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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>
Lord True	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
Baroness Barran	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Education
Lord Bellamy	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice
Lord Benyon	Minister of State, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Baroness Bloomfield of Hinton Waldrist	Spokesperson, Wales Office, Whip
Lord Caine	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Northern Ireland Office, Whip
Lord Callanan	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
Earl of Courtown	Deputy Chief Whip
Lord Davies of Gower	Whip
Lord Evans of Rainow	Whip
Baroness Goldie	Minister of State, Ministry of Defence
Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park	Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
Lord Harlech	Whip
Lord Johnson of Lainston	Minister of State, Department for Business and Trade
Lord Markham	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Care
Earl of Minto	Minister of State, Department for Business and Trade
Lord Murray of Blidworth	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office
Baroness Neville-Rolfe	Minister of State, Cabinet Office
Lord Offord of Garvel	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Business and Trade and Scotland Office
Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Baroness Penn	Parliamentary Secretary, HM Treasury
Baroness Scott of Bybrook	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
Lord Sharpe of Epsom	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office
Lord Stewart of Dirleton	Advocate-General for Scotland
Baroness Vere of Norbiton	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Transport
Baroness Williams of Trafford	Chief Whip
Viscount Camrose	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
Viscount Younger of Leckie	Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department for Work and Pensions

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Written Statements

Wednesday, 24 May 2023

British Nationality (Regularisation of Past Practice) Bill

[HLWS792]

Lord Murray of Blidworth: My rt hon Friend the Minister of State for Immigration (Robert Jenrick) has today made the following Written Ministerial Statement:

The British Nationality (Regularisation of Past Practice) Bill, introduced today, will confirm in statute a long-standing historical policy under which EU, EEA and Swiss nationals living in the UK in the relevant period and exercising free movement rights here were considered to be settled.

This will protect the nationality rights of people born in the UK to parents who were considered settled on the basis of that policy, and who were treated as British automatically, and those who registered or naturalised as British citizens on that basis.

The Bill also clarifies when EU, EEA and Swiss nationals could be considered settled on the basis of exercising an equivalent right in Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man, which are considered part of the UK for nationality purposes.

We want to be clear that we are not creating ‘new’ British citizens, but rather confirming the citizenship of individuals we have long considered, and treated as, British already under established Home Office policy.

The introduction of the Bill was preceded by consultation with the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, with relevant officials in these locations having confirmed their support for the measures the UK Government is looking to introduce.

To support scrutiny of the Bill by both Houses, we are publishing on GOV.uk and Parliament.uk the following documents:

- Explanatory Notes.
- Equality Impact Assessment.
- ECHR Memorandum.
- Factsheet.

Machinery of Government

[HLWS790]

Lord True: My Rt Hon Friend the Prime Minister has made the following statement:

I am making this statement to bring to the House’s attention the following Machinery of Government changes.

First, responsibility for the delivery of the Windsor Framework will be transferred from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to sit alongside the existing Northern Ireland Unit in the Cabinet Office.

The Foreign Secretary remains responsible for UK/EU relations and will continue as co-chair of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement Partnership Council and Withdrawal Agreement Joint Committee – the body that oversees the UK and EU implementation of the Withdrawal Agreement.

Second, the UK Governance team will formally move from the Cabinet Office into the Union and Devolution team in the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). This will consolidate matters relating to intergovernmental relations, including Common Frameworks, under the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities as the Minister for Intergovernmental Relations. This is an administrative change that does not affect ministerial responsibilities.

Both the Windsor Framework and Union teams in the Cabinet Office and DLUHC respectively will be brought together under a single official reporting structure to allow for more effective join-up across all union policy. These changes will take effect immediately.

Third, sponsorship of HM Land Registry and its associated bodies will move from the Department for Business and Trade to DLUHC. This will aid the delivery of DLUHC’s key policy objectives including improving the home buying and selling process and delivering the land transparency provisions in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill. This change will take effect on 1 June 2023.

Fourth, ministerial responsibility for civil Earth Observation (EO) policy and its associated EU programme will be consolidated in the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). Bringing responsibility for EO policy into a single department will enable greater flexibility to support the UK space sector and to make decisions about investments into science programmes. Defra will retain an interest by leading on the EO development of environmental, agricultural and natural resource applications. This change will take effect on 1 July 2023.

Fifth, responsibility for the delivery of the Supporting Families programme will transfer from DLUHC to the Department for Education. This transfer provides an opportunity to expand the impact of the programme by bringing together the system of support for children and families. This will enable the Education Secretary to deliver a coordinated approach through a series of reforms that support the Government’s wider social policy agenda. This change will take effect on 1 April 2024.

Finally, departmental sponsorship of UK Shared Business Services has been formally transferred to DSIT following the BEIS Transfer of Functions Order formalised on 3 May 2023.

Rock Review on Agricultural Tenancies

[HLWS793]

Lord Benyon: Following the UK Farm to Fork Summit last week, the government has today set out its next steps

to support tenant farmers who are at the heart of our rural economy. The Government supports tenant farmers because there is no better way to bring new people into the sector.

We are today publishing the government response to the Rock Review of tenant farming in England. From day one of the agricultural transition, we have worked with tenant farmers as we co-designed our farming schemes, utilising their knowledge and experience. This is the next step, alongside significant work to date, to support farmers in all corners of the country to produce world class food, while protecting the environment. The government supports tenant farmers, because it is one of the best routes to bring new people into the sector.

I would like to thank Baroness Rock and the Tenancy Working Group for their time and dedication in producing the Review. Recognising how critical the tenanted sector is to a successful agricultural transition, we commissioned the Group, chaired by Baroness Rock, to carry out a comprehensive review of tenant farming in England.

Today's response builds on the considerable progress that we have made since the Review was commissioned to implement their ongoing feedback. For example, we have designed the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) to be as accessible as possible to tenants, with the addition of six new standards in 2023 and shorter agreements. Further, half of the 22 Landscape Recovery projects selected in the first round involve tenants and we are delivering the aims of the Local Nature Recovery (LNR) scheme by evolving Countryside Stewardship (CS) instead of building an entirely new scheme.

