliers and other contractors can bid for levy funds to finance domestic energy efficiency projects. NISEP is open to bids involving such retailer offers; but, in order to ensure that real energy savings are achieved within NI, there are strict rules governing their acceptability. For the past number of years none of the organisations eligible to bid for NISEP funding have brought forward retailer offers.

### Small and Medium Enterprises Loan Fund

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment what discussions her Department has had with the banks in relation to the small and medium enterprises loan fund, set out in the Economic Strategy, to aid liquidity and to ensure that finance is available to help growth.

**(AQW 4718/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** Access to finance is recognised as a key issue which cuts across a number of areas in the draft Economic Strategy. DETI, through Invest NI, continues to develop and implement an Access to Capital Strategy which supports the availability of capital within the local SME market. An important element of the strategy is the establishment of a £50m Growth Loan Fund which will help viable small and medium sized businesses in the manufacturing and tradable services sectors with growth ambitions.

The primary purpose of the loan fund is to provide additional funding to SMEs to enable them to achieve their growth objectives. It will address a gap in the market for access to finance by complementing existing sources of finance, including bank finance, venture capital and private equity finance.

Invest NI commissioned ASM Horwath to carry out an economic appraisal to determine the preferred option for implementing the Growth Loan Fund, and to assess value for money. Invest NI has had regular contact with the banks in relation to this fund, both before the appraisal was conducted and following approval of the fund. ASM Horwath also consulted with the banks during the appraisal process.

## Number of Tourists

**Mr Nesbitt** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to detail (i) the number of tourists in each of the last four years; and (ii) the revenue generated by these tourists in each year; and from where this information is sourced.

**(AQW 4793/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** The estimated number of visitors, domestic tourists from within Northern Ireland and revenue generated for each of the last four years are detailed below.

	Out of state		Domestic	
	Out of state visits (million)	Revenue (£million)	Domestic visits (million)	Revenue (£million)
2010 *	1.77	336	1.39	208
2009	1.92	337	1.38	192
2008	2.08	396	1.02	144
2007	2.11	376	1.15	159

\* Final data for Republic of Ireland visitors to NI in 2010 are not yet available. The overall figure includes an estimate of Republic of Ireland visitors in 2010, provided by the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

The visitor and revenue estimates are sourced from the following surveys:

GB and overseas visitors to NI are sourced from the Northern Ireland Passenger Survey (Northern Ireland Tourist Board 2007-2009, Northern Ireland Statistics & Research Agency 2010), Country of Residence Survey (Central Statistics Office Ireland) and the Survey of Overseas Travellers (Fáilte Ireland).

Republic of Ireland visitors to NI are sourced from the Household Travel Survey (Central Statistics Office Ireland).

NI domestic tourists are sourced from the UK Travel Survey (TNS – Research International)

## Electricity Consumption from Renewable Sources

**Mr Nesbitt** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to detail the amount of electricity consumption from renewable sources in each of the last four years.

**(AQW 4794/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** The total amount of electricity consumption from renewable sources over the last four full financial years is provided in the table below.

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Electricity generated from renewables (MWh)	440937	596584	754866	745461
Renewable electricity as a percentage of total electricity distributed	5.0%	7.3%	9.3%	8.9%

The lower percentage figure for 2010/11 can be attributed to lower than average wind speeds over a number of months in that year. The figures to date for the period April-October 2011 are 543144 MWh and 12.2%.

### Cost Saving Energy Tariffs

**Mr D McIlveen** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment whether his Department intends to hold discussions with energy providers in relation to helping vulnerable customers transfer to the most cost-saving tariffs.

**(AQW 4819/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** I meet on a regular basis with energy providers to discuss a range of energy issues, including energy tariffs and vulnerable customers.

There are already a number of payment methods and sources of information and advice to customers to help them save money on energy costs. Domestic customers can avail of pre-payment electricity and gas meters to help with budgeting for their energy costs and customers can enter into direct debit arrangements which offer discounts over standard tariffs.

Furthermore, in March 2011, my Department made Regulations to transpose the EU Third Package of Energy legislation. One of the key objectives of the Third Package is to ensure a high level of consumer protection and the implementing regulations contain a range of measures to strengthen the Northern Ireland arrangements in this regard, particularly for vulnerable consumers. This includes addressing issues around customer switching, billing and provision of information to customers with the aim of ensuring energy companies are obliged to act in a way that promotes customer protection.

### Loan Scheme for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, in relation to the loans scheme for small and medium sized enterprises outlined in the draft Programme for Government, (i) will individual loans be impacted by the de minimis rules of the EU; (ii) will the ceiling of 200,000 euros over three fiscal years apply; and (iii) for her assessment of how EU restraints may inhibit the use of the loan scheme.

**(AQW 4825/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:**

- 1 Individual loans will not be impacted by de minimis rules of the EU.
- 2 The ceiling of 200,000 euros over three fiscal years will not apply.
- 3 EU restraints will have a minimal impact on the use of the loan scheme. State aid rules prevents loans being made to the following sectors:
  - Coal
  - Steel
  - Shipbuilding
  - Synthetic fibres
- 4 There is also a general rule under the EU Risk Capital guidelines that loans cannot be made to firms in difficulty. Separate rules are applicable for rescuing and restructuring firms in difficulty.

### Credit Unions

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment what discussions she has had with Credit Unions regarding their potential role in driving economic recovery.

**(AQW 4845/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** I have met with representatives of the Irish League of Credit Unions and also the Ulster Federation of Credit Unions to discuss a range of issues relevant to the role of the Credit Union

movement in Northern Ireland. The Credit Union movement makes a valuable contribution to the social economy of Northern Ireland, and its sustained level of lending during the economic downturn has had a positive impact on the local communities it serves.

## Credit Unions

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment how she plans to use Credit Unions to stimulate economic growth.

**(AQW 4846/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** My Department does not have the powers to deploy credit unions as an instrument of its economic strategy. Credit unions operate on a cooperative basis and members entrust elected boards of directors to safeguard and prudentially use their savings for mutual benefit. In fulfilling their mandated role as a provider of affordable credit to, in many cases, those who might be financially excluded, credit unions are an important contributor to local economic activity. In facilitating a sustained level of lending during the economic downturn, the Credit Union movement has and continues to make a positive impact on the local communities served.

## Jobs Lost in Portavogie

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment how many jobs have been lost in Portavogie in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4854/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** Data is not available on jobs lost within the town of Portavogie. However, information is available at a District Council Level for redundancies and at Ward Level for claimant count.

Table 1 indicates that DETI were notified of 251 confirmed redundancies, within the Ards Council Area, since the start of 2007. For Northern Ireland, 12,776 were notified over the same period. However, firms are only legally required to notify Government of impending redundancies of 20 employees or more. Therefore these figures are likely to underestimate total job losses.

**TABLE 1. STATISTICS ON CONFIRMED REDUNDANCIES**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
Ards DC	163	16	28	8	36
Northern Ireland	1,912	2,782	4,596	2,096	1,390

**Note:** \* Data for January to October 2011.

Table 2 sets out data on the number of people claiming unemployment related benefits in the Portavogie Ward, in Ards District Council and in Northern Ireland.

**TABLE 2. CLAIMANT COUNT DATA FOR PORTAVOGIE WARD, ARDS DC AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

	Portavogie Ward		Ards DC		Northern Ireland	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
October 2007	33	1.1	758	1.5	22,902	2.0
October 2008	46	1.5	1,022	2.0	30,379	2.7
October 2009	71	2.4	1,655	3.3	52,734	4.6
October 2010	113	3.8	1,862	3.7	57,503	5.0
October 2011	113	3.8	2,011	4.0	59,973	5.2

**Notes:** Rates for wards in NI for 2007 onwards are calculated using the mid-2006 resident population aged 16-64.

Rates for local authorities from 2011 onwards are calculated using the mid-2010 resident population aged 16-64.

Rates for NI, from 2011 onwards, are calculated using the mid-2010 resident population aged 16-64.

You should note that, while there are obvious links, changes in the claimant count are not necessarily equivalent to job losses or creation as people may flow onto or off the register for a variety of reasons other than gaining or losing a job. For example, school leavers can add to the list while people reaching retirement age can come off the list.

## Jobs Created in Portavogie

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment how many jobs have been created in Portavogie in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4856/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** The data is not available to provide jobs created in Portavogie. However, the Invest NI jobs promoted in the Ards District Council Area are provided below.

Invest NI Jobs promoted, safeguarded and supported in Ards DCA

(1st April 2007 to 30th September 2011)

	<b>Jobs promoted &amp; Safeguarded</b>	<b>Jobs Supported by Enterprise Development Programme (EDP)</b>
2007-08	11	55
2008-09	65	43
2009-10	168	23
2010-11	33	58
2011-12	54	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>218</b>

**Notes:** - Jobs promoted and safeguarded includes jobs expected to be created by supported projects and jobs which would have been lost if projects had not been supported.

- The Enterprise Development Programme (formerly the Start A Business Programme) is delivered in partnership with Enterprise Northern Ireland and provides guidance to new businesses, reliant on the local Northern Ireland market.
- EDP jobs figures are based on an estimate of jobs created by an individual EDP offer. This estimation process is derived from an independent evaluation of the programme. In terms of promoting jobs, Invest NI supported the development of 331 jobs, in the Ards DCA between 1 April 2007 and 30 September 2011, 54 of which will be progressed in the next financial year. In addition, over the same period, Invest NI also supported 218 new, locally-owned, jobs indirectly through its Enterprise Development Programme. However, jobs will have been created, in this area, which have not received support from Invest NI.

Some data is available on employee jobs at a ward level within the Census of Employment, and at a District Council level in the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES). However, it is not consistent over the last five years, due to methodological changes, and is not particularly timely with the latest Census information being for 2009. Nevertheless the information can be still be accessed from the DETI website:

BRES <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-surveys/stats-census-of-employment-2.htm>

Census <http://www.detini.gov.uk/deti-stats-index/stats-surveys/stats-census-of-employment.htm>

## Tamboran

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to outline the role that she played in making the decision to award Tamboran the rights to explore for, and extract, gas in County Fermanagh.  
(AQW 4894/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:** I had no involvement in the decisions to grant petroleum licences to individual companies, including that awarded to Tamboran Resources PTY Ltd. The granting of Petroleum Licences is governed by a legislative process set out in regulations and the decisions on all the petroleum licences issued in 2011 were determined by a panel consisting of officials from my Department, the British Geological Survey and the Whitehall Department of Energy and Climate Change.

## Loan Scheme for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment how the interest to be charged on the loans scheme for small and medium sized enterprises, proposed in the draft Programme for Government, will be calculated.

(AQW 4905/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:**

- 1 The loan fund will be managed on a commercial basis by an externally appointed fund manager.
- 2 The terms of each loan will be negotiated on an individual basis by the fund manager, taking account of relevant factors, including risk.
- 3 As loans will be primarily provided on an unsecured basis and other sources of funding will have been exhausted, the risk of default will be higher than on a secured bank debt portfolio. The fund manager will assess the risk involved in each case and will negotiate terms taking account of the risk level. The level of risk involved will necessitate an interest rate in excess of that charged by a bank on a lower risk secured debt.

## Health and Safety Executive: Undeveloped Sites

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to outline the powers of the Health and Safety Executive in relation to making undeveloped sites secure.

(AQW 4947/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:** The Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland has no powers to make undeveloped sites secure, if no construction or building work is taking place.

## Investment in Mobile Phone Infrastructure

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, pursuant to AQW 4144/11-15, which locations her Department has identified as the areas in most need of investment in mobile phone infrastructure.

(AQW 4962/11-15)

**Mrs Foster:** No decisions on areas most in need of investment in mobile infrastructure have been taken at this stage and the extent to which my Department can address this issue will depend on securing funding through Broadband Delivery UK.

Work to identify such areas will be informed by a range of information sources. These include OFCOM's first Infrastructure Report to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and its mobile not-spots survey analysis. This will be supported by a mapping exercise which my Department will commission to examine the reach of existing mobile infrastructure and through discussions with the Mobile Network Operators to understand their investment plans.

## Meeting with Minister Varadkar

**Mrs D Kelly** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, pursuant to AQW 3713/11-15 and in light of her meeting with Minister Varadkar, whether she has any plans to commemorate ‘The Gathering: An Irish Homecoming’ in 2013 on an all-island basis; and whether she has any plans to stage events in Northern Ireland to mark this tourist initiative.

**(AQW 5019/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** I have no plans to mark “The Gathering: An Irish Homecoming”.

We have a number of exciting events planned for 2013, including the UK City of Culture in Londonderry and the World Police and Fire Games. These events will be our main focus during 2013.

## Airports Competing for International Flights

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment for her assessment of the impact on the economic interests of Northern Ireland of two airports, in a city the size of Belfast, competing against each other for international flights.

**(AQW 5024/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** I have not made any assessment of the economic impact of Belfast International Airport, or of Belfast City Airport. Competition between airports is a reserved matter for the competition authorities and commercial decisions in respect of international flights are a matter for airport owners.

## Centralised Control of Economic Policy

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment whether there is a policy to centralise control of economic policy in her Department.

**(AQW 5064/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** There is no plan to centralise responsibility for economic policy in any Department. The draft Northern Ireland Economic Strategy was developed by the Executive Sub-Committee on the Economy which I chair supported by the Ministers of Employment & Learning, Regional Development, Education and Finance & Personnel and the junior Ministers from OFMDFM.

The draft strategy includes commitments from all Departments and was agreed by the entire Executive.

## Broadband Fund

**Mr D Bradley** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (i) how much money is in the broadband fund; (ii) how much has been spent to date, broken down by each call for applications; (iii) which calls were successful for which areas; (iv) when the next call for applications will be made; (v) which area will benefit; and (vi) how much funding will be involved.

**(AQW 5133/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** The NI Broadband Fund was launched in 2008, with a budget of £1.9m to be spent over a five-year period. The amount currently committed under the Fund is £1,105,438.76. Details of commitments to 28 November 2011 and areas benefiting are as follows:

Call for applications	Committed to 28 November 2011	Areas
1st	£374,891.47	Rural west of NI, including: Eskragh, Broughderg, Greencastle (Co Tyrone), Gortin, Carrickmore, Cloghfin, Dregish, Drumquin, Plumbridge, Clady, Aghyarn, Ederny, Drum Manor, Coagh, Ballyronan, Tullyard, Sandholes, Ballinamallard, and Ballintoy
2nd	£0	No successful applicants

Call for applications	Committed to 28 November 2011	Areas
3rd	£177,434.77	North Sperrins, Foyle Basin, Fermanagh and South Tyrone
4th	£87,680.52	North Antrim coast and Enniskillen
5th	£250,000.00	Benburb, Crossmaglen, Downpatrick, Forkhill, Hillsborough, Larne and Newtownhamilton
6th	£215,432.00	Dungannon, Larne, Antrim, Fermanagh, Down, Armagh, Ballymena and Newry and Mourne

The Broadband Fund is co-financed under the European Regional Development Fund Sustainable Competitiveness Programme 2007-2013. At the beginning of 2011, Aid Intensity limits reduced, and this impacted significantly on the number of proposals coming forward under the recently completed 6th call.

I have, therefore, decided that there will be no further calls under the Fund and that the remaining funding will be re-designated to support my Department's telecoms investment priorities for 2011-2015, as published under a recent consultation exercise. These priorities are to deliver access to a minimum 2Mbps broadband service to all of Northern Ireland and to improve 3G mobile coverage. The money transferred from the Broadband Fund will be specifically used to support the 2Mbps target, thereby ensuring a structured rather than fragmented approach to the delivery of next generation broadband services into rural areas.

## Cabinet Technology

**Mr D Bradley** asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to detail the areas which are covered by installation of fibre to the cabinet technology.

**(AQW 5134/11-15)**

**Mrs Foster:** Under my Department's Next Generation Broadband project, fibre-to-the-cabinet (FTTC) technology offering download speeds of up to 40Mbps has been delivered to 1,256 cabinets across Northern Ireland – a further 9 cabinets will be upgraded by 31 January 2012. While the specific objective of this project is to bring higher speed services to 85% of Northern Ireland businesses, under the wholesale arrangements set down by the contract with BT, other service providers can access the BT infrastructure to deliver their own brand of fibred broadband products, which also includes services aimed at residential customers.

In addition, BT continues to invest in rollout of fibre to the cabinet technology under its "business as usual" programme. Details of the locations of the cabinets upgraded under contract to my Department can be found at [www.fasterbroadbandni.com](http://www.fasterbroadbandni.com). Details of the full fibre rollout (including those under BT's additional investment plans) can be found at [www.nibroadband.com](http://www.nibroadband.com).

## Department of the Environment

### Northern Ireland Environment Agency

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of the Environment what measures are in place to ensure that the Northern Ireland Environment Agency informs individuals on whether enforcement issues they have reported have been addressed.

**(AQW 2125/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood (The Minister of the Environment):** There is no central policy committing NIEA to provide follow up on every incident reported to it. The Agency will respond to those complainants who specifically request progress reports at the time. It will also reply to written correspondence on all

subjects, including reported incidents, in line with its Customer Charter. Successful NIEA prosecutions are also notified to the general public through Press Releases issued at the end of a court case.

Not all incidents are significant enough to warrant further investigation, and not all are substantiated or proved to be genuine. Callers are informed of appropriate contacts for incidents that are not the responsibility of NIEA. Were the Agency to give feedback on all reports, given the number involved, already constrained resources would be put under further pressure, taking up time and staff that are more productively used in investigating breaches of environmental laws.

Since January 2011, NIEA's Environmental Crime Unit has received 402 reports of alleged incidents of unauthorised waste activities. However, I have asked advice that, subject to legal and anonymity issues, all reports should be formally followed up during or at the end of the complaint process.

## Single Wind Turbine Planning Applications

**Mr Irwin** asked the Minister of the Environment (i) for his assessment of the number of single wind turbine planning applications that have been refused; and (ii) to detail his Department's position on this form of renewable power generation.

**(AQW 3273/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:**

- (i) for his assessment of the number of single wind turbine planning applications that have been refused;

Over the last three business years, 440 single wind turbine applications were approved. During the same period, 59 single wind turbine applications were refused; a refusal rate of 13.4%. A breakdown of decisions issued is set out in the table below.

Business Year	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
Single Wind Turbine applications Refused	15	20	24	59
Single Wind Turbine applications Approved	225	103	112	440
<b>Total</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>499</b>

The single wind turbine applications were refused because it was considered that the proposals were contrary to planning policy on the grounds that they were detrimental to the visual amenity, residential amenity and character of the area and in terms of the adverse impact on places of heritage interest.

- (ii) to detail his Department's position on this form of renewable power generation

PPS18 Renewable Energy sets out the Department's planning policy for development that generates energy from renewable resources and is supportive of renewable energy and technologies in appropriate locations. I am a strong supporter of renewable energy and that the intention and ambition of PPS18 needs to be achieved.

The Department welcomes the contribution that renewable power generators contribute to the drive to reduce carbon emissions and acknowledges the importance of processing these types of applications in a timely manner to ensure that timeframes for grant funding are not missed as a result of the planning process. A training programme is being rolled out to enable good and timely planning decisions. I will seek to ensure consistent and positive decisions consistent with good process and practice and will seek to identify where useful guidance can be issued.

First Steps Towards Sustainability – A Sustainable Development Strategy for Northern Ireland' (SDS) contains challenging targets for Northern Ireland above those set at international and national levels for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. The Department welcomes the contribution that renewable power generators contribute to the SDS. The renewable energy sector has the potential for

massive growth and the Department recognises the long term benefits such developments can bring to both investors and consumers.

## Hydraulic Fracturing

**Mr T Clarke** asked the Minister of the Environment (i) for his Department's assessment of hydraulic fracturing as a means of extracting natural resources; and (ii) whether he is aware of this process being planned or carried out anywhere in Northern Ireland.

**(AQW 3413/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** My officials within NIEA are currently supplementing their current knowledge of the process with emerging research by studying case studies from other parts of the world and by liaising with their counterparts in other Environment Agencies in countries where fracking is currently proposed or taking place. I will be vigilant in relation to the potential of this process and rigorously assess law to proceed or not to proceed.

I am aware that a company, Tamboran Resources Pty Ltd, is currently exploring the viability of extracting natural gas from shale deposits in the south Fermanagh area using a hydraulic fracturing process. The project is commonly referred to as the 'Shale Gas Project'.

I am not aware of any fracking operations currently taking place within Northern Ireland.

## Wind Farm Planning Applications

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of the Environment how many planning applications for wind farms have been considered by the Omagh Planning Office in each of the last three years and, of these, how many have been approved.

**(AQW 3416/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Omagh Planning Office has general responsibility for planning matters within the Council districts of Omagh, Dungannon and South Tyrone, Strabane, Fermanagh and Cookstown. However planning applications for wind farms are processed through the Renewable Energy Team based at Planning Headquarters in Belfast.

In 2009, 5 applications were considered and 4 were approved; in 2010, 7 applications were considered and were 7 approved; in 2011 to date, 4 applications have been considered and 4 have been approved.

In total within this three year period, 16 applications were considered and 15 were approved.

## Anglers Monitoring Initiative Project

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of the Environment for an update on the development of the Anglers Monitoring Initiative Project .

**(AQW 3522/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** An Anglers Monitoring Initiative (AMI) pilot project, based on the Ballinderry River, County Tyrone, is operated by Ballinderry River Enhancement Association (BREA) in conjunction with the Riverfly Partnership (RP) and is supported by NIEA. The pilot has been operational since February 2011.

AMI provides a simple monitoring technique that local groups/river users can use to detect pollution impacts on the biology of rivers. This can then be reported to NIEA in the event of agreed NIEA trigger levels being breached.

BREA secured funding and arranged purchase of the relevant equipment to take the pilot forward. A total of 22 volunteers have been recruited by BREA and have received training from the RP in the use of the technique and relevant health and safety requirements. The volunteers monitor 28 sites on a monthly basis.

NIEA involvement in the pilot to date includes:

- Attendance and support for the RP training;
- Provision of relevant water quality maps and data;
- Setting appropriate trigger levels for AMI sites (breaches of the trigger levels would be indicative of a serious pollution event at the site);
- Providing appropriate response to trigger level breaches and feedback as necessary.

A review of the pilot is planned for the end of 2011. The review will examine operational methods and experiences, the future scope of the project and options for extending the scheme into other river catchments.

### Listed Buildings in North Down

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail all listed buildings in the North Down area. (AQW 3542/11-15)

**Mr Attwood:** Based upon the 1974 ward boundaries, which is how the Department holds such records, the total number of listed buildings in the North Down Borough Council Area is 257. The North Down constituency also includes two electoral wards of Ards Borough Council in Donaghadee, which contain a further 58 listed buildings (highlighted in bold). This gives a total of 315 listed buildings in your constituency.

To provide the detail of all of these listed buildings by hard copy would be unwieldy. The information you have sought may be accessed electronically at the following link [www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/other-index/content-databases/content-databases-build.htm](http://www.doeni.gov.uk/niea/other-index/content-databases/content-databases-build.htm).

Once you have accepted the terms and conditions of the site, a search may be carried out by Council area – in this case Ards and North Down.

You will be aware, however, that there has been boundary changes since 1974, and therefore the figures should not be taken as definitive in relation to the current boundaries. For that reason I have appended, for your information, a table which shows the number of the listed buildings within each ward of the North Down and Ards Borough Council Areas.

You may also wish to note that NDBC – which are statutory consultees in the listing process - have been provided with a copy of each listing in their area, as the listing process has proceeded over the years since the introduction of the legislation in the early 1970's.

### NUMBER OF LISTED BUILDINGS IN THE NORTH DOWN AND ARDS DISTRICT COUNCIL AREAS

HB23 - North Down		
1	Groomsport	13
2	Churchill	1
3	Ballyholme	1
4	Ballymagee	1
5	Bangor Harbour	24
6	Conlig	4
7	Bangor Castle	24
8	Whitehill	
9	Rathgael	

HB24 - Ards		
1	Portaferry	73
2	Kircubbin	22
3	Ballyhalbert	5
4	Grey Abbey	62
5	Carrowdore	6
6	<b>Donaghadee North</b>	26
7	<b>Donaghadee South</b>	32
8	Loughries	10
9	Movilla	5

HB23 - North Down		
10	Clandeboyne	18
11	Silverstream	
12	Spring Hill	
13	Bryansburn	1
14	Princetown	16
15	Crawfordsburn	23
16	Craigavad	18
17	Loughview	6
18	Cultra	29
19	Hollywood Demesne	12
20	Hollywood Priory	66
	<b>Total</b>	<b>257</b>

HB24 - Ards		
10	Glen	3
11	Scrabo	16
12	Ulsterville	
13	Central	43
14	Comber North	
15	Comber South	32
16	Ballygowan	13
17	Killinchy	31
	<b>Total</b>	<b>379</b>

### Cost of Answering Assembly Questions

**Mr Cree** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the average cost to his Department of answering (i) an Oral Assembly Question; and (ii) a Written Assembly Question during this mandate compared to two years ago.

**(AQW 3548/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Department does not routinely estimate the cost of answering Assembly Questions (AQs) and comparative information between mandates is therefore not available.

The rationale for this position has been previously set out by OFMdfM, as part of its written submission to the Procedures Committee on the cost of answering AQs, during the Committee's AQ Inquiry:

*"The preparation of responses to Assembly Questions is an intrinsic part of the responsibilities of civil servants and has therefore not traditionally been separated out from other duties for a separate estimate of cost. Such costs, which would reflect only the departmental phase of processing the questions, would also vary in line with, for example, the nature of the question, the number of individual members of staff involved in preparing the reply and the involvement of other departments in providing information."*

However, I have asked DOE officials to provide some headline estimates of costs incurred.

### Single Wind Turbine Planning Applications

**Mr Buchanan** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the number of single wind turbine planning applications processed by the Omagh Planning Office that have been (i) refused; and (ii) approved in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 3552/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The table below details the information requested.

	Approved	Refused	Total
2006/07	17	3	20
2007/08	25	4	29

	Approved	Refused	Total
2008/09	33	3	36
2009/10	20	8	28
2010/11	37	9	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>159</b>

**Source:** Planning NI

## Wildfires

**Ms Ritchie** asked the Minister of the Environment what progress has been made in addressing the problem of wildfires.

**(AQW 3556/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** At my instigation, an Interdepartmental Group on Wildfires has been set up, comprising senior officials from NIEA, DARD, DRD and DHSSPS. The Group has met twice to date and is assembling information on the extent, scale and significance of seasonal wildfires and their cost to society. The Group is also looking at what additional measures can be put in place to prevent a re-occurrence of wildfires of the scale witnessed in April and May this year.

A report of their findings and recommendations will be presented to relevant Ministers by 31 January 2012.

## Review of the Appointment of Special Advisers

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of the Environment to outline the status within his Department of the Department of Finance and Personnel's review of the appointment of Special Advisers.

**(AQW 3566/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Department of Finance and Personnel's review of the appointment of Special Advisers was completed on the 6 September 2011. I have not appointed a Special Adviser since this date. If it is necessary to appoint a new Special Adviser, I will follow the new guidance on the issue. I consider that it is right that, in the appointment of say Special Advisers, the requirements of victims have primacy. Moreover, the requirements of victims should be given greater priority and recognition in the conduct of government, politics and policy going forward, including appropriate legislative and administrative measures to reflect these requirements.

## Smoke Control Zones

**Mr Hussey** asked the Minister of the Environment to list the local councils which (i) operate; and (ii) do not operate Smoke Control Zones.

**(AQW 3598/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** There are 16 district councils with smoke control areas in operation and 10 which have not declared smoke control areas. These are as follows:-

### District Councils with Smoke Control Areas:

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ■ Antrim Borough Council         | ■ Coleraine Borough Council |
| ■ Ards Borough Council           | ■ Craigavon Borough Council |
| ■ Armagh City & District Council | ■ Derry City Council        |
| ■ Ballymena Borough Council      | ■ Down District Council     |
| ■ Belfast City Council           | ■ Larne Borough Council     |
| ■ Castlereagh Borough Council    | ■ Lisburn City Council      |

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ■ Newry & Mourne District Council                                  | ■ Carrickfergus Borough Council            |
| ■ Newtownabbey Borough Council                                     | ■ Cookstown District Council               |
| ■ North Down Borough Council                                       | ■ Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council |
| ■ Strabane District Council  | ■ Fermanagh District Council               |
| ■ District Councils which have not declared<br>Smoke Control Areas | ■ Limavady Borough Council                 |
| ■ Ballymoney Borough Council                                       | ■ Magherafelt District Council             |
| ■ Banbridge District Council                                       | ■ Moyle District Council                   |
|  | ■ Omagh District Council                   |

## Invasive Plant Species

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of the Environment (i) for his assessment of the prevalence in Northern Ireland of (a) Japanese Knotweed; (b) Giant Hogweed; and (c) Himalayan Balsam; and (ii) how her Department is assisting in the (a) identification; (b) control and (c) eradication of these invasive plant species.

