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Thursday
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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 | Minister of State, Ministry of Defence and Deputy Leader of the House of Lords |
| Lord Agnew of Oulton | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education |
| Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon | Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office |
| Lord Ashton of Hyde | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport |
| Baroness Barran | Whip |
| Baroness Blackwood of North Oxford | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Care |
| Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Wales Office |
| Baroness Buscombe | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Work and Pensions |
| Lord Callanan | Minister of State, Department for Exiting the European Union |
| Earl of Courtown | Deputy Chief Whip |
| Lord Duncan of Springbank | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office and Scotland Office |
| Lord Gardiner of Kimble | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs |
| Baroness Goldie | Whip |
| Lord Henley | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy |
| Lord Keen of Elie | Advocate-General for Scotland and Ministry of Justice Spokesperson |
| Baroness Stedman-Scott | Whip |
| Baroness Sugg | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for International Development |
| Lord Taylor of Holbeach | Chief Whip |
| Baroness Vere of Norbiton | Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Transport, Whip |
| Baroness Williams of Trafford | Minister of State, Home Office and Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for International Development |
| Lord Young of Cookham | Cabinet Office Spokesperson, Treasury Spokesperson and Whip |
| Viscount Younger of Leckie | Whip |

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Written Statements

Thursday, 13 June 2019

Agriculture and Fisheries Council

[HLWS1579]

Lord Gardiner of Kimble: My Rt Hon Friend Robert Goodwill (Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) has today made the following statement:

Agriculture and Fisheries Council takes place in Luxembourg on 18 June.

As the provisional agenda stands, the primary focus for fisheries policy will be on the Regulation on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) for which a preliminary agreement on the proposal, a partial general approach (PGA), is sought in Council. It will constitute the Council's mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament.

The European Commission will also present its Communication on the state of play of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and consultation on the Fishing Opportunities for 2020, after which Ministers will exchange views.

In the field of agriculture the main focus will be on the Post 2020 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) reform package for which the Romanian Presidency has provided a progress report on the negotiations during their Presidency. The progress report will be discussed at Council. The reform package covers the three legislative proposals: Regulation on CAP Strategic Plans, Regulation on financing, management and monitoring of the CAP, and Regulation on common market organisation (CMO) of agricultural products.

There are currently no items scheduled for discussion under 'any other business'.

Boundary Commission for England

[HLWS1586]

Lord Young of Cookham: My honourable friend the Minister for the Constitution (Mr Kevin Foster) has today made the following written Ministerial Statement:

I should like to inform the House that my right honourable friend the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office has made the following appointments under Schedule 1 to the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 following a competition run in accordance with the Governance Code on Public Appointments:

- Colin Byrne, appointed as a Member of the Boundary Commission for England, effective from 1 July 2019 until 30 June 2024; and
- Sarah Hamilton, appointed as a Member of the Boundary Commission for England, effective from 1 July 2019 until 30 June 2024.

Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill

[HLWS1584]

Lord Keen of Elie: My right honourable friend the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice (David Gauke) has made the following Written Statement.

"I am pleased to announce that the Government is today introducing in the House of Commons the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill. This legislation follows the Government's response to the consultation on reform of the legal requirements for divorce in England and Wales. I previously laid this response before Parliament [*Official Report*, 9 April 2019 vol 658 c8WS].

Marriage and family have long been vitally important to our functioning as a society. Where a marriage or civil partnership regrettably breaks down and is beyond repair, the law must deal with that reality with the minimum of acrimony by creating the conditions for people to move forward and agree arrangements for the future in an orderly and constructive way. Above all, the legal process should not exacerbate conflict between parents, as this is especially damaging for children. The process must better support and encourage parents to cooperate in bringing up their children.

The evidence is clear that the current legal requirements can needlessly rake up the past to justify the legal ending of a relationship that is no longer a beneficial and functioning one. The requirement for one person to blame the other – if it is not practical for them to have separated for at least two years – can introduce or worsen conflict at the outset of the process, conflict that may continue long after the legal process has concluded. Allegations about a spouse's conduct may bear no relation to the real cause of the breakdown. Such allegations do not serve the interests of society or help family relationships to heal. Instead, they can be damaging to any prospects for couples to reconcile or to agree practical arrangements for the future. In the extremely difficult circumstances of divorce, the law should allow couples, where reconciliation is not possible, to move on constructively.

The Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Bill will change or remove conflict flashpoints. It will align the law with the non-confrontational approach that Parliament has enacted in other areas of family law. Among its measures, the Bill will replace the requirement to prove spousal conduct or that the couple have been separated for at least two years with the requirement to file a statement of irretrievable breakdown of the marriage or civil partnership. It will introduce a new minimum period of twenty weeks between the start of proceedings and confirmation to the court that the conditional order should be made. This will make the period before the conditional order is granted longer for most people, and so allow better opportunity for reflecting on the decision to divorce and, where this is inevitable, agreeing practical arrangements for the future.

This is an important piece of legislation that will bring long overdue reform. It is not about making the decision to divorce or to dissolve a civil partnership easier. That

will remain one of the hardest decisions anyone can take. It is about reforming those elements of the current legal process that can exacerbate conflict and cause unnecessary distress at an already difficult time, and better supporting agreement about arrangements for the future. I know that Honourable and Right Honourable Members will take great interest in this opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of the many families who sadly find themselves affected by breakdown. My Ministerial colleagues and I look forward to working with them through the passage of the Bill."

ECOFIN

[HLWS1585]

Lord Young of Cookham: My right honourable friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Philip Hammond) has today made the following Written Ministerial Statement.

A meeting of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (ECOFIN) will be held in Luxembourg on 14 June 2019.