As announced at Budget 2023, we launched a consultation on extending inheritance tax relief. We have opened a Call for Evidence on the taxation of ecosystem service markets to understand the commercial operations and the areas of uncertainty in respect of taxation.

We have also published the [Nature Markets Framework](#), which provides greater clarity on the principles that will guide the development of UK market mechanisms for carbon and other ecosystem services and set out next steps including arrangements to develop a suite of investment standards for nature markets. These consultations, combined with the Nature Markets Framework, should give tenants and landlords more confidence to invest in and securely access payments from these new markets, opening up new revenue streams for the sector.

We strongly agree with the review that tenant farmers should be able to access farm offers; make their essential contribution to restoring the natural environment; and produce food for the nation. We are therefore taking forward the majority of Baroness Rock's recommendations and setting out the next steps to implement them today.

Today we are announcing a new Farm Tenancy Forum to put in place more formal engagement and feedback structures between Defra and the tenanted sector. This will allow the tenanted sector to work with us, to provide

regular feedback on trends in tenant/landlord agreements and report any emerging issues that may need addressing. We will effectively monitor trends in landlord-tenant relationships. We are inviting industry organisations who represent tenant farmers, agricultural landlords and professional advisors who work in the sector to be members of this group. The Forum will support the implementation of the Government Response to the Rock Review, feeding back real-world experience and insight on progress. A Terms of Reference for the group has been published alongside this government response.

We will be launching a call for evidence this summer to explore the proposal for a tenant farming commissioner in England in more detail. This will examine the benefits and impacts of how a Tenant Farming Commissioner might work in practice and how the role would fit within existing procedures and regulations.

We agree with the Review that the tenanted sector has an essential role as a route into farming for new entrants. We will work to embed the views of the tenanted sector in the development of our New Entrant Support Scheme, working closely with the new Tenant Farming Forum.

Our response sets out the significant progress we have made to ensure our new farming schemes work for every type of farmer. We are supporting those with shorter tenancies or where there is a change of land manager/owner by removing penalties and increasing flexibility in agreement lengths, where it still provides value for taxpayer money. We are also introducing a requirement in Countryside Stewardship for landlords to engage with their tenant prior to applying in order to obtain their support.

The legacy of the Review will mean that tenant concerns are heard and addressed through our policies and schemes, and we will continue to engage with the Forum and the wider sector as we implement its recommendations and move through the agricultural transition.

Serious Fraud Office Handling of the Unaoil Case: Independent Review

[HLWS791]

Lord Stewart of Dirleton: Following the Court of Appeal's judgment in the Unaoil case (*R. v Akle & Anor*) in December 2021, the then Attorney General commissioned Sir David Calvert-Smith to conduct an independent review into the Serious Fraud Office's (SFO) handling of the case.

Sir David's full report was published on 21 July 2022, alongside a response to his recommendations. Sir David made 11 recommendations, which were accepted. These covered a range of matters, including record keeping and case assurance, compliance with policies, and resourcing.

At the same time, the then Attorney General laid a Written Ministerial Statement (WMS) providing Parliament with the findings of Sir David's review and a response to his recommendations. This statement included

a commitment to update Parliament on progress in delivering these recommendations in November 2022 and February 2023.

On 29 November 2022, I laid a WMS providing the first of these updates and a detailed progress update was also published on GOV.UK. This update showed substantial progress in delivering Sir David's recommendations, with the SFO having already taken significant action to implement nine of his 11 recommendations. For the two remaining recommendations, work had commenced to address Sir David's proposals.

At the same time, this update highlighted that while many of the changes recommended by Sir David could – and have been – made quickly, it would take time to embed these changes and assess their effectiveness.

I also informed Parliament that the second progress update would be provided in May 2023 to allow the findings of an upcoming inspection of the SFO by His Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPSI) to be considered as part of the update.

Today, I am providing the second update on progress against Sir David's recommendations. As of May 2023, there continues to be good progress. Significant action has now been taken to deliver all eleven of Sir David's

recommendations, with further activity planned in some instances. In addition, action to embed the changes that have been made and monitor their effectiveness is ongoing.

There is also independent evidence that the actions taken so far are proving to be effective. On 4 May 2023, HMCPSI published its follow-up inspection of case progression in the SFO. As part of the inspection, where issues raised in Sir David's review were within scope, HMCPSI used the evidence gathered to assess the progress made to address his recommendations. While highlighting some areas for further work, this assessment indicated positive progress on many of his recommendations.

It nonetheless remains the case that it will take time to fully embed Sir David's recommendations and assess whether the actions taken have been effective. To support this longer-term assessment, the Law Officers have asked the Chief Inspector of HMCPSI to consider an inspection of the recommendations' implementation as part the HMCPSI's inspection programme in 2024-25.

A detailed update on progress will be published on GOV.UK today and copies will be placed in the libraries of both Houses.

Written Answers

Wednesday, 24 May 2023

Animals: Antimicrobials

Asked by **Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle**

To ask His Majesty's Government whether, in revising the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013, they intend to ensure harmonised veterinary antimicrobial stewardship with the European region, and to enable British farmers to continue to be able to export to the EU. [HL7896]

Lord Benyon: The UK Government is committed to reducing unnecessary use of antibiotics in animals while safeguarding animal welfare. Since 2014, the UK has reduced sales of veterinary antibiotics by 55% making the UK one of the lowest users of veterinary antibiotics across Europe, with only seven other European countries having sold less antibiotics in 2021 (Norway, Iceland, Sweden, Finland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Latvia). We are currently revising our veterinary medicines legislation in ways which will strengthen our laws to tackle antimicrobial resistance. Our legislative proposals on AMR bear many similarities to recently updated EU legislation on veterinary medicines, while being tailored to the circumstances in the UK.