**(AQW 3599/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Department recognises the threat posed by invasive alien species to our native biodiversity and has been taking action to address this issue for several years.

The invasive plant species Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam have been present in Britain and Ireland since the early 19th century having first been introduced as ornamental garden plants. They subsequently escaped into the wider countryside and are now considered to be widely distributed. The Centre for Environmental Data and Recording (CEDaR) hold records of invasive alien species which detail the spread of these plants both in time and distribution.

The three species are now widespread and are associated with river corridors and lake margins in all counties of Northern Ireland.

Officials in the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) are working in partnership with Local Biodiversity Officers across Northern Ireland to deliver training on identification and management options for a range of invasive alien species including Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam to staff from a range of organisations including Councils, Roads Service, Rivers Agency, Translink and environmental NGOs. This training has also been provided to several local angling clubs.

As part of the Invasive Species Ireland Project, which is jointly funded by NIEA and the National Parks and Wildlife Service in Dublin, a range of educational materials have been developed. There is also a dedicated website which provides information on identification and management options for a range of invasive alien species as well as an online facility to report sightings.

Earlier this year, the Department provided part funding to a £2.6 million InterReg IVa project, led by the Queen's University Belfast, which aims to control and, where possible, eradicate riparian invasive species from river catchments in Northern Ireland, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland. In Northern Ireland two river catchments are included in this project - the River Faughan and the Newry Canal/Clanrye River. In addition officials from NIEA have worked closely with a number of local community led initiatives to address problems created by invasive alien species.

## Belfast Hills Partnership Guidelines

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of the Environment what action his Department is taking to ensure that the Belfast Hills Partnership guidelines for minimum assessment of wind turbine applications are followed in all parts of Northern Ireland.

**(AQW 3601/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The policy context against which the Department determines applications for wind turbines is contained within Planning Policy Statement 18 (PPS 18) Renewable Energy, PPS 18 Best

Practice Guidance and Supplementary Planning Guidance “Wind Energy Development in Northern Ireland Landscapes August 2010” (NIEA).

It is considered that the policy direction in PPS 18 for wind energy development addresses the possible impacts that the Belfast Hills Partnership want to see assessed.

## Otter Numbers

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the estimated population of otters, including their locations; and what action his Department is taking to protect the otter population.

**(AQW 3608/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Otters are normally solitary, nocturnal, and cover large home ranges.

These behavioural characteristics can make population estimates of otters very difficult. As a result of this, the standard otter survey technique used throughout the UK and Europe is to use presence/absence surveys which are used to indicate whether or not an area has a resident otter population.

The methodology involves surveying river banks and recording signs of otter presence or absence. Spraints (droppings) tracks, holts, feeding remains and slides on banks are the normal signs of otter presence.

The data from presence/absence surveys can then be used to formulate distribution maps and an overall estimate of percentage occurrence can be made.

During 2010, the Department commissioned an otter survey of Northern Ireland. A total of 377 sites were surveyed, with otters detected at 344 sites (88.6%). This represents one of the highest densities in western Europe and is an overall increase of 26.9% from a previous survey undertaken in 2001/2.

Otters are fully protected under the terms of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 and the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985.

The Department ensures that any development that may impact on otters is fully assessed during the planning process and all relevant mitigation is implemented to minimise disturbance.

NIEA officials attend meetings of the UK Otter Biodiversity Action Plan Steering Group and work to deliver targets and actions for otter protection in Northern Ireland.

## Acohol Limits

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of the Environment when he intends to implement the lower alcohol limits for driving.

**(AQW 3646/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** On Monday 26 September 2011, I announced plans to bring forward a package of measures to tackle drink driving. Subject to Executive Committee agreement, the Department intends to have the drink drive legislation, in the form of a draft Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill, ready for public consultation by March 2012.

I will consider the final provisions of the draft Bill on foot of the outcome of that consultation and I plan to seek introduction of the draft Bill to the Assembly before the end of 2012.

## Travel Costs

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the travel costs incurred by (i) the Minister; and (ii) departmental officials in the last 12 months.

**(AQW 3693/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The table below provides details of travel costs incurred by departmental officials, split between the core department and agencies, and the Minister for the financial year 2010/11.

<b>Travel Costs</b>	<b>£000's</b>
Core Department	37,634
Planning Service	107,359
Northern Ireland Environment Agency	188,649
Driver and Vehicle Agency	278,513
Minister	7,550
<b>Total</b>	<b>619,705</b>

The figures include all mileage allowances claimed by staff on official duty as well as reimbursement of air, taxi, bus, rail and boat fares. A full breakdown is being prepared and will be released to the Member in due course.

### **George Best Belfast City Airport**

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of the Environment for an update on the proposed runway extension at the George Best Belfast City Airport.

**(AQW 3701/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Preparations for a public inquiry into the planning application to extend the runway at GBBCA are currently on hold pending receipt of further environmental information.

You may also be aware of my recent decision to initiate a public process to modify the existing Planning Agreement between the Department and GBBCA.

The modification process will include a public consultation on proposals for a noise management system, to be brought forward by the airport before the end of the year, and a Public Examination to independently consider all of the issues. After I have considered the independent report and recommendations of the Examination, I will decide what modifications should be included in the Planning Agreement. It is hoped that the process will be concluded by early Summer 2012.

### **Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency**

**Mr Campbell** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the number of vehicles processed at each Driver and Vehicle Agency testing centre between 2005 and 2010.

**(AQW 3716/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** For the purpose of this response the number of vehicles processed is taken to mean all vehicles that undertook a full test and retest for the financial years 2005/06, 2006/07, 2007/08, 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11.

The details for the requested period are included in the following table.

<b>Test Centre</b>	<b>2005/06</b>	<b>2006/07</b>	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2008/09</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>
Armagh	26,233	29,020	31,348	35,658	39,931	42,959
Ballymena	49,970	59,502	64,681	68,361	67,822	70,896
Belfast	75,589	81,738	79,120	87,134	97,958	103,164
Coleraine	53,329	54,292	57,162	61,030	62,882	67,790
Cookstown	51,264	53,153	51,850	59,588	59,841	62,349
Craigavon	36,937	41,863	47,761	52,243	52,421	56,251

Test Centre	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Downpatrick	31,901	33,295	37,395	41,187	40,614	41,412
Enniskillen	33,877	36,114	39,499	43,380	43,887	47,014
Larne	29,483	31,690	34,727	40,313	36,664	38,963
Lisburn	41,967	44,139	47,580	52,884	53,913	57,968
Londonderry	45,066	52,900	56,728	61,741	66,559	69,112
Mallusk	61,180	66,496	59,125	67,584	75,694	77,340
Newry	52,146	56,272	57,726	64,035	67,353	71,899
Newtownards	77,902	91,015	90,703	98,896	96,653	101,256
Omagh	31,999	32,257	34,473	37,156	38,691	41,662
<b>Total</b>	<b>698,843</b>	<b>763,746</b>	<b>789,878</b>	<b>871,190</b>	<b>900,883</b>	<b>950,035</b>

## Shale Gas

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister of the Environment for his assessment of whether the introduction of shale gas to the local market, from fracking in Co.Fermanagh, could have an impact on his Department's targets for reducing carbon emissions.

**(AQW 3814/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** It is not yet possible to fully assess the environmental impact of the potential availability of shale gas from Fermanagh on the Executive's greenhouse gas targets.

Officials in my Department are currently supplementing their knowledge of the process and awaiting the outcome of emerging research, commissioned by colleagues in the Republic of Ireland. The research will involve consideration of case studies from other parts of the world and liaison with other countries where fracking is currently proposed or taking place.

The research will look at the regulatory approach in other countries and help the development of Best Environmental Practice for this type of operation. It should also better inform the assessment of the impact of shale gas on greenhouse gas emissions.

I will be vigilant in relation to the potential of this process and rigorously assess law to proceed or not to proceed.

## Development Size for Agricultural Buildings

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of the Environment whether he will consider increasing the permitted development size for agricultural buildings from 300m<sup>2</sup> every two years to 600m<sup>2</sup> every two years, or the removal of the two-year rule.

**(AQW 3839/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The size of agricultural buildings allowed under permitted development is under review. In reaching a decision the Department will seek to balance agricultural business needs with the need to control the amenity impacts of large scale agricultural development. I intend to seek positive ways of moving forward.

## Planning Enforcements

**Mr Lunn** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail (i) with how many planning enforcements the Planning Service is currently dealing; and (ii) how many members of staff are working on these enforcements, broken down by Planning Office.

**(AQW 3851/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The number of (i) enforcement cases currently under investigation by the Department and (ii) staff currently employed in enforcement broken down by Planning Office is set out in the table below.

Area Office	Number of Live Enforcement Cases	Number of Staff	
		Full time	Part time
Belfast	1251	6	0
South Antrim	257	4	0
Southern	1014	6	1
Northern	504	4	4
Western	333	4	0
HQ	299	3	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3658</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7</b>

There are also 10 senior officers at PPTO (Principal Planner) grade who manage the enforcement teams combined with their other duties in Development Management. They have not been included in the figures.

I confirm that I am currently developing a Human Resource Plan to address staffing issues and deployment. I believe that enforcement generally in DOE should have greater priority.

## Plastic Bag Levy

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail (i) how much revenue the proposed levy on single use carrier bags is expected to generate in each of the next four years; and (ii) for his assessment of the impact of less revenue being generated than that factored into the 2011 Budget.

**(AQW 3916/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** I have not yet determined the level at which the carrier bag levy will be set; in part at least, this will be influenced by the outcome of the consultation process. I am therefore unable to provide revenue projections for forward years at this point in time.

That said, economic modelling, for a range of possible charging levels, suggests that a levy confined to single use carrier bags is unlikely to raise the target revenue of £4 million per year. This is partly because it is likely that many consumers would switch to using cheaper versions of reusable bags. Such a scenario could lead to significant environmental harm, as well as impacting on revenue raised for environmental initiatives. For those reasons, I am proposing to bring forward new primary legislation which would allow the levy to be extended to include certain categories of reusable bags.

However, I would highlight that given the lead in time for the introduction of the levy, and the costs associated with the introduction of a levy, there is very little prospect of realising any additional income before 2014-15. This will create significant financial pressures which, if unaddressed, will inevitably impact on a number of important environmental programmes.

## Planning Applications for Wind Turbines

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister of the Environment if all the planning applications for the erection of wind turbines currently in the planning system were to be approved, what percentage this would be of the Executive's 2020 renewable energy target.

**(AQW 3921/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** If all the applications for the erection of wind turbines currently in the planning system were to be approved, this would contribute to an installed capacity of approximately 860MW, which when combined with the existing installed onshore wind would equate to approximately 75% of the 2020 target. However, it should be noted that this is an approximation as not all of the applications for wind turbines in the system include installed capacity and/or energy rating.

## Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of the Environment for an update on the Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan.

**(AQW 3928/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** I would refer Mr Easton to a reply that he recently received on 30 September 2011 containing an update on BMAP.

To provide an update on recent progress, I can confirm that my Department received further reports from the Planning Appeals Commission on North Down District and Lagan Valley Regional Park Proposals on 27 September 2011. The reports on two BMAP Districts currently remain outstanding i.e. Newtownabbey and Carrickfergus.

The date that BMAP will be adopted will be dependent on when the PAC Report is received in its entirety. At present it is anticipated that adoption will not take place before the end of 2012.

## Environmental Grants

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the environmental grants currently available from his Department.

**(AQW 3929/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Department administers a number of environmental grants which are detailed below:

### Natural Heritage Grants

The Natural Heritage Grant Programme aims to encourage the conservation and enhancement of key elements of the environment and its wildlife. The programme is run annually on a competitive basis.

### Listed Building Grants

The Listed Building Grant Programme is available to fund the repairs and maintenance of all types of secular listed buildings and also for churches at Grade B+ and above.

### Anti Litter Grant

This grant is provided to Tidy Northern Ireland to assist with Core funding and the funding of various anti litter projects across Northern Ireland.

### Noise Act Grant

This grant was available to district councils who adopted the provisions of the Noise Act 1996. The relevant provisions have been replaced by the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011 and therefore there will be no requirement to pay this grant to councils from 2012-13 onwards.

### Local Air Quality Management Grant

This grant is available to district councils who meet the Department's criteria for managing and monitoring air quality within their council area. Councils may apply annually for this grant.

### Clean Air Grant

This grant is payable to district councils as a contribution towards the costs of assisting owner/occupiers within Smoke Control Areas who convert their properties to burn smokeless fuels. There are no clean air grant schemes currently in operation. If a new Smoke Control Area was to be declared by a council, a grant scheme would be offered to owner/occupiers.

### Waste Infrastructure Grant

This grant comprises funding allocated to offset the cost to councils of the expenditure associated with procurement of the waste infrastructure projects which three Waste Management Groups are taking forward on their behalf in order to achieve statutory landfill diversion targets. This funding is ring fenced and each of the Waste Management Groups bids for funding at the start of each financial year.

### Department's Enforcement Officers

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of the Environment (i) how many taxis inspected by his Department's Enforcement Officers in each of the last three years were found to be unroadworthy, broken down by (a) public; and (b) private hire taxis; and (ii) to detail the reasons for unroadworthiness.

**(AQW 3945/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The numbers of taxis found to be unroadworthy in the last three years, broken down between public and private hire taxis and by the reasons for unroadworthiness, were as follows:

#### NUMBER OF TAXIS WITH ROADWORTHINESS DEFECTS

	Apr 09-Mar 10	Apr 10-Mar 11	Apr 11-Sep 11
Taxis with roadworthiness defects	218	373	177
Private hire taxis with roadworthiness defects	n/a*	338	160
Public hire taxis with roadworthiness defects	n/a*	35	17

#### ROADWORTHINESS DEFECTS BREAKDOWN

	Apr 09-Mar 10		Apr 10-Mar 11		Apr 11-Sep 11	
	Public Hire	Private Hire	Public Hire	Private Hire	Public Hire	Private Hire
Braking	n/a*	n/a*	11	69	8	28
Steering	n/a*	n/a*	15	39	9	20
Lighting	n/a*	n/a*	23	243	19	122
Wheels/ Tyres	n/a*	n/a*	17	237	8	122
Other Defects	n/a*	n/a*	18	124	5	59

\* In relation to the period April 2009 to March 2010, information on the breakdown of defects would need to be manually extracted from a large number of files held by DVA, and has therefore not been included. An enforcement database was introduced in April 2010 to facilitate the analysis of key statistical information.

## Overtaking a Parked Education and Library Board or Translink School Bus

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister of the Environment whether it is illegal for drivers to overtake a parked (i) Education and Library Board school bus; or (ii) Translink school bus which display the appropriate signage on the rear of the bus.

**(AQW 3946/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** It is not an offence for drivers to overtake a parked Education and Library school bus or Translink school bus which display the appropriate signage.

The objective of the new signage and warning lights is to make motorists more aware of how to identify a school bus that is picking up or dropping off school children and, accordingly, to take care when passing a bus due to the risk of children emerging. To raise awareness, the regulatory change was supported by a media educational campaign at the time and again for the 'back to school' period in September.

## Towers at Dalway's Bawn, Ballymena

**Mr Hilditch** asked the Minister of the Environment for an update on the progress made for the towers at Dalway's Bawn, Carrickfergus.

**(AQW 3968/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Dalways Bawn is an impressive seventeenth century-fortification, set at a roadside location in the northern hinterland of Carrickfergus. It is thought to have been built by John Dalway around 1609 and three of the four stone towers built by Dalway still survive. These towers have been in guardianship by the Department since December 1973 and the Department has carried out ongoing maintenance and conservation works since that time.

At present some urgent works are to be undertaken within the north tower in order to fix a leak in the roof. Some non-urgent vegetation removal is also planned for this financial year. The site remains in private ownership but, as you are aware, was sold to a new owner in 2007. There was contact between the Department and the new owner in 2007-08 and it was agreed that the towers would remain in guardianship.

The new owner investigated the possibility of developing the site and adjacent lands. I am advised that officials from NIEA met with the new owner and his agents at that time, noting that any new development would have to enhance the condition of the heritage assets at the site and improve public access. New development and heritage enhancement can and should work hand-in-hand to the benefit of the local community and economy. NIEA have had no contact from the owner, about proposed development at the site since 2008, and are not aware of any planning application having been made.

With regard to future plans for the towers, NIEA welcomes and has been integral to the recent creation of the Carrickfergus Heritage Steering Group. The group has been set up in partnership (primarily) between NIEA and Carrickfergus Borough Council and, it is hoped, the local chamber of Commerce, in order to further education, enjoyment and the economic potential of the built heritage within the local area. NIEA is keen to work with the newly inaugurated Carrickfergus Heritage Steering Group to discuss the future of Dalways Bawn and the various other local heritage sites.

## Invasive Plant or Tree Species

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister of the Environment how his Department intends to deal with invasive plant or tree species; and to detail the species involved.

**(AQW 3981/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Department recognises the threat posed by invasive alien species to our native biodiversity and has been taking action to deal with invasive plant species over many years.

NIEA has worked in partnership with the Republic's National Parks and Wildlife Service since 2003 on the Invasive Species Ireland Project, through which a risk assessment has been undertaken for

834 established and potential invasive alien species (plants and animals). Of the highest risk species identified management plans have been developed for 16 plant species to date (Table 1). These management plans outline the current best practice control options for use by landowners and land managers.

For many years NIEA has actively undertaken control of a wide range of invasive alien species across the properties it owns and manages. Species controlled on these properties include Rhododendron ponticum shrub, cherry laurel shrub, Japanese knotweed, giant knotweed, Himalayan balsam, salmonberry, floating pennywort, curly waterweed, Parrot's feather, bamboo, Australian swamp-stonecrop, sycamore tree, American skunk cabbage, pirri-pirri bur, piggy-back plant, beech tree, snowberry, winter heliotrope and the common cord grass.

Earlier this year, the Department provided part funding to a £2.6 million InterReg IVa project, led by the Queen's University Belfast, which aims to control and, where possible, eradicate Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam from river catchments in Northern Ireland, Scotland and the Republic of Ireland. In Northern Ireland two river catchments are included in this project - the River Faughan and the Newry Canal/Clanrye River.

In August 2011, following an extensive review, the Department made amendments to the Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 which regulates the introduction of non-native species under Article 15. These amendments included the addition of 29 invasive plant species to the Schedule 9 list of species to which Article 15 applies. These amendments bring the total number of plant species listed on Schedule 9 to 36 plant species, including all hybrids of those species listed (Table 2).

To ensure that others are encouraged to control invasive alien species on their properties, officials in NIEA are also working in partnership with Local Biodiversity Officers across Northern Ireland to deliver training on identification and management options for a range of species including the more commonly occurring Japanese knotweed, giant hogweed and Himalayan balsam to staff from a wide range of organisations.

**TABLE 1: PLANT SPECIES FOR WHICH MANAGEMENT PLANS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED**

■ Fringed waterlily	■ Floating pennywort
■ Giant rhubarb	■ Japanese kelp (wakame)
■ Hottentot fig	■ Water primrose
■ Australian swamp stonecrop	■ Common cord grass
■ Parrot's feather	■ Rhododendron ponticum
■ Water fern	■ Cherry Laurel
■ Himalayan balsam	■ Japanese knotweed
■ Giant hogweed	■ Himalayan balsam

**TABLE 2: WILDLIFE (NI) ORDER 1985 SCHEDULE 9**

Added following amendment in August 2011

■ Himalayan balsam	■ Himalayan knotweed
■ Spanish bluebell	■ Few-flowered leek
■ Skunk cabbage	■ Mile-a-minute weed
■ Dwarf Eelgrass	■ Parrot's feather
■ Fanwort	■ Floating pennywort
■ Hottentot fig	■ Giant rhubarb
■ Japanese honeysuckle	■ Giant salvinia
■ Japanese kelp	■ Sea buckthorn

- Australian swamp stonecrop
- Water chestnut
- Water fern
- Water lettuce
- Water primrose
- Water soldier
- Fringed waterlily
- Waterweeds (all Elodea species)
- Curly waterweed
- Large flowered waterweed
- Salmonberry

## Zero-Rated Motor Vehicle Tax Discs

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the number of zero-rated motor vehicle tax discs issued in each of the last three years to vehicles classed as classic or vintage, broken down by (i) motor cars; (ii) commercial vehicles; (iii) agricultural tractors; and (iv) motor cycles.

**(AQW 4119/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Vehicle licensing is an excepted matter which is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Transport. It is administered in Northern Ireland by the Driver & Vehicle Agency under a formal agreement between my Department and the Department for Transport.

For vehicle registration and licensing there is an 'historic vehicle' tax class. A vehicle qualifies to enter into the historic class if it was constructed or manufactured before 1973 and falls within the qualifying list. While a vehicle licensed in the historic tax class is exempt from a licence fee, it must display a valid nil licence on the vehicle, where no current statutory off road notification (SORN) is in force.

In each of the last three years the Agency has issued the following exempt licences.

Year	Motor Cars	Commercial Vehicles	Agricultural Tractors	Motor Cycles
2009	4,728	266	1,687	2,851
2010	4,881	276	1,825	3,107
2011	4,626	257	1,737	2,932
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,235</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>5,249</b>	<b>8,890</b>

## Our Lady and St Patrick's College

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister of the Environment (i) whether he is aware of the concerns of local residents that the works carried out at Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock, may not correspond with the planning approval Y/2007/0475F, Y/2009/0088F, Y/2010/0499F, Y/2011/0199F; and (ii) how he will ensure that any breaches of the planning permission are resolved with the cooperation of, and to the satisfaction of local residents.

**(AQW 4383/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Planning permission was granted for a replacement school on 19 June 2008 under planning reference Y/2007/0475/F. Associated applications for temporary car parking arrangements and floodlighting to the synthetic pitch were subsequently approved in 2009 and 2011 respectively. The Department is currently considering an application for Provision of 5 no. CCTV cameras on mounted columns under planning reference Y/2011/0199/F.

The Department has been contacted by local residents regarding alleged breaches of planning control at the new school and is currently investigating these allegations. Whilst these matters are under investigation I am unable to provide you with specific details because disclosure, at this stage may prejudice current enforcement action.

I can however advise that planning application Y/2011/0355/F has been recently submitted for amendments to the previous approval which includes enhanced landscaping and boundary treatment. The application will provide an opportunity for people to comment following neighbour notification and advertisement in the local press. I can, however, assure you that the processing of a planning application does not preclude other enforcement action.

### **George Best Belfast City Airport: Seats for Sale**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of the Environment whether he will enforce the seats for sale clause in the George Best Belfast City Airport's Planning Agreement, in light of the recent High Court ruling which quashed the previous Minister's decision to remove the clause.

**(AQW 4487/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Information provided by George Best Belfast City Airport indicates that the seats for sale figure, is below the 2 million cap. Enforcement does not arise at this time. My officials will actively monitor the airport's compliance with the restriction and I will ensure that they do so. If an issue arises I will robustly consider the matter.

### **Late Nights Flights Clause**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of the Environment whether he will enforce the late nights flights clause in the George Best Belfast City Airport's Planning Agreement, which states that flights are not supposed to take off or land after 21.30, other than 'in exceptional circumstances'; and to define exceptional circumstances.

**(AQW 4488/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Information provided by George Best Belfast City Airport indicates that there have been 331 delayed air traffic movements (ATMs) after 21.30 this year to the end of October. This represents 0.91% of total ATMs. I have instructed that every two months, information on delayed ATMs is provided to the Department. I am looking at how to distribute this information more widely.

There is no stated definition of "exceptional circumstances" but the Department considers these to include issues such as bad weather and technical problems at point of take off. I will, of course, be highly vigilant about this issue.

### **Planning: George Best Belfast City Airport**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the nature of the inquiry into modifying the George Best Belfast City Airport's Planning Agreement, including (i) the status of the inquiry; (ii) the terms of reference; (iii) the inquiry's structure; and (iv) whether legal representation and cross-examination will be permitted.

**(AQW 4489/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The modification process will include a public consultation on proposals for a noise management system, to be brought forward by the airport before the end of the year, and a Public Examination to independently consider all of the issues. After I have considered the independent report and recommendations of the Examination, I will decide what modifications should be included in the Planning Agreement.

My officials are currently considering a number of issues in relation to the process for modifying the Planning Agreement including the terms of reference for the public examination into the proposals and the appropriate procedure for conducting the examination. I will make the details of the process known, including the terms of reference, when I have decided on the appropriate way forward.

## **Planning: George Best Belfast City Airport**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of the Environment whether the seats for sale clause in the George Best Belfast City Airport's Planning Agreement has been reinstated and implemented.

**(AQW 4490/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The seats for sale restriction has been reinstated into the Planning Agreement and remains in force at the airport.

## **Planning Policy Statement 18**

**Mr F McCann** asked the Minister of the Environment for his assessment of the implementation of PPS 18 by the Planning Service.

**(AQO 858/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Planning Policy Statement 18 'Renewable Energy' was published in August 2009 and sets out the planning policy for development that generates energy from renewable resources. The PPS aims to facilitate the siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environments.

I have requested that the Department carries out training for planning officers to ensure that the policies contained within PPS18 are applied consistently throughout Northern Ireland. Officials are in the process of compiling the training programme which will be delivered to staff over the coming months.

To ensure a consistent approach to the interpretation and operation of policy, Area Offices raise relevant matters at the monthly Development Management Working Group, where all Area Offices are represented (at principal level), and an agreed position will be confirmed by the Group.

I have been advised that in the first quarter of 2011/12, the Department has approved over 90% of all renewable energy planning applications decided within this period.

These figures reinforce the Department's aim of facilitating the siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environments to contribute to the achievement of the Executive's target of 40% of electricity consumption coming from renewable resources by 2020.

## **Department for Transport: County Hall, Coleraine**

**Mr Campbell** asked the Minister of the Environment whether he has held discussions with the Department of Transport about the possibility of diverting additional workload to County Hall, Coleraine as part of a long term strategy to develop further the skills base there.

**(AQO 859/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** Vehicle licensing is an excepted matter for which responsibility rests with the Secretary of State for Transport. It is administered here by the Driver & Vehicle Agency under the terms of a formal agreement between my Department and the Department for Transport.

Under this agreement DVA undertakes vehicle licensing and registration work in Coleraine and from eight local offices on behalf of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) in Swansea.

DVA currently undertakes the full range of vehicle licensing and enforcement functions in Northern Ireland, and staff in Coleraine and at the local offices have the full range of skills required to undertake any vehicle licensing work required, using the existing IT system.

DVLA is currently examining how the separate IT systems in Britain and in Northern Ireland could be integrated. No decisions have yet been made about integration or about how any such integrated system could be used to deliver vehicle licensing services in Northern Ireland. However, I have both met with and written to Mike Penning, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for Transport, about the future delivery of vehicle licensing in Northern Ireland. I have made and will continue to make the case that we should have the full range of services for our customers, that all

jobs should be protected and, in the event of any future integration, NI should be given new functions to secure and enhance our job numbers.

### **Local Government: Reform**

**Ms Lewis** asked the Minister of the Environment what efficiencies could be achieved through reforms to Local Government.

**(AQO 860/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) economic appraisal of 2009 identified a number of efficiency opportunities as part of the implementation of the reform programme. The most significant of these efficiencies is the rationalization of council posts, functions and structures.

In addition, based on the sector's Improvement, Collaboration and Efficiency (ICE) programme a number of service delivery efficiencies covering Customer-Facing Services, Information and Communication Technologies, Human Resources, Payroll and Procurement have been identified for detailed analysis.

The ICE programme could provide savings of up to £570million over 25 years, more than reorganisation itself. The two arms of reduced costs – ICE and RPA – give a fresh opportunity to assess the right configuration and numbers of councils going forward.

### **Taxi Operator's Licence**

**Mr McCartney** asked the Minister of the Environment for an update on proposals for the introduction of a taxi operators licence.

**(AQO 861/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** I am considering the proposed fees for taxi operator licensing and intend to introduce taxi operator licensing as soon as I am satisfied that the fee for the licensing regime is fair and equitable for all operators and that it does not place an undue financial burden on the taxi industry in these difficult economic times.

### **Environment Agency**

**Mr T Clarke** asked the Minister of the Environment for his assessment of the extent to which the opinion of the Environment Agency should influence planning applications.

**(AQO 863/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The comments of the Environment Agency (NIEA) are a key part of the development management process.

The Service level Agreement (SLA) between DOE Planning and NIEA sets out the basis on which DOE Planning Division and NIEA will deliver services to each other in respect of development management consultations.

