



**OFFICIAL REPORT**  
AITHISG OIFIGEIL

# Meeting of the Parliament

**Thursday 27 June 2019**

**Session 5**



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Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

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# Scottish Parliament

Thursday 27 June 2019

[The Presiding Officer opened the meeting at 11:40]

## General Question Time

### Superfast Broadband (Falkirk East)

**1. Angus MacDonald (Falkirk East) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government what percentage of businesses and domestic properties in the Falkirk East constituency can access superfast broadband, and what percentage are connected. (S5O-03455)

**The Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands (Paul Wheelhouse):** The independent broadband analysis site thinkbroadband states that 96.6 per cent of all premises in the Falkirk Council area are able to access superfast broadband speeds of 30 megabits per second or better. The latest Ofcom figures for the Falkirk East constituency, which are from December 2018, show that 89 per cent of all small and medium-sized enterprise premises and 96 per cent of domestic premises have access to superfast broadband of 30Mbps and above.

Ofcom figures also suggest that 62 per cent of all lines in the Falkirk Council area have an active fixed broadband connection that can provide speeds in excess of 30Mbps. That information is not available at a constituency level.

**Angus MacDonald:** The Scottish Government deserves full credit for providing superfast broadband to communities that would have fallen behind if it had been left to the United Kingdom Government to get its act together.

However, despite that success, rural communities in my constituency, particularly in Avonbridge, have faced severe delays and are still without access to the superfast network. The owners of around 12 properties face the prospect of having to wait for the reaching 100 per cent programme, including businesses that are reliant on having the best broadband that is available, even though they were originally advised that superfast broadband would be available to them some two years ago or more. Those issues have been compounded by a lack of communication from contractors and misinformation from project literature and websites, which have caused frustration, confusion and anger among members of those communities, who feel that they have been left high and dry while other communities very close by are surging into the digital future.

Therefore, can the minister provide reassurance that, with the R100 programme, lessons will be learned from the issues that have been faced in rolling out the digital Scotland superfast broadband programme, with a view to ensuring that better, more effective community engagement is at the heart of the R100 programme?

**Paul Wheelhouse:** Given the applause from Conservative members, I point out that broadband matters and, indeed, telecoms as a whole are reserved to UK ministers. [Interruption.] If Mr Carson wants to ask a question, I will certainly answer it.

Mr MacDonald will recognise that we acknowledge the issues that he raises in respect of his constituents. We are unhappy to hear that constituents of his were led to believe that they would get superfast broadband but have not had it. There are a number of complexities to do with the interaction between the commercial investment plans of operators and the public-sponsored projects, such as the DSSB programme, which we are very proud of. Such state interventions cannot be made where there are commercial plans. That means that there is interaction between the commercial investment programme and the publicly funded investment programme, which can present some difficulties in understanding exactly which properties will be covered.

As Mr MacDonald knows, we have committed to a £600 million programme under R100, which I hope will deal with the properties in question in his constituency. If he lets me know which properties are affected, I will be able to give him a more definitive answer. I reassure him that we have learned a great deal from the DSSB process and that we are trying to avoid some of the communication difficulties that he has described. We want to make sure that, from the very start of the R100 programme, we provide as much clarity as we can to communities about when services will be delivered in their area.

### Apologies (Scotland) Act 2016 (Awareness Raising)

**2. Margaret Mitchell (Central Scotland) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Government what action it has taken to raise awareness of the Apologies (Scotland) Act 2016 since it came into force on 19 June 2017. (S5O-03456)

**The Minister for Community Safety (Ash Denham):** The Scottish Government expects public bodies and other organisations to be aware of the current legislative framework and to update their procedures and guidance accordingly. The Scottish Government did not commit to issuing general guidance, on the basis that, were it to do so, that would risk interpreting the law, which is

the job of the courts. Given that the act is not retrospective and that it applies only to legal proceedings commenced after 19 June 2017, it might be premature to look for any practical content that courts might have added to the legislation.

**Margaret Mitchell:** Will the minister consider launching a media information campaign, possibly using the Government's digital presence—Facebook and so on—targeted at solicitors, local government, businesses and the general public, to raise awareness about the act? If so, will she initiate research on the uptake before and after such a campaign, in order to establish its effectiveness?

**Ash Denham:** I thank the member for raising that point—I can see that she is driving at more general guidance rather than guidance of a specifically legal nature. The Scottish Government is working closely with the interaction action plan review group. It is anticipated that it will consider reparations, including apology, acknowledgement support and commemoration, this year and next. That is likely to include consideration of how information about the Apologies (Scotland) Act 2016 and its benefits can best be communicated.

I take the member's point about a media campaign, and I will get back to her after I have considered it.

### Hong Kong Protests

3. **Ross Greer (West Scotland) (Green):** To ask the Scottish Government, in light of the comments in its China engagement strategy regarding respect for human rights and the rule of law, what discussions it has had with the Chinese consulate regarding the recent protests in Hong Kong. (S5O-03457)

**The Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs (Fiona Hyslop):** The recent protests show the strength of feeling among the people of Hong Kong, who have exercised their rights to freedom of speech and assembly, as guaranteed in the joint declaration.

The Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation discussed the protests in Hong Kong with the Chinese consul general at a recent engagement. He has since written to the consul general, outlining the Scottish Government's position, which is that it is vital that Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and the rights and freedoms that are set down in the Sino-British joint declaration are respected in full.

**Ross Greer:** I welcome the cabinet secretary's remarks and the fact that a Scottish Government minister has engaged with the Chinese consulate on the issue. Out of a population of 7 million, 2 million people in Hong Kong came out to protest

and, yet again, were met with batons and tear gas deployed by their own police force. That tear gas was manufactured by a company called Chemring, which is based in the United Kingdom and is in receipt of hundreds of thousands of pounds in enterprise grants from the Scottish Government.

Given that the First Minister has previously confirmed in Parliament that the Scottish Government is interested in helping arms dealers transition into what has been described as the blue-light sector—the equipping of police forces—can the cabinet secretary confirm whether funding the companies that are arming police forces such as that in Hong Kong is part of what the Government had in mind? If so, how on earth is that compatible with the Scottish Government's commitment to human rights?