The EU has introduced two new AMR-related requirements in law for countries trading with the EU to comply with: a prohibition on the use of antimicrobial medicinal products as growth promoters, and a prohibition on the use of certain named antimicrobial substances, which are important for human health, in animals. The UK's current legislation already prohibits both of these types of use in food animals, and this will remain unchanged by the revision of our Veterinary Medicines Regulations; therefore, British farmers' exports will continue to comply with these requirements.

Asylum: Children

Asked by **Lord Scriven**

To ask His Majesty's Government what was the percentage of total asylum claims for unaccompanied children seeking asylum for each of the years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. [HL7796]

Lord Murray of Blidworth: The Home Office publishes data on the proportion of total asylum applications lodged in the UK that were made by UASCs in each year in the Immigration system statistics quarterly release on gov.uk. These statistics are published in the Asy_01a table of the asylum summary tables which is attached.

Further information on these statistics can be found in the 'Notes' page of the workbook tab. The latest data relates to the end of December 2022.

Data for January to March 2023, is due to be published 25th May 2023.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Asy_01a - Table [asylum-summary-dec-2022-tables (6).xlsx]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2023-05-11/HL7796>

BRIXMIS: General Service Medal

Asked by **Lord Lancaster of Kimbolton**

To ask His Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Goldie on 13 April (HL6933), what are the official definitions of 'risk' and 'rigour' as used by the Cabinet Office's Advisory Military Sub Committee. [HL7735]

Asked by **Lord Lancaster of Kimbolton**

To ask His Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Goldie on 13 April (HL6933), what assessment they have made of the decision by the Prime Minister on 21 November 2022 to overrule the Cabinet Office Advisory Military Sub Committee's decision not to award medallic recognition to UK Nuclear Test Veterans. [HL7736]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The Advisory Military Sub-Committee (AMSC) adheres to the same principles and rules for defining risk and rigour as set out in the independent Military Medals Review (2012). As per paragraph 12 of the review 'the idea is that campaign medals should only be awarded where deployed personnel have been exposed to a significant degree of risk to life and limb, and to arduous conditions, in excess of what might be expected as part of normal service duties, whether deployed or in the home base'. There will always be a subjective element of judgement involved when determining what constitutes appropriate risk and rigour, on a case by case basis[1].

The AMSC's recommendation on the case for retrospective medallic recognition for all those who participated in the British Nuclear Test Programme 1952 - 1991 was not to award a military service medal. This followed the AMSC's assessment of the evidence provided against the longstanding framework for military medallic recognition. The HD Committee reviewed the conclusions reached by the AMSC and was in agreement that this programme does not meet the criteria of risk and rigour required for a military service medal.

However, despite the decision not to award a military medal, and after considering inputs from other stakeholders, the HD Committee felt that there was a case for alternative recognition outside the remit of AMSC. The service given by the nuclear test veterans - both military and civilian - was significant in providing the UK's nuclear deterrent during the critical early years of the Cold War.

The HD Committee agreed that an official commemorative medal, which recognised both military and civilian contributors to the nuclear tests, would be most appropriate. This commemorative medal was approved by His Majesty The King.

[1] The full report can be found on GOV.UK: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/61398/Medals-Interim-Report-July-12.pdf.

Broadband: Rural Areas

Asked by Lord Taylor of Warwick

To ask His Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to improve the (1) availability, and (2) reliability, of broadband in rural communities. [HL7883]

Viscount Camrose: In March 2021, the Government launched Project Gigabit, its £5 billion mission to bring lightning-fast, reliable broadband to premises in rural and hard-to-reach locations across the UK. We have already made over £1.4 billion of funding available to broadband suppliers to build gigabit-capable infrastructure to premises that will not be reached by suppliers' commercial plans alone.

Support is also available through the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, which provides a subsidy of up to £4,500 for residents and businesses in rural areas towards the cost of installing gigabit-capable broadband via local community broadband projects.

The Government is committed to working with broadband suppliers to ensure 85% of UK premises can access gigabit-capable broadband by 2025, and then for nationwide coverage by 2030. We are on track to achieve our target.

The Government is also working to ensure that very hard to reach premises that may be unable to access a gigabit-capable connection in future also see an improvement in their connectivity. In April, the Government announced an £8 million fund to provide capital grants to further promote new satellite connectivity to up to the most remote 35,000 premises, helping these premises get improved broadband where required. Further details on the value of the grants, who will be able to apply for the scheme, and how to apply, will be released in due course.

Bus Services: Closures

Asked by The Lord Bishop of St Albans

To ask His Majesty's Government how many bus routes (1) in rural areas, and (2) outside London as a whole, were closed in each of the past five years. [HL7919]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Department does not hold information on bus routes that have been terminated by operators.

Bus Services: Finance

Asked by Lord Bradshaw

To ask His Majesty's Government how much funding they estimate would have been needed to supplement the bus service improvement plans called for in March 2021 if the submissions of the local transport authorities had been implemented in full. [HL7859]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The total amount of funding requested by Local Transport Authorities for Bus Service Improvement Plans was £13.02bn. This figure includes all schemes, including those beyond the BSIP funding period.

Casement Park and Windsor Park Stadium: Finance

Asked by Baroness Hoey

To ask His Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay on 16 May (HL7711), whether they intend to ensure that the redevelopment of the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park and of Casement Park in Belfast have equal funding. [HL7940]

Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay: There has been a long-standing commitment in Northern Ireland, as part of the regional stadium development programme, to redevelop Casement Park – alongside the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park and Kingspan Stadium, which have already undergone improvements. Given the inclusion of Casement Park in the UK and Ireland EURO 2028 bid, and the current lack of a Northern Ireland Executive, HM Government is working closely with partners in Northern Ireland to ensure that the redevelopment is adequately funded, is delivered in good time, and complies with UEFA's technical requirements.

