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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
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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 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 Education
Lord Benyon	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Baroness Bloomfield of Hinton Waldrist	Whip
Lord Caine	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office
Lord Callanan	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Earl of Courtown	Deputy Chief Whip
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 Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
Lord Grimstone of Boscobel	Minister of State, Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Department for International Trade
Lord Harrington of Watford	Minister of State, Home Office and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
Lord Kamall	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Care
Lord Offord of Garvel	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Scotland Office
Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and Whip
Baroness Penn	Whip
Baroness Scott of Bybrook	Whip
Lord Sharpe of Epsom	Whip
Baroness Stedman-Scott	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and 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
Viscount Younger of Leckie	Whip

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Written Statements

Monday, 16 May 2022

Carbon Leakage Mitigations

[HLWS26]

Baroness Penn: My right honourable friend the Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Lucy Frazer) has today made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

The Government is taking ambitious domestic action to tackle climate change and recently opened a consultation on developing the UK Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), so the UK can become the world's first net zero carbon cap and trade market[1]. While domestic action is critical, climate change is a global issue. When the UK took on the COP26 Presidency, only 30% of the world was covered by net zero targets – now over 90% of the global economy is committed to net zero. In 2021, the UK placed climate change and nature at the top of the international agenda during its G7 and COP26 presidencies, presiding over the agreement of the Glasgow Climate Pact, to speed up the pace of climate action.

The Government also wants to see other countries do more to drive down their own emissions and we continue to work on the global stage to support more ambitious international action. Recent global events and the resulting increase in energy prices reinforce the importance of transitioning to clean energy to ensure energy security and reduce our dependency on imported fossil fuels.

In parallel, Government is considering domestic action to continue to ensure the integrity of UK action to reduce its carbon emissions against carbon leakage, as our existing carbon leakage protection measures, including free allowances under the UK ETS, evolve to achieve our net zero objectives. This will also ensure that UK businesses are not disadvantaged. Carbon leakage is the displacement of production, and associated emissions, from one jurisdiction to another, due to different levels of carbon pricing and climate regulation across those jurisdictions.

The best way to prevent carbon leakage would be for all countries to move together in pricing, regulating, and therefore reducing carbon emissions. We are strongly committed to working with our international partners to develop a common global approach to carbon leakage. Multilateral solutions can take time to develop, however, and while we will continue to work on international solutions with partners, options for domestic action must be considered in parallel.

The Government is therefore exploring a range of policies that could potentially mitigate future carbon leakage risk. These include policies to grow the market for low emissions industrial products, on which the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy recently undertook a Call for Evidence. Today, we are

announcing that it is our intention to consult later in the year on a range of carbon leakage mitigation options, including on whether measures such as product standards and a carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) could be appropriate tools in the UK's policy mix. A CBAM applies a carbon price to specified imports, in order to mitigate differences in carbon pricing between jurisdictions, and therefore reduce the risk of carbon leakage.

The Government is clear that any policy or policies would need to carefully balance a range of priorities for the UK, both domestically and internationally, including compliance with WTO rules and our staunch commitment to free and open trade, alongside taking into account the needs of developing countries. As we determine our approach to carbon leakage, we will continue our ongoing engagement with our domestic and international partners.

[1] [Developing the UK Emissions Trading Scheme \(UK ETS\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#).

Condition Improvement Fund Update

[HLWS27]

Baroness Barran: Today, I am announcing the allocation of £498 million for 1,405 Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) projects across 1,129 academies, sixth-form colleges and voluntary aided schools to maintain and improve the condition of the education estate.

This funding is provided to enable schools to provide well maintained facilities and give students safe environments that support a high-quality education. Since March 2015 CIF has delivered 9,148 projects and continues to deliver 1,905 projects across the school estate with essential maintenance projects.

Details of this announcement have been sent to all CIF applicants and a list of successful projects has been published on GOV.UK. I will also place copies in the House Library.

Initial Teacher Training Reform Programme

[HLWS24]

Baroness Barran: My honourable friend the Minister of State for School Standards has made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

Today, the Department for Education (DfE) informed applicants of the outcomes of the first accreditation round of the ITT reform programme. 80 applicants have been awarded accreditation so far, and a second round will open for applications on 23 May and close on 27 June. We will announce the successful applicants of both rounds when the process is complete in the autumn.

In December 2021, the government announced [a set of reforms to ITT that leads to qualified teacher status](#). The reforms, which centre around a new set of 'Quality Requirements', aim to ensure greater quality, consistency and coherence in ITT, building on earlier reforms to teacher development.