**Fiona Hyslop:** The plant at Stevenston does not produce tear gas. A grant of £160,000 was given to Chemring in 2013 to help modernise the company's site at Stevenston, in North Ayrshire, helping to secure 13 permanent full-time jobs at the site.

### Queen Elizabeth University Hospital Inquiry

4. **Michelle Ballantyne (South Scotland) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Government what progress has been made with the inquiry into the Queen Elizabeth university hospital. (S5O-03458)

**The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport (Jeane Freeman):** Since their appointment, the co-chairs of the independent review have consulted extensively with experts and established systems for stakeholder contact. In line with the Britton report recommendations, at a meeting today they will publicly present the preliminary terms of reference and ask for feedback—they will consult on those. They will also formally seek submissions of evidence and launch the review's website and contact details. That is all important, because it is critical that a wide range of views and information is considered.

**Michelle Ballantyne:** Given that the Royal hospital for children and young people—the sick kids—in Edinburgh is due to open on 9 July and shares the same design concept and is being built by the same contractors as the Queen Elizabeth university hospital, has the cabinet secretary received assurance that the same issues will not be experienced there?

**Jeane Freeman:** As Ms Ballantyne will know—it is a reply I have given previously in the Parliament—NHS Lothian, for the sick kids hospital in Edinburgh, and other boards where we have new buildings, such as in Orkney, were tasked with ensuring that they had the proper assurance that the immediate lessons that we had learned from the Queen Elizabeth university

hospital in relation to air ventilation, water supply and the use of sinks had been applied in the design and construction of those new buildings. We have that assurance. NHS Lothian did not take ownership of the site until it was absolutely assured that those steps had been taken.

**Elaine Smith (Central Scotland) (Lab):** The Queen Elizabeth university hospital is one of Europe's largest hospitals, with 1,100 patient rooms and 14 floors, and it was built on the site of the Southern general hospital. Why is that acceptable for Glasgow but not for our hospital in Monklands, on which the cabinet secretary has just slapped a "closed" order this morning?

**Jeane Freeman:** What a pity that Ms Smith did not read the answer to the Government-initiated question that was issued this morning. I have not "slapped a 'closed' order" on Monklands hospital; I have repeated this Government's absolute commitment to sourcing a replacement for it. What I have ruled out is building that replacement on the current site, for a number of reasons that were set out in the GIQ answer.

I will give the member some of those reasons. There is no room around the existing hospital to build a new hospital, so to build a new hospital on that site would require demolition of the current hospital. The current hospital's capacity could not be picked up in the rest of Lanarkshire, and patients would therefore wait longer for the treatment that they needed. I am sure that, if that happened, Ms Smith would be first person on her feet to criticise it. There would also be a patient safety issue if we were to construct a new build in such close proximity to an operating hospital.

I have required NHS Lanarkshire to ensure that, from the very beginning, its consultation on a range of options—including new options that may have come forward in the most recent period— involves the local communities that the Monklands hospital serves; to ensure that the design that the clinicians have led so well for a new hospital continues to be applied in any new build; and to ensure that all the work is undertaken with some speed while ensuring that the local communities' voices are well heard and they are part of the decision making before it comes to me.

Those are the facts. Yet again, I would appreciate it if Scottish Labour members would stick to the facts instead of making it up as they go along.

### European Digital Single Market

**5. Willie Coffey (Kilmarnock and Irvine Valley) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government how it plans to maintain Scotland's participation in the European digital single market, which is estimated to be worth €400 billion, in light of the

United Kingdom Government's reported intention to withdraw from it. (S5O-03459)

**The Minister for Public Finance and Digital Economy (Kate Forbes):** I recognise the value of access to the digital single market. Tech is already a fast-growing sector in Scotland, and it would be a deep shame if Scotland were to miss out on the emerging opportunities of being part of the European single digital market. Brexit will have a detrimental impact on Scotland's digital businesses, as they face increasing trade costs if United Kingdom and European Union legislation diverges.

**Willie Coffey:** The situation with the digital single market is akin to a luxury €400 billion cruise liner sailing off into the sunset while the UK sits in a tug boat at the jetty, wondering whether to try to follow it. One minute the UK was fully behind the plan and leading it, and the next minute we are waving goodbye to it, to the horror of information technology companies across Europe.

If we do not follow, roaming charges will be back and shared digital services and access to IT procurement contracts will be seriously restricted. Can the minister give us some assurance that Scotland's reputation for world-class IT innovation and developments will be protected and that we will seek to maintain our links with Europe as that market develops in the future?

**Kate Forbes:** That is why the Scottish Government has put forward a comprehensive set of positions for us to remain part of the digital single market. We have engaged with Governments across EU member states and, despite Jeremy Hunt's recent interventions, we will continue to engage strategically with our European partners.

As Scots head off on holiday to EU countries—as perhaps some members in the chamber will do—we will benefit from surcharge-free roaming. In a no-deal scenario, that would no longer be guaranteed. We cannot have an EU exit outcome that puts Scottish citizens and businesses at a disadvantage just as we are beginning to reap the benefits of a fast-growing tech sector.

### Sea Water Quality (Musselburgh)

**6. Colin Beattie (Midlothian North and Musselburgh) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on the Scottish Environment Protection Agency classifying the sea water at Fisherrow in Musselburgh as poor in 2018-19, and the potential impact that this has on tourism, and the health of people bathing, in the area. (S5O-03460)

**The Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform (Roseanna Cunningham):** The Scottish Government

recognises the importance of good quality bathing water for bathing and tourism. Any poor classification is unacceptable and must improve. Together with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish Water, the Scottish Government is taking all possible steps to raise bathing water quality. That includes public sewer network improvements and fixing property misconnections.

**Colin Beattie:** Specifically, what more can the Scottish Government do to help East Lothian Council manage the situation? Is there a timeframe to completion?

**Roseanna Cunningham:** The Scottish Government has provided £340,000 to fund a joint programme of intense sewer investigation at Fisherrow and Portobello to identify and fix sources of pollution from property misconnections. Scottish Water is also currently carrying out improvements to the sewer network.