Chemicals

Asked by Baroness McIntosh of Pickering

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the cost to the UK chemical industry of simultaneously (1) adapting to the UK REACH programme, and (2) maintaining compliance with the EU REACH programme, insofar as it is necessary for trade with the EU; and what the impact has been on exports of chemicals in the past three years. [HL7785]

Lord Benyon: The most significant cost associated with the transition to UK REACH relates to registration. The estimated cost to industry of this is £2bn over six years; however, this estimate is uncertain and actual costs would be a matter of commercial negotiation. In response to this, we are exploring alternative arrangements for UK REACH transitional registrations, aiming to significantly reduce industry costs whilst ensuring high standards to safeguard public health and the environment. This work is still in progress, including working with industry stakeholders to better assess the practical and cost

implications of different options, for example through regulators and industry volunteers preparing model dossiers. The requirements for the registration of novel chemicals to EU or UK REACH remain the same. We do not hold information on the costs faced by firms in complying with regulatory regimes outside Great Britain. Although values of chemical exports are increasing, this is not generally reflected in volume, suggesting that inflationary pressures are contributing to the figures.

Climate Change: Finance

*Asked by **Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick***

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the Christian Aid report *The Loss and Damage Fund: Where does the money come from?*, published in March. [HL7985]

Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park: At COP27, the UK and all parties agreed to establish new funding arrangements for loss and damage, including the setup of a dedicated fund, to assist developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change. It was agreed to establish a Transitional Committee under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to develop the fund and funding arrangements by COP28. The UK subsequently secured one of the twenty-four seats on the Committee. We will consider a range of information, including from civil society, to inform our work with fellow Committee members to develop a fund and wider funding arrangements that deliver for the most vulnerable.

Freight Innovation Fund

*Asked by **Viscount Waverley***

To ask His Majesty's Government what plans, if any, they have for a successor to the Freight Innovation Fund for 2024 onwards. [HL7889]

*Asked by **Viscount Waverley***

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact on the ability to trial innovative logistics vehicles in the UK of the UK's current planning and regulatory systems. [HL7890]

*Asked by **Viscount Waverley***

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact on the ability to trial innovative logistics vehicles in the UK resulting from delaying the introduction of the Transport Bill mentioned in the Queen's Speech on 10 May 2022. [HL7891]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Government has facilitated and will continue to facilitate the trial of innovation in logistics, including innovative logistics vehicles.

The Zero Emission Road Freight Demonstrator (ZERFD) programme will demonstrate hundreds of zero

emission HGVs across multiple technologies, alongside their associated refuelling and recharging infrastructure, on UK roads over the coming years. It will identify how each technology can best be used to decarbonise the heaviest HGVs.

The Government conducted an extensive trial of longer semi-trailer HGVs. This trial demonstrated that these vehicles, which are often built in the UK, can be used safely and provide significant benefits in improving efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Road Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) (General) (Amendment) Order 2023 has been laid to enter into force on 31st May 2023 to enable these vehicles to be used outside the trial, their use having been proven in the trial.

On a smaller scale the Government has recently awarded nine SMEs Freight Innovation Fund grants to trial innovative freight solutions to support decarbonisation. The successful SMEs have partnered with larger businesses to run trials at scale and include drone delivery of mail in the Orkneys and e-cargo bikes in London. The £7m Freight Innovation Fund will run for three years, concluding in 2025. The Government will evaluate the effectiveness of the fund before taking any decisions on any successor programme.

Trials of innovative logistics vehicles have continued in the UK irrespective of any delay to legislation.

Gambling: Advertising

*Asked by **The Lord Bishop of St Albans***

To ask His Majesty's Government when they plan to launch the consultation on gambling advertising promised in their white paper, 'High stakes: gambling reform for the digital age', published on 27 April. [HL7880]

Lord Parkinson of Whitley Bay: As outlined in our White Paper, the Gambling Commission will launch detailed consultations on the construction and targeting of bonus offers and on consent for direct marketing in online gambling. The Commission plans to make progress on and implement proposals in the White Paper as quickly as possible, with targeted consultations planned to launch this summer and later this year.

Hong Kong: Women

*Asked by **Lord Alton of Liverpool***

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the situation of women in Hong Kong since 2019, and in particular of female human rights defenders and journalists; how many visas have been issued to such women; and whether they are providing any other assistance to such women. [HL7726]

*Asked by **Lord Alton of Liverpool***

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of (1) the conditions, and (2) the

incidence, of imprisoned women in Hong Kong. [HL7727]

Asked by Lord Alton of Liverpool

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the use of gender-based and sexual violence towards women during the protests in Hong Kong in 2019; and what representations they have made to the government of China on this matter. [HL7728]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: Actions by the Hong Kong and Chinese authorities since 2019 have further eroded the civil and political rights promised to all Hong Kongers. We have reported on the cases of a number of prominent female campaigners and journalists targeted for prosecution under the National Security Law (NSL) and others in our Six-monthly Reports on Hong Kong. The Foreign Secretary made plain our views on the imposition of the NSL and the targeting of dissenting voices with Chinese Vice-President Han Zheng on 5 May. We are entitled to act when China breaks its obligations, as we did by giving nearly 3 million Hong Kongers a path to British citizenship. Ending gender-based violence is a key priority for the FCDO, as reflected in the UK's National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and is one of the three pillars in the new International Women and Girls Strategy.

Human Trafficking

Asked by The Lord Bishop of Southwark

To ask His Majesty's Government what plans they have to apprehend people smugglers operating routes into the UK. [HL7757]

Lord Murray of Blidworth: This Government remains focused on doing everything we can to disrupt the people-smuggling gangs responsible for the dangerous Channel crossings. Our law enforcement agencies work tirelessly to tackle the criminal networks who facilitate people smuggling from source countries to Europe and then the UK, knowingly putting people in life-threatening situations.

Since its inception in 2015, the UK's dedicated Organised Immigration Crime (OIC) taskforce has achieved more than 1,400 arrests (both in the UK and overseas), with suspects sentenced to more than 1,300 years in prison.

