

Written Answers to Questions

Official Report (Hansard)

Friday 18 July 2014

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Northern Ireland Assembly

Friday 18 July 2014

Written Answers to Questions

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Animal Cruelty: Departmental Meetings

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to detail the meetings her Department have been involved in regarding animal cruelty, in 2014.

(AQW 35182/11-15)

Mrs O'Neill (The Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development): The welfare of animals here is protected by the Welfare of Animals Act 2011. It contains a range of offences including those relating to activities which may cause an animal to suffer unnecessarily. However, it does not contain an offence specifically referred to as "animal cruelty".

The meetings involving my Department with external organisations regarding animal welfare from 1 January 2014 until 4th July 2014 are detailed in the table below. Meetings between my Department's Veterinary Service and individual farmers are not included.

TABLE - MEETINGS WITH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS BETWEEN 1 JANUARY AND 4 JULY 2014

Date	Topic	Organisation
07.01.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Welfare of Animals Act 2011 Local Government Project Board
16.01.14	Enforcement of Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Departmental Solicitor's Office
17.01.14	Welfare of Equines	Southern Group Environmental Health Committee
19.02.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Welfare of Animals Act 2011 Local Government Project Board
26.02.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Council Line Managers and Animal Welfare Officers
05.03.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Eastern Group Environmental Health Committee
10.03.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Welfare of Animals Act 2011 Local Government Project Board
19.03.14	North South Animal Welfare and Transport Working Group	Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine
19.03.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Welfare of Animals Act 2011 Local Government Project Board
21.03.14	Welfare of Equines	Ballysaggart Environmental Group

Date	Topic	Organisation
27.03.14	Farm Animal Welfare	Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Council
04.04.14	Welfare Case Review	Police Service of NI and Ulster Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
08.04.14	Welfare of Felines	Cats Protection
15.04.14	Animal Welfare Implementation	Departmental Solicitor's Office
17.04.14	Animal Welfare Implementation	Department of Justice
01.05.14	Issues around Pododermatitis	Poultry Stakeholders
16.05.14	Welfare Conference - Dublin	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
21.05.14	Review of Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Welfare of Animals Act 2011 Local Government Project Board
22.05.14	Review of Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Department of Justice
24.05.14	Compliance with Petshops Regulations 2000 and sale of horses at the Lamas Fair	Moyle District Council
05.06.14	Animal Welfare Implementation	Department of Justice
16.06.14	Welfare Case Review	Western Health Trust
18.06.14	Review of Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Department of Justice
20.06.14	Farm Animal Welfare	Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Council
02.07.14	Implementation of the Welfare of Animals Act 2011	Welfare of Animals Act 2011 Local Government Project Board

Farm Business Refunds

Mr McCallister asked the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, pursuant to AQW 34876/11-15, given that she confirmed that her Department changed its original decision in 54 of the 216 Stage 2 Reviews and that a refund may result, to detail the total number of refunds provided.

(AQW 35186/11-15)

Mrs O'Neill: Additional payments were issued by the Department to farm businesses in 44 of the 54 cases cited in AQW 34876/11-15.

Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

Public Petitions

Mr Allister asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the action she has taken following each public petition presented to the Assembly and forwarded to her Department.

(AQW 34852/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín (The Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure): Since May 2011 four public petitions have been presented to the Assembly and forwarded to my Department.

I have listed at Annex A the key actions taken by my Department as a result of these public petitions.

Annex A

- (i) Reduction in opening hours of Community Libraries (presented to the Assembly on 28 November 2011 by Dominic Bradley MLA); and
- (ii) Reduction in opening hours of the Bronte Library in Rathfriland (presented to the Assembly on 29 November 2011 by John McCallister MLA):
- Both of the above petitions were laid in the Assembly in November 2011 as a result of Libraries NI public consultation on a proposed reduction in library opening hours.
 - Following Libraries NI's public consultation into its review of Library Opening Hours, I shared the views of the many thousands of people who responded to the public consultation and as a result was pleased to be able to provide £2.39m of additional funding in order to minimise the impact of the reduction in library opening hours.
 - As a consequence of this additional funding the opening hours for the Bronte Library in Rathfriland were reduced by 2 hours and not 9 hours as had been previously proposed.
- (iii) The Exploitation of Indigenous Fish Species, including salmon, where stocks are no longer sustainable (presented to the Assembly on 13 February 2012 by Robin Swann MLA):
- The public petition on the exploitation of indigenous fish species, including salmon, was laid at a time when my Department was developing a salmon consultation policy and the petition informed that process. Subsequently my Department prohibited the commercial netting of wild Atlantic salmon by means of regulation.
- (iv) Development of a Strategic Plan for Athletics as a Priority Sport (presented to the Assembly on 13 November 2012 by Stephen Agnew MLA):
- On 2 May 2013, a letter issued to Mr Stephen Agnew advising that DCAL officials, along with Sport NI, would arrange a meeting with the Chairman of Athletics NI, the Governing Body for athletics in the north of Ireland, to discuss the issues raised in the petition and a possible way forward.
 - On 10 May 2013, officials from DCAL and Sport NI met with representatives of Athletics NI, the Governing Body for Athletics in the north of Ireland, to hear about its plans. Sport NI has been working with Athletics NI with regard to identifying future facility needs.
 - On 23 April 2014, Sport NI met with Athletics NI to provide information in relation to a new capital investment programme which will be launched later this year. This programme will prioritise investments for strategically identified high performance capital projects. Athletics NI may be eligible to compete for this funding.

Libraries NI: Outreach in North Down

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the outreach activities planned by Libraries NI over the next twelve months for areas of low educational attainment in North Down.

(AQW 34877/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín: Libraries NI is currently developing proposals to extend its existing outreach activities in areas of social need, including low educational attainment, within the North Down area. These proposals are intended to supplement Libraries NI activities already taking place in rural parts of North Down, Holywood and Bangor including the Kilcooley and Rathgill estates. Further activities currently being considered include:-

- Events to support the Cinemagic Festival in Bangor Carnegie Library in September 2014;
- Partnership programmes with the Creative Learning Centres and other arts/creativity organisations to help children with little or no access to PCs or IMacs;
- Family learning sessions with parents and children; and
- A Teenage Health Fair in Bangor Carnegie Library in February 2015 to promote health and well being.

In addition to these activities, I met with the Minister of Education, John O'Dowd MLA, along with Libraries NI on 26th June 2014 to discuss the scope for closer partnership working between public libraries and the Department of Education (DE). As a result of that meeting, it was agreed that Libraries NI and DE, with assistance from DCAL, would jointly develop an Action Plan and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on how they would work together to promote the value of education across all areas of the North of Ireland including North Down. Both the Action Plan and the MOU are expected to be agreed later this year and I have asked that they be drawn up with a particular focus on tackling disadvantage including educational disadvantage.

Investment in North Belfast

Mr G Kelly asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the funding that her Department, and its arm's-length bodies, invested in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014.

(AQW 34881/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín: The total amount of funding invested in the North Belfast constituency from May 2011 until May 2014 is summarised in the table below:

YEAR	Funding (£)
2011-12 (from 1 May)	7,104,068
2012-13	6,237,386
2013-14	6,615,431
2014-15 (to 31 May)	3,251,135

A breakdown of this funding is provided on the following pages.

INVESTMENT IN THE NORTH BELFAST CONSTITENCY BETWEEN MAY 2011 AND MAY 2014

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2011-12	ACNI	ADAPT NI	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	70,000
2011-12	ACNI	An tSnáthaid Mhór Teoranta	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2011-12	ACNI	Arts and Disability Forum	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	76,721
2011-12	ACNI	Arts and Disability Forum	Arts Development Fund award	18,902
2011-12	ACNI	Arts for All	Arts Development Fund award	3,000
2011-12	ACNI	Belfast Community Circus School	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	147,500
2011-12	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	100,000
2011-12	ACNI	Belfast Film Festival	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2011-12	ACNI	Belfast Print Workshop	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	89,019

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2011-12	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	79,450
2011-12	ACNI	Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	100,000
2011-12	ACNI	Community Arts Forum	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	38,840
2011-12	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	125,000
2011-12	ACNI	Culture Night Belfast	Arts Development Fund award	25,000
2011-12	ACNI	Dance Resource Base (NI) Ltd	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	37,000
2011-12	ACNI	Digital Arts Studios	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	40,000
2011-12	ACNI	DU Dance	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	35,000
2011-12	ACNI	Fable Multimedia Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	9,995
2011-12	ACNI	Flax Housing Association Ltd	STart UP award	5,000
2011-12	ACNI	Flaxart Studios	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	38,680
2011-12	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	107,000
2011-12	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Arts Development Fund award	8,500
2011-12	ACNI	Green Shoot Productions	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	5,000
2011-12	ACNI	Kabosh Theatre Ltd	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	81,890
2011-12	ACNI	Kabosh Theatre Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2011-12	ACNI	Maiden Voyage (NI) Ltd	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	32,563
2011-12	ACNI	Moving on Music	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	114,150
2011-12	ACNI	New Belfast Community Arts Initiative	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	93,817

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2011-12	ACNI	New Lodge Arts	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	30,000
2011-12	ACNI	Northern Visions Ltd.	Arts and Older People award	17,717
2011-12	ACNI	Oh Yeah Music Centre	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	25,000
2011-12	ACNI	Open House Festival	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	60,000
2011-12	ACNI	Open House Festival	Arts Development Fund award	18,345
2011-12	ACNI	Orchid Studios Association	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	14,523
2011-12	ACNI	Paragon Studios	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	20,000
2011-12	ACNI	Photo Works North / Source Magazine	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	24,000
2011-12	ACNI	Photo Works North / Source Magazine	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	7,260
2011-12	ACNI	Play Resource Warehouse	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	64,450
2011-12	ACNI	Play Resource Warehouse	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	9,020
2011-12	ACNI	Prime Cut Productions Ltd	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	100,950
2011-12	ACNI	Prison Arts Foundation	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	50,000
2011-12	ACNI	Prison Arts Foundation	Arts Development Fund award	10,703
2011-12	ACNI	Ransom Productions Ltd	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	20,000
2011-12	ACNI	The Black Box Trust	Arts Development Fund award	25,000
2011-12	ACNI	The John Hewitt Society	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	18,000
2011-12	ACNI	The John Hewitt Society	Arts Development Fund award	4,782
2011-12	ACNI	The MAC	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	472,450
2011-12	ACNI	The MAC	Arts Development Fund award	22,500

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2011-12	ACNI	The Yellow Nib	Arts Development Fund award	4,000
2011-12	ACNI	Tinderbox Theatre Company	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	139,000
2011-12	ACNI	Ulster Youth Orchestra	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	35,000
2011-12	ACNI	Ulster-Scots Community Network	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	25,000
2011-12	ACNI	Ulster-Scots Community Network	Arts Development Fund award	6,000
2011-12	ACNI	Young at Art	Annual Support for Organisations Programme Award	85,000
2011-12	ACNI	Young at Art	Arts Development Fund award	8,500
2011-12	Core Department	Holy Cross Boys' Primary School	No Child Left Behind iPad Initiative	32,000
2011-12	Core Department	Spectrum Centre	CAL Catalyst Project	45,000
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	An tSnáthaid Mhór	Scéim na Foilsitheoireachta 2011/ Publishing Scheme 2011	22,960
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Caitríona Nic Sheáin	Scéim na gCoimisiún 2011/ Commission Scheme 2011	656
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Club Óige Mhachaire Botháin	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	3,500
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Craobh Naomh Pádraig	An Ghaeilge sa Phobal 2011/ Irish in the Community 2011	1,910
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim Cholmcille/ The Colmcille Scheme	2,680
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	4,000
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh/ Summer Camp Scheme	3,500
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,590
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Irish Language Community Scheme 2011-2013	80,350

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Fionnuala Ní Mhealláin	Scéim na nOidí 2010 / The Mentor Scheme 2010	820
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	An Ghaeilge sa Phobal 2011/ Irish in the Community 2011	600
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,550
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	5,000
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Open House	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	6,000
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Seán Fennell	Scéim na nOidí 2010/ The Mentor Scheme 2010	820
2011-12	Foras na Gaeilge	Young at Art	Tionscadail Litríochta 2011/ Literary Projects Scheme 2011	1,693
2011-12	Libraries NI	Belfast Central Library	Refurbishment	242,258
2011-12	Libraries NI	Belfast Central Library	Running Costs	2,164,695
2011-12	Libraries NI	Chichester Library	Running Costs	108,998
2011-12	Libraries NI	Grove Library	Running Costs	170,049
2011-12	Libraries NI	Ligoniel Library	Running Costs	3,746
2011-12	Libraries NI	Oldpark Library	Running Costs	2,020
2011-12	Libraries NI	Shankill Library	Refurbishment	787,238
2011-12	Libraries NI	Shankill Library	Running Costs	135,979
2011-12	Libraries NI	Whitewell Library	Running Costs	181
2011-12	NI Screen	Northern Visions	Training and Mentoring	69,000
2011-12	Sport NI	Clarendon Development Association	Ladies Boot Camp - equipment, venue hire and coaching	975
2011-12	Sport NI	Crusaders Youth FC	Sporting provision in the community - equipment, venue hire and coaching	804
2011-12	Sport NI	Holy Cross Playgroup	Active play - applying for Equipment, Coaching & Venue hire	1,067
2011-12	Sport NI	Lighthouse	Tackling Suicide Through Soccer - Equipment and Venue Hire	1,367
2011-12	Sport NI	St Patricks FC	Soccer Mums and Nursery Programme - equipment, venue hire and coaching	837

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2011-12	Sport Northern Ireland	Crusaders FC	Safe Stadia Programme	367,292
2011-12	Ulster-Scots Agency	Ballysillan Highland Dancers	Dance Tuition 2011	2,484
2011-12	Ulster-Scots Agency	Greater Shankill Partnership Property Development	Festival 2011	1,222
Total Investment In 2011-12 (1 May 2011 – 31 March 2012)				7,104,068
2012-13	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Equipment grant	14,250
2012-13	ACNI	DU Dance	Equipment grant	12,000
2012-13	ACNI	Northern Visions Ltd.	Equipment grant	15,275
2012-13	ACNI	ADAPT NI	Arts Development Fund award	567
2012-13	ACNI	An tSnáthaid Mhór Teoranta	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2012-13	ACNI	ArtsEkta	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	8,500
2012-13	ACNI	Belfast Community Circus School	Annual Funding Programme Award	168,350
2012-13	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Annual Funding Programme Award	152,040
2012-13	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Arts Development Fund award	150
2012-13	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Visual Arts Development Programme award	7,240
2012-13	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	Annual Funding Programme Award	125,530
2012-13	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	SIAP award	536
2012-13	ACNI	Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival	Annual Funding Programme Award	130,000
2012-13	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Annual Funding Programme Award	132,468
2012-13	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	20,000
2012-13	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Visual Arts Development Programme award	15,000

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2012-13	ACNI	Flaxart Studios	Annual Funding Programme Award	40,614
2012-13	ACNI	Flaxart Studios	Visual Arts Development Programme award	7,400
2012-13	ACNI	Goddess and Swift Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2012-13	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Annual Funding Programme Award	185,587
2012-13	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Arts and Older People award	10,968
2012-13	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Visual Arts Development Programme award	9,242
2012-13	ACNI	Hole in the Wall Gang Limited	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2012-13	ACNI	Indian Community Centre	Arts Development Fund award	8,000
2012-13	ACNI	James Rooney Chartered Architect Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	8,330
2012-13	ACNI	Jude Cassidy	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2012-13	ACNI	Kabosh Theatre Ltd	Arts Development Fund award	763
2012-13	ACNI	Kabosh Theatre Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2012-13	ACNI	Moving on Music	Arts Development Fund award	9,000
2012-13	ACNI	Multi-Media Heritage	Arts Development Fund award	2,500
2012-13	ACNI	New Belfast Community Arts Initiative	Annual Funding Programme Award	184,857
2012-13	ACNI	Northern Ireland Theatre Association	Arts Development Fund award	5,000
2012-13	ACNI	Notasuch Films	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2012-13	ACNI	Orchid Studios Association	Annual Funding Programme Award	15,249
2012-13	ACNI	Paragon Studios	Annual Funding Programme Award	21,000

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2012-13	ACNI	Photo Works North / Source Magazine	Visual Arts Development Programme award	15,400
2012-13	ACNI	Play Resource Warehouse	Arts and Older People award	12,980
2012-13	ACNI	Play Resource Warehouse	Arts Development Fund award	12,600
2012-13	ACNI	Prime Cut Productions Ltd	Annual Funding Programme Award	160,051
2012-13	ACNI	The Black Box Trust	Arts Development Fund award	25,000
2012-13	ACNI	The MAC	Annual Funding Programme Award	1,000,000
2012-13	ACNI	The MAC	Arts and Older People award	3,160
2012-13	ACNI	Tinderbox Theatre Company	Annual Funding Programme Award	220,000
2012-13	ACNI	Young at Art	Annual Funding Programme Award	172,594
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	An tSnáthaid Mhór	Scéim na Foilsitheoireachta 2012/ Publishing Scheme 2012	21,909
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Caitríona Nic Sheáin	Scéim na gCoimisiún 2011/ Commission Scheme 2011	1,392
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Club Óige Mhachaire Botháin	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	3,011
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	4,500
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh/ Summer Camp Scheme	3,470
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	2,702
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Irish Language Community Scheme 2011-2013	69,633
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	An Ghaeilge sa Phobal 2012/ Irish in the Community 2012	630
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	2,651
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	5,000

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Naíscoil Ard Eoghain	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,745
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Open House	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	6,000
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Seán Mag Uidhir	Scéim na nOidí 2011/ The Mentor Scheme 2011	870
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	University of Ulster	Foilseacháin/ Publications	1,950
2012-13	Foras na Gaeilge	Young at Art	Tionscadail Litríochta 2011/ Literary Projects Scheme 2011	1,344
2012-13	Libraries NI	Belfast Central Library	Refurbishment	258,803
2012-13	Libraries NI	Belfast Central Library	Running Costs	2,161,610
2012-13	Libraries NI	Chichester Library	Running Costs	124,335
2012-13	Libraries NI	Grove Library	Running Costs	151,628
2012-13	Libraries NI	Ligoniel Library	Running Costs	10,549
2012-13	Libraries NI	Oldpark Library	Running Costs	8,170
2012-13	Libraries NI	Shankill Library	Refurbishment & Running Costs	146,670
2012-13	NI Screen	Belfast Film Festival	Core Funding	75,000
2012-13	NI Screen	Northern Visions	Training and Mentoring	62,250
2012-13	Sport NI	Clarendon Development Association	Ladies Boot Camp - applying for equipment, venue hire and coaching	760
2012-13	Sport NI	Crusaders Youth FC	Sporting provision in the community - equipment, venue hire and coaching	582
2012-13	Sport NI	Holy Cross Playgroup	Active play - applying for Equipment, Coaching & Venue hire	414
2012-13	Sport NI	Lighthouse	Tackling Suicide Through Soccer - Equipment and Venue Hire	510
2012-13	Sport NI	North Belfast Play Forum	Midnight Street Soccer	72,000
2012-13	Sport NI	North Belfast Play Forum	Waterworks Weekend Sport and Older and Active Programme	3,850
2012-13	Sport NI	St Patrick's College, Bearnageeha	Olympic Experience - Trip to Garden Party	1,750

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2012-13	Sport NI	St Patricks FC	Soccer Mums and Nursery Programme - equipment, venue hire and coaching	216
2012-13	Sport Northern Ireland	Crusaders FC	Safe Stadia Programme	31,333
2012-13	Ulster-Scots Agency	Arts for All	Partnership Funding - FAS 2012	1,900
2012-13	Ulster-Scots Agency	Duncairn Ulster-Scots Society	Festival 2012	3,180
2012-13	Ulster-Scots Agency	Duncairn Ulster-Scots Society	Tuition 2012	900
2012-13	Ulster-Scots Agency	Pride of Ardoyne Flute Band	Tuition 2012	825
2012-13	Ulster-Scots Agency	Small Steps Adult Education Centre	Summer School 2012	1,143
Total Investment In 2012-13 (1 April 2012 – 31 March 2013)				6,237,386
2013-14	ACNI	Arts& Disability Forum	Equipment grant	11,265
2013-14	ACNI	Belfast Community Circus School	Equipment grant	15,000
2013-14	ACNI	Digital Arts Studios	Equipment grant	6,283
2013-14	ACNI	Jim O'Neill & Robert Allsopp Memorial Flute Band	Musical Instrument grant	4,225
2013-14	ACNI	Kabosh Theatre Ltd	Equipment grant	7,992
2013-14	ACNI	New Belfast Community Arts Initiative	Equipment grant	11,740
2013-14	ACNI	Oh Yeah Music Centre	Equipment grant	5,250
2013-14	ACNI	Outburst Arts Festival	Equipment grant	3,769
2013-14	ACNI	Play Resource Warehouse	Equipment grant	14,000
2013-14	ACNI	The Black Box Trust	Equipment grant	7,438

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2013-14	ACNI	An tSnáthaid Mhór Teoranta	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2013-14	ACNI	Arts and Disability Forum	Arts Development Fund award	4,000
2013-14	ACNI	Bbeyond	Visual Arts Development Programme award	3,000
2013-14	ACNI	Belfast Community Circus School	Annual Funding Programme Award	163,299
2013-14	ACNI	Belfast Community Circus School	Arts Development Fund award	3,651
2013-14	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Annual Funding Programme Award	147,479
2013-14	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	Annual Funding Programme Award	121,764
2013-14	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	Arts Development Fund award	10,000
2013-14	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2013-14	ACNI	Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival	Annual Funding Programme Award	126,100
2013-14	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Annual Funding Programme Award	128,494
2013-14	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	19,985
2013-14	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Visual Arts Development Programme award	18,000
2013-14	ACNI	Dance Resource Base (NI) Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	12,285
2013-14	ACNI	Digital Arts Studios	Visual Arts Development Programme award	6,912
2013-14	ACNI	Fable Multimedia Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2013-14	ACNI	Flaxart Studios	Annual Funding Programme Award	39,396
2013-14	ACNI	Flaxart Studios	Visual Arts Development Programme award	5,688
2013-14	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Annual Funding Programme Award	180,019
2013-14	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Arts Development Fund award	11,180