The Scottish Government and SEPA provide support to East Lothian Council through the Edinburgh and Lothians bathing waters stakeholder partnership group, and the Government-funded Keep Scotland Beautiful my beach your beach initiative provides support to East Lothian Council to reduce the impact from litter, dogs and gulls on Fisherrow sands.

### Animal Cruelty

**7. Annabelle Ewing (Cowdenbeath) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Government what it is doing to tackle animal cruelty. (S5O-03461)

**The Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment (Mairi Gougeon):** The Scottish Government is committed to the highest possible animal welfare standards. We are taking forward legislation on animal sanctuaries, the breeding and sale of dogs, cats and rabbits, and the licensing of pet shops.

In September, we expect to announce the timing of that legislation, which will increase the penalties for cruelty offences and to allow animals that have been seized to protect their welfare to be quickly rehomed. We are planning a follow-up public awareness campaign on the risks of buying puppies, and we are also working to establish an animal welfare commission to provide expert advice on future issues.

**Annabelle Ewing:** The minister will be aware of the increasing number of calls for a five-year maximum sentence to be available for the most serious cases of animal cruelty, as opposed to the current maximum sentence of 12 months. Can the minister confirm that she is sympathetic to those calls and that that will be a provision in the proposed legislation that she referred to?

**Mairi Gougeon:** I can confirm that. Proposals for increasing the maximum sentence for the worst cases of animal cruelty, including attacks on service animals, were consulted on as part of the Scottish Government's commitment to amend the Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006. We published the responses to that consultation on 10 May and the analysis of the responses will be published soon. We expect to be able to make an announcement on the timing of the proposed legislation in the programme for government in September.

### Rockall (Deployment of Fishery Protection Vessels)

**8. Peter Chapman (North East Scotland) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Government whether it will provide an update on the use of patrol boats at Rockall in response to Irish fishing vessels. (S5O-03462)

**The Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs (Fiona Hyslop):** Marine Scotland continues to monitor and gather evidence regarding fishing activity at Rockall. However, we do not discuss specific details on the deployment of surveillance assets. Our aim is to resolve the issue through discussions with the Irish Government.

**Peter Chapman:** I thank the minister for her answer, but I am disappointed by it. There has been a major increase in the number of Irish vessels in the 12-mile limit around Rockall, from 15 incursions in 2014 to 94 in 2017. Even two Irish international maritime law experts agreed that it is illegal and should be stopped. What enforcement action has been taken? Have any Irish vessels been boarded and checked? If not, why not?

**Fiona Hyslop:** As I said, we continue to monitor the situation. I will not discuss the specifics of the deployment of surveillance assets, but it is important that we address the issue, as we have been doing for some time. Indeed, the figures that Peter Chapman quoted are figures that I proactively gave the Parliament when I answered a previous oral question.

### Workplace Parking Levy (Disabled People)

**9. Jeremy Balfour (Lothian) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Government what analysis the transport secretary has carried out regarding how the proposed workplace parking levy could affect disabled people accessing employment. (S5O-03463)

**The Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands (Paul Wheelhouse):** The Scottish Government has not carried out such analysis. The Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee agreed to John Finnie MSP's amendments to the



Transport (Scotland) Bill on the workplace parking levy on 19 June. The amendments include a national exemption for blue badge holders and a requirement for any local authorities that choose to develop a workplace parking levy proposal to carry out impact assessments.

**Jeremy Balfour:** Does the minister recognise that many disabled people do not have blue badges? People with hidden disabilities or upper limb disabilities will be included in those affected by that tax. Will the minister stop and look again before this bad piece of legislation is passed?

**Paul Wheelhouse:** I certainly recognise Mr Balfour's concern, but we encourage people who think that they might be eligible to apply for a blue badge to do so, and we certainly encourage members to encourage their constituents to do so.

The charge will be levied on the occupier rather than the individuals who park, so it will be for the employer to consider the needs of their employees. That is one of the variables for local authorities to take a decision on when developing schemes, and it will be for them to undertake impact assessments to ensure that they take account of the needs of disabled customers.

### Clyde Tunnel

10. **Adam Tomkins (Glasgow) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Government when it last discussed maintenance of the Clyde tunnel with Glasgow City Council. (S5O-03464)

**The Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands (Paul Wheelhouse):** The Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity, Michael Matheson MSP, met Glasgow City Council on 11 June to discuss a number of transportation issues affecting Glasgow, including the maintenance of the Clyde tunnel and its approaches.

**Adam Tomkins:** The Clyde tunnel faces an annual funding shortfall of some £775,000. Major structural work is required to keep open the tunnel, which is used by 64,000 vehicles every day. What support is Transport Scotland offering to Glasgow City Council to ensure that the Clyde tunnel remains open and is safe?

**Paul Wheelhouse:** I very much recognise the strong interest in the issue. The Clyde tunnel and its approaches form part of the local road network, and therefore responsibility for maintenance rests with Glasgow City Council. However, the cabinet secretary has instructed his officials at Transport Scotland to work with Glasgow City Council to explore the issue and the costs that are associated with maintaining the important section of road.

## First Minister's Question Time

12:01

### Justice (Electronic Monitoring)

1. **Ruth Davidson (Edinburgh Central) (Con):** If a convicted criminal who is wearing an electronic tag removes it in order to wander the streets undetected, should that not automatically be regarded as a crime?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** As Ruth Davidson was, I was in the chamber when such issues were debated at stage 3 of the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill earlier this week. I thought that there was a good discussion. Many members made the point that a tag being removed for medical reasons, for example, should perhaps not be regarded as a crime. However, the bill includes a new offence of being unlawfully at large. Given Ruth Davidson's previous interventions on the issue, I would have thought that she would welcome that.

Through the passing of the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill and last night's approval of the Presumption Against Short Periods of Imprisonment (Scotland) Order 2019, this week has shown that the Government is introducing reforms to the justice system that will make our country safer. It is about smarter justice, and we have introduced exactly the kind of reforms that Ruth Davidson's colleagues south of the border are pursuing. Perhaps it is Ruth Davidson who is somewhat out of line.

**Ruth Davidson:** Let us spell out exactly what will happen under the Government's newly passed Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill, about which the First Minister talked. The Scottish National Party says that it wants to start emptying the jails and to let lots of people who would have been in prison out on the streets, wearing tags instead. [*Interruption.*] That is what she said.

