



House of Commons

Questions for Oral or Written Answer beginning on Wednesday 4th February 2004 (the 'Questions Book')

Part 1: Written Questions for Answer on Wednesday 4th February 2004

This paper contains only Written Questions for answer on the date of issue of this paper of which previous notice has been given in the Notices of Questions paper.

For other Written Questions for answer on the date of issue of this paper of which no previous notice has been given, see the Order Paper.

For Written and Oral Questions for answer after the date of issue of this paper see Part 2 of this Paper.

WEDNESDAY 4th FEBRUARY

- 1 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what plans he has for the training of personnel in multi-agency roles in civil contingency. (153039)
- 2 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how he intends to ensure that there will be a common training programme for those involved in contingency planning at regional and national level. (153040)
- 3 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how he intends to ensure that those responsible for competence and continuity in regional and national contingency planning fully discharge their responsibilities to the public. (153041)
- 4 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many Government Departments are involved in civil contingency co-ordination at (a) national and (b) regional level. (153042)
- 5 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, if he will take steps to give one co-ordinating body full responsibility for civil contingencies covering all multi-agency aspects. (153043)
- 6 **Mr Tony Banks** (West Ham): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the combined weight of ivory and ivory products seized by HM Customs and Excise was in each of the last five years. (153057)
- 7 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many (a) successful and (b) unsuccessful prosecutions there were for evading duty on spirits in 2001-02. (152946)

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- 8 **Julia Drown** (South Swindon): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what contribution the UK will make to the International Finance Facility to 2015; and what proportion of projected GDP this represents. (152921)
- 9 **Mr Peter Lilley** (Hitchin & Harpenden): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what allowance is made in the Government Actuary's projection of future immigration for (a) the number of people whose claims for asylum are rejected who remain in this country, (b) the number of people who overstay their visas and (c) the ending of visa restrictions for inhabitants of new member states of the EU. (152857)
- 10 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many people were economically inactive and what the economic inactivity rate was for each quarter since Quarter 1 1997, broken down by (a) qualification level, (b) income bracket, (c) former profession where applicable, (d) age group and (e) sex, in each (i) constituency and (ii) region. (152932)
- 11 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what (a) benefits and (b) tax credits are available to people who are economically inactive. (152933)
- 12 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the cost was of (a) benefits and (b) tax credits paid to people who were economically inactive in each year since 1997. (152934)
- 13 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent estimate he has made of the total cost to the economy of economic inactivity. (152935)
- 14 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, if he will make a statement on the major causes of economic inactivity. (152936)
- 15 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what assessment he has made of (a) educational attainment, (b) skills gaps and (c) language barriers as causes of economic inactivity. (152937)
- 16 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, what the net cash requirement for Request for Resources 1: Provision for Defence Capability is for financial years 2001-02 to 2002-03; and what the planned net cash requirement is for financial years 2003-04 to 2005-06. (153023)
- 17 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, if he will list all ministerial directions since financial year 1997-98. (153029)
- 18 **Miss Anne McIntosh** (Vale of York): To ask the honourable Member for Middlesbrough, representing the Church Commissioners, whether a Church of England cathedral entering into bankruptcy can reclaim VAT paid on church repairs. (152995)

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- 19 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, whether problems at the Laganside courts complex in Belfast with (a) water ingress and (b) sight lines for juries have been resolved; and what (i) abatements and (ii) financial settlements have been applied. (152909)
- 20 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, whether the public sector comparator for the Laganside courts Private Finance Initiative scheme in Belfast has been revised following the disposal of the Crumlin Road courthouse. (152910)
- 21 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, what monthly payments have been made to date to Consul Services Ltd for the Laganside courts Private Finance Initiative scheme; what abatements have been applied; and what the reasons were for each abatement. (152911)
- 22 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, how many major water leaks have occurred at the Laganside courts complex in Belfast. (152912)
- 23 **Mr Dominic Grieve** (Beaconsfield): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, whether it is possible in a crown court trial involving national security for (a) a jury to be vetted prior to being empanelled and (b) part or all of the trial to be held in camera. (153026)
- 24 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, when Sir Hayden Phillips started his review of the honours system; what the remit is of his review; when he is due to finish it; and if he will make a statement. (152962)
- 25 **Mr A.J. Beith** (Berwick-upon-Tweed): To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what discussions she has had with One North-East about its responsibilities in relation to tourism. (152488)
- 26 **Mr Tim Boswell** (Daventry): To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what arrangements she has put in place for (a) monitoring and (b) reducing the administrative costs of communications regulation through (i) the running costs of Ofcom and (ii) the compliance costs of business. (153035)
- 27 **Mr Tim Boswell** (Daventry): To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what recent representations she has received from motorsport interests in connection with the cessation of tobacco advertising. (153036)
- 28 **Mr David Heathcoat-Amory** (Wells): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he will publish regulations governing the disposal of surplus military equipment. (153004)
- 29 **Mr David Heathcoat-Amory** (Wells): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether surplus military equipment with a security classification of restricted and above is disposed of by sale or auction; and what safeguards are applied. (153005)