To deliver ITT from September 2024, both existing and prospective providers of ITT must pass a new accreditation process. This process has been designed to assess applicants' capability and capacity to deliver the highest quality ITT in line with the new Quality Requirements, which will become part of the ITT criteria from the 2024/25 academic year.

From the autumn, accredited providers will proceed to the quality assurance stage. In this stage, providers will work with the DfE to ensure that all ITT courses are fully developed in line with the new 2024/25 ITT criteria. The DfE will also work with accredited providers ahead of 2024 delivery to ensure that they have strong partnerships in place to provide sufficient training places in the subjects, phases and geographies that they are needed. Further details will be published in due course.

The accreditation process was designed to be rigorous but proportionate, and I am confident that the evaluation of applications for accreditation has been thorough, undertaken jointly by trained DfE and Ofsted assessors.

Applicants who were not awarded accreditation in round one have been given feedback on their application to help them understand the areas they need to address, should they wish to re-apply in round two. Both existing and prospective providers who did not apply in round one are being encouraged to do so in round two.

If an applicant decides not to re-apply, we are encouraging them to consider partnering with newly accredited providers to build strong families of providers ready for 2024 delivery and ensure a high quality and sufficient ITT market.

I am confident that these reforms will help create a truly world-class teacher development system that makes England the best place in the world to become a great teacher.

High Fat, Sugar or Salt Products: Delay in Volume Price Promotion and Advertising Restrictions

[HLWS28]

Lord Kamall: My Hon Friend the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Vaccines and Public Health) (Maggie Throup) has made the following Written Statement:

The Government is delaying the implementation of the volume price promotion restrictions and the introduction of further advertising restrictions on TV and online for high fat, sugar or salt (HFSS) products by 12 months.

We are clear that the delay to volume price promotions does not impact the locations measures which will still come into force on 1 October 2022. Under these measures, less healthy products in scope will no longer be promoted in key locations, such as checkouts, store entrances, aisle ends and their online equivalents. We expect these location restrictions to be the single most impactful obesity policy at reducing children's calorie consumption and are expected to accrue health benefits of

over £57 billion and provide NHS savings of over £4 billion, over the next 25 years.

The delay to restrictions on multibuy deals will allow the Government to review and monitor the impact of the restrictions on the cost of living in light of an unprecedented global economic situation.

A delay to the advertising restrictions is necessary because a delay in the Health and Care Act 2022 receiving Royal Assent has had a consequential impact on the timetable for the regulators' subsequent consultations and publication of final guidance, meaning it was unlikely this would be ready with sufficient time before implementation.

We have also considered the ongoing concerns from industry about having time to fully implement the final guidance, by restructuring their funding and revenue streams appropriately, and ensuring robust compliance from implementation. We therefore believe this is the best approach to balance tackling childhood obesity in a timely way, managing the unprecedented economic situation and ensuring the smooth and effective implementation of these restrictions. The advertising regulations will now come into force on 1 January 2024.

We included a power in the Health and Care Act to delay implementation of the advertising restrictions if necessary. We will be utilising this power to amend the date of implementation for the advertising restrictions by secondary legislation. The implementation of the volume price restrictions will also be amended by secondary legislation.

This Government remains committed to halving childhood obesity by 2030 and these measures and others, including last month's new measures on calorie labelling in large restaurants, cafes and takeaways, will play their part in delivering against this ambition.

International Development Strategy

[HLWS25]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: My Right Honourable Friend, the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs (Elizabeth Truss), has made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

Today we have laid out our vision for the future of UK international development. Development will be at the heart of the UK's foreign policy, which uses all the levers available – including development, diplomacy, investment, trade, defence and intelligence – to deliver on our foreign policy objectives.

The strategy will help address increasing global challenges, delivering investment, supporting women and girls, getting humanitarian assistance to those who need it most, and continuing our work on climate change, nature and global health.

The strategy, which builds on a proud record of global leadership on development, will challenge dependency on malign actors, offering choice and bringing more countries into the orbit of free-market economies.

We will use British International Investment and other tools to provide honest and reliable finance to help low- and middle-income countries take control of their futures, giving them an alternative so they are not burdened with unsustainable debt with strings attached. This approach will help deliver the Clean Green Initiative, supporting countries to grow their economies sustainably.

The strategy will rebalance the aid budget towards bilateral programmes. This will give the Government greater control over how money is spent, allowing a focus on priorities and improving lives around the world.

The International Development Strategy sets out four priorities where the UK can meet the needs of partner countries around the world:

Delivering honest, reliable investment through British Investment Partnerships, building on the UK's financial expertise and the strengths of the City of London, and delivering the Prime Minister's vision for the Clean Green Initiative – supporting countries to grow their economies sustainably.