In my view, taking off a tag is equivalent to scaling the walls and making a run for it because, but for that tag, the person would be in a cell. Under the SNP's new system, all that will happen is that the person will be sent a letter asking whether they would mind turning themselves in, please. A person cutting off their tag is not automatically a crime, and no extra penalty will be added to their sentence. Does the First Minister think that that sounds like justice to most people?

**The First Minister:** If what Ruth Davidson said was correct, she might have had a point, but it is not correct. It is worth pointing out that there are already—even before the Management of Offenders (Scotland) Bill was passed this week—consequences for people who tamper with their

electronic tags. If a person who is on a home detention curfew tampers with a tag, that is immediately reported back to the prison, and that person is recalled to custody.

The steps that we have taken in the bill to bolster the law specifically create a new offence of remaining unlawfully at large for people who do not return to custody once they are recalled. That approach gives the police more powers to apprehend prisoners who are considered to be unlawfully at large, including when prisoners have tampered with their electronic tag. Those are precisely the changes to the law that people have been asking for.

**The Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Humza Yousaf):** Ruth called for them.

**The First Minister:** Indeed—the justice secretary is saying that Ruth Davidson called for the changes.

The proposals that came from the Tories this week did not contain robust provisions. Under them, someone who damaged a tag in the course of their employment, or when carrying out sporting activities, for example, would have been committing an offence, with there being no appropriate defence in law. We have put in place robust and appropriate provisions, which is why they have been widely welcomed.

Ruth Davidson's questions on justice and law and order seem to be based on the view that Scotland somehow takes a "soft on crime" approach. Nothing could be further from the truth. I ask Ruth Davidson to reflect on the fact that Scotland has the highest prison population in western Europe. The problem is not that we do not send enough people to prison; the problem is that we are not smart enough in our justice interventions.

As I said a moment ago, Ruth Davidson's colleagues at Westminster are looking at and are emulating the proposals that we have taken forward this week. Perhaps Ruth Davidson should reflect on the fact that it is she who is out of line on these matters.

**Ruth Davidson:** What I asked the First Minister was whether the measures sound like justice to her. Here are the people to whom they do not sound like justice. Scottish Women's Aid has said:

"To be a credible deterrent, breach of the electronic monitoring condition must be an automatic criminal offence."

Victim Support Scotland has said that breaches of a tag must be punished

"to maintain the trust of victims and the community"

because, as Victim Support also said,

"communities have no faith in community sentencing ... because ... it takes too long for someone to be found to be in breach of their order."—[*Official Report, Justice Committee*, 8 May 2018; c 39.]

The SNP could have fixed that by making the breach of a tag a specific offence punishable by a sentence. Was it just because it was a Tory suggestion that the First Minister refused to do that?

**The First Minister:** No. We did not follow that suggestion because it is not the right approach. That is why we instead put into the law a workable provision that will make a difference and will actually deal with the problem that has been identified. We have created a specific new offence to deal with people having tampered with electronic tags and being unlawfully at large because of that.

Ruth Davidson's proposals, which her colleagues elsewhere have brought forward, would have meant that a person accidentally tampering with their tag would be an offence, and there would have been no defence in law. We have put in place a workable provision that makes sense. Perhaps it is the fact that it makes sense that left the Tories unable to support it in Parliament this week.

**Ruth Davidson:** Our proposal made sense for Scottish Women's Aid and for Victim Support Scotland.

Let us talk about the unlawfully at large issue that the First Minister has been waving around as a defence. It is two years since father of three, Craig McClelland, was stabbed to death by James Wright—a criminal who was unlawfully at large for six months after tampering with his electronic tag. This week, Mr McClelland's father, Michael, said this:

"Why was James Wright out on a tag, how did he get it off and why wasn't he lifted? ... where was the system when my son was murdered and why won't they answer these questions?"

What is the First Minister going to tell Mr McClelland about why cutting off a tag is not a crime?

**The First Minister:** As I have done previously, I record my condolences to the McClelland family for everything that they have gone through. I would say to Craig's father that when that dreadful tragedy and crime took place, the specific offence that we have put into law this week—that of being unlawfully at large—was not on the statute book. The case is one of the reasons why we considered the matter and decided to legislate this week to put that specific crime on the statute book. I would say to Craig McClelland's family and to others who have suffered under such circumstances that the measures are a response to that, specifically.

The Cabinet Secretary for Justice has also taken other action to respond to what happened in that case. Issues to do with and decisions about wider considerations of the case fall to the independent law officers. It is precisely because of that case that the change in the law was made this week—a change in the law that my party and my Government voted for, and which Ruth Davidson's party voted against.

## Education

**2. Richard Leonard (Central Scotland) (Lab):** To ask the First Minister how many Government debates there have been on education policy in the parliamentary year ending today.

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I do not have the number of Government debates, but I know that, earlier this week, John Swinney, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, made a statement on education reform. Last week or the week before, he made a statement on attainment and assessment in primary schools.

As members would expect, the education secretary and I spend a considerable amount of our time ensuring that we continue the progress of raising attainment in our schools and closing the attainment gap—making more progress than I believe was made under previous Labour Administrations.

**Richard Leonard:** Yes, we know that the cabinet secretary is happy to read out statements but not to take part in a debate, take interventions and have a vote. The answer to the question that I asked is that, in the past parliamentary year, there have been no Government debates on that top priority of education. There has not been one since 2 November 2017.

We have had ministerial statements, such as this week's mercy killing of the Education (Scotland) Bill, but no debates. What is the Government afraid of debating? Is it the teacher recruitment crisis, the narrowing of the curriculum, the explosion of multilevel teaching or the growing crisis in additional support needs, or is the Government afraid because, when we debate and then vote on its record on education, it is defeated in this Parliament?

**The First Minister:** Richard Leonard has a point. We could have come to the chamber and debated the 10 per cent pay rise for teachers in our country or the 500 more teachers in our schools this year. [*Interruption.*]

**The Presiding Officer (Ken Macintosh):** Order, please.

**The First Minister:** We could have debated the fact that we have more teachers in primary schools now than at any time since 1980. The

education secretary made statements this week and last week. It is not my fault if Richard Leonard cannot manage to ask questions on those statements.