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- 30 **Mr David Heathcoat-Amory** (Wells): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what safeguards there are on the end use of surplus military equipment disposed of by sale or auction. (153006)
- 31 **Mr David Heathcoat-Amory** (Wells): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what (a) ships, (b) aircraft and (c) military vehicles have been disposed of by (i) sale and (ii) auction in the past six years. (153007)
- 32 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what (a) quantity and (b) type of radar equipment is deployed for British troops to use in Afghanistan. (153037)
- 33 **Patrick Mercer** (Newark): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what (a) quantity and (b) type of observation equipment is deployed for British troops to use in Afghanistan. (153038)
- 34 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many FV432 series vehicles were deployed to the Gulf during Operation Telic. (153000)
- 35 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the planned funding is in cash terms for his Department's executive agencies for financial years 2003-04 to 2006-07. (153022)
- 36 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the planned funding in cash terms is for each of his Department's management groups for financial years 2003-04 to 2006-07. (153024)
- 37 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the dates of publication of (a) the annual report and accounts and (b) the corporate plan for his Department's executive agencies were in each year since financial year 1997-98. (153028)
- 38 **Mr Nicholas Soames** (Mid Sussex): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, if he will place in the Library a copy of his Department's Equipment Programme. (153032)
- 39 **Mr Hugo Swire** (East Devon): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many commanding officers have been instructed to offer soldiers due to leave in September the opportunity to leave the Army up to nine months early. (153070)
- 40 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, on what dates since 1st January 2002 Sir Kevin Tebbit held meetings with Mr Earl Anthony Wayne, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs of the United States State Department; and where each meeting took place. (152963)
- 41 **Tom Cox** (Tooting): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what discussions took place with representatives of housing associations in the London Borough of Wandsworth on the decision by the Housing Corporation to reduce the number of housing associations that receive development funding. (152975)

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- 42 **Tom Cox** (Tooting): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, how many housing associations within the Greater London area will cease to receive development funding from the Housing Corporation in 2004. (152976)
- 43 **Tom Cox** (Tooting): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, how many properties have been provided in (a) the Greater London area and (b) the London Borough of Wandsworth in each of the last five years by the Housing Corporation in its London approved development programme. (152977)
- 44 **Tom Cox** (Tooting): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what the purpose is of merging housing associations within the Greater London area. (152978)
- 45 **Ross Cranston** (Dudley North): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what his policy is on the control of light pollution. (152983)
- 46 **Mr Edward Davey** (Kingston & Surbiton): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, if he will list projects funded by (a) Community Cohesion pathfinders, (b) Community Chest, (c) the Community Empowerment Fund and (d) the Community Champions Fund in each year from 2001-02 to 2005-06; what the budget was for each project in each year; how much funding his Department provided for each project in each year; and in which Government office of the region each project is located. (152914)
- 47 **Mr Edward Davey** (Kingston & Surbiton): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, if he will make a statement on the work of the Active Community Unit; and what its budget is for each financial year from 2001-02 to 2005-06. (152915)
- 48 **Mr Edward Davey** (Kingston & Surbiton): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what progress has been made on bringing together in a single community programme the (a) Community Cohesion pathfinders, (b) Community Chest, (c) Community Empowerment Fund and (d) Community Champions Fund; and if he will make a statement. (152916)
- 49 **Mr Edward Davey** (Kingston & Surbiton): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what the budget was for each of the New Deal partnerships in each financial year since 1998-99; and what the allocated budget is for the next five financial years. (152917)
- 50 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, if he will publish the results of the annual return supplied by local authorities on homeless applications by lone-parent females. (153106)
- 51 **Mr Richard Spring** (West Suffolk): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, if he will provide further funding for debt-free local authorities which did not receive transitional Local Authority Social Housing Grant funding. (153025)
- 52 **Mr Hugo Swire** (East Devon): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, how many representations he has received from Devon constituents in support of plans for an elected regional assembly for the South West. (153075)