The scope of the SLA is to ensure that consultation is carried out in accordance with the best standards of both DOE Planning and NIEA so that all information provided meets requirements.

It should be noted that the final determination in relation to a planning application rests with DOE Planning who will make the decision having considered all relevant material considerations. This point is crucial and is one I have explained to planning officials – the planners make decisions having regards to the views of consultees and others.

### **Metal Theft (Prevention) Bill**

**Mr Beggs** asked the Minister of the Environment whether he will consider introducing legislation similar to the Metal Theft (Prevention) Bill currently going through Parliament.

**(AQO 864/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** In England and Wales scrap metal operations are controlled under two distinct legislative areas: under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 and the Environmental Permitting regime.

The proposed Metal Theft (Prevention) Bill in England and Wales is intended to amend the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 with a view to providing a more robust regime and regulatory requirements on scrap metal dealers, without causing any significant impact to law abiding dealers. The Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964 is, essentially, a criminal law and only applies to England and Wales. If similar legislation were to be considered here, this would not be within the remit of DOE.

However, there are a number of relevant environmental legislative provisions. In Britain these are provided for under the Environmental Permitting regime and equivalent provisions are already in place in Northern Ireland by way of the Waste Management Licensing (NI) Regulations 2003 and the Pollution Prevention and Control (NI) Regulations 2003, which require scrap dealers to have either a Waste Management Licence or a Pollution Prevention and Control Permit.

On enforcement, where metals are stolen the PSNI enforce in respect of theft and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) in respect of waste management. Both PSNI and NIEA liaise as a routine part of their work to identify illegal activity and where possible assist operationally.

I have written to the Justice Minister with a view to the two Departments liaising further on what other measures can be taken to minimise the risk of metal theft. I will consider further the option of new legislation on this matter.

### Introduction of Changes to the MOT Test

**Mr Brady** asked the Minister of the Environment, in light of the introduction of changes to the MOT test, whether Test Centres will be able to accommodate the extra work load.

**(AQO 865/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The Driver & Vehicle Agency intends to adopt a phased approach to implementation of the proposed changes to the MOT test, and from 1 February to 30 April 2012 defects relating to the new test items will not result in failure: instead the examiner will advise the customer that any defect should be rectified. The advisory period will give the Agency the opportunity to assess the workload involved. However, the preparatory work done by the Agency to date has suggested that the new test items can be incorporated into the current testing process without any material impact on capacity.

It should be clearly understood – the additional requirements arise from EU responsibility. The requirements do not extend to all vehicles. For private vehicles, the new requirements are partly an upgrade in existing MOT tests e.g. breaking quality or development of tests on warning lights. This should not add greatly to the costs of preparation of a vehicle or create particular difficulties for mechanics who are already carrying out very similar preparation for cars under the existing regime.

### Introduction of Changes to the MOT Test

**Mr S Anderson** asked the Minister of the Environment what analysis has been carried out on the road safety benefits from the additional checks proposed for MOT tests.

**(AQO 866/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** The additional checks proposed for MOT tests are required by European Commission Roadworthiness Directive 2009/40/EC (as amended). The Department must implement such Directives to avoid possible infraction proceedings and resultant fines.

The EC commissions extensive road safety research and analysis to address road traffic collisions and vehicle defects. This leads to development of proposals for EC requirements providing benefits for road users, such as those contained in the Roadworthiness Directive.

The Department for Transport negotiates such proposals with the EC on behalf of the UK and consults with the Department during their development.

## Illegal Car Parks in the Vicinity of Belfast International Airport.

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister of the Environment how he intends to deal with the problem of illegal car parks in the vicinity of Belfast International Airport.

**(AQO 867/11-15)**

**Mr Attwood:** My Department is aware of 13 car parks that have been or currently are operating outside the lands zoned for such uses around the Belfast International Airport.

As a result of effective enforcement action, 6 of the sites of unauthorised car parks in this area have ceased to operate and 1 is operating within the terms of their existing planning approval, granted by the Planning Appeals Commission.

My Department is currently investigating the operation of the other 6 unauthorised car parks in the vicinity of the airport.

Of these 4 have been served with enforcement notices and are the subject of appeals.

The other 2 are the subject of current planning applications.

## Department of Finance and Personnel

### Car Parking Spaces for Civil Servants

**Mr Beggs** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel what action is being taken to reduce the number and cost of providing car parking spaces for civil servants and encouraging the use of park and ride and car sharing facilities.

**(AQW 2076/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson (The Minister of Finance and Personnel):** The Department of Finance and Personnel is committed to achieving a ten percent reduction per annum in the number of leased car parking spaces provided to Departments through the current budget period (FY11/12-FY14/15). Furthermore, DFP has undertaken a rationalisation of the car parking provision to reduce the costs per space. These actions have resulted in a reduction in the annual DFP spend on car parking of over £500k per annum over the last four years.

A number of schemes operate across the NICS to promote 'park and ride' and car sharing. Examples are:

- Travelwise NI - A DRD scheme to encourage car sharing across the NICS;
- The Stormont Estate Transport Group which promotes more efficient and environmentally friendly use of transport by staff.

### Car Parking Spaces for Civil Servants

**Mr Beggs** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel to detail (i) the number and cost of car parking spaces provided for civil servants, broken down by each town and city; and (ii) when each allocation was last assessed to determine whether the space was essential.

**(AQW 2077/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** The number and cost of car parking spaces provided for civil servants is as follows:

Town / City	Number of Spaces	Total
Belfast	1,006	£997,583
Londonderry	8	£3,200
Lisburn	19	£5,180

Town / City	Number of Spaces	Total
Omagh	93	£22,912
Armagh	29	£3,999
Banbridge	30	£6,399
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>£1,039,273</b>

All Departments review the need for spaces on an annual basis

### Tax Credit for Companies

**Mr Lyttle** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel for his assessment of the proposed tax credit for companies which take on new employees aged between 16-24 years.

**(AQW 4163/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** The increases we have seen in youth unemployment over recent years are a significant cause for concern. It is important, therefore, that every effort is taken to ensure that employment opportunities are maximised and that our young people are not exposed to sustained periods of unemployment. The Northern Ireland Executive is committed to doing everything within its powers to both rebuild and rebalance our economy in order to improve the economic prospects for all our people.

Clearly I would welcome any other measures the Government might introduce nationally to help tackle this specific problem of youth unemployment. However, as Taxation is a Reserved Matter, the merits of the CBI proposal would be a matter for the Government to determine.

### Cost of Air Travel

**Mr McLaughlin** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel to detail the total cost incurred by his Department on air travel (i) between Northern Ireland and Heathrow Airport from January to December 2010; and (ii) between Northern Ireland and all airports in Great Britain, excluding Heathrow Airport, from January to December 2010.

**(AQW 4339/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** The total cost incurred by DFP on air travel between Northern Ireland and Heathrow Airport from January to December 2010 was £52,302.95.

The total cost incurred by DFP on air travel between Northern Ireland and all other airports in Great Britain, excluding Heathrow Airport, from January to December 2010 was £51,362.97.

### Cost of Answering Assembly Questions

**Mr F McCann** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel for an estimate of the average cost to his Department to respond to written and oral Assembly Questions tabled by Jim Allister MLA, since May 2011.

**(AQW 4598/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** My Department does not routinely estimate the cost of answering Assembly Questions.

### Single Farm Payments: Disallowance

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel what discussions he has had with the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development about the costs associated with the European Commission disallowance of Single Farm Payments.

**(AQO 882/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** I have engaged with the Agriculture Minister on a number of occasions on both the financial implications of the disallowance and the measures which DARD can put in place to minimise the risk

of future penalties. My officials continue to monitor the situation closely and are working with DARD officials to ensure the best resolution for the Executive.

### **Public Sector Jobs: Bain Report**

**Mr Molloy** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel how many of the Bain Report recommendations on the decentralisation of public sector jobs have been implemented.

**(AQO 874/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** Professor Sir George Bain's report of his review of policy on the location of public sector jobs in Northern Ireland has never been accepted as Executive policy and therefore its recommendations have not been implemented.

### **Tax**

**Ms Gildernew** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel if he has requested figures from the Treasury on the total tax collected in Northern Ireland.

**(AQO 870/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** No, I have not specifically requested figures from the Treasury on the total amount of tax collected in Northern Ireland. However, my Department produces estimates of tax revenues raised in Northern Ireland as part of the Net Fiscal Balance Report. The most recent figures for 2008-09 indicate that the total public sector revenue in Northern Ireland was some £13 billion.

### **DFP: Civil Law Functions**

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel for his assessment of whether the civil law functions of his Department should be transferred to the Department of Justice.

**(AQO 875/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** My Department currently shares responsibility for law reform with the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice sponsors the Northern Ireland Law Commission, which includes within its remit the reform of both the civil and criminal law. My Department has a responsibility for civil law reform and the policy on the regulation of the profession of solicitors. I have no immediate plans with regard to the transfer of these functions.

### **Public Procurement: Social Clauses**

**Mr A Maskey** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel what advice the Central Procurement Directorate has given to Departments on the inclusion of social clauses in public procurement contracts.

**(AQO 876/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** The Procurement Board, which I chair, published guidance on integrating equality of opportunity and sustainable development into public sector procurement in 2008. This guidance was approved by the Executive and was aimed at helping departments, NDPBs and agencies meet their statutory obligations in relation to equality and sustainable development in all contracts.

Social clauses were subsequently developed by the Construction Industry Forum for Northern Ireland (CIFNI) and have been included in government construction contracts from 2008. This work, led by the Central Procurement Directorate, was aimed at encouraging the economically inactive back into the work place and encouraging training and skills development. These requirements were incorporated within a guidance note which issued in November 2010.

Following the economic downturn social clauses were revised to include more opportunities for apprentices and student placements as well as training opportunities for the unemployed. These came into operation in September 2011.

## Small Businesses

**Mr Moutray** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel what further assistance his Department is considering providing for small businesses.

**(AQO 877/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** My Department recently completed consultation on proposals that would significantly extend the small business rate relief scheme through to 31 March 2015. The original proposals were conditional on this being funded through a large retail levy.

The intention is to double the total relief provided under the main small business rate relief scheme and increase the number receiving help by around 50%. Additional support of around £6.5m would be provided, at 2011/12 levels, to slightly under 9,000 additional businesses. This would provide an average award of around £730 per year. As with the current scheme any additional relief would be provided automatically.

While some would wish any additional help to last longer than three years, it is important to recognise that the proposals were put forward as a response to the downturn. This would also take us up until the next revaluation; which will redistribute the rating burden so that sectors and locations that have fared better than others will pay more and those that have not fared as well will pay less.

The Committee for Finance and Personnel is currently undertaking evidence sessions on the policy proposals. I will be taking into account the views of the Committee before reaching final decisions, following which I will present recommendations to the Executive. I would intend to announce final decisions on the way forward by mid December, subject to Executive consideration.

## Governor of the Bank of England

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel for an update on his meeting with the Governor of the Bank of England.

**(AQO 878/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** Northern Ireland needs a competitive banking sector that can meet the needs of businesses and consumers here. I have been pressing for some time now on the need to restore bank lending to our Small and Medium Sized Enterprises. The liquidity of the banking sector is key to that and the Government and the Bank of England have been taking steps nationally in that regard.

However, I have been concerned that the extent of our foreign ownership in our banking sector might be limiting the effectiveness of these initiatives in Northern Ireland. That is why I sought a meeting with the Governor of the Bank of England which as the Member is aware took place on 16 November 2011.

We discussed the particular issues faced by the Northern Ireland banking sector, including how future regulatory requirements might be applied, and the operation of current and forthcoming financial initiatives to improve liquidity. In particular, I asked Sir Mervyn to consider what mechanisms might be put in place to ensure the benefits of these are felt here in Northern Ireland. I also asked him to consider the need for the Bank to publish regional lending data and he gave a commitment to do so.

## Special EU Programmes

**Mr Hilditch** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel for his assessment of the revised process to assist with the distribution of Special EU Programme monies.

**(AQO 879/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** The INTERREG IVA Programme has been slow to commit and spend funds. Officials from my Department, the other Northern Ireland Departments accountable for INTERREG funding, and the SEUPB have been working to identify and implement improvements. This process is ongoing and will be evaluated on an ongoing basis.

An important change DFP has recently made has to do with the way in which projects originating with the Local Authority-based Groups are processed. Initially, projects originating with the Groups had to apply for assistance under three separate Programme themes—the Enterprise and Tourism themes for which DETI is the accountable department in Northern Ireland, and Collaboration between Public Sector Bodies, for which DFP is accountable. We have recently simplified this arrangement so that all applications from the Groups are now processed as Collaboration projects with DFP as accountable department. In effect, there is now a ‘one stop shop’ for local projects.

An important change that DETI have made is to revise the assessment and approval process to ensure there is no duplication of effort. These changes relate to the economic appraisal of applications, a key (and relatively costly) stage in the assessment process.

I understand £9 million worth of projects has recently been approved by Steering Committees under these revised arrangements and the 19 applications still under assessment will be fully processed early in the New Year.

## Corporation Tax

**Mr McLaughlin** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel for an update on the discussions his Department has had with Treasury in relation to the devolution of corporation tax powers.

**(AQO 880/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** As the Member will be aware, a Ministerial Working Group has been established to take the devolution of Corporation Tax and wider rebalancing work forward. The first meeting of that group has been scheduled for 15 December 2011 and my officials have been working with the Treasury and their counterparts in OFMDFM and DETI to develop a draft Terms of Reference for the group and a programme for the work that is required to resolve the outstanding issues around cost and implementation before a decision can be taken. We will be seeking to agree these with the Government at the meeting on 15 December 2011. The draft Programme for Government commits the Executive to pressing the Government for a decision on this issue through the Ministerial Working Group.

## Tax-Varying Powers

**Mr McMullan** asked the Minister of Finance and Personnel what tax varying powers, other than Corporation Tax, have been considered for possible devolution to the Assembly.

**(AQO 881/11-15)**

**Mr Wilson:** We have been pressing the Government to consider the how the full range of currently reserved policy levers might be used to help rebalance the Northern Ireland economy as part of its consultation in this regard. In particular, we have raised a number of non corporation tax options with the Treasury such as: streamlining business regulation; R&D tax credits, investment allowances or national insurance holidays. Separate discussions with the Government are also ongoing in relation to the Aggregates Levy Credit Scheme and the Carbon Floor Tax.

In terms, of devolving increased powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly, clearly the focus to date has been on Corporation Tax. However, I have consistently said we must look at all the options available to us, and indeed the Government is already considering some of these nationally. I will be looking for this work to be taken forward as part of the work of the recently established Ministerial Working Group.

Members will also be aware that we have agreed with the Government that Air Passenger Duty will be devolved and discussions on the scope and precise arrangements for the devolution of these powers are ongoing.

## Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

### Cardiac Surgical Operations

**Mr McCallister** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many cardiac surgical operations have been carried on patients resident in Northern Ireland who have surgery in (i) Northern Ireland; (ii) the Republic of Ireland; and (iii) Great Britain in each of the last five years  
(AQW 4367/11-15)

**Mr Poots (The Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety):** The total number of major cardiac surgical episodes performed in Belfast HSC Trust in each of the last five years is as follows;

Year	Cardiac Surgical Episodes
2006/07	846
2007/08	920
2008/09	1,006
2009/10	911
2010/11	968

**Source:** HSC Board

Cardiac Surgery carried out outside of Northern Ireland would fall into the category of 'major cardiac procedures' therefore the figures above are based only on major procedures carried out in Northern Ireland to allow for comparability.

The number of cardiac surgical operations that have been carried out on patients resident in Northern Ireland who have had surgery in the Republic of Ireland and Great Britain is shown in the table below;

Year	Patients Resident in Northern Ireland who had Cardiac Surgery in the Republic of Ireland	Patients Resident in Northern Ireland who had Cardiac Surgery in Great Britain
2006/07	*	*
2007/08	159	91
2008/09	368	38
2009/10	190	109
2010/11	160	50

**Source:** HSC Board

\* The Belfast Trust was established in 2007/08. The information for 2006/07 would need to be retrieved via legacy and board is not readily available.

### Intensive Care Ventilators

**Mr McClarty** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail (i) the number of intensive care ventilators purchased between 1 April 2009 and 31 December 2009, which have been returned to the supplier; (ii) the date on which each ventilator was returned; and (iii) the amount recovered from the supplier, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.  
(AQW 4461/11-15)

**Mr Poots:** Ten paediatric intensive care ventilators purchased as part of the preparation to meet expected additional surge capacity during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic were returned to the manufacturer

on 29 September 2011. This was part of a buy-back option negotiated with the manufacturer and subsequently a sum of £84,280 (plus VAT) was recouped by Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.

One hundred intensive care ventilators (plus associated equipment) were purchased between 1 April and 31 December 2009 at a total cost of £4.3m. Of these, 13 were purchased as direct replacements of older stock; 87 were purchased as additional stock to enable Trusts to expand their critical care capacity to meet the demands of the pandemic at that time, but also to enhance capacity to meet other surge demands such as annual winter pressures.

Eleven paediatric intensive care ventilators have not been used to date but remain available for use by Trusts to meet any future surge demands. A breakdown of information by Trust area is outlined in the table below.

**TABLE: NUMBER OF INTENSIVE CARE VENTILATORS PURCHASED BETWEEN 1 APRIL AND 31 DECEMBER 2011, BROKEN DOWN BY TRUST AREA**

Trust	Number of intensive care ventilators purchased between 1 Apr. and 31 Dec. 2009	Were these purchased as		How many ventilators remained unused between 31 Dec. 2010 and 31 Oct. 2011?
		direct replacements of existing stock?	additional stock?	
BHSCT Adult	18	-	18	0
Paeds	21*	1	20	6
Neonatal	6	-	6	0
NHSCT Adult	7	-	7	0
Paeds	2	-	2	2
Neonatal	2	-	2	0
SEHSCT Adults	16	12	4	0
Paeds	4	-	4	0
Neonatal	3	-	3	0
SHSCT Adult	4	-	4	0
Paeds	8	-	8	0
Neonatal	3	-	3	0
WHSCT Adult	2	-	2	0
Paeds	3	-	3	3
Neonatal	1	-	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>11</b>

\* 10 of these paediatric intensive care ventilators were placed in sealed storage and returned as part of the buy-back option which was exercised in Sept. 2011

### Intensive Care Ventilators

**Mr McClarty** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail (i) the number and cost of intensive care ventilators purchased between 1 April 2009 and 31 December 2009; and, of these, how many were purchased as (a) direct replacements; or (b) additional stock; and (ii) how many

of the ventilators remained unused between 31 December 2010 and 31 October 2011, broken down by each Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4463/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Ten paediatric intensive care ventilators purchased as part of the preparation to meet expected additional surge capacity during the 2009 H1N1 pandemic were returned to the manufacturer on 29 September 2011. This was part of a buy-back option negotiated with the manufacturer and subsequently a sum of £84,280 (plus VAT) was recouped by Belfast Health and Social Care Trust.

One hundred intensive care ventilators (plus associated equipment) were purchased between 1 April and 31 December 2009 at a total cost of £4.3m. Of these, 13 were purchased as direct replacements of older stock; 87 were purchased as additional stock to enable Trusts to expand their critical care capacity to meet the demands of the pandemic at that time, but also to enhance capacity to meet other surge demands such as annual winter pressures.

Eleven paediatric intensive care ventilators have not been used to date but remain available for use by Trusts to meet any future surge demands. A breakdown of information by Trust area is outlined in the table below.

**TABLE: NUMBER OF INTENSIVE CARE VENTILATORS PURCHASED BETWEEN 1 APRIL AND 31 DECEMBER 2011, BROKEN DOWN BY TRUST AREA**

Trust	Number of intensive care ventilators purchased between 1 Apr. and 31 Dec. 2009	Were these purchased as		How many ventilators remained unused between 31 Dec. 2010 and 31 Oct. 2011?
		direct replacements of existing stock?	additional stock?	
BHSCT Adult	18	-	18	0
Paeds	21*	1	20	6
Neonatal	6	-	6	0
NHSCT Adult	7	-	7	0
Paeds	2	-	2	2
Neonatal	2	-	2	0
SEHSCT Adults	16	12	4	0
Paeds	4	-	4	0
Neonatal	3	-	3	0
SHSCT Adult	4	-	4	0
Paeds	8	-	8	0
Neonatal	3	-	3	0
WHSCT Adult	2	-	2	0
Paeds	3	-	3	3
Neonatal	1	-	1	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>11</b>

\* 10 of these paediatric intensive care ventilators were placed in sealed storage and returned as part of the buy-back option which was exercised in Sept. 2011

## Kinship Care Arrangements

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the work that has been carried out in the last three years to establish and consolidate links with groups, charities and other non-governmental bodies which have specialist knowledge and skills in Kinship Care arrangements, broken down by (i) Health and Social Care Trust area; and (ii) constituency.

**(AQW 4611/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Within the last three years, the Health and Social Care Trusts have indicated that they have either established or consolidated links with the groups, charities or other non-governmental bodies, which have a specialist knowledge and skills in kinship care, set out in the table below.

Trust	Groups, Charities and non-governmental bodies					
Belfast	Fostering Network	VOYPIC*	Forum for alcohol and substance abuse	School age mother's project	Family and Child Empowerment Service	Extern
South Eastern	Fostering Network	VOYPIC*				
Northern	Fostering Network	VOYPIC*				
Southern	Fostering Network	British Association for Adoption and Fostering	Family Care Society			
Western	Fostering Network	Kinship Care NI				

\* Voices of Young People in Care

## Kinship Care

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what partnership arrangements Social Services departments have entered into with other organisations in relation to Kinship Care in the last three years, broken down by (i) Health and Social Care Trust area; and (ii) constituency.

**(AQW 4613/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Four of the five Health and Social Care Trusts have indicated that they have entered into partnership arrangements with other organisations in relation to kinship care over the last three years. Details of partner organisations are set out below. The Belfast Trust has indicated that it is in the process of developing a partnership proposal for the purpose of developing kinship services in its area.

HSC Trust	Established Partnerships
South Eastern	Fostering Network
Northern	Fostering Network
Southern	Fostering Network; Supporting Carers Project; Education and Library Board (Education Welfare); and British Association of Fostering and Adoption

<b>HSC Trust</b>	<b>Established Partnerships</b>
Western	Fostering Network

### **Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry**

**Ms Ritchie** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what discussions he has had with his counterpart in the Republic of Ireland regarding North/South co-operation for the use of Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry, for medical and health services including Paediatric Medicine.

**(AQW 4648/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** I have had discussions with Minister Reilly in the Department of Health on a number of occasions about North South health issues including the use of Daisy Hill Hospital. The scope for co-operation between the two jurisdictions will be considered further in the context of the recommendations of HSC Review which is due to report at end November, as that was an important aspect of the Review's Terms of Reference. As I have already indicated, I will continue to support projects where there are opportunities to achieve mutual benefit for the populations within both jurisdictions and to share knowledge and experience to improve and enhance health and social care.

### **Development and Promotion of Sports**

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the funding his Department has provided for the development and promotion of (i) rugby; (ii) soccer; (iii) Gaelic games; and (iv) motor sports in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 4740/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Although my Department does not directly fund the development and promotion of (i) rugby; (ii) soccer; (iii) Gaelic games and (iv) motor sports, the Public Health Agency provides funding to encourage active participation in rugby, soccer and Gaelic games. No funding is provided for the development and promotion of motor sports.

Details of funding provided in each of the last three years is set out in the table below.

	<b>Rugby</b>	<b>Soccer</b>	<b>Gaelic Games</b>	<b>Motor Sport</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
2010/11	525	2,951	980	-	4,456
2009/10	-	-	15,550	-	15,550
2008/09	1,000	1,950	-	-	2,950
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,525</b>	<b>4,901</b>	<b>16,530</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,956</b>

### **Outsourced Contracts and Services**

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether all outsourced contracts and services are being delivered by companies and individuals who are not directly employed by the Health and Social Care Trusts.

**(AQW 4767/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Information in the form requested is not readily available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost. Public Appointments

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to list the public appointments both he and his predecessor have made since May 2007.

**(AQW 4824/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** In my capacity as Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety and that of my predecessor, a total of 191 Public Appointments have been made since May 2007.

List of appointments detailed on Table 1 attached.

**TABLE 1**

**NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED TO DHSSPS PUBLIC BODIES SINCE 8 MAY 2007**

<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Organisation to which Appointed</b>
Dr Richard Adams	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Dr Carol Ackah	Northern HSC Trust
Cllr Mrs Elizabeth (Beth) Adger	Patient & Client Council
Mr Roger Alexander	Southern HSC Trust
Ms Joy Allen	Belfast HSC Trust
Mr Paul David Archer	NI Ambulance Service Trust
Dr Ronald Atkinson	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency
Cllr Tim Attwood	Patient & Client Council
Mr Albert Samuel Baird	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency
Mrs Hazel Baird	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Cllr David Donaldson Barbour	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mr James Barbour	NI Fire & Rescue Service (2 appts)
Ms Alison Baxendale	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mr Niall Birthistle	Western HSC Trust NI Fire & Rescue Service (temp appt)
Mr William Joseph Blake	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Mrs Deirdre Blakely	Southern HSC Trust
Mr Neil Bodger	NI Social Care Council
Mrs Roberta Brownlee	Southern HSC Trust
Ms Geraldine Campbell	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Cllr Michael Carr	Ni Fire & Rescue Service
Dr Ian Wellington Carson	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Cllr John (Sean) Brendan Clarke	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mrs Maureen Clarke	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Dr William (Ian) Clements	Health & Social Care Board
Mr Alexander Hall Coleman	Business Service Organisation NI Fire & Rescue Service (temp appt)
Mr George Brian Compston	Patient & Client Council

<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Organisation to which Appointed</b>
Mr Hugh Connor*	Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland
Dr Paul Brian Coulter	Patient & Client Council
Mrs Stella Cummings	Western HSC Trust
Pro Carol Curran	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mr Jim Currie	NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency
Mr Paul Davidson	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mr Peter Davison	South Eastern HSC Trust
Mrs Joan Doherty	Western HSC Trust
Ms Geraldine Donaghy	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Mr Leslie Drew	Belfast HSC Trust
Dr Maureen Edmondson	Patient & Client Council
Mrs Anna Eggert	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency
Mrs Julie Erskine	NI Social Care Council (2 terms) Public Health Agency
Pro Eileen Evason	Belfast HSC Trust
Mrs Judith Eve	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency
Mrs Geraldine Fahy	Business Service Organisation
Dr Donal Flanagan	South Eastern HSC Trust
Mr Stanley Forsythe	Northern HSC Trust
Mr William Fulton Gillespie	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mr Robert Alan Gilmore	Health & Social Care Board
Mr Cecil William Lavery Graham	Eastern Health & Social Services Council
Mr Edwin Graham	Southern HSC Trust
Miss Francesca Mirianne Graham	South Eastern HSC Trust NI Fire & Rescue Service (temp appt)
Mrs Siubhan Grant	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mr Gerard Guckian	Western HSC Trust
Mr Alan David Hanna	NI Fire & Rescue Service (2 appts) Business Service Organisation
Pro Mary Bridget Hanratty	NI Ambulance Service (2 terms)
Dr Jeremy John Moore Harbison	Public Health Agency
Mrs Margaret Harte	Patient & Client Council
ClIr Tom Hartley	Belfast HSC Trust

<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Organisation to which Appointed</b>
Ald George (Arnold) Hatch	NI Fire & Rescue Service (2 terms)
Mrs Eva (Eleanor) Hayes	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Dr Michael Healy	Mental Health Commission
Mr Ian Henderson	NI Blood Transfusion Service
Mr Alan Henry	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mr Stephen Herron	Mental Health Commission
Mr Glenn Robert Houston	NI Social Care Council
Mr Errol Victor Hutchinson	Patient & Client Council
Mr Gregory George Irwin	Business Service Organisation
Mr Charles Jenkins	Belfast HSC Trust
Mrs Harriett Elizabeth (Lilian) Jennett	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Cllr Mervyn Jones	Eastern Health & Social Services Council
Mr Alistair Joynes	Southern HSC Trust NIMDTA
Ms Miriam Karp	Public Health Agency NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Mr John Keanie	Patient & Client Council
Miss Elaine Kelly	Patient & Client Council
Dr Greg Kelly	NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency
Mrs Hester Kelly	Southern HSC Trust
Dr Sheila Kelly	Patient & Client Council
Mrs Elizabeth Kerr	NI Social Care Council Health & Social Care Board
Mr Milton Kerr	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mrs Ruth Laird	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Mrs Catherine (Ruth) Lavery	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Mr Stephen James Leach	Health & Social Care Board NI Fire & Rescue Service (temp appt)
Mr Jim Lennon	NI Blood Transfusion Service (2 terms)
M Marina Lupari	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mrs Lorraine Lindsay	NI Blood Transfusion Service
Mr Charles Jonathon Mack	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mr Thomas Mahaffy	Public Health Agency