Following the Prime Minister's commitment on 13 December to stop the dangerous small boats crossings, co-ordinated by ruthless, organised criminals. And every single journey risks the lives of women, children and - we should be honest - mostly men at sea.

That is why we are doubling the funding for the Operation Invigor. The increased funding will aim to double the number of disruptions and enforcement activity against OIC and the criminal gangs that facilitate it.

Import Controls

Asked by Baroness Randerson

To ask His Majesty's Government what plans they have to publish details of the Border Target Operating Model to support businesses to prepare for implementation; and what assessment have they made of (1) the costs to businesses of this preparation and (2) the impact on supply chains of its implementation. [HL7755]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: In April 2023, the Government published through Written Ministerial Statement UIN HLWS695 <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2023-04-17/hlws695> the launch of the Border Target Operating Model, in collaboration with the Scottish and Welsh Governments. This sets out plans to introduce security and biosecurity controls from the 31st October 2023 in a way which implements critical protections at the UK border, while ensuring that these new controls are as simple as possible for businesses to comply with. By harnessing data and technology and taking a proportionate, risk-based approach to these controls, we have developed a model that works best for the UK. It could save UK importers around £400m each year compared to the model we would have introduced from last year.

The relevant business stakeholders told us before publication that they will need time to prepare for these changes, and our phased approach gives them this time. We are working to ensure that UK and international businesses and their supply chains are aware of and understand the new requirements and are ready for these changes. On Friday 28th April we published a detailed risk categorisation of animal products, plants and plant products of EU and EFTA origin. This provides clarity to importers on what controls will be applied to the different risk categories, including when health certificates will be required to import goods from 31st October 2023.

The Government is using the current period of engagement to gather views on our draft proposals from businesses in the UK and overseas, to explore the costs of implementing the new model, and to ensure importing is as smooth as possible where checks are needed.

We will publish a final version of the Border Target Operating Model, reflecting feedback from stakeholders, in the summer.

Israel: Lebanon

Asked by The Marquess of Lothian

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of any recent cross-border escalation of violence between Israel and militants in southern Lebanon; and whether they have made any representations to governments in that region to de-escalate any further violence in those countries. [HL7783]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK condemned the indiscriminate rocket attacks from southern Lebanon and Gaza and recognises Israel's right to self-defence. We urge all sides to maintain calm and avoid taking actions which make peace more difficult to achieve.

Khader Adnan

Asked by The Marquess of Lothian

To ask His Majesty's Government further to the comments by Farhan Haq, Deputy Spokesperson for the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 2 May, what representations they have made to the government of Israel on the circumstances surrounding the death of Khader Adnan on 2 May. [HL7781]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The death of a hunger striking prisoner while in Israeli custody is alarming. The UK condemns the indiscriminate rocket fire from Gaza targeting innocent civilians in Israel in retaliation and welcomes the announcement of a ceasefire between Israel and militant factions in Gaza, brokered by Egypt. The ceasefire must now be honoured to prevent the loss of further civilian life. The UK will support all efforts to promote dialogue and create a pathway towards sustainable peace.

Large Goods Vehicle Drivers: Training

Asked by Viscount Waverley

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the effect of the proposed period test for an HGV Driver Certificate for Professional Competence on (1) the hours of training undertaken by HGV drivers, and (2) road safety. [HL7892]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: My Department has recently closed a consultation into proposed reforms to the Driver Certificate of Professional Competence (DCPC) qualification. The consultation presented an opportunity to receive responses which could be assessed to determine the impacts of proposals, including those related to the periodic test. My officials are currently analysing responses which cover, among other things, the preference for the test in comparison to training and the perceived effectiveness of the test in assuring road safety.

In developing the test proposal, my officials conducted a review into DCPC combined with stakeholder engagement. The outcome of this work identified a need for increased driver choice and flexibility in how DCPC is maintained. To emphasise, the test proposal is an option put to consultation and would give drivers the choice of renewing DCPC using a test or training. If a test were used, it does not stop drivers training either to prepare for the test or for other reasons. Finally, the content of the periodic test has been put to consultation but is intended to assess driver knowledge of key, safety critical areas.

Logistics: Innovation

Asked by Viscount Waverley

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact on innovation in the UK's logistics sector of the UK's potential departure from the Horizon Programme. [HL7887]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: No direct assessment has been made on the effect on innovation in the logistics sector.

Logistics: Land Use

Asked by Viscount Waverley

To ask His Majesty's Government what measures are in place to safeguard land for the UK's logistics network, including (1) transport, (2) intermodal sites, (3) warehousing, and (4) other facilities. [HL7848]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Government's 2022 Future of Freight plan sets out measures to ensure the planning system makes sufficient land available for the freight and logistics industry, now and in the future. The primary goal of these measures is to increase the number of sites allocated for freight and supply infrastructure. As committed in the Future of Freight plan, the Government has recently opened a call for evidence on freight and the planning system. The Government will use the responses to this call for evidence to understand how best to meet the needs of the freight sector through planning reform.

Logistics: Roads

Asked by Viscount Waverley

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the impact of the quality of roads maintenance on (1) the logistics network's efficiency, (2) the logistics network's emissions, (3) the efficiency and productivity of UK businesses, and (4) the UK's trade capacity. [HL7850]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: On the Strategic Road Network, the needs of freight and logistics and its customers is considered by National Highways as it prioritises, plans, communicates, and delivers maintenance and renewals on the network. This includes establishing the optimal time to undertake work to minimize the disruption to road users of work on the network and provide corridor-level resilience.

Marine Protected Areas: Mining

Asked by Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the continued operation of extractive industries within Marine Protected Areas; and what assessment they have made of the case for banning (1) bottom trawling, and (2) dredging, within those areas. [HL7947]

Lord Benyon: Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are a devolved competency and the information provided therefore relates to England only.

The Marine Management Organisation, the Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities and other regulators assess on a site-by-site basis which activities could prevent MPAs from achieving their conservation objectives. Byelaws and other measures are developed using an evidence-led process to determine what management is required to protect sites and to not unduly restrict legitimate activity.