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- 53 **Mr Graham Allen** (Nottingham North): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, which education authority is regarded by his Department as having the greatest need for renewal of school buildings. (152953)
- 54 **Mr Graham Allen** (Nottingham North): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what advice his Department gave to the City of Nottingham on its bid under the Building Schools for the Future programme; and if he will make a statement on the quality of the bid. (152954)
- 55 **Mr Graham Allen** (Nottingham North): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what contribution has been made by (a) further education colleges in the Nottingham area and (b) the Nottingham Learning and Skills Council to the improvement of staying-on rates at schools in Nottingham North since 1997. (152955)
- 56 **Michael Fabricant** (Lichfield): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, whether the plans for a criminal justice skills council include computer forensic and security skills; and if he will make a statement. (152990)
- 57 **Chris Grayling** (Epsom & Ewell): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what amount of Access Premium has been allocated to each higher education institution. (153064)
- 58 **Chris Grayling** (Epsom & Ewell): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, whether the Government is required to provide identical funding to UK students and students from other EU countries choosing to study in the UK under all circumstances. (153065)
- 59 **Chris Grayling** (Epsom & Ewell): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, if he will list proposals in the Higher Education White Paper which have subsequently been dropped by the Government. (153066)
- 60 **Chris Grayling** (Epsom & Ewell): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, whether it is his policy that Government funding for increases in the number of students in higher education should be directed at the provision of foundation degree places rather than full honours degrees. (153067)
- 61 **Chris Grayling** (Epsom & Ewell): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, if he will make a statement on the £30 million budget set aside for further education student incentives. (153068)
- 62 **Chris Grayling** (Epsom & Ewell): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what amount has been set aside for centres for excellence in learning and teaching. (153069)
- 63 **Charles Hendry** (Wealden): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what sanctions have been imposed by the Connexions Service against personal advisers describing themselves as careers advisers; and if he will make a statement. (153059)

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- 64 **Tim Loughton** (East Worthing & Shoreham): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what assessment he has made of whether a legal presumption of contact as a principle to the consideration of contact and residence disputes would generally be in the best interests of the child. (152997)
- 65 **Tim Loughton** (East Worthing & Shoreham): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what assessment he has made of whether a legal presumption of contact would contradict the best interest principle of the Children Act 1989. (152998)
- 66 **Tim Loughton** (East Worthing & Shoreham): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, on what research his decision that it is in the best interests of children to be brought up by both parents was based. (152999)
- 67 **David Taylor** (North West Leicestershire): To ask the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, what recent discussions he has had about the provision of children's social services in England. (152939)
- 68 **Mr Peter Ainsworth** (East Surrey): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what recent assessment she has made of the impact of coastal erosion on the safety of coastally-sited nuclear power stations; and if she will make a statement on the (a) cost and (b) effectiveness of measures being taken in relation to this issue. (152970)
- 69 **Mr Peter Ainsworth** (East Surrey): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, how many tons of radioactive waste were shipped to the United Kingdom for storage in each year since 1997; and what the projected figures are for each of the next four years. (152984)
- 70 **John Barrett** (Edinburgh West): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what discussions she has had with other members of the European Union regarding the ivory trade in advance of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in March. (152986)
- 71 **John Barrett** (Edinburgh West): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps she will take at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species to prevent an expansion in the ivory trade; and if she will make a statement. (152987)
- 72 **Andrew George** (St Ives): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, how many (a) EU, (b) UK and (c) French fisheries observers have spent research time on board (i) industrial trawlers, (ii) bass pair trawlers and (iii) other pelagic trawl fisheries vessels operating in areas (A) VII and (B) VIII in each of the last five years; and if she will make a statement. (152856)
- 73 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what recent research has been carried out (a) by and (b) for her Department on the levels of persistent and bio-accumulative chemicals in the food chain and environment in the Thames Estuary. (153111)