**The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills (John Swinney):** Useless!

**The Presiding Officer:** Order, please.

**The First Minister:** How many times has Richard Leonard come to the chamber and said that the single biggest thing that we have to do to raise attainment and close the poverty-related attainment gap in our schools is tackle child poverty? In recent weeks, how many times has he come to the chamber and called on me to introduce an income supplement? Today, the day after we introduced a £10-a-week income supplement for the poorest families in our country, in order to tackle child poverty and help us raise attainment, Richard Leonard has nothing to say about it. That suggests that he is not interested in children and that he is interested only in the politics.

**Richard Leonard:** That was an astonishing answer.

The First Minister's claims on education do not bear examination. That is why the Government dares not debate them. If education is a Government's top priority, it invests in it. Therefore, why is this Government spending £427 less per pupil in our primary schools?

It is not just schools. Why does the Auditor General for Scotland say that our colleges are not achieving financial sustainability? If education is the Government's top priority, why does research that we are publishing today show that, since it came to office, the Government is spending more than £1,000 less per student on teaching in our universities?

Is that not the record on education that the Government is unwilling and unable to debate? It is a record of cuts to Scotland's schools, colleges and universities.

**The First Minister:** Unfortunately for Richard Leonard, the facts tell a different story. In each of the past two years, there have been real-terms increases in education funding by councils. In each of the past three years, there have been increases in the number of teachers in our schools. The pupil equity fund is putting more money into the hands of headteachers in our schools. That is probably why we have rising exam passes in our schools, a record number of young people going into positive destinations and a record number of young people from the poorest parts of our country going into higher education, including university.

That is the Government's record on education. We will get on with the job of continuing to make that progress. Presiding Officer, that is progress that we are proud of.

### **Moray Council Budget Cuts**

**Jamie Halcro Johnston (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** Moray Council has already endured millions of pounds' worth of cuts to its budget, as local government funding has been squeezed by the Scottish Government. We have now heard from the Scottish National Party leader of Moray Council that it faces another £19.3 million of cuts by 2021, with future budgets "very challenging". Therefore, local people in Moray now see more of their basic public services under threat and their council tax bills rising. For how many more years will Moray have to endure local budget cuts at the hands of an SNP administration in Elgin that is content to take another bad deal from its SNP colleagues in Edinburgh?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I seem to remember that the Conservatives recently resigned from the administration of Moray Council because they wanted to implement cuts. The Scottish Government has increased funding for local government and will continue to protect it and be fair to it in all the budgetary decisions that it makes.

The last point that I will make to Jamie Halcro Johnston is one that I have made many times before in this session but which is worth making again. If we had followed the Tories' proposals to give tax cuts to the richest people in our country, our budget would be £550 million smaller than it is and local authorities would have paid the price for that. The Tories have a cheek to come here and talk about budgets.

### **Holiday Hunger Strategy (Glasgow)**

**Bob Doris (Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn) (SNP):** As schools in Maryhill and Springburn and right across Scotland break up for the summer holidays, holiday hunger will become a reality for too many children. Glasgow City Council has invested £2 million in its annual holiday hunger strategy, through which children can get involved in free youth activities across the city and be provided with free food without stigma, which is important. Will the First Minister urge families in Glasgow to check the council's website and libraries for more information on local activities that are available for children in their area? Does she agree that we must do all that we can to tackle child poverty not just outwith term time but all year round?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** Yes, I agree with that and very much welcome Glasgow City Council's efforts. Food insecurity during

school holidays is driven by families' incomes being too low to meet their needs, which is why we continue to challenge the United Kingdom Government's punitive welfare cuts and have focused £2 million of our £3.5 million fair food fund specifically on school holidays. It is also why, yesterday in the chamber, we announced bold action to tackle child poverty in Scotland. Over the past year alone, we have introduced the best start grant and a financial health check service and have increased school clothing grants. By the end of 2022, our new Scottish child payment, which will be worth £10 per week, will be available to all eligible children aged under 16, and we will deliver early payments for under-sixes before the end of this parliamentary session.

### **School Buildings (Highlands)**

**John Finnie (Highlands and Islands) (Green):** In order for young people to realise their potential, we must provide them with a good-quality learning environment. This week, we have been told that the budget to upgrade crumbling school buildings in the Highlands has been cut by a third. The Highland Council says that that is because it has received £25 million less than expected from the Scottish Government.

This matter is clearly of huge concern to parents, teachers and pupils—not least those associated with the sub-standard St Clement's school in Dingwall, which is a school for pupils with additional needs that was not even on the list for replacement. Will the First Minister tell us why that has happened? Will she also ask the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills to meet me so that we can seek a resolution to this concerning matter?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I am sure that the education secretary would be more than happy to discuss those issues with John Finnie. We have increased capital funding for local authorities and have funded additional school projects over and above that. As I said a moment ago, we treat local government fairly within a very tight financial situation and we will continue to do so. It is partly because it is recognised that we have treated local government as fairly as we possibly can that we had the Greens' support for our budget earlier this year.

### **Glasgow Kelvin College (Teaching Staff)**

3. **Patrick Harvie (Glasgow) (Green):** Earlier this month, some 40 members of the teaching staff at Glasgow Kelvin College were told that their contracts would be terminated tomorrow. None of the staff or union representatives knew that that was coming. One of the lecturers who are affected has written to me to say:

“My confidence in the college has been completely eroded. These redundancies will taint the learning and teaching experience for the new cohort of students we are due to receive in August. The overall impact of these changes is a blow to the working class communities we serve in our college.”

Come August, there may not be enough staff in place to teach the more than 3,000 students who have already enrolled on courses. Does the First Minister think that that is an acceptable way to treat our college lecturers and their students?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** As Patrick Harvie knows, colleges operate independently of Government. They have responsibility for their own staffing provision, and these are operational matters for individual colleges. However, I would expect colleges—as I would expect all employers—to engage meaningfully with trade unions and to treat staff fairly. It is, of course, incumbent on colleges to make sure that they can staff courses properly.