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2013-14	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Visual Arts Development Programme award	9,060
2013-14	ACNI	Greater Shankill Partnership Property Dev. Co.	Arts and Older People award	12,532
2013-14	ACNI	Green Shoot Productions	Arts Development Fund award	8,696
2013-14	ACNI	Indian Community Centre	Arts Development Fund award	8,700
2013-14	ACNI	James Rooney Chartered Architect Ltd	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2013-14	ACNI	New Belfast Community Arts Initiative	Annual Funding Programme Award	179,311
2013-14	ACNI	Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission	Arts Development Fund award	5,000
2013-14	ACNI	Notasuch Films	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	10,000
2013-14	ACNI	Open House Festival	Arts Development Fund award	23,536
2013-14	ACNI	Orchid Studios Association	Annual Funding Programme Award	14,790
2013-14	ACNI	Paragon Studios	Annual Funding Programme Award	20,370
2013-14	ACNI	Paragon Studios	Visual Arts Development Programme award	8,640
2013-14	ACNI	Photo Works North / Source Magazine	Visual Arts Development Programme award	15,520
2013-14	ACNI	Play Resource Warehouse	Arts and Older People award	15,690
2013-14	ACNI	Prime Cut Productions Ltd	Annual Funding Programme Award	155,249
2013-14	ACNI	The John Hewitt Society	Arts Development Fund award	15,855
2013-14	ACNI	The MAC	Annual Funding Programme Award	1,000,000
2013-14	ACNI	The MAC	Arts Development Fund award	205,000

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2013-14	ACNI	Tinderbox Theatre Company	Annual Funding Programme Award	213,400
2013-14	ACNI	Ulster-Scots Community Network	Arts Development Fund award	5,000
2013-14	ACNI	University of Ulster	Creative Industries Innovation Fund Award	9,995
2013-14	ACNI	Young at Art	Annual Funding Programme Award	167,416
2013-14	ACNI	Young at Art	Arts Development Fund award	2,000
2013-14	Core Department	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	McCracken Summer School Cultural Programme	111,384
2013-14	Core Department	North Belfast Harriers	Jog Belfast Initiative	8,000
2013-14	Core Department	Springboard Opportunities Ltd	Pay it Forward with Sport Project	73,500
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	An tSnáthaid Mhór	Scéim na Foilsitheoireachta 2013/ Publishing Scheme 2013	20,090
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Caitríona Nic Sheáin	Scéim na gCoimisiún 2011/ Commission Scheme 2011	1,312
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Club Óige Mhachaire Botháin	Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh/ Summer Camp Scheme	3,493
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Club Óige Mhachaire Botháin	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,750
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Craobh Naomh Pádraig	An Ghaeilge sa Phobal 2013/ Irish in the Community 2013	1,060
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	2,000
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na gCampaí Samhraidh/ Summer Camp Scheme	1,350
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	3,235
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Irish Language Community Scheme 2011-2013	52,523

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Cumann Cultúrtha Mhic Reachtain	Scéim Phobail Gaeilge 2014/ Irish Language Community Scheme 2014	17,500
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Glór an Tuaiscirt	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,745
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Naíscóil Ard Eoghain	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,745
2013-14	Foras na Gaeilge	Open House	Scéim na bhFéilte/ Festivals' Scheme	4,000
2013-14	Libraries NI	Belfast Central Library	Refurbishment & Running Costs	2,191,542
2013-14	Libraries NI	Chichester Library	Running Costs	124,165
2013-14	Libraries NI	Grove Library	Running Costs	141,632
2013-14	Libraries NI	Ligoniel Library	Running Costs	1,465
2013-14	Libraries NI	Oldpark Library	Running Costs	6,473
2013-14	Libraries NI	Shankill Library	Refurbishment & Running Costs	164,998
2013-14	NI Screen	Belfast Film Festival	Core Funding	54,000
2013-14	NI Screen	Northern Visions	Training and Mentoring	35,750
2013-14	Sport NI	Cliftonville FC	Installation of temporary seating	12,700
2013-14	Sport NI	Mercy College (Belfast)	Mercy College Netball Programme	1,145
2013-14	Sport NI	Mercy Primary School (Belfast)	Mercy Primary Community Gaelic	2,250
2013-14	Sport NI	North Belfast Play Forum	Midnight Street Soccer	8,000
2013-14	Sport NI	North Belfast Play Forum	Midnight Street Soccer 13-14	74,800
2013-14	Sport NI	Crusaders FC	Safe Stadia Programme	20,523
2013-14	Sport NI	Shankill United FC	Pitch upgrade/extension	220,500
2013-14	Ulster-Scots Agency	Arts for All	Partnership Funding - FAS 2012	5,698
2013-14	Ulster-Scots Agency	Duncairn Ulster-Scots Society	Festival 2013	1,567
2013-14	Ulster-Scots Agency	Fife & Drum Musical & Historical Society	Tuition 2013	1,650

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2013-14	Ulster-Scots Agency	Small Steps Adult Education Centre	Summer School 2013	1,743
2013-14	Ulster-Scots Agency	Greater Shankill Partnership Property Development	Festival 2012	6,168
Total Investment In 2013-14 (1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014)				6,615,431
2014-15	ACNI	Belfast Community Circus School	Annual Funding Programme Award	163,299
2014-15	ACNI	Belfast Exposed Photography	Annual Funding Programme Award	147,479
2014-15	ACNI	Cahoots NI Ltd	Annual Funding Programme Award	121,764
2014-15	ACNI	Cathedral Quarter Arts Festival	Annual Funding Programme Award	126,100
2014-15	ACNI	Craft Northern Ireland	Annual Funding Programme Award	128,494
2014-15	ACNI	Flaxart Studios	Annual Funding Programme Award	39,396
2014-15	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Annual Funding Programme Award	180,019
2014-15	ACNI	Golden Thread Gallery	Arts Development Fund award	10,000
2014-15	ACNI	New Belfast Community Arts Initiative	Annual Funding Programme Award	179,311
2014-15	ACNI	Orchid Studios Association	Annual Funding Programme Award	14,790
2014-15	ACNI	Paragon Studios	Annual Funding Programme Award	20,370
2014-15	ACNI	Prime Cut Productions Ltd	Annual Funding Programme Award	155,249
2014-15	ACNI	The MAC	Annual Funding Programme Award	1,000,000
2014-15	ACNI	Tinderbox Theatre Company	Annual Funding Programme Award	213,400
2014-15	ACNI	Ulster Youth Orchestra	Arts Development Fund award	574
2014-15	ACNI	Young at Art	Annual Funding Programme Award	167,416
2014-15	Core Department	North Belfast Harriers	Jog Belfast Initiative	8,000

Year	Funding Body	Organisation Funded	Description of Funding	Total
2014-15	Core Department	Spectrum Centre	CAL Catalyst Project	15,535
2014-15	Core Department	Spectrum Centre	Operational Costs	20,000
2014-15	Foras na Gaeilge	Naíscoil Ard Eoghain	Scéim na nImeachtaí Óige/ Youth Events Scheme	1,707
2014-15	Libraries NI	Belfast Central Library	Running Costs	386,742
2014-15	Libraries NI	Chichester Library	Running Costs	23,545
2014-15	Libraries NI	Grove Library	Running Costs	19,663
2014-15	Libraries NI	Ligoniel Library	Running Costs	529
2014-15	Libraries NI	Oldpark Library	Running Costs	933
2014-15	Libraries NI	Shankill Library	Running Costs	27,816
2014-15	NI Screen	Northern Visions	Training and Mentoring	21,000
2014-15	Sport NI	Mercy College (Belfast)	Mercy College Netball Programme	127
2014-15	Sport NI	Mercy Primary School (Belfast)	Mercy Primary Community Gaelic	250
2014-15	Sport NI	North Belfast Play Forum	Midnight Street Soccer 13-14	50,009
2014-15	Ulster-Scots Agency	Small Steps Adult Education Centre	Community Impact Grant 2014	7,618
Total Investment In 2014-15 (1 April 2014 – 31 May 2014)				3,251,135

Irish Language Training for Librarians

Mr McGlone asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure, pursuant to AQW 34373/11-15, what training will be provided for Libraries NI staff with regards to Irish language material, literature and heritage.

(AQW 34886/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín: Librarians working in local libraries already receive training with regards to Irish literature and heritage material from specialist heritage staff employed by Libraries NI. Two Libraries NI employees are also currently undertaking accredited training courses, one in Irish translation and one in Irish language at Queen's University Belfast (QUB) and the University of Ulster at Magee respectively. Libraries NI is funding this training and anticipates that these staff will, once they have completed their accreditation, be providing service wide support to staff on Irish language, literature and heritage material.

Leisure Pursuits on Lough Neagh

Mrs Dobson asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure what support she has provided to enhance and assist participation in leisure pursuits on Lough Neagh, in each of the last three years.

(AQW 34895/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín: Under the Water Order (NI) 1999 my Department has discretionary powers to develop the recreation and navigation potential of Inland Waterways, at present this relates to its 21 water recreation sites both owned and leased by the Department including the abandoned Lagan Navigation.

My Department's current statutory remit on Lough Neagh is restricted to dredging the channels at the entrance to the Sixmilewater river and, additionally, as a public service, maintaining 48 hazard markers around the Lough Neagh shoreline on a non-statutory basis to assist safe navigation. Costs for major repairs to the markers and ongoing maintenance over the past 3 years are approximately £44k.

Since 2012 my Department has funded the Lough Neagh Partnership £25k per annum in support of their role to co-ordinate heritage, recreational, cultural tourism, navigational issues and development opportunities on Lough Neagh. The Partnership is also funded by seven local authorities around the Lough and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency support the work of an Environment Officer.

As part of its funding provision my Department tasked the Partnership to commission a number of reports on issues relating to Lough Neagh. These reports are presently with the Department for consideration and include:

- Lough Neagh Governance and Management Options Appraisal
- Dredging Study on the mouths of the Blackwater and Upper Bann Rivers and
- Lough Neagh Culture Heritage Audit and Strategic Action Plan.

In 2013 Waterways Ireland on behalf of the Department, carried out a review of the current navigation marker system on Lough Neagh and a study is currently underway by Outdoor Recreation NI to assess the current and potential outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities around Lough Neagh. This study will be completed shortly.

My Department also funded a number of projects including a Fit Gym and additional seating at the Antrim Forum along the Sixmilewater at the Lough Shore, under the Water Recreation Grant Programme.

DCAL was represented on the Inter Departmental Working Group (IDWG) for Lough Neagh, chaired by DARD to look at ownership of the Lough and is actively involved in the reconvened Group presently reviewing the management arrangements for the Lough and its future development.

My Department has also provided grant funding over the last four years through Sport Northern Ireland to the following organisations who promote a variety of leisure pursuits throughout the North of Ireland including Lough Neagh:

- Funding to Outdoor Recreation NI to promote access to and participation in Outdoor Recreation
- Funding to the Canoe Association for NI (CANI) to develop and promote canoe sport which regularly takes place on Lough Neagh
- Funding to the Royal Yachting Association NI (RYANI) to develop and promote sailing which regularly takes place on Lough Neagh
- £750 grant to each outdoor recreation provider who chooses to go through the Adventure Mark quality accreditation process. This is open to providers in the Lough Neagh area and those who use the Lough as an activity venue. Team Build Ireland is an Adventuremark based in the Lough Neagh

In relation to support to enhance and assist participation in leisure pursuits on Lough Neagh you may be assured that my Department has worked closely with the existing Councils around the Lough, and will continue to work with the newly formed shadow councils in relation to its statutory and discretionary remit.

We will also proactively work with those who are committed to

protecting users of the Lough in their commercial and recreational pursuits, including members of the Lough Neagh Safety and Navigation Working Group, and Lough Neagh Rescue.

Funding for Commemoration of the First World War

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the funding available to organisations wishing to commemorate the First World War.

(AQW 34922/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín: An extensive range of events, exhibitions and initiatives aimed at commemorating the First World War and the wider Decade of Centenaries have been and will continue to be funded by DCAL and its ALBs. These include learning resources and perspectives from areas such as the arts, museums, libraries and public records and archives.

These activities provide opportunities and resources for organisations, communities and individuals to engage with and utilise to inform, plan and enhance delivery of inclusive approaches and events remembering this period.

The Community Festival Fund aims to improve the quality and capacity of community festivals. The Department allocates approximately £450,000 annually to local councils who match and administer the fund. Events remembering the past can be supported if in keeping with the Fund's guidelines and those of individual councils.

Culture and arts can play a crucial role in discovering and sharing the stories of significant historical events. However remembering the past is also relevant to other Departments. Links to tourism, economic development, learning and education and social inclusion all demonstrate such relevance. I would be supportive of additional support for the delivery of community events and activities to commemorate the Decade of Centenaries. This would be dependent on additional funding being agreed by the Executive.

Funding for Commemoration of the First World War

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail the budget available for organisations wishing to apply for funding to commemorate the First World War.

(AQW 34923/11-15)

Ms Ní Chuilín: An extensive range of events, exhibitions and initiatives aimed at commemorating the First World War and the wider Decade of Centenaries have been and will continue to be funded by DCAL and its ALBs. These include learning resources and perspectives from areas such as the arts, museums, libraries and public records and archives.

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Brantry Lough Fish Kill

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to detail (i) the estimated number of fish killed, including the type of fish, at Brantry Lough during the incident reported on 30 June 2014; (ii) the estimated cost to replenish the fish stock; and (iii) the length of time it will take to restore the Lough. **(AQW 35054/11-15)**

Ms Ní Chuilín:

- (i) In the recent fish kill at Brantry Lough, 1,100 brown trout were collected by my inland fisheries staff. These fish were stocked by my Department. It is estimated that around 500 indigenous adult perch and 1,500 juvenile perch also died.
- (ii) The cost of replacing the stocked brown trout has yet to be determined.
- (iii) As a precaution, there will be no further stocking of the Public Angling Estate fisheries until water temperatures drop. My staff will continue to monitor water temperature and oxygen levels in Brantry Lough and the restocking of brown trout will resume when these are at safe levels. The indigenous perch stocks should recover naturally over time.

Public Private Partnership Projects

Mr Allister asked the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure whether there are any ongoing investigations relating to any Public Private Partnership projects that her Department is associated with; and if so, to detail the projects. **(AQW 35106/11-15)**

Ms Ní Chuilín: There are no ongoing investigations in relation to any Public Private Partnership associated with the Department.

Department of Education

Action Following Public Petition

Mr Allister asked the Minister of Education to detail the action he has taken following each public petition presented to the Assembly and forwarded to his Department. **(AQW 34850/11-15)**

Mr O'Dowd (The Minister of Education): I wish to inform the Member that I take very seriously all issues raised by any public petition which have been forwarded to the Department of Education (DE).

I can confirm that DE responded to each petition and any issues raised were carefully considered. Details of the 12 petitions that have been forwarded to my Department and actions taken are contained in the table below.

Petition	Action
Future of Bangor Central Integrated Primary School	No further action required. I replied to Steven Agnew MLA outlined the position regarding any potential project and purchase of land
Save Drumcree College	No further action required. I replied to Dolores Kelly MLA advised that it is CCMS responsibility, in the first instance, to manage provision in the maintained schools estate and bring forward proposals to DE.
Development Proposal Woodlands Speech and Language Centre	Petition presented was considered alongside other submissions and informed my consideration of the Development Proposal (DP) relating to Woodlands which were published in January 2013.

Petition	Action
Development Proposal Envagh/St Francis of Assissi/Newtownstewart Primary Schools	I replied to Pat Ramsay MLA explaining the DP process. Subsequent DP's for Envagh and St Francis of Assissi were published in May 2014. No DP has been submitted for Newtownstewart.
Support and Retention of The Dickson Plan	No further action required. I replied to Stephen Moutray MLA referencing the decision of SELB to support proposals for change to the Dickson Plan and explained the DP process
Closure of Immaculate Conception College, Derry	I replied to Pat Ramsay MLA explaining the Statutory two month objection period ended and the petition would form part of the submission advice to me.
Crumlin Supports Shared Education	No further action required by Department. I replied to Danny Kinahan MLA explained that it is the responsibility of the managing authorities to plan provision.
Opposition to Development Proposal for Collegiate Grammar School Enniskillen	I replied to Arlene Foster explaining the latest position regarding Collegiate Grammar School and that the petition will form part of the submission advice to me.
Proposed Closure of Artillery Youth Centre	No further action was taken by DE as my reply to Alban Maginness MLA explained that issues regarding Artillery Youth Resource Centre's premises are a matter for the Belfast Education and Library Board.
New Build for Parkhall Integrated College	No further action required. Parkhall was included in my announcement of new schools in January 2013.
Accommodation Issues between Hazelwood Integrated College and the Belfast Education and Library Board	No further action required as following meetings between both parties the matter has been brought to a satisfactory conclusion.
Cross Border Area Planning Community Post-Primary Education in the North and West Fermanagh	DE and DES officials have been tasked by their respective Ministers to continue to engage at senior level regarding cross-border school provision.

Dickson Plan Catchment Area Funding

Mrs Dobson asked the Minister of Education to detail the capital funding provided to each school in the Dickson Plan Catchment Area in each of the last five years broken down by (i) sector; and (ii) school.
(AQW 34858/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The following table details capital expenditure in each school in the Dickson Plan Catchment Area in each of the last five financial years broken down by (i) sector; and (ii) school:

School Name	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Total
Controlled Primary						
Donaclooney Ps	18,033.38	0.00	54,243.00	0.00	82,027.00	154,303.38
Edenderry Ps	0.00	0.00	420,103.00	0.00	169,785.00	589,888.00
Gilford Ps	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,109.00	0.00	14,109.00
Hardy Memorial Ps	382,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	382,000.00
Kings Park Ps, Lurgan	0.00	0.00	574,462.00	66,383.00	0.00	640,845.00
Lurgan Model Ps	7,000.00	0.00	51,321.00	591,262.00	0.00	649,583.00
Millington Ps	0.00	0.00	56,769.00	0.00	0.00	56,769.00
Orchard County Ps	0.00	0.00	159,327.00	0.00	55,416.00	214,743.00
Waringstown Ps	0.00	0.00	371,120.00	400,424.00	0.00	771,544.00
Total	407,033.38	0.00	1,687,345.00	1,072,178.00	307,228.00	3,473,784.38
Controlled Post Primary						
Craigavon Shs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Killicomaine Jhs	0.00	0.00	0.00	279,026.00	0.00	279,026.00
Lurgan College	0.00	0.00	330,154.00	0.00	678,753.00	1,008,907.00
Portadown College	0.00	0.00	391,060.00	53,390.00	0.00	444,450.00
Total	0.00	0.00	721,214.00	332,416.00	678,753.00	1,732,383.00
Controlled Special						
Ceara Spec School	117,000.00	27,000.00	0.00	289,422.00	527,260.00	960,682.00
Total	117,000.00	27,000.00	0.00	289,422.00	527,260.00	960,682.00

School Name	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Total
Overall Controlled Total	524,033.38	27,000.00	2,408,559.00	1,694,016.00	1,513,241.00	6,166,849.38
Maintained Primary						
Presentation Ps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,342.00	30,342.00
St John The Baptist Ps, Portadown	21,200.00	10,421.00	9,063.13	0.00	0.00	40,684.13
Total	21,200.00	10,421.00	9,063.13	0.00	30,342.00	71,026.13
Maintained Post Primary						
St Mary's Hs, Craigavon	96,761.40	20,197.75	0.00	0.00	3,073.38	120,032.53
Total	96,761.40	20,197.75	0.00	0.00	3,073.38	120,032.53
Overall Maintained Total	117,961.40	30,618.75	9,063.13	0.00	33,415.38	191,058.66
Voluntary Grammar						
St Michael's Gs, Lurgan	1,480.00	1,204.61	0.00	0.00	3,521.28	6,205.89
Total	1,480.00	1,204.61	0.00	0.00	3,521.28	6,205.89
Overall Total For All Sectors	643,474.78	58,823.36	2,417,622.13	1,694,016.00	1,550,177.66	6,364,113.93

* The Southern Education and Library Board (SELB) has provided expenditure information in relation to the controlled sector. SELB are also responsible for school meals accommodation in the maintained sector. However, in the period covered there was no expenditure relating to this.

** Information relating to capital expenditure in the voluntary sector has been obtained from Departmental records.

Investment in North Belfast

Mr G Kelly asked the Minister of Education to detail the funding that his Department, and its arm's-length bodies, invested in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014.

(AQW 34882/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The funding (expenditure) that my Department, and its ALBs have invested in North Belfast over the course of the last three financial years, 2011-12 to 2013-14, is detailed in the following table:

	2011-12 £m	2012-13 £m	2013-14 £m	Total £m
Recurrent	115.1	115.8	121.2	352.1
Capital	8.8	8.2	9.0	26.0
Total	123.9	124.0	130.2	378.1

Notes:

- 1 As funding(expenditure) is recorded in financial years (April to March) the information requested has been provided on this basis.
- 2 Recurrent includes e.g schools delegated budgets, services to schools funded by ELBs, youth funding.
- 3 This information has been compiled utilising the NISRA central postcode directory method to identify the North Belfast constituency.
- 4 All 2013-14 figures are provisional until year end accounts have been finalised.

Proposed Re-alignment of the School Estate in Holywood

Mr Agnew asked the Minister of Education whether the proposed re-alignment of the school estate in Holywood is causing a delay in individual schools receiving capital for a new school building.

(AQW 34897/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: In December 2013 the South Eastern Education & Library Board (SEELB) identified schools in the Holywood schools' estate to be considered for major capital investment.

While there are interrelated issues with these schools in terms of location of any new build they were considered independently under 'The Major Works Projects Protocol for Selection of Projects to Proceed in Planning' dated June 2014. The protocol subjected the potential projects to 'Gateway' checks for sustainability and area planning issues prior to the remaining projects being prioritised.

Ongoing sustainability issues with Priory College meant that it did not pass the 'Gateway' and hence could not be included in my 24 June announcement.

Holywood Primary School was scored under the protocol however it did not attract sufficient priority to be included in my announced list of schools due to budget constraints.

Funding to Address Educational Underachievement

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Education to detail the departmental projects or funding schemes available to community organisations to help tackle low educational achievement.

(AQW 35005/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: In recognition of the importance of influences on pupil outcomes outside school I am providing funding to support programmes aimed at involving local communities in addressing educational underachievement.

I have allocated £2 million pounds to the Community Education Initiatives Programme in both the 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 financial years. This will promote partnership working between community and voluntary organisations and schools to provide educationally focused programmes in communities

with particular concentrations of educational disadvantage. In the North Down area funding through this programme supports community-based work in the Whitehill and Kilcooley areas of Bangor and in Donaghadee.

The Department also provides funding to the West Belfast Partnership Board (WBPB) and the Greater Shankill Partnership Board (GSPB) to support the West Belfast Community Project. This aims of the Project include the provision of support for families with children in pre-school, primary school or post-primary school outside of normal school hours to address issues with attendance, attainment and engagement in education. Funding of £260,000 is being provided in 2014/2015.