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- 74 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what tests are carried out and with what regularity for the accumulation of toxic chemicals in (a) fresh water fish, (b) saltwater fish and (c) shellfish landed in England. (153112)
- 75 **Malcolm Bruce** (Gordon): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how much his Department spent on (a) advertising and publicity and (b) information campaigns in 2001-02. (152980)
- 76 **Michael Fabricant** (Lichfield): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what reports he has received on the number of (a) injuries and (b) deaths which occurred amongst the population of Shahr-e Babak in the southern province of Kerman in Iran in January as a result of police and military action; and if he will make a statement. (152924)
- 77 **Mr David Heathcoat-Amory** (Wells): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, which EU member states have agreed to unrestricted admission of workers from the newly joining states from May. (153003)
- 78 **Norman Lamb** (North Norfolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, for what reason elements of the PhD thesis by Dr Ibrahim al Marashi were incorporated into the Government's second dossier on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction; and if he will make a statement. (153061)
- 79 **Norman Lamb** (North Norfolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, for what reason elements of the PhD thesis by Dr Ibrahim al Marashi were altered before incorporation into the Government's second dossier on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction; who authorised these alterations; and if he will make a statement. (153062)
- 80 **Norman Lamb** (North Norfolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who authorised the use of parts of the PhD thesis by Dr Ibrahim al Marashi in the Government's second dossier on Iraqi weapons of mass destruction; when the decision to do so was taken; and if he will make a statement. (153063)
- 81 **Miss Anne McIntosh** (Vale of York): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, pursuant to his Answer of 27th January, Official Report, column 148, if the Government will introduce a seven-year transition period for the free movement of workers from countries joining the EU on 1st May. (152968)
- 82 **Llew Smith** (Blaenau Gwent): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, how many technically trained Arabic speakers are members of the Iraq Survey Group; how many of the Arabic speakers are from the United Kingdom; and what estimate he has made of how long it will take to translate each of the documents obtained by the ISG on Iraq's military programmes that are deemed relevant to weapons of mass destruction. (153058)

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- 83 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, if he will make it his policy to support the highest possible level of Kurdish independence and self-determination within a federal administration for Iraq. (153118)
- 84 **Mr Hugo Swire** (East Devon): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what recent representations he has made to North Korea about human rights. (153071)
- 85 **Mr Hugo Swire** (East Devon): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what plans he has to visit North Korea. (153072)
- 86 **Mr Simon Burns** (West Chelmsford): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if **N** he will list health statistics which are collected by ethnic minority grouping. (151908)
- 87 **Mr Simon Burns** (West Chelmsford): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, **N** which NHS statistics are collected specifically by age groupings including the (a) over 75s and (b) over 60s. (151909)
- 88 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, **N** how many (a) delayed transfers of care and (b) emergency readmissions within 28 days of discharge there were in each quarter of 2003-04, for (i) each NHS region, (ii) each strategic health authority, (iii) each NHS trust and (iv) England, broken down by (A) age and (B) in the case of (a) the reason for delay. (152848)
- 89 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether his estimates of the cost of implementing the Royal Commission recommendation of free personal care took into account the (a) decision of the Health Service Ombudsman in the case of Mr Malcolm Pointon and (b) subsequent review by strategic health authorities of continuing care decisions and policies following the decision by the Health Service Ombudsman. (152913)
- 90 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, for what reasons NHS Professionals does not use agency staff supplied to it through arrangements with private agencies who have previously registered with NHS Professionals; and what estimate NHS Professionals has made of the number of staff who have been declined in this way. (152991)
- 91 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether NHS Professionals accepts NHS staff with work permits to work as agency staff. (152992)
- 92 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what estimate NHS Professionals has made of the unit cost of an agency placement. (152993)
- 93 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will estimate the number of overseas staff working in the NHS. (153103)