We invest heavily in our colleges. We have met and, in fact, exceeded the commitment that we made on student numbers at our colleges. I am pleased to say that an agreement has just been reached on a pay rise for college lecturers, which I hope is a sign of how much the contribution that they make to our society is valued.

**Patrick Harvie:** I am glad that the First Minister said that we should expect better treatment from all employers, but colleges are not some part of the private sector that we cannot regulate; they are public services, and the Scottish Government funds and regulates the sector.

Under the terms of the national agreement, many of these lecturers should have been moving on to permanent contracts. This is a cynical move by the college management, and it will prevent those lecturers from achieving their two years' service and put courses at risk. Ultimately, it will be students who pay the price.

The Scottish Government has a fair work agenda, but the college sector uses casual contracts that can be terminated at a moment's notice—that is far from unique to Glasgow Kelvin College. The unions—the Educational Institute of Scotland Further Education Lecturers Association and the University and College Union—consider the use of casual contracts to be endemic across the higher and further education sectors. Workers' rights are being eroded and students will pay the price. Does the Scottish Government accept that it has a responsibility to review the use of such contracts across the further education sector as a matter of urgency?

**The First Minister:** In general terms, I agree with and have a great deal of sympathy with Patrick Harvie's comments about casual contracts

more generally across the economy. I also strongly endorse the comments that he made about fair work. I am happy to undertake that the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills will raise those concerns with the college sector.

However, as I said a moment ago, these are operational matters for individual colleges. The Government's responsibility is to fund our colleges, and, as Audit Scotland has said, the Scottish Government has been providing colleges with real-terms increases in revenue funding since 2016-17. Colleges are expected to plan and manage their activities within the budgets that we give them.

I am very happy to ask the education secretary to raise the concerns that Patrick Harvie has raised about the use of casual contracts with the college sector, and I am sure that he will be happy to report back once he has done so.

## Suicide

**4. Willie Rennie (North East Fife) (LD):** The annual number of suicides was steadily going down, but last year it was at its highest for five years. Among young people, the number of deaths from suicide is up 50 per cent. Mental health services cannot cope—3,000 people waited over a year for treatment. The police cannot cope. The chief constable says that the police are picking up when other services fail. Prisons cannot cope. The parents of Katie Allan blame the culture. What we are currently doing is just not enough, so what more will the First Minister do to stop the number of suicides from rising again next year?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I thank Willie Rennie for raising the issue. The statistics on suicides that were published this week are, of course, a concern not just to me and the Government but to everybody across our society. There is still a longer downward trend in suicide, but that is of no comfort to anybody whose life has been touched by suicide. As, I am sure, everybody would agree, one suicide is one too many, and it is an issue that the Government takes very seriously. We have recently established the national suicide prevention leadership group, which is chaired by the former deputy chief constable, Rose Fitzpatrick, and the suicide prevention action plan was published last year, setting out a range of actions that we are taking.

On the broader question of mental health, we have a situation in which more people are presenting for help with mental health—which we encourage—as the stigma reduces. We need to do two things, and we are working through additional investment in a range of other initiatives to do them. First, we need to make sure that the specialist mental health services are there for

people who need them. Secondly, we need to shift the balance of care much more towards prevention. That is particularly important for young people, which is why we have made and are currently implementing commitments around more school counsellors and plans for a new mental wellbeing service for those in the five-to-24 age group.

It is an important area in which the Government is taking, and will continue to take, a range of actions.

**Willie Rennie:** I have warned the First Minister for years about this important subject. I will not rehearse the arguments about delayed strategies. It breaks my heart to hear families talk about their loss; such losses affect communities such as mine, in Kelty, where a spate of suicides have occurred in the past month.

All of us in the Parliament have a responsibility to care and to reach out to those who are struggling and ask about their health, but the First Minister has a special responsibility. The Scottish Association for Mental Health has reported today that 5,000 children have been rejected from mental health services. No one should be turned away. That mental health charity has called on the Government

“to immediately implement all ... 29 recommendations they promised to deliver”.

Will the First Minister do that?

**The First Minister:** I agree with Willie Rennie that, although all of us have a responsibility, I, as the First Minister, have a particular responsibility. I say in all sincerity to him that nobody feels that responsibility more than I do. I take it very seriously, and I have set out the actions that we are taking on suicide and mental health.

Willie Rennie asked about SAMH's report today about rejected referrals, and we will take forward the recommendations that that report makes. One outcome of the audit of rejected referrals, which reported some months ago, was the establishment of the children and young people's mental health task force. I understand that, next week, the task force will publish a set of recommendations, which we look forward to receiving. Among other things, those recommendations will help to inform the development of the community mental wellbeing service that I spoke about in my earlier answer.

We work closely with organisations such as SAMH. We always take seriously what they say and we always take seriously their recommendations. That will be the case with the report that has been published today.

## Homelessness

### **Graham Simpson (Central Scotland) (Con):**

The annual Government homelessness statistics, which came out this week, make for pretty grim reading. Almost every homelessness indicator has gone up in the past year—the number of homelessness applications has risen by 3 per cent; the number of homeless children has risen for the fifth year in a row; and, every 17 and a half minutes, a household is made homeless. Shelter Scotland says:

“On an industrial scale, thousands of men, women and children are being denied their most basic right to a safe home.”

For how much longer is the First Minister prepared to tolerate that?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** Any rise in homelessness levels is unacceptable, and I am concerned about the statistics that were published this week. The long-term trend in homelessness applications is downward, but we take seriously the recent increase.

The figures that were published this week largely predate the publication of our ending homelessness action plan—the plan was published in November and the statistics cover 2018-19. The plan sets out a range of actions to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping and is backed by £50 million of investment.

I say to Graham Simpson that everybody who knows anything about the subject knows why homelessness applications are increasing. He might not want to take my word for that, so I will quote the United Nations special rapporteur on poverty. The Tories might do well to listen to what the special rapporteur said in his statement on Wales, which has wider applicability. He said:

“There is wide consensus among stakeholders that benefit changes are one of the structural causes behind the increase in poverty, rough sleeping and homelessness”.

The Crisis homelessness monitor report also said that local authorities' view is that welfare cuts have “exacerbated homelessness”

and that

“almost all acknowledged that”

the

“impacts had been mitigated by the Scottish Government”.

