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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)

HOUSE OF LORDS

WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND WRITTEN ANSWERS

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[I] indicates that the member concerned has a relevant registered interest. The full register of interests can be found at <http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/standards-and-interests/register-of-lords-interests/>

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Ministers and others who make Statements or answer Questions are referred to only by name, not their ministerial or other title. The current list of ministerial and other responsibilities is as follows.

<i>Minister</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>
Baroness Evans of Bowes Park	Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal
Earl Howe	Deputy Leader of the House of Lords
Lord Agnew of Oulton	Minister of State, Treasury and Cabinet Office
Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon	Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Lord Ashton of Hyde	Chief Whip
Baroness Barran	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport
Lord Benyon	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Baroness Berridge	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education and Department for International Trade
Lord Bethell	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Care
Baroness Bloomfield of Hinton Waldrist	Whip
Lord Callanan	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Earl of Courtown	Deputy Chief Whip
Lord Frost	Minister of State, Cabinet Office
Baroness Goldie	Minister of State, Ministry of Defence
Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park	Minister of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Lord Greenhalgh	Minister of State, Home Office and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Lord Grimstone of Boscobel	Minister of State, Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Department for International Trade
Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay	Whip
Baroness Penn	Whip
Baroness Scott of Bybrook	Whip
Baroness Stedman-Scott	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Work and Pensions
Lord Stewart of Dirleton	Advocate-General for Scotland
Lord True	Minister of State, Cabinet Office
Baroness Vere of Norbiton	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Transport
Baroness Williams of Trafford	Minister of State, Home Office
Lord Wolfson of Tredegar	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice
Viscount Younger of Leckie	Whip

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Written Statements

Monday, 14 June 2021

Teacher Training Application System

[HLWS84]

Baroness Berridge: My Right Honourable Friend the Minister of State for School Standards (Nick Gibb) has made the following ministerial statement:

The Teacher Recruitment and Retention Strategy, published in January 2019, committed to helping people become teachers by introducing a new streamlined application system for postgraduate initial teacher training. This application system, known as the ‘Apply for Teacher Training’ service (“Apply”), is easy to use and designed to better meet the needs of potential trainees. The new service also ensures teacher training providers can make accurate decisions on whether their applicants are right for the courses they are offering.

During the October 2019 admissions cycle, this digital service was piloted by a number of School Centred Initial Teacher Training providers and schools across England. In October 2020, the pilot was extended to eleven universities offering initial teacher training courses. The service has been designed and developed based on ongoing feedback from candidates, universities, and schools to ensure it is as efficient and easy to use as possible.

The new “Apply” service will fully replace the existing UCAS Teacher Training service from the October 2021 admissions cycle. I have instructed UCAS to decommission their teacher training service and all applications to postgraduate initial teacher training courses in England will be processed through the Department’s new “Apply” service from October.

Tourism Recovery Plan

[HLWS85]

Baroness Barran: My Honourable Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Sport and Tourism, Nigel Huddleston MP, has made the following Statement:

The government has published a [Tourism Recovery Plan](#) which sets out a framework for the tourism sector’s recovery from COVID-19. This is a cross-government plan which recognises that tourism supports, or is supported by, the work of nearly every government department. This plan brings together recent, existing and planned support for the sector by the UK government into one framework.

In November 2020, as part of the first Global Travel Taskforce report, the UK government made a commitment to bring forward a Tourism Recovery Plan in 2021 which was reiterated in the Prime Minister’s Spring Reopening Roadmap published in February. The commitment to produce a Recovery Plan arose from the

simple fact that tourism has been one of the hardest hit sectors of the UK economy by COVID-19.

The UK government wants to see a growing, dynamic, sustainable and world-leading tourism sector reaching its full potential and driving growth across all parts of the UK. Specifically, we are aiming to:

- i) Recover domestic overnight trip volume and spend to 2019 levels by the end of 2022, as well as inbound visitor numbers and spend by the end of 2023: both targets are a year faster than independent forecasts predict;
- ii) Ensure that the tourism sector’s recovery benefits every nation and region in the UK, with growing accommodation occupancy rates in the off-season, visitors staying longer and world-class levels of investment in tourism products and transport;
- iii) Build back better with a more innovative and resilient tourism industry, maximising the potential for technology and data to enhance the visitor experience and employ more UK nationals in year-round quality jobs;
- iv) Ensure the tourism sector contributes to the enhancement and conservation of our cultural, natural and historic heritage, minimises damage to the environment and is inclusive and accessible to all; and
- v) Return the UK swiftly to its pre-pandemic position as a leading European destination nation for hosting business events such as trade fairs, conferences and exhibitions.