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- 94 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will place in the Library a copy of the analysis of the National Patient Cancer Survey commissioned by his Department. (153107)
- 95 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if he will publish the evaluation undertaken so far by his Department into the pilot trials of Agenda for Change. (153109)
- 96 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many general practitioners recruited through flexible career schemes were working as locums in the NHS before joining the scheme. (153110)
- 97 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, which conclusions and recommendations in the report *Securing our Future Health: Taking a Long-Term View*, by Mr Derek Wanless, his Department does not accept. (153113)
- 98 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what his Department's strategy is for reducing (a) salt levels in food and (b) the prevalence of people having excess salt in their diet. (153116)
- 99 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what his Department's strategy is for reducing (a) sugar levels in food and (b) the prevalence of people having excess sugar in their diet. (153117)
- 100 **Jim Dobbin** (Heywood & Middleton): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, when he will launch the modernisation programmes he announced to support the implementation and delivery of the first part of the Renal Services National Service Framework; whether the programmes will take account of the views of all stakeholders involved in the renal field; whether his Department will be running implementation workshops for primary care trusts; and whether the programmes will be designed to help primary care trusts to meet the standards that need to be met by (a) 2006 and (b) 2014. (152965)
- 101 **Mr Frank Dobson** (Holborn & St Pancras): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what guidance has been issued to applicant NHS foundation trusts on who should be installed on the electoral register for the board of governors; and when it was issued. (153001)
- 102 **Mr Frank Dobson** (Holborn & St Pancras): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, whether political parties will be permitted to contest elections to the board of governors of NHS foundation trusts. (153002)
- 103 **Sue Doughty** (Guildford): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many secure beds are available in each mental health trust. (152918)
- 104 **Sue Doughty** (Guildford): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what assessment he (a) has made and (b) will undertake of the support needs of families of sufferers of mental ill health. (152919)

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- 105 **Sue Doughty** (Guildford): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what the occupancy rates of beds in secure mental health institutions were in each mental health trust area in England in each of the last three years. (152942)
- 106 **Mr Nigel Jones** (Cheltenham): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many people have been accepted as sperm donors in each of the last 10 years; what assessment his Department has made of the effect of the removal of the right to anonymity on the numbers of people coming forward as sperm donors; and what plans his Department has to assess the impact of a change in the number of sperm donors on childless couples. (152925)
- 107 **Tim Loughton** (East Worthing & Shoreham): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what percentage of children did not receive any of the standard childhood immunisations in 2003. (152996)
- 108 **Mrs Iris Robinson** (Strangford): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, how many people have required surgery for the treatment of (a) gall-stones and (b) kidney-stones in each of the past five years. (152923)
- 109 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what research has been conducted by his Department into the accumulation of toxic chemicals in humans. (153080)
- 110 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Health, if, following the Ombudsman's ruling in the case against Cambridgeshire Health Authority on the funding of Alzheimer's sufferers, he will give guidance that primary care trusts should take into account the psychological needs of people suffering from dementia and residing in residential homes in making NHS assessments. (153101)
- 111 **Mr Paul Burstow** (Sutton & Cheam): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, for what reasons nurses working in the UK with a work permit are barred from registering with a nursing agency. (153102)
- 112 **Sue Doughty** (Guildford): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Prison Service takes to obtain medical records about a prisoner's mental health from clinicians who have provided treatment prior to imprisonment. (152920)
- 113 **Sue Doughty** (Guildford): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent estimate he has made of the (a) total prison population, (b) number of prisoners on remand and (c) number in each case suffering from severe or acute mental illness. (152943)
- 114 **Mr Huw Edwards** (Monmouth): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make a statement on the benefits to Gwent Police of the Tetra communication system. (153031)