Nearly 60% of our 178 English MPAs are already protected from damaging fishing activity, including byelaws introduced in 2022 in the first four offshore sites, which ban bottom towed gear over sensitive habitats. A consultation covering a further 13 sites closed on 28 March 2023 and the responses received are being considered. We are aiming to have all MPAs in English waters protected from damaging fishing activity by 2024.

Music: Nuisance

Asked by **Baroness Fleet**

To ask His Majesty's Government what guidance they have issued, if any, to environmental health officers regarding the interpretation of statutory nuisance in relation to practising musical instruments in residential places. [HL7828]

Lord Benyon: The Government is committed to ensuring that noise is managed effectively in order to promote good health and quality of life.

Defra is responsible for the domestic legislation covering statutory nuisance, although local authority environmental health departments are the main enforcers of the statutory nuisance regime under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The Government considers that noise and other issues that could be the cause of statutory nuisance are best dealt with at a local level. There is currently no specific guidance to local authorities on resolving noise nuisance complaints regarding musical instruments. The effect of playing different types of instruments in different types of dwellings and at different times, will have differing effects on neighbours, and local authorities need to be able to take account of specific circumstances when determining whether a statutory nuisance exists and how best to apply the powers available to them (such as issuing abatement orders).

Personal Income

Asked by **Lord Wigley**

To ask His Majesty's Government what the average income per head in the latest financial year for which figures are available was in each of Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the regions of England. [HL7765]

Baroness Neville-Rolfe: The information requested falls under the remit of the UK Statistics Authority.

A response to the Noble Lord's Parliamentary Question of 10th May is attached in the answer.

The Rt Hon. the Lord Wigley

House of Lords

London

SW1A 0PW

17 May 2023

Dear Lord Wigley,

As National Statistician and Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority, I am responding to your Parliamentary Question asking what the average income per head in the latest financial year for which figures are available was in each of Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and the regions of England (HL7765).

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) does not produce average income per head estimates of this nature. However, the *Effects of Taxes and Benefits on UK Household Income* is routinely produced at household-level, in line with international recommendations [1]. This is done so under the assumption that household income is the optimum measure of economic well-being and living standards on individuals given the likelihood that household members share resources.

Table 1 provides UK household disposable income at the International Territorial Level 1 (ITL1) for financial year ending 2021. A more detailed breakdown of income components is available at the ITL1 region is available as part of the ONS' annual release of *Effect of Taxes and Benefits on UK Household Income* [2]. Published data currently covers up to financial year ending 2021, with financial year ending 2022 provisionally scheduled for June 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Sir Ian Diamond

[1] <https://unece.org/statistics/publications/canberra-group-handbook-household-income-statistics-2ndedition>

[2]

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/personalandhouseholdfinances/incomeandwealth/bulletins/theeffectsoftaxesandbenefitsonhouseholdincome/financialyearending2021/relateddata>

Table 1: Average household disposable income by Region, financial year ending 2021, UK

Region	Disposable income (£)
North East	36,730
North West	41,755
Yorkshire and The Humber	39,538
East Midlands	45,489
West Midlands	41,011
East	48,011
London	61,000
South East	55,817
South West	43,042

Region	Disposable income (£)
England	47,734
Wales	39,331
Scotland	39,670
Northern Ireland	40,198
All individuals	46,473

Source: Office for National Statistics, *Effects of Taxes and Benefits*

The Answer includes the following attached material:

UK Statistics Authority [PQHL7765 (1).pdf]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2023-05-10/HL7765>

Protective Clothing: Waste Disposal

Asked by **Lord Berkeley**

To ask His Majesty's Government how much surplus personal protective equipment they plan to dispose of through (1) reselling through the National Health Service, (2) incinerating, or (3) putting in landfill; how much of this has been achieved so far; and at what cost. [HL7678]

Lord Markham: The Department published, in an online only format, statistics showing the quantity of personal protective equipment (PPE), purchased by the Government for use during the COVID-19 pandemic, that has been sent for disposal on 30 March 2023.

There are currently no further plans to resell surplus stock, including through the National Health Service or utilising landfill as a method of disposal. It is likely that energy from waste will be used as a means of disposal.

The number of PPE items excess to requirements that have been sold or sent for disposal up to 28 February 2023 are sales 161.2 million items, disposals through recycling 1.468 billion items and disposals through energy from waste 1.4048 billion items.

Our records show that the spend for disposal of surplus PPE in financial year 2022/23 was £16,423,267.

Public Transport: Fares

Asked by **Lord Bradshaw**

To ask His Majesty's Government how much it would cost to reduce public transport fares by (1) 30 per cent, and (2) 40 per cent, taking into account the likely increase in passenger numbers. [HL7860]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: The Department does not have this information available.

Regional Planning and Development

Asked by **Lord Taylor of Warwick**

To ask His Majesty's Government whether they have any plans to provide guidance to local authorities about implementing community wealth building in order to drive economic development. [HL7759]

Baroness Scott of Bybrook: We are already investing in community wealth building through the £150 million Community Ownership Fund, and recently expanded eligibility to make it even easier for communities to take control of local assets and build their local wealth and infrastructure. Separately, the government has recently announced that community wealth funds will become the fourth cause for dormant assets funding in England. A community wealth fund will provide pots of funding to hyper-local communities, with spending decisions made by local residents on how to improve their communities and lives. We will soon launch a technical consultation on the design of this important new initiative and welcome views on how best to ensure its long-term impact.

Remand in Custody

Asked by **Lord Pearson of Rannoch**

To ask His Majesty's Government what are the current numbers of (1) remand, and (2) unsentenced prisoners, being held in (a) HMP Pentonville, (b) HMP Brixton, (c) HMP Wandsworth, and (d) HMP Belmarsh; and in each case what percentage they comprise of the prison's total population. [HL7751]

Asked by **Lord Pearson of Rannoch**

To ask His Majesty's Government what is the average period of time spent in London prisons by (1) remand, and (2) unsentenced prisoners, awaiting their trial dates. [HL7752]

Lord Bellamy: The attached table shows the untried, and convicted unsentenced, populations in the specified prisons, as at 31 March 2023.