The Extended Schools (ES) programme seeks to establish schools as the hub of the community and schools can use ES funding to engage the services of a wide range of voluntary/community organisations in delivering programmes which aim to address the learning and development needs of pupils, families and the wider community. In 2014/2015, over £12 million of ES funding has been made available to almost 500 eligible schools.

In the pre-school sector, the Department currently invests around £25 million pounds per annum in the Sure Start programme which is administered by the Health and Social Care Board. Thirty-nine Sure Start projects here provide services to over 34,000 children aged 0-4 and their families within at least the top 20% most disadvantaged wards with services being expanded to the top 25% most disadvantaged wards by April 2015.

The Department also currently provides funding to a mix of approximately 160 playgroups, early years centres and crèches through the DE Early Years Fund. Groups accessing the funding provide direct early years care and education to children in areas of low provision, disadvantaged areas or where the service is considered critical for children.

The Department funds the Toybox project which is administered by the Early Years Organisation and provides support to Traveller children and their parents before, during and after pre-school. Funding is approximately £360,000 for 2014/15 and is delivered to Traveller families across the north of Ireland in nine localities.

Through the Department's youth budget, Education and Library Boards and the Youth Council provide funding to a wide range of voluntary and community youth work organisations that run clubs and programmes for young people, particularly those in disadvantaged areas and those who are at risk of educational underachievement.

In addition, my Department works closely with the Department of Social Development in relation to education related neighbourhood renewal projects which target children in the most disadvantaged areas by linking school and community-based activities.

Educational Underachievement

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Education what new initiatives his Department is pursuing to combat educational underachievement, particularly in disadvantaged communities or sections of the community with low attainment.

(AQW 35006/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: I have redistributed school funding to target schools with high numbers of pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds under the common funding scheme and injected a further £10 million specifically targeting social deprivation into school budgets from April 2014.

Within schools, the Department is implementing a range of funded programmes to improve pupil outcomes in literacy and numeracy. These include the Delivering Social Change programme to employ additional teachers, a literacy and numeracy CPD KS2/3 Project, the Strategic Development Fund to Area Learning Communities and the Greater West Belfast Primary Schools Project.

I am also providing additional funding to support recently initiated programmes targeted at socially deprived communities. These include the Community Education Initiatives Programme and the Greater West Belfast Community Project.

I have invested an additional £9 million in youth work over the period 2012-13 to 2014-15. This is being used to increase access for young people to mainstream youth services in disadvantaged areas, with priority given to interface areas, and, through outreach and detached youth work.

As regards pre-school provision, the Sure Start programme is being expanded to the top 25% most disadvantaged wards here by April 2015. Expansion will facilitate greater involvement in the education, health and social development of children in disadvantaged areas.

In October 2013, 'Learning to Learn – A Framework for Early Years Education and Learning' was published. Key objectives for the Framework include providing equitable access to high quality early years education and learning services and identifying and helping address barriers to learning, and reduce the risk and impact of social exclusion and the need for later intervention. As a key action a review of the Sure Start Programme is underway, with input from DHSSPS. Following the review, the Department will develop potential options for the expansion of the Developmental Programme for 2-3 year olds.

I announced last year that free school meal entitlement would be extended from September 2014 so that the same eligibility criteria apply to primary and postprimary pupils. This means that from September 2014 postprimary pupils from lower income families will be supported with access to this benefit and the school uniform grant in the same way as primary pupils. An estimated additional 15,000 pupils will become eligible as a result.

Under the review of Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Inclusion, new pilots in SEN Early Years Capacity Building and in a Certificate of Competence in Educational Testing are ongoing. Both pilots aim to increase the capacity of staff in the participating settings to identify, assess and make provision for SEN children. The review also supports: a new cross-board Leadership and Management Capacity Building Programme, which focuses on the role of SEN Coordinators in schools to enable them to effectively manage arrangements for SEN pupils; and an innovative SEN Continuing Professional Development Literacy Project in Stranmillis and St Mary's University Colleges which promotes effective teaching of reading, writing and spelling to SEN pupils with literacy difficulties

These programmes complement existing policies and programmes which I am taking forward to address educational underachievement. However, there is also an important role to be played by our MLAs, local councillors and those with influence in the community in raising educational awareness and aspiration in socially deprived communities.

School Principal Positions Filled on a Temporary Basis

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Education how many school principal positions are currently filled by staff acting up to cover the position on a temporary basis.

(AQW 35007/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The Employing Authorities for the controlled and maintained sectors report that there are 35 school principal positions currently filled by staff acting up to cover the position on a temporary basis. The Department does not hold this information for the Voluntary Grammar or Grant Maintained Integrated schools, as each school is an employer in their own right.

School Principles on Stress Related Sick Leave

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Education how many school principals are currently absent from work on stress related sick leave.

(AQW 35008/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The Employing Authorities for the controlled, maintained and integrated sectors report that there are 10.5 school principals currently absent from work on stress related sick leave. The

Department does not hold the information requested for the Voluntary Grammar schools, as each school is an employer in their own right.

Available Principal Positions

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Education how many school principal positions have become available in the last two financial years; and how many applications were received for these positions, broken down by (i) Education and Library Board area; (ii) primary and post-primary sectors; and (iii) controlled, integrated and maintained sectors.

(AQW 35009/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: Each Employing Authority has provided the numbers of school principal positions which became available in the last two financial years and the numbers of applications received as detailed in the tables below. The Department does not hold this information for the Voluntary Grammar or Grant Maintained Integrated schools, as each school is an employer in their own right.

BELB

Financial Year	Primary Principal Posts	Applications	Post-Primary Principal Posts	Applications
2012/2013	2	19	2	4
2013/2014	2	23	1	5

WELB

Financial Year	Primary Principal Posts	Applications	Post-Primary Principal Posts	Applications (Total)
2012/2013	3	3	None	None
2013/2014	2	9	None	None

NEELB

Financial Year	Primary Principal Posts	Applications	Post-Primary Principal Posts	Applications
2012/2013	9	118	7	50
2013/2014	16	135	None	None

SEELB

Financial Year	Primary Principal Posts	Applications	Post-Primary Principal Posts	Applications
2012/2013	10	64	4	23
2013/2014	2	13	7	47

SELB

Financial Year	Primary Principal Posts	Applications	Post-Primary Principal Posts	Applications
2012/2013	6	35	4	21
2013/2014	7	58	1	6

CCMS

Financial Year	Primary Principal Posts	Applications	Post-Primary Principal Posts	Applications
2012/2013	21	176	3	26
2013/2014	35	286	10	75

Community Relations, Equality and Diversity in Education Scheme

Mr Lunn asked the Minister of Education to detail the groups that received funding under the Community Relations, Equality and Diversity in Education scheme in 2012/13, including the funding each group received; and the groups and amount of funding planned for 2013/14.

(AQW 35042/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The groups and amount of funding each received under the Community Relations, Equality and Diversity in Education Enhancement Scheme is detailed in the tables below.

CRED FUNDING 2012/13

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
Colin Neighbourhood Partnership		£3,000.00
Derriaghy Youth Centre		£3,000.00
37th Belfast Explorer Scouts	29th Belfast Venture Scouts	£3,800.00
Cregagh Youth Centre	Ballymote Health and Wellbeing	£3,000.00
Ballynahinch Youth Club	Ards Arena Youth Club	£3,800.00
Old Warren Youth Initiative	Lagmore Area project	£3,000.00
Laurelhill Youth Centre	Mourne Youth Project	£3,000.00
Ards Arena Youth Club	St Comgall's Youth Group	£2,385.00
Brooklands Youth Centre	Wandsworth Community Association	£3,000.00
Ards Rural Project		£3,000.00
Derriaghy Youth & Resource Centre		£3,000.00
Crossgar, Saintfield & Killyleagh Area Project	Killyleagh Sailing Association	£3,000.00
Windmill Integrated PS	St Patrick's PS Dungannon	£780.00
St Mary's PS, Maghery	Portadown Integrated PS	£4,600.00
Markethill PS	St James' PS Mullabrack	£2,000.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
Ballyoran PS	Bocombra PS	£2,000.00
St Paul's HS, Bessbrook	Newtownhamilton HS	£2,000.00
St Patrick's PS, Dungannon (Nursery Unit)		£1,000.00
St Malachy's PS, Glencull		£2,500.00
Drumnamoe Nursery School	Dromore Nursery School	£1,200.00
Carntall PS	St Macartans PS	£1,595.00
St Anthony's PS, Craigavon,	Moyallon PS and Ceara School	£1,525.00
Dungannon PS	St Patrick's PS Dungannon	£500.00
St Mary's PS, Cabragh	Sperrinview Special School	£2,155.00
Lurgan JHS	St Mary's HS, Lurgan	£4,590.00
St Teresa's PS, Tullyherron	Mountnorris PS	£1,330.00
St Brigid's HS, Armagh		£2,181.25
St John's PS, Moy	Moy Regional PS	£2,996.00
Aughnacloy PS	St Mary's PS, Aughnacloy	£4,000.00
Hart Memorial PS		£5,000.00
SELB	St Joseph's Boys' High School	£2,752.00
Taghnevan Youth Club		£2,963.02
Youth Included - Cookstown Youth Resource Centre		£2,876.80
St Mary's Youth Club	Seagoe Youth Club	£2,872.26
Seagoe Youth Group	St Mary's Youth Club	£3,063.35
Goal Line Youth Trust		£2,647.17
Keady Area Youth Project	Oasis LGBT&H Youth Group	£1,840.41
SELB Specialist Youth Development Worker		£1,755.26
SELB - Cookstown Youth Resource Centre		£1,395.00
SELB - SYW Inclusion		£558.50
Glengormley IPS	Glennan PS	£3,074.00
St John's PS Coleraine	Killowen	£3,514.00
Corran IPS	n/a	£1,857.00
St Patrick's & St Brigid's PS	DH Christie	£2,614.00
St Mary's PS Cargan	Carnlough IPS, Seaview PS	£3,500.00
St John's PS Swatragh	Eden, PS B'money	£1,989.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
St John Bosco PS	Bellaghy PS	£1,269.00
Edmund Rice College	n/a	£1,216.00
Mt St Michael's PS	Randalstown CPS	£2,500.00
Antrim PS	St Comgall's PS	£500.00
Straidbilly PS	Barnish PS, Armoy PS, St Olcan's PS	£2,074.00
Duneane PS	Moneynick PS	£2,260.00
Ballynure PS	Ballyclare HS	£1,314.00
Rasharkin PS	St Patrick's Rasharkin	£3,000.00
Garryduff PS	n/a	£800.00
Oakfield PS	Acorn IPS	£1,614.00
St Ciaran's PS Cushendun	Carrowreagh PS	£2,077.00
Broughshane PS	St Patrick's PS Loughguile	£1,885.00
Carniny PS	St Colmcille's PS	£280.00
St Columba's PS	Kilrea PS	£3,160.00
Whitehouse PS	St James' PS	£574.00
St Mary's GS	n/a	£2,000.00
Knockahollet PS	St Brigid's PS Cloughills, Cloughmills PS, St Anne's PS	£3,330.00
Knockloughrim PS	St Brigid's Mayogall, Maghera PS	£3,186.00
St John Bosco PS	Bellaghy PS	£1,994.00
Grange Community YC, Ballyclare		£2,000.00
Cheers YC, Ballymoney	Rasharkin Community YC	£1,676.00
Armoy Outreach	n/a	£2,000.00
Newtownabey Youth Council	n/a	£2,000.00
Diversity Competency Leadership Programme, Coleraine	n/a	£3,000.00
Coleraine Youth Group	n/a	£2,560.00
Disability Focus Group: Coleraine Area	n/a	£550.00
4th Ballymoney BB		£2,300.00
Ashfield Boys' High School		£1,000.00
Belfast Boys' Model School		£2,500.00
Bunscoil Phobal Feirste		£1,700.00
Christian Brothers' School		£1,800.00
City of Belfast School of Music		£2,422.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
Donegall Road Primary School		£800.00
Euston Street Primary School		£2,000.00
Fane Street Primary School		£2,000.00
Harberton School		£5,000.00
Hazelwood Integrated Primary School		£1,500.00
Holy Cross Girls' Primary School		£2,500.00
Ligoniel Primary School		£939.00
Little Flower Girls' School		£2,300.00
Loughshore Educational Resource Centre		£2,500.00
Malone College		£1,000.00
Mercy Primary School		£1,608.00
Mitchell House School		£2,000.00
New Lodge Nursery School		£1,500.00
Our Lady's Nursery School		£2,500.00
Shaftesbury Nursery School		£2,475.00
St Louise's Comprehensive College		£1,848.00
St Malachy's College		£2,500.00
St Mary's Nursery School		£2,500.00
St Michael's Primary School		£2,308.00
St Patrick's College		£2,500.00
St Therese of Lisieux Primary School		£800.00
Victoria College		£2,000.00
Annadale Haywood Residents' Association		£2,400.00
Archway Youth Club		£2,500.00
Belfast YMCA		£2,200.00
East Belfast Area Project		£5,000.00
Glen Parent Youth Group		£3,500.00
Glencairn Youth Initiative		£5,000.00
Indian Community Centre		£1,400.00
Roden Street Youth Service		£4,950.00
Rosario Youth Centre		£5,000.00
South Belfast Area Project		£10,000.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
St Colmcille's Parish Youth Group		£1,400.00
West Belfast Area Project		£5,000.00
Willowbank Youth Club		£5,000.00
Willowfield Youth		£3,520.00
Boys Brigade	Girls Brigade, Catholic Girl Guides, Scout Association, Scouting Ireland and Ulster Guides	£50,000.00
Youthlink	YMCA	£20,000.00
Youth Action	Public Achievement	£5,000.00
Young Farmers Clubs of Ulster	Including partnership work with GAA and Spirit of Enniskillen	£32,800.00
Shimna Integrated College		£2,959.00
Forthill Integrated College		£2,172.00
St Joseph's PS (Tyrella, Downpatrick)	Newcastle PS	£3,000.00
St Patrick's Academy	Lisnagarvey HS	£3,000.00
Killyleagh PS	St Mary's PS (Killyleagh)	£3,000.00
St Macartan's PS	Cumran PS	£3,000.00
St Mary's HS	Knockbreda HS	£2,657.00
Pond Park PS	Beechlawn School	£2,078.00
Glencraig IPS	Hazelwood IPS	£1,830.00
St Anne's PS	Ballyvester PS	£3,000.00
Holy Family PS	Academy PS	£3,000.00
Academy PS	St Mary's PS (Saintfield)	£360.00
Clifton SS	Parkview SS	£2,000.00
St Columba's College	Glastry College	£600.00
Ballynahinch PS	St Patrick's PS (Ballynahinch)	£2,700.00
Kircubbin IPS		£675.00
Moira PS	Rowandale IPS	£620.00
Down HS	St Patrick's GS	£2,700.00
Ballymacrickett PS	Ballinderry PS	£2,954.00
McKinney PS	Ballymacward PS	£405.00
Our Lady & St Patrick's/Grosvenor GS	Lagan College	£2,503.00
Ballynahinch	Newcastle	£3,530.00
St John's PS Bligh's Lane		£4,760.00
Drumrane PS		£1,430.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
St Patrick's PS, Pennyburn		£1,200.00
St Mary's College Derry	Foyle View School	£1,300.00
St Teresa'a PS, Loughmacrory		£1,025.00
Brookeborough PS	Willowbridge School	£820.00
St Mary's PS Altinure	Cumber Claudy PS	£1,120.00
Knochavoe School	Arvalee School	£1,950.00
Denamona PS		£3,000.00
Destined Youth Group		£1,940
Lakeland YC		£2,535.92
NW Inclusion Unit Derry / Long Tower YC		£2,516.11
Springhill Community Association		£3,662.66
Omagh Boys & Girls Club		£1,901.58
Shantallow YC / NW Inclusion Unit		£401.40
SW Inclusion Project / Fountain Centre Kesh		£2,516.11

CRED FUNDING 2013/14

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
Hart Memorial PS	Presentation PS	£3,000.00
New-Bridge integrated College		£1,675.00
St. Mary's PS, Cabra	Sperrinview Special School	£2,540.00
St. Brendan's PS, Craigavon (Nursery Unit)		£2,392.52
St. Anthony's PS, Craigavon,	Moyallon PS and Ceara Special School	£1,800.00
St Malachy's PS, Camlough	Markethill PS	£1,820.00
Edendork PS	Howard PS	£3,600.00
St Mary's PS, Stewartstown	Ballytrea PS	£2,909.00
Banbridge HS	Holy Trinity College, Cookstown	£7,352.50
St John's PS, Moy	Moy Regional PS	£2,006.00
Windsor Hill PS	St Patrick's PS Newry	£2,190.00
St Patrick's HS, Keady	Markethill HS	£2,128.00
St Teresa's PS, Tullyherron	Mountnorris PS	£1,740.75
St Michael's Grammar, Lurgan	Ceara School, Lurgan	£901.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
St Michael's Grammar School, Lurgan		£383.00
St Paul's HS, Bessbrook,	St Joseph's HS Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton HS	£2,000.00
Newmills PS	St Mary's PS Lisbuoy	£400.00
Dromore Road PS	St bronagh's PS, Rostrevor	£2,500.00
Banbridge HS	Newbridge Integrated College	£2,995.00
Hart Memorial PS (Nursery Unit)	Ballyoran PS (Nursery Unit)	£1,957.00
Goal Line Youth Club		£1,767.00
Tullygally/Drumgor, CR Project		£2,521.94
Seagoe Youth Group, Sporting Challenge		£2,685.76
Armagh Lithuanian Project		£2,634.88
Dungannon Area CRED Project		£2,934.88
Fivemiletown Outreach		£1,302.99
All Stars Programme, Brownlow		£2,733.54
Keady Area Youth Project		£2,885.48
Lurgan YMCA		£2,525.00
Armagh Area Outreach Programme		£2,325.88
Craigavon & Banbridge Young Carers		£2,145.88
DCLP	n/a	£3,000.00
Political & Cultural Awareness Project	n/a	£3,000.00
Summer Camp Project	n/a	£3,000.00
Cornstore YC, Draperstown	n/a	£1,406.00
4th Ballymoney BB	n/a	£800.00
Grange Youth & Community group	n/a	£3,000.00
Mossley Area Project		£1,740.00
St Patrick's NU Rasharkin	Rasharkin Community Play Group	£1,360.00
Crumlin Int PS	None	£780.00
Glengormley Int PS	Glenann PS	£2,800.00
Millstrand Integrated PS	Damhead PS	£2,066.00
St Patrick's PS Loughguile	Broughshane PS	£3,000.00
St James' PS Newtownabbey	King's Park PS	£2,938.00
St John's PS Coleraine	Killowen PS	£3,000.00
St Patrick's & St Brigid's PS	DH Christie Memorial PS	£1,337.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
Carniny PS	St Colmcille's PS	£704.00
St John's PS , Swatragh	Eden PS	£1,404.00
St Brigid's PS Mayogall	Maghera PS	£3,000.00
St Columba's PS Kilrea	Kilrea PS	£3,476.00
St Ciaran's PS Cushendun	Carrowreagh PS	£2,502.00
St Patrick's PS Rasharkin	Rasharkin PS	£2,664.00
St Paul's PS Ahoghill	St Colmcille's PS	£1,600.00
Cullybackey College	St Mary's College	£1,050.50
Downshire School	Downshire Youth Club	£1,226.20
Dunclug College	St Patrick's College, Ballymena	£1,644.00
Magherafelt HS	None	£569.80
Belfast Boys' Model School		£3,000.00
Black Mountain Primary School (Nursery Unit)		£1,750.00
Clarawood School		£842.00
Cranmore Integrated Primary School		£2,850.00
Dominican College		£950.00
Donegall Road Primary School		£957.00
Euston Street Primary School		£2,000.00
Fane Street Primary School		£3,000.00
Glenbank Nursery School		£980.00
Harding Memorial Primary School		£600.00
Holy Rosary Primary School		£1,914.00
Little Flower Girls' School		£3,033.00
Lowwood Primary School		£3,000.00
McArthur Nursery School		£2,997.00
Mitchell House School		£1,355.00
Orangefield Primary School		£2,000.00
Ravenscroft Nursery School		£3,000.00
Shaftesbury Nursery School		£2,310.00
St Dominic's High School		£3,000.00
St Joseph's Primary School		£1,000.00
St Louise's Comprehensive College		£1,034.00
St Patrick's College		£2,294.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
St Paul's Primary School		£4,003.00
St Rose's Dominican College		£1,180.00
Taughmonagh Primary School		£3,000.00
The Link Centre		£2,970.00
Tudor Lodge Nursery School		£2,054.00
An Munia Tober (Bryson House)		£2,000.00
Annadale Haywood Residents' Association		£4,836.00
Curriculum Support Unit		£8,500.00
Corpus Christi Youth Centre		£2,202.00
East Belfast Area Project		£6,000.00
East Belfast Youth Forum		£1,000.00
Fortwilliam Youth Centre		£3,000.00
Gay and Lesbian Youth Northern Ireland		£2,000.00
Holy Trinity Youth Centre		£3,000.00
Inclusion and Diversity Team		£3,000.00
Ledley Hall Boys' and Girls' Club		£1,381.00
North Belfast Area Project		£3,000.00
South Belfast Area Project		£3,000.00
St Michael's Youth Club		£3,000.00
St Peter's Immaculata Youth Centre		£2,610.00
Streetbeat Youth Project		£3,000.00
Wandsworth Community Association		£2,999.00
West Belfast Area Project		£2,967.00
Boys Brigade	Girls Brigade, Catholic Girl Guides, Scout Association, Scouting for Ireland, Ulster Guides	£47,500.00
Youthlink	YMCA	£32,314.25
Youth Action	Public Achievement	£36,812.50
Include Youth		£3,313.50

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
St Joseph's Primary School, Lisburn	Harmony Hill Primary School	£2,720.00
Beechlawn Special School	Pond Park School	£2,193.60
St Columba's College	Glastry College	£1,200.00
Derryboy Primary School	St Caolan's Primary School	£794.80
St Malachy's HS	The High School Ballynahinch & Blackwater Integrated College	£2,050.00
CSK Area Project		£3,000.00
East Down Rural Project	Lecale & Ards Rural	£3,000.00
Newcastle Youth Provision (NCD)	Langley Youth Project	£3,000.00
Brooklands Youth Centre	North Down, Down & Ards Inclusion Project	£3,000.00
Brooklands Youth Centre	Wandsworth Community Centre	£3,000.00
Lisburn BME	Lisburn Rural	£3,000.00
Ballynahinch Youth Office		£1,950.00
Laurelhill Youth Centre		£3,000.00
Lagan College	Our Lady & St Patrick's College & Grosvenor Grammar School	£1,377.50
St Patrick's Academy, Lisburn	Lisnagarvey High School	£3,000.00
St Joseph's Primary School	Newcastle Primary School	£3,000.00
Glencraig Integrated Primary School	Hazelwood Integrated Primary School	£3,000.00
St Mary's High School, Downpatrick	Down High School	£1,800.00
Nendrum College	St Colmcille's High School	£950.00
Cumran Primary School	St Macartan's Primary School	£3,000.00
Clifton Special School	St Comgall's Primary School	£686.00
Regent House	Assumption Grammar School	£1,430.00
St Malachy's High School	Laurelhill Community College	£2,372.00
Kircubbin Integrated Primary School		£820.00
Ballinderry Primary School		£540.00
Ballyvester Primary School	St Anne's Primary School	£3,000.00
St Colmcilles High School		£1,470.00
Moira Primary School	Rowandale Integrated Primary School	£752.00
Holy Family Primary School	Academy Primary School	£3,000.00
Downpatrick Scouting Ireland Venture Group	South East Down Explorer Scouts	£3,000.00
29th Belfast Venture Scout Group	37th Belfast Explorer Scout Unit	£3,000.00

Group/School	Partner Group/School	Amount of Funding
Aghadrumsee PS	St Tierney's	£1,460.00
Ardstraw Jubilee PS	Gortnagarn PS	£877.50
Drumachose PS	Termoncanice PS	£3,240.00
Foyle View School	Hollybush PS	£720.00
Gillygooley PS	n/a	£895.00
Good Shepherd PS	Foyleview	£3,640.00
Gortin PS	St Peter's PS	£950.00
Holy Family PS	Omagh County PS	£613.40
Jones Memorial PS	n/a	£600.00
Langfield PS	n/a	£350.00
St Mary's PS, Altinure (P6)	Cumber Claudy PS	£750.00
St Mary's PS, Altinure (P7)	Cumber Claudy PS	£720.00
St Teresa's PS, Loughmacrory	n/a	£2,000.00
SW Inclusion Unit / Dromore Kils Kerry		£3,085.28
Omagh / Strabane Good Relations Programme		£1,634
WELB Inclusion Unit Omagh Disability Awareness		£610
WELB Inclusion Unit Omagh / Strabane Autism Buddy Project		£1,793.26

Schools: Allocated Funding for New Builds

Mr Frew asked Minister of Education to list the schools in each constituency that were allocated funding for new builds in each of the last three years; and the funding allocated in each case.