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- 115 **Andrew George** (St Ives): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to his Answer of 28th January, Official Report, column 444W, on pesticides, what assessment he has made of the potential for terrorist use of (a) unrestricted chemicals, (b) unrestricted pesticides, (c) restricted but commercially available chemicals and (d) restricted but commercially available pesticides. (152858)
- 116 **Andrew George** (St Ives): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to his Answer of 28th January, Official Report, column 444W, on pesticides, what discussions he has had regarding the misuse of pesticides containing aldicarb with (a) the Pesticides Safety Directorate, (b) the Health and Safety Executive and (c) the Health Protection Agency. (152859)
- 117 **Mr Mike Hancock** (Portsmouth South): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how he will ensure that links with criminal justice boards, crime reduction partnerships and multi-agency public protection panel arrangements are retained under the arrangements for the National Offender Management Service. (151622)
- 118 **Mr Mike Hancock** (Portsmouth South): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what lines of accountability will lie between local offender managers and regional offender managers under the arrangements for the National Offender Management Service. (151623)
- 119 **Mr Mike Hancock** (Portsmouth South): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether human resource and finance facilities for probation areas will be provided at regional level under the arrangements for the National Offender Management Service. (152204)
- 120 **Charles Hendry** (Wealden): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which police authorities have appointed schools liaison officers. (153060)
- 121 **Simon Hughes** (North Southwark & Bermondsey): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many special constables there were in each London Borough on 1st January of each of the last six years. (153076)
- 122 **Mr Nigel Jones** (Cheltenham): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many stop and search warrants were made by police under the Terrorism Act 2000 in Gloucestershire in 2003, and how many of these resulted in (a) subsequent court action and (b) conviction. (152979)
- 123 **Mr Peter Lilley** (Hitchin & Harpenden): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who originally entered the UK illegally in 2002 and previous years were (a) granted asylum, (b) granted exceptional leave to remain and (c) removed in 2002. (152861)
- 124 **Mr Peter Lilley** (Hitchin & Harpenden): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people were detected trying to enter the UK illegally in 2002; how many of them subsequently claimed asylum; how many were returned before claiming asylum; and how many were removed after their asylum claim was rejected. (152862)

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- 125 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will publish a code of practice for police operations in respect of recent anti-social behaviour legislation. (153077)
- 126 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what tests he will use to determine whether immigrants from Eastern European countries are eligible for immediate access to (a) benefits, (b) NHS treatment and (c) education following accession to the EU in May. (153095)
- 127 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what research he has based his estimates of the likely levels of immigration from Eastern European countries after accession to the EU in May. (153096)
- 128 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what restrictions he plans to introduce to prevent unwanted mass immigration after accession of Eastern European countries to the EU in May. (153097)
- 129 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will bring forward legislation on the (a) sale, (b) promotion and (c) dissemination of (i) equipment and (ii) instructions for the re-conversion of guns that have previously been deactivated. (153098)
- 130 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what research has been conducted into links between (a) legal immigration, (b) illegal immigration and (c) failed asylum bids and levels of (i) violent crime, (ii) property crime and (iii) car crime. (153099)
- 131 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what plans he has to amend legislation relating to the (a) sale and (b) ownership of deactivated guns. (153100)
- 132 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which bodies will be consulted specifically on curfew orders and supervision orders under the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003. (153104)
- 133 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when he expects to (a) revise and (b) reissue guidance on reporting restrictions in the magistrates' court. (153105)
- 134 **Mr Bill Wiggin** (Leominster): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will retain the Firearms Consultative Committee until the end of the consultation period. [R](153044)
- 135 **Keith Vaz** (Leicester East): To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what support the Government gives India to combat tuberculosis. (152973)

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- 136 **Keith Vaz** (Leicester East): To ask the Secretary of State for International Development, what proportion of UK overseas aid in 2003-04 goes towards combating tuberculosis. (152974)
- 137 **Mr Jeffrey M. Donaldson** (Lagan Valley): To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, what the tolerance levels permitted by the Police Service of Northern Ireland are for motorists exceeding the speed limit and who have been detected using (a) fixed cameras, (b) mobile cameras and (c) other detection devices; and how long these tolerance levels have been in force. (152847)
- 138 **Mrs Iris Robinson** (Strangford): To ask the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, how many people in Northern Ireland have required surgery for the treatment of (a) gall-stones and (b) kidney-stones, in each of the past five years. (152922)
- 139 **Mr Peter Ainsworth** (East Surrey): To ask the Prime Minister, what recent discussions he has had with (a) the President of the United States and (b) others regarding the protection of the Antarctic from physical exploitation; and if he will make a statement. (152969)
- 140 **Mr Peter Ainsworth** (East Surrey): To ask the Prime Minister, what (a) discussions and (b) correspondence he has had with the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs regarding the periodic review of water pricing, with particular reference to the cost of environmental measures. (152971)
- 141 **Glenda Jackson** (Hampstead & Highgate): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will place in the Library the complete report of the Iraq Survey Group. (153081)
- 142 **Glenda Jackson** (Hampstead & Highgate): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will take steps to establish a cross-party joint committee of both Houses to inquire into the foreign and domestic intelligence regarding Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. (153082)
- 143 **Glenda Jackson** (Hampstead & Highgate): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will establish an independent inquiry into the foreign and domestic intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. (153083)
- 144 **Miss Anne McIntosh** (Vale of York): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will place in the Library correspondence from (a) himself and (b) other members of his office to the BBC relating to (i) the conduct of the war in Iraq and (ii) interviews with Dr Kelly by BBC reporters. (152967)
- 145 **Mr Michael Meacher** (Oldham West & Royton): To ask the Prime Minister, with reference to the information received on 29th August 2002 that some of Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction could be deployed within 45 minutes of an order to use them, on what date he published the information that this referred to battlefield weapons. (153009)
- 146 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Prime Minister, what plans he has to change the 30-year restriction on the disclosure of Cabinet papers; and if he will make a statement. (152956)