We will do everything in our power to tackle homelessness. However, I say to Graham Simpson and to every Tory in the chamber that, instead of coming here and asking the Scottish Government to take more action to mitigate the actions of their Tory Government at Westminster, it would be fitting for them to make a case to their Tory Government for stopping the cuts altogether.

### Glasgow Women (Equal Pay)

**Sandra White (Glasgow Kelvin) (SNP):** Today, money starts arriving in the bank accounts of claimants in Glasgow, particularly and principally women who worked for Labour-controlled Glasgow City Council, which discriminated against them by paying them less because of their gender. Will the First Minister join me in welcoming that huge step towards righting that historical wrong and will she extend her thanks to the people who have fought hard for that very fair deal?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I am absolutely delighted that, as of today, women in Glasgow, including many of my constituents, will start to get the money that they were denied for years and years. That was a historical wrong that past administrations of Glasgow City Council failed to put right. I am extremely proud that the Scottish National Party administration in Glasgow has righted that wrong and is, as of today, delivering justice to the women who have been denied it for so long. I put on record my particular pride in Susan Aitken, who has made it a priority from the minute she was elected leader of Glasgow City Council. The women take principal credit for the campaigns that they have waged, but Susan Aitken, as leader of Glasgow City Council, also deserves a lot of credit.

### Armed Forces Week

**Maurice Corry (West Scotland) (Con):** This week has been armed forces week and in Parliament we have seen Glasgow's helping heroes, one of many organisations that do so much to help our armed forces personnel and veterans. Will the First Minister join me and many others in appreciating the work that our armed forces personnel do for our country, and the work of the many organisations that do so much to support the people who protect us and our veterans?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** Yes, absolutely—I am happy to join Maurice Corry in saying a heartfelt thank you to all our armed forces, who work so hard and often sacrifice so much to keep the rest of us safe. I put on record again, as I have done many times before, my thanks to our veterans. We owe a great debt of gratitude and also a great responsibility to them.

As the member said, there are many organisations that do great work to support our veterans. I will name one, in particular: Scotland's Bravest Manufacturing Company, which I visited a couple of weeks ago. It employs veterans to make signs and, like many other similar organisations, it is doing fantastic work. We should support them as they do so.

### Monklands Hospital (Closure)

**Elaine Smith (Central Scotland) (Lab):** I supported Nicola Sturgeon's decision as health secretary in 2007 to stop the downgrading of Monklands accident and emergency services, but today her health secretary has taken a decision to close the whole hospital on its current site. The people of Airdrie and Coatbridge need our hospital in the heart of our community, so will the First Minister order a rethink of that shocking decision, which has been taken just as we are going into recess?

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** I am not sure whether the member listened to what the health secretary said just before First Minister's question time started. Elaine Smith supported my decision to save Monklands accident and emergency services from closure, although if it had been down to her party there would be no A and E in Monklands and—who knows?—there might have been no Monklands hospital by now.

Elaine Smith is wrong in what she is saying. There is an absolute commitment on the part of this Government to see a replacement for Monklands hospital built, which, incidentally, will include A and E services. An independent review panel has put forward recommendations around the site. The issue with the current site is that there is not enough room there to build a new hospital. That would require demolition of the existing hospital and would raise lots of issues around patient safety.

Elaine Smith cited the Queen Elizabeth university hospital and the Southern general hospital. The Southern general was able to continue operating while the Queen Elizabeth was being built, which would not be possible on the Monklands site. Therefore, the health secretary has said to NHS Lanarkshire that it must continue consultation on a range of options, including those that have come forward more recently.

Not only has this Government saved A and E services in Monklands hospital; this Government will make sure that there is a replacement for Monklands hospital, serving those communities well into the future. I am not sure that any of that would have happened, had Labour still been on these benches.

**Keith Brown (Clackmannanshire and Dunblane) (SNP):** In light of the reports today that the couple who did their civic duty and reported the domestic disturbance in the Boris Johnson flat have now had to move out and require security assistance, and in light of the fact that the latest victim of Ruth Davidson's endorsement, Jeremy Hunt, has admitted that the Tory Government, in contrast to the SNP Government in Scotland, has gone far too far in cutting police numbers, does

the First Minister agree that the Tories in the Scottish Parliament are guilty of almost criminal hypocrisy?

**The Presiding Officer:** I appreciate the question, but I do not think that any of it relates to the First Minister's responsibilities. I can tell that it is the last day of term.

We will move on to a real question from Stuart McMillan.

### General Wellbeing of Adults

**5. Stuart McMillan (Greenock and Inverclyde) (SNP):** To ask the First Minister, in light of the Heriot-Watt University report, "Hard Edges Scotland", what the Scottish Government is doing to improve the general wellbeing of adults. (S5F-03473)

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** We welcome the publication of the "Hard Edges Scotland" study, which is an important contribution to understanding how we can better support those with complex needs and who face severe and multiple disadvantage. The study adds further support for the Scottish Government's preventative approach, which aims to ensure that services reach people earlier to better address mental ill health, substance use, homelessness or issues in life after prison. Our recent mental health, alcohol and drug and homelessness strategies, as well as our focus on adverse childhood experiences and child poverty, show how we are putting adults' and children's general wellbeing at the centre of our work. The voice of lived experience is a key part of the study, and public services need to put that experience at the centre of their collective response.

**Stuart McMillan:** The First Minister will be aware of the challenges in my constituency regarding poverty and drug use. The report notes that, although many people face multiple problems, services are often set up to address single issues. Does the First Minister agree that we should look to strengthen services such as I:DEAS—Inverclyde delivering effective advice and support—in my constituency, which has a person-centred and cross-agency approach, in order to help adults with the support that they require, and that that will become even more important if a no-deal Brexit hits the economy and the cost of living increases?

**The First Minister:** Yes, I very much agree with that. Treatment and support services must address people's wider needs in relation to poor mental health, poverty, isolation, employability and homelessness, and the "Hard Edges" study confirms that. We are absolutely committed to tackling poverty in Scotland. In 2019-20, we will continue to invest more than £125 million to

mitigate the worst impacts of welfare cuts and to support those on low incomes. Yesterday, we laid our first annual progress report on child poverty, which sets out the steps that we have taken and the further steps that we will take.