ECOFIN will be preceded by a morning meeting of the European Investment Bank (EIB) Board of Governors:

Annual EIB Board of Governors meeting

The meeting of the EIB Board of Governors will include: statements from the Chairman, President and Chairman of the Audit Committee; a Governors discussion; a presentation on the annual report of the Audit Committee; and a vote for partial renewal of the Audit Committee. The UK will be represented by Mark Bowman (Director General, International Finance, HM Treasury).

Following this, EU Finance Ministers will discuss the following at ECOFIN:

Early Morning Session

The Eurogroup President will brief the Council on the outcomes of the 13 June meeting of the Eurogroup, and the European Commission will provide an update on the current economic situation in the EU.

Banking Union

The Council will be invited to endorse a progress report on the Banking Union.

Financial Transaction Tax

Ministers will receive a progress update in relation to the enhanced co-operation in the area of financial transaction tax.

G20 follow-up

The Council Presidency and Commission will present the main outcomes of the G20 meeting of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, which took place on 8-9 June in Fukuoka, Japan.

European Semester

Ministers will discuss the draft 2019 Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) and progress towards the Europe 2020 targets.

Stability and Growth Pact

Ministers will be invited to adopt Council decisions and recommendations on the implementation of the Stability and Growth Pact.

Clean Planet

Ministers will exchange views on a strategic long-term vision for a climate-neutral economy.

Non-performing loans

Under any other business, the Commission will provide an update on the implementation of the Action Plan to tackle non-performing loans in Europe.

Foreign Affairs Council

[HLWS1580]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: My Right Honourable Friend, the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Sir Alan Duncan), has made the following written Ministerial statement:

The Foreign Affairs Council (FAC) will take place in Luxembourg on 17 June. It will be chaired by the High Representative of the European Union (EU) for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (HRVP), Federica Mogherini.

The FAC will discuss Current Affairs, the effectiveness of the EU Common Foreign and Security Partnership (CFSP) as well as the EU's Global Strategy, Sudan, and over lunch with the Jordanian Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi, the Middle-East Peace Process.

Current Affairs

We expect HRVP Mogherini to debrief Ministers on her trip to the Horn of Africa and the developing political situation in the region. HRVP Mogherini will also provide an update on recent developments in Venezuela, including on the International Contact Group and Lima Group Ministerial meeting held in New York on 3 June. We expect Iran to be raised following Iran's announcement to partially cease meeting commitments under the Iran nuclear deal and given the upcoming 60-day deadline. We expect HRVP Mogherini and Ministers to consider next steps as we seek to avoid further escalation.

CFSP effectiveness and the EU Global Strategy

Foreign Ministers will consider how the EU can improve its approach to foreign and security policy. Defense Ministers will join Foreign Ministers for a strategic debate on the EU's Global Strategy and how it works internationally. They will consider the EU's role on security, burden sharing and coherence among defense initiatives.

Sudan

Following the UK's request, Ministers will discuss the situation in Sudan, taking stock of recent political events, including the Sudanese security forces' use of violence on civilians, and consider how the EU should respond to support the African Union in ensuring a transition to civilian rule.

Lunch on MEPP with the Jordanian Foreign Minister

The Jordanian Foreign Minister is expected to join EU Ministers to discuss the Middle East Peace Process, prior to the EU-Jordan Association Council. Ahead of the publication of the Kushner Plan, the UK will reiterate its support for a two state solution and encourage all parties to keep an open mind once the Plan is published. The UK will note the importance of HRH King Abdullah II's role as custodian of the Christian and Muslim holy sites, and reiterate our long-standing position on Jerusalem.

Council Conclusions

The Council is expected to adopt conclusions on Effective Multilateralism; Security and Defence; Central Asia Strategy; the EU's Engagement in the Black Sea Region; Strengthening the ban on anti-personnel mines; and Human Rights guidelines on safe drinking water and sanitation.

Fortification of Flour

[HLWS1581]

Baroness Blackwood of North Oxford: My Hon. Friend the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Public Health and Primary Care (Seema Kennedy MP) has made the following written statement:

Further to the Government's announcement on 23 October 2018 of the intention to consult on the issue of mandatory fortification of flour with folic acid to help prevent neural tube defects in fetuses, I wish to inform the House that the consultation will launch today and will run for 12 weeks.

Neural tube defects are birth defects of the brain, spine, or spinal cord. They happen in the first few weeks of pregnancy, often before a woman even knows that she is pregnant. The two most common neural tube defects are spina bifida and anencephaly. These can be devastating conditions and the Government is fully aware of the effect these have on the individuals themselves and their families.

There is strong evidence that many neural tube defects can be prevented by increasing women's intake of folic acid

Unless you are pregnant or thinking of having a baby, you should be able to get all the folate (the natural form of folic acid) you need by eating a varied and balanced diet. Existing pregnancy advice to women who are trying to conceive or who are likely to become pregnant is that they are advised to take a daily supplement of 400 micrograms of folic acid until the 12th week of pregnancy. They are also advised to increase their daily intake of folate by eating more folate-rich foods, for example spinach and broccoli, and foods voluntarily fortified with folic acid such a wide range of breakfast cereals.

However, we know that in the UK around half of pregnancies are unplanned. In those which are planned, it has been estimated that only half of all mothers took folic acid supplements or modified their diet to increase folate intake. This has led to calls for mandatory fortification of

flour with folic acid, so women can get it from dietary sources other than foods that naturally contain it.

The Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition (SACN) has recommended mandatory folic acid fortification of flour to improve the folate status of women most at risk of neural tube defect-affected pregnancies. Further detail on this is in the consultation document.

We are now opening a consultation to seek views on this proposed change and we hope that members of the public as well as industry and the scientific community respond so we can accurately consider this proposal.