(AQW 35138/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: In the last three years, I have made three statements to the Assembly announcing 56 new build major capital projects across the Schools' estate.

I have attached tables showing the constituency and associated costs for each of the projects announced in June 2012 and January 2013. I have provided details of the constituency only for those projects I announced in recent weeks. Work has yet to begin on these projects therefore the total costs estimate given is purely indicative at this time.

JUNE 2012 CAPITAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Constituency	School	Estimated Cost*	Approved Cost*
Upper Bann	Tannaghmore Primary School, Lurgan		£6m
Upper Bann	St. Teresa's Primary School, Lurgan		£3.9m
Upper Bann	St. Mary's Primary School, Banbridge		£6.8m

Constituency	School	Estimated Cost*	Approved Cost*
Belfast North	Bunscoil Bheann Mhadagain, Belfast		£3.7m
Belfast East	Victoria Park Primary School, Belfast		£4.3m
Belfast West	St. Gerard's Resource Centre, Belfast		£4.3m
Belfast West	Coaliste Feirste		£11.9m
Newry & Armagh	St. Joseph's Convent Primary School, Newry		£9.025m
Newry & Armagh	St. Clare's Convent & St. Coleman's Abbey Primary School, Newry		£6.3m
Foyle	Eglinton Primary School, Derry		£2.6m
Foyle	Foyle College/Ebrington Primary School, Derry		£31.9m
Foyle	Belmont House Special School, Limavady	£7.4m	
East Londonderry	Rossmar Special School, Limavady		£8.3m
Fermanagh & South Tyrone	Enniskillen Model Primary School	£5.7m	
Lagan Valley	Dromore Central Primary School, Co. Down		£11.4m
North Antrim	Castletower Special School, Ballymena		£20.2m
West Tyrone	Arvalee Special School, Omagh		£18.9m

* Estimated costs relate to those projects which have not yet had an Economic Appraisal (EA) approved.

* Projects with an approved cost have Economic Appraisals (EA's) approved.

Constituency	School	Estimated Cost*	Approved Cost*
West Tyrone	Strabane Academy		£21.5m
West Tyrone	Gaelscoil Ui Dhochartaigh, Strabane	£2m	
West Tyrone	Omagh Integrated Primary School	£4m	
Fermanagh & South Tyrone	St Patrick's Academy Dungannon	£27m	
Fermanagh & South Tyrone	Devenish College/ Lisnakea, Enniskillen	£22.5m	
Fermanagh & South Tyrone	Portora Royal/ Collegiate, Enniskillen	£17m	
Newry & Armagh	St Joseph & St James Primary School, Poyntzpass & SMA	£2m	
Mid Ulster	Holy Trinity College, Cookstown	£25m	

Constituency	School	Estimated Cost*	Approved Cost*
Mid Ulster	Gaelscoil Ui Neill, Coalisland	£2m	
Mid Ulster	Edendork Primary School, Dungannon & SMA	£4m	
South Down	St Bronagh's Primary School, Rostrevor & SMA	£3m	
South Down	Down High School	£17m	
Foyle	Craigbrack PS/ Mullabuoy PS/ Listress Primary School	£2m	
Upper Bann	St Marys St Pauls & St Michaels – Lurgan	£26.5m	
Upper Bann	Portadown Integrated Primary School	£2m	
North Antrim	St Mary's PS/Glenravel Primary School	£2m	
North Antrim	Braidside Integrated Primary School	£3.5m	
South Antrim	Parkhall Integrated College, Antrim		£19.9m
East Antrim	Corran Integrated Primary School	£2m	
Belfast East	Elmgrove Primary School/ Avoniel Primary School	£11m	
Belfast North	Edenderry Nursery School	£0.5m	
Belfast North	Glenwood Primary School	£10.5m	

January 2013 Capital Announcement

* Estimated costs relate to those projects which have not yet had an Economic Appraisal (EA) approved.

* Projects with an approved cost have Economic Appraisals (EA's) approved.

JUNE 2014 CAPITAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Constituency	School
Strangford	Drumlins Integrated Primary School, Ballynahinch
West Tyrone	Gaelscoil na gCrann, Omagh
South Down	Iveagh Primary School, Rathfriland
East Londonderry	Roe Valley Integrated Primary School, Limavady
Belfast South	Scoil an Droichid, Belfast
Belfast South	Methodist College, Belfast
Belfast South	Newtownbreda/ Knockbreda High School
Belfast West	St Mark's/ St Luke's Primary Schools, Twinbrook
Belfast North	St Patrick's Primary School, Belfast
East Antrim	Woodburn Primary School, Carrickfergus
East Antrim	Monkstown High School/ Newtownabbey Community High

Constituency	School
North Antrim	Cullybackey High School
North Antrim	Dunclug High School, Ballymena
Upper Bann	Lismore Comprehensive, Lurgan
Newry & Armagh	St Joseph's High School, Crossmaglen
East Antrim	St Killian's College, Carnlough

The above projects are at an earlier stage of the planning/design process as they have only been announced. As such a detailed description of the works to be undertaken, associated costs and timescales for completion have not yet been agreed. Cost are currently estimated to be in the region of £170-£180million.

Retentions for Small Works Across the Education and Library Boards

Mr McGlone asked the Minister of Education, pursuant to AQW 34841/11-15, what his Department is doing to ensure consistency, in terms of retentions for small works, across the Education and Library Boards.

(AQW 35162/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: I refer to my previous answer for AQW 34841/11-15 which outlined the consistent approach taken by the Education and Library Boards (ELB's).

Public procurement guidance includes a Fair Payment Charter which is designed to encourage fair and transparent payment practices; this includes payments in respect of retention. ELB's confirm they consistently apply public procurement guidance and monitor payments made to contractors.

My Department seeks quarterly updates from each ELB in respect of their inclusion, use and monitoring of Fair Payment clauses in works contracts to ensure there is compliance with the Fair Payment Charter.

Capital Works Programme

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Education, pursuant to AQW 6680/11-15, and in light of the schools capital works programme announcement for St Killian's College, Garron Tower on 24th June 2014, how his Department's disposal procedure will now be implemented regarding the sale and reinvestment of the proceeds of the former St Comgall's College site to contribute to the cost of the new build.

(AQW 35174/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The former St Comgall's College site in Larne is owned by the Trustees and, as such, disposal of the site is the Trustees' responsibility. However, as the school received Government grants over its lifetime, the Department is entitled to recover public funds, as provided for by legislation.

St Killian's College is the result of the amalgamation of St Comgall's College with St Aloysius High School and St MacNissi's College. As I announced on 24 June 2014 that a new build for St Killian's College is to be advanced in planning, there is an expectation that the value of the vacant premises will be clawed back by the Department. The Trustees will retain an equity share in the new building.

Should the St Comgall's site be disposed of before expenditure is incurred for the provision of the new build, then this will be taken into account in agreeing the grant recovery sum.

Nurture Projects Funding

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Education what his Department is doing in conjunction with the Office of the First Minister and deputy First Minister to ensure that successful nurture projects, such as the one at St Joseph's Primary School in Antrim, continue to be funded.

(AQW 35177/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: The "Nurture Unit" Signature Project is one of six Signature Projects announced by the First Minister and Deputy First Minister (OFMdFM) in October 2012 and is being taken forward jointly by the Department of Education (DE) and the Department and Social Development. It is part of the Delivering Social Change Programme and involved the establishment of 20 new nurture units. In addition DE is also funding existing nurture units in 10 schools where funding had ceased or would be due to cease during the life of the Signature Project.

DE does not have a formal policy position on nurture provision but I have recently commissioned independent research and evaluation on the effectiveness and impacts of nurture provision, from all 30 units, to provide an evidence base for a policy decision on whether this intervention should continue to be supported in schools, and if so, how best to target this effectively, to ensure maximum impact for those children most in need of this form of support.

Total Capital Investment in County Fermanagh: Schools

Mr Elliott asked the Minister of Education to detail the total capital investment in (i) primary; and (ii) post-primary schools in County Fermanagh in each of the last ten years, broken down by sector.

(AQW 35219/11-15)

Mr O'Dowd: Information is only readily available in the requested format for the last eight years.

The attached table provides details of capital spend in (i) primary and (ii) post primary schools in County Fermanagh broken down by sector.

School	2006/07 £'s	2007/08 £'s	2008/09 £'s	2009/10 £'s	2010/11 £'s	2011/12 £'s	2012/13 £'s	2013/14 £'s
Controlled Primary								
Aghadrumsee P S	11,168.00	0.00	4,355.00	5,760.00	84.00	23,868.00	23,151.00	2,165.00
Ballinamallard P S	200,047.00	11,943.00	22,348.00	33,916.00	23,549.00	9,109.00	30,704.00	347,493.00
Belleek(2) P S	334.00	0.00	4,027.00	95,197.00	7,880.00	4,703.00	29,792.00	0.00
Brookeborough P S	8,770.00	19,441.00	8,605.00	13,653.00	2,879.00	29,381.00	17,962.00	0.00
Derrygonnelly P S	0.00	0.00	4,057.00	1,119.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Enniskillen Model P S	17,173.00	28,449.00	4,912.00	8,269.00	13,520.00	83,880.00	52,462.00	0.00
Florencecourt P S	10,979.00	22,982.00	45,409.00	29,529.00	20,339.00	28,387.00	5,519.00	45,079.00
Irvinestown P S	20,617.00	375.00	69,156.00	3,631.00	14,776.00	3,686.00	2,640.00	63,928.00
Jones Memorial P S	131,089.00	42,910.00	19,277.00	35,850.00	18,977.00	28,089.00	13,968.00	50,163.00
Kesh P S	0.00	863.00	22,529.00	1,276.00	0.00	4,960.00	0.00	0.00
Lack P S	19,052.00	50.00	23,987.00	26,452.00	79,506.00	21,303.00	0.00	0.00
Lisbellaw P S	29,204.00	33.00	715.00	75,985.00	0.00	15,405.00	19,395.00	0.00
Maguiresbridge P S	3,691.00	375.00	46,255.00	8,688.00	16,281.00	9,019.00	29,518.00	1,276.00
Moat P S	109,984.00	29,427.00	22,895.00	15,547.00	25,333.00	17,894.00	15,730.00	0.00
Newtownbutler(2) P S	0.00	3,357.00	29,419.00	4,817.00	822.00	41,055.00	7,649.00	41,760.00
Tempo P S	0.00	0.00	21,788.00	10,057.00	9,425.00	15,104.00	346,675.00	36,209.00
Total	562,108.00	160,205.00	349,734.00	369,746.00	233,371.00	335,843.00	595,165.00	588,073.00
Controlled Post Primary								
Devenish College	566,009.00	6,055.00	160,924.71	155,829.00	35,949.00	182,588.00	156,482.00	94,200.00

School	2006/07 £'s	2007/08 £'s	2008/09 £'s	2009/10 £'s	2010/11 £'s	2011/12 £'s	2012/13 £'s	2013/14 £'s
Lisnaskea High School	40,918.00	3,600.00	13,378.00	55,028.00	15,573.00	22,892.00	808.00	0.00
Total	606,927.00	9,655.00	174,302.71	210,857.00	51,522.00	205,480.00	157,290.00	94,200.00
Controlled Grammar								
Collegiate Grammar School	42,990.00	21,359.00	60,334.00	28,068.00	4,407.00	25,062.00	8,186.00	57,036.00
Controlled Grammar Total	42,990.00	21,359.00	60,334.00	28,068.00	4,407.00	25,062.00	8,186.00	57,036.00
Overall Controlled Total	1,212,025.00	191,219.00	584,370.71	608,671.00	289,300.00	566,385.00	760,641.00	739,309.00
Maintained Primary								
Bunscoil an Traonaigh	0.00	0.00	3,877.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bunscoil an Traonaigh, Meals	0.00	14,476.00	9,815.00	1,995.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Holy Trinity P S	4,332.87	14,054.24	10,734.08	124,811.00	14,863.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
Holy Trinity P S Meals	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,441.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Killyhommon P S	71,212.00	12,053.00	41,912.52	95,154.84	853.43	2,500.00	0.00	0.00
Killyhommon P S, Meals	16,258.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Columban's P S	23,637.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Davog's P S	184.78	2,379.94	0.00	0.00	7,352.00	40,660.00	2,590.76	0.00
St John the Baptist P S	1,632.00	1,583.00	24,899.71	2,440.22	67,273.86	244.00	20,337.00	0.00
St Joseph's P S, Donagh	24,197.05	442.77	18,432.57	0.00	0.00	7,200.00	279,271.00	80,042.00

School	2006/07 £'s	2007/08 £'s	2008/09 £'s	2009/10 £'s	2010/11 £'s	2011/12 £'s	2012/13 £'s	2013/14 £'s
St Joseph's P S, Ederney	0.00	40,682.00	49,052.00	28,771.80	211.28	2,203.00	370.00	44,787.73
St Macartan's P S	24,875.00	0.00	10,178.00	34,518.00	1,880.00	1,524,134.00	315,632.00	2,595.00
St Martin's P S	3,035.28	15,590.00	2,193.00	3,622.50	5,759.93	33,023.00	1,738.00	0.00
St Mary's P S, Brookeborough	3,527.17	24,538.00	36,534.00	12,394.15	2,271.00	0.00	3,467.00	0.00
St Mary's P S, Killesher	14,860.00	1,583.64	7,004.12	73,467.00	23,674.00	0.00	2,104.00	0.00
St Mary's P S, Maguire'sbridge	245,298.55	81,107.00	20,439.12	0.00	2,310.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Mary's P S, Mullymesker	55,708.24	0.00	85,500.00	3,233.96	32,627.00	0.00	768.60	0.00
St Mary's P S, N'butler	0.00	16,487.00	67,832.00	0.00	146,996.02	56,165.84	7,647.07	0.00
St Mary's P S, Teemore	24,435.00	6,797.95	33,999.00	0.00	6,457.80	1,897.34	0.00	3,852.60
St Mary's P S, Teemore, Meals	0.00	2,488.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Mary's P S, Tempo	1,758.25	0.00	8,812.50	0.00	12,816.78	2,487.00	35,908.00	0.00
St Naile's P S	0.00	0.00	52,203.28	38,598.66	68,222.11	233,172.65	18,932.34	4,473.38
St Ninnidh's P S	32,525.00	18,280.00	39,466.00	80,331.00	0.00	0.00	38,185.79	0.00
St Patrick's P S, D'gonnelly	1,395.88	20,723.49	0.00	10,284.00	0.00	1,272.79	0.00	14,351.66
St Patrick's P S, Mullanaskea	65,817.79	863.39	0.00	22,167.52	68,442.00	0.00	17,461.00	0.00
St Paul's P S	0.00	8,066.75	0.00	41,302.00	24,971.52	1,027.78	0.00	0.00

School	2006/07 £'s	2007/08 £'s	2008/09 £'s	2009/10 £'s	2010/11 £'s	2011/12 £'s	2012/13 £'s	2013/14 £'s
St Paul's P S, Meals	0.00	185.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Ronan's P S	87,939.47	159,951.00	17,470.85	0.00	14,578.00	237.00	82,752.14	704.00
St Tierney's P S	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,676.00	507.55	2,400.00	7,432.08	0.00
Tattygar P S	80,695.00	22,684.00	10,324.83	16,279.68	5,823.89	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	783,325.12	465,016.17	550,680.08	597,488.33	507,892.45	1,908,624.40	834,596.78	150,806.37
Maintained Post Primary								
St Aidan's High School	4,384.93	9,078.00	0.00	68,814.49	90,087.00	352,988.91	47,379.00	41,175.23
St Comhghall's College	85,069.60	55,930.76	165,646.39	48,710.90	400,482.01	70,147.99	33,809.00	13,435.14
St Comhghall's College, Meals	0.00	1,995.00	9,465.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Eugene's College	8,102.37	24,074.00	83,078.69	1,069.77	8,404.27	1,728.00	0.00	0.00
St Fanchea's College	368,468.00	289,018.00	47,165.00	81,596.00	19,115.00	155,013.00	0.00	13,597.00
St Joseph's College	616.00	70,719.00	22,105.21	114,177.91	12,628.00	168,307.08	38,629.00	84,922.33
St Mary's College	25,436.00	21,503.65	0.00	0.00	65,426.66	52,043.00	0.00	0.00
St Mary's College, Meals	186.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	255.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
St Mary's High School	14,314.00	0.00	0.00	7,864.87	22,325.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	506,576.90	472,318.41	327,460.29	322,233.94	618,722.94	800,227.98	119,817.00	153,129.70
Overall Maintained Total	1,289,902.02	937,334.58	878,140.37	919,722.27	1,126,615.39	2,708,852.38	954,413.78	303,936.07

School	2006/07 £'s	2007/08 £'s	2008/09 £'s	2009/10 £'s	2010/11 £'s	2011/12 £'s	2012/13 £'s	2013/14 £'s
Voluntary Grammar Schools								
Mount Lourdes G S	1,510,859.44	3,464,321.78	2,441,981.38	238,581.24	267,776.23	107,618.33	16,624.00	39,481.50
Portora Royal School	9,554.10	112,945.20	14,529.24	44,525.75	17,523.91	130,810.17	7,646.00	23,773.60
St Michael's College	56,393.59	168,313.47	355,186.66	324,459.91	26,781.16	319,587.00	32,307.00	0.00
Overall Voluntary Grammar Total	1,576,807.13	3,745,580.45	2,811,697.28	607,566.90	312,081.30	558,015.50	56,577.00	63,255.10
Grant Maintained Integrated Primary								
Enniskillen Integrated P S	793,829.00	1,689,987.36	101,165.35	156,977.92	1,140.00	1,200.00	4,369.10	60,425.00
Total	793,829.00	1,689,987.36	101,165.35	156,977.92	1,140.00	1,200.00	4,369.10	60,425.00
Grant Maintained Integrated Post Primary								
Erne Integrated College	336,003.57	99,635.05	6,837.00	544,938.96	67,229.96	4,200.00	8,181.00	75,893.86
Total	336,003.57	99,635.05	6,837.00	544,938.96	67,229.96	4,200.00	8,181.00	75,893.86
Overall Grant Maintained Integrated Total	1,129,832.57	1,789,622.41	108,002.35	701,916.88	68,369.96	5,400.00	12,550.10	136,318.86
Overall Yearly Totals	5,208,566.72	6,663,756.44	4,382,210.71	2,837,877.05	1,796,366.65	3,838,652.88	1,784,181.88	1,242,819.03
Overall Total For All Years =	27,754,431.36							

* The Western Education and Library Board (WELB) has provided expenditure information in relation to the controlled sector and school meals accommodation in the maintained sector.

** Information relating to capital expenditure in the voluntary sector has been obtained from Departmental records.

Department for Employment and Learning

Tackling Low Educational Achievement

Mr Weir asked the Minister for Employment and Learning to detail the departmental projects or funding schemes available to organisations to help tackle low educational achievement in local communities. **(AQW 34995/11-15)**

Dr Farry (The Minister for Employment and Learning): My Department is committed to tackling low educational achievement in a range of ways.

DEL has developed and implemented the Learner Access and Engagement Programme to widen access to learning opportunities for all individuals across Northern Ireland. This programme, which commenced in September 2013, allows further education colleges to contract with third party organisations for the provision of learner support. The learner support is directed at 'hard to reach' learners aged 16 and over who are economically inactive, disengaged from the labour market, and hold few or no qualifications; the aim is to encourage them to enrol on and complete FE courses.

Access to Success is my Department's regional strategy to widen participation in higher education among those groups which are currently under-represented, in particular students from disadvantaged backgrounds and students with disabilities and learning difficulties. It has a strong focus on the creation of a more accessible sector in which the people who are most able, but least likely to participate, are given every encouragement and support to apply to and benefit from higher education. The strategy sets out a programme, which includes work on the introduction of the 'Reach' programme; under this programme my Department will make funding available to the Higher Education Institutions on a competitive basis to support the expansion of the range of educational attainment-raising programmes in schools, colleges, the community and the workplace.

My Department provides a guaranteed training place on the 'Training for Success' programme to those who are unemployed and in the 16 & 17 year old age group. There are extended eligibility criteria for those aged under 22 with a disability, and under 24 for those young people who qualify under the Children (Leaving Care) Act (NI) (2002). The Programme is designed to enable young people to progress to higher level training, further education, or employment. It provides training to address personal and social development needs, occupational and employability skills, and, where necessary, Essential Skills of literacy, numeracy and information and communications technology.