<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Organisation to which Appointed</b>
Mr Sean Edward Mahon	Business Service Organisation
Mrs Elizabeth Anne Mahood	Southern HSC Trust NI Fire & Rescue Service (temp member)
Ms Deepa Mann-kler	South Eastern HSC Trust
Mr Nigel Mansley	South Eastern HSC Trust
Dr John Marley	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency
Mr Bernard Mitchell	NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency
Cllr Oliver Patrick Molloy	Patient & Client Council
Mr John Edward Mone	Health & Social Care Board
Ms Pamela Montgomery	Northern HSC Trust
Mr Jim Moore	Northern HSC Trust
Mr Deane Morris	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency (NIMDTA)
Mr Ciaran Mulgrew	Western HSC Trust
Dr Connor Mulholland	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Cllr Patrick (Cathal) Mullaghan	Patient & Client Council
Dr Raymond Mullan	Southern HSC Trust
Dr May McCann	Patient & Client Council
Mr Robert McCann	Northern HSC Trust
Mrs Hilary Rose McCartan	Business Service Organisation
Mr Patrick Anthony McCartan	Belfast HSC Trust
Dr Brendan McCarthy	Western HSC Trust
Mr Allen McCartney	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Mrs Gillian McCaughey	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Mr Robin McClelland	Business Service Organisation
Mrs Sara (Sally) Jane Elizabeth McConnell-Campalani	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Prof Patrica McCoy	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Dr Melissa Theresa McCullough	Health & Social Care Board
Dr Val McGarrell	Belfast HSC Trust
Dr Maria McGinnity	Mental Health Commission
Mr Patrick McGowan	Western Health & Social Services Council
Dr Robert Henry (Harry) McGuigan	NI Medical & Dental Training Agency
Cllr Sean McGuigan	Patient & Client Council
Dr Joe McKee	NI Fire & Rescue Service

<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Organisation to which Appointed</b>
Mr Brendan McKeever	NI Social Care Council Health & Social Care Board
Mr Jim McKeever	Western Health & Social Services Council
Mr Sean McKeever	NI Ambulance Service Trust
Mr Colm Cathal McKenna	South Eastern Trust
Prof Hugh McKenna	Patient & Client Council
Mr Noel McKenna	Mental Health Commission
Mr Norman McKinley	NI Ambulance Service Trust
Mrs Ann McMahon	NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency
Mrs Florence McMahon	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mrs Maire Theresa McMahon	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Ms Mary McMahon	Public Health Agency
Mr Charles Brain McMurray	Business Service Organisation
Mrs Deirdre McNamee	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Cllr Stephen Nicholl	Public Health Agency
Mr Dermot O'Hara	South Eastern HSC Trust
Mr James O'Kane	Belfast HSC Trust
Mrs Sally O'Kane	Western HSC Trust
Mrs Winifred Anne (Una) O'Kane	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Mr Ronnie Orr	Public Health Agency
Miss Angela Paisley	NI Ambulance Service Trust
Mr Jim Perry	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Ald Paul Porter	Public Health Agency
Mr Mervyn Rankin	Northern HSC Trust
Mr Colin Reid	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority
Cllr Martin Reilly	Patient & Client Council
Ald Mrs Geraldine Ann Rice	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Mrs Frances Robson	Western Health & Social Services Council
Mrs Soibhan Rooney	Southern HSC Trust NI Blood Transfusion Service
Mrs Rena Shepherd	Patient & Client Council
Cllr James (Seamus) Ignatius Shields	NI Ambulance Service Trust
Mr Austin Bernard Douglas Smith	Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority

<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Organisation to which Appointed</b>
Cllr Mrs Marion Smyth	Patient & Client Council
Mrs Mary Janice Smyth	Patient & Client Council
Dr Trevor Martin Spratt	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Mr Alistair Steenson	NI Guardian Ad Litem Agency
Mr Jim Robert Stewart	Northern HSC Trust
Mr Thomas Gerry Strong	Business Service Organisation
Mrs Barbara Stuart	Western HSC Trust
Mrs Eleanor Taggart	NI Social Care Council (2 terms)
Mrs Paula Tally	NI Fire & Rescue Service
Dr William (Robert) Thompson	Health & Social Care Board
Dr Vinod Tohani	NI Practice & Education Council for Nursing & Midwifery
Mr John Trethowan	South Eastern HSC Trust
Cllr Trevor James Wilson	Patient & Client Council
Pro Dorothy Whittington	Northern HSC Trust
Mrs Eileen Wright	Southern Health & Social Services Council
Ms Kyriakoulla Yiasouma	Patient & Client Council

\*Appointed as Chair Designate – SBNI to be established 2012

### **Capital Small Grants Schemes**

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what capital small grants schemes are available from his Department, or its arm's-length bodies, for a group to create a garden, at a residential home, for the benefit of people with disabilities.

**(AQW 4831/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** My Department and associated arm's-length bodies does not currently operate any capital small grant schemes.

### **Regional Prescribing Policy Guidance**

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, in relation to the Regional Prescribing Policy Guidance on the self-testing of glucose levels by people with Type 1 diabetes, to detail the guidance it offers on the number of tests a patient should carry out during a 24-hour period.

**(AQW 4848/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** I have been advised by the Health and Social Care Board that there is no Regional Prescribing Policy Guidance on the number of tests a patient should be carrying out during a 24-hour period on the self-testing of glucose levels by people with Type 1 diabetes.

However, all people with Type 1 diabetes should monitor their blood glucose on a regular basis and the frequency of their blood testing should be agreed, in consultation with their diabetes care team, based on sound clinical judgement and in line with the development of a personal diabetes management plan.

## Kinship Care Assessments

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the average length of time it is taking to carry out a (i) short-term kinship care assessment; and (ii) full kinship care assessment in the current year.

**(AQW 4855/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** On average, short-term kinship foster care assessments are carried out within 12 weeks and full kinship foster care assessments are completed within 6 months.

## Kinship Carers on Foster Panels

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the number of kinship carers who have sat on fostering panels for the approval of kinship foster carers in each of the last three years, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4858/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** All five Health and Social Care Trusts have indicated that there is currently no kinship foster care representation on fostering panels. It is possible that individuals, who are engaged in kinship care on an informal basis, could be represented on fostering panels in a lay/non-professional capacity.

## Care Services

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the current leaving and after care services costs for children leaving (i) residential care; (ii) foster care; and (iii) kinship care arrangements.

**(AQW 4860/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Information is not available centrally and could only be provided at disproportionate costs.

## Kinship Carers

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the number of kinship carers, approved or pending, in each Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4861/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The number of kinship foster carers, who have been approved or for whom approval is pending in each Health and Social Care Trust area, is set out in the table below. Kinship foster care cases pending are those which have been approved by heads of service and are waiting to be approved by the Fostering Panel.

Kinship Foster Carers approved or pending		
HSC Trust	Approved	Pending
Northern	135	41
Southern	75	19
Belfast	74	104
South Eastern	54	71
Western	34	16

**Source:** Health and Social Care Trusts

## General Dental Services

**Mr McCarthy** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what steps his Department will take to address the pressure on the budget for General Dental Services as a result of the increase in patients accessing Health Service dental services.

**(AQW 4877/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** My Department, in conjunction with the Health and Social Care Board, is considering the introduction of the following measures to help address the pressures on the General Dental Services budget:

- Removing those treatments that are more cosmetic in nature;
- Altering the conditions for providing certain treatments, for example limiting how often a scale and polish is provided to patients;
- Restricting the provision of orthodontic treatment on the basis of an internationally recognised measure of orthodontic treatment need; and
- Amending the conditions for dentists claiming practice allowance and ceasing payment of commitment allowances.

My Department have begun a process of engagement and consultation with key stakeholders and affected groups on these proposed changes. In addition, I propose to incorporate funding previously earmarked for the Quality Improvement Scheme into the General Dental Services budget.

## Patients Registered with a GP

**Mr McCarthy** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the change in the number of patients who were registered with a General Practitioner, under the Health Service arrangements, between October 2010 and October 2011, broken down by age group and locality.

**(AQW 4879/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The change in the number of patients who were registered with a General Practitioner, under the Health Service arrangements, between October 2010 and October 2011 is shown in table 1 below, broken down by age group and Local Government District, LGD.

Patients are assigned to an LGD based on the postcode of the practice at which they are registered. Patients are not necessarily resident in the LGD in which their practice is located.

**TABLE 1: CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS WHO WERE REGISTERED WITH A GENERAL PRACTITIONER BETWEEN OCTOBER 2010 AND OCTOBER 2011.**

LGD	Age Group							Total
	0-4	5-15	16-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85+	
Antrim	69	31	-9	241	159	126	41	658
Ards	-47	44	-302	97	315	91	31	229
Armagh	72	8	209	126	138	43	43	639
Ballymena	36	-53	-7	202	154	68	96	496
Ballymoney	29	-38	1	98	71	23	-2	182
Banbridge	46	17	-46	335	85	77	77	591
Belfast	732	-329	-1746	1978	199	92	118	1044
Carrickfergus	-36	-47	-220	130	60	67	18	-28
Castlereagh	159	29	11	341	81	14	53	688

LGD	Age Group							
	0-4	5-15	16-44	45-64	65-74	75-84	85+	Total
Coleraine	102	-60	-319	289	130	53	66	261
Cookstown	106	1	1	186	95	36	25	450
Craigavon	146	143	199	569	105	159	36	1357
Derry	59	-240	-528	621	267	144	55	378
Down	6	-106	-91	309	93	124	54	389
Dungannon	110	150	190	363	133	45	10	1001
Fermanagh	68	-23	-77	173	203	50	32	426
Larne	-10	9	-166	114	96	29	7	79
Limavady	82	8	-55	217	139	48	34	473
Lisburn	61	68	-47	475	265	157	49	1028
Magherafelt	31	-8	-13	246	72	-2	19	345
Moyle	23	3	-97	76	75	34	-10	104
Newry & Mourne	149	62	206	634	197	119	75	1442
Newtownabbey	63	-9	-87	267	129	14	64	441
North Down	199	11	-139	153	317	9	33	583
Omagh	1	-62	-68	196	143	54	46	310
Strabane	43	-108	-113	240	74	51	25	212
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>2299</b>	<b>-499</b>	<b>-3313</b>	<b>8676</b>	<b>3795</b>	<b>1725</b>	<b>1095</b>	<b>13778</b>

**Source:** FPS, Information and Registration Unit, Business Services Organisation.

## General Dental Services

**Mr McCarthy** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how much of the General Dental Services budget was spent on orthodontic treatments, in each of the last seven years; and what these figures represent as a percentage of the budget.

**(AQW 4882/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The net cost of orthodontic treatment paid for by the Health Service in each of the last seven years, and as a percentage of the overall expenditure on general dental services is shown in table 1 below.

Orthodontic treatment is defined as dental treatment for which a claim containing at least one item from Determination 1, Section VIII of the Statement of Dental Remuneration has been submitted for payment. The figures include orthodontic treatment provided by all types of dental practitioner. Orthodontic treatment may not necessarily have been provided by a specialist orthodontist.

**TABLE 1: NET COSTS (£M) OF HEALTH SERVICE ORTHODONTIC TREATMENTS BY FINANCIAL YEAR AND ORTHODONTIC EXPENDITURE AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL GDS EXPENDITURE**

Year	Orthodontic Net	Orthodontic expenditure as a % of total GDS expenditure
2004/05	£6.47	11%
2005/06	£7.37	12%
2006/07	£7.56	12%
2007/08	£7.70	12%
2008/09	£8.22	11%
2009/10	£8.77	11%
2010/11	£9.85	11%

**Source:** Family Practitioner Services, Information and Registration Unit – HSC Business Services Organisation, Health and Social Care Board

1 Expenditure figures exclude patient contributions

## Orthodontic Treatment

**Mr McCarthy** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many patients had orthodontic treatment paid for by the Health Service in each of the last seven years.

**(AQW 4883/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The number of patients who received orthodontic treatment paid for by the Health Service in each of the last seven years is shown in table 1 below.

Orthodontic treatment is defined as dental treatment for which a claim containing at least one item from Determination I, Section VIII of the Statement of Dental Remuneration has been submitted for payment. The figures include orthodontic treatment provided by all types of dental practitioner, orthodontic treatment may not necessarily have been provided by a specialist orthodontist.

Figures include treatments paid for either in full or in part by the Health Service.

**TABLE 1: THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS WHO RECEIVED HEALTH SERVICE ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT IN EACH OF THE LAST SEVEN YEARS.**

Year	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of Patients	25,997	27,112	26,488	25,035	26,070	25,850	30,785

**Source:** Family Practitioner Services, Information and Registration Unit - HSC Business Services Organisation

## Bangor Hospital's Diabetes Clinic

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether a new consultant has been appointed for Bangor Hospital's Diabetes Clinic; and when he expects the clinic to re-open.

**(AQW 4884/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Staff recruitment and the provision of outpatient clinics are operational matters for Health and Social Services Trusts. The South Eastern Trust has advised that it is unable at this point in time to confirm the date of resumption of the weekly diabetic clinic in Bangor Community Hospital. A new Consultant Physician has been appointed to the Diabetes Team but will not take up post before May 2012.

## Flu Jabs

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, given that the Health Service states that the best time to have a flu jab is in the autumn, to detail (i) his Department's deadline for administering the flu jab to all at-risk groups; and (ii) if the deadline has passed, what action his Department is taking to ensure that all at-risk groups receive the vaccine as soon as possible.

**(AQW 4914/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** I launched the annual seasonal flu vaccination programme on 30 September, as soon as adequate supplies of vaccine were available in Northern Ireland, and urged all eligible 'at risk' individuals to take up the offer of vaccination at their earliest opportunity. There is no set deadline for administering the flu vaccine, although GPs and Trusts work hard to vaccinate those eligible as soon as possible, before flu viruses are widely circulating in the community. The programme runs between October and March with the vast majority of vaccinations completed by December.

As of 24 November GP consultation rates for combined 'flu/Flu-Like Illness stood at 19.9/100,000 population. Rates are similar to the same weeks last year and remain well below the Northern Ireland threshold (70/100,000 pop).

This year the Public Health Agency launched a multimedia campaign to run between October and early December aimed at increasing uptake rates among 'at risk' individuals. I am pleased to note that by the end of October over 268,000 'at risk' individuals had been vaccinated and PHA reported a 25% increase (47,500 doses) in vaccine uptake from the same time last year.

## Strategy to Address Oral Health Needs

**Mr McCarthy** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what progress has been made on the delivery of a strategy which utilises family practitioner service dentists to address the oral health needs of the population.

**(AQW 4924/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** My Department produced the Primary Dental Care Strategy in November 2006 and the Oral Health Strategy in June 2007. My Department is engaged with the British Dental Association on the development of new contracts for primary dental care practitioners that will meet the objectives set out in the Primary Dental Care Strategy and improve the oral health of the Northern Ireland population and reduce the inequalities in oral health within our society.

My Department has also introduced oral health improvement programmes involving general dental practitioners such as fissure sealant schemes and enhanced capitation and continuing care payments for patients living in the most deprived wards. We have also provided support for a large research trial based in general dental practices to investigate the efficacy of using fluoride varnish in young children to improve the oral health of our population.

## Assessments of Kinship Carers

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many assessments of kinship carers, who are subject to Residence Order proceedings, have been carried out in each of the last three years, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4929/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Information relating to the assessments of kinship carers and complaints made by children in formal kinship care arrangements to Health and Social Care Trusts, are not available centrally, and could only be obtained at disproportionate costs.

There were no complaints to my Department from children in formal kinship care arrangements during the last three years.

## Funding for Kinship Care

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the level of funding allocated to provide services to children in kinship care arrangements in order to meet the requirements of the Munby judgement, in each of the last three years, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4932/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Health and Social Care Trusts are required to deliver all their legislative responsibilities from within their overall financial envelope and in that context, specific funding has not been allocated for the particular purpose of meeting the requirements of to enforce the Munby judgement.

Notwithstanding this, all Health and Social Care Trusts are complying with the requirements of the Munby judgement.

## Adoption

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many children have been adopted by their kinship carers in each of the last three years, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4933/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Figures are not available in the format requested. However, Table 1 below details the numbers of looked after children adopted from care by foster carers in each of the last three years for which data are available, broken down by Health and Social Care Trusts.

**TABLE 1**

<b>Looked After Children Adopted by Foster Carers</b>			
<b>HSC Trust</b>	<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2007/08</b>	<b>2005/06</b>
Belfast	8	-	-
Northern	9	9	12
South Eastern	-	-	-
Southern	10	11	-
Western	-	11	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>26</b>

**Notes:** Years detailed cover the period from 1 April to 31 March; Source of data are Community Information Return AD1, which has been biennial since 2004; 2005/06 data have been collated from legacy HSS Trusts returns; ‘-’ cells have been suppressed to avoid personal disclosure.

## Social Care Payments

**Mr D McIlveen** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether his Department has considered introducing a cap on lifetime social care payments, given the perceived injustice on the part of people who have saved for their future care costs.

**(AQW 4935/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** I am aware that the Department of Health in England is currently considering a range of possible amendments to the funding of social care in England, including capping lifetime contributions towards the cost of social care.

As a first step of the process of reform in NI, I will publish a discussion document next spring on the direction and funding of social care here. This will raise awareness on how the current system

of support is funded, including seeking views on what is a fair and sustainable balance between contributions from government, service users and carers.

### **Funding for Pharmacies**

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what action he is taking to help pharmacies when the withdrawal of funding means they cannot pay their bills.

**(AQW 4956/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** New community pharmacy payment arrangements were introduced with effect from 1 April 2011 and are now subject to a judicial review challenge. Against this background it would be inappropriate for me to comment further on this matter in detail until the outcome of the hearing is known.

However, my Department recognises that it has an obligation to provide fair and reasonable remuneration to community pharmacies for the services they provide.

### **Minor Ailments Scheme**

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety why the Minor Ailments Scheme was withdrawn and what his Department intends to put in its place.

**(AQW 4957/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The Minor Ailments Scheme has not been withdrawn and is still available through the Community Pharmacy network. Changes were introduced from 1 November 2010 to remove conditions such as coughs, colds and sore throats which will normally get better in a few days without treatment from the scheme. If symptoms persist, patients can visit their GP who may prescribe medication or they can simply purchase a treatment over the counter.

The level of payments that pharmacists receive for undertaking consultations with patients has not changed and the overall level of funding for the Scheme has not been reduced.

### **Complaints by Children in Kinship Care Arrangements**

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the number of complaints made by children in formal kinship care arrangements to (i) each Health and Social Care Trust; or (ii) his Department, in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 5007/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Information relating to the assessments of kinship carers and complaints made by children in formal kinship care arrangements to Health and Social Care Trusts, are not available centrally, and could only be obtained at disproportionate costs.

There were no complaints to my Department from children in formal kinship care arrangements during the last three years.

### **Medical Needs of Prisoners**

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety for his assessment of whether all the medical needs of prisoners at Maghaberry prison are being met, including the provision of all required medication and health visits.

**(AQW 5008/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust provides healthcare services at HMP Maghaberry. Since assuming responsibility for this service, the Trust has improved the services delivered in all prison establishments. It has audited its current service provision against national standards for the delivery of prison healthcare, and benchmarked the results against similar prison establishments in GB.

The Trust is currently engaged with the Health and Social Care Board and Public Health Agency to carry out a needs assessment which will identify healthcare needs across all three prison sites and facilitate future service planning and delivery. My Department, the HSC Board and South Eastern HSC Trust are committed to working with the NI Prison Service to ensure the continued successful provision of prison healthcare services across all establishments.

## Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail how the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority is funded.

**(AQW 5025/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The principal source of funding for the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA) is grant-in-aid paid by my Department. RQIA also generates income through fees and recharged costs. A summary of income, revenue and capital expenditure, and their financing, is contained in RQIA's Annual Report and Accounts. The most recent edition (2010-2011) is available at:

[http://www.rqia.org.uk/cms\\_resources/RQIA%20Annual%20Report%20and%20Accounts%20April%202011.pdf](http://www.rqia.org.uk/cms_resources/RQIA%20Annual%20Report%20and%20Accounts%20April%202011.pdf)

## Midwives

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the number of midwives working in each Health and Social Care Trust who are under the age of 45. [R]

**(AQW 5032/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The information requested is provided in the table below.

Number of Midwives employed within Northern Ireland Health and Social Care aged under 45 by Trust at September 2011

Trust	Headcount	WTE
Belfast	142	105.84
Northern	108	85.92
South Eastern	109	86.24
Southern	116	88.99
Western	89	73.55

**Source:** Human Resources Management System

**Notes:**

1 WTE = Whole-time Equivalent.

## Meals on Wheels

**Mr Spratt** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the number of people who used the Meals on Wheels service in each of the last three years, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 5095/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Information on the number of persons receiving a Meals on Wheels service in each HSC Trust at 31 March for each of the last three years is detailed in the table.

**TABLE 1****PERSONS RECEIVING A MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE AT 31 MARCH 2009-2011 1,2,3**

<b>HSC Trust</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Belfast	1,416	1,433	1,358
Northern	1,116	1,075	948
South Eastern	760	592	573
Southern	785	569	340
Western	1,094	1,009	1,026
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>5,171</b>	<b>4,678</b>	<b>4,245</b>

**Source:** Community Information KMW2 Return

- 1 Information includes services provided by private contractors.
- 2 Figures include information on the provision of frozen meals.
- 3 Figures at 31 March 2011 are provisional and due to be published in 'Adult Community Statistics for Northern Ireland 2010-2011' in December 2011.

**Children in Kinship Care**

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many children in kinship care who are subject to (i) Care Orders; (ii) Residence Orders; and (iii) in other kinship care arrangements, are on the Child Protection Register; and how many have been placed on the Child Protection Register in the last three years, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust.

**(AQW 5152/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The information requested is not centrally available and could only be provided at disproportionate costs.

The nearest available figures to those requested, relate to the legal status of children on the child protection register as at 30 September 2011. These are detailed in Table 1 below for your information.

**TABLE 1 CHILDREN ON THE CHILD PROTECTION REGISTER BY LEGAL STATUS (30 SEPTEMBER 2011)**

<b>HSC Trust</b>	<b>Emergency Protection Order (Article 63 &amp; 64)</b>	<b>Accommodated (Article 21)</b>	<b>Interim Care Order (Article 57)</b>	<b>Care Order (Article 50 or 59)</b>	<b>Interim Supervision Order (Article 57)</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>Total</b>
Belfast	0	39	34	6	-	-	465	<b>549</b>
Northern	0	21	10	-	0	0	360	<b>393</b>
South Eastern	-	20	5	-	0	-	560	<b>590</b>
Southern	-	17	13	-	-	-	353	<b>391</b>
Western	-	11	15	-	0	-	262	<b>297</b>
<b>Northern Ireland</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>2,220</b>

**Source:** Children Order Return CPR4; '-' Some cell counts have been suppressed to prevent personal disclosure. Please note that these figures are provisional.

## Kinship Foster Carers

**Mr Kinahan** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many kinship foster carers, approved or pending, are listed within each Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 5164/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** My reply to AQW 4861/11-15 refers.

## Mental Health and Mental Capacity Legislation

**Mrs Cochrane** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to outline his Department's plans to introduce legislation on mental health and mental capacity.

**(AQO 883/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** In April 2011, the Executive agreed that my Department could proceed to draft the Mental Capacity (Health, Welfare and Finance) Bill which will apply to civil society. It is anticipated that a draft civil-only Bill could be introduced into the Assembly in Autumn 2012. The application of the principles and approaches in this Bill to those subject to the criminal justice system is currently being considered by the Department of Justice. The option still remains open to merge the civil and criminal justice elements into one Bill, should timings allow. This would be the preferred approach of both Departments and, I understand, of both Committees; but I will want to discuss and agree any subsequent alteration to the legislative timetable with Minister Ford.

## Sexually Transmitted Infections

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether his Department's sexual health strategy has resulted in any decrease in the number of young people with sexually transmitted infections.

**(AQO 887/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Public health policy that seeks to influence and change population health behaviours generally takes some time to make a measurable impact. This is the case with the Sexual Health Promotion Strategy which was published in December 2008.

However, the latest data show a slight decrease in new episodes of sexually transmitted infections in young people (under 25 years), from 2633 in 2008 to 2502 in 2010. These numbers represent combined figures for new diagnoses of HIV, chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis, herpes and genital warts. Individual patients may contribute to more than one diagnosis.

The regional Sexual Health Improvement Network is continuing to drive forward action in support of the Strategy. A mid-term review to assess progress against the Strategy's objectives, one of which is to reduce the incidence of sexually transmitted infections, will be carried out next year.

## Kinship Care

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety why his Department does not keep records on the extent of Kinship Care.

**(AQO 886/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** There are essentially two types of kinship care, either formal kinship care or informal kinship care. In the case of formal kinship care, this involves children being placed in care with either family or friends, with the placement being assessed by social services staff in Health and Social Care Trusts and in accordance with what the law requires. Informal kinship care is the care of children by family in circumstances where a child is unable, for whatever reason, to live with his or her birth parent or parents.

In the main, unless child protection issues are referred to them, children's social services have no role in approving the care of these children because the extended family of the child has chosen not to involve the State in the care of their kin. I should emphasise that this is their prerogative. They are not required to involve the State and in many cases they choose not to.

At 31 March 2011, there were 717 children in kinship foster care in Northern Ireland, 336 boys and 381 girls. These formal arrangements require the approval of social services and records are kept in relation to assessments, reviews and social work visits.

However, if children are being looked after through an informal kinship care arrangement, social services will generally not have any involvement with them and they will not therefore appear in official statistics.

### **Healthcare Staff: Armed Forces**

**Mr I McCrea** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to outline the action he is taking to support health care staff who serve in, or give time to assist, the armed forces.

**(AQO 892/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Whilst my Department is not prescriptive on the granting of special leave or other forms of assistance to health and social care staff engaged in support for the armed forces, health service employers are encouraged to develop flexible working arrangements, within the confines of maintaining a round the clock service. Staff are normally granted one week's special leave with pay for attendance at reserve forces training and for a second week as special leave without pay or as part of the normal annual leave entitlement. Staff called up for service, such as in Afghanistan, would normally be granted unpaid leave with their employment rights fully protected.

### **Breastfeeding**

**Ms Gildernew** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether he plans to introduce legislation on breastfeeding.

**(AQO 893/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** Through consultation on the new Breastfeeding Strategy in the New Year, my Department will be seeking the views of all stakeholders and the public on the introduction of legislation to support breastfeeding in public places. The outcome of this consultation will help inform policy direction in this area.

### **Hospitals: Strike Action**

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety for his assessment of the impact that the anticipated strike action on 30 November 2011 will have on access to outpatient and inpatient treatment.

**(AQO 894/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The key issue for me in all of this is about patient safety - that is of paramount importance. A set protocols has been agreed between HSC employers which will allow HSC organisations to work with local trade union representatives to agree the levels of cover necessary on the day. If everyone adheres to the protocols then clinically critical and emergency services and infrastructure will be maintained on the day. Regrettably however there will be an impact on services particularly in relation to non critical clinical activity. This means that patients and clients waiting to be seen for some treatments and care will experience delays. This is something which I find regrettable.

### **Bowel Cancer**

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what action is being taken to tackle bowel cancer.

**(AQO 895/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The Northern Ireland Bowel Cancer Screening Programme, which was launched in April 2010, aims to reduce the number of deaths from bowel cancer. The programme is being rolled out on a phased basis and will be fully implemented across Northern Ireland from January 2012, and in the first instance screening is being offered to men and women aged between 60 and 69. The programme will be extended to include people up to the age of 71 from April 2012.

The draft Programme for Government 2011-15 currently out for public consultation, includes a commitment to extend the age range for bowel cancer screening up to age 74 across all Trust areas from 2014/15.

Public Health Strategies aimed at reducing the levels of obesity and improving diet and lifestyle will also help reduce levels of bowel cancer.

Recent investment in cancer treatment will further improve outcomes for those with bowel cancer.

### **Eating Disorders: Western Health and Social Care Trust**

**Ms Boyle** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how many young adults within the Western Health and Social Care Trust area have eating disorders, and what support is provided for them.  
**(AQO 896/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** There are 22 young adults, aged between 18 and 25, currently known to the Eating Disorders Service in the Western Trust area.