I have agreed with the Governments of Scotland and Wales, and the Permanent Secretary of Northern Ireland that this will be a joint consultation between the Devolved Administrations and England. This is because any resulting decisions would need to be taken on a whole-UK basis to minimise impact on trade and for industry to comply. Similarly, the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has been closely involved as flour falls within their remit.

General Licences for Controlling Wild Birds

[HLWS1577]

Lord Gardiner of Kimble: My Hon. Friend the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Environment (Dr Thérèse Coffey), has today made the following statement.

On 4th May, Defra took on decision-making for the purposes covered by the general licences that had been revoked by Natural England on 25th April. An evidence-gathering exercise was then initiated in order to determine next steps which closed on 13th May.

4378 responses were received, some of which were general opinions. 3952 responses were more specific and have provided a useful set of evidence and views. The majority of responses came from individuals or smaller businesses and organisations. 36 local and national organisations also responded, including conservation, animal welfare, pest control, farming, game keeping and land management organisations.

The responses demonstrated a range of impacts that individuals and groups experienced as a result of Natural England's revocation of licences GL04, 05 and 06. These include crow attacks on lambs and ewes during lambing, the risk of predation for eggs and fledglings of birds of conservation concern, and public health issues caused by pigeons in urban areas.

We recognise the unintended consequences of Natural England's decision on 23rd April and completely acknowledge the need to address this situation quickly. This is why we issued an urgent call for evidence so that we could assess the situation carefully.

Next steps will be confirmed imminently following engagement with users and other interested stakeholders. A summary of the evidence and the government response will also be published shortly.

We remain determined to ensure that we have a robust and effective licensing system in place.

Justice and Home Affairs Council

[HLWS1588]

Lord Keen of Elie: My right honourable friend the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice (David Gauke) has made the following Written Statement.

"The final Justice and Home Affairs Council of the Romanian EU Presidency recently took place in Luxembourg. I attended on 6th June for Justice Day, and Sir Tim Barrow, Permanent Representative of the UK to the EU, and Chris Jones, Director of the Europe Directorate at the Home Office, attended on Interior Day on 7th June.

Justice Day began with a discussion on the Regulation on the Assignment of Claims, which has far-reaching implications for financial markets, including the ability of small businesses to access credit. It was agreed that work in this area will need to continue under the Finnish Presidency. The Council then discussed digitalisation of judicial cooperation, where the Presidency considered the UK's position that a thorough cost benefit analysis was needed before proceeding, along with plenty of time for Member States to implement this measure effectively. In general, however, Member States supported a mandatory and de-centralised approach to digitalisation in the interests of speed and efficiency of justice systems.

Ministers then discussed the future direction of substantive criminal law co-operation. Member States were clear that implementation of existing criminal law measures should be prioritised before considering new legislation and a thorough analysis of the benefits of these measures would be needed before further harmonisation. Nonetheless, momentum began to form around the harmonisation of criminal law on environmental crime, identity theft, and manipulation of elections.

After a working lunch discussing the use of judicial training to foster mutual trust, there was a policy debate on mutual recognition in criminal matters. Discussions focused on facilitating the practical application of existing legal instruments, including by means of judicial training, rather than on new legislative proposals. The Commission stressed the importance of fundamental rights, and an independent judiciary to enable mutual recognition tools, like the European Arrest Warrant (EAW), to operate. The UK underlined our commitment to continued co-operation in this field and several Member States supported the idea of common guidelines on this. Some advocated EU legislation on the transfer of criminal proceedings to close loopholes, particularly where suspected criminals cannot (for whatever reason) be surrendered under the EAW.

The Council then adopted mandates for negotiations with the United States, and in the Council of Europe (Budapest Convention), on cross-border access to e-evidence. The Commission noted its intention to insist that the United States agree to an EU wide approach which would apply to all Member States without

discrimination, including at the EU-US Ministerial meeting in Bucharest later this month. Formal negotiations will not begin until finalisation of internal EU legislation on e-evidence. The UK has not opted into either the internal EU legislation on e-evidence, or the mandates for negotiations with the US, and in the Council of Europe, and will not be bound by those mandates.

Council adopted Conclusions which encourage Eurojust and the networks established in the area of judicial cooperation in criminal matters to further develop the coordination and synergies between them. The UK supported these Conclusions as we support the work of Eurojust, and agrees that better coordination between networks hosted by Eurojust would be helpful for criminal justice cooperation.

The Council also adopted Conclusions on the retention of data for the purpose of fighting crime, which proposed further exploration of options for lawful regimes in Member States. The UK believes the appropriate retention of telecommunications data for law enforcement purposes is an important element of an effective law enforcement system and supported these Conclusions. The Commission provided an update on the planned preparatory steps to make the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) operational by the end of 2020. The UK has not opted into EPPO.

The Council adopted an Implementing Decision confirming that the UK could connect to the Prüm automated system for exchanging DNA data between law enforcement authorities in EU Member States.

Interior Day began with a discussion on the future of EU law enforcement. Ministers agreed that further co-operation on approaches to law enforcement would make for more effective cross-border law enforcement. The Council supported effective implementation of existing legislation, especially interoperability of databases, and recognised the need to address the impacts of technological advancements on law enforcement, supporting Europol's role in pooling expertise and providing technological and analytical support. The UK Permanent Representative to the EU intervened to support this work and welcome the intent to work together, co-ordinate methods and approaches and support the proposal for a Europol innovation hub. In this context, the UK intervention additionally highlighted UK work to tackle online harms through the UK White Paper.

Under AOB, the Council CT Co-ordinator (Gilles de Kerchove) presented on the implications on law enforcement of the move to 5G. The CT Co-ordinator focused on the need for the EU to influence 5G standards, to ensure a dialogue with service providers on this issue, and to consider EU legislation to avoid fragmentation of Member State approaches. The Commissioner for the Security Union (Sir Julian King) noted the Commission's intent to develop an EU risk assessment and toolbox of options to mitigate risks by the end of 2019.

The Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Group, a non-EU grouping of European States intelligence agencies, attended to update the JHA Council on the general

terrorist threat and the challenges and opportunities from new tools and technologies. The CTG Chair also updated on discussions on co-operation with Europol on strategic and technical issues, noting that operational intelligence work remained the sole responsibility of Member States.

Over lunch and in the afternoon session, Ministers discussed migration, with a focus on issues of solidarity and redistribution of migrants. Member States remain split on the EU's approach to these issues. The UK intervention focused on our extensive support upstream which ranges from tackling organised immigration crime and the use of strategic communications to building partnerships and capability with source and transit countries to jointly address the drivers of migration.

The Council agreed a partial General Approach on the draft Directive on common standards and procedures in Member States for returning illegally staying third-country nationals (recast), with the exception of Article 22 on the Border procedure and the related recitals. The UK has not opted into this measure.

The Council also agreed partial General Approaches on draft regulations establishing the Integrated Border Management fund, establishing the Asylum and Migration Fund, and establishing the Internal Security Fund. These are subject to wider negotiations on the overall Multi-Annual Financial Framework. The UK will not participate in any of these funds."

Local Industrial Strategies

[HLWS1578]

Lord Henley: My Rt hon Friend the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (Greg Clark), has today made the following statement:

Our modern Industrial Strategy is a long-term plan to boost productivity and earning power for people throughout the country.

Since 2010, local leaders, working in partnership with government, have delivered historic City Deals with Greater Manchester. There have been multiple devolution agreements resulting in devolved new powers including bus reform, the adult education budget and Growth deal funding of £633 million.

Building on these strong foundations, we set out in the modern Industrial Strategy to work in partnership with places to develop Local Industrial Strategies. Local Industrial Strategies are central to our aim of creating prosperous communities across the country. They are being developed locally and agreed with government. They are long-term, based on clear evidence and aligned to the modern Industrial Strategy.

On 16 May we launched the first of these strategies – the West Midlands Local Industrial Strategy. Today we are launching the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy. This has been developed locally by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority, led by Mayor Andy Burnham, Sir Richard Leese, Leader of Manchester City Council, supported by the Local Enterprise Partnership

and Greater Manchester partners; and agreed with government.

This ambitious strategy sets out how Greater Manchester will work in partnership with government to:

- Set Greater Manchester up to be a global leader on health and care innovation – creating new industries and jobs, improving population health and extending healthy life expectancy; working to identify a home for a prospective International Centre for Healthy Ageing;
- Position Greater Manchester as a world leading region for innovative firms to experiment with, develop and adopt advanced materials in manufacturing; including University of Manchester work to establish 'Graphene City' in the centre;
- Build on Greater Manchester's position as a leading European digital city-region, to maximise growing assets in cyber security;
- Enable the digitalisation of all sectors; and capitalise on the links between digital and creative industries that feed internationally significant clusters in broadcasting, content creation and media;
- Launch the UK's first city-region Clean Growth Mission to achieve carbon neutral living in Greater Manchester by 2038; and
- Ensure that the education, skills and employment system allow everyone to reach their potential and employers have access to the skills required to deliver the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy.

Greater Manchester is a growing economy with a growing population of 2.8m. Our shared national and local ambition is for the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy to boost productivity and people's earning power through our collaborative national, regional and local leadership, recognising the economic strengths and potential of Greater Manchester.

A copy of the Greater Manchester Local Industrial Strategy will be placed in the Libraries of the House.

News Media Merger

[HLWS1583]

Lord Keen of Elie: My Right Honourable Friend the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (Rt Hon Jeremy Wright) has made the following Written Statement:

My Department has today written to Lebedev Holdings Limited (LHL) and Independent Digital News and Media Limited (IDNM), the owners of the Evening Standard and the Independent, to inform them that I am 'minded to' issue an Intervention Notice. This relates to concerns I have that there may be public interest considerations - as set out in section 58 of Enterprise Act 2002 - that are relevant to the recent acquisition of a 30% stake by the International Media Company (IMC) in LHL and the linked transaction involving the acquisition of a 30% stake by Scalable LP in IDNM and that these concerns warrant further investigation.

A 'minded to' letter has therefore been issued to the parties on one public interest ground specified in section 58 of the Enterprise Act 2002:

(2A) The need for (a) accurate presentation of news; and (b) free expression of opinion.

It is important to note that I have not taken a final decision on intervention at this stage. In line with the statutory guidance on media mergers, the 'minded to' letter invites further representations in writing from the parties and gives them until 5pm on Monday 17 June to respond. I plan to make my final decision, which needs to be made on a quasi judicial basis, on whether to issue an Intervention Notice no later than week commencing 24 June.

If I decide to issue an Intervention Notice, the next stage would be for Ofcom to assess and report to me on the public interest concerns and for the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) to assess and report to me on whether a relevant merger situation has been created and any impact this may have on competition. Following these reports, I would need to decide whether to refer the matter for a more detailed investigation by the CMA under section 45 of the Enterprise Act 2002.

In view of the time it has taken to obtain sufficient information to reach this point I have asked the parties to agree to extend the statutory time limit to allow Ofcom and the Competitions and Markets Authority to report to me on the public interest issues raised by the transaction.

I will keep Parliament updated on progress with this media merger case.

Transport Council

[HLWS1587]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: My Right Honourable friend, the Secretary of State for Transport (Chris Grayling), has made the following Ministerial Statement.

The Transport Council took place in Luxembourg on Thursday 6th June. This was the only Transport Council under the Romanian Presidency (the Presidency). The UK was represented by the UK's Deputy Permanent Representative to the EU, Katrina Williams.