The Employment Service Division within my Department provides a range of programmes that offer help to improve our customers' employability through work experience. This help is aimed at providing employment-related skills and qualifications and is provided through a network of 35 offices based in communities across Northern Ireland. In addition to offering help directly to customers, my offices also work with community-based groups and charitable organisations in an effort to make our services more accessible to customers.

The Collaboration and Innovation Fund is funded under the Executive's 'Pathways to Success' Strategy, designed to help young people aged 16 to 24 who are not in education, employment or training. The Fund is testing new approaches to address the general and specific employability barriers faced by the most vulnerable groups of young unemployed people, such as those who have drug or alcohol problems, a mental illness or physical disability, low educational achievement, or who have left care. Over £8.9 million has been allocated to 23 organisations from the community, voluntary and educational sectors to deliver project activity from December 2012 to March 2015.

Priority 1 of the Northern Ireland European Social Fund Programme 2007-13 is entitled 'Helping People into Sustainable Employment'; it aims to reduce unemployment and economic inactivity among unemployed people.

The main aim of Priority 1 is to improve the employability of those groups experiencing significant employment gaps; these include people with disabilities and health conditions, lone parents and other disadvantaged parents, older workers, young people not in education, employment or training, women,

people with no or low qualifications, and other disadvantaged groups such as homeless people and others. There are 95 projects currently supported under this Priority.

Zero Hour Contracts

Mr Weir asked the Minister for Employment and Learning for his assessment of the current number of people employed on a zero hour contract.

(AQW 35134/11-15)

Dr Farry: Information on the number of zero hours contracts in Northern Ireland is imprecise. The Office of National Statistics UK-wide Labour Force Survey for the period October-December 2013 found that 583,000 people categorised themselves as being on a zero hours contract: an increase on the 250,000 reported for the same period in 2012.

More recently in April 2014, the Office of National Statistics published the results of its survey of 5000 employers - which indicated that employers in Great Britain are using around 1.4 million employee contracts that do not guarantee a minimum number of hours. The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development also completed earlier research which suggested that there could be around 1.2 million.

Given the public interest in this issue I launched a consultation on 23 June 2014 that seeks to determine the extent of the use of zero hours contracts and to provide a clearer picture of their benefit or impact within our economy. The consultation period will run from 23 June 2014 until 29 September 2014.

In parallel to the public consultation I have also commissioned quantitative and qualitative research to provide a better understanding of the numbers of zero hours contracts and where they are most prevalent.

The consultation and research will allow me to determine whether there is a need to bring forward legislative proposals or provide clearer information, advice and guidance for employers and employees availing of these contracts.

Youth Employment Programme

Mr Easton asked the Minister for Employment and Learning to outline how the Youth Employment Programme operates.

(AQW 35151/11-15)

Dr Farry: The Youth Employment Scheme was introduced in July 2012 to address high levels of unemployment among young people in Northern Ireland.

It is a voluntary scheme designed to help young people aged 18 to 24 to develop the skills needed to get a job. It is built upon a partnership between the young person, the employer, the Department and Lead Contractors.

The Youth Employment Scheme has three elements.

- Work Experience - lasting 3-8 weeks which allows a young person to develop employability skills and improve levels of confidence and motivation in a work placement setting. Participants on this element are paid a Benefit Based Training Allowance and receive the equivalent of their benefit plus £15.38 per week.
- Skills Development - a period of up to 26 weeks which enables job ready 18-24 year olds to undertake work experience and relevant qualifications with the aim of improving their ability to compete in the labour market with more experienced jobseekers. Participants on this element are paid a Benefit Based Training Allowance and receive the equivalent of their benefit plus £45 per week. Those young people who complete their training and achieve a qualification will receive a bonus payment of £250.

Participants in both of these elements are entitled to reimbursement of travel costs in excess of £4 per week and, in some circumstances, to assistance with childcare costs.

- Enhanced Employer Subsidy - Employers offering full time, permanent jobs to young people may avail of a subsidy of up to £5,750 for the first 52 weeks of employment. Employers must provide training to allow the young people to develop their skills and gain relevant qualifications while in employment.

The scheme is delivered by the Department's Employment Service across its network of 35 Jobs and Benefits Offices and JobCentres. Employment Service staff engage directly with young people to identify their employability skills gaps and with employers to secure work experience placements and jobs which match the employability needs and aspirations of each individual young person. Before a young person takes up his or her placement, the employer is required to sign a formal agreement with the Department. The agreement sets out the conditions of the scheme and the responsibilities and obligations of the employer.

Participants are fully supported throughout their time on the scheme. Under the terms of the agreement signed with the Department, the employer is required to appoint a mentor for each young person on placement. This support is complemented by Employment Service staff who visit participants a number of times at their placement. The level and type of support needed will vary according to individual needs and the type of activity undertaken.

On 30th September 2013, following a Post Implementation Review, the Department entered into a partnership arrangement with Lead Contractors to support the delivery of the Youth Employment Scheme. The involvement of Lead Contractors is intended to broaden the support and advice available to the young people and to provide Employment Service staff with additional options for eligible and suitable participants. Lead Contractors are primarily responsible for the identification and delivery of training for employers offering Skills Development opportunities and for the administration of these placements on behalf of the Department, including the payment of travel and childcare allowances to participants.

Steps 2 Success Programme

Mr Weir asked the Minister for Employment and Learning whether there are any restrictions in place on an applicant being (i) accepted; and (ii) funded on the Steps 2 Success Programme on the basis of their capital or savings.

(AQW 35184/11-15)

Dr Farry: Eligibility for the Steps 2 Success programme is determined by the Social Security benefits which clients are receiving. The qualifying benefits are; Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support and Pension Credit. Clients in receipt of any of these benefits can participate on the programme to help them prepare for and find work.

If a client is not entitled to one of the qualifying benefits for any reason, including capital or savings which exceed the upper capital limit, they would not be eligible to participate on Steps 2 Success.

The responsibility for determining a claimant's entitlement to Social Security benefits lies solely with the Social Security Agency within the Department for Social Development.

Clients who are not in receipt of a qualifying benefit, but who are seeking help to find employment, can still avail of the help and support provided by my Department's Employment Service staff located in local Jobs and Benefits offices and Jobcentres across Northern Ireland .

Therefore, although there are no direct restrictions in place on an applicant either being accepted or funded on the Steps 2 Success programme on the basis of their capital or savings, a person may not be accepted on Steps 2 Success because of a decision taken on their eligibility to benefits.

Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

Sandwich Sector

Mrs Dobson asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, pursuant to AQW 33946/11-15, what level of exports sale were (i) expected; and (ii) levered as a result of this investment into the sandwich sector, in each of the last three years.

(AQW 34874/11-15)

Mrs Foster (The Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment): Invest NI supports projects over a multi-year period and expects that the full economic benefit will also be realised after a number of years.

The total increase in exports for the projects listed in AQW 34875/11-15 is projected to be £6.3million by the end of the full implementation.

Validated export figures are provided by HMRC on a quarterly and annual basis. HMRC provides figures or set categories, such as Vegetables & Fruit and Dairy; thus the specific information requested for the sandwich sector is not available.

Sandwich Sector

Mrs Dobson asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, pursuant to AQW 33946/11-15, to detail (i) how; and (ii) when the investment was delivered to the companies.

(AQW 34875/11-15)

Mrs Foster: The table below details all assistance from Invest NI to companies related to the sandwich sector within the past three years, the support offered and claimed by the clients:

Company Name	Invest NI Scheme/Programme	Total Investment	Amount Offered	Paid to Date
Deli-Lites (Ireland) Ltd	Growth Accelerator Programme	£117,120	£45,648	£45,648
Trevor Poole	Growth Accelerator Programme	£55,460	£22,184	£432
Around Noon Ltd	Growth Accelerator Programme	£22,000	£8,800	£8,800
Deli-Lites (Ireland) Ltd	SFA Jobs Fund	£352,000	£42,000	£42,000
Bite Snack Foods Ltd	Restructuring Support	£125,000	£125,000	£125,000
Woodwin (Catering) Ltd	Growth Accelerator Programme	£95,572	£38,228	£0
Around Noon Ltd	Business Growth – Jobs Fund	£198,000	£39,600	£0
Around Noon Ltd	SFA Jobs Fund	£1,674,000	£108,000	£0
	Total:	£2,639,152	£429,460	£221,880

Investment in North Belfast

Mr G Kelly asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to detail the funding that her Department, and its arm's-length bodies, invested in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014.

(AQW 34884/11-15)

Mrs Foster: My Department has invested the following funding in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014:-

InvestNI (1 May 2011 to 31 March 2014)	£17,450,000
Northern Ireland Tourist Board	£215,160
Energy (Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme)	£30,141
Total	£17,695,301

Funding for Credit Unions

Mr I McCrea asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to detail the funding her Department has provided to each Credit Union.

(AQW 34893/11-15)

Mrs Foster: My Department has not provided any direct funding to individual credit unions. However £20,000 was provided to the Irish League of Credit Unions and £20,000 to the Ulster Federation of Credit Unions to help them meet the costs of providing a service to all credit unions that required guidance on the transitional arrangements for the transfer of regulation from my Department to the then Financial Services Authority.

Payments for Appearances or Voice Overs in Advertisements

Mr Flanagan asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment to provide a breakdown of the payments made to (i) individuals; and (ii) organisations on behalf of individuals, for appearances or voice overs in advertisements for the Northern Ireland Tourist Board since 2011.

(AQW 34957/11-15)

Mrs Foster: The Northern Ireland Tourist Board's remit is to promote Northern Ireland as a visitor destination to both the Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland markets. NITB does this through the delivery of a series of marketing campaigns.

The Northern Ireland Tourist Board's marketing activity is delivered through a procured agency which develops all NITB's advertising creatives.

The total expenditure for appearances or voice overs in advertisements for the Northern Ireland Tourist Board since 2011 is £267,157. This covers 14 different marketing campaigns with multiple TV, radio, online, outdoor and press executions. This figure is paid directly to the agency in line with proper procurement procedures and at competitive market rates.

Jobs Created Through Foreign Investment

Mr Easton asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment how many jobs have been created through foreign investment in the last three years.

(AQW 34990/11-15)

Mrs Foster: In the past three years (2011-12 to 2013-14) 4,899 new jobs have been created through projects delivered by externally-owned Invest NI customers.

Foreign Direct Investment Jobs Promoted by InvestNI

Mr Flanagan asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, of the 4,760 Foreign Direct Investment jobs promoted by InvestNI in 2013/14, to detail the number of these promoted in each of the 26 district council areas.

(AQW 35012/11-15)

Mrs Foster: The table below details the number of jobs promoted by externally-owned companies in each of the 26 district council areas (DCAs) during 2013-14.

INVEST NI EXTERNALLY-OWNED JOBS PROMOTED BY COUNCIL AREA (2013-14)

DCA	New Jobs Promoted
Antrim	241
Ards	0
Armagh	13
Ballymena	0
Ballymoney	0
Banbridge	2
Belfast	3,282
Carrickfergus	100
Castlereagh	0
Coleraine	0
Cookstown	3
Craigavon	25
Derry	510
Down	10
Dungannon	0
Fermanagh	1
Larne	102
Limavady	0
Lisburn	5
Magherafelt	0
Moyle	0
Newry & Mourne	8
Newtownabbey	1
North Down	6
Omagh	19
Strabane	64
Not Yet Located	368
Total	4,760

Note: Not Yet Located refers to those businesses that have not yet selected a location in which to establish their business.

Local Jobs Promoted by InvestNI

Mr Flanagan asked the Minister of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, of the local jobs promoted by InvestNI in 2013/14, which were not business startups, to detail the number of jobs promoted in each of the 26 district council areas.

(AQW 35013/11-15)

Mrs Foster: The table below details the number of local jobs promoted by InvestNI in 2013/14, which were not business startups, in each of the 26 district council areas (DCAs).

INVEST NI LOCAL JOBS PROMOTED (EXCL. BUSINESS START UPS*) BY COUNCIL AREA (2013-14)

DCA	New Jobs Promoted
Antrim	99
Ards	61
Armagh	122
Ballymena	243
Ballymoney	94
Banbridge	22
Belfast	1,027
Carrickfergus	26
Castlereagh	73
Coleraine	104
Cookstown	128
Craigavon	286
Derry	348
Down	157
Dungannon	282
Fermanagh	83
Larne	4
Limavady	53
Lisburn	227
Magherafelt	168
Moyle	32
Newry & Mourne	205
Newtownabbey	127
North Down	114
Omagh	122
Strabane	68
Total	4,275

* Business Start Ups refers to the Regional Start Initiative, Invest NI's business start scheme delivered in conjunction with Enterprise NI.

Department of the Environment

Northern Ireland Environment Agency Scientific Officer Posts

Mr McGlone asked the Minister of the Environment, in relation to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency Scientific Officer posts advertised in August 2012, why internal candidates are kept on the reserve list for two years, whereas external candidates are only kept on the list for one year.

(AQW 33594/11-15)

Mr Durkan (The Minister of the Environment): Merit lists for external recruitment competitions in the Northern Ireland Civil Service remain live for one year, unless there are cogent practical reasons for extending the period; this applies to both internal and external candidates. The current merit list for the Scientific Officer competition is due to expire on 17 September 2014.

Tamboran Resources: Intention to Drill a Borehole

Mr Agnew asked the Minister of the Environment whether he has received notification from Tamboran Resources of their intention to drill a borehole.

(AQW 34189/11-15)

Mr Durkan: The Department has not received any confirmation from Tamboran indicating their intention to drill a borehole, however Tamboran has indicated that they intend to issue notification in the near future.

When notification is received, the Assembly will be notified.

Planning Applications

Mr Weir asked the Minister of the Environment to detail the number of planning applications, in each of the last three years, that were not processed within the target time, broken down by planning division.

(AQW 34474/11-15)

Mr Durkan: Since 2012/13, target times for processing planning applications have been set with reference to the average (median) processing times involved for the three categories of planning application – major, intermediate and minor. This means that the target is for at least 50% of all such applications to be processed within the specified target time. It is not an absolute target for all applications but instead must be met by half of all applications processed by DOE Planning.

In 2011/12, the equivalent targets were for 60%, 70%, and 80% of major, intermediate and minor, respectively, to be processed with the specified target time, which was generally longer than subsequent years in order to allow for the larger percentage of cases which had to meet the target in that year.

TABLE 1 BELOW SHOWS THE NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS OF EACH TYPE PROCESSED EACH YEAR, THE PROCESSING TARGET TIME IN FORCE FOR THAT YEAR, THE NUMBER REQUIRED TO BE PROCESSED WITHIN THAT TIME FOR THE TARGET TO BE MET, AND THE SHORTFALL IN NUMBERS IF THE TARGET WAS NOT MET.

Table 1: Planning Processing Performance 2013/14

		2011/12					2012/13					2013/14					
Type of application	Total number processed to decision 1	Target Processing time in weeks	Target number to be processed	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Target Processing time in weeks	Target number to be processed	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Target Processing time in weeks	Target number to be processed	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Target Processing time in weeks	Target number to be processed	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number
		(% to be processed)					(% to be processed)				(% to be processed)				(% to be processed)		
Belfast	Major	23 (60%)	539	288	251	23 (50%)	989	404	91	20 (50%)	771	299	87	20 (50%)	386	299	87
	Intermediate	31 (70%)	722	619	103	20 (50%)	1,256	503	125	18 (50%)	1,213	544	63	18 (50%)	607	544	63
	Minor	18 (80%)	1,162	794	368	14 (50%)	1,286	607	36	12 (50%)	1,222	560	51	12 (50%)	611	560	51
Northern	Major	23 (60%)	364	264	100	23 (50%)	672	329	7	20 (50%)	562	239	42	20 (50%)	281	239	42
	Intermediate	31 (70%)	712	750	0	20 (50%)	986	607	0	18 (50%)	842	520	0	18 (50%)	421	520	0
	Minor	18 (80%)	479	457	22	14 (50%)	528	369	0	12 (50%)	478	294	0	12 (50%)	239	294	0

	Type of application	2011/12					2012/13					2013/14				
		Total number processed to decision 1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Total number processed to decision or withdrawal1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Total number processed to decision or withdrawal1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number
South Antrim	Major	528	23 (60%)	317	256	61	506	23 (50%)	253	275	0	419	20 (50%)	210	212	0
	Intermediate	827	31 (70%)	579	683	0	735	20 (50%)	368	490	0	655	18 (50%)	328	441	0
	Minor	498	18 (80%)	398	361	37	468	14 (50%)	234	326	0	475	12 (50%)	238	327	0
Southern	Major	924	23 (60%)	554	256	298	916	23 (50%)	458	355	103	671	20 (50%)	336	259	77
	Intermediate	2,020	31 (70%)	1,414	870	544	1,775	20 (50%)	888	756	132	1,398	18 (50%)	699	751	0
	Minor	799	18 (80%)	639	315	324	678	14 (50%)	339	312	27	601	12 (50%)	301	333	0

		2011/12					2012/13					2013/14				
Type of application	Total number processed to decision 1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Total number processed to decision or withdrawal1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	Total number processed to decision or withdrawal1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time2	Shortfall from target number	
Strategic Planning3	Major	233 (60%)	140	53	87	263	23 (50%)	132	17	115	128	20 (50%)	64	6	58	
	Intermediate	36 (70%)	25	18	7	64	20 (50%)	32	13	19	46	18 (50%)	23	7	16	
	Minor	3 (80%)	2	1	1		14 (50%)					12 (50%)				
Western	Major	781 (60%)	469	420	49	944	23 (50%)	472	546	0	723	20 (50%)	362	318	44	
	Intermediate	1,702 (70%)	1,191	1,340	0	1,212	20 (50%)	606	841	0	1,108	18 (50%)	554	750	0	
	Minor	553 (80%)	442	460	0	496	14 (50%)	248	380	0	458	12 (50%)	229	317	0	

	Type of application	2011/12					2012/13					2013/14				
		Total number processed to decision 1	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time ²	Shortfall from target number	Total number processed to decision or withdrawal ¹	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time ²	Shortfall from target number	Total number processed to decision or withdrawal ¹	Target Processing time in weeks (% to be processed)	Target number to be processed within target time	Actual number processed within target time ²	Shortfall from target number
All applications	Major	3,970	23 (60%)	2,382	1,537	845	4,290	23 (50%)	2,145	1,926	219	3,274	20 (50%)	1,637	1,333	304
	Intermediate	6,634	31 (70%)	4,644	4,280	364	6,028	20 (50%)	3,014	3,210	0	5,262	18 (50%)	2,631	3,013	0
	Minor	3,905	18 (80%)	3,124	2,388	736	3,456	14 (50%)	1,728	1,994	0	3,234	12 (50%)	1,617	1,831	0

Notes:

- 1 For 2011/12, the targets only related to applications that had been processed to a decision and excluded withdrawn applications. For 2012/13 and 2013/14 withdrawn applications were included in the targets, and Large Scale Investment applications were excluded.
- 2 A small number of applications were missing a value for processing time, and so had to be excluded from the calculation to determine if they had met the targets.
- 3 Strategic Planning generally process only major planning applications.
Belfast Planning Area includes the Belfast, North Down, Castlereagh, Ards and Lisburn Local Government Districts
Northern includes Derry, Strabane, Limavady, Coleraine, Ballymoney and Moyle districts
South Antrim includes Ballymena, Larne, Antrim, Newtonabbey and Carrickfergus districts
Southern includes Craigavon, Armagh, Banbridge, Newry and Mourne, and Down districts
Western includes Omagh, Fermanagh, Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt district

Number Plate System in Northern Ireland

Mr I McCrea asked the Minister of the Environment whether there are any plans to change the number plate system in Northern Ireland in line with the rest of the UK.

(AQW 34503/11-15)

Mr Durkan: Vehicle Licensing is an excepted matter and is the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Transport. It is administered in Northern Ireland by the Driver & Vehicle Agency (DVA) under a formal agreement between the Department of the Environment and the Department for Transport (DfT). The Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) is responsible for vehicle licensing policy matters across the United Kingdom and provide the necessary funding for the vehicle and registration services delivered by DVA in Northern Ireland.

You will be well aware that the DfT in London is introducing new arrangements for vehicle licensing and registration services in Northern Ireland. After 17 July 2014, the DVA in Northern Ireland will no longer tax and register vehicles or allocate vehicle registration marks. This will become the responsibility of the DVLA in Swansea from Monday 21 July 2014. From this date the format of vehicle registration plates in Northern Ireland will be a matter for the DVLA.

I understand that the DVLA does not have any plans to change the present number plate system in Northern Ireland.

Fully Accessible Service Vehicles

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of the Environment what consideration has been given to the fact that public hire taxis are, by their specific design, disability access compliant; and what action his Department is taking to highlight this fact to groups representing people with disabilities as to encourage the use of these fully accessible service vehicles.

(AQW 34573/11-15)

Mr Durkan: In November 2012 my Department engaged Integrated Transport Planning (ITP) to conduct research into the taxi industry in Northern Ireland. One of the research outputs was a recommendation for a new technical specification for a wheelchair accessible vehicle. The research, which was concluded in January 2014, included consideration of the Belfast Public Hire (BPH) fleet.

Details of the reports were provided to the Committee by letter on 7 February 2014 and the synopsis of responses to the relevant consultation and subsequent policy intentions has been relayed to the Committee for consideration. To mitigate the costs of the higher accessibility specification, the Department is proposing to grant BPH grandfather rights for five years. This will allow them to continue to operate as wheelchair accessible taxis during this time as long as they can continue to meet the current wheelchair accessible vehicle specification.

All of the groups representing people with disabilities that the Department has worked with are aware of the fact that BPH taxis are regarded as being wheelchair accessible.

Exploratory Drilling at Ballinlea, County Antrim

Mr Agnew asked the Minister of the Environment why his Department has written to its consultees and advised that the proposal to carry out exploratory drilling at Ballinlea, County Antrim (E/2013/0093/F) is not an application to undertake hydraulic fracturing when recently submitted environmental information requested by Strategic Planning Division confirms that the proposal will involve hydraulic fracturing; and what steps he intends to take to rectify the misleading information emanating from his Department.

(AQW 34870/11-15)

Mr Durkan: DOE Planning did advise consultees that the proposal was not an application to undertake hydraulic fracturing. This statement was provided in the covering letter which was submitted with the application and was understood to be in reference to 'unconventional high volume' hydraulic fracturing.

The development proposed under application E/2013/0093/F constitutes a conventional borehole and is not for the unconventional exploration of hydrocarbons, neither does it propose to use any unconventional testing techniques.