A short term focus of the Plan is to provide businesses with the support they need to return back to profit. For example, over £25 billion has already been provided to the tourism, leisure and hospitality sectors in the form of grants, loans and tax breaks, and tourism has been one of the most reliant economic sectors on measures such as the furlough scheme. The government has allocated at least £19 million to domestic and international marketing activity to help with the recovery, with a £5.5 million domestic campaign led by VisitEngland already underway. Measures such as the VAT cut for tourism and hospitality, and a continuation of business rates relief for eligible properties will continue supporting businesses, and new proposals such as the introduction of a domestic tourism rail product and the National Lottery Days Out scheme that will help stimulate demand. There is a particular focus in the Plan on maximising the set piece events scheduled for 2022; Her Majesty’s Platinum Jubilee, the Festival UK* 2022 and the Commonwealth Games, which will all act as major domestic and international tourist draws.

Once restrictions are lifted, the government will focus on building back better. For example, the Plan lays out significant levels of UK-wide investment already underway in tourism product and infrastructure, as well as new support due to come in over subsequent years, such as the £4.8 billion Levelling-Up Fund. We will also bring forward a consultation on the introduction of a Tourism Accommodation Registration Scheme in England.

A root and branch independent review of Destination Management Organisations (DMO's) in England, led by Nick de Bois, is already underway. This review was launched in March 2021 and is assessing how best to structure and support tourism at a regional level. Other measures, such as an expanded ministerial advocacy and industry ambassadorial programme for business events, will help cement the UK's position as a leading European destination nation for hosting business events.

To ensure the success of the Plan, a new quarterly inter-Ministerial group for Tourism, chaired by the Secretary of

State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, will be set up to deliver and update this Plan as necessary. The Tourism Recovery Plan will be revisited at regular intervals to ensure the right policy interventions are in place. The government will work collaboratively with the Tourism Industry Council and other key stakeholders from across the tourism sector in order to get it done.

A copy of this document will be placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

Written Answers

Monday, 14 June 2021

Aircraft: St Helena

Asked by Lord Jones of Cheltenham

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Vere of Norbiton on 25 May (HL48), whether they plan to provide funding for the St Helena Government to charter aircraft in order to improve prospects for the tourism industry on the Island towards the aim of economic self-sufficiency. [HL622]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK Government has recently confirmed its contribution to the St Helena Government's budget for 2021/22. St Helena Government will provide funding for charter flights that maintain essential access to and from the Island. The UK Government continues to work with the St Helena Government in their efforts to stimulate the economy and encourage tourists to visit the Island in future.

Assessments: Appeals

Asked by The Marquess of Lothian

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the possible number of appeals to Teacher Assessed Grades by (1) A-Level, and (2) GCSE, students this summer; and what steps they have taken to ensure processes and resources are in place to deal with such appeals in a timely manner. [HL662]

Baroness Berridge: Centres will be expected to allow students to see the evidence used to determine their grade in advance of that grade being submitted. This, along with the internal and external quality assurance processes and the guidance provided to teachers, should ensure students can have confidence in their grades which will reduce the number of instances in which students need to appeal.

The Department is unable to estimate the exact number of appeals in advance, we have and will continue to work with awarding bodies to ensure they are prepared to respond to a range of scenarios in dealing with any appeals that arise. A clear process will be in place for students who wish to appeal their grade, and we have also been clear that appeals for those students whose higher education places are dependent on the outcome of an appeal should, as far as possible, be concluded in early September. Further guidance on the appeals process will be published in due course.

Biofuels: Imports

Asked by Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the size the overseas carbon footprint is of the cutting down of trees, converting them into wood pellets, and shipping them to the UK to generate electricity for Britain. [HL683]

Lord Callanan: The UK only supports biomass which complies with strict sustainability criteria, and electricity generators receive subsidies only for compliant biomass.

The sustainability criteria, amongst other things, take into account the greenhouse gas emissions from collecting, transporting and turning biomass into a viable energy source (e.g. wood pellets), whether that is in the UK or elsewhere, to ensure that biomass delivers a carbon saving compared to fossil fuels.

Generators must report against these criteria under the Renewables Obligation and the Contracts for Difference schemes on a monthly basis to Ofgem.