The data needed to calculate average time spent on remand by prisoners in London prisons could not be collated without incurring disproportionate cost.

The Answer includes the following attached material:

Untried and Convicted Unsented Population [2023-05-24 PQ HL7751 HL7752 Table.docx]

The material can be viewed online at:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2023-05-10/HL7751>

Remand in Custody: Education

Asked by **Lord Pearson of Rannoch**

To ask His Majesty's Government to what extent remand prisoners are denied access to educational courses offered by the Prisoners' Educational Trust and

similar bodies; and what assessment they have made of the causes of such services being denied. [HL7750]

Lord Bellamy: Prisoners on remand are entitled to access education should they wish to, however external partners such as charitable organisations will have their own eligibility criteria for those wishing to take advantage of their provision.

It is the policy of the Prisoners' Education Trust to only permit sentenced prisoners to apply for their courses, this is not something within the control of the Ministry.

Remand in Custody: Rural Areas

Asked by Lord Pearson of Rannoch

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the remarks of Charlie Taylor, His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons, in evidence to the House of Commons Justice Committee on 25 October 2022, that remand prisoners awaiting their trial dates are disadvantaged in areas such as (1) education and training, and (2) financial assistance, before and on release; and what plans, if any, they have to ameliorate this situation. [HL7749]

Lord Bellamy: Remand prisoners are eligible to access education and training. The prison education curriculum is based on the needs of learners and is flexible according to any changes in population profile. Education providers are managed through key performance indicators and service levels which do not disincentivise remand prisoners.

In 2022, HMPPS has been testing a number of new initiatives designed to meet the specific needs of remand prisoners in HMP Wandsworth, including a life-skills course to help people on remand develop communication and decision-making skills, and dedicated staff to obtain ID for prisoners, build their employability skills and link them with employers. There is also a new team of remand peer mentors to support wellbeing and encourage engagement with the regime.

In terms of financial assistance, remand prisoners are eligible for support from DWP's Prison Work Coaches with making a claim for Universal Credit on their release from prison.

Prison Service Instruction (PSI) 72/2011, Discharge sets out policy on the discharging of prisoners, which includes provision of financial assistance available upon release. All eligible prisoners receive a Subsistence Payment of £82.39 on release. Prisoners who are discharged, after spending time in custody on remand, are currently ineligible for the Subsistence Payment. However, all prisoners, regardless of their eligibility to receive the Subsistence Payment, are provided with a travel warrant or a payment of fares to their destination in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland.

As part of the ongoing review of the wider Discharge PSI and in response to the recommendations made by the Justice Select Committee in its 2023 report on The Role

of Adult Custodial Remand in the Criminal Justice System, we are considering eligibility of those on remand for the Subsistence Payment.

Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme

Asked by Lord Pearson of Rannoch

To ask His Majesty's Government whether, in pursuit of their Net Zero strategy, they will enquire into the relationship between the price obtainable for newly cut timber in the UK, and that paid for wood pellets under their Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. [HL7788]

Lord Callanan: The Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme pays for heat generated by participants. It does not pay for the supply of wood.

Rivers: Pesticides

Asked by Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle

To ask His Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of anthelmintic concentrations in (1) freshwater generally, and (2) chalk streams specifically. [HL7897]

Lord Benyon: Our monitoring on emerging chemicals is conducted through targeted screening based on risk. Twelve anthelmintic chemicals are monitored across 21 fresh water sites. Of these sites 18 are chalk streams. There is currently no evidence of adverse effects from exposure to these substances.

Roads: Construction

Asked by Lord Bradshaw

To ask His Majesty's Government how much per annum is allocated to road building in England, as opposed to maintenance. [HL7858]

Baroness Vere of Norbiton: For the Strategic Road Network, funding for enhancements, which includes junction improvements and widening schemes as well as new roads, has been allocated as follows as part of the Road Investment Strategy.

£m	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total
	2,027	1,773	1,983	2,228	2,474	10,485

For local roads funding varies depending on progress with individual local authority schemes and the amount would vary from year to year. In some cases schemes do not progress to construction due to low or poor value for money. The current forecast spend from 2023/24 onwards is as per the table below but these are liable to change as various schemes update their financial information.

£m	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total
	115.2	156.38	168.51	339.48	853.80	1,633.37

Somalia: BBC World Service

Asked by *The Lord Bishop of St Albans*

To ask His Majesty's Government how many permanent employees are currently employed by the BBC Somali Service; and whether this number is forecasted to decrease. [HL7958]

Lord Goldsmith of Richmond Park: The FCDO strongly values the BBC World Service's role in bringing high-quality and impartial broadcasting to audiences around the globe. The FCDO funds 12 language services through the World2020 programme; the remaining 29 services, including the BBC Somali service, are funded by the Licence Fee. The BBC is operationally and editorially independent from the Government and therefore decisions on the level of staffing and resources for each of the 42 language services are for them to take.

Tunisia

Asked by *Lord Patten*

To ask His Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the role of Tunisia in promoting security along the Mediterranean littoral of northern Africa. [HL7746]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK is aware of the increasing numbers of irregular migrants crossing from Tunisia to Europe. We work with the Tunisian Government to help improve their border security, including through the provision of Royal Navy and Royal Marine instructors to assist the Tunisian National Guard Maritime section. More broadly, the UK Government actively pursues a 'whole of route' approach to addressing unmanaged migration from Africa to Europe, tackling the drivers of migration that encourage people to undertake the dangerous journey in the first place.