Psychological interventions include Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Motivational enhancement work, Family intervention work, Narrative Therapy work and Body Image Work. The Trust is also in the process of establishing a family therapy work-shop. The service model for people with Eating Disorders also includes psycho-educational work and consultation, dietetic advice and support from a specialist Eating Disorders dietician, review and in-reach to local in-patient wards. Dr Ken Yeow, the regional Eating Disorders consultant, also provides monthly out-reach clinics where complex cases can be reviewed.

### **Prescription Drugs**

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety for his assessment of the level of addiction to prescription drugs.  
**(AQO 897/11-15)**

**Mr Poots:** The Department is aware of the growing concern about the misuse of “prescription drugs”. Prevalence rates on the use of (though not misuse of) sedatives and tranquilisers and anti-depressants in Northern Ireland were published in the 2010/11 Drug Prevalence Survey. 8% of those who responded stated they had used sedatives and tranquilisers in the last month, 10% had used anti-depressants, and 4% had used other opiates.

The Drug Misuse Database holds information on people presenting to treatment services with problem drug misuse, including drugs such as benzodiazepines, codeine and paracetamol that are prescribed medication. According to the most recent figures benzodiazepines were the second most commonly reported main drug of misuse reported by 19% of individuals, and codeine & paracetamol were reported as the main drug of misuse by 2%.

The misuse of prescription drugs has been raised as an emerging issue during the development of the revised strategy to address the harm related to alcohol and drug misuse in Northern Ireland, and we need to give more consideration as to how this can be taken forward.

## **Department of Justice**

### **Convictions for Perverting the Course of Justice**

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AQW 1825/11-15, when the figures from 2006 onwards will be available.  
**(AQW 4008/11-15)**

**Mr Ford (The Minister of Justice ):** Provisional data on convictions is now available for 2007 and 2008. This is based on an alternative source and is not comparable to previous data.

The table below gives the number convicted for perverting the course of justice under Common Law in 2007 & 2008.

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE CONVICTED OF PERVERTING THE COURSE OF JUSTICE – NUMBER CONVICTED, 2007-2008**

Year	2007	2008
Convictions	9	10

Data are collated on the principal offence rule; only the most serious offence for which an offender is convicted is included. The data are provisional as a verification exercise is currently underway.

**Security Alerts in Prisons**

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Justice, for each of the last five years (i) the number of security alerts in each prison; and (ii) the date each alert occurred.

**(AQW 4352/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:**

- (i) The information recorded in the table below relates to the number of security alerts raised over the last five years (2006 – 2010).
- (ii) Given the volume of incidents involved (4411) information relating to the actual date each alert occurred could only be provided at disproportionate cost to the public purse.
- (iii) Some alerts fall into a number of different categories, so there may be an element of double or more counting of a single incident.

	Maghaberry					Magilligan					HydebankWood				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Abscond	0	1	0	1	0	27	24	20	7	11	0	0	2	0	0
Alarm - Discipline	68	59	59	54	103	19	19	11	13	29	2	1	1	0	25
Arson	3	1	2	1	1	8	3	0	4	1	3	4	2	0	0
Assault - Inmate on Inmate	47	32	23	24	34	24	16	12	19	40	42	39	47	59	64
Assault Inmate on Staff	31	29	14	18	23	10	3	3	8	4	10	9	11	13	9
Attempted Assault on Inmate	0	4	4	0	4	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	2	3	11
Attempted Assault on Staff	0	24	56	36	41	5	0	2	3	2	0	14	18	21	8
Attempted Escape	1	0	2	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0
Cell Wreck	5	6	2	7	38	8	2	2	7	5	9	5	14	11	20
Control & Restraint	44	66	47	75	138	4	5	1	3	2	74	70	59	61	34
Disruption / Incitement	31	25	38	44	27	18	8	23	18	18	8	6	1	10	16
Drugs	23	30	50	51	75	193	121	173	122	94	3	11	3	4	5
Escape	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
Explosives	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Maghaberry					Magilligan					HydebankWood				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Fire	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	5	2	4	0	2	0	2
Handcuffs Applied	0	6	1	10	22	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	15	7	12
Home Leave	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
Hostage	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inmate Violence	13	18	11	9	8	0	11	2	10	8	18	19	7	12	6
Intimidation	16	17	17	12	17	6	3	5	6	2	2	0	0	2	0
Loss - Keys	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Loss - Tools	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Phones	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0
Refusal to Lock	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
Staff Subversion	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Trafficking	22	28	35	76	83	13	21	13	13	3	1	3	0	0	1
Weapons	0	0	3	3	4	3	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>203</b>

## Magilligan Prison

**Mr Campbell** asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AQW 3462/11-15, for a breakdown of the £3.77m expenditure on Magilligan Prison.

**(AQW 4483/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** Table A below provides a breakdown to date of the total expenditure of £3,772,595 on the preparation and development of the new prison at Magilligan:

**TABLE A**

<b>Cost</b>	<b>Detail</b>
£ 264,919	Preparation of the outline Business Case
£2,783,048	Design work
£ 418,707	Programme Management
£ 67,087	Procurement
£ 207,457	Staffing Costs
£ 5,940	Gateway Review
£ 25,437	Advertising, Stationary, Travel and Departmental costs

## Status of Devidas Paliutus

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice for an update on the status of Devidas Paliutus; and when he is likely to be brought before a court in Northern Ireland.

**(AQW 4497/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** An update on the status of Mr Paliutus and when he is likely to be brought before a court in Northern Ireland is a matter for the Chief Constable, who is accountable to the Northern Ireland Policing Board. I am committed to respecting the operation independence of the Chief Constable and the role of the Policing Board.

## Funding

**Mr S Anderson** asked the Minister of Justice to detail any funding allocated by his Department to each (i) non-departmental public body; and (ii) voluntary body in each of the last three years; and the purpose for which each allocation was made.

**(AQW 4517/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The Department of Justice came into existence on 12th April 2010. Details of funding before that date are a matter for the previous department.

Funding for non departmental and voluntary bodies is set out in the Departments resource accounts (page 87). The accounts are on the Departments web site available at the following link

[http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/publications/publication-categories/pubs-departmental-business/departments\\_of\\_justice\\_resource\\_accounts\\_2010-11.htm](http://www.dojni.gov.uk/index/publications/publication-categories/pubs-departmental-business/departments_of_justice_resource_accounts_2010-11.htm)

For convenience the figures are set out in the table below.

For non departmental public bodies the funding shown covers cash 'Grant in Aid' expenditure which covers general running costs and capital costs for each body.

Voluntary Bodies funding purposes are as follows:

Police Rehabilitation and Retraining Trust – Funding is given to support members of the RUC/PSNI with assessment, treatment and training, prior to and following the cessation of their service.

RUC George Cross Widows Association – Funding is given to support and improve the quality of life for RUC widows and their families.

Victim Support NI – Grant in Aid.

NIACRO – Grant in Aid.

NSPCC – Funding is given for the delivery of the Young Witness Service and the contribution to the development of policy.

Extern – Grant in Aid.

Community Restorative Justice Ireland and Northern Ireland Alternatives – Funding is given to supervise and support activities in Northern Ireland in relation to community based restorative justice schemes.

	2010-11 £000			2009-10 £000 Restated		
	Core Department		Consolidated		Core Department	Consolidated Outturn
	Estimate	Outturn	Estimate	Outturn		
Non-departmental public bodies:						
Police Service of Northern Ireland	1,030,078	986,892	1,030,078	986,892	927,283	927,283
Office of the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland	8,832	8,468	8,832	8,468	9,009	9,009
Northern Ireland Policing Board	8,982	8,709	8,982	8,709	7,855	7,855
Probation Board for Northern Ireland	20,850	19,660	20,850	19,660	19,045	19,045
Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,435	1,475	1,475
Northern Ireland Legal Services Commission	-	-	102,716	99,513	-	103,000
Northern Ireland Police Fund	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,770	1,770
RUC George Cross Foundation	162	133	162	133	158	158

	2010-11 £000				2009-10 £000 Restated	
	Core Department		Consolidated		Core Department	Consolidated
	Estimate	Outturn	Estimate	Outturn		Outturn
<b>Voluntary bodies:</b>						
Police Rehabilitation and Retraining Trust	3,457	3,107	3,457	3,107	3,046	3,046
Widows Association	40	40	40	40	40	40
Victim Support	2,213	2,213	2,213	2,213	2,154	2,154
NIACRO	509	509	509	509	496	496
NSPCC	384	384	384	384	373	373
Extern	352	352	352	352	343	343
Community Restorative Justice Ireland	50	50	50	50	47	47
Northern Ireland Alternatives	50	50	50	50	52	52

## European Court of Human Rights

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice for his assessment of Lord Judge's remarks that the courts have tended to interpret the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights too closely, and that many of its rulings relate only to specific cases and do not set wider legal precedents.

**(AQW 4593/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** I am aware of the remarks made by Lord Judge, the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, to the Joint Committee on Human Rights to which the question refers.

As the Lord Chief Justice's evidence to the Committee notes, it is likely that the Supreme Court will ultimately determine whether the courts have correctly interpreted the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

I do not intend to comment on the specific remarks made by the Lord Chief Justice as to do so would not be consistent with my duty to uphold judicial independence.

## Employment Tribunals

**Mr P Maskey** asked the Minister of Justice how much compensation the Office of the Police Ombudsman has paid to staff as a result of employment tribunals in the last four years; and what has been the cost to the Office in legal fees for these tribunals.

**(AQW 4644/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The Office of the Police Ombudsman has advised me that no compensation has been paid to staff as a result of employment tribunals in the last four years. The legal cost associated with employment tribunals in this time is £39,263.

## Convictions for Sectarian Crime

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice to detail the number of convictions for sectarian crime in each of the last three years, broken down by court division.

**(AQW 4673/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** It is not possible to provide conviction data on sectarian crime as conviction datasets do not distinguish sectarian offences.

## Private Transport for Prisoners

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice, with the exception of Robert Black, on how many occasions has any method of private transport been hired or chartered for prisoners and paid for by the National Offender Management Service, a Government Department, or an arm's-length bodies.

**(AQW 4674/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** As Minister of Justice, I can only provide information in relation to the Department of Justice.

Northern Ireland Prison Service records are only available from 2007 and show that, with the exception of Robert Black, no prisoners have been transported using private, hired or chartered transport and paid for by the National Offender Management Service or Department of Justice.

The transportation of prisoners by the PSNI is a matter for the Chief Constable who is operationally independent from Government and accountable to the Northern Ireland Policing Board. NIPS does not collate records of prisoners who have been transported using private, hired or chartered transport by the PSNI.

## Prison Review Team

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice, in relation to the Prison Review Team, to detail (i) the amount paid to each member; (ii) the hours worked by each member; and (iii) the expenses claims of each member, to date.

**(AQW 4675/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The information requested is provided in the following table. It details the total amount paid to date, to each member of the Prison Review Team, in respect of both their fees and travel expenses and the days worked based on a 7hour 25 minute day.

<b>Prison Review Team - Costs - June 2010 to October 2011</b>			
	<b>Fees</b>	<b>Days worked</b>	<b>Expenses<sup>1</sup></b>
Anne Owers	£75,307.65	1251/2	£999.11
Phil Wheatley	£40,500.00	671/2	£1,175.87
Paul Leighton	£32,000.00	64	£2,565.26
Clodach McGrory	£36,062.50	691/2	£547.70
Fergus McNeill	£44,182.50	62	£773.16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>228,052.65</b>	<b>388.5</b>	<b>6,061.10</b>

## Case of Gerry McGeough

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice (i) for an update on how much Legal Aid has been paid in relation to the case of Gerry McGeough who was convicted of attempted murder, and other related offences, broken down by (a) solicitor costs; and (b) counsel costs; and (ii) to detail the cost, or an estimate, of the Legal Aid paid to date in relation to Gerry McGeough's (a) judicial review to seek a Royal Prerogative of Mercy from Her Majesty the Queen in relation to these offences; and (b) appeal against his conviction for attempted murder.

**(AQW 4677/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** Gerry McGeough was granted criminal legal aid for legal representation in the Magistrates' Court, the Crown Court and for High Court bail applications.

All claims have been received and paid for representation in the Magistrates' Court. The total amount paid was £9,396.45 (inc VAT) for the solicitor's fees and £2,002.49 (inc VAT) for counsel's fees.

Fees have also been paid to the solicitor for three High Court bail applications amounting to £2,574.82 (inc VAT).

In addition, claims received to date in respect of the solicitor's fees under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act have totalled £2,188.48 (inc VAT and disbursements).

As this case was certified as a Very High Cost case, the determination of the Crown Court fees is a matter for the Taxing Master. I understand that claims have been submitted and are currently with the Taxing Master for assessment. A fee of £5,000 has issued in respect of an interim payment for a disbursement incurred by the solicitor.

To date, the legal aid paid in relation to Gerry McGeough's application for judicial review to seek the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of Mercy from Her Majesty the Queen in relation to these offences is £2,620 (inc VAT and disbursements). This was paid as an interim payment.

Legal aid funding for the appeal against conviction for attempted murder will also be subject to assessment by the Taxing Master. No estimate of the cost of the appeal can be provided at this time.

## Prison Review Team

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Justice whether he, or his officials, are in receipt of any recommendations, suggestions or conclusions from the Prison Review Team, other than what is contained in the published report.

**(AQW 4687/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** No.

## Prison Service

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Justice, in relation to his statement in the Assembly on 14 November 2011, to detail from where the idea that symbols and names should feature in any 'end to end' review of the Prison Service came; and how and when such ideas were explored and addressed by his Department.

**(AQW 4688/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** Symbols and names have been subject to discussion between NIPS management and staff associations on a number of occasions prior to the devolution of Justice functions. The issue featured in discussions of the NIPS Uniform Committee and the Whitley Council, although consideration of the issue was suspended pending the outcome of the review of prisons.

As I have made clear, this is one of a range of issues which I would expect to be considered in the context of any end to end review of the Northern Ireland Prison Service.

## Prison Service

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Justice what plans exist, or existed, to end (i) prisons being called "Her Majesty's prisons"; and (ii) the crown being part of the symbol of the Prison Service.

**(AQW 4689/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** There neither are, nor have there been any plans agreed for the removal of the words "Her Majesty's Prisons" or the symbol of the crown from prisons in Northern Ireland.

However symbols and names have been subject to discussion between NIPS management and staff associations on a number of occasions prior to the devolution of Justice functions.

As I have made clear, this is one of a range of issues which I would expect to be considered in the context of any end to end review of the Northern Ireland Prison Service.

## Prison Service: Name

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister of Justice to publish all documents held by his Department in relation to any plans to end (i) prisons being called "Her Majesty's prisons"; and (ii) the crown being part of the symbol of the Prison Service.

**(AQW 4690/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** Publication of the documents referred to is already being considered in response to a Freedom of Information request by the Member.

## Historical Enquiries

**Mr Hilditch** asked the Minister of Justice to detail the cost, to date, of any ongoing Historical Enquiries.  
**(AQW 4704/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The total costs incurred by the Historical Enquiries Team and the Office of the Police Ombudsman regarding Historical Enquiries up to 31 March 2011 are below.

Historical Enquiries Team	£34m
---------------------------	------

Office of the Police Ombudsman £4.345m

## Benefits Appeals Tribunals

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice, given that more benefits appeals tribunals are making use of case law and that all appeal panels have a legally qualified member, whether he is prepared to make legal aid available to appellants to ensure that there is appropriate and balanced representation in the interests of access to justice and human rights legislation.

**(AQW 4729/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The Access to Justice Review, which issued its final report in September this year, examined a number of issues concerning representation at tribunals. I have issued this report for public consultation and would welcome views on the report's recommendations in this area.

## Bangor Police Station; Donaghadee Police Station and Holywood Police Station: Revenue Expenditure

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Justice to detail, for the last available year, the total current revenue expenditure at (i) Bangor Police Station; (ii) Donaghadee Police Station; and (iii) Holywood Police Station.

**(AQW 4769/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The allocation of funding is an operational matter for the Chief Constable, who is accountable to the Northern Ireland Policing Board. I am committed to respecting the operational independence of the Chief Constable and the role of the Policing Board.

You may therefore wish to direct your question to the PSNI.

## Colin Duffy: Legal Aid

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice how much legal aid Colin Duffy has received to date for his current murder trial and his criminal damage case at Maghaberry Prison, broken down by costs for his (i) solicitor; (ii) junior counsel; and (iii) senior counsel; and what the estimated legal aid cost will be at the conclusion of these proceedings.

**(AQW 4803/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** To date, the total amount paid in criminal legal aid fees in respect of the murder trial amounts to £20,775.88 (inc. VAT of £3,272.57). However, as the case is still ongoing a number of claims from both solicitor and counsel have yet to be made and accordingly the final cost will be significantly higher.

The fees paid to date are as follows:

Solicitor's Fees	Junior Counsel	Senior Counsel
£16,881.99 (inc. VAT of £2,623.59)	£1,411.62 (inc. VAT of £235.27)	£2,482.27 (inc. VAT of £413.71)

This case has been certified as a Very High Cost Case and any claims will be assessed by the Taxing Master. It is therefore not possible to estimate the final cost with any accuracy at this time.

Regarding the charge of criminal damage, a legal aid certificate was granted for a solicitor only to represent the defendant at the Magistrates' Court. The case is listed for contest on the 12 December – it is not possible to estimate the final cost of these proceedings at this stage.

## Legal Aid to Foreign National Defendants

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AQW 4006/11-15, why district judges are granting legal aid to foreign national defendants on the basis of language barriers or difficulties when an interpreter is provided to defendants by the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service if one is required.

**(AQW 4804/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** The Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service is responsible for providing interpreters for foreign national defendants with language difficulties to cover court appearances before the criminal courts. The PSNI provides interpreters during police interviews. In addition to this, interpreters are also required in order to allow the defence team to take instructions from clients and to interview potential witnesses whose first language may not be English.

The granting of criminal legal aid by a District Judge (Magistrates' Courts) is dependent on a defendant passing a 'means test' (that his or her means are insufficient to pay for their own defence) and a 'merits test' (that it is in the interests of justice that he or she should have free legal aid). Where a defendant with language difficulties passes these tests and is granted legal aid, the costs associated with providing interpreters to allow the defence team to prepare a defendant's defence, (other than during court appearances or police interviews), is met out of the legal aid fund.

As stated in my answer to AQW 4006/11-15, the mere fact that a person has language difficulties, whether by reason of nationality or disability, is not normally the determining factor in the decision whether or not to grant legal aid.

## Public Appointments

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister of Justice to list the public appointments that he has made since June 2010.

**(AQW 4827/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** I have made a total of 29 public appointments since June 2010. In addition I have made 8 re-appointments since June 2010. Details are listed in the attached table.

Name of Body	Name of Appointee	Date of Appointment	Date of Re-appointment
Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland	Dr M Maguire	Prior to June 2010	01/09/11
Northern Ireland Policing Board	Mr S B Rea	Prior to June 2010	24/05/11
	Mr G Ó hEáira	Prior to June 2010	24/05/11
	Ms A M Connolly	24/05/11	
	Mr R J Feeney	24/05/11	
	Mr J S McDonnell	24/05/11	
	Mrs J T O'Hagan	24/05/11	
	Mr B M Rowntree	24/05/11	
	Mr M T Wardlow	24/05/11	
	Ms D Watters	24/05/11	

<b>Name of Body</b>	<b>Name of Appointee</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>	<b>Date of Re-appointment</b>
Northern Ireland Law Commission	Professor S Doran	Prior to June 2010	10/03/11
	Mr R Hunniford	Prior to June 2010	10/03/11
	Mr N Faris	Prior to June 2010	10/03/11
	Dr V Iyer	Prior to June 2010	01/09/11
Independent Monitoring Board - Maghaberry Prison	Mr P R Lees	01/07/10	
	Mr A Khamassi	01/07/10	
	Mr A Hussain	01/07/10	
	Ms A M McCauley	01/07/10	
	Mrs S E Cunningham	01/07/10	
	Mrs V C McConnell	01/07/10	
	Mr A Abolarin	01/07/10	
Independent Monitoring Board - Magilligan Prison	Mr J P Devlin	01/07/10	
	Mr F B Doherty	01/07/10	
	Ms J Burke	01/07/10	
	Mrs B McCollum	01/07/10	
	Mr P E McAteer	01/07/10	
	Mr P Martin	01/07/10	
Independent Monitoring Board - Hydebank Wood Young Offenders Centre & Prison	Mr B Lewis	01/07/10	
	Ms C Allen	01/07/10	
	Mrs L Williamson	01/07/10	
	Mrs J O'Loan	01/07/10	
	Mr F M Walsh	01/07/10	
	Miss C V Stoll	01/07/10	
	Mr M J Love	01/07/10	
	Mrs N Francis	01/07/10	
	Mr J Irvine	01/07/10	
Judicial Appointments Ombudsman	Mr K Singh	Prior to June 2010	25/09/11

### Convictions for Driving at Excess Speed

Lord Morrow asked Minister of Justice how many convictions for driving at excess speed have been dealt with in court instead of by a Fixed Penalty Notice in each of the last three years, broken down by court division.

**(AQW 4891/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** Speeding offences may be prosecuted under Article 7(9) and Article 43 of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 and Article 19(a) of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

The table below gives the number convicted for the calendar years 2006 to 2008 (the latest year for which figures are currently available).

#### NUMBER OF PEOPLE CONVICTED FOR SPEEDING OFFENCES BY COURT DIVISION 2006-2008

Court division	2006	2007	2008
Antrim	467	621	454
Ards	354	464	367
Armagh and South Down	555	686	733
Belfast	322	617	346
Craigavon and Lisburn	158	159	155
Fermanagh and Tyrone	571	711	414
Londonderry	283	322	378
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>3,580</b>	<b>2,847</b>

Data are collated on the principal offence rule; only the most serious offence for which an offender is convicted is included.

Data for 2006 should not be directly compared with data from 2007 to 2008 as the data sets are sourced from different systems.

#### Early Releases of Brendan Lillis and Abdelbaset al-Megrahi

**Mr Campbell** asked the Minister of Justice whether he discussed any security issues that arose from the early releases of Brendan Lillis and Abdelbaset al-Megrahi, on the grounds of their failing health, during his meeting with the Scottish Justice Minister.

**(AQW 4918/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** This issue was not discussed during my meeting with the Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Justice.

#### Convictions for Parking Violations

Lord Morrow asked Minister of Justice how many convictions for parking violations, including the misuse of disabled parking bays, have been dealt with in court instead of by a Fixed Penalty Notice in each of the last three years, broken down by court division.

**(AQW 5058/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** Parking offences may be prosecuted under Article 4, Article 19(1)(b), Article 19(3) and Article 59 of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, Article 30 and Article 50 of the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, Article 12 and Article 14 of the On-Street Parking Order (Northern Ireland) 1997, Regulation 8 of the (Pelican) Pedestrian Crossings Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989, Regulation 9 of the "Zebra" Pedestrian Crossings Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1974, Regulation 9 of the Motorways Traffic Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984, Article 20(4) of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993, Section 51(1) of the Terrorism Act 2000, or Section 49(3) of the Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Act 1996.

The table overleaf gives the number convicted for the calendar years 2006 to 2008 (the latest year for which figures are currently available).

**NUMBER OF PEOPLE CONVICTED FOR PARKING OFFENCES BY COURT DIVISION 2006-2008**

<b>Court division</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Antrim	4	3	1
Ards	3	3	1
Armagh and South Down	0	0	1
Belfast	18	22	8
Craigavon and Lisburn	2	3	2
Fermanagh and Tyrone	4	0	1
Londonderry	0	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14</b>

Data are collated on the principal offence rule; only the most serious offence for which an offender is convicted is included.

Data for 2006 should not be directly compared with data from 2007 to 2008 as the data sets are sourced from different systems.

**Small Claims Court**

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister of Justice what plans his Department has to reform the Small Claims Court.

**(AQW 5072/11-15)**

**Mr Ford:** I am satisfied that the Small Claims Court in Northern Ireland provides an affordable and relatively informal means of resolving consumer disputes and other civil claims.

As I said in response to AQW1710/11-15, the Small Claims Court has been subject to a number of important reforms over recent years.

Small Claims Online allows claimants to make an application using the Northern Ireland Courts & Tribunals Service website and also allows the parties to track the progress of proceedings online.

In May of this year, following public consultation (Increasing the Jurisdictional Limit of the County Courts in Northern Ireland), the financial limit of the Small Claims Court was increased from £2,000 to £3,000.

The public consultation also sought views on the continued exclusion of certain types of claim from the Small Claims Court, namely personal injury cases and road traffic accidents. The County Court Rules Committee, which is responsible for these exclusions, is currently considering the responses to the public consultation exercise.

**Department for Regional Development****NI Water Unadopted sewers and Pumping Stations**

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the unadopted sewers and pumping stations, with outstanding agreements with NI Water, in the Strangford constituency which are under the control of receivers or administrators.

**(AQW 3649/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy (The Minister for Regional Development):** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water (NIW) that there are currently some 322 existing agreements in place with persons constructing or proposing to construct a sewerage system which may be adopted at a future date provided the terms of

the agreement have been met. This includes agreements formerly with its predecessor Water Service which transferred to NIW on 1 April 2007.

It is the responsibility of the persons constructing the sewerage system to advise NIW when they consider it is completed to a satisfactory standard, to enable the system to be inspected and a Certificate of Completion to be issued with a view to future adoption.

NIW works closely with my Department's Road Service in taking forward the adoption of streets and sewers where a developer is no longer trading. NIW has not been advised of any developments within the Strangford Constituency which would sit under enforcement procedures within the Water and Sewerage Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 legislation. NIW works with Roads Service Private Streets Section in the matter of developments which are in control of a receiver or administrator and would sit under the Department's Private Streets enforcement procedures, but does not have the specific details as to the total number of developments which are being taken forward under the Private Streets (Northern Ireland) Order 1980 enforcement procedures.

### Sewers in the Strangford Constituency

**Miss M McIlveen** asked the Minister for Regional Development which sewers in the Strangford constituency have been adopted in the last (i) twelve months; (ii) three years; and (iii) five years. **(AQW 3673/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water that the sewerage system within 14 developments in the Strangford Constituency has been adopted in the past three years as detailed in the table below. The information requested for the past five years is not readily available.

Year	Development Name
2008 (from October)	Lands at 115 Ballynahinch Road, Carryduff
	Teal Rocks, Newtownards
2009	Helensview Park, Newtownards
2010	Robbs Road / Ardnoe Avenue, Dundonald
	Whitecherry Hill/Lane, Killinchy
	Long Island Drive Phase 3, Cooks Brae, Kircubbin
	Westlands, Main Road, Portavogie
	Tullynakill Road, Ardmillan
	Bartley's Wood, Greyabbey
2011 (to date)	Manse Close, Carrowdore
	Saintfield Mill, Saintfield
	Watermeade Park, Avenue and Crescent, Greyabbey
	Upper Crescent, Comber
	Seaview Court, Portavogie

## Grit Boxes in the North Down Area

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Regional Development to list the current locations of grit boxes in the North Down area.