Community Housing Fund

Asked by Baroness Eaton

To ask Her Majesty's Government when the Community Housing Fund will be available. [HL648]

Lord Greenhalgh: Departmental budgets for 2021/22 have been confirmed at the recent Comprehensive Spending Review and £4 million in revenue grant funding has been made available to reopen the Community Housing Fund. We are currently considering how these funds should be most effectively deployed. In addition, organisations that are registered as providers of social housing may seek capital funding from the Shared Ownership and Affordable Homes Programme operated outside London by Homes England.

The Government recognises that the community-led housing sector offers significant potential for helping to meet housing need across England. In addition to helping increase the rate of delivery of new housing, it will help deliver a range of benefits including diversifying the housebuilding sector, improving design and construction quality, developing modern methods of construction, and sustaining local communities and local economies. The support and close involvement of the local community enables the community-led approach to secure planning permission and deliver housing that could not be brought forward through mainstream development.

Coronavirus: Vaccination

Asked by Lord Mendelsohn

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment (1) ministers, (2) the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation, (3) the Chief Medical Officer, and (4) the Chief Scientific Officer, have made of the study 'Safety and immunogenicity of one versus two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine BNT162b2 for patients with cancer: interim analysis of a prospective observational study', published in the Lancet Oncology on 27 April. [HL70]

Lord Bethell: The Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) was sent the pre-print article on the efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines on cancer patients, 'Interim results of the safety and immune-efficacy of 1 versus 2 doses of COVID-19 vaccine BNT162b2 for

cancer patients in the context of the UK vaccine priority guidelines', on 15 March 2021, which was discussed at its meeting on 16 March 2021. The minutes of the meeting will be published in due course.

No specific assessment of the article, published in the *Lancet Oncology* on 27 April, has been made by the Department, the Chief Medical Officer, or the Chief Scientific Officer.

The Government's approach towards COVID-19 is informed by a wide variety of scientific information that is under constant review by a variety of organisations. This particular study was referenced on page 17 of Public Health England's (PHE) "COVID-19 vaccination: information for healthcare practitioners", which is attached. In light of the study, the guidance states that specialists may advise their patients based on their knowledge and understanding of their immune status and likely immune response to vaccination but should also consider the risk from COVID-19 and the patient's likelihood of exposure.

PHE's "COVID-19 vaccination: information for healthcare practitioners" is a document about the COVID-19 vaccination programme that is intended for healthcare staff involved in delivering the programme. It includes detailed information on the background of the programme, the vaccines (as they become available), vaccine recommendations and eligibility, contraindications and precautions, and vaccine administration issues. A copy of the document is attached.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Information for healthcare practitioners [COVID-19_vaccination_programme_guidance_for_healthcare_workers_20_May_2021_v3.7 (1).pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2021-05-11/HL70>

Domestic Abuse: Local Government Services

Asked by Lord Pendry

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to provide additional funding to local authorities for early abuse interventions following increases in domestic violence. [HL583]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: Domestic abuse is an abhorrent crime and we fully recognise the devastating impact it can have on children and young people. That is why the Domestic Abuse Act recognises children as victims if they see, hear or experience the effects of domestic abuse.

In the past year the Home Office has provided over £3 million to specialist services for children who have experienced domestic abuse. The local services funded provide interventions such as therapy, counselling and education schemes.

The Home Office has also provided funding to roll out Operation Encompass nationally. This innovative scheme facilitates schools and police working together to provide emotional and practical support to children affected by domestic abuse. It currently operates in all 43 police forces across England and Wales, therefore ensuring vital early intervention in all local areas.

We are also committing £25 million to tackle perpetrators of domestic abuse. From this, I am pleased to confirm that on Friday 21st May we launched a new Perpetrator Programme Fund for Police and Crime Commissioners to bid into totalling £11.1m. The purpose of this fund is to support the introduction of more perpetrator programmes in local areas. We have specified that one area we are particularly interested in funding is dedicated provision for adolescents who perpetrate abuse in their adolescent relationships. The competition will be live for six weeks, closing on 2nd July.

Finally, councils across England have been allocated £125 million funding to provide support for victims of domestic abuse and their children. The money will fund a new duty on councils to ensure victims and their children are able to access life-saving support in safe accommodation – a key part of the government's landmark Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

More broadly across Government we are determined to ensure that support is available at an early stage for all victims of domestic abuse. Departments including the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Ministry of Justice are providing funding this financial year for accommodation-based support and wider victim services respectively.