Stuart McMillan is absolutely right that the prospect of Brexit, and in particular the potential for a no-deal Brexit, exacerbates all those issues. That is why it is beyond my comprehension that the contenders for the Tory leadership are prepared to contemplate that catastrophic outcome, which shows just how out of touch the Tories are with opinion in Scotland, on that issue and on so much else.

### Childhood Vaccination Programmes

**6. Brian Whittle (South Scotland) (Con):** To ask the First Minister what action the Scottish Government is taking to ensure that parents have access to clear and accurate information about childhood vaccination programmes. (S5F-03484)

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** It is very important that clear and accurate information is made available to those consenting to vaccinations, either for themselves or on behalf of a child. NHS Scotland provides a wide range of information on vaccinations on its websites. Parents and carers are provided with an information pack ahead of scheduled vaccination sessions to ensure that they have access to the information that they need. In Scotland, uptake of the first dose of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine in children up to age five has remained above the 95 per cent target since 2009. However, we are not complacent and we will continue to make every effort to promote and encourage childhood vaccinations.

**Brian Whittle:** Research suggests that levels of vaccination tend to be lower among people from less affluent rural areas. NHS Scotland's vaccination transformation programme identifies a number of possible interventions to address that, including providing greater access to vaccinations in a non-clinical setting. Can the First Minister confirm whether the Scottish Government supports that approach and can she say how the Government will support its implementation?

**The First Minister:** We support making sure that access is as easy as possible, particularly for those in deprived communities. In fact, our whole health service strategy is about making sure that there is good access to health services for those who live in our poorer communities and in rural communities. That is certainly the case with vaccinations. It is important to stress, as I did a moment ago, that childhood immunisation rates across Scotland remain very high, and we want them to stay that way. We will continue to look at the information that we give and the practical



arrangements that we can put in place to ensure that the rates remain at that high level and, indeed, get higher in future.

### **Budget 2018-19 (Underspend)**

**7. James Kelly (Glasgow) (Lab):** To ask the First Minister for what reason the 2018-19 Scottish budget was underspent by £449 million. (S5F-03474)

**The First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon):** The finance secretary provided a full statement and a detailed briefing paper to members on 20 June that explained the 2018-19 provisional outturn position. Under the current devolution settlement, the Scottish Parliament is not permitted to overspend its budget and I do not think that it takes too much consideration to understand why we need to plan carefully to make sure that we do not do so.

The underspend, which is part of careful management, represents a tiny fraction of our overall budget and it is carried forward in full through the Scottish reserve, with most of it supporting the 2019-20 Scottish budget. The position also enables us to increase our reserves to ensure that we can respond to future challenges, such as Brexit, and of course every single penny of any underspend is used to support public services in Scotland.

I have to point out that that position is in stark contrast to that of the Labour-led Scottish Executive, which between 1999 and 2007 returned a total of £1.5 billion to the United Kingdom Treasury because it could not work out how to spend it.

**James Kelly:** Last week, the First Minister told Parliament that every penny in the Scottish budget was accounted for. What she did not—*[Interruption.]* What she did not tell us, and what we know now, is that nearly £0.5 billion was being kept back in a Scottish Government slush fund.

I agreed with Nicola Sturgeon previously—*[Interruption.]*

**The Presiding Officer:** Order, please.

**James Kelly:** I agreed with Nicola Sturgeon previously when she said that the Tory two-child benefit cap is abhorrent. Therefore, why did the Government not allocate £69 million in the 2019-20 budget from the £449 million underspend to cancel out that horrendous Tory policy?

**The First Minister:** I am really sorry to say this, but I actually feel quite embarrassed for James Kelly right now. After so many years in the Parliament, that he does not have even a basic grasp of the basic principles of government and budgeting is really quite staggering.

Let me try to explain it simply to James Kelly. Every penny of the underspend, as he describes it, that can be allocated is already allocated in the Scottish budget for this year and not a penny of it goes back to the Treasury. Yes, we put some of it into reserves—I think that doing so is common sense. What if we have a major flooding incident or have to respond to Brexit, as we will undoubtedly have to do? It is commonsense budgeting.

I will leave James Kelly with two final things to ponder over the summer recess. I have already mentioned the first thing—the £1.5 billion that the last Labour Government gave back to the Treasury. The second is this fact: the total cash underspend that was reported this week is 0.9 per cent of our budget. That compares to 1.1 per cent in the previous year, so it has gone down. By comparison, in the same year in which the underspend here was 1.1 per cent, the Labour Party in Wales had an underspend of 2.1 per cent. Like us, it knows that it has to budget sensibly.

All James Kelly has done today is demonstrate why fewer and fewer people in Scotland ever want to see the Labour Party sitting on the Government benches.

**Murdo Fraser (Mid Scotland and Fife) (Con):** As well as a £449 million underspend, according to the Scottish Fiscal Commission, the Scottish Government has a looming £1 billion black hole in its budget. Yesterday, the Fraser of Allander institute told us that the Scottish Government's £500 million tax raid on hard-working Scottish families will not deliver one extra penny for Scottish public services, because all that money disappears into the black hole.

The finance secretary does not have a clue what to do about the problem. Does the First Minister?

**The First Minister:** I know that we are about to break for the summer recess, but when I get James Kelly followed by Murdo Fraser, it feels more like Christmas than summer. What a tremendous way to end the year.

There is no black hole in the Scottish budget, as anybody who understands the figures and what the Scottish Fiscal Commission actually said would know. However, let me tell the chamber what would put a black hole in the Scottish budget: Tory tax cuts for the richest in our society, costing £550 million. That is what would put a black hole in the Scottish budget, which is why fewer and fewer people in Scotland want to see the Tories sitting on the Government benches.

**The Presiding Officer:** That concludes First Minister's question time. There are no questions to be put as a result of today's business. I will see you all on Saturday—enjoy the recess.

*Meeting closed at 13:46.*

This is the final edition of the *Official Report* for this meeting. It is part of the Scottish Parliament *Official Report* archive and has been sent for legal deposit.

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Published in Edinburgh by the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body, the Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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