The Council reached General Approach on the third tranche of the 'Mobility Package' for a legal framework for the electronic communication of freight transport information. The UK welcomed the work that the Presidency had done to achieve compromises on this text, as did a number of other Member States.

The Presidency gave a Progress Report on the proposal from the third tranche of the 'Mobility Package' to streamline planning and approval processes for projects on the trans-European transport network (TEN-T). Some delegations took the opportunity to flag outstanding concerns including scope, the role of the Single Competent Authority and the duration of the permit granting process.

There was also a Progress Report on the proposal from the first tranche of the 'Mobility Package' Hired Vehicles

Directive, although discussion illustrated that there are still outstanding issues to be resolved.

The Council was also given a Progress Report on the proposal from the first tranche of the 'Mobility Package' to revise the current directive on Eurovignette (Road Charging). The UK intervened to highlight the need for flexibility in determining national charging schemes, a view shared by a number of other Member States.

Over lunch, Ministers from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and the Ukraine along with representatives from the World Bank, the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development participated in a joint discussion with the Council and Commissioners Bulc and Hahn on the progress made by the Eastern Area Partnership (EaP) in developing the external dimension of the TEN-T policy. Welcoming the progress made in relation to road safety, TEN-T connectivity and planning for future investment in transport infrastructure, the Council endorsed the joint EU-EaP Declaration as a road map for future cooperation.

Later, the Council was given a further Progress Report on negotiations on the proposals to revise the Regulation on rail passengers' rights and obligations.

Finally, there were several information points from Member States, the Presidency and Commissioner Bulc under Any Other Business. Several Member States supported Luxembourg's call for consideration of aviation taxation as an additional means to tackle emissions reduction. The Presidency gave information on discussions in other Councils on "A clean planet for all", the Commission's long-term climate strategy. On addressing airspace capacity, Commissioner Bulc noted the recent publications of the Airspace Architecture Study and the Wise Person's Report on the future of air traffic management. The Commission noted the first findings of its study on sustainable transport infrastructure charging and the internalisation of transport externalities, which was published on the day of the Council, and updated the Council on the connectivity outcomes of the EU-China summit. The Presidency provided an update on current legislative proposals and the Polish delegation provided information on the Conference on "Benefits for regions resulting from the implementation of the route Via Carpatia". Finally, Finland presented transport plans for its forthcoming Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

UK Debt Management Office

[HLWS1582]

Lord Young of Cookham: My honourable friend the Economic Secretary to the Treasury (John Glen) has today made the following Written Ministerial Statement.

The United Kingdom Debt Management Office (DMO) has today published its business plan for the financial year 2019-20. Copies have been deposited in the Libraries of both houses and are available on the DMO's website: www.dmo.gov.uk.

Written Answers

Thursday, 13 June 2019

5G

Asked by *The Lord Bishop of St Albans*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the report by Nominet 5G spectrum sharing, published in September 2018, which explores dynamic spectrum access possibilities for 5G. [[HL16047](#)]

Lord Ashton of Hyde: In July 2018 Government published the Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review which set out Government's long-term strategy for world leading telecoms infrastructure. In the Review Government identified the introduction of flexible, shared spectrum models - such as dynamic spectrum access - as a strategic priority.

Government regularly engages with industry on a range of topics - including spectrum sharing and 5G - and welcome industry feedback, including Nominet's report. Government will continue to work with Ofcom and industry to support innovation and investment and encourage competition within the market. We recently published our draft Statement of Strategic Priorities which consulted on, among others, our spectrum sharing ambitions. Ofcom, as the national regulatory authority, will have regard to these when carrying out the management of spectrum and other relevant functions.

Affordable Housing

Asked by *The Earl of Listowel*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that teachers, nurses and social workers can afford to live in areas of high cost housing. [[HL16103](#)]

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: We have strengthened the revised National Planning Policy Framework so that local authorities are expected to have planning policies which identify homes needed for different groups in the community. The Framework acknowledges that essential local workers, including teachers, nurses and social workers, are a group that may require access to affordable housing. Local authorities should consider this when setting local policies. Where there is identified need, local authorities may seek to introduce policies that support the delivery of affordable housing for essential local workers.

The Department for Health and Social Care have taken specific steps to support essential staff in accessing affordable housing in high cost areas. This includes the introduction of a national expectation that, when local NHS estate owners are disposing of surplus land, NHS staff will be offered first refusal on all affordable housing built on the land.

Armed Forces: Vehicles

Asked by *Earl Attlee*

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Earl Howe on 9 May ([HL15373](#)), whether the Ministry of Defence will adhere to paragraph 5.2 of the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency's Guide to Maintaining Road Worthiness of Commercial Goods and Passenger Carrying Vehicles, published in November 2018, which states that tyres in single formation should not be kept in service on a heavy goods vehicle for more than 10 years. [[HL16129](#)]

Earl Howe: The Ministry of Defence policy is that tyres fitted to vehicles are inspected at regular intervals in line with the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency's Heavy goods vehicle (HGV) inspection manual 2018 edition. This takes into account the requirements in paragraph 5.2 of the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency's Guide to Maintaining Road Worthiness of Commercial Goods and Passenger Carrying Vehicles, published in November 2018.

Asked by *Earl Attlee*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the number of tyres fitted in single formation which are in use on vehicles used by the Ministry of Defence; and what estimate they have made of the cost in each of the next 10 years of replacing tyres that are 10 or more years old. [[HL16130](#)]

Earl Howe: Details on the number of tyres fitted in single formation on vehicles used by the Ministry of Defence are not held centrally and could be provided only at disproportionate cost. No estimate of the cost of replacing tyres that are 10 or more years old has been made. All vehicles are maintained and serviced regularly, at which time tyres are replaced if they do not meet minimum legal and safety standards.