Football: Gambling

Asked by Lord Foster of Bath

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether their fan-led review of football governance will include an assessment of the financial sustainability of banning gambling sponsorship. [HL650]

Baroness Barran: The Terms of Reference for the fan-led review of football governance have been published and amongst other matters, the review will explore ways of improving the governance, ownership and financial sustainability of clubs in English football, building on the strengths of the football pyramid.

While the role of gambling sponsorship currently sits outside the scope of the fan-led review, we launched the Review of the Gambling Act 2005 on 8 December 2020, with the publication of a Call for Evidence. This closed on 31 March 2021 and received approximately 16,000 submissions from a broad range of interested organisations and individuals. As part of the wide scope of that Review, we called for evidence on the benefits or harms of gambling sponsorship arrangements in sports and other areas, and we are considering the evidence carefully.

Fraud: Internet

Asked by *The Marquess of Lothian*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what percentage of crime in England is categorised as online fraud; what percentage of policing resource is dedicated to combatting online fraud; and what plans they have to increase the level of police resource allocated to tackling digital crime. [HL664]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government is aware that fraudsters continue to exploit technology and the internet to commit their crimes. Recent ONS estimates suggest that around 53% of all fraud is online enabled (*Crime Survey of England and Wales data covering personal incidents of fraud and not fraud against businesses: Nature of crime: fraud and computer misuse - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)*). This Government is determined to drive down the number of these frauds and to protect the public from their harm.

Decisions on the allocation of funding received by Police Forces are determined at a local level in line with the priorities set by each Police and Crime Commissioner as part of their Police and Crime Plan. The Government continues to fund fraud capability to tackle these crimes. As part of the 2020 Spending Review, the Government committed a further £63m to the Home Office to tackle economic crime, including fraud. This is in addition to the £10m funding that the Home Office commits each year to the City of London Police to run the existing Action Fraud and National Fraud Intelligence Bureau services.

However, we will continue to explore all opportunities to go further on fraud and online, digital crime, including through the upcoming Spending Review.

High Speed 2 Railway Line: Railway Stations

Asked by *Lord Berkeley*

To ask Her Majesty's Government for what reasons the estimated cost of the West Midlands HS2 station has increased to £370 million. [HL705]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Interchange station cost estimate has not increased and remains within the allocated budget, as confirmed when the HS2 project was reset in February 2020 following conclusion of the Oakervee Review and the adoption of an updated cost baseline (Baseline 7.1).

At Baseline 7.1 adoption, the point estimate for Interchange station was £274m in Q3 2019 prices. This estimate excluded risk exposure and optional scope. The recently announced figure of £370m is the Baseline 7.1 estimate inflated to Q1 2022 prices (the date of Contract Award) with the addition of its contingency allowance, which is derived from the overall HS2 Ltd risk exposure allowance, also confirmed at Baseline 7.1 adoption. The £370m figure also contains provision for optional scope to maximise and facilitate local development plans around the station. This updated estimate does not affect the overall budget, or contingency, of the HS2 project and

station delivery remains within its cost allocation and is proceeding to schedule.

Housing Associations: Charities

Asked by *Baroness Eaton*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of whether regulations designed for large housing associations restrict small charitable housing groups from expanding; and what plans they have to amend the regulations to remove any such restrictions. [HL649]

Lord Greenhalgh: The Regulator of Social Housing is responsible for the regulation of registered providers of social housing in England.

The regulator's primary focus is on promoting a viable, efficient and well-governed social housing sector able to deliver the homes that we need. The regulator's economic and consumer standards apply to both large (1,000 homes or more) and small (fewer than 1,000 homes) registered providers. It is for individual providers to ensure compliance with the standards and the regulator does not specify how they should do that. The regulator's publication (attached), *Regulating the Standards*, outlines its operational approach to assessing compliance with the economic and consumer standards for both large and small providers.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Regulating the Standards [Regulating_the_Standards_March_2020 - HL649.pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2021-05-27/HL649>

Huddersfield University: Finance

Asked by *Lord Scriven*

To ask Her Majesty's Government how much funding the University of Huddersfield has received from the Government for each of the last four years; and for what purposes this funding was provided. [HL684]

Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay: The Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) collects and publishes data on the finances of higher education providers in the UK.

Total income from government sources [1] at the University of Huddersfield in the academic years 2015/16, 2016/17, and 2018/19 is in the attached table. It has been estimated from Table 7, <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/finances/table-7> (income analysed by source), and Table 6, <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/finances/table-6> (income towards tuition fees), of HESA's open data: <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/finances>.

Data for the 2019/20 academic year are not yet available for the University of Huddersfield.