**(AQW 4324/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** To date, my Department's Roads Service has provided 177 salt bins within the North Down area, at the following locations:

<b>HOLYWOOD – 51 BINS</b>	
Cultra Slip Road Belfast bound to Folk Museum	Old Quay Court No.4
East Link Street Light No 2	Kintyre Avenue at Street Light No.5
West Link Street Light No 8	Princess Gardens at Street Light No.15
Abbey Ring Street Light No 34	Princess Park opposite No.9
Abbey Ring Street Light No 12	Tor Grange at No.10 near Street Light
Abbots Wood near junction Demesne Road	Invergourie Road at Stathleven Park name plate
Strathearn Court at Street Light No. 1	Entrance to The Coaches, Brown's Brae
Cedar Grove opposite Street Light No.4	The Spires at Street Light No 3
The Green at Street Light No.1	Woodcroft Park outside No 3
Inver Park opposite Street Light No.4	Seafront Road junction with Circular Rd @ Street Light No.6
Demense Park at No.15 at wall	Station Road, Craigavad No.4
Demense Avenue at No.15	Creighton's Green Road before speed limit sign on bend
Elizabeth Road opposite Street Light No.3	Creighton's Green Road near No.15 on bend
Croft Park @ Street Light No 9	Creighton's Green Road near No.41 on right hand side at field gate
Ardmore Road at Street Light No.6	Carlston Avenue No.1/Whinney Hill
Ardmore Heights opposite No.9 at Street Light No.6	Old Seahill Road/Seahill Drive at white wall
Ardmore Road No.39 (past No. 39) near radius	Martello Park No.10
Glenview Road No.7	Martello Park No 28
Glenview Avenue opposite Street Light No.3	Rhanbuoy Park Street Light No 10
Ardmore Park at No.3	Larch Hill No.1 (half way up hill )
Brook Street at Clinic	Larch Hill Ave No.5 junction with Larch Hill Drive
Windsor Avenue at No.12	Ballygrainey Road No.3 (at wall near A2)
Victoria Road at end of grass verge	Ballygrainey Road opposite No.15
Tudor Oaks No 3 at wall	Dalchoolin at No 19
Cultra Avenue opposite No.41	

<b>HELEN'S BAY – 3 BINS</b>	
Quarry Court past Street Light No.3	Grey Point at Street Light No.3
Ballymoney Road near Whinney Hill	

<b>CRAWFORDSBURN – 6 BINS</b>	
Ballymullen Road opposite No.40	Burnside Park at No.2 at wall/Meadow Way
Ballymullen Road at No.6	Meadow Park North No 11 at mini pillar
Meadow Way (junction near Ballymullen Road )	Carolsteen Park at No.1A junction Bridge Road

<b>BANGOR – 110 BINS</b>	
Killaire Avenue opposite Street Light No.8 (at fence)	Rugby Avenue opposite No.60
Ailsa Park at Street Light No.3	Donard Avenue No.44 ( upper side of BT pole )
Ravelstone Avenue junction Killaire Park (at wall)	Donard Avenue No.25
Killaire Avenue at No 5	Maryville Park opposite No.22
Station Rd opposite Street Light No.15 (on grass) below No.68 on waste ground	Bryansglen West No.7 (lower side of Street Light)
Station View at Street Light No.1	Bryansglen Avenue No.21
Wandsworth Park junction Wandsworth Road	Grange Avenue No.5
Lyndhurst Avenue opposite No.2	Bryansburn Gardens @ No.10 in corner
Sharman Rise opposite no.10	Downshire Road upper side of Maxwell Road at Street Light No.14
Kilileen Avenue near Street Light No.9	Downshire Road lower side of Maxwell Road at Street Light No 15
Jubilee Drive near Street Light No.15	Clelland Park South at No.12
Viceroy's Wood at entrance half way up hill	Alexandra Gardens Street Light No 6
Springhill Heights No.10	Church Avenue junction Church Drive at wall
Farm Grove junction Springhill Avenue	Abbey Park No.49/51
Bryansford Meadow opposite Street Light No.3	Balloo Crescent opposite Howells
Ballyquinton Gardens side of No.18 at BT pole	Ballyree Gardens opposite No 9 (near steps)
Kilclief Gardens at Street Light No.474	Willowbrook Rise at side of No 1 at wall
Craigboy Mews at telegraph pole	Willowbrook Park at No.62
Balligan Gardens at Street Light No.403	Cranley Road opposite No.4
Birch Park junction Birch Drive	Cranley Grove Street Light No. 4
Clandeboyne Way at Street Light No.1	Cranley Grove Street Light No 9
Monea Way at Street Light No.11 at wall	Cranley Hill No.2
Rostrevor Way at No.12	Cranley Ave opposite Street Light No.1

<b>BANGOR – 110 BINS</b>	
Clandeboyne Way near Street Light No 10	Irvine Park outside No 38
Rostrevor Drive opposite name plate	Hanover Chase at footpath beside No 7 Hanover Court
Enterprise Road opposite Street Light No.2	Beaumont Drive outside No.26
Moyne Road, Conlig, junction Vermont Avenue at Street Light No.5	Malvern Heights at street nameplate
Bangor Road, Conlig, at top of Green Road	Ravenswood opposite No 10
Meadowvale opposite No.15	2 Kinwood Road at Junction with Albany Road
Meadowvale Park at Street Light No.2	Marlo Crescent at Street Light No.2
Beechfield junction Main Street, Conlig	Fernbank Park opposite Street Light No 3
Beechfield Avenue at Street Light No.18	Knightsbridge Court at entrance to NIE substation
Tower Road/Main Street, Conlig	Fairfield Road at wall of No.58
Forrest Hill/Main Street, Conlig	Fairfield Road opposite No.103 on verge
Forrest Hill, Conlig at Street Light No 10 at side of No. 74	Dellmont Drive at Street Light 4 outside No 10
Westmorland Crescent side of No.2 ( on grass )	Sunningdale Park No.7
Westmorland Crescent at Street Light No.8	Glenanne Park opposite Sunningdale Court between hedges
Harehills Drive junction Westmorland Crescent	Stanley Road opposite No.9
Silverstream Crescent at No.61 ( in laneway )	Seaforth Road opposite Street Light No.3
Silverstream Road at Street Light No 9	Grove Park junction Bellevue
Silverstream Drive at No.18 ( at wall )	Baylands Fourth Avenue at No.4
Silverstream Avenue at No 31	Beverly Hills junction Beverly Drive at white wall
Manor Park/Manor Avenue	Beverly Gardens junction Beverly Drive opposite No.34
Hillcrest Walk outside No 9	Conniston Drive beside Street Light No.2
Bangor Police Station/Castle Park Avenue	Chippendale Vale junction Chippendale Park
King Street at sign no. 4	Ardmillan Park Street Light No 4
Tennyson Avenue at Street Light No.1	Thornleigh Gardens Street Light No 6
Princetown Road at Junction of Seacourt Lane	Windmill Lane at Street Light No.1
Lorelei opposite Street Light 1 at garage	Portview/Ballymacconnell Road
Ranfurly Avenue at Street Light No 15	Towerview at Street Light No.4
Princetown Road opposite Street Light No 9	Ivyhill Crescent at Street Light No. 2
Knockmore Park t Street Light No 12	Ballymacormick Park at name plate
Manse Road at Entrance to No.12	Towerview Crescent opposite No.101 at Street Light No.20

<b>BANGOR – 110 BINS</b>	
Railwayview Street No.54	Towerview Crescent at side wall of No 125
Windsor Gardens at No.2-4	Towerview Avenue outside No 14

<b>GROOMSPORT – 7 BINS</b>	
The Brae junction Ard-Na-Ree	Springwell Crescent opposite Street Light No 4
Springwell Drive beside Street Light No.3	The Brae ( at wall opposite Hillfoot )
Springwell Drive junction The Brae opposite No.7	Glenganagh Park at Street Light No 3
Springwell Crescent No.58 at BT pole	

### **Cost of Maintaining Traffic Lights**

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the cost of maintaining traffic lights in the last financial year.

**(AQW 4395/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that its expenditure on routine traffic light maintenance in the 2010/11 financial year was £731,000.

In addition, non-routine costs, such as damage caused by road traffic collisions or utility road openings, are estimated at £510,000. Roads Service, where possible, endeavours to recover these non-routine costs.

### **Priority of Road and Footpath Repairs**

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Regional Development to outline the criteria that are used to determine the priority of (i) road; and (ii) footpath repairs.

**(AQW 4396/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** Article 8 of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 places a duty on my Department's Roads Service to maintain all public roads and footways in reasonable condition. To comply with this obligation, Roads Service has in place a set of maintenance standards, which establish the frequencies for road inspections dependent on traffic volumes, and specify response times for the repair of defects.

Inspection frequencies vary from daily cycles for motorways, to four-monthly cycles for carriageways and footways carrying low volumes of traffic. Response times specified for the repair of defects are dependent on the severity of the defect and range from one calendar day, to the inclusion of the defect in the next work programme for that particular route.

In addition to response maintenance, Roads Service also implements a programme of planned maintenance on its existing rural and urban road and footway networks to ensure that these assets remain safe and serviceable to users. Priorities are assessed on the basis of information obtained from condition surveys, other works programmes and professional engineering assessments. This information is used to prepare work programmes, which are subsequently presented by Roads Service to the various District Councils at their Spring/Autumn meetings.

### **Traffic Volume on the A5 and A26 Roads**

**Mr McClarty** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the average daily traffic volume on the (i) A5; and (ii) A26 roads in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4442/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that it collects data from approximately 300 automatic traffic counting sites located throughout the Northern Ireland road network.

Details of the Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) traffic flow information, recorded at various locations on the A5 and A26 roads in each of the last five years are provided in the table below:

Road	Census Point No	Location	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
A5	390	Londonderry – Strabane at New Buildings	12,030	11,570	11,750	11,584	11,428
A5	391	Victoria Road, Londonderry at Bolies	17,390	16,010	16,860	17,452	-
A5	608	Ballygawley – Aughnacloy (South of A4 Junction)	6,800	6,720	6,503	6,989	7,420
A5	610	Omagh – Ballygawley, South of B122 (past Junction of U1306)	12,290	11,850	12,010	Replaced by site 675	
A5	675	A5 Tullyvar Road, Ballygawley	-	-	-	11,624	11,688
A5	623	Sion Mills – Strabane, at Ballyfatten	14,060	13,930	14,060	13,885	14,063
A5	626	Omagh – Newtownstewart, at Conneywarren	13,850	13,560	13,500	13,056	13,722
A5	644	Omagh Throughpass (West of Dublin Road at Academy)	21,420	21,640	21,650	21,595	22,029
A5	645	Omagh By-Pass, at footbridge	21,270	20,970	20,700	20,438	21,181
A5	648	Strabane By-Pass (Barnhill Road, West of Derry Road)	14,040	14,020	14,220	14,299	14,147
A5	649	Omagh By-Pass, at Gortrush	17,060	16,840	16,750	16,634	17,024
A5	652	Aughnacloy – Monaghan (North of river Blackwater)	8,910	8,890	7,590	7,813	7,663
A5	653	Ballygawley – Omagh (North of Ballygawley Roundabout)	11,920	11,180	11,350	10,790	9,351
A5	657	Newtownstewart By-Pass (West of Plumbriidge Road, opposite lay-by)	10,140	9,650	9,600	9,343	9,574
A5	659	Strabane By-Pass Stage 2	15,410	15,410	15,492	15,671	15,868
A5	660	Omagh – Ballygawley, South of Crevenagh Road Roundabout	15,140	14,760	15,100	14,857	15,311
A5	663	Victoria Road, Strabane	11,560	11,110	11,360	11,102	10,944

Road	Census Point No	Location	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
A26	104	Antrim – Ballymena, North of Dunsilly	30,950	29,970	30,640	30,472	30,642
A26	105	Ballymena Road, Antrim	18,420	17,120	16,880	16,993	16,521
A26	108	International Airport – Nutts Corner (North of A52 Nutts Corner Roundabout)	19,450	18,000	18,350	16,643	16,345
A26	109	Nutts Corner – Moira at Nutts Corner	13,270	12,890	11,970	11,183	11,307
A26	113	Ballymena – Ballymoney, North of M2	21,510	20,530	21,720	20,278	20,134
A26	130	Ballymena – Larne at Ballykeel	14,370	15,960	15,660	15,662	15,356
A26	153	Old Stone Road, Muckamore	-	-	9,610	8,773	8,786
A26	310	Coleraine – Ballymoney, South East of Ring Road	17,500	16,440	15,940	16,229	16,206
A26	316	Ballymoney By-Pass, East of Ballybogey road	17,700	16,910	17,150	15,516	17,384
A26	317	Ballymoney – Ballymena, South East of Ballymoney	14,730	14,310	15,050	14,617	14,678
A26	412	Banbridge – Lurgan, North of Broken Bridge	6,520	7,480	7,450	7,386	-
A26	791	Moira Road, near Moira, Co. Down	15,080	14,210	13,360	12,836	12,800

### **Flooding at the Junction of the Bog Road and Woodside Road, Ballymena**

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister for Regional Development what work has been carried out to rectify the flooding at the junction of the Bog Road and Woodside Road, Ballymena; and whether the problem is now resolved.

**(AQW 4443/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I understand that the Member has recently been contacted by my Department's Roads Service and advised that the source of the flooding has now been identified, and attributed to poorly maintained, or inadequate, private agricultural land drainage.

I can advise that Roads Service intends to meet with DARD Rivers Agency staff, as soon as possible, to discuss this matter and request that the landowner is identified and the necessary field drainage is undertaken.

I can also advise that Roads Service will continue to monitor this location and seek to minimise the extent of the road flooding by ensuring roadside drainage gullies are clean and clear of debris.

### **Junction of Craig Road and Church Road, Rasharkin**

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister for Regional Development what work has been carried out at the junction of Craig Road and Church Road, Rasharkin to ensure that there is no flooding.

**(AQW 4444/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that an issue relating to water run off from private agricultural lands onto Craigs Road, following heavy prolonged rain, was resolved when a local farmer undertook drainage work within his lands last year, following consultation with Roads Service and direction from Rivers Agency.

In addition, Roads Service is nearing completion on works to install road drainage and roadside gullies on Church Lane, which will collect any water on Church Lane before it reaches Church Road.

I understand that two road culverts on Craigs Road, at this location, are often required to deal with large volumes of water runoff from the adjacent agricultural lands. Roads Service has advised that it will continue to carry out maintenance work on these culverts, to ensure they function at maximum capacity.

### **Operational Traffic Wardens**

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the number of operational traffic wardens.

**(AQW 4458/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that, during normal enforcement hours, the standard number of Traffic Attendants deployed across Northern Ireland is 134. The normal enforcement hours in Northern Ireland are, 10 hours per day, six days per week.

### **A5 Road Project**

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister for Regional Development (i) to detail the total spend to date on the A5 road project; (ii) whether the Republic of Ireland Government has provided 50 percent of the funding required to date; and (iii) whether he has pressed the Republic of Ireland Government for any outstanding funding.

**(AQW 4470/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** As the Member will be aware, the A5 and A8 projects have been taken forward as a result of an agreement between the Executive and the Irish Government. This included a commitment by the Irish Government to contribute £400 million towards constructing dual carriageways on the A5 western

transport corridor and the A8 Belfast to Larne routes. This contribution was not linked to a percentage of costs.

For practical reasons, payments from the Irish Government have been made against milestones identified on the A5, which were agreed by the North South Ministerial Council.

To date, £40m has been spent on the development of the A5 road project.

Thus far, two payments, to the value of £19m, have been made by the Irish Government to the Northern Ireland Consolidated Fund. It is anticipated that a further payment of £3m, which was ratified at the North South Ministerial Council Plenary Meeting on 18 November 2011, will be made later this financial year. This payment, when made, will honour the Irish Government's financial commitments to the project so far.

### **Sewage in Tempo, County Tyrone**

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister for Regional Development for his assessment of the current sewerage system's ability to deal with sewage in Tempo, County Tyrone.

**(AQW 4475/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water (NIW) that both the wastewater treatment works and sewerage network in Tempo are operating effectively and are able to cope satisfactorily with current capacity within the village. However, the wastewater treatment works is operating close to maximum capacity and NIW has been advising Planning Service that no further development in the area should be connected to the public sewerage system. This will remain necessary until the Works is upgraded to meet additional demand.

In line with a prioritisation programme developed in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, the upgrade of the wastewater treatment works in Tempo is scheduled for the 2015/16 financial year, subject to the availability of funding.

### **Bus Station in Banbridge**

**Mrs Dobson** asked the Minister for Regional Development to outline his position on the erection of a bus station in Banbridge.

**(AQW 4480/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** The construction of off-street bus facilities in Banbridge is a matter that has been considered for some time. Difficulties have arisen over land issues and a suitable site for such a facility and these have still to be resolved. Translink has not included this project in its current Corporate Plan because of the funding constraints set when this was initially produced.

Consideration may be given to bringing forward a project to construct such facilities in Banbridge if the requisite land and funding were available.

### **Grit Boxes**

**Mr Campbell** asked the Minister for Regional Development, pursuant to AQW 3776/11-15, whether he will take this opportunity to review the location and number of grit boxes.

**(AQW 4484/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that the winter service policy and procedures, which set out the criteria for the salting of roads, are based on the well established practice of targeting the limited resources available for this service on the busier main through routes.

That said, on roads adopted/maintained by Roads Service, which do not qualify for inclusion onto the gritting schedule, salt bins or grit piles may be provided for use by the public, on a self help basis. Providing the necessary criteria is met, there are no restrictions placed on the location or on the

number of salt bins which may be provided, although they will not normally be provided within 100m of another bin.

Roads Service has advised that arrangements are in place to maintain approximately 4,200 salt bins and almost 40,000 grit piles at pre-agreed strategic locations on public roads across Northern Ireland this winter. These locations meet the required criteria and are monitored on a regular basis, including during the cyclical highway inspections.

Given the considerable amount of resource already committed, I currently have no plans to change the criteria used for the provision of salt boxes.

### **Cost to NI Water of Repairing Leaks from Burst Pipes**

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the cost to NI Water of repairing leaks from burst pipes in the last financial year.

**(AQW 4504/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water that the cost of repairing leaks from burst pipes, which are part of the public water infrastructure, was £6.38 million during 2010/11.

### **NI Water**

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister for Regional Development when NI Water will complete the upgrade works in Rasharkin to facilitate the Triangle Housing Association's social housing development.

**(AQW 4508/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water that it has completed the upgrade of the public sewer network at Rasharkin. A review of the Rasharkin Wastewater Treatment Works has confirmed that there is adequate capacity to facilitate the proposed social housing development and Triangle Housing Association has been advised of the position.

### **Environmental Impact Studies on Phosphoric Acid**

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail (i) the environmental impact studies that have been conducted on phosphoric acid over the last five years; (ii) the number of households in each town which have problems with lead pipes; and (iii) the other locations in the UK that add phosphoric acid to their drinking water.

**(AQW 4510/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water (NIW) that (i) environmental impact assessments were carried out at specific locations prior to the use of phosphoric acid, in order to ensure that there would be no detrimental effect on the phosphate removal process at major wastewater treatment works. The assessments used read across implications of similar assessments completed across the water industry. No further environmental impact assessments have been carried out over the past five years.

- (ii) NIW does not hold records of households with lead pipes and is therefore unable to provide the information requested.
- (iii) Orthophosphate dosing is used widely in the UK as an appropriate first stage of achieving the new European standards for lead in drinking water. It is considered a preferred alternative to the widespread replacement of lead pipes. Around 95% of the UK's public water supplies are dosed with orthophosphate as a means of reducing lead exposure. In addition to NIW, the following GB water companies undertake orthophosphate dosing:-

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ■ Anglian Water Services Ltd  | ■ Essex & Suffolk Water      |
| ■ Cambridge Water Company Plc | ■ Hartlepool Water Plc       |
| ■ Dee Valley Water Plc        | ■ Independent Water Networks |
| ■ D r Cymru Welsh Water       | ■ Northumbrian Water Ltd     |

- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ■ Portsmouth Water Plc             | ■ Thames Water Utilities Ltd   |
| ■ Sutton And East Surrey Water Plc | ■ United Utilities Water Plc   |
| ■ Southern Water Services Ltd      | ■ Veolia Water Central         |
| ■ Scottish Water                   | ■ Veolia Water East            |
| ■ South Staffordshire Water Plc    | ■ Veolia Southeast             |
| ■ Severn Trent Water Ltd           | ■ Wessex Water Services Ltd    |
| ■ South West Water Ltd             | ■ Yorkshire Water Services Ltd |

### Phosphoric Acid Used to Treat Drinking Water

**Mr McDevitt** asked the Minister for Regional Development whether (i) uranium; (ii) radionuclides; (iii) fluoride; (iv) lead; (v) mercury; (vi) antimony; (vii) chromium; or (viii) aluminium are present in the phosphoric acid used to treat drinking water.

**(AQW 4511/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water (NIW) that the phosphoric acid used is an approved product by the Drinking Water Inspectorate for use by the drinking water industry. The product specification for the phosphoric acid supplied to NIW states that lead, mercury and fluoride are present in the product. None of the other chemical elements listed in the question are present.

### Bus Stop at the Ulster Hospital

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Regional Development what consideration has been given to providing a new bus service, or altering the existing service, to include a stop at the Ulster Hospital rather than a stop close to the Hospital.

**(AQW 4531/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** Translink has advised me that there are no plans for a new or alternative bus service for the Ulster Hospital destination.

Translink has provided a turning circle in collaboration with the Ulster Hospital. There is a bespoke accessible route for pedestrians from the turning circle to the hospital entry points.

It is not considered appropriate for buses to further add to the traffic flow within the Hospital grounds and, furthermore, no lay-bys exist within the current road configuration to permit such a facility.

### Residents' Parking Scheme for Central Bangor

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Regional Development for an update on a residents' parking scheme for central Bangor.

**(AQW 4535/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I can advise the Member that the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Plan (BMTP) 2015 identified a number of locations where there could be parking restraint. The introduction of Residents' Parking Schemes is one method of control to restrict parking availability. My Department's Roads Service has initially focused on areas where the problems have been assessed to be most critical and long standing. Consequently, the introduction of Residents' Parking Schemes within the Belfast Metropolitan Area (BMA) is currently focused in areas close to Belfast city centre.

You will be aware of the delays encountered and as a consequence, the development of Residents' Parking Schemes has been disappointingly slow, with local residents in the initial areas considered still not substantially supporting the detail of the proposals. However, officials are engaging with local communities in the Lower Malone and Stranmillis areas and, to a lesser degree, with representatives of the Markets East, Markets West and Barrack Street areas of Belfast, with the intention of developing and implementing schemes in those areas.

It is Roads Service's intention to work towards the introduction of Residents' Parking Schemes, where appropriate, within all areas of parking restraint identified in the BMTP, including Bangor, Carrickfergus and Lisburn.

In due course, Roads Service plans to introduce Residents' Parking Schemes in areas where there are considerable levels of non-residential parking within Bangor town centre. The progress of all Residents' Parking Schemes will depend on public acceptance and the availability of the necessary funding, and as such, I am currently not in a position to indicate when a scheme could be introduced in Bangor Town Centre.

### **Posters Erected by Republicans**

**Mr Storey** asked the Minister for Regional Development for his assessment of the legality of the posters erected by republicans on, or against, road signs in Rasharkin.

**(AQW 4539/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that the erection of the unauthorised posters on road signs in Rasharkin constitutes an offence under Article 87 of The Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993.

### **Posters Erected by Republicans**

**Mr Storey** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the procedure for removing the posters erected by republicans on, or against, road signs in Rasharkin; and whether he intends to remove these posters.

**(AQW 4541/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that the erection of the unauthorised posters on road signs in Rasharkin constitutes an offence under Article 87 of The Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993.

### **A5 Project**

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister for Regional Development whether there are any penalty contractual consequences resulting from the inability of the A5 project to proceed as originally intended; if so, what is the extent of these penalties and whether the Republic of Ireland Government will meet half the cost of them.

**(AQW 4550/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department's Roads Service has advised that the contracts for the A5 Dualling project are in two phases. The first phase is to assist Roads Service and the scheme consulting engineers in the development of the design of the new dual carriageway in advance of making the statutory orders.

Progression to the second phase, which is the construction of the new dual carriageway, is conditional within the contract on a number of factors, including the availability of finance.

Roads Service currently anticipates that there will be no contractual penalties arising from any decision not to proceed with the project.

### **Cul Glas, Maghera and Cove Close, Ballyronan**

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister for Regional Development how long the residents of (i) Cul Glas, Maghera; and (ii) Cove Close, Ballyronan have been waiting for the adoption of their developments by Roads Service; and what action Roads Service has taken to progress the adoption.

**(AQW 4558/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** The Member will be aware that planning approval for the five house development at Cul Glas, Maghera, was granted on the basis that it would be serviced by a private road. Accordingly, the development was not determined and there is no bond or agreement in place with my Department's

Roads Service. Consequently, Roads Service will not undertake completion works and has no authority or obligation to issue enforcement proceedings against the developer for outstanding works.

However, if the infrastructure within Cul Glas is completed to an adoptable standard by the developer, or alternatively, the frontagers, Roads Service will, if requested, consider adopting the pavement.

With regard to Cove Close, Ballyronan, the bonds for this development were sealed in June and July of 2005 and the developer began requesting reductions in his bond in February 2006. The developer secured NI Water adoption in 2008 and, prior to the onset of the current difficult market conditions, had been fulfilling his responsibilities in respect of this development.

An Article 11 enforcement notice was served on the developer in February 2010 for the completion of outstanding works. At that time, the developer indicated that he would complete his obligations under the bond and agreement. However, he has currently failed to do so. Roads Service will re-assess the position in December, with a view to initiating enforcement proceedings.

### **Clearing Snow and Ice from Roads and Pavements**

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Regional Development what consideration is being given to making legislative changes that would give councils, which grit footpaths or clear footpaths of snow and ice, indemnification against legal claims from people who fall or injure themselves on these footpaths.  
**(AQW 4625/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** As I advised the Member in my response to his Assembly Question, AQW4036/11-15, Councils that sign up to the new partnering arrangements, or groups of traders acting on their behalf, will have the same indemnity benefits as Roads Service, under proposals put forward by my Department. This is on the basis that the Department has a power to take reasonable and practicable measures to prevent snow and ice from interfering with safe public passage over the public highway.

I believe the best way to deal with this issue is through the partnering arrangements currently being offered to Councils, and while new legislation may be necessary in the future, it is not an option I am actively pursuing at present.

### **Development and Promotion of Sports**

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the funding his Department has provided for the development and promotion of (i) rugby; (ii) soccer; (iii) Gaelic games; and (iv) motor sports in each of the last three years.  
**(AQW 4643/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** My Department has not provided any funding for the development and promotion of the sports listed in each of the last three years.

### **NI Water tender C071**

**Mrs D Kelly** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail any agreed changes, additions, variations or amendments to the NI Water tender C071 since the date it was awarded.  
**(AQW 4655/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water (NIW) that contract C071 was awarded to Williams Industrial Services in October 2007. The following agreed changes, additions, variations or amendments have been made to the contract.

<b>Description of change, addition, variation or amendment</b>	<b>Date</b>
NIW exercised its right under the terms of the contract to extend C071 until 31 March 2010.	3 Sept 2009

Description of change, addition, variation or amendment	Date
NIW exercised its right under the terms of the contract to extend C071 until 30 September 2010.	9 Feb 2010
NIW further extended C071 until 31 December 2010.	17 Sept 2010
NIW further extended C071 until 31 January 2011.	22 Dec 2010
NIW further extended C071 until 10 March 2011.	31 Jan 2011
NIW further extended C071 until 10 March 2012 date and agreed a price increase of 7.9 %	12 Apr 2011

In addition to the extensions detailed above, changes to NIW's operating model including revised structures, contract resource requirements, geographical areas and bases have been taken into account in applying the contract although these have not been formally reflected as contract variations.

### Bonds Relating to Private Housing Developments

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail (i) how many bonds relating to private housing developments have been accessed by Roads Service in each of the last five years; and (ii) the cost of accessing these bonds.

**(AQW 4723/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** The table below details the number of bonds relating to private housing developments that have been accessed by my Department's Roads Service in each of the last five years:

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
No of Bonds Accessed	8	13	17	34	44

Roads Service has advised that the only costs associated with accessing these bonds are staff costs, which would be difficult to quantify and for which information is not readily available.

### Hawthornes Estate, Maghera

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister for Regional Development what action Roads Service has taken to complete the Hawthornes Estate, Maghera; and when the Roads Service became aware of the problems in the Estate.

**(AQW 4724/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I can advise the Member that my Department's Roads Service served Article 11 enforcement notices in respect of the six phases of the Hawthorne's Estate development on 8 November 2011.

Roads Service officials became aware of the delay in completing the infrastructure during 2010 however, the developer had, until recently, remained committed to his obligations in respect of the pavement and footways. Roads Service staff continued negotiations with the developer until October of this year, when the decision was taken to issue the enforcement notices.

Unfortunately, due to the pressures of other Roads Service works in the Magherafelt District, it is anticipated that it will be the 2012/13 financial year before a contractor can be instructed to complete the roads and footways in the Hawthorne's Estate.

This private development will remain the responsibility of the developer, or his trustees, in the interim, prior to Roads Service undertaking the necessary remedial works.

## Plumbing Inspection Teams: Work Mobile Phones

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister for Regional Development whether NI Water withdrew work mobile phones from its Plumbing Inspection Teams prior to last year's severe winter weather; and, if so, was the reason for the withdrawal because they were not considered essential staff.

**(AQW 4772/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water that some Water Regulation Inspectors had their phones withdrawn following a mobile phone efficiency review, undertaken during early 2010, which aimed to reduce operating costs.

Phones were withdrawn from staff who were not considered essential users because they were not part of an emergency on-call rota and there were no significant health and safety risks associated with their work.

## Signs on Metro Services

**Mr D McIlveen** asked the Minister for Regional Development how much it has cost to translate the signs on some Metro services into the Irish language; and who authorised this expenditure.

**(AQW 4797/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** Translink has advised that cost of translating and proofing signage on Metro Service 10 was £144.90. The introduction of bilingual signage and passenger information was a priority for the previous Minister for Regional Development. This expenditure was authorised at the appropriate level within Translink.

## Signs on Metro Services

**Mr D McIlveen** asked the Minister for Regional Development, given that the signs on some Metro services have been translated into the Irish language, whether he will translate the signs into other European languages to facilitate tourists.