Providing women and girls with the freedom they need to succeed. We intend to restore the bilateral budget to help unlock their potential, educate girls, support their empowerment and protect them against violence.

Stepping-up our life-saving humanitarian work to prevent the worst forms of human suffering around the world. We will prioritise humanitarian funding levels at around £3bn over the next three years, to remain a leader in crisis response.

Taking forward our work on climate change, nature and global health. We are putting the commitments of our Presidency of G7 and COP26, and our Covid-19 response, at the core of our international development offer.

Our new approach will:

Spend more on country and bilateral programmes rather than through multilateral organisations, empowering the UK to deliver more aid directly to where it is needed. By 2025, the FCDO intends to spend around three-quarters of its aid budget allocated at the 2021 Spending Review bilaterally.

Use world-class British expertise to support partner countries by providing advice, exchanging lessons and evidence of what works, and building partnerships across government, research, business and civil society.

Cut back red tape and excessive bureaucracy around delivering aid and give Ambassadors and High Commissioners greater authority to get programmes delivering on the ground quickly.

Sustain our commitment to Africa and ensure our development programmes in the Indo Pacific remain a critical part of our ambition to increase our focus on the region.

This strategy sets the direction for all of the UK's development work. The FCDO will oversee cross-government efforts to deliver the strategy and draw upon the expertise of the private sector, civil society and academia to advise and challenge us on implementation.

Written Answers

Monday, 16 May 2022

Asylum: Afghanistan

Asked by **Lord Roberts of Llandudno**

To ask Her Majesty's Government how many Afghan citizens have been given settled status in the UK in each of the past five years. [HL94]

Lord Harrington of Watford: The Home Office publishes data on the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) in the 'EU Settlement Scheme statistics'.

The latest published information on EUSS applications concluded by outcome type to 31 December 2021, including settled status by non-EEA nationality, can be found in table EUSS_NON_EEA_02 available at: EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, December 2021 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

A total of 890 applications from Afghan nationals had been granted settled status from when the EUSS began its first test phase on 28 August 2018 to 31 December 2021, with a further 1,730 granted pre-settled status in the same period.

The Home Office also publishes data on grants of settlement in the 'Immigration Statistics Quarterly Release' on GOV.UK: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>.

Data on Afghan nationals granted settlement are published in Settlement summary table se_03 and in table Se_D01 of the managed migration detailed datasets.

The latest data are provided in the table below. Corresponding data for 2021 will be published on 25 August 2022.

Nationals of Afghanistan granted settlement, 2016 to 2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Afghanistan	1,051	1,228	2,046	1,915	2,496

Please note, a person may appear in both grants under the EUSS and in grants of settlement under another part of the Immigration Rules.

Mental Capacity: Payments

Asked by **Lord Young of Cookham**

To ask Her Majesty's Government when they plan to respond to the consultation on Mental Capacity Act: Small Payments Scheme. [HL121]

Baroness Scott of Bybrook: We received over 200 responses to the consultation and have been carefully examining the views submitted. This is a complex area and responses have raised a number of issues that require more detailed consideration, including the security and simplicity of the scheme, how it would be delivered and the role and operation of the Court of Protection.

We are currently working with the relevant departments and stakeholders to prepare the Government response to the consultation and will provide the House with a further update in due course.

Northern Ireland Government

Asked by **Lord Hylton**

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have, if any, to enable any group of parties in the Northern Ireland Assembly to form a devolved administration. [HL199]

Lord Caine: The restoration of fully functioning devolved institutions in Northern Ireland remains our top priority. The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland remains in close contact with the largest parties in Northern Ireland to encourage them to elect an Assembly Speaker and form a new Executive.

Refugees: Finance

Asked by **Lord Roberts of Llandudno**

To ask Her Majesty's Government why 250 refugees accommodated in hotels in Acton had their statutory £35 weekly allowance stopped, and how this was replaced. [HL92]

Lord Harrington of Watford: Firstly, it is important to distinguish that those residing in contingency initial accommodation sites in Acton, within the London Borough of Ealing are destitute asylum seekers with an outstanding asylum claim and in receipt of asylum support.

It is not the case that the Home Office halted emergency payments for 250 people within one of these sites. We are aware of some asylum seekers with damaged or lost ASPEN cards alongside others who were experiencing difficulties accessing their support. They were issued emergency payments, in the form of cash or supermarket vouchers which is standard practice in the event of any difficulties.

Anyone experiencing difficulties with using their ASPEN cards can contact Migrant Help through the 24/7 helpline.

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