Data for the 2017/18 academic year are not available, as a breakdown of tuition fees by source of fee has not been collected in 2018/19.

Full details of the income categories collected by HESA are available at:

<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/support/definitions/finances>.

[1] Identified as income categories where funding comes from government departments or those largely funded by them.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

HL684 table income to Uni of Huddersfield [Copy of
HL684_table_income_to_University_of_Huddersfield.xls]

The material can be viewed online at:
<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2021-05-27/HL684>

Industrial Diseases

Asked by Lord McKenzie of Luton

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of any evidence of the relationship between silica or asbestos and anti-neutrophil cytoplasmic antibody associated vasculitis which has been discovered since the publication on 3 April 2020 of the report by the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council Occupational exposure to Silica or asbestos and ANCA-associated vasculitis; and what plans that Council has to review its position in that regard. [HL874]

Baroness Stedman-Scott: When deciding whether to prescribe new diseases or making any changes to the appropriate prescriptions under the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit Scheme, Ministers are guided by the recommendations of the Industrial Injuries Advisory Council ("IIAC"). IIAC is independent of Government.

IIAC continually reviews the emerging literature, but at present nothing has come to light which might indicate the Council should change the views expressed in its Position Paper on occupational exposure to silica or asbestos and ANCA-associated vasculitis published on 3 April 2020. The Council will, of course, maintain a watching brief on this topic and may re-evaluate its position should any substantial evidence become apparent.

Internet: Safety

Asked by Lord Roberts of Llandudno

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to publish an online media literacy strategy. [HL966]

Baroness Barran: The Full Government Response to the Online Harms White Paper Consultation, published last December, confirmed our commitment to publish an Online Media Literacy Strategy. The Strategy will explore

the media literacy landscape and ensure a strategic and coordinated approach to media literacy activity. The Strategy will further help support users with the skill and knowledge they need to make informed and safer choices online. The Strategy will be published later this year.

Medical Treatments: Innovation

Asked by Lord Hunt of Kings Heath

To ask Her Majesty's Government what date they plan to launch the Innovative Medicines Fund. [HL752]

Lord Bethell: Proposals for the Innovative Medicines Fund are in development and we expect NHS England and NHS Improvement and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence to lead an engagement exercise later this year. A detailed timescale will be confirmed in due course.

Medical Treatments: Technology

Asked by Lord Hunt of Kings Heath

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the discount rates applied to health technology assessments are being included in the review by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence of health technology assessment methods. [HL751]

Lord Bethell: The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) is currently reviewing the methods and processes it uses in the development of its technology appraisal and highly specialised technologies recommendations, including the discount rate. NICE expects to consult on a draft programme manual in summer, with implementation of the changes from early 2022.

Asked by Lord Hunt of Kings Heath

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to publish the (1) remit, (2) priorities, and (3) details of the (a) leadership, (b) budget, and (c) lines of accountability, of the new Medical Technologies Directorate. [HL754]

Asked by Lord Hunt of Kings Heath

To ask Her Majesty's Government how they plan to measure the success of the Medical Technologies Directorate. [HL755]

Lord Bethell: The new Medical Technologies Directorate within the Department was announced in May 2021. The Directorate is currently at a formative stage and recruitment to roles is about to commence. Although timelines are being finalised, we expect to publish a strategy including details of the remit, priorities, leadership, budget and accountabilities in early 2022. Success criteria will be determined once the Directorate budget has been finalised and the strategy has been finalised through engagement with industry and others.

Music: Higher Education

Asked by Lord German

To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the gross amount per student paid by the Office for Students to universities for students studying music courses under the CAH25-02-02 code for the 2020–21 academic year; and what is the amount to be paid for the 2021–22 academic year. [HL657]

Baroness Berridge: The Strategic Priorities Grant, formerly referred to as the Teaching Grant, plays an important role in supporting providers and students to develop the skills and knowledge needed locally, regionally and nationally to support the economy.

We have asked the Office for Students (OfS) to reform the Grant for 2021–22. These reforms include the reallocation of high-cost subject funding towards the provision of high-cost subjects that support the NHS and wider healthcare policy, high-cost science, technology, and engineering subjects, and subjects meeting specific labour market needs.

One of our proposals is for a 50% reduction in the rate of high-cost subject funding, which is one element of the wider Strategic Priorities Grant, for some subjects in order to enable this reprioritisation.