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- 147 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Prime Minister, what steps he is taking to improve transparency surrounding the honours system. (152957)
- 148 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will list the gifts received by Ministers between January 1998 and June 2001 in accordance with the recommendation by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration in her report of 7th July 2003. (152958)
- 149 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Prime Minister, what action he is taking to ensure that civil servants take full and adequate minutes of meetings involving himself. (152959)
- 150 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Prime Minister, if he will implement recommendation 8.1 of the Independent Review of Government Communications, on the use by Ministers of the right of veto with regard to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. (152960)
- 151 **Keith Vaz** (Leicester East): To ask the Prime Minister, when he next plans to make an official visit to (a) Denmark and (b) Sweden. (152972)
- 152 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Scotland, when he will reply to the question tabled by the honourable Member for Orkney and Shetland for Answer on 22nd January, on the Scottish whisky industry. (152947)
- 153 **Malcolm Bruce** (Gordon): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, if she will make a statement on the Government's support for the Internet Shopping Is Safe campaign; and what assessment she has made of the campaign's contribution to consumer confidence in e-commerce. (152944)
- 154 **Michael Fabricant** (Lichfield): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, what the (a) funding arrangements for and (b) objectives of broadband regional aggregation boards will be. (152988)
- 155 **Michael Fabricant** (Lichfield): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, whether broadband regional aggregation boards are permitted to apply a levy on existing services included in their activities. (152989)
- 156 **Norman Lamb** (North Norfolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, how many employment agencies have (a) been (i) prosecuted and (ii) fined for offences relating to the exploitation of migrant workers under the Employment Agencies Act 1973 and (b) had allegations against them regarding the exploitation of migrant workers investigated by her Department's Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate in each of the last five years; how many persons have been banned from being associated with operating an employment agency or employment business after being prosecuted in relation to the exploitation of migrant workers in each of the last five years; and if she will make a statement. (153008)
- 157 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, what recent representations she has received on proposed EU regulation of chemicals. (153078)

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- 158 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, if she will list the top five clients companies, by value, of the Export Credits Guarantee Department for each of the last five years. (152981)
- 159 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, pursuant to her Answer of 9th December 2003, Official Report, column 454W, on the US-UK Energy Dialogue, on what dates the Commercial Working Group of the Dialogue has held meetings since March 2003; and where each of these meetings was held. (152982)
- 160 **Mr Bill Wiggin** (Leominster): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, what powers she has to delay the proposed closure of a post office. (153027)
- 161 **Mr Bill Wiggin** (Leominster): To ask the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, what recourse is available to users where the Post Office has acted improperly in a proposed closure. (153030)
- 162 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what plans his Department has to widen the training requirement for entry into the tonnage tax scheme to include a requirement for the employment of British officers. (152945)
- 163 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, how many sea cadet training posts have been funded by the Government in each of the last six years. (152948)
- 164 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, how much the Government has spent on seafarer training in each of the last six years. (152949)
- 165 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, when the Government plans to extend the Freight Facilities Grant scheme to include coastal and short-sea shipping. (152950)
- 166 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, when his Department will revise the Crew Relief Costs scheme eligibility criteria to align them with shipping policy objectives to support the UK register and British seafarers employed in the short-sea sector as set out in the shipping strategy paper, *British Shipping: Charting a New Course*, published in December 1998. (152951)
- 167 **Mr Alistair Carmichael** (Orkney & Shetland): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what plans his Department has to carry out an assessment of the progress made in implementing the shipping strategy paper, *British Shipping: Charting a New Course*, published in December 1998. (152952)
- 168 **Mr Ben Chapman** (Wirral South): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what plans he has to conduct research into air traffic control delays at Heathrow Airport. (152985)