At the extended testing phase, should the operator have difficulty obtaining the natural flow of the gas/oil, a conventional hydraulic stimulation fracture may need to be conducted.

A conventional hydraulic stimulated fracture is distinctly different from unconventional hydraulic fracturing.

The Department does not believe that any misleading information has been issued by DOE Planning. Information on the extended testing phase and proposed works has been detailed in the Operational Statement provided by the company which has been uploaded onto the Planning Portal for consultees to review and comment on.

Further information has been requested from the applicant and during consultation with consultees, in the interests of providing unequivocal clarity, the Department will specify that the application is for a conventional exploratory borehole operation.

Lough Neagh Special Protection Area: Sand Extraction

Mr Agnew asked the Minister of the Environment, pursuant to AQW 32997/11-15, whether the means by which his Department has historically chosen to deal with unregulated sand extraction from the Lough Neagh Special Protection Area leaves the UK Member State open to infraction proceedings; and whether he has notified the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of any failures by his Department which could give rise to such proceedings.

(AQW 34900/11-15)

Mr Durkan: It would be a matter for the European Commission to determine if particular occurrences were in breach of the requirements of relevant EC Directives, to an extent that warranted the issue of infraction proceedings.

My Department has not notified the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of any matter relating to Lough Neagh that may give rise to the issue of infraction proceedings by the Commission.

Dereliction Intervention Funding

Mr Easton asked the Minister of the Environment whether North Down Borough Council has submitted an application for the next tranche of Dereliction Intervention Funding; and if so, what properties are included in the application.

(AQW 34910/11-15)

Mr Durkan: I can confirm that at the end of May 2014 North Down Borough Council submitted an application for Dereliction Intervention Funding. The proposal is for 3 properties within the town of Holywood –

- 1 Stewart's Place;
- The Olde Priory Inn; and
- 122/124 High Street.

Taxi Drivers: SingleTier System

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of the Environment to provide a copy of the letter sent to taxi drivers conforming that a single tier system will be in place from 2015; and whether this letter refers to the single tier system in its present form or with forthcoming amendments.

(AQW 34943/11-15)

Mr Durkan: I attach a copy of the letter which was sent to all Taxis Operators, providing a copy of my Statement to the Assembly.

Road Safety & Vehicle Regulation Division
G33 Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
Town Parks
Belfast
BT2 8GB

Telephone: 028 9054 0843
Email: iain.greenway@doeni.gov.uk
Our Ref:
Date: 20 June 2014

Dear Taxi Operator

For your information, please find attached a copy of the written statement made by Mark H. Durkan, the Minister of the Environment, to the Northern Ireland Assembly on Thursday 19 June 2014. The statement relates to the implementation of the remaining elements of the Taxis Act (Northern Ireland) 2008, including:

- Taxi vehicle licensing - including the introduction of single tier licensing throughout Northern Ireland;
- Taxi driver licensing – including the reintroduction of a taxi driver test for new drivers and periodic training for all drivers;
- Taximeters, printers and maximum fares;
- Wheelchair Accessible Taxi specifications; and
- Power of Seizure – relating to illegal taxis.

Further, more specific, communications will follow in the coming months as the implementation process is rolled out.

Yours sincerely

Iain Greenway

Director of the Road Safety & Vehicle Regulation Division

Implementation of the Taxis Act (NI) 2008

Written Statement

by

The Minister for the Environment

Mark H Durkan MLA

Thursday 19 June 2014

Members of the Assembly will, I am sure, share my view that taxis are a vital and valuable part of our economy. Every year they greet many of the million plus visitors who come to Northern Ireland. They make tens of thousands of trips to bring people to and from work or safely home after a night out. They also help some of our most vulnerable people, young and old, travel in the way the majority of us take for granted.

The majority of our taxi legislation, however, dates back to the early 1980s – in fact, in Belfast it goes back to by-laws devised in the early 1950s. The problem is, quite simply, that it not up to the task of effectively regulating taxis in the 21st century.

For this reason the Taxis Act was debated and approved by this House and received Royal Assent in April 2008. It is a piece of enabling legislation, designed to create a new legislative framework for the operation and regulation of taxis here.

The aims of the Taxis Act are to raise the standard of taxi services, reduce illegal taxiing and improve compliance. Its objectives are to promote road safety, improve accessibility for older people and people with disabilities, and facilitate fairer competition for taxi services. In short, it is about creating a safe, fair and fit for purpose industry that allows those involved in it to make a living from it.

For the last six years my Department has been working to implement the Act by way of subordinate regulations. To date, the only part of the Act that has been commenced is the introduction of Taxi Operator Licensing, which came into force in 2012. This, for the first time, made operators accountable for the operation of their business and the actions of their drivers. High levels of compliance with these provisions have already been achieved, and improvements to the accountability of the industry delivered.

The purpose of this statement is to set out my intentions for the implementation of the remaining aspects of the Act. These include new arrangements for taxi vehicle licensing (including new plating and roof sign requirements), taxi driver licensing (including the introduction of a taxi driver test for new drivers and periodic training for all drivers) and other elements including provisions for a maximum fare and the use of taximeters and receipt printers, new powers of seizure, and a revised specification for Wheelchair Accessible taxis.

There has been much debate, going back some years, about the need for these changes. Since taking office, I have listened carefully to many representations and have considered many points made in favour and against implementing the remaining provisions of the Taxis Act. After careful consideration, I have decided that it is essential we implement these changes now, to give full effect to this legislation and to deliver improvements to the industry for the benefit of users and suppliers alike.

A key element of the taxi reform programme is the arrangements for taxi vehicle licensing and the classes of taxis that will be recognised across Northern Ireland.

The Act's provisions, one of which is introducing a single tier licensing regime, have been well-known and much debated for many years, and has been the subject of consultation on more than one occasion. Indeed, I have lost count of the number of Assembly questions that I have received on this one issue.

I believe that the current dual tier system in place in Belfast, with some taxis able to be hailed and others only available through prior bookings, cannot adequately address a number of problems that the Act was designed to tackle. The public (residents and visitors alike) are confused as to which taxis they can use in different circumstances. There are insufficient numbers of taxis which can pick up on the street in Belfast, particularly at peak periods, to meet demand and ensure public order. Furthermore, there is too much enforcement activity addressing relatively minor licensing offences, which reduces the resources available to address the illegal and dangerous taxis which are out there.

I have listened to, considered and reconsidered the concerns expressed that the change would adversely impact on Belfast Public Hire taxi drivers, and that enforcement difficulties around illegal picking up in Belfast have given cause for concern about the Department's ability to enforce a new licensing regime. I must advise members that I am not persuaded by these arguments.

The changes that are proposed will, I believe, enhance the reputation of the taxi industry as a whole, increasing the confidence of the public in Northern Ireland to use taxis because we will have a professional and fit for purpose service. The demand for the services of Belfast Public Hire, which represent around 5% of taxis in Northern Ireland and around 10% of taxis in Belfast, should be determined by the service they provide and the price at which it is provided. I am convinced that any sector of the industry that provides a good quality and price-competitive service will be able to thrive in the improved regulatory regime that the Taxis Act provides for.

Further, consumers will, and should, be able to exercise choice and their preferences in terms of how and when to secure the services of a taxi and which type of taxi they wish to use. It is the responsibility of my Department, as regulator, to set the minimum standards which all operators, vehicles and drivers must meet, so that taxi users can receive the service they expect; and then to ensure compliance with those standards.

Picture the scene when on a Saturday night a member of the public wants to hail a fully compliant, licensed taxi, licensed driver and licensed operator in any part of the North. I don't believe that there is justification for my Department to deny such a transaction.

I feel that my Department has given very great consideration to the concerns of the Belfast Public Hire drivers and has gone a long way to help them prepare for change. The measures that we have put in place include that all taxi drivers currently in possession of a taxi driver's licence will be unaffected by plans to introduce a new taxi driver test. Belfast Public Hire taxis will be granted grandfather rights in respect of any changes to the specification for Wheelchair Accessible Taxis. Furthermore only Wheelchair Accessible Taxis will be permitted to stand at ranks in Belfast, securing to some degree the status quo for the current Belfast Public Hire fleet in relation to ranks.

My officials have engaged extensively with Belfast Public Hire representatives to help them arrange meetings with other parts of government on a range of issues including, training, taxi ranks and access to bus lanes. We have also delayed the reform programme to provide all taxi operators – not least Belfast Public Hire – additional time to prepare for the reforms. So while I am aware of the concerns of the Belfast Public Hire taxi drivers, I must balance these with the requirements, clearly set out by consumer and disability groups, to improve regulation for a safe, fair and fit for purpose taxi industry. It is high time the remaining elements of the Act were implemented.

The alternative is to continue to operate a dual tier regime, limited to Belfast, and to prevent taxi users in Belfast from exercising the same choice available in all other parts of the North, in order to continue to protect the commercial interests of Belfast Public Hire taxi drivers.

I have a number of serious concerns in respect of such a system. A dual tier approach provides more confusion, not less, to Belfast consumers in terms of which taxis they can legally hail in the street or access at ranks. It provides less choice, not more, to Belfast consumers – they are constrained in the choice that is extended in every other part of the North, in terms of which type of taxi they want – instead they are limited to using the small Belfast Public Hire fleet unless they pre-book a taxi.

I am concerned that the dual tier model is unable to cope with the need to empty the city of people in a timely manner in the evenings, particularly at weekends. Suspension of the regime for these high peak periods could be considered, but would create even further confusion for users and would prove difficult, if not impossible, to enforce.

The Taxis Act is based on a single tier licensing regime. During the development of the then Bill, two options were consulted on – single tier; or a clearer distinction between public hire and private hire taxis (along the lines of the London model of 'black cabs' and 'mini-cabs'). A public consultation at that time showed a preference for single tier, and this was included in the Bill and passed by this Assembly, without division, as part of the Act.

Since enactment, a 2011 public consultation showed 84% support for single tier licensing. Those in favour included the Consumer Council (who stated that single tier would remove public confusion and free up enforcement resource), Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC) and Disability Action.

Recently, I have received explicit support for single tier licensing from Disability Action, IMTAC, the Consumer Council, Women's Aid, Victim Support, Belfast Chamber of Trade & Commerce, the Northern Ireland Hotels Federation, Pubs of Ulster and Visit Belfast, all of whom see the clear benefits to consumers, tourists and the industry itself. I have also received 913 letters from Belfast private hire taxi drivers in support of single tier. And that is in addition to the 4,200 postcards the Committee received from private hire taxi passengers of a similar mind.

I therefore remain of the view that a single tier model should be introduced throughout the North. I am aware that the Law Commission has recently recommended the retention of two tier licensing for taxis in England and Wales, and that the Department for Transport is currently considering those proposals. With respect to those that say that we should do the same here, I would point out that exactly this point was debated in the development of the Taxis Act, with decisions made to progress a single tier regime. I would point out that the two tiers of taxis here are less differentiated than those in England

and Wales have traditionally been. It is also worth noting that a Comparative Study on Regulation in Europe concluded that taxi licensing regimes differ based on local circumstances. Devolution has been designed to allow local solutions to local issues. We have debated this issue for far too long and should now implement our intent.

Understandably, given the delays and changes in the timings for the various elements of taxi reform, the industry has expressed concerns and has sought clarity about my intentions. I intend to provide this clarity today.

I am, therefore, today giving notice that I intend to make Taxi Vehicle Licensing regulations introducing single tier licensing in October 2014 with the provisions coming into force at the end of January 2015. Alongside this, I intend to commence the new Powers of Seizure regulations in January 2015 so that, from day one, these powers are available to enforcement officers to take action against illegal taxis.

This delay in the implementation date for the new arrangements is a result of the time needed to consider the different options put forward; and to avoid changes for the industry in its busiest period of the year in the run up the Christmas and New Year.

In advance of that, in October 2014, a new taxi driver test will be introduced for new taxi drivers only. This will be followed in September 2015 with the start of periodic training requirements for all taxi drivers.

In relation to taximeters and printers, I intend to make regulations before the end of the year, with the requirements coming into force in September 2015.

Finally, in respect of the new specification for Wheelchair Accessible Taxis, I intend to make these regulations in April 2015, coming into force in May 2015. Importantly, this new specification will ensure that users with disabilities will be better served by the taxi industry.

I look forward to continuing to work with the industry, the Environment Committee and other consumer and disability groups in the coming months as we introduce the relevant legislation to deliver on the aims of the Act in relation to this vital industry.

Compulsory Taxi Metering

Mr Lyttle asked the Minister of the Environment why the introduction of compulsory taxi metering has been delayed until September 2015.

(AQW 34952/11-15)

Mr Durkan: In November and December 2013, Environment Committee members indicated that they were not content with elements of the Department's proposals for taxi vehicle licensing. I chose to take time and consider their concerns and the concerns expressed by sections of the taxi industry. Having completed this process, on 19 June 2014 in a written statement to the Assembly I outlined my intended timeline for the implementation of the remaining elements of the reform programme. This included deferring the introduction of the new taxi vehicle licensing regime until January 2015.

The introduction of compulsory taxi metering has been deferred until September 2015 due to the close linkages between that element of the taxi reform programme and taxi vehicle licensing.

Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety

Care Packages for Discharged Hospital Patients

Ms S Ramsey asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what work is being undertaken with the community and social work teams in hospitals to ensure that patients who can be discharged, are provided with the proper care package and the issue of bed blocking is addressed.

(AQW 34683/11-15)

Mr Poots (The Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety): There are teams of social workers based in every acute hospital and one of their key functions is to provide a professional social work service to those patients who have needs for care and support to achieve a safe discharge when they are ready to leave hospital.

In consultation with the clinical team, the social worker will identify as early as possible those patients who may require care and support on discharge. The social worker will complete an assessment with the patient and their family to identify their needs and, where required, liaise with community services to secure the necessary care and support in a timely manner.

The primary aim of the hospital social worker is to return people to their own home with a suitable care and support package, however where the person's needs have become more complex and cannot be met in their home environment the social worker will assist the individual and their family to consider other possible care options, such as supported housing, intermediate care, residential or nursing home care.

Whole Scale Hospital Support Policies

Ms S Ramsey asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether a policy exists for whole scale hospital support when Emergency Departments are under pressure.

(AQW 34685/11-15)

Mr Poots: Hospitals have Emergency Department escalation policies in place to deal with spikes in attendances and admissions. A number of measures may be taken, such as additional ward rounds, making extra beds available and putting additional staff in place.

Such plans are likely to be implemented when a major incident is declared. A major incident is any incident that is likely to involve a hospital receiving large numbers of seriously ill or injured patients in excess of that which could reasonably be managed within the scope of normal resources available. The major incident plan will form part of Trusts' overall emergency planning framework and may be activated in isolation or in conjunction with other specific emergency or business continuity plans.

Investment in North Belfast

Mr G Kelly asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the funding that his Department, and its arm's-length bodies, invested in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014.

(AQW 34904/11-15)

Mr Poots: My Department does not capture or hold this information centrally and the level of detail requested could only be provided at disproportionate cost. Funding is not typically invested on a constituency basis. Most providers are commissioned to provide services on a Trust-wide or Belfast-wide basis.

Wheelchair Donations to Health Organisations

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether wheelchairs that are no longer needed by hospitals are donated to other health organisations.

(AQW 34931/11-15)

Mr Poots: When a wheelchair is no longer required by a service user, it is inspected by a Medical Technical Officer to determine whether it is suitable for recycling or not. If deemed to be suitable, it is put through the recycling programme (decontamination/ refurbishment) and re-issued to another user.

This reconditioned stock is a valuable component in the wheelchair service across Northern Ireland. If beyond economic repair or declared unfit for recycling, wheelchairs are condemned and disposed of as they cannot be reissued.

If the wheelchair has been declared unfit for recycling, it would not be possible to donate to other health organisations.

Wheelchairs for Patients

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to outline the policy in relation to wheelchairs that are no longer needed by hospitals and are in the possession of a patient.

(AQW 34932/11-15)

Mr Poots: I refer the member to my answer to AQW 34931/11-15.

Equal Access to Cancer Drugs for Patients Funding

Mr Lyttle asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether he will scrap the exceptionality clause and fund equal access to cancer drugs for patients.

(AQW 35023/11-15)

Mr Poots: All National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) approved cancer drugs that are available in England are either recurrently funded or available via a cost per case mechanism in Northern Ireland. The Health and Social Care Board has a clear process by which unapproved cancer drugs can be made available to patients in Northern Ireland by means of an Individual Funding Request (IFR) setting out the clinical circumstances which support the request. The Board has advised my Department that around 98% of the applications for unapproved drugs are accepted.

However, I have listened to the concerns expressed by patients about the IFR process and during a recent debate in the Assembly on this issue I announced that I had instructed my Department to evaluate whether the process, including the clinical exceptionality clause, is meeting its objectives. My Department will report the findings of the evaluation to me later this year and I will announce my decision on the future of the scheme as soon as I have fully considered the report.

Responsible Prescribing and Dispensing of Medicines

Mrs Dobson asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how his Department ensures responsible prescribing and dispensing of appropriate medicines; and to detail any actions which he has taken in this regard in the last three years.

(AQW 35026/11-15)

Mr Poots: The Pharmaceutical Clinical Effectiveness (PCE) programme comprises of a number of initiatives synergistically designed to optimise the implementation of the product selection process through effective procurement, prescribing policy, guidelines and pharmaceutical service improvements. Key initiatives include: Generic Prescribing; Repeat Dispensing; Minor Ailments; Extended Supplies of Hospital Discharge Medicines; Integrated Medicines Management; Medicines Governance in Primary Care; Clinical Procurement; and Pharmaceutical Clinical Technology

Responsibility for the prescribing budget was transferred to HSC Board in July 2010. The Board has continued to develop and implement the principles of Pharmaceutical Clinical Effectiveness through the extension of the programme to maintain current initiatives and develop new and innovative ways of working including implementation of a Northern Ireland Formulary. The Formulary covers the majority of prescribing choices in Northern Ireland and aims to standardize prescribing practice and ensure a level of consistency but also recognises that some patients may require medicines which lie outside the guidance. The Formulary is intended to be used across both primary and secondary care sectors to ensure consistency and continuity of supply of medicines to patients.

Drugs Available Through the English Cancer Drugs Fund

Mr Beggs asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to list the 38 drugs, available through the English Cancer Drugs Fund, that are included under the Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme and whose use could be included under the Scheme if utilised in Northern Ireland.

(AQW 35068/11-15)

Mr Poots: The list of drugs currently available through the English Cancer Drugs Fund can be accessed via the following link: - <http://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/ncdf-list-may14.pdf>

If the drugs are branded drugs they will be included in the Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme unless they were licensed after 1 January 2014.

In the 2013/2014 year there were 72 Individual Funding Requests (IFR) approved, of those 64 were for cancer drugs. Of the 27 cancer drugs approved via an IFR 17 were also on the Cancer Drug Fund (CDF) list. There were 11 cancer drugs approved via IFR which were not on the CDF list.

Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme Funding

Mr McKinney asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how much funding will become available through the Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme in each of the next three years. **(AQW 35072/11-15)**

Mr Poots: The 2014 PPRS is a UK-wide scheme that has been developed to deliver stability and predictability in the branded medicines economy over the next five years.

Under the scheme PPRS payments will only be made available to ensure that the allowed growth in medicines spend, on a UK-wide basis, is not exceeded and to enable the DHSSPS to meet its policy and operational objectives, as stated in the PPRS agreement. As any "payments" apportioned to Northern Ireland under the Scheme will depend on the UK-wide growth rate in the cost of branded medicines, it is not possible to estimate how much will be apportioned to Northern Ireland in the next three years.

Nursing and Midwifery Council and Nursing Applicants

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what action he is taking to speed up the engagement between the Nursing and Midwifery Council and nursing applicants from both inside and outside the UK. **(AQW 35095/11-15)**

Mr Poots: The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) is the independent regulator for nurses and midwives and operates on a UK-wide basis to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the public.

It is the Northern Ireland policy position to work on a 4-country basis on matters related to professional regulation. My officials work closely with DH England, the devolved administrations and professional regulators including the NMC to address a wide range of regulatory issues. This includes work to ensure application and registration processes are fit for purpose, proportionate and robust to uphold public protection, but also to ensure that the speed of processes is reasonable.

It is illegal to work as a nurse in the UK without being on the NMC register. In order to join the register the NMC must be satisfied that an applicant is capable of practising safely and effectively. It is the responsibility of the NMC to process applications to its register and also to assess an applicant's qualifications, training and experience against its registration standards.

I am aware that the Professional Standards Authority (PSA), which oversees the work of the regulators, has produced its latest performance assessment of the NMC and has identified a number of areas for improvement in relation to its registration processes. However, I am encouraged to note that the PSA also acknowledged improvements and further planned developments in relation to these processes. This includes the commencement of on-line registration and revised guidance on implementation of policies and procedures for EU/EEA applicants.

I recognise the very valuable contribution made to health and social care in the UK, including here in Northern Ireland, by nurses trained in Europe and other parts of the world. My officials continue to liaise on a 4-country basis to monitor progress in this area.

Nursing Qualifications in European Countries

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety what action he is taking to ensure nursing qualifications in European countries are recognised by the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

(AQW 35098/11-15)

Mr Poots: The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) is the independent regulator for nurses and midwives and operates on a UK-wide basis to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the public.

It is the Northern Ireland policy position to work on a 4-country basis on matters related to professional regulation. My officials work closely with DH England, the devolved administrations and professional regulators including the NMC to address a wide range of regulatory issues. This includes work to ensure application and registration processes are fit for purpose, proportionate and robust to uphold public protection, but also to ensure that the speed of processes is reasonable.

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I recognise the very valuable contribution made to health and social care in the UK, including here in Northern Ireland, by nurses trained in Europe and other parts of the world. My officials continue to liaise on a 4-country basis to monitor progress in this area.

Expert Group Recommendations

Mrs Cochrane asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, pursuant to AQW 33205/11-15, for an update regarding the recommendations which the Expert Group were expected to report by 1 July 2014.

(AQW 35100/11-15)

Mr Poots: The independent assessment of current and future needs for cardiology and cardiac surgery for congenital heart disease in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland which the International Expert Team, led by Dr John Mayer, are taking forward has not yet been submitted. I anticipate that the report will now be submitted in the next few weeks.

I am aware that the content of the report is a matter of widespread public interest. The Minister of Health in the Republic of Ireland and I will need to carefully consider the report. I aim to make public the implications for the future delivery of this service for Northern Ireland as soon as I am in a position to do so.

Adults with Learning Disabilities in Upper Bann

Mrs Dobson asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety (i) for his assessment of the provision and services for adults with learning disabilities in Upper Bann; and to detail (i) the number of referrals to respite units in each month of the last three years; and (ii) the waiting times following referral.