Tunisia: Development Aid

Asked by *Lord Patten*

To ask His Majesty's Government how much economic aid and technical assistance they are currently giving to Tunisia; and how this is monitored. [HL7745]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: In financial year 2023/24, the UK will provide £2 million to Tunisia through the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund programme. This includes: support to the Tunisian economic reforms, delivered through the World Bank; a contribution to the UN basket fund TARABOT, to support implementation of the Tunisian Government's Counter-Terrorism Strategy; and projects in the fields of education, gender equality and Open Societies. The UK provides technical assistance directly and through multilateral organisations such as the United Nations, the World Bank, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. We regularly monitor and evaluate the support the UK provides.

Asked by *Lord Patten*

To ask His Majesty's Government whether they intend to support educational aid and assistance to Tunisia. [HL7748]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK is a global leader in education and we see education as a foundation for UK-Tunisian collaboration for the benefit of both the UK and Tunisians. We support education reform in Tunisia through the Global Partnership for Education fund, which recently granted Tunisia \$2.3 million to develop their next five-year education strategy. We are also planning to develop a new secondary education project that builds on the achievements of 'Teaching for Success' which trained over 17,000 primary teachers and teaching advisors in improved teaching methods. To enable early school leavers to learn skills for the workplace, the UK funded four 'Second Chance' Education Centres in collaboration with UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund.

Tunisia: Foreign Relations

Asked by *Lord Patten*

To ask His Majesty's Government what is their assessment of the state of relations between the UK and Tunisia. [HL7744]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: The UK is a constructive partner to Tunisia. Given the scale of the socio-economic and fiscal challenges, we encourage the Tunisian government to implement urgent reform steps and deliver on the demands of the Tunisian people. The UK stands ready to play a role but tackling these issues are sovereign choices for Tunisia. We also have regular discussions with the Tunisian authorities to reiterate the importance of legitimate political opposition, the separation of powers, civil society, strengthening human rights and an inclusive political process. I [Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for the Middle East and North Africa] raised these with Tunisian Foreign Minister Nabil Ammar on 4 May.

Tunisia: Navy

Asked by *Lord Patten*

To ask His Majesty's Government when, during the past 10 years, Royal Navy vessels have visited Tunisian waters and ports. [HL7747]

Baroness Goldie: Royal Navy Surface vessels have visited Tunisian waters and ports eight times since 2012: May 2014; December 2017; August 2018; October 2018; September 2020; October 2020; April 2021 and November 2022.

Tunisia: Religious Freedom

Asked by *Lord Jackson of Peterborough*

To ask His Majesty's Government what recent assessment they have made of freedom of religion and belief in Tunisia. [HL7779]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: Tunisia's constitution guarantees the freedom for all to practise religious rites, on the condition that public security is not compromised. We engage with different faith groups to understand the challenges they may face. During my visit to Tunisia in June 2022, I [the Minister of State for the Middle East, Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon] visited Muslim, Christian and Jewish religious sites to understand the situation regarding freedom of religion or belief and to express UK support for respect and tolerance between communities. I made a statement following the terrorist attack on 9 May in Djerba near the El Ghriba Synagogue, commending the Tunisian authorities' response to the situation.

Turkmenistan: Methane

*Asked by **Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle***

To ask His Majesty's Government what steps they are taking, together with international partners and agencies, to reduce the amount of fugitive methane released within the borders of Turkmenistan. [HL7729]

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon: We regularly lobby on climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Turkmenistan. These issues are an essential part of our dialogue with the Turkmen government and feature as a standing agenda item in our annual Structured Dialogue, the last of which took place in February 2023. Our regional climate ambassador visited Turkmenistan for discussions on climate change and emissions in October last year. The UK, through the UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), is also funding a project to create an up-to-date greenhouse gas inventory in Turkmenistan, to accurately measure and assist with the reduction of emissions.

UK Internal Trade: Labelling

*Asked by **Baroness Hoey***

To ask His Majesty's Government (1) what assessment they have made of the legal basis for the all UK "not for EU" labelling regime to be introduced as a result of the conclusion of the Windsor Agreement, (2) what consultations they have conducted regarding the introduction of this labelling regime, (3) what plans, if any, they have to lay a copy of the Regulations implementing this labelling regime, as announced on 16 May, before Parliament for scrutiny, and (4) whether this labelling regime will also include goods produced in Northern Ireland for sale anywhere in the UK. [HL7907]

Lord Benyon: The legal basis for the "Not for EU" label requirements in Great Britain, confirmed in the

Command Paper, will be set out in due course, following consultation with the Scottish and Welsh governments. This requirement will not come into force until October 2024.

We have engaged closely with industry about these arrangements and will continue to do so in advance of changes taking effect in October 2024. We have met with businesses and trade bodies, through weekly forums along with separate bespoke engagements, to discuss these proposals. We will support businesses in adapting to these new arrangements.

Parliament will have the opportunity to scrutinise the regulations implementing this labelling regime.

The requirement for a "Not for EU" label will not apply to goods produced in Northern Ireland and sold in either Great Britain or Northern Ireland.

Undocumented Migrants: Deportation

*Asked by **The Lord Bishop of Durham***

To ask His Majesty's Government whether an individual who has been deported due to being subject to the duty to remove under clause 2 of the Illegal Migration Bill will be able to return to the UK via a safe route, if a human rights challenge against their deportation is successful following a remote hearing. [HL7775]

Lord Murray of Blidworth: The Illegal Migration Bill provides for Judicial Review but these are non-suspensive. Any JR will be dependent on its particular facts and the Government will comply with relief granted by the courts.

Wave Power

*Asked by **Baroness Whitaker***

To ask His Majesty's Government what plans they have to support the development of wave energy technology. [HL7817]

Lord Callanan: Wave energy technologies have promise but they remain some way from commercial viability and are still at a pre-commercial stage.

The Government supports the development of wave energy technologies through research funding programmes operated both centrally and through UK Research and Innovation. Additionally, wave projects remain eligible to compete in the Contracts for Difference scheme.

The Government engages with industry as it seeks to cut costs, improve reliability and compete with other forms of low-carbon generation.

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