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- 169 **John McDonnell** (Hayes & Harlington): To ask the Secretary of State for
 N Transport, what the total level of investment provided by the private sector in
 the railway industry was in each of the financial years since the publication of the
 Ten Year Plan. (152444)
- 170 **John McDonnell** (Hayes & Harlington): To ask the Secretary of State for
 N Transport, if he will list the railway investment projects supported by the private
 sector in the last financial year; what the total level of funding provided by the
 private sector for these projects was (a) in the last financial year and (b) in total
 since the projects began; and what the private sector proportion of total funding
 for these projects was. (152445)
- 171 **Mr Michael Meacher** (Oldham West & Royton): To ask the Secretary of State for
 N Transport, what evidence he has collated on the effect of airport expansion on
 foreign direct investment. (152846)
- 172 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what
 proportion of train rolling stock leasing expenditure goes to profit. (153114)
- 173 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what the
 average number of miles to major overhaul was for each category of train rolling
 stock in (a) 1997 and (b) 2002. (153115)
- 174 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what steps
 he is taking to satisfy himself that train rolling stock is receiving timely and
 appropriate heavy preventative maintenance and major overhaul. (153119)
- 175 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what
 representations he has received on (a) financing methods for and (b) the cost of
 new train rolling stock. (153120)
- 176 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what
 changes he plans to the supervision of the train rolling stock leasing market.
 (153121)
- 177 **Matthew Taylor** (Truro & St Austell): To ask the Secretary of State for
 Transport, on what dates Ministers in his Department have held meetings with
 members and officials of the United States Administration since 1st January 2003;
 where each meeting was held; which Ministers were involved in each meeting;
 which United States Administration department attended each meeting; and
 which members and officials from the United States Administration attended each
 of these meetings. (152961)
- 178 **Steve Webb** (Northavon): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, when he
 N will announce the levels of the rural bus grant to local authorities for 2004-05; and
 if he will enhance those grants to support authorities in securing the continuation
 of community transport schemes whose central Government funding has expired.
 (152860)

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- 179 **Norman Lamb** (North Norfolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what proportion of pensioners entitled to the winter fuel payment in (a) Norfolk and (b) Great Britain had received the payment by (i) 1st January and (ii) 20th January; and if he will make a statement. (153033)
- 180 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what measures are in place to address the causes and effects of economic inactivity; and if he will make a statement. (152938)
- 181 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment he has made of the effects of economic inactivity on the children of economically inactive parents. (152940)
- 182 **Mr George Osborne** (Tatton): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment he has made of the relationship between economic inactivity and social exclusion. (152941)
- 183 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, if he will review all advertisements encouraging retired people to take up their benefit and tax credit rights in order to ensure that they are clear, unambiguous and accurate; and if he will withdraw advertisements that fail in these respects. (153079)
- 184 **Mr Peter Viggers** (Gosport): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what measures are available to the Child Support Agency to enforce payment; and in how many cases these have been invoked in each of the last five years. (153034)
- 185 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he plans to change his estimate of immigration in the (a) short, (b) medium and (c) long terms to take account of likely numbers of immigrants from Eastern European countries which will accede to the EU this year. [*Transferred*] (153094)
- 186 **Miss Anne McIntosh** (Vale of York): To ask the Parliamentary Secretary, Department for Constitutional Affairs, if he will make a statement on the cost of the Hutton Inquiry. [*Transferred*] (152966)
- 187 **Mr Michael Jack** (Fylde): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what steps he is taking to assess the impact on North West house builders of his current housing policy. [*Question Unstarred*] (152481)
- 188 **Bob Spink** (Castle Point): To ask the Deputy Prime Minister, what consultation he has undertaken prior to issuing guidance on the high hedges section of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003. [*Transferred*] (153108)
- 189 **Mr Hugo Swire** (East Devon): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Ministers receive protection from the police; and what the cost to public funds is in this financial year. [*Transferred*] (153073)

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190 **Mr Hugo Swire** (East Devon): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many former Ministers receive protection from the police; and what the cost to public funds was in the last year for which figures are available.

[Transferred] (153074)