Asked by *Earl Attlee*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they will take to ensure that heavy goods vehicle tyres used by the Ministry of Defence that are more than 10 years old are not exported for use in developing countries; and what estimate they have made of the loss of income from such sales. [[HL16131](#)]

Asked by *Earl Attlee*

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they will take to ensure that heavy goods vehicles used by the Ministry of Defence with tyres that are more than 10 years old are not exported for use in developing countries; and what estimate they have made of the loss of income from such sales. [[HL16132](#)]

Earl Howe: The Ministry of Defence (MOD) routinely scraps used tyres through a contractor, therefore none are exported overseas. However, when tyres are attached to heavy goods vehicles, it is possible that those over 10 years old could be exported, as all ex-MOD vehicles are

sold as seen. There is currently no loss of income associated with such vehicle sales.

AWACS: Procurement

Asked by Lord Moonie

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they expect the Boeing E-7 production line for the conversion of Boeing 737NG aircraft to come back into service. [HL16163]

Earl Howe: While the E-7 Wedgetail is a mature, proven technology, it is produced to order and there is not a constant production line for the aircraft. However, the production line for the base Boeing 737 NG aircraft is still fully operational and has confirmed orders that will see it continuing for several years to come. Work is currently underway to establish a line to undertake the conversion work of the base 737 NG into the E-7 Wedgetail at Marshall Defence and Aerospace in Cambridge in preparation for our first aircraft to enter the modification process in 2021.

Asked by Lord Moonie

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they anticipate that the conversion of a Boeing 737NG aircraft to the E-7 configuration can be accomplished in two years; and what steps they are taking to ensure that timetable can be met. [HL16164]

Earl Howe: The schedule for delivery of our aircraft was a key part of our contractual negotiations with Boeing and, as part of the due diligence process, it was subjected to scrutiny and a thorough risk assessment. Consequently, we are confident that the agreed average 24-month modification schedule accurately reflects the expected duration for a project of this nature and scope. Boeing has identified an experienced team to manage the modification programme to ensure it is successful. For this project, Boeing has recruited individuals with a wealth of experience from previous E-7 modification programmes from the US and Australia, who have been involved in all the previous customer programmes. Throughout the project there will, of course, be regular reviews to monitor progress and ensure that it remains on track.

Asked by Lord Moonie

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the failure of Boeing to deliver the KC-46 tanker programme and the removal from commercial service of 737 MAX aircraft on the availability of engineering resources for its E-7 conversion programme. [HL16165]

Earl Howe: The E-7 is based on the Boeing 737 NG aircraft and not the 737 MAX so is not affected by the current issues with that variant. Similarly, the E-7 project is independent of the KC-46. Boeing has identified an experienced team to manage the modification programme

to ensure it is successful. For this project, Boeing has recruited individuals with a wealth of experience from previous E-7 modification programmes from the US and Australia, who have been involved in all the previous customer programmes. Throughout the project there will, of course, be regular reviews to monitor progress and ensure that it remains on track and is appropriately resourced. Boeing is a company of the size and scale to be able to flexibly manage its resources across multiple priorities from a wealth of available skills and experience.

Asked by Lord Moonie

To ask Her Majesty's Government what impact deferring contracting training, infrastructure and other services for E-7 Wedgetail aircraft will have on their ability to negotiate competitive prices. [HL16166]

Earl Howe: There has not been any deferral of contracting for these additional services. It is common in acquisition projects of this size and complexity to adopt an incremental procurement approach that enables a better alignment of the build-up of the aircraft fleet and capability with the points at which such additional services are actually required. An overriding consideration in any contract is, of course, to seek best value for money for defence, and there are a variety of mechanisms available to ensure this, including competition or the application of Single Source Contracts Regulations.

Bicycles: Hire Services

Asked by Baroness Randerson

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to introduce legislation to give local authorities greater powers to control the establishment of bicycle hire schemes and to set standards on how such schemes should be run. [HL16040]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: Local authorities already have powers to deal with hire bicycles if they are causing an obstruction or nuisance, and are also able to introduce local byelaws as appropriate. The Government will continue to monitor the impacts of bike hire schemes and to work with local authorities and scheme operators as appropriate on ways of addressing any problems that arise.

Breakfast Clubs

Asked by Baroness Lister of Burtersett

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they will make a decision on funding for the National School Breakfast Programme. [HL16098]

Asked by Baroness Lister of Burtersett

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the current annual cost to the public purse of the National School Breakfast Programme. [HL16099]

Asked by Baroness Lister of Burtersett

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the National School Breakfast Programme on educational attainment. [HL16100]

Asked by Baroness Lister of Burtersett

To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their latest estimate of the number of children receiving breakfasts under the National School Breakfast Programme; and how that compares with the original numbers anticipated. [HL16102]

Lord Agnew of Oulton: The department is investing up to £26 million in a breakfast club programme, using funds from Soft Drinks Industry Levy revenues. This money will kick start or improve breakfast clubs in over 1,700 schools. The focus of these clubs has been to target the most disadvantaged areas of the country including the Department for Education's opportunity areas to help make sure every child gets the best start in life.

A contract was awarded to Family Action in March 2018 and will run until March 2020. Family Action, in partnership with Magic Breakfast, have both been named as the leading charities responsible for running the breakfast club programme. Family Action are distributing the appropriate funding to participating schools who meet the eligibility criteria. Family Action has confirmed that they have reached their recruitment target of 1,775 schools.

We monitor management information from the programme on an ongoing basis and will also review the effectiveness of the programme fully once the programme concludes including the number of children attending. In March 2019, Family Action indicated that by the start of the summer term over 250,000 children would be benefiting from the programme.

Design: Exports

Asked by Baroness Bonham-Carter of Yarnbury

To ask Her Majesty's Government what proportion of the value of UK exports to (1) EU, and (2) non-EU, countries are linked to the design sector. [HL15987]

Lord Ashton of Hyde: The design sector plays a significant role across the UK economy, contributing to the production of goods and services in a number of sectors.