**(AQW 4798/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** The vast majority of place names on the destination boards of Metro bus services do not translate into other European languages. However, Translink has a policy to provide information about its services in other languages, where a demand can be demonstrated.

Translink is open to providing information which will encourage the use of bus and rail services by visitors from other European countries, where the demand can be demonstrated.

Printed information on Translink services in the form of a booklet "Travelling with Translink" has been made available in languages other than English and Irish (specifically, Portuguese, Lithuanian and Polish) where demand/usage has been brought to the company's attention.

## Crosskeys Road, Ballymena

**Mr McKay** asked the Minister for Regional Development what works Roads Service (i) has carried out on; and (ii) has planned for, the Crosskeys Road, Ballymena in 2011/12.

**(AQW 4889/11-15)**

**Mr Kennedy:** I would remind the Member that information on completed and proposed roads schemes for the current financial year can be found in Roads Service's Spring and Autumn Reports to Councils. These reports can be accessed from my Department's internet site at the following web address:

[http://www.drdni.gov.uk/index/freedom\\_of\\_information/customer\\_information/cinformationtype-results.htm?signpost=Customer+information&informationType=Roads+Service+reports+to+councils](http://www.drdni.gov.uk/index/freedom_of_information/customer_information/cinformationtype-results.htm?signpost=Customer+information&informationType=Roads+Service+reports+to+councils)

## Down Community Transport

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Regional Development how much funding Down Community Transport has received in this financial year; and what is its allocation for each of the next three financial years.  
(AQW 4899/11-15)

**Mr Kennedy:** For the financial year ending 31 March 2012 the Down Community Transport Partnership will receive funding of £395,618.86.

Funding has not yet been agreed for the next three financial years and is subject to the completion of successful annual business plans agreed by my Department.

## Sludge Disposal Incinerators in Duncrue Street, Belfast

**Mr G Robinson** asked the Minister for Regional Development for an update on the availability for use of the sludge disposal incinerators in Duncrue Street, Belfast.  
(AQW 4997/11-15)

**Mr Kennedy:** I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water that one incinerator was brought back into service in May 2011, and both incinerators have been available since 12 September 2011. There have been occasions since 12 September when one or other incinerator has been unavailable, either for planned maintenance and operational purposes, or for short duration unplanned interruptions.

Sludge storage capacity on site is being utilised when either incinerator is unavailable and, since 10 October 2011, there has been no requirement to redirect sludge for alternative disposal to land.

## Chief Executive of NI Water

**Mr Flanagan** asked the Minister for Regional Development (i) to outline the reasons behind his decision to give the Chief Executive of NI Water a pay rise; (ii) how such an increase can be justified when public sector workers face pay freezes or job losses; (iii) from where the resources to fund this pay rise will come; (iv) what he deems would be a 'satisfactory performance' from NI Water over the winter period to trigger this pay increase; and (v) how much of the new salary is subject to NI Water reaching those performance targets.

(AQW 5060/11-15)

**Mr Kennedy:**

- (i) and (ii) The increase in the salary of the Chief Executive of Northern Ireland Water (NIW) was proposed by the Board of the Company which is his employer. The Board had undertaken external benchmarking of the salary and justified it in light of the specific demands of the job. In approving the proposal, I was particularly mindful of the need for stability and leadership in an organisation which provides such an essential service for the people of Northern Ireland.
- (iii) The increase will be funded out of NIW's existing resource budget, which continues to reduce as the Company makes significant savings.
- (iv) & (v) The new salary will be payable from 1 April 2012. It will be for the Remuneration Committee of the NIW Board to justify any decision to back-date the increase to 1 November 2011 in light of the Company's performance over the winter period. The Remuneration Committee will develop criteria on which to base its decision.

## Department for Social Development

### Properties in the Langley Estate, Ballynahinch

**Mr McNarry** asked the Minister for Social Development when all the Housing Executive properties in the Langley Estate, Ballynahinch, will have double-glazed windows.

(AQW 4067/11-15)

**Mr McCausland (The Minister for Social Development):** The Housing Executive currently owns 125 properties in the Langley Estate in Ballynahinch and of these 48 already have double glazing. The remaining 77 properties are included in the Downpatrick Local Area Priority Scheme programmed for March 2012. Under this scheme, window replacement will be dependent on a full condition survey and availability of finance.

I am determined that all Housing Executive homes in Northern Ireland will be double glazed by 2014/15 and I have been successful in having this included in the draft Programme for Government which is currently out for consultation.

### **Ilex Urban Regeneration Company's One Plan for Derry Regeneration Programme**

Mr Eastwood asked Minister for Social Development, with regard to the Ilex Urban Regeneration Company's One Plan for Derry regeneration programme, to detail (i) the funds from his current budget that have been committed to projects under this programme; (ii) the projects that are being funded; and (iii) the start dates for these projects.

**(AQW 4244/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The One Plan for Londonderry is a cross-cutting plan which cannot be delivered by any one Department acting alone. While my Department will not have additional funding for the One Plan, the work and budget of my North West Development Office will be prioritised in line with the Transformational Themes set out in the Plan. My Department will also champion the Quality Spaces, Places and Neighbourhoods Catalyst Programme and work with key stakeholders to ensure delivery of projects under that programme.

In addition, in 2011/12 my Department has allocated the following budget to the North West Development Office for projects which will complement the One Plan for Londonderry regeneration programme:

- £5 million for United Kingdom City of Culture;
- £4.5 million for Neighbourhood Renewal;
- £1.8 million for Physical Development, Public Realm and Environment Improvement works; and
- £0.2 million for Fort George decontamination.

### **Projects jointly funded by the Supporting People Programme and the Western Health and Social Care Trust**

**Mr P Ramsey** asked the Minister for Social Development whether his Department is aware of any projects jointly funded by the Supporting People Programme and the Western Health and Social Care Trust that have not received the funding allocated by the Trust.

**(AQW 4281/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** There are 61 schemes in the Western Health & Social Care Trust area jointly funded by my Department through the Supporting People programme and the Department of Health. I can confirm that Supporting People revenue funding for these schemes has been paid.

I am not in a position to comment on funding allocated by the Western Health & Social Care trust as it would be more appropriate for the Department of Health to answer.

### **Balconies in the Seven Tower Flats in the New Lodge area of North Belfast**

**Mr A Maginness** asked the Minister for Social Development when he became aware of the serious safety concerns about the condition of the balconies in the Seven Tower flats in the New Lodge area of North Belfast; and what action he will take to ensure the safety of residents.

**(AQW 4283/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Whilst I have had several recent briefings from the Housing Executive on the proposed cladding of the 'Seven Towers', I was not aware of issues in respect of the balconies that I first learnt of through the media.

I am not satisfied with how this issue has been handled, particularly given the way this information first came to light.

In his e mail dated 13 June 2011 the Housing Executive's consultant expressed concern about the condition of the metal surrounds to the balcony glazing units in the Seven Towers flats. In that email which was released under a Freedom of Information request, the consultant stated that 'it would not be unreasonable to stop people using these balconies in due course'.

However, following further discussion, the consultant confirmed that no urgent action was required other than regular monitoring.

That monitoring has since been undertaken in a sample survey of 70 flats and whilst some routine repairs have been identified, in no case was any issue identified that would require residents to stop using the balconies.

It is therefore regrettable that only part of the story was told when this issue first arose in the media and residents left to think there was some risk to their health and safety when using the balconies in their flats. The Housing Executive has now written to all residents of the flats to clarify the situation and I trust residents are more reassured now about the situation than they would have been on first hearing of this in the media some weeks ago.

### **Balconies in the Seven Tower Flats in the New Lodge area of North Belfast**

**Mr A Maginness** asked the Minister for Social Development why the decision was taken not to inform residents of the Seven Tower flats in the New Lodge area of North Belfast, that a recommendation had been made that their balconies should not be used due to health and safety concerns.

**(AQW 4284/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am disappointed about how this story first broke in the media, not least because of the inaccurate and misleading way that partial information has been used to portray the balconies of the flats in the 'Seven Towers' as dangerous. I am not surprised at the reaction to this story and can understand the very legitimate concern of residents to it.

Whilst there was an initial email from a consultant that suggested it would not be unreasonable to stop people using their balconies in due course, however, following further discussions with the consultant it was confirmed that no urgent action was required other than regular monitoring.

That monitoring has already started and a sample survey of 70 flats has already been undertaken and no balconies found to be unsafe for use. Further action is of course planned to monitor the balconies in all Towers and if repairs are needed, they will be undertaken without delay.

The Housing Executive have since written to all residents in the Towers to clarify the situation and I regret that this direct communication with residents did not take place before the issue was allowed to appear as it did in the media.

### **St Patrick's Barracks Site in Ballymena**

**Mr Swann** asked the Minister for Social Development what discussions he has had with the Joint Service Housing Advice Office about the housing at the St Patrick's Barracks site in Ballymena being made available for purchase by serving and ex-military personnel.

**(AQW 4292/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am not aware of any discussions with the Joint Service Housing Advice Office about the housing at the St Patrick's Barracks site in Ballymena being made available for purchase by serving and ex military personnel.

## Pension Credit

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail (i) the criteria used to determine eligibility for pension credit; and (ii) if there are any planned changes to the criteria; and how his Department intends to communicate these changes to those affected.

**(AQW 4313/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Pension Credit is a means tested benefit for persons of state retirement age. It is a non-contributory, non taxable benefit made up of two components, Guaranteed Credit and Savings Credit. It is available as a safety net for persons on low incomes and aims to top up any money a person or their partner have coming in, to a minimum guaranteed level set by the Government each year. It also aims to pay a small benefit for people who have modest financial savings or have made modest provisions for their retirement. In calculating entitlement, both income and savings a person or their partner are both considered. Pension Credit includes help towards mortgage payments and service charges for home owners,

The minimum age to qualify for Guarantee Credit is gradually rising from age 60 to 65. The minimum age for Savings Credit is 65. A person may get either or both, depending on the level of their income and savings. Any savings over £10,000 will be counted as income at £1.00 per week for every £500.00 or part thereof.

Receipt of the Guarantee Credit passports people onto full Housing Benefit.

There are no plans to change the eligibility criteria for Pension Credit.

## Disability Living Allowance

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister for Social Development how many children with Down's Syndrome, under the age of five, are in receipt of the higher rate of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance, broken down by Health and Social Care Trust area.

**(AQW 4314/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The information requested is set out in the table below. The figures show the number of claims where the higher rate of the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance was in payment at the date of extract. The date of extract was 30 October 2011, the most recent information available. Entitlement to the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance can only be considered for children from the age of 3 upwards.

Name of Health and Social Care Trust	Number of recipients of DLA as requested
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	9
Northern Health and Social Care Trust	14
South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust	7
Southern Eastern Health and Social Care Trust	8
Western Health and Social Care Trust	5

## Invoices for Construction Work

**Mr Beggs** asked the Minister for Social Development what proportion of invoices for construction work have been paid on time by his Department, and its arm's-length bodies, in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 4332/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** It is not feasible to isolate construction related invoices from other Departmental invoices. On that basis my Department has provided details on the proportion of all invoices paid within 30 days in the last three years. Payment performance specific to construction invoices for the Department's arm's length bodies is also included as appropriate. See table below for details.

% Paid On Time	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Department for Social Development	92.21	87.04	94.83
Northern Ireland Housing Executive	98.82	98.68	96.08
Ilex	90.48	94.44	90.48

### Pension Credit Payment Study

**Mr D McIlveen** asked the Minister for Social Development (i) for his assessment of the Pension Credit Payment Study undertaken by the Department for Work and Pensions; and (ii) whether he plans to introduce a similar scheme.

**(AQW 4353/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I welcome and support the Pension Credit Payment study work undertaken by the Department for Work and Pensions in Great Britain. The study period concluded in March 2011 and a detailed evaluation report is expected to be published by the Department for Work and Pensions in spring 2012. There are no plans to replicate the study in Northern Ireland. My Department is tracking the Department for Work and Pensions study and any recommendations or changes that emerge as a result of the study will be carefully considered for Northern Ireland when the detailed evaluation report is published at which point I will consider the possibility of the introduction of automatic payment of State Pension Credit.

### Department for Work and Pensions

**Mr Gardiner** asked the Minister for Social Development (i) for his assessment of whether the public sector pensions he administers on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions have peaked in absolute terms and as a proportion of Gross Domestic Product; (ii) to detail the total amount paid out in pensions in each of the last four years; and (iii) the projected cost of pensions in the next four years.

**(AQW 4362/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The Department for Social Development does not administer any public sector pensions on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions. Public sector pensions in Northern Ireland are a matter for the Department of Finance and Personnel and other sponsoring Departments.

### Fuel Poverty

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development what consideration he has given to implementing and funding a financial capability strategy for people in fuel poverty.

**(AQW 4373/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** If people increase their financial capability skills and are better able to budget, they will be able to identify better ways of paying for their energy. The Warm Homes Scheme already offers applicants advice on energy saving and budgeting for energy bills. My officials are currently in discussion with colleagues from OFMdFM to determine how we can use the Social Protection Fund to further assist households in fuel poverty.

## Social Housing at West Green, Hollywood

**Mr Lyttle** asked the Minister for Social Development for an update on the planned social housing at West Green, Hollywood, including the timescale for the commencement and completion of construction work. **(AQW 4406/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Hollywood is an area of high housing need and an Economic Appraisal for West Green recommended the demolition of 36 flats and 10 adjacent properties and their proposed replacement with new build.

Demolition of the 36 flats was completed in March 2011 and of the remaining 10 houses, 8 are now vacant, 1 is still tenanted and 1 is privately owned. The Housing Executive is endeavouring to secure alternative accommodation for the remaining tenant and is currently engaged in negotiations in relation to buying back the privately owned property. As soon as all these dwellings are vacant and in the Housing Executive's ownership the intention is to demolish them to make way for the new build.

A Housing Association has recently been nominated to deliver the new build scheme and will shortly seek to appoint a design team to bring forward a planning application, in conjunction with the community and elected representatives. Whilst I am optimistic that construction work can begin during the next financial year, I am unable to give any firm commitment on the timing as there are still issues to overcome in securing possession of the remaining units and then securing the planning approval necessary for the new build.

I will be happy to keep the member informed on progress.

## Double-Glazing Scheme

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister for Social Development, pursuant to AQW 4003/11-15, what consideration he has given to introducing a double-glazing scheme for those not resident in Housing Executive homes, with a possible qualifying criteria similar to that for the Boiler Replacement Scheme. **(AQW 4427/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am fully aware of the benefits of installing double-glazing windows in properties and I am delighted that a commitment has been made in the Programme for Government to provide full double glazing in all Housing Executive properties by 2014/15. I have asked officials to review my department's approach to improving domestic energy efficiency to owner occupiers and the private rented sector in the future. This review will examine how we target resources and an assessment of the most appropriate energy efficiency improvement measures.

## Disability Living Allowance

**Mr Hamilton** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the number of new claimants of Disability Living Allowance in each of the last five years; and of these, how many received the Allowance after (i) submitting an application form; (ii) providing supporting evidence; (iii) providing a GP report; and (iv) attending a face-to-face assessment. **(AQW 4460/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The information is not available in the format requested because the Department of Work and Pensions IT system that is used to administer Disability Living Allowance is not configured to report the information in this way. The IT system reports management information on what the Decision-Maker records as the primary source of evidence used in determining all Disability Living Allowance new claims within pre set categories.

The table below provides a breakdown of Disability Living Allowance new claims determined, including refusals, in each of the last five years, and the volume of decisions made by primary source of evidence within the four main categories.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Disability Living Allowance Cases Determined</b>	<b>Claim Form and Corroborative Statement (1)</b>	<b>Claim form and further medical information supplied by customer and/or another person</b>	<b>General Practitioner Report</b>	<b>Examining Medical Practitioner Report</b>
2006/07	21339	1482	1633	14614	3468
2007/08	22634	1575	1551	15908	2981
2008/09	23161	1672	1539	17430	2329
2009/10	24938	1904	1990	17803	3034
2010/11	21420	1847	1419	15524	2285

**Note:**

- (1) A corroborative statement is a medical statement from a Health Care Professional which has been included on and submitted as part of the claim form by the customer.
- (2) the cases determined figure does tally with the total of the four evidence columns in the table because there are a small number of cases where other sources of evidence have been used by the decision maker and recorded as the primary evidence source e.g. non fee paying reports such as hospitals reports, some consultant reports and school reports.

**Boiler Replacement Grant**

**Mr Brady** asked the Minister for Social Development (i) to outline the rationale behind the decision not to provide a boiler replacement grant, through the Warm Homes Scheme, to older people in receipt of housing benefit; and (ii) how these people can get their boilers replaced.

**(AQW 4472/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The rationale for the pilot Boiler Replacement Scheme was to offer assistance to older householders on low income who missed out on other Government energy efficiency improvement schemes such as the Warm Homes Scheme. Householders who receive Housing Benefit have always been eligible to apply to the Warm Homes Scheme, which targets properties where there is no central heating, solid fuel, Economy 7 or Liquid Petroleum Gas heating. From 2001 until 2009 the Warm Homes Scheme upgraded heating systems for those aged 60 and over and in receipt of Housing Benefit; however in 2008 the Northern Ireland Audit Office questioned the value for money of upgrading heating systems. I want to emphasise that the Boiler Replacement Scheme is a pilot scheme and I have asked officials to review the Warm Homes Scheme and the Boiler Replacement Scheme to examine how we target our resources and the measures we use to improve domestic energy efficiency in the future. A range of other energy efficiency improvement schemes are available and are funded through the Northern Ireland Sustainable Energy Programme (NISEP). The Energy Savings Trust, freephone number 0800 512 012, can advise on grant availability in Northern Ireland.

**Letter Sent to MLAs from Pobal**

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister for Social Development why his Department's logo appeared at the end of a letter sent to MLAs from Pobal on 2 November 2011.

**(AQW 4482/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Pobal is in receipt of funding from the Department for Social Development under the Neighbourhood Renewal Investment Programme. It is a general condition in contracts for funding that

organisations must include in any publicity, brochures or other material appropriate references to the assistance made available by the Department.

### New Build Social Housing Properties

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the number of new build social housing properties that have been completed in the Foyle constituency in each of the last five years.[R]  
(AQW 4493/11-15)

**Mr McCausland:** The number of new build completions in the Foyle constituency over the last five years are as follows:-

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
101	115	170	71	142	599

### New Build Social Housing Properties

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the number of new build social housing properties that have been completed in each of the last five years.  
(AQW 4494/11-15)

**Mr McCausland:** The total number of completed new build social houses in the overall Social Housing Development Programme in each of the last five years was as follows:-

2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
1625	1410	1365	1504	1409	7313

### Warm Homes Scheme

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Social Development how many people availed of the Warm Homes Scheme in the 2010/11 financial year.  
(AQW 4522/11-15)

**Mr McCausland:** A total of 10,383 households were assisted by the Warm Homes Scheme in the 2010/2011 financial year.

### Special Purchase of Evacuated Dwellings Scheme

**Lord Morrow** asked the Minister for Social Development how many (i) individuals; and (ii) families have been granted assistance under the Special Purchase of Evacuated Dwellings Scheme in each of the last three years, broken down by (a) security force personnel; (b) retired security force personnel; and (c) civilians.

(AQW 4525/11-15)

**Mr McCausland:** The information is not available in the format requested as the Housing Executive does not hold information as to whether the Security Force personnel were retired or in employment or if any of the properties were in single or family occupancy.

However, during the period 1 November 2008 to 31 October 2011 the Housing Executive purchased 81 properties through the Special Purchase of Evacuated Dwellings scheme. Of these, 44 properties were Security Force personnel and 37 were Civilian. The breakdown is as follows:-

01/11/2008 – 31/10/2008	01/11/2009 – 31/10/2010	01/11/2010 – 31/10/2011
11 Security Force personnel, 14 Civilian	19 Security Force personnel, 19 Civilian	14 Security Force personnel, 4 Civilian

## **PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister for Social Development to outline the pension protection for staff if they are transferred to the proposed Social Enterprise Landlord organisation. [R]

**(AQW 4529/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

## **PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister for Social Development, in light of the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, whether a tenant's Right to Buy will be protected. [R]

**(AQW 4530/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** There are no proposals in the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for a change in policy in terms of the House Sales Scheme (the "Right to Buy").

## **PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister for Social Development, in light of the proposals contained in PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (i) whether he intends to hold a tenant consultation with the 90,000 key stakeholders; and (ii) how he will ensure that the consultation is conducted in a reliable and accountable manner.[R]

**(AQW 4533/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

## **Neighbourhood Renewal**

**Mr McCartney** asked the Minister for Social Development, given the commitment of the Executive to addressing social need within the most disadvantaged areas, can he offer an assurance that there will be no reduction in support, resources and funding to any Neighbourhood Renewal area.

**(AQW 4537/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am committed to maintaining the resources and funding available for the Executive's cross departmental Neighbourhood Renewal programme, at its current level.

At the same time, I want to maximise the impact of those resources and funding in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas by reducing overheads and duplication, making sure that more of the money goes into delivering the high priority services that these areas need and making sure that what we do fund produces results

## Social Housing Tender List Criteria

**Mr Eastwood** asked the Minister for Social Development what consideration he has given to relaxing the Social Housing Tender List criteria, to allow small construction firms that do not meet the financial or work requirements, to apply for housing contracts.

**(AQW 4538/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am particularly mindful of the important contribution Small and Medium Enterprises make to the Northern Ireland economy and I am keen to support any initiative that may help them in these challenging economic times.

Central Procurement Directorate has recently issued a Procurement Guidance Note (02/11) that aims to help Small and Medium Enterprises access public sector contracts and the Housing Executive as the CoPE (Centre of Procurement Expertise) for the Housing Sector is already looking at the application of this guidance.

However, we must still ensure when selecting tenderers that minimum financial and technical standards are met and that will inevitably involve an assessment that will quite rightly exclude those Small and Medium Enterprises who are not capable of reaching those minimum standards.

## Warm Homes Scheme

**Mr Durkan** asked the Minister for Social Development, given that one in every two households is in fuel poverty, whether he would consider revising the current Warm Homes Scheme to reflect the success of the Kirklees Warm Zone Scheme area based approach, which under the existing budget could help nearly 70 percent more households.[R]

**(AQW 4548/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Following the recent report by Professor Christine Liddell entitled 'Defining Fuel Poverty in Northern Ireland: A Preliminary Review' I have asked officials to review my department's approach to improving domestic energy efficiency. This review will examine how we target our resources and the measures we use to improve energy efficiency. I am aware of the success of some area based approaches to energy efficiency, like the Kirklees model which was primarily a carbon reduction project

## Citizens Advice Bureau

**Mr Lynch** asked the Minister for Social Development what is the average waiting time for an appointment with the Citizens Advice Bureau.

**(AQW 4562/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** My Department financially supports the provision of voluntary generalist advice services to those most disadvantaged in our community. This financial support is match funded by local councils. Councils have responsibility for commissioning advice services at local level from a range of providers, which may include Citizen's Advice Bureaux. The Department does not hold details of local service level arrangements or individual performance indicators.

## Private Landlords

**Mr Lynch** asked the Minister for Social Development what measures are in place to stop private landlords from raising levels of rent above and beyond the actual value.

**(AQW 4563/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Rents in the private rented sector are subject to market forces except for a small number of protected and statutory tenancies which are subject to rent control (1,100 properties).

The rent charged by a private landlord is a matter for agreement between the landlord and tenant. A landlord is required by law to give the tenant four weeks written notice of any increase in the rent.

## Help for People in Winter

**Mr Lynch** asked the Minister for Social Development, given that people in 121,000 households are unemployed, what measures have been put in place to ensure that people will not perish from cold or hunger during this winter.

**(AQW 4569/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Financial help is available through a range of social security benefits to individuals on low income depending on their individual and family circumstances. Cold Weather Payments may also be paid to those satisfying the qualifying conditions during periods of exceptionally cold weather. Additionally, individuals who are not automatically entitled may claim a Winter Fuel Payment up to 30 March 2012 if they are born on or before 5 January 1951.

My Department's new Fuel Poverty Strategy "Warmer Healthier Homes" was launched in April 2011. The strategy takes forward energy brokering, calls for action on the price of oil imports, and develops a range of other initiatives. The Department also delivers the Warm Homes Scheme and the pilot Boiler Replacement Scheme with the aim of improving the energy efficiency of vulnerable fuel poor households. In addition, the Housing Executive administers an annual Heating Replacement Scheme which improves the energy efficiency of their stock.

Promoting benefit uptake is a key priority for my Department and the Social Security Agency has a wide range of services available to make people aware of their entitlement to benefit. This includes outreach services, participation in local promotional activity, the production of specific publications, some in minority ethnic languages, NI Direct website, an online Benefits Adviser Service and general assistance with information available through our network of local and centralised offices.

Since 2005 benefit uptake activity has generated an additional £37.6 million of annual benefit and arrears, £10.5 million of which has been paid to those aged under 60. As part of the 2011/12 Benefit Uptake Programme 25,000 people will receive a personal letter of invitation offering a full and confidential benefit assessment through the Independent Advice Sector.

I have also recently announced additional investment in benefit uptake activity. £375,000 has been allocated through the Innovation Fund for Increasing Benefit Uptake to enable 7 projects to be taken forward by community and voluntary sector partners to test new and innovative ways of reaching people with potential unclaimed benefit entitlement. Specific initiatives will aim to address uptake of benefits amongst low income, unemployed, families and young people not in education, training or employment.

## Proposals for Rent Convergence

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development for his assessment of the proposals for rent convergence and an increase of approximately 40 percent in Housing Executive rent charges.

**(AQW 4578/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am not aware of any such proposals the member refers to. The Housing Executive has commissioned a research project on behalf of the Department, which examines the issue of Housing Executive and Housing Association rents. The project is due to complete by the end of March 2012 and following analysis of the results I expect conclusions and recommendations to be presented to me for consideration.

## PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development for his assessment of the proposed transfer of staff to a Social Enterprise Landlord Organisation contained within PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

**(AQW 4579/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they

discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

### **Terminated Benefit Claims**

**Mr F McCann** asked the Minister for Social Development, in relation to the 7,454 benefit claimants who had their claims terminated for failing to attend a benefits interview between 1 April 2010 and 31 January 2011 (i) the reasons for the termination of these claims; (ii) the cost of administering the sanctions; (iii) whether Crisis Loans were awarded; and the timescale for awarding a loan in each case; and (iv) whether the claimants have made new claims.

**(AQW 4595/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The Department does not hold the information in the detail requested.

- (i) The cases were terminated because the customers failed to attend mandatory interviews, which are a condition of continuing entitlement to Jobseeker's Allowance, and subsequently failed to furnish any reasons for their non-attendance.
- (ii) This information is not available.
- (iii) & (iv) While the Department is able to provide the number of cases terminated, it does not record details of individual customers and is therefore unable to provide this additional information.

### **PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development what examination has been carried out on the Social Enterprise Landlord organisation proposed in PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

**(AQW 4600/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

### **Social Enterprise Landlord Organisation**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail his proposals for the terms and conditions of employment for staff who might relocate to the Social Enterprise Landlord organisation.

**(AQW 4601/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

## Social Security Benefits

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Social Development what plans his Department has to increase the uptake of social security benefits.

**(AQW 4626/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Promoting benefit uptake is a key priority for my Department and the Social Security Agency has since 2005, targeted specific people with potential benefit entitlement.. By June 2011 this work had generated an additional £37.6 million of annual benefit and arrears for people across Northern Ireland.

I have also agreed that this year £1.3m will be invested in the promotion of Benefit Uptake. Around 25,000 people on low incomes will receive a letter inviting them to have a full benefits assessment through the independent advice sector. A Freephone Benefits Advice Service is in place to assist older people to find out if there are benefits they could be missing out on. This service is currently being widely promoted through a television, radio, press and outdoor advertising campaign and over 1,000 calls have now been received since the campaign was launched on 14 November.

At the beginning of November I also announced contracts for community based projects which are being funded through the recently launched Innovation Fund to increase Benefit Uptake. These projects are focused on testing new and innovative ways of reaching people with potential unclaimed benefit entitlement.

There are also a wide range of general services available to make people aware of their entitlement to benefit. These includes outreach services, participation in local promotional activity, the production of specific publications, some in minority ethnic languages, NI Direct website, an online Benefits Adviser Service and general assistance with information available through our network of local and centralised offices.

## Child Maintenance Payments

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Social Development how many people are currently contributing to child maintenance payments.

**(AQW 4628/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** At the end of September 2011, non-resident parents within the statutory child maintenance scheme were contributing child maintenance in over 16,000 cases, to the benefit of over 21,000 children.