Under current proposals, outlined in the OfS' consultation on recurrent funding for 2021/22, the high-cost subject funding rate for students on music courses (CAH25-02-02) will be set at £121.50 in 2021/22, down from £243 in 2020/21. This fall is equivalent to a reduction of around 1% in combined funding from a £9,250 tuition fee and OfS funding. Music students will also attract other elements of OfS funding, such as funding for student access and success, which is unrelated to the subject they study.

The OfS' methodology for calculating funding allocations, which are done at subject price group-level rather than on an individual subject basis, means that the total amount of high-cost subject funding cannot be calculated for individual subjects such as music. However, illustrative modelling performed by the OfS on funding allocations, which accompanied their consultation, calculated that the total amount of funding for C1.2 subjects, which includes performing arts, creative arts, media studies and archaeology, decreased from £36 million in academic year 2020/21 to £19 million in academic year 2021/22. We have asked the OfS to invest an additional £10 million in our world-leading specialist providers. Many of these specialise in arts provision such as the Royal College of Music or the Royal Academy of Music which are both world-leading institutions for music education. We want to ensure that

our specialist providers receive additional support, and that grant funding is used to effectively support students.

Night-time Economy: Coronavirus

Asked by Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to prepare further financial support packages for the night-time entertainment industry affected by COVID-19 restrictions. [HL823]

Baroness Barran: The Government recognises the severe impact the pandemic has had on the night-time entertainment industry.

The Chancellor announced in the 2021 Budget an additional £300 million to support cultural organisations, including businesses in the night industry such as theatres, music venues and nightclubs in England through the Culture Recovery Fund. Nightclubs were eligible for the first and second rounds of Culture Recovery Funding and many organisations were funded, for example, the Ministry of Sound received a grant of almost £1m. To date, over £1.2 billion has been allocated from the Culture Recovery Fund, reaching over 5000 individual organisations and sites. This extra funding means that our total support package for culture during the pandemic is now approaching £2bn.

More generally, the Government will spend over £33 billion supporting those in self-employment during this crisis, among the most generous anywhere in the world. The Government has also provided economic wide support packages which the sector has been able to access including extensions to the furlough scheme, SEISS, and additional business support.

Peers: By-elections

Asked by Lord Grocott

To ask the Senior Deputy Speaker what plans he has to arrange for media access to the counts for by-elections of hereditary peers. [HL742]

Lord Gardiner of Kimble: The Procedure and Privileges Committee agreed on 2 March that the forthcoming hereditary peer by-elections to replace the Earl of Selborne, Lord Denham, Lord Selsdon, the Countess of Mar, Lord Rea and Lord Elton should be carried out using electronic means. Electors will vote using a secure on-line portal. The count will be an electronic process with the manual addition of a small number of postal ballots. There are no plans to allow media access to the count as it is an electronic process. Full details of the results will be available to the media and other interested parties on-line after the result has been announced in the Chamber.

Polling Stations: Police

Asked by Lord Rennard

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the need to provide a greater police presence at polling stations for different types of elections or votes. [HL678]

Baroness Williams of Trafford: The police assess the needs for security at polling stations in their area and respond accordingly.

Planning and oversight of election issues during campaigns is overseen by a NPCC lead and a network of local Election co-ordinators, who work closely with the candidates and others involved in the process, to ensure the democratic process.

Pupil Premium

Asked by Lord Watson of Invergowrie

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many pupils would have been eligible for the pupil premium if the determination of 2021–22 allocations had not been based on the October 2020 school census. [HL689]

Asked by Lord Watson of Invergowrie

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether, and if so when, they plan to publish a financial assessment on the impact of basing pupil premium allocations for 2021–22 on the October 2020 school census. [HL690]

Baroness Berridge: The January 2021 census will be used to determine pupil premium eligibility for alternative provision and pupil referral units for the financial year 2021/22. Pupil premium eligibility for mainstream and special schools will be based on the October 2020 census. We will confirm pupil premium allocations for the financial year 2021/22 in June 2021.

The department publishes information on pupil premium allocations and the number of pupils eligible annually. The most recent publicly available figures can be found via this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2020-to-2021>.

Analysts in the department are in the process of calculating the 2021/22 financial year pupil premium funding allocations, as well as the impact of using the October census to determine eligibility. We will publish the impact of the change in pupil premium eligibility in due course, close to when the pupil premium allocations for the 2021/22 financial year are published.

Per pupil funding rates will be the same as in the 2020/21 financial year, which is expected to increase pupil premium funding to more than £2.5 billion in 2021/22 as more children have become eligible for free school meals.