The sector is one of our fastest growing industries, and continues to outperform the wider UK economy. DCMS Economic Estimates show that in 2016, the UK exported £380 million of design and designer fashion services, representing a 212.2% increase since 2010. This includes £151 million worth of exports to the EU, and £229 million to non-EU countries.

Furthermore, the Design Council's report entitled 'The Design Economy 2018' estimates that the total value of

exports where design had made a key contribution was £48.4 billion in 2015, representing 7% of all UK exports.

Driving under Influence

Asked by Earl Attlee

To ask Her Majesty's Government for what reason the drink drive limit in England and Wales was set at 80 milligrammes per 100 millilitres of blood; and what scientific studies, if any, were the basis for determining that limit. [HL16133]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Road Safety Act 1967 made it an offence to drive a vehicle with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) in excess of 80 milligrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood and obliged drivers to submit to a screening, breathalyser test at the roadside in certain circumstances.

In 1966 Professor Allsop published a paper "Alcohol and Road Accidents" which stated that earlier research by Professor Borckenstein in 1964 showed that with "blood alcohol levels above 80 mg/100 ml, the risk of being involved in an accident is higher".

Professor Allsop's report provided the basis for setting the drink drive limit in 1967.

Electronic Warfare

Asked by Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to strengthen UK defences against new threats posed by (1) misinformation campaigns, and (2) cyber warfare. [HL16121]

Lord Ashton of Hyde: The Government takes the issue of disinformation very seriously. DCMS is leading work across Government to tackle it. The recently published Online Harms White Paper sets out our expectations for tech companies to take proportionate and proactive measures to minimise the spread of misleading and harmful disinformation and the potential sanctions they will face if they do not. The Government is also working closely with industry, civil society and international partners to mitigate against the threat of online disinformation campaigns. For example, ahead of the European Parliament elections, DCMS led a cross-government effort to monitor for any disinformation campaigns so that we were ready to respond to them quickly and effectively.

Cyber is a tier 1 threat and remains a national priority. This was made clear in The Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR) 2015 and reinforced by the National Cyber Security Strategy, published on 1 November 2016. The strategy sets out ambitious policies to protect the UK in cyber space, supported by a £1.9 billion transformational investment across ten years. Our vision for 2021 is that the UK is secure and resilient to cyber threats, prosperous and confident in the digital world.

The implementation of the National Cyber Security Strategy led to the establishment of the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) in 2016. The NCSC is a world-leading cyber security capability, providing the UK with a unified platform to handle national cyber incidents, replacing an array of bodies with a single point of contact in Government for the private sector.

The UK is also building a dedicated capability to counter-attack in cyber space as part of our full-spectrum capability. Defence is delivering this capability in partnership with GCHQ through the National Offensive Cyber Programme.

EU External Trade: Trade Agreements

Asked by Lord Bowness

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Viscount Younger of Leckie on 10 May (HL15426), how many of the countries with which the UK trades solely on World Trade Organisation terms have agreements with the EU to which the UK is a party. [HL15989]

Viscount Younger of Leckie: In my answer to my noble Friend on 30 April (HL15424), it was noted that the UK, as a Member of the EU, trades with 27 World Trade Organisation (WTO) Members on "WTO Terms". The EU has no comprehensive bilateral or regional preferential tariff arrangements in place with these WTO Members.

Motor Vehicles

Asked by Lord Jones of Cheltenham

To ask Her Majesty's Government by what date they aim to remove all petrol- and diesel-powered vehicles from the UK's roads. [HL16196]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: Cars and vans account for the majority of road transport emissions. By 2050 we want almost every car and van in the UK to be zero emission. We will end the sale of new conventional petrol and diesel cars and vans by 2040.

The Government's 2018 Road to Zero Strategy sets out a clear pathway to achieving this, to give clarity and certainty to both industry and motorists. By 2030 we want at least half of new cars sold, and as many as 70%, to be ultra low emission, alongside up to 40% of new vans.

The Government's long term goal is the development and deployment of zero emission technologies for all road vehicles, including HGVs and buses, and zero emission technologies are starting to emerge even for the largest vehicles.

Museums and Galleries: Finance

Asked by Baroness Bonham-Carter of Yarnbury

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the distribution of grant-in-aid funding; and what plans they have to

increase the number of museums which are in receipt of grant-in-aid funding. [HL15986]

Lord Ashton of Hyde: The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport provides grant-in-aid funding to the 15 sponsored museums and galleries in England - with culture being a devolved matter - and the Ministry of Defence for the three armed forces service museums. The 2017 Strategic Review of DCMS-Sponsored Museums examined their functions, effectiveness, efficiency and accountability, and included a commitment to review grant-in-aid allocations at the next Spending Review, taking into consideration whether changes are required to meet current needs and performance.

At this time, the government has no plans to directly fund other museums through grant-in-aid. However, many other museums are subject to public funding and the 2017 Mendoza Review of Museums in England confirmed that, over the last ten years, the museum sector has received more than £800 million annually from at least 16 different public sources. Arts Council England is the main funding body for the wider museums sector and, between 2018 and 2022 will invest more than £146m in grant-in-aid in museums across England.