(AQW 35101/11-15)

Mr Poots: The Southern HSC Trust has in place a range of services for adults with a learning disability in the Upper Bann area. These include residential respite, access to nursing respite beds across the

Trust area, day and weekend respite which is activity based and provided by the voluntary sector. In addition, the Trust has a range of statutory and voluntary day care provision whose secondary objective is to offer respite to carers. All services are targeted for adults with a learning disability aged over 18 who reside in the Southern Trust area.

The attached Annex details the months in the last 3 years in which there were referrals to Woodlawn House, Nightingale Lodge, and Enable NI respite units and the waiting times following referral for Woodlawn House only.

The waiting times following referral for Nightingale Lodge and Enable NI are not readily available.

Nightingale Lodge also offers day respite to 12 service users in addition to those overnight service users when their day activity programmes are not available, for example, on public holidays.

Respite Unit	Month	Number of Referrals	Waiting Time
Woodlawn House	Sep 2011	2	3 months
	Sep 2012	1	5 months
	Jan 2013	1	11 months
	May 2013	1	-
	Aug 2013	1	10 months
	Oct 2013	1	2 months
Nightingale Lodge	Sep 2011	1	This information is not routinely collected.
	Jan 2012	1	
	Feb 2013	1	
	Sep 2013	2	
	Nov 2013	3	
	Jan 2014	2	
	Apr 2014	1	
	May 2014	1	
	June 2014	1	
Enable NI	July 2011	4	This information is not routinely collected.
	Sep 2011	1	
	Jan 2012	1	
	Mar 2012	2	
	Apr 2012	1	
	May 2012	1	
	Aug 2012	1	
	Oct 2012	1	
	Nov 2012	1	
	Jan 2013	1	
	Nov 2013	1	
	Dec 2013	2	
	Apr 2014	1	

Yearly Charge for Prescriptions

Mr McKinney asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how much in total income would be generated by a £25 a year charge for prescriptions.

(AQW 35111/11-15)

Mr Poots: It is not possible to estimate how much revenue would be generated by a £25 a year charge for prescriptions. The revenue raised would depend on whether any exemptions from charges were put in place, the uptake of medicines by individual patients and the level of charge imposed for individual prescription items.

All of these issues would be subject to a full public consultation before any prescription charges would be re-introduced.

Pharmacy Price Regulation Scheme

Mr McKinney asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety for his assessment of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry's claim that the Pharmacy Price Regulation Scheme will cover all access to new drugs over the next two years at no cost to Health and Social Care.

(AQW 35114/11-15)

Mr Poots: The Pharmaceutical Price Regulation Scheme (PPRS) is a UK wide scheme. One of the overarching principles of the scheme is to improve access to medicines commensurate with the outcomes they offer patients by ensuring that medicines approved by NICE are available widely in the Health Service. The scheme is designed to constrain the growth in spend in branded medicines at a UK level, across the period 2014-19, for those medicines licensed before 31st December 2013. Any increase in spend in new medicines licensed after that date is not subject to the PPRS price control mechanism.

Public Private Partnership Projects

Mr Allister asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety whether there are any ongoing investigations relating to any Public Private Partnership projects that his Department is associated with; and if so, to detail the projects.

(AQW 35156/11-15)

Mr Poots: There are currently no ongoing investigations relating to any Public Private Partnership projects that my Department is associated with.

Blood Donations in North Down

Mr Easton asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety how his Department will highlight the need for blood donation in North Down.

(AQW 35160/11-15)

Mr Poots: NIBTS has six blood donation locations in North Down; Bangor, Bangor East, Bloomfield, Holywood, Donaghadee and Newtownards. Between these locations a total of 24 donation sessions are held each year.

All registered donors receive a call-up letter ten days before the donation session to advise them of dates and times. If blood stocks are low this is followed up with a text message.

For all public donation sessions there are volunteers within the local community who help to publicise donation sessions with posters and leaflets; these are sent out 2-3 weeks before each session and the volunteers distribute them to local shops, businesses and community groups. Local churches announce sessions at services or in newsletters, and laminated posters are affixed to lampposts a week in advance.

As part of its educational programme, NIBTS visits South Eastern Regional College (SERC) for fresher days to speak to college students and also visits several schools in the area; Regent House, Sullivan Upper, Priory Integrated, Strangford College and Bangor Academy.

NIBTS also uses newspaper or radio advertisements to raise awareness of donor weeks which happen annually in June and November/December. Relevant adverts would be placed in the North Down Spectator and the Newtownards Chronicle. Social media is also used.

Treatments on Northern Ireland Patients Carried out by Private Health Provider's

Mr Copeland asked the Minister of Health, Social Services and Public Safety to detail the number of Health Service procedures and treatments on Northern Ireland patients carried out by each private health provider in (i) Northern Ireland; (ii) England; (iii) Scotland; (iv) Wales; and (v) the Republic of Ireland, in each year since May 2007.

(AQW 35207/11-15)

Mr Poots: The number of Health Service procedures and treatments carried out on Northern Ireland patients, by the Independent Sector in Northern Ireland, England, Scotland, Wales and the Republic of Ireland, in each financial year since 2007/08, is shown below.

Financial Years	Northern Ireland	England	Scotland	Wales	Republic of Ireland
2007/08	8,731	1,972	18	0	276
2008/09	20,584	2,530	101	0	478
2009/10	14,871	2,256	158	0	317
2010/11	6,204	1,117	0	0	175
2011/12	11,226	4,107	0	0	225
2012/13	24,497	231	1	0	967
2013/14	24,378	767	0	0	803

Source: HSCB

- * Figures do not include extra contractual referrals
- * Financial year relates to information from 1st April to 31st March.

Department of Justice

Investment in North Belfast

Mr G Kelly asked the Minister of Justice to detail the funding that his Department, and its arm's-length bodies, invested in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014.

(AQW 34905/11-15)

Mr Ford (The Minister of Justice): The Department of Justice does not record expenditure in a format that enables all funding invested in North Belfast to be quantified.

Expenditure that can be identified as relating directly to North Belfast is contained in the table below. Figures exclude the running costs of any offices based in North Belfast, and exclude the maintenance costs of security barriers. Figures provided are by financial year.

Description	Number Plate System in Northern Ireland	2012/13	2013/14
North Belfast DPCSP*	N/A	£105,864	£125,000
PBNI Community Grants	£169,733	£154,294	£134,624
PSNI Community Safety Projects**	£57,500	£72,700	£25,700
Youth Justice Agency Community Funding	£25,034	£42,494	£40,921

* Funding for the North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership (DPCSP) is provided via Belfast City Council. DPCSPs were established on 01 April 2012.

** Some of the PSNI projects also include West Belfast but the funding cannot be split.

Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution

Mr G Robinson asked the Minister of Justice who has been selected to sit on the Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution.

(AQW 34947/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Board of Advisers to the prostitution research is appointed by Queen's University Belfast as part of its internal research mechanism and the Department of Justice had no part in the selection process of its members.

The members of the Advisory Board are: Professor of Criminology, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University; Assistant Professor in International Peace Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Reader in Migration Studies, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University; Lecturer, Department of Sociology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth; Team Leader, Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid and; Nurse and Health Care Co-ordinator, Belfast Commercial Sex Workers Service.

Travel and subsistence costs for the Advisory Board were included within the overall tender.

As detailed in the tender specification, a maximum of £60,000 (exclusive of VAT) has been allocated for the research.

Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution

Mr G Robinson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the selection process for the Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution.

(AQW 34948/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Board of Advisers to the prostitution research is appointed by Queen's University Belfast as part of its internal research mechanism and the Department of Justice had no part in the selection process of its members.

The members of the Advisory Board are: Professor of Criminology, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University; Assistant Professor in International Peace Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Reader in Migration Studies, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University; Lecturer, Department of Sociology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth; Team Leader, Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid and; Nurse and Health Care Co-ordinator, Belfast Commercial Sex Workers Service.

Travel and subsistence costs for the Advisory Board were included within the overall tender.

As detailed in the tender specification, a maximum of £60,000 (exclusive of VAT) has been allocated for the research.

Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution

Mr G Robinson asked the Minister of Justice to detail (i) the job titles of the staff; and (ii) the organisations represented on the Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution.
(AQW 34949/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Board of Advisers to the prostitution research is appointed by Queen's University Belfast as part of its internal research mechanism and the Department of Justice had no part in the selection process of its members.

The members of the Advisory Board are: Professor of Criminology, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University; Assistant Professor in International Peace Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Reader in Migration Studies, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University; Lecturer, Department of Sociology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth; Team Leader, Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid and; Nurse and Health Care Co-ordinator, Belfast Commercial Sex Workers Service.

Travel and subsistence costs for the Advisory Board were included within the overall tender.

As detailed in the tender specification, a maximum of £60,000 (exclusive of VAT) has been allocated for the research.

Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution

Mr G Robinson asked the Minister of Justice, in relation to the Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution, whether the (i) Committee for Justice; or (ii) non-governmental organisation engagement groups on human trafficking were consulted prior to the constitution of the group.
(AQW 34950/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Board of Advisers to the prostitution research is appointed by Queen's University Belfast as part of its internal research mechanism and the Department of Justice had no part in the selection process of its members.

The members of the Advisory Board are: Professor of Criminology, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University; Assistant Professor in International Peace Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Reader in Migration Studies, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University; Lecturer, Department of Sociology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth; Team Leader, Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid and; Nurse and Health Care Co-ordinator, Belfast Commercial Sex Workers Service.

Travel and subsistence costs for the Advisory Board were included within the overall tender.

As detailed in the tender specification, a maximum of £60,000 (exclusive of VAT) has been allocated for the research.

Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution

Mr G Robinson asked the Minister of Justice whether any funding is being used to support the Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution for (a) travel or accommodation expenses; and (b) remuneration for services rendered.
(AQW 34951/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Board of Advisers to the prostitution research is appointed by Queen's University Belfast as part of its internal research mechanism and the Department of Justice had no part in the selection process of its members.

The members of the Advisory Board are: Professor of Criminology, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University; Assistant Professor in International Peace Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Reader in Migration Studies, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University; Lecturer, Department of Sociology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth; Team Leader, Belfast

and Lisburn Women's Aid and; Nurse and Health Care Co-ordinator, Belfast Commercial Sex Workers Service.

Travel and subsistence costs for the Advisory Board were included within the overall tender.

As detailed in the tender specification, a maximum of £60,000 (exclusive of VAT) has been allocated for the research.

Researchers Advisory Group for Research into Prostitution

Mr G Robinson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the budget allocated for the Research into Prostitution.

(AQW 34976/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Board of Advisers to the prostitution research is appointed by Queen's University Belfast as part of its internal research mechanism and the Department of Justice had no part in the selection process of its members.

The members of the Advisory Board are: Professor of Criminology, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University; Assistant Professor in International Peace Studies, Trinity College Dublin; Reader in Migration Studies, Institute for the Study of European Transformations, London Metropolitan University; Lecturer, Department of Sociology, National University of Ireland, Maynooth; Team Leader, Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid and; Nurse and Health Care Co-ordinator, Belfast Commercial Sex Workers Service.

Travel and subsistence costs for the Advisory Board were included within the overall tender.

As detailed in the tender specification, a maximum of £60,000 (exclusive of VAT) has been allocated for the research.

Case Number 14/062668 at Newry Magistrates Court

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of Justice whether he plans to order a Serious Case Review to include the prior management and monitoring of case number 14/062668 at Newry Magistrates Court, particularly in respect of present allegations of (i) breach of a Sexual Offences Prevention Order for four years; and (ii) the commission of further offences against a child in the last twelve months.

(AQW 34984/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Strategic Management Board responsible for oversight of the Public Protection Arrangements for Northern Ireland (PPANI) has authority to commission Serious Case Reviews. This case has been referred into PPANI. I have asked my officials to provide me with an update in this case at the earliest opportunity.

Combatting Crimes Against People With a Disability

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Justice what action his Department is taking to combat crimes against people with a disability.

(AQW 35036/11-15)

Mr Ford: My Department, through the Community Safety Strategy, is committed to tackling hate crime and the harm it causes. Consequently, working in partnership with others, an Action Plan comprising a range of measures has been developed and is currently being implemented. Progress on this Action Plan was provided to the Committee for Justice in February 2014.

Following consultations between my officials and a number of organisations, including Leonard Cheshire Disability, Mencap, NIAMH and Disability Action, my Department is working with others to develop the hate crime advocacy service.

In addition, my Department currently provides practical support to victims of hate crime, including people with a disability, through the Hate Incident Practical Action (HIPA) scheme; and Policing and

Community Safety Partnerships (PCSPs) are delivering a range of initiatives aimed at tackling all forms of hate crime.

Legislation is in place which allows for an increase in sentence for offences aggravated by hostility because of race, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

During consultation in advance of the publication of the Victim and Witness Strategy, my officials met with key stakeholders from various organisations including Mencap, Disability Action, and Leonard Cheshire Disability.

You will also be aware that my Department has also been working in partnership with the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety on the development of a new adult safeguarding policy. This new policy will complement the measures already in place to protect vulnerable adults, including those with a disability.

I have personally met a number of organisations on the issue of crimes against people with a disability. During the period July 2012 to July 2013, I met with the Communications Manager at Signature, to discuss the use of Registered Sign Language Interpreters for deaf and blind people. I also met with representatives from Action Mental Health, Mindwise and NIAMH.

During the period since July 2013, I have attended a Disability Seminar organised by the Law Society and addressed a Disability Hate Crime Seminar organised by Disability Action where I met representatives from a variety of disability organisations including Mencap, Leonard Cheshire Disability, Disability Action and the REAL Network.

Issue of Crimes Against People With a Disability

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Justice what organisations he has met with regarding the issue of crimes against people with a disability, in each of the last three years.

(AQW 35038/11-15)

Mr Ford: My Department, through the Community Safety Strategy, is committed to tackling hate crime and the harm it causes. Consequently, working in partnership with others, an Action Plan comprising a range of measures has been developed and is currently being implemented. Progress on this Action Plan was provided to the Committee for Justice in February 2014.

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Number of Staff Employed in Maghaberry Prison

Mr Wilson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the number of staff employed in Maghaberry Prison, in each of the last five years.

(AQW 35047/11-15)

Mr Ford: The number of staff in post is shown in the table below. There is a slight variation in dates because of a change in how this data was collated between 2012 and 2013.

Date	Uniform Staff	Non-Uniform Staff
30 June 2010	867	135
30 June 2011	806	132
30 June 2012	665	118
1 July 2013	716	127
1 July 2014	689	125

To break this down further, by prison landing, would require an extensive manual exercise and incur disproportionate cost.

Sick Absence as a Result of Injuries Sustained Whilst Working in Maghaberry Prison

Mr Wilson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the number of prison officers that have had more than three days sick absence as a result of injuries sustained whilst working in Maghaberry Prison, in each of the last five years.

(AQW 35049/11-15)

Mr Ford: Information in the form requested is not readily available and could only be obtained at a disproportionate cost.

Maghaberry Prison: Drug Seizures

Mr Wilson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the number of drug seizures from prisoners in Maghaberry Prison, in each of the last five years.

(AQW 35053/11-15)

Mr Ford: The number of drug finds attributed to prisoners at Maghaberry Prison for the period requested is set out below. The figures are for the total number of seizures, some of which will have included more than one banned substance.

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
74	37	44	87	452

Public Petitions

Mr Allister asked the Minister of Justice to detail the action he has taken following each public petition presented to the Assembly and forwarded to his Department.

(AQW 35063/11-15)

Mr Ford: Since Devolution, my Department has not been forwarded any public petitions from the Assembly.

Outstanding Warrants

Mr Elliott asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AQW 34170/11-15, how long has each warrant been outstanding.

(AQW 35086/11-15)

Mr Ford: All European Arrest Warrants are considered outstanding until the subject of the warrant has been returned to Northern Ireland.

The table below provides a list of the outstanding European Arrest Warrants including details on the date of issue of the warrant and the arrest date of the subject. The execution date of each European Arrest Warrant has been taken as the date that the subject of the warrant was arrested in the host country. Once arrested, the individual will be brought before the courts in the host country where it will be determined if they should be extradited.

Offence	Country	Issued	Arrest Date	Current Status
VAT offences	Republic of Ireland	21/06/2007	19/11/2008	Subject failed to answer bail in the Republic of Ireland and has not been located to date
Rape	Lithuania	12/08/2009		Subject has raised issues that are continuing before the Lithuanian courts
Fraud	Republic of Ireland	14/06/2012	08/11/2012	This case is in the final stages of extradition
Rape	Republic of Ireland	28/11/2012	15/01/2013	Subject is serving a sentence for domestic matters in the Republic of Ireland
Murder	Republic of Ireland	17/12/2012	16/01/2013	Subject is contesting extradition before the courts in the Republic of Ireland
Rape	Republic of Ireland	11/09/2013		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Republic of Ireland
GBH w/intent	Republic of Ireland	03/10/2013		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Republic of Ireland
Theft	Republic of Ireland	04/03/2014	24/06/2014	Subject is contesting extradition before the courts in the Republic of Ireland
Theft	Republic of Ireland	04/03/2014		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Republic of Ireland

Offence	Country	Issued	Arrest Date	Current Status
Drugs & Money laundering	Republic of Ireland	01/05/2014		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Republic of Ireland
Drugs	Portugal	11/06/2014		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Portugal

Outstanding Warrants

Mr Elliott asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AWQ 34168/11-15, to detail the (i) date of issue; and (ii) execution of each warrant.

(AQW 35088/11-15)

Mr Ford: All European Arrest Warrants are considered outstanding until the subject of the warrant has been returned to Northern Ireland.

The table below provides a list of the outstanding European Arrest Warrants including details on the date of issue of the warrant and the arrest date of the subject. The execution date of each European Arrest Warrant has been taken as the date that the subject of the warrant was arrested in the host country. Once arrested, the individual will be brought before the courts in the host country where it will be determined if they should be extradited.

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Offence	Country	Issued	Arrest Date	Current Status
Drugs & Money laundering	Republic of Ireland	01/05/2014		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Republic of Ireland
Drugs	Portugal	11/06/2014		Subject's whereabouts unknown to date - last residing in Portugal

Prisoner Safety and Support Team

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AQW 33630/11-15, in relation to the Prisoner Safety and Support Team, how many prisoners are currently (i) receiving support; and (ii) awaiting assessment.

(AQW 35110/11-15)

Mr Ford:

- (i) There are currently twenty five people being case managed by a multidisciplinary team under the auspices of Prisoner Safety Support.
- (ii) All assessments are carried out on receipt of the referral by Prisoner Safety Support, there are no referrals awaiting assessment.

Maghaberry Prison: Contraband Items Seized

Mr Wilson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the number of contraband items seized from prisoners whilst in a prison cell in Maghaberry Prison, in each of the last five years.

(AQW 35121/11-15)

Mr Ford: The figures for all unauthorised articles found are set out in the table below. It is not possible to determine which of these items were found in a prisoner's cell.

Year	No. Items
2009	1810
2010	1805
2011	2801
2012	2605
2013	3846

Maghaberry Prison: Contraband Items Seized

Mr Wilson asked the Minister of Justice to detail the number of contraband items seized from people visiting a prisoner in Maghaberry Prison, in each of the last five years.

(AQW 35122/11-15)

Mr Ford: If any article discovered during the searching of a visitor is suspected to be an illicit or illegally held item then the PSNI will be informed. The Northern Ireland Prison Service do not record such finds.

Prosecution of People Selling or Distributing Legal Highs

Mr Weir asked the Minister of Justice what additional measures or legislation is planned to facilitate the criminal prosecution of people selling or distributing legal highs.

(AQW 35135/11-15)

Mr Ford: As legislation governing the sale and distribution of drugs remains a reserved matter, I have no plans to introduce legislation.

In December 2013 the Government announced a Review of the drug legislation and its suitability to tackle the issue of New Psychoactive Substances, also known as legal highs. This Review is ongoing and I await the outcome.

However, I am not complacent in seeking to tackle this serious issue. For example my Department continues to support District Council Environmental Health Officers in seeking to utilise the General Product Safety Regulations as a means of tackling those who are selling and distributing legal highs. Belfast City Council recently secured a Forfeiture Order against one shop selling these substances and I am advised that further prosecutions are pending. In addition, two other Councils have utilised this same legislation and successfully removed these substances from sale.

DOJ officials continue to work with the PSNI and DHSSPS colleagues to highlight the dangers associated with consuming these untested substances.

Public Private Partnership Projects

Mr Allister asked the Minister of Justice whether there are any ongoing investigations relating to any Public Private Partnership projects that his Department is associated with; and if so, to detail the projects.

(AQW 35157/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Department of Justice does not have any ongoing investigations relating to any Public Private Partnership projects.

Written Warnings for Prison Officers

Mr Buchanan asked the Minister of Justice what constitutes a prisoner officer receiving a written warning.

(AQW 35172/11-15)

Mr Ford: All Northern Ireland Civil Servants, including Prison Officers, are managed under the policies set out in the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) HR Handbook. The section on Inefficiency Sickness sets out the policy applied where staff are not at work due to sickness absence. This provides for the issue of written warnings where levels of absence breach review points. Once review points are breached, a meeting is held with the member of staff before a decision whether to issue a written warning is made. The meeting gives the member of staff an opportunity to provide any relevant information they wish to be taken into consideration. All relevant facts are taken into account before a decision is made.

Procedural variations apply for new entrants undertaking their probationary period of employment.

Support for Duty Prison Officers who are Assaulted by Inmates

Mr Buchanan asked the Minister of Justice what support is in place for on duty prison officers who are assaulted by inmates.

(AQW 35173/11-15)

Mr Ford: The Northern Ireland Prison Service (NIPS) has a range of support mechanisms in place for prison officers who are assaulted by inmates. Staff can discuss any concerns they have with their Line Managers or their HR Business Partners based in their local Establishment Personnel Units. Staff can make direct contact with the Central Welfare Team for support and advice. They can also make direct contact with Carecall who provide an independent, confidential and professional counselling service available to all NIPS staff.

Staff can also self-refer to the Occupational Health Service.

In the event of an incident involving a number of officers, the locally based HR Business Partner or the Duty Governor can arrange for Carecall to provide a critical incident debrief for staff involved.

Written Warnings Issued to Prison Officers as a Result of Sickness Absence

Mr Buchanan asked the Minister of Justice how many written warnings have been issued to prison officers as a result of sickness absence, in each of the last three years.