In addition to the pupil premium, the government announced an additional £1 billion for national tutoring

on 2 June, which will see up to 100 million tutoring hours for children and young people across England: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/huge-expansion-of-tutoring-in-next-step-of-education-recovery>.

£218 million of this additional £1 billion will be directed through the government's National Tutoring Programme. This is on top of the £215 million already planned to be invested in the 2021/22 academic year and will continue to ensure that support reaches disadvantaged pupils, while giving teachers and head teachers the discretion to support the pupils they believe are most in need.

The announcement builds on previous investments worth £1.7 billion into a COVID-19 catch up fund for schools since the outbreak began, to directly tackle the impact of lost teaching time and to help with wellbeing and recovery. This includes £302 million for a Recovery Premium building on the pupil premium, which will be targeted towards schools most in need to support disadvantaged pupils' attainment.

Schools: Uniforms

Asked by Baroness Lister of Burtersett

To ask Her Majesty's Government what consideration they have given to the proposal by the 'Let Clothes be Clothes' campaign for unisex school uniforms in finalising the statutory guidance on the costs of school uniforms. [HL660]

Baroness Berridge: It is for the governing body of a school to determine uniform policy. In making decisions about its school uniform policy, and all other school policies, a school must have regard to its obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty. Where a school has different dress codes for male and female pupils, they will need to carefully consider their obligations under equalities legislation not to discriminate unlawfully on the grounds of any protected characteristic. The department publishes guidance to help schools understand how the Equality Act affects them and how to fulfil their duties under the Act:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/equality-act-2010-advice-for-schools>. This includes a duty on schools not to discriminate unlawfully due to the protected characteristics of sex and gender reassignment. The department also publishes non-statutory best practice guidance on school uniform which is clear that "in formulating its school uniform policy, a school will need to consider its obligations not to discriminate unlawfully": https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/514978/School_Uniform_Guidance.pdf. For example, it is not expected that the cost of girls' uniform is significantly more expensive than boys.

Under the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021, the forthcoming statutory guidance will be limited in scope to the cost aspects of uniform, but

we will continue to make our non-statutory guidance available to schools alongside it.

Terrorism: Prison Sentences

Asked by Lord Marlesford

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many individuals are currently serving custodial sentences for terrorist offences in the United Kingdom; and which prisons are used for confining such persons. [HL671]

Lord Wolfson of Tredegar: As reported in the latest statistics released on gov.uk, there were 184 persons serving custodial sentences for terrorist offences in Great Britain (as of 31 December 2020). A further 25 were being held on remand, ahead of trial or sentencing. Those in custody are assessed according to their individual risk and rehabilitation needs and are held in various prisons across the estate. We do not disclose operational detail regarding the location of all terrorist offenders in prison.

Data detailing the number of people serving custodial sentences for terrorist offences is available at Gov.uk. You can access this information here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/operation-of-police-powers-under-the-terrorism-act-2000-quarterly-update-to-december-2020>.

Northern Ireland Security statistics are available and published by the Northern Ireland Office.

Travel: Quarantine

Asked by Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether staff working in facilities being used for travel quarantine during the COVID-19 pandemic are subject to mandatory, regular tests for COVID-19 infection; and whether such staff are restricted to working only in such facilities during their term of employment. [HL600]

Lord Bethell: All staff working in managed quarantine facilities are actively encouraged to take a voluntary daily lateral flow device test. Staff are also offered a weekly polymerase chain reaction test. Whilst the tests are optional, the process is COVID-19 compliant, in addition to social distancing measures and procedures. Staff are not restricted to working only in these facilities during their term of employment.

Asked by Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many cases of the transmission of COVID-19 have been traced to facilities which have been designated for use for quarantine during the COVID-19 pandemic. [HL602]

Lord Bethell: The information requested is not held centrally.

Asked by Baroness Randerson

To ask Her Majesty's Government what inspections they are undertaking on the (1) quality, and (2) standards, of accommodation and services provided in hotels contracted to provide quarantine facilities for passengers arriving from countries on the red list during the COVID-19 pandemic; and what steps they are taking to supervise such hotels to ensure (a) that vulnerable people are protected, and (b) that the regulations on isolation are properly followed in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. [HL629]

Lord Bethell: The Department has contracted to provide 24 hours a day, seven days a week liaison officer cover in all managed quarantine hotels. We receive daily reports from the embedded liaison officers for each hotel providing assurance of the facilities provided and ensure any areas of concern are addressed. We also engage with hotels and service providers on a regular basis to monitor the quality and effectiveness of services provided.