Northern Ireland Office: Senior Civil Servants

Asked by Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the process for the appointment of a new Director General in the Northern Ireland Office; and what was the cost of that process. [HL16154]

Asked by Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the business case for appointing a new Director General in the Northern Ireland Office; who approved the business case; and to whom the Director General will report. [HL16155]

Asked by Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they consulted the government of the Republic of Ireland on the appointment of the new Director General of the Northern Ireland Office; and which UK political parties, if any, they consulted. [HL16156]

Asked by Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they will publish a detailed job description for the Director General of the Northern Ireland Office and their annual salary. [HL16157]

Asked by Lord Maginnis of Drumglass

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they made of the operation of the senior management team in the Northern Ireland Office before creating the new Director General post; for what reasons they established the Director General post; and what is the

overall cost, including salaries, of the senior management team at the Northern Ireland Office. [HL16158]

Lord Duncan of Springbank: The Northern Ireland Office appointed a new Director General to support the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and Permanent Secretary at a challenging time for Northern Ireland and the wider UK. The appointment was made in accordance with Cabinet Office guidelines and approved by the Civil Service Senior Leadership Committee and Cabinet Secretary. Roles, responsibilities and salaries of the senior management team are published in the Department's Annual Report and Accounts.

Northern Ireland Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme

Asked by Lord Rogan

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they intend to issue a formal response following the publication of the final report of the independent public inquiry into the Non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. [HL16117]

Lord Duncan of Springbank: The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland awaits the publication of the final report of the independent public inquiry into the Non-domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. She will respond in due course.

Overseas Trade: USA

Asked by Lord Bowness

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answers by Viscount Younger of Leckie on 10 May (HL15426) and 22 May (HL15708), what are the sectors in which the UK trades with the United States solely on World Trade Organisation terms; and what sectors are covered by the agreements between the United States and the EU to which the UK is a party. [HL15988]

Viscount Younger of Leckie: The UK is currently party to a small number of trade related agreements between the EU and the US. These cover issues such as mutual recognition of conformity assessment in certain sectors. The UK has now completed work to transition these agreements to bilateral UK-US agreements. They are ready to come into effect when the UK leaves the EU.

On 14 February 2019, the UK and US signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) on Conformity Assessment to ensure continuity of mutual recognition in the following three sectors: good manufacturing practice for pharmaceuticals, telecommunications equipment, and electromagnetic compatibility. Other agreements, including on wine, spirits and marine equipment have been signed between the UK and US to ensure continuity as the UK leaves the EU.

These agreements do not cover all of UK trade with the US. The US continues to be our single largest bilateral trading partner. This is why we have announced that we will prioritise a UK/US free trade agreement when we have left the EU.

Prisoners: Repatriation

Asked by Lord Hylton

To ask Her Majesty's Government, as a result of international conventions and bilateral agreements on the transfer of sentenced persons, how many people have (1) returned to the UK from any such country, and (2) been repatriated from the UK. [HL16006]

Lord Keen of Elie: Any foreign national who comes to our country and abuses our hospitality by breaking the law should be in no doubt of our determination to punish and deport them. More than 48,000 foreign national offenders have been removed from the UK since 2010, and in the last financial year more than 5,000 were removed from prisons, immigration removal centres, and the community.

Prisoner transfer is one of the mechanisms used to remove foreign national offenders. Between 1 May 2014 and 31 May 2019, 464 sentenced prisoners were transferred from England and Wales to other countries under international prisoner transfer arrangements. During the same period 233 sentenced prisoners were transferred to England and Wales.

The transfer of prisoners into and out of Scotland and Northern Ireland is a devolved matter.

Retail Trade: Urban Areas

Asked by Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of business rates on high street businesses; and whether they have any plans to make UK town centres free-trade zones. [HL16123]

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth: From April 2019 the Government introduced a new business rates retail discount, providing eligible retailers with a third off their bills for two years. At the 2018 Autumn Budget, the Chancellor also announced a long-term plan to support the transformation of high streets and town centres. This includes a £675 million Future High Streets Fund to help make high streets and town centres fit for the future.

Roads: Repairs and Maintenance

Asked by Lord Porter of Spalding

To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the findings of the 2019 Annual Local Authority Road Maintenance Survey, published by the Asphalt Industry Alliance in March, which reported that the roads repair backlog stands at over £9 billion, what steps they are taking to (1) resource councils to address this backlog,

and (2) provide additional funding for road maintenance budgets as part of the forthcoming Spending Review. [HL16038]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Government is providing over £6.6 billion of capital funding between 2015 and 2021 for local highways maintenance in England, outside of London. This includes funding of over £296 million through a dedicated Pothole Action Fund and £420 million for highways maintenance as announced in the Budget 2018.

Decisions on additional funding for local highways maintenance will be considered as part of the Spending Review.

Syria: Islamic State

Asked by Baroness Cox

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of reports that the Global Coalition Against Daesh carried out airstrikes on ferries owned by the government of Syria transporting oil near al-Shuhail; why any such attack was carried out; and whether any such attack is part of the strategic aims of that Coalition. [HL15997]

Earl Howe: We have seen no evidence that the Coalition has conducted any airstrikes on ferries owned by the government of Syria transporting oil near al-Shuhail.

Television: Licensing

Asked by Lord Truscott

To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they are aware that the BBC is charging licence payers £16.50 to

record a change of address online; and whether they consider this to be a fair practice delivering value for money. [HL16067]

Lord Ashton of Hyde: TV Licensing does not charge customers to change their address.

However, third party websites may charge customers an additional fee for buying a TV Licence or changing details when these services are provided for free by TV Licensing. Such third party sites offering TV Licensing services are not endorsed by TV Licensing.

Customers are always advised to contact TV Licensing directly or go to the official site at www.tvlicensing.co.uk. Further information is available to the public on the official TV Licensing website at: <https://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/faqs/FAQ312>

Unfair Practices: Competition

Asked by Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of a no-deal Brexit on the number of cases submitted to the Competition and Markets Authority. [HL16178]

Lord Henley: The Government is confident in the CMA's readiness for EU exit. The CMA has detailed plans in place to meet the additional caseload arising from exit. The CMA's current estimate is that EU exit will lead to an additional 30-50 merger cases, an additional 5-7 competition enforcement cases, and 20-30 state aid cases each year.

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