(AQW 35176/11-15)

Mr Ford: In the last 3 years, the following numbers of Written and Final Written Warnings have been issued to prison officers due to sickness absence;

Date	Written Warnings issued	Final Written Warnings issued	Total Warnings issued
7 July 2011 to 6 July 2012	167	30	197
7 July 2012 to 6 July 2013	115	11	126
7 July 2013 to 6 July 2014	129	16	145

New Recruits Leaving the Prison Service

Mr Buchanan asked the Minister of Justice how many new recruits have left the Prison Service in each of the last three years.

(AQW 35178/11-15)

Mr Ford: In each of the last three years, the following number of new recruits have left the Northern Ireland Prison Service:

2012	6
2013	31
2014	29 to date

Northern Ireland Prison Officers

Mr Buchanan asked the Minister of Justice how many prison officers have been assaulted by prisoners in each of the last three years.

(AQW 35179/11-15)

Mr Ford: The number of incidents of assault by prisoners on prison staff is shown in the table below:

Year	Incidents of Assault
2011	50
2012	48
2013	94

Fines and Enforcements Bill

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of Justice, in light of the absence of proposals to legislate within the current Justice Bill on the collection of £14 million outstanding court fines, when he will bring forward the Fines and Enforcements Bill, or whether it is possible to introduce this as an additional inclusion in the Justice Bill.

(AQW 35192/11-15)

Mr Ford: I plan to bring a draft Fines and Enforcement Bill to the Executive for approval to introduce into the Assembly this coming autumn. The Bill will contain a completely new regime for the collection and enforcement of fines with a range of additional powers for courts supported by a newly created collection and enforcement service.

Powers will be available for example to deduct fine payments from income and, following my recent policy consultation, I also intend to create powers to seize vehicles and access bank accounts in certain situations.

The Bill will not only change the law on fines. It will also contain important changes to youth justice law following the Youth Justice Review; changes to both Prisoner and Police Ombudsman legislation; and some changes to prisons law.

Across the breadth and depth of its scope, the Bill will require detailed Committee scrutiny which would not be possible if it were to be brought forward as an amendment to the Justice Bill. It would therefore be neither feasible nor appropriate for the Fines and Enforcement Bill to be combined with the Justice Bill.

In terms of unpaid fines, a programme of work is already underway ahead of new legislation to recover currently outstanding amounts where possible. All outstanding warrants have been recalled for review by the judiciary and a default hearing system commenced whereby cases are brought back to court for review.

In due course it is my intention that the new powers in the Fines and Enforcement Bill will also be available to tackle any remaining outstanding fines.

Prisoner Safety and Support Team

Lord Morrow asked the Minister of Justice, pursuant to AQW 33630/11-15, how many staff are employed in the Prisoner Safety and Support Team; and to outline their job descriptions.

(AQW 35194/11-15)

Mr Ford: Including the Head of Unit, there are six staff employed in Prisoner Safety and Support (PSS).

The role of PSS is to deliver a safer environment for all prisoners in NIPS care and its main responsibilities are to ensure compliance with the Suicide and Self Harm Prevention Policy.

PSS also considers cases where an individual may pose a risk to themselves and the prison or where they have difficulty in coping whilst in prison.

Safer Custody is a multi-disciplinary, multi-functional element of prison life and the prison service works in partnership with stakeholders such as the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, probation, psychology and ADEPT. While PSS provides a dedicated specific role it must be noted that responsibility for delivery of safer custody extends to all staff.

Department for Regional Development

Water and Sewage Pumping Stations Planned for North Down

Mr Easton asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the (i) cost; and (ii) location of all new water and sewage pumping stations planned for North Down.

(AQW 34697/11-15)

Mr Kennedy (The Minister for Regional Development): Work is ongoing and proposed to progress capital sewerage schemes, some of which require the construction of new pumping facilities as part of the solution.

In the Bangor area, work is being carried out in the Harbour area to provide storm storage with onward pumping to Luke's Point. The cost of this work is approximately £2 million.

It is anticipated that work will be progressed to replace the existing Castle Park Pumping Station with a new build on the same site. The cost of the pumping station element of this work is estimated at £2 - £2.5 million.

It is also intended that similar work will be carried out at the existing Stricklands Glen pumping station, to build a new pumping station on the same site at an estimated cost of £1.8 million.

In the Holywood area, a scheme is presently being prepared for the construction of a new pumping station necessitated by the need to address odour and ineffective overflow operations in the Kinnegar Catchment. The pumping station site is located on the periphery of the Kinnegar Wastewater Treatment Works and will require expenditure of approximately £2 million.

Translink: Free Vehicles for Community Transport Organisations

Mr Moutray asked the Minister for Regional Development what consideration has been given to providing two vehicles free-of-charge to the rural transport organisations, given that they have been leasing the vehicles from Translink for the last seven years.

(AQW 34827/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: Grant funding arrangements for the Rural Community Transport Partnerships (RCTPs) ensure that services can be provided to members and that this Department is compliant with EU regulations.

The RCTPs were provided with access to vehicles, owned by Translink, but the funding provided by my Department was adjusted accordingly.

Public auction offers the fairest option for disposal of vehicles as the RCTP's and indeed other voluntary and community organisations then have the opportunity to bid and purchase at perhaps a more favourable rate.

Cycling Uptake and Deprivation Levels

Mr McKay asked the Minister for Regional Development for his assessment of how cycling uptake correlates with deprivation levels.

(AQW 34855/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: The Travel Survey for Northern Ireland (TSNI) is the only source of data that records how and why people travel in Northern Ireland. A range of cycling specific information is recorded, including a question on those who have ridden a bicycle in the last 12 months.

The official measure of spatial deprivation in Northern Ireland is the NI Multiple Deprivation Measure (NIMDM) 2010. The question on cycling in the last 12 months was analysed by NIMDM 2010 for the most recent data available (2010-2012). These findings were compared to the results for NI as a whole.

It was found that respondents living in the 20% most deprived areas were less likely to have cycled in the last 12 months than the NI population as a whole.

Conversely, respondents living in the 20% least deprived areas were more likely to have cycled in the last 12 months compared to the overall NI population.

Looking at the respondents living in the remaining areas, there was no real difference in the proportion of those who had cycled in the last 12 months compared to the NI total.

More information on the TSNI can be found at:

http://www.drdni.gov.uk/index/statistics/stats-categories/northern_ireland_travel_survey.htm.

It must be remembered that levels of cycling in specific areas cannot simply be attributed to the level of deprivation, for example the geography of a location can be a contributory factor as to whether

people cycle or not. Levels of Cycling may also be impacted where low cost, widely available modes of transport such as black taxi 'bus' routes are available.

Promoting Cycling in Areas of High Deprivation

Mr McKay asked the Minister for Regional Development how he plans to promote cycling in areas of high deprivation.

(AQW 34856/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: My Cycling Unit is currently developing a draft Bicycle Strategy for Northern Ireland which will be published for consultation in the near future.

This strategy will outline all aspects required to create a better environment for cyclists including infrastructure provision, support measures and promotion. In taking forward the strategy I am particularly keen to explore opportunities to enhance cycling in areas of deprivation.

Cyclists: Albert Bridge, Belfast

Mr McKay asked the Minister for Regional Development how his Department has made Albert Bridge, Belfast safer for cyclists in the last six months.

(AQW 34857/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: There is an onus on all road users, including those using Albert Bridge, Belfast, to travel safely and respect one another. As numbers of cyclists on our roads continue to increase, it is important that their safety as well as the safety of other road users is given the highest priority.

The Member may be aware that I recently launched the 'Bus and Bike Travelling in Harmony' campaign, a joint initiative with Translink, Sustrans and my Department's Travelwise team which aims to provide each group with a better understanding of each other's needs such as giving sufficient road space, potential blind spots and the importance of making the appropriate adjustments while travelling to ensure they travel safely on the road together. This should benefit cyclists using Albert Bridge as well many other routes in Belfast and elsewhere in Northern Ireland.

In addition, my Department is currently working on developing a clear and aspirational vision for cycling, which will give an increased focus and priority to the needs of cyclists, and pedestrians, to encourage greater participation in this healthy and sustainable form of transport.

A key task will be to work with stakeholders in the assessment and development of current bicycle infrastructure and progressing opportunities for new routes.

My Department is looking at the new pedestrian and cycle bridge proposed between Ormeau Park, on Ravenhill Embankment and the Gas Works. Given the constraints of and limited potential for significant infrastructure improvements at sites such as Albert Bridge, this bridge may give an alternative traffic free route to those cycling from the east of the city into the city centre.

Investment in North Belfast

Mr G Kelly asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the funding that his Department, and its arm's-length bodies, invested in North Belfast between May 2011 and May 2014.

(AQW 34906/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: Details of the investment by my Department, and its arm's-length bodies (Northern Ireland Water and Translink) in North Belfast between April 2011 and May 2014 are provided below.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (April and May 2014)	Total
	£'million	£'million	£'million	£'million	£'million
Department2	30.9	29.0	328.5	0.04	88.4
NI Water	10.1	8.0	13.0	1.8	32.9
Translink5	1.1	1.3	0.2	0.0	2.6
Total	42.1	38.3	41.7	1.8	123.9

Department

The following streets in North Belfast had resurfacing of footways and carriageways in the applicable years.

1. Information is normally held on a financial year basis therefore total expenditure for 2011-12 has been provided.
2. Expenditure by the Department on roads infrastructure and maintenance of the road network is analysed for each financial year on a District Council basis rather than a parliamentary constituency basis. As the parliamentary constituency of North Belfast includes wards of both Belfast City Council and Newtownabbey Borough Council, the table above provides the expenditure for both Council areas.
3. An estimate of expenditure is provided as expenditure is currently being analysed.
4. Expenditure is analysed on a financial year basis therefore no details are currently available for 2014-15.
5. During these financial years my Department has invested in the purchase of new modern buses, some of which have been deployed in the North Belfast constituency. It is not possible to assign a specific sum to this investment.

2011/12

- Alexander Park Avenue (carriageways and footways)
- Cavehill Road (carriageways and footways)
- Crumlin Road - Ardoyne Road to Wheatfield Gardens
- Crumlin Road - Ligoneil Road to Ballysillan Park
- Fortwilliam Park.

2012/13

- Antrim Road at Throne Bends
- Whiterock Road
- Duncrue Road
- College Avenue
- Great Victoria Street
- Crumlin Road - Ballysillan Park to Upper Hightown Road
- Crumlin Road - Upper Hightown Road to Flush Road
- Nelson Street
- Garmoyle Street

- Dock Street
- Linfield Road

2013/14

- Duncrue Street
- Ballygomartin Road (footways)
- Donegall Park Avenue (carriageway and footways)
- Wheatfield Crescent
- Ligoneil Road
- Black Mountain Estate (footways)
- Shore Road footway
- Westland Road
- Springfield Road - Springfield Park to West Circular
- Springfield Road - West Circular to Watermouth Crescent
- High Street

NORTHERN IRELAND WATER

2011-12 £'m	Projects
2.16	Ballysillan Zone Watermain Improvements
1.42	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 2
1.67	Capital Maintenance Whitehouse Wastewater Treatment Works
1.00	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 1
1.09	Ballywonard Zone Watermain Improvements
0.19	Major Incident Mitigation Project East Region East Freeze Thaw Improvements
1.80	Capital Maintenance Belfast Wastewater Treatment Works
0.02	Ballysillan Road Belfast - Flood Alleviation
0.12	Ballygomartin South Phase 1 Water Mains Improvements
0.14	Oldpark Watermain Improvements
0.27	Reservoir Integrity and Rehabilitation Phase 4
0.01	Bank Square, Belfast, Environmental Improvements Scheme
0.08	Belfast City Centre Zone Watermain Improvements
0.08	Security improvements at Keypoint Installations
0.07	Belfast City Entries Upgrade
0.02	Appraisal of risk register locations within North Belfast Phase 2
10.14	
2012-13 £'m	Projects
2.06	Ballysillan Zone Watermain Improvements
1.41	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 2

1.17	Capital Maintenance Whitehouse Wastewater Treatment Works
1.07	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 1
0.63	Ballywonard Zone Watermain Improvements
0.33	Major Incident Mitigation Project East Region Freeze Thaw Improvements
0.45	Belfast Wastewater Treatment Works Base Maintenance - Phase 2
0.32	Capital Maintenance Belfast Wastewater Treatment Works
0.13	Ballysillan Road Belfast - Flood Alleviation
0.03	Ballygomartin South Phase 1 Water Mains Improvements
0.02	High Priority Watermains Phase 2 Work Package.
0.07	McVeigh's Well Rationalisation of Pipework
0.18	Belfast Terminal Pumping Station – Cooling Water Tank Feasibility Study
0.09	Bank Square, Belfast, Environmental Improvements Scheme
0.03	44a Alliance Avenue, Belfast Storm Sewer Extension
0.02	Alliance Avenue Belfast Storm Sewer Extension
8.01	
2013-14 £'m	Projects
1.21	Ballysillan Zone Watermain Improvements
1.50	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 2
0.76	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 1
0.83	Ballywonard Zone Watermain Improvements
1.97	Major Incident Mitigation Project East Region Freeze Thaw Improvements
1.69	Belfast Base Wastewater Treatment Works Maintenance - Phase 2
1.63	Gravity II, McVeighs well to Old Park Service Reservoir
0.98	Ballysillan Road Belfast - Flood Alleviation
0.73	Ballygomartin South Phase 1 Water Mains Improvements
0.70	High Priority Watermains Phase 2 Work Package.
0.40	Oldpark Watermain Improvements
0.26	McVeigh's Well Rationalisation of Pipework
0.25	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 3
0.02	Belfast City Centre Zone Watermain Improvements
0.04	Preparation of redundant Belfast Storm Pumping Stations for disposal
0.04	Belfast Wastewater Treatment Works Upgrade
0.01	York Street, Belfast Interchange
13.02	

2014-15 (April and May 2014)	
£'m	Projects
1.03	Gravity II, McVeighs well to Old Park Service Reservoir.
0.02	Ballygomartin South Phase 1 Water Mains Improvements
0.03	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 3
0.32	Oldpark Watermain Improvements
0.18	Major Incident Mitigation Project East Region Freeze Thaw Improvements
0.05	McVeigh's Well Rationalisation of Pipework
0.12	Belfast Wastewater Treatment Works Base Maintenance - Phase 2
0.02	York Street, Belfast Interchange
0.02	Newtownabbey Zone Watermain Improvements Phase 2
1.79	

TRANSLINK

2011-12 £'m	Project / Comments
0.07	York Road Replacement Profile Burner
0.09	York Road Overhaul upgrade fume extraction system
0.22	York Road Overhaul Wheel Lathe
0.41	York Road Bleach Green Replacement of Switch & Crossings
0.18	York Road Depot/Workshops - Various minor projects
0.16	Yorkgate Area Signalling Improvements
1.13	
2012-13 £'m	Project / Comments
0.09	York Road Overhaul Wheel Lathe
0.11	York Road Network Upgrade
0.25	York Road-Bleach Green Replacement of Switch and Crossings
0.03	Yorkgate Area Signalling Improvements
0.66	Yorkgate Station Platform Extensions
0.16	Rail Replacement Dargan Viaduct
1.30	
2013-14 £'m	Project / Comments
0.03	York Road Network Upgrade
0.01	York Road Depot/Workshops – Various minor projects
0.02	Yorkgate Area Signalling Improvements

0.11	Yorkgate to Donegall Quay Dualling Dargan Viaduct
0.03	Dargan Bridge Side Worn Rail Replacement
0.20	
2014-15 (April and May 2014)	
£'m	Project / Comments
	None to date

Flood Investment and Planning Group: Carnlough Village

Mr McMullan asked the Minister for Regional Development whether he will instruct the Flood Investment and Planning Group to coordinate an investigation into the flooding of Carnlough village due to the collapse of the sea defence wall.

(AQW 34945/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: The Department is not aware of the collapse of any sea defence infrastructure it owns in Carnlough village or of any drainage infrastructure issue which would require investigation.

A short length of sea wall on property belonging to the Londonderry Arms Hotel was removed during the 2013 winter storm surges to allow sea water to drain away. The Department carried out this work in agreement with the proprietor of the hotel following a request from a local councillor. The sea wall has subsequently been reinstated.

Department's Car Parks

Mr McGimpsey asked the Minister for Regional Development to detail the current cost of parking in each departmental owned car park in Belfast.

(AQW 35019/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: Details of parking tariffs for all of my Department's charged Car Parks are available via the NI Direct website at the following web address:

<http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/index/information-and-services/travel-transport-and-roads/parking-and-parking-enforcement/off-street-and-on-street-parking.htm>

Badges Issued Under the Blue Badge Scheme

Mr Weir asked the Minister for Regional Development for his assessment of the proportion of badges issued under the Blue Badge Scheme that are currently being used unlawfully.

(AQW 35035/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: In Northern Ireland there are currently 109,085 Blue Badge holders.

In 2013/2014 Traffic Attendants issued 99 Penalty Charge Notices relating to misuse of Blue Badges.

Cycle Lane from Bangor to Belfast

Mr Agnew asked the Minister for Regional Development whether there are any plans to create a proper cycle lane from Bangor to Belfast.

(AQW 35046/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: My Department's Cycling Unit is currently working on developing a clear and aspirational vision for cycling, which will give an increased focus and priority to the needs of cyclists, and pedestrians, to encourage greater participation in this healthy and sustainable form of transport.

A key task will be to work with stakeholders in the assessment and development of current bicycle infrastructure and progressing opportunities for new routes. Officials will be looking at the development of joined up routes in urban centres and greenway route between town and city centres.

The linkage between Bangor and Belfast will be one of the routes that will be considered.

Reservoirs at Conlig

Mr Cree asked the Minister for Regional Development for an update on the current plans and future strategy for reservoirs in Conlig.

(AQW 35058/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: The Conlig Impounding Reservoirs have been out of service for some time and are surplus to requirements. In accordance with the terms of its operating licence, NI Water has an obligation to dispose of assets that are no longer of use. The reservoirs have been identified for disposal during the current financial year, and expressions of interest have been invited from the public sector, in accordance with the Department of Finance and Personnel's Disposal of Surplus Public Sector Property in the Northern Ireland guidance document. If it is not possible to transfer ownership of the reservoirs within the public sector, NI Water will consider other options for disposal.

The closing date for submissions to the Department of Finance and Personnel's Land and Property Services (LPS) from interested parties was 27 June 2014. LPS is currently collating the expressions of interest and aims to forward details to NI Water by the end of July for consideration.

Noise Pollution in the Ardmore Area of Belfast

Mr McKinney asked the Minister for Regional Development for an update on actions taken regarding noise pollution in the Ardmore area of Belfast.

(AQW 35073/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: Road traffic noise levels at Ardmore Avenue were assessed using two pieces of legislation: The Noise Insulation Regulations (NI) 1995, which relate to the noise generated from newly constructed or upgraded roads; and the Environmental Noise Regulations (NI) 2006, which relate to general noise.

The results of these assessments indicated there was no requirement for any noise mitigation measures.

Preventing Road Noise at the Ardmore Area of Belfast

Mr McKinney asked the Minister for Regional Development whether his Department has considered erecting sound proofing structures to prevent road noise at the Ardmore Area of Belfast.

(AQW 35075/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: I would refer the Member to the answer I provided to Assembly Question AQW 35073/11-15.

Ballyclare Waste Water Treatment Works

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister for Regional Development what action Northern Ireland Water is taking to complete the storm water plans at Ballyclare Waste Water Treatment Plant; and to detail when the works will be complete.

(AQW 35094/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: Northern Ireland Water is progressing two separate workstreams in relation to storm water plans and Ballyclare Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW):

NI Water is currently undertaking an appraisal to (i) increase the capacity of the treatment membranes and/or (ii) upgrade the storm tank holding capacity at the Ballyclare WWTW. This appraisal work should be completed by the end of December 2014. It is expected that the membranes will all be replaced in

the 2015 calendar year, however any other capital works on site will be dependent on the outcome of the Utility Regulator's PC15 Final Determination, due in December 2014.

Following consideration by the inter-departmental Stormwater Management Group NIW has prioritised progression of the Ballyclare Drainage Area Study (DAS). A new sewerage network model is being built and flow monitoring is currently taking place on site to allow the model to be verified. The model should be completed by the end of October 2014 and it will then be used to assess the issues and develop outline solutions. Some storm separation works in the Ballyclare WWTW sewerage network are likely to be amongst the first capital works to progress in the PC15 period as part of the PC15 'Storm Separation' pilot capital funding, subject again to the Regulator's Final Determination and the findings of the DAS.

NI Water: Sewer on Dunadry Road, Co. Antrim

Mr Kinahan asked the Minister for Regional Development for an update on NI Water's investigation on the combined sewer on Dunadry Road, Co. Antrim, including the pumping station at the bridge in the grounds of the Dunadry Inn; and to detail (a) when; and (b) how the report will be published.

(AQW 35149/11-15)

Mr Kennedy: I have been advised by Northern Ireland Water that its investigation into the combined sewer on Dunadry Road and Dunadry Wastewater Pumping Station is currently underway and being carried out in accordance with the company's Capital Investment Appraisal System requirements. The appraisal study and project business case are expected to be completed in August 2014, however the completed appraisal study report is an internal document which will contain commercially sensitive information. I have asked NI Water to send you an executive summary of the report when it becomes available.

Emerging findings from the appraisal study indicate that additional wastewater storage volume is a key requirement at the Dunadry Wastewater Pumping Station in order to reduce unsatisfactory intermittent discharges into the Six Mile River. This work will be considered by NI Water during its PC15 (2015-2021) capital works prioritisation process.

Department for Social Development

Benefits Claimants with Illnesses or Disabilities

Lord Morrow asked the Minister for Social Development, in relation to people with illnesses or disabilities who were on benefits but have been classed for work, (i) whether staff at Social Security Agencies can assist or advise on rights and legalities, when prospective employers reject job applicants on the grounds of illness or disability which was lawfully declared on application forms or at interview; (ii) whether Social Security Staff report such employers; if so, (iii) to whom do they report; and (iv) how often this has occurred since the introduction of Welfare Reform.

(AQW 34942/11-15)

Mr McCausland (The Minister for Social Development): The Social Security Agency's primary responsibility is to pay social security benefits accurately and securely and to give advice and information about these benefits. The Agency has no responsibility for providing claimants with advice on their rights and legalities where prospective employers reject their job applications on the grounds of illness or disability. The NI Direct Website provides information for people with disabilities and also provides links to other useful websites including the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

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Revised Written Answers

Friday 18 July 2014

(AQW 33961/11-15)

Since the initial response to AQW 33961/11-15, Belfast Trust has completed a manual review of all patients who have attended the Belfast City Hospital from April 2012 until March 2014.

In total, 101 renal transplant recipients have been repatriated to other units from Belfast City hospital (BCH).

This is always by agreement of all parties (patient, BCH consultant, non-BCH consultant).



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