We have allocated resources to ensure that vulnerable people in quarantine hotels are signposted to the appropriate support and follow safeguarding procedures where appropriate. All hotels have a 24 hours a day, seven days a week security presence and access to an onsite medic. All hotels and security providers assigned to the quarantine service follow our standard operating procedures to ensure that guests remain in a COVID-19 secure environment for the entirety of their stay.

UK Emissions Trading Scheme: Biofuels

Asked by Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the financial value to the biomass industry of the zero carbon exemption for biomass within the UK's emissions trading scheme (ETS). [HL682]

Lord Callanan: The current treatment in the UK ETS of carbon emissions from biomass provides continuity for participants.

The UK only supports biomass which complies with strict sustainability criteria, and electricity generators receive subsidies only for compliant biomass.

The sustainability criteria, amongst other things, take into account the greenhouse gas emissions from collecting, transporting and turning biomass into a viable energy source (for example wood pellets), whether that is in the UK or elsewhere, to ensure that biomass delivers a carbon saving compared to fossil fuels.

University of Huddersfield: Bahrain

Asked by Lord Scriven

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are monitoring the University of Huddersfield's activities in Bahrain; if so, how; and how they are ensuring that

those activities do not contribute to human rights abuses. [HL635]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We are aware of, but do not monitor, the University of Huddersfield's activities in Bahrain.

Venezuela: Humanitarian Aid

Asked by The Marquess of Lothian

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the current humanitarian situation in Venezuela; and what steps they are taking to contribute to the improvement of the lives of Venezuelan citizens. [HL666]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK is extremely concerned by the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Venezuela. Since 2019, HMG has spent £37 million in humanitarian aid in response to the Venezuelan crisis, focusing on health, nutrition, and water and sanitation, both inside Venezuela, and with refugees in countries in the region. Inside Venezuela, our funds have also made an important contribution to childhood vaccinations, and strengthening the capacity of the country to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to the entire population. As a result of the economic contraction, the UK will not be funding new bilateral humanitarian programmes in response to the Venezuela crisis in 2021. Our remaining programmes will end in July 2021 as planned.

We will still be spending around £10 billion in Official Development Assistance (ODA) globally, meaning that we will remain one of the largest donor countries in the world. The UK continues to be the largest contributor to the United Nations' Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and provides considerable funding to other multilateral humanitarian agencies. We are proud to be a founding donor of the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund, which is increasing funding to national NGOs, and are exploring whether we might be able to provide some additional funding to the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund for work inside Venezuela. We will continue to work with others through diplomatic channels in addressing the root causes of the humanitarian crisis in Venezuela.

Young Audiences Content Fund

Asked by Baroness Benjamin

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the cuts of the Young Audiences Content Fund pilot, what steps they are taking to ensure the pilot leads to a secure,

well-supported and long-term future for that Fund. [HL911]

Asked by Baroness Benjamin

To ask Her Majesty's Government why cuts were made to the final year of the Young Audiences Content Fund pilot; what assessment they made of (1) the effectiveness of that Fund, and (2) the need to provide notice of any changes to its funding. [HL912]

Baroness Barran: Following a successful Spending Review, the Young Audiences Content Fund will continue into its third year and receive up to £10.7m for year 3 of the pilot scheme, totalling up to £44.2m for the three years.

As set out in the Contestable Fund [scoping paper published in 2018](#), monitoring and evaluation of the Fund would inform the annual budget allocation over the course of the pilot. The 2021/22 funding awarded demonstrates a commitment to the value of children's television programming in an exceptionally challenging fiscal climate, where some tough decisions have had to be made. DCMS has engaged continuously with the BFI, who administers the Fund, throughout the funding determination.

Although assessment of the funds is ongoing, the [Year One review](#) sets out a number of successes for the fund. As planned, a detailed evaluation of the scheme, against the criteria set out at launch, will take place this year before a decision is made on whether to close, continue or expand the Contestable Fund.

Zimbabwe: Pensions

Asked by Lord Goodlad

To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had this year with the government of Zimbabwe about pension arrears owed to former Crown servants; and what was the outcome of those discussions. [HL658]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: While we have received repeated assurances from the Government of Zimbabwe that they will resume payment of pensions when the economic situation allows, we remain concerned. The Government of Zimbabwe is facing an array of challenges economically, which have been exacerbated by COVID-19. Regrettably, we therefore do not see these pensions being paid in the near future. We will, however, continue to raise the matter with the Government of Zimbabwe and the UK's Ambassador to Harare raised the issue with senior Ministry of Finance officials on 2 June.

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