Child maintenance cases are made up of a parent (or person) with care, a non-resident parent and a child (or children). It should be noted that a non-resident parent may have more than one case as they may be paying child maintenance to more than one parent (or person) with care.

## Pension Credit

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Social Development what steps he intends to take to increase the uptake of Pension Credit.

**(AQW 4634/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** As outlined in my response to your recent question on the same topic, I am committed to improving the uptake of all benefits and through the Social Security Agency; my Department provides a range of services to make people aware of their entitlement.

The Social Security Agency has issued around 90,000 invitations to older people since 2005 offering a full benefit assessment through the independent advice sector. This assessment considers eligibility for all social security benefits as well as a range of other allowances and services. In addition, 145,000 mail shots have been issued to older people to specifically raise awareness of State Pension Credit. To date, the Benefit Uptake programme has generated total additional annual benefits and

arrears of approximately £37.6m, of which £15m relates to over 4,900 additional awards of State Pension Credit.

The 2011/12 Benefit Uptake Programme will provide over 16,000 older people with a written invitation to avail of the opportunity of a full benefit assessment through the independent advice sector.

An Outreach to Older People service has been in place since 2009 which aims to reach older people who may have potential additional entitlement. This service uses promotional materials to advertise a Freephone benefits advice number as well as trusted community partners such as community groups, specific older peoples groups, faith based organisations, General Practitioner surgeries and pharmacies and also the provision of informal talks in similar settings. On 14 November, a province-wide advertising campaign promoting the freephone number was launched which aims to increase claims and improve the uptake of all older people's benefits. The campaign uses television, radio, press and outdoor locations to promote the Freephone Benefits Advice Line.

My Department has also allocated £375,000 for an Innovation Fund for Increasing Benefit Uptake. These monies are being used to fund 7 new projects with the community and voluntary sector testing new and innovative ways of reaching people with potential unclaimed benefit entitlement. Two of the projects are specifically targeting older people.

Service delivery improvements have also been made in recent years to mitigate the risk that customers find the claim process difficult. When a customer calls to make a claim to State Pension they are asked if they would like to find out more about State Pension Credit and, if interested, the customer is transferred to a dedicated State Pension Credit claim line at which stage an enhanced tele-claims system is in operation which results in around 90% of claims being taken by telephone, without the need for customers to complete paper application forms.

## Panel of Benefit Appeal Tribunals

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the daily rate of pay, or the rate of pay per appeal hearing, for members on the panel of benefit appeal tribunals.

**(AQW 4635/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** All fee paid panel members receive fees payable on a sessional basis. A sessional sitting is for one half-day i.e. 3 ½ hours duration with either a morning or afternoon start time and may include multiple appeal hearings. The fees payable are detailed in the table below:

Sessional Fees for Panel Members					
FEE £	LEGAL	MEDICAL (No medical examination required)	MEDICAL (Medical examination possibly required)	FINANCIAL	DISABILITY
Per session	218.00	155.00	185.50	151.00	96.00
Excess hourly rate	62.25	43.10	53.00	43.10	27.40

Where a tribunal/session overruns by more than half an hour, a fee for lengthy attendance will be payable at the excess hourly rate shown for each additional hour or part thereof from the end of the standard session. No payment will be made for overruns of half an hour or less.

## PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development, if the proposals contained in PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive are adopted (i) whether he can offer an assurance that the interests of staff will be protected; and

(ii) what selection method for appointment to the Social Housing Authority and the Social Enterprise Landlord Organisation will be used; and how will he ensure that it is an equitable selection method.

**(AQW 4659/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

### Cost of Answering Assembly Questions

**Mr F McCann** asked the Minister for Social Development for an estimate of the average cost to his Department to respond to written and oral Assembly Questions tabled by Jim Allister MLA, since May 2011.

**(AQW 4662/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The Department for Social Development does not routinely estimate the cost of answering Assembly Questions and so the information requested is not available.

### Disability Living Allowance Appeals

**Mr Easton** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the cost to his Department of Disability Living Allowance appeals in the 2010/11 financial year.

**(AQW 4671/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The information requested was provided in my response to your AQW 316/11-15 on 9 June 2011. Copy of this can be found in the Weekly Answers Booklet (Hansard) of 10 June 2011.

### Housing Benefit

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Social Development what is the weekly limit on the amount a person can receive in housing benefit.

**(AQW 4692/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Following the change in legislation in April 2011, the following limits are applicable to eligible rent levels (Local Housing Allowance) and consequently to awards of Housing Benefit in the private-rented sector: -

One-bed property	Two-bed	Three-bed	Four-bed and above
£250 per week	£290 per week	£340 per week	£400 per week

There are no equivalent limits applied in the social rented sector.

### Double Glazing Scheme

**Mr Moutray** asked the Minister for Social Development how many homes in (i) Banbridge; (ii) Lurgan; and (iii) Portadown might benefit from the installation of double glazing as a result of the Programme for Government.

**(AQW 4695/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The information is not available in the format requested as a number of double glazing schemes were carried out prior to the introduction of computerised recording systems and therefore the Housing Executive's records on the level of double glazing in its stock is incomplete. However, it is estimated that approximately 50% of the stock already has some degree of double glazing.

Following the consultation period and in anticipation of agreement to the draft Programme for Government, an extensive survey programme will be initiated to establish the number of Housing Executive dwellings that require double glazing. The Housing Executive will then draft a programme to ensure that double glazing is installed in all homes by the end of 2015.

In Banbridge two External Cyclical Maintenance schemes commenced this financial year which included window replacement where required to 360 dwellings. Also, an External Cyclical maintenance scheme commenced during this financial year in the Lurgan area which includes window replacement where required to 192 dwellings. A window replacement scheme for 215 dwellings in Portadown is also due to start during the current financial year.

### **PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr McClarty** asked the Minister for Social Development why the options contained within the PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive were not rural proofed.

**(AQW 4703/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has completed an independent review of the Housing Executive. Their report contains a number of proposals and recommendations, I have asked that they discuss their proposals with key stakeholders in the Housing Sector and provide me with feedback on any issues or concerns raised. I have made no decisions yet on the way forward, however I can assure you that I will carefully consider every issue including any impact on staff and I am determined that any proposals I bring forward, which will be subject to full consultation, will be for the benefit of tenants and the citizens of Northern Ireland.

### **PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr McClarty** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the (i) financial institutions; and (ii) venture capitalists he, his Department or PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) with which he engaged as part of PWC's report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

**(AQW 4706/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I asked PwC to consult with key stakeholders on their proposals. PwC has engaged with a number of financial institutions including The Housing Finance Corporation, Royal Bank of Scotland, Barclays and Santander.

### **PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive**

**Mr McClarty** asked the Minister for Social Development for his assessment of the extent to which the PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive met its Terms of Reference.

**(AQW 4707/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** I am content that the PwC report fully meets with the Terms of Reference set by the previous Minister.

### **Housing Executive Properties: Double Glazing**

**Mr Agnew** asked the Minister for Social Development how many Housing Executive properties do not have double glazing.

**(AQW 4712/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** As a number of double glazing schemes were carried out prior to the introduction of computerised recording systems, the Housing Executive's records on the level of double glazing in its

stock is incomplete. However, it is estimated that approximately 60% of its stock does not have double glazing.

I am determined that all Housing Executive homes in Northern Ireland will be double glazed by 2014/15 and I have been successful in having this included in the draft Programme for Government which is currently out for consultation.

### **Housing Executive Properties: Double Glazing**

**Mr McGlone** asked the Minister for Social Development how many Housing Executive properties in each District Council area will be eligible for the upgrade to double glazing as set out in the Programme for Government.

**(AQW 4722/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The information is not available in the format requested because a number of double glazing schemes were carried out prior to the introduction of computerised recording systems and therefore the Housing Executive's records on the level of double glazing in its stock is incomplete. However, it is estimated that approximately 50% of the stock already has some degree of double glazing.

Following the consultation period and in anticipation of agreement to the draft Programme for Government, an extensive survey programme will be initiated to establish the number of Housing Executive dwellings that require double glazing. The Housing Executive will then draft a programme to ensure that double glazing is installed in all homes by the end of 2015.

### **Warm Homes Scheme**

**Mr Weir** asked the Minister for Social Development how many people have availed of the Warm Homes Scheme in the North Down area in each of the last five years.

**(AQW 4771/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The current Warm Homes Scheme is in its third year. Information from the previous Warm Homes Scheme, which ended in July 2009, is not held in a format that can be broken down by Council area or financial year.

The Housing Executive therefore cannot provide information for the last 5 years.

Over the last 3 years in North Down a total of 749 households have been assisted by the Warm Homes Scheme as follows:

<b>2009/10</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>
306 households	319 households	124 households (to date)

### **Affordable Homes**

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister for Social Development to define the term 'affordable homes'.  
**(AQW 4786/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The term affordable housing is broad and can be delivered through various mechanisms, for example, shared equity and shared ownership products for those seeking to buy their own home, but cannot afford to do so outright, as well rental properties at all levels. The Co-Ownership Scheme is presently the Department's main mechanism for delivering affordable homes to first time buyers.

Sir John Semple in his Review into Affordable Housing Report outlined that affordable housing should be related to the ability to pay; to be affordable, recommended housing costs should not exceed 35% of gross household income.

## Affordable Homes

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister for Social Development how many affordable homes have been delivered in each of the last four years.

**(AQW 4787/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The Co-Ownership Scheme remains the Department's main mechanism for delivering affordable homes to first time buyers. In each of the last four years the number of homes the Scheme has delivered is as follows:

2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011
935	325	461	492

## Social Housing Properties

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister for Social Development how many social housing properties will be delivered in each of the next four years.

**(AQW 4789/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** The Programme for Government contains a commitment to deliver 8000 new social and affordable homes over the next 4 years. A specific programme to deliver these is now being finalised.

## Affordable Homes

**Mr Copeland** asked the Minister for Social Development how many affordable homes he expects to be delivered in each of the next four years.

**(AQW 4790/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** As noted in my answer to your previous question (AQW 4789/11-15), the Programme for Government commits us to building 8000 new social and affordable homes over the next 4 years. A specific programme for both social and affordable is still being finalised.

## Legislation to Permit the Introduction of Business Improvement

**Mr Allister** asked the Minister for Social Development what progress has been made in bringing forward enabling legislation to permit the introduction of business improvement districts and allow local councils to facilitate and contribute to them.

**(AQW 4915/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** My Department concluded its consultation on proposals for BIDs legislation in Northern Ireland earlier this year and it is clear from the responses received that there is overwhelming support for the introduction of BIDs here.

I received Executive agreement on 24th November to proceed to draft the necessary Primary legislation and I plan to have this in place next year. The legislation will set out the broad parameters for BIDs, including the role of local councils in the arrangements. This will be followed by secondary legislation and guidance from the Department.

## Social Housing Properties

**Mr Dallat** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the number of social housing properties (i) completed in each of the last three years; and (ii) that will be completed in each of the next three years.

**(AQW 4950/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** Over the last 3 years my Department has completed a total of 4278 social homes.

Year	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Completions	1365	1504	1409

The Programme for Government contains a commitment to deliver 8000 new social and affordable homes over the next 4 years. A specific programme to deliver these is currently being finalised.

## Disability Living Allowance

**Mr Cree** asked the Minister for Social Development to detail the rate of Disability Living Allowance granted to people who have had a ventriculoperitoneal shunting procedure in each of the last three years.

**(AQW 5222/11-15)**

**Mr McCausland:** My Department does not record information on medical procedures for customers in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.

Disability Living Allowance consists of two separate components, Care and Mobility. The Care component can be awarded at 3 rates (Highest, Middle or Lower) and the Mobility component can be awarded at 2 rates (Higher or Lower). Some people will be entitled to receive just one component; others may get both depending on how the disability affects them.

The weekly rates of Disability Living Allowance for the last 3 years are listed in the table below.

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Highest Rate Care component	£67.00	£70.35	£71.40
Middle Rate Care component	£44.85	£47.10	£47.80
Lowest Rate Care component	£17.75	£18.65	£18.95
Higher Rate Mobility Component	£46.75	£49.10	£49.85
Lower Rate Mobility Component	£17.75	£18.05	£18.95



# Written Answers Index

<b>Department for Regional Development</b>	WA 377	Cost of Answering Assembly Questions	WA 303
A5 Project	WA 389	Dedicated Veterinary College	WA 303
A5 Road Project	WA 385	Development and Promotion of Sports	WA 302
Bonds Relating to Private Housing Developments	WA 391	Economic Strategy	WA 302
Bus Station in Banbridge	WA 386	Employment for Working Age Benefit Claimants	WA 303
Bus Stop at the Ulster Hospital	WA 388	Information and Communication Technology	WA 299
Chief Executive of NI Water	WA 393	Sentinus Project	WA 300
Clearing Snow and Ice from Roads and Pavements	WA 390	St Mary's College, Belfast	WA 302
Cost of Maintaining Traffic Lights	WA 382	St Mary's University College and Stranmillis University College, Belfast	WA 301
Cost to NI Water of Repairing Leaks from Burst Pipes	WA 387	St Mary's University College, Stranmillis University College and Queen's University, Belfast	WA 301
Crosskeys Road, Ballymena	WA 392	Stranmillis University College, Belfast	WA 303
Cul Glas, Maghera and Cove Close, Ballyronan	WA 389	Subjects Directly Linked to the Creative Industries	WA 298
Development and Promotion of Sports	WA 390		
Down Community Transport	WA 393		
Environmental Impact Studies on Phosphoric Acid	WA 387	<b>Department for Social Development</b>	WA 393
Flooding at the Junction of the Bog Road and Woodside Road, Ballymena	WA 385	Affordable Homes	WA 409
Grit Boxes	WA 386	Affordable Homes	WA 410
Grit Boxes in the North Down Area	WA 379	Affordable Homes	WA 410
Hawthornes Estate, Maghera	WA 391	Balconies in the Seven Tower Flats in the New Lodge area of North Belfast	WA 394
Junction of Craig Road and Church Road, Rasharkin	WA 385	Balconies in the Seven Tower Flats in the New Lodge area of North Belfast	WA 395
NI Water	WA 387	Boiler Replacement Grant	WA 399
NI Water tender C071	WA 390	Child Maintenance Payments	WA 405
NI Water Unadopted sewers and Pumping Stations	WA 377	Citizens Advice Bureau	WA 402
Operational Traffic Wardens	WA 385	Cost of Answering Assembly Questions	WA 407
Phosphoric Acid Used to Treat Drinking Water	WA 388	Department for Work and Pensions	WA 397
Plumbing Inspection Teams: Work Mobile Phones	WA 392	Disability Living Allowance	WA 396
Posters Erected by Republicans	WA 389	Disability Living Allowance	WA 398
Posters Erected by Republicans	WA 389	Disability Living Allowance	WA 411
Priority of Road and Footpath Repairs	WA 382	Disability Living Allowance Appeals	WA 407
Residents' Parking Scheme for Central Bangor	WA 388	Double Glazing Scheme	WA 407
Sewage in Tempo, County Tyrone	WA 386	Double-Glazing Scheme	WA 398
Sewers in the Strangford Constituency	WA 378	Fuel Poverty	WA 397
Signs on Metro Services	WA 392	HHelp for People in Winter	WA 403
Signs on Metro Services	WA 392	Housing Benefit	WA 407
Sludge Disposal Incinerators in Duncrue Street, Belfast	WA 393	Housing Executive Properties: Double Glazing	WA 408
Traffic Volume on the A5 and A26 Roads	WA 382	Housing Executive Properties: Double Glazing	WA 409
		Ilex Urban Regeneration Company's One Plan for Derry Regeneration Programme	WA 394
<b>Department for Employment and Learning</b>	WA 298	Invoices for Construction Work	WA 396
Business and Finance Related Subjects	WA 299	Legislation to Permit the Introduction of Business Improvement	WA 410
Construction Related Subjects	WA 300	Letter Sent to MLAs from Pobal	WA 399
		Neighbourhood Renewal	WA 401

New Build Social Housing Properties	WA 400
New Build Social Housing Properties	WA 400
Panel of Benefit Appeal Tribunals	WA 406
Pension Credit	WA 396
Pension Credit	WA 405
Pension Credit Payment Study	WA 397
PricewaterhouseCoopers' report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 401
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 401
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 401
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 403
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 404
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 406
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 408
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 408
PricewaterhouseCoopers' Report on the Fundamental Review of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive	WA 408
Private Landlords	WA 402
Projects jointly funded by the Supporting People Programme and the Western Health and Social Care Trust	WA 394
Properties in the Langley Estate, Ballynahinch	WA 393
Proposals for Rent Convergence	WA 403
Social Enterprise Landlord Organisation	WA 404
Social Housing at West Green, Hollywood	WA 398
Social Housing Properties	WA 410
Social Housing Properties	WA 410
Social Housing Tender List Criteria	WA 402
Social Security Benefits	WA 405
Special Purchase of Evacuated Dwellings Scheme	WA 400
St Patrick's Barracks Site in Ballymena	WA 395
Terminated Benefit Claims	WA 404
Warm Homes Scheme	WA 400
Warm Homes Scheme	WA 402
Warm Homes Scheme	WA 409

<b>Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</b>	WA 166
Animal Welfare Regulations	WA 190
Bee Population	WA 190
Bovine TB	WA 182
Bovine TB	WA 184
Bovine Tuberculosis	WA 184
Bovine Tuberculosis	WA 185
Brucellosis	WA 192
Comber Potatoes	WA 193
Common Agricultural Policy: Greening	WA 192
Community Based Health Checks in Rural Areas	WA 178
Cost of Air Travel	WA 178
Cost of Answering Assembly Questions	WA 183
Cost of Tree Planting	WA 186
Destruction of Trees by Ivy	WA 186
Destruction of Trees by Ivy	WA 187
Destruction of Trees by Ivy	WA 187
Development and Promotion of Sports	WA 181
Farm Modernisation Programme	WA 188
Flooding	WA 192
Flooding: Belcoo	WA 179
Flooding of Farmland in Upper Bann	WA 179
Food Strategy Board	WA 190
Food Strategy Board	WA 190
Forestry Grant Scheme	WA 177
Funding Applications	WA 189
Horse Mussel Beds in Strangford Lough	WA 187
Horse Mussel Beds in Strangford Lough	WA 188
Maximising Access to and Uptake of Grants, Benefits and Services	WA 191
Northern Ireland Lamb	WA 188
Public Contracts	WA 166
Rivers Agency	WA 181
Rural Crime	WA 191
Rural Development Programme	WA 179
Rural Development Programme	WA 180
Rural Development Programme	WA 180
Rural Development Programme	WA 181
Rural Development Programme	WA 182
Rural Support	WA 178
Strategic Plan for the Agri-Foods Sector	WA 189
Tree Planting Campaigns	WA 187
Ulster Wildlife Trust	WA 184
Veterinary Surgeons: Herd Tests	WA 185

<b>Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure</b>	WA 193
Arts Projects in the North Down Area	WA 201
Community Festival Fund	WA 289
Community Festival Fund	WA 289
Erne Eel Fishery	WA 200
Funding for Protestant and Orange Bands	WA 202

Funding from the National Lottery	WA 195	Health and Safety Executive:	
Irish Language Act	WA 195	Undeveloped Sites	WA 314
Library Terminal Statistics	WA 204	Home Insulation Products	WA 309
Líofa 2015	WA 195	Hydraulic Fracturing	WA 308
Lough Erne: Eel Fishing	WA 201	Industrial Development Act 1982	WA 304
Portavoe Reservoir	WA 289	Investment in Mobile Phone Infrastructure	WA 314
Public Appointments	WA 196	InvestNI funding for the 'Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems Project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster	WA 306
Public Contracts	WA 193	InvestNI funding for the 'Centre of Excellence in Intelligent Systems Project at the Magee Campus of the University of Ulster	WA 306
Special Olympic Groups in Rural Areas	WA 204	Jobs Created in Portavogie	WA 313
Sports Projects in the North Down area	WA 201	Jobs Lost in Portavogie	WA 312
Staff Mileage Claims	WA 290	Loan Scheme for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	WA 311
<b>Department of Education</b>	WA 290	Loan Scheme for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises	WA 314
Academic Selection Tests	WA 295	Meeting with Minister Varadkar	WA 315
Asthma Policy	WA 295	Northern Ireland Renewables Obligation	WA 308
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	WA 292	Number of Tourists	WA 310
Bullying in Schools	WA 294	Provision of Evaluation Services	WA 307
Capital Small Grants Schemes	WA 295	Small and Medium Enterprises Loan Fund	WA 309
Capital Works Projects	WA 293	Tamboran	WA 314
Chairpersons of Boards of Governors	WA 298	<b>Department of Finance and Personnel</b>	WA 336
Children Attending Grammar Schools	WA 294	Car Parking Spaces for Civil Servants	WA 336
Computer Programming	WA 295	Car Parking Spaces for Civil Servants	WA 336
Education Orders	WA 291	Corporation Tax	WA 340
Helping Hands Programme	WA 296	Cost of Air Travel	WA 337
Learning for Life and Work	WA 297	Cost of Answering Assembly Questions	WA 337
Loreto Grammar School, Omagh	WA 296	DFP: Civil Law Functions	WA 338
Pre-School Places	WA 294	Governor of the Bank of England	WA 339
Promotion and Development of Cricket through the Sports Teaching Programme	WA 297	Public Procurement: Social Clauses	WA 338
Promotion and Development of Hockey through the Sports Teaching Programme	WA 296	Public Sector Jobs: Bain Report	WA 338
Public Contracts	WA 290	Single Farm Payments: Disallowance	WA 337
Schools who Provide School Dinners for Other Schools	WA 292	Small Businesses	WA 339
South Eastern Education and Library Board	WA 292	Special EU Programmes	WA 339
Sure Start	WA 297	Tax	WA 338
<b>Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment</b>	WA 304	Tax Credit for Companies	WA 337
Airports Competing for International Flights	WA 315	Tax-Varying Powers	WA 340
Annual Tourist Spend in Each District Council Area	WA 304	<b>Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety</b>	WA 341
Broadband Fund	WA 315	Adoption	WA 357
Cabinet Technology	WA 316	Assessments of Kinship Carers	WA 356
Centralised Control of Economic Policy	WA 315	Bangor Hospital's Diabetes Clinic	WA 355
Cost Saving Energy Tarrifs	WA 311	Bowel Cancer	WA 362
Credit Unions	WA 311	Breastfeeding	WA 362
Credit Unions	WA 312	Capital Small Grants Schemes	WA 351
Development and Promotion of Sports	WA 308	Cardiac Surgical Operations	WA 341
Electricity Consumption from Renewable Sources	WA 310	Care Services	WA 352
Flights from Belfast International Airport	WA 309		

Children in Kinship Care	WA 360	Employment Tribunals	WA 370
Complaints by Children in Kinship Care Arrangements	WA 358	European Court of Human Rights	WA 370
Daisy Hill Hospital, Newry	WA 345	Funding	WA 367
Development and Promotion of Sports	WA 345	Historical Enquiries	WA 372
Eating Disorders: Western Health and Social Care Trust	WA 363	Legal Aid to Foreign National Defendants	WA 374
Flu Jabs	WA 356	Magilligan Prison	WA 367
Funding for Kinship Care	WA 357	Prison Review Team	WA 371
Funding for Pharmacies	WA 358	Prison Review Team	WA 372
General Dental Services	WA 353	Prison Service	WA 372
General Dental Services	WA 354	Prison Service	WA 372
Healthcare Staff: Armed Forces	WA 362	Prison Service: Name	WA 372
Hospitals: Strike Action	WA 362	Private Transport for Prisoners	WA 370
Intensive Care Ventilators	WA 341	Public Appointments	WA 374
Intensive Care Ventilators	WA 342	Security Alerts in Prisons	WA 364
Kinship Care	WA 344	Small Claims Court	WA 377
Kinship Care	WA 361	Status of Devidas Paliutus	WA 367
Kinship Care Arrangements	WA 344	<b>Department of the Environment</b>	WA 316
Kinship Care Assessments	WA 352	Acohol Limits	WA 323
Kinship Carers	WA 352	Anglers Monitoring Initiative Project	WA 318
Kinship Carers on Foster Panels	WA 352	Belfast Hills Partnership Guidelines	WA 322
Kinship Foster Carers	WA 361	Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan	WA 327
Meals on Wheels	WA 359	Cost of Answering Assembly Questions	WA 320
Medical Needs of Prisoners	WA 358	Department for Transport: County Hall, Coleraine	WA 333
Mental Health and Mental Capacity Legislation	WA 361	Department's Enforcement Officers	WA 328
Midwives	WA 359	Development Size for Agricultural Buildings	WA 325
Minor Ailments Scheme	WA 358	Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency	WA 324
Orthodontic Treatment	WA 355	Environment Agency	WA 334
Outsourced Contracts and Services	WA 345	Environmental Grants	WA 327
Patients Registered with a GP	WA 353	George Best Belfast City Airport	WA 324
Prescription Drugs	WA 363	George Best Belfast City Airport: Seats for Sale	WA 332
Regional Prescribing Policy Guidance	WA 351	Hydraulic Fracturing	WA 318
Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority	WA 359	Illegal Car Parks in the Vicinity of Belfast International Airport.	WA 336
Sexually Transmitted Infections	WA 361	Introduction of Changes to the MOT Test	WA 335
Social Care Payments	WA 357	Introduction of Changes to the MOT Test	WA 335
Strategy to Address Oral Health Needs	WA 356	Invasive Plant or Tree Species	WA 329
<b>Department of Justice</b>	WA 363	Invasive Plant Species	WA 322
Bangor Police Station; Donaghadee Police Station and Holywood Police Station: Revenue Expenditure	WA 373	Late Nights Flights Clause	WA 332
Benefits Appeals Tribunals	WA 373	Listed Buildings in North Down	WA 319
Case of Gerry McGeough	WA 371	Local Government: Reform	WA 334
Colin Duffy: Legal Aid	WA 373	Metal Theft (Prevention) Bill	WA 334
Convictions for Drving at Excess Speed	WA 375	Northern Ireland Environment Agency	WA 316
Convictions for Parking Violations	WA 376	Otter Numbers	WA 323
Convictions for Perverting the Course of Justice	WA 363	Our Lady and St Patrick's College	WA 331
Convictions for Sectarian Crime	WA 370	Overtaking a Parked Education and Library Board or Translink School Bus	WA 329
Early Releases of Brendan Lillis and Abdelbaset al-Megrahi	WA 376	Planning Applications for Wind Turbines	WA 327
		Planning Enforcements	WA 326

Planning: George Best Belfast City Airport	WA 332
Planning: George Best Belfast City Airport	WA 333
Planning Policy Statement 18	WA 333
Plastic Bag Levy	WA 326
Review of the Appointment of Special Advisers	WA 321
Shale Gas	WA 325
Single Wind Turbine Planning Applications	WA 317
Single Wind Turbine Planning Applications	WA 320
Smoke Control Zones	WA 321
Taxi Operator's Licence	WA 334
Towers at Dalway's Bawn, Ballymena	WA 329
Travel Costs	WA 323
Wildfires	WA 321
Wind Farm Planning Applications	WA 318
Zero-Rated Motor Vehicle Tax Discs	WA 331

**Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister**

Bill of Rights	WA 161
Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016	WA 163
Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016	WA 165
Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016	WA 165
Children and Young People's Strategy 2006-2016	WA 166
Cross-Departmental Report by the Fermanagh Flooding Taskforce	WA 162
Establishment of North/South Bodies	WA 165
Freedom of Information Report 2010	WA 164
Freedom of Information Report 2010	WA 164
Freedom of Information Requests	WA 164
Ministerial-led Poverty Forum	WA 166
Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People	WA 164
Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration	WA 161
Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration	WA 161
Programme for Cohesion, Sharing and Integration	WA 162
Programme for Government	WA 166







Published by Authority of the Northern Ireland Assembly,  
Belfast: The Stationery Office

and available from:

**Online**

[www.tsoshop.co.uk](http://www.tsoshop.co.uk)

**Mail, Telephone, Fax & E-mail**

TSO

PO Box 29, Norwich, NR3 1GN

Telephone orders/General enquiries: 0870 600 5522

Fax orders: 0870 600 5533

E-mail: [customer.services@tso.co.uk](mailto:customer.services@tso.co.uk)

Textphone 0870 240 3701

**TSO@Blackwell and other Accredited Agents**

ISSN 1463-7162

Daily Editions: Single copies £5, Annual subscriptions £325

Bound Volumes of Debates are issued periodically during the session: Single copies: £90

Printed in Northern Ireland by The Stationery Office Limited

© Copyright Northern Ireland Assembly Commission 2011

ISBN 978-0-339-70229-5



9 780339 702295