NICCY Summary: Written Assembly Questions weeks ending 18 November 2016

Engaging Communities in tackling paramilitary activity and crime

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| [AQO 577/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl02$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Declan Kearney  (SF - South Antrim) | **To ask the First Minister and deputy First Minister to outline the steps they have taken to engage communities in the design and delivery of the Executive Action Plan for Tackling Paramilitary Activity, Criminality and Organised Crime.**   When we published the Executive’s action plan, we made clear our commitment to work with local communities and to build on the good work we know goes on already. We have made some early allocations of funding to support the work of communities and the Cross-Departmental Programme Board is taking forward a process of co-design with local communities to develop appropriate interventions. |

Assessment of approach to developing PfG

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| [AQO 573/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl04$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Mervyn Storey  (DUP - North Antrim) | **To ask the First Minister and deputy First Minister for their assessment of the outcomes-based approach used in developing the Programme for Government 2016-21.**  We believe the outcomes-based approach the Executive has taken in its Draft Programme for Government gives us the best chance of making a real difference to the quality of people's lives.  On education, on health and on the economy we want to change the way we work so that we are focused on real and meaningful improvements in wellbeing.  The shift to an outcomes-focus has changed the way we plan for the future – with a bigger emphasis on collaboration and shared accountability. The challenge now is to make sure that translates into better services, and better outcomes, on the ground. |

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| [AQW 6340/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl06$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Nichola Mallon  (SDLP - North Belfast) | **To ask the First Minister and deputy First Minister to outline their position on Brexit. [Priority Written]**  We refer the Member to our letter to the Prime Minister of 10th August and our comments following the Joint Ministerial Committee meeting on 24th October, both of which can be found at:  <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/publications/letter-prime-minister-rt-hon-theresa-may-mp>  <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/news/foster-and-mcguinness-comment-following-joint-ministerial-committee-meeting> |

Action plan for tackling paramilitary activity

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| [AQW 6129/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl07$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr David Ford  (APNI - South Antrim) | **To ask the First Minister and deputy First Minister to outline (i) when they expect the Executive to agree a more detailed action plan for tackling paramilitary activity; and (ii) what steps they will take to ensure this action plan meets HM Treasury’s expectations in terms of detail.[Priority Written]**  The implementation plans referenced in the foreword to the Executive Action Plan will be submitted to the Executive for consideration at the appropriate time. The Executive is now focused on getting this important strategy right and will work with communities and statutory organisations to ensure effective implementation plans are developed. We intend to devote sufficient time to get the plans right and to ensure that the funding, which has been secured, is drawn down at the appropriate time and put to best and proper use. |

Purpose of Investigating Links in Achievement and Deprivation report

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| [AQW 5751/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl08$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mrs Sandra Overend  (UUP - Mid Ulster) | **To ask the First Minister and deputy First Minister for an outline of the intended purpose of the Investigating Links in Achievement and Deprivation report.**  The project entitled ‘Understanding differential educational achievement within and between areas of multiple deprivation in NI – a case study approach’ is being carried out by Professor Ruth Leitch, Professor Joanne Hughes, supported by Dr Ian Shuttleworth and Dr Michael Ievers from the Queen’s University, Belfast.  This research aims to understand the reasons for differing educational achievement within and between deprived areas and aims to do this through a case study approach, exploring and understanding the factors behind differential educational achievement.  The research forms part of a programme of independent research commissioned by OFMDFM through an open call in 2011 to inform the policy development process. As such, the views expressed are those of the authors and not OFMDFM/the Executive Office. |

Child Maintenance

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| [AQO 683/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl04$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Gordon Dunne  (DUP - North Down) | **To ask the Minister for Communities to outline the safeguards being put in place to ensure that the income declared by self-employed, non-resident parents is verified fully by the Child Maintenance Service.**  Since the introduction of the new statutory child maintenance scheme all income from earnings is collected directly by an interface with HMRC. Child Maintenance Service no longer has a role in verifying wage details as this will already have been undertaken by HMRC through self assessment. |

Update on provision of advice for Welfare Reform

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| [AQO 680/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl07$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Trevor Lunn  (APNI - Lagan Valley) | **To ask the Minister for Communities for an update on the provision of advice services for Welfare Reform.**  On 27th September I announced £2.5 million funding for the Welfare Reform Advice Services Consortium (Citizens Advice, AdviceNI and the Law Centre NI) to fund:  Nine advisers to operate the Independent Welfare Change Helpline from 1st November 2016 to provide a contact point for anyone needing help or advice regarding any of the welfare changes; and  Thirty five additional advisers across NI to deliver face-to-face assistance.  I also announced £810k of additional funding through local councils to support and prepare existing frontline services in advance of the new services. |

Impact on small rural schools in Providing Pathways Draft Strategy Area Plan

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| [AQO 670/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl02$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mrs Rosemary Barton  (UUP - Fermanagh and South Tyrone) | **To ask the Minister of Education for his assessment of the impact on small rural schools of the Providing Pathways Draft Strategic Area Plan for School Provision 2017-2020.**  I should emphasise that children and young people in rural areas are entitled to a high quality educational experience in sustainable schools that meet their needs and equip them with the knowledge and skills to fulfil their potential.  The focus of the Education Authority’s (EA) draft Area Plan for 2017 to 2020 is high level and strategic and identifies issues to be addressed at a regional and Local Government District level. Following assessment of responses to the public consultation, the EA will present a report on them and the final Area Plan to me. My key objective will be to ensure that the Area Plan has identified the main issues to be addressed to deliver a network of educationally and financially viable schools that will provide a high quality educational experience for all pupils. I expect the planning authorities to address the issues that are having the greatest impact on the educational experience of pupils. The final Area Plan will form the basis for proposals for actions to determine the shape of education provision at a more local level. This way, local communities will be clear on what needs addressed and how the planning authorities propose to respond.  Should a significant change be proposed for a school, a statutory process ensues including the publication of a Development Proposal which will trigger a further (statutory) public objection period in which views and comments may be expressed to my Department and will be considered before I make a final decision. |

Cost savings in EA review of Special Educational Needs nursery provision

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| [AQO 665/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl07$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Mark Durkan  (SDLP - Foyle) | **To ask the Minister of Education to outline the savings achieved by the Education Authority's review of Special Educational Needs nursery provision.**  The Education Authority’s (EA) review of nursery provision in special schools was formally launched on 25 October 2016 and is not yet concluded.  The review is not focused on achieving savings; rather, its aims will be to identify a model of high quality early years’ education for pre-school children who require specialist provision; to provide consistency across all special school early years’ settings; and to provide equal access to targeted support in line with the assessed needs of the child.  Subject to agreement and the outcome of consultation, the EA is working towards commencement of implementation of new arrangements in September 2017, with full implementation by September 2018. |

Action by DE to encourage healthier lifestyles

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| [AQO 663/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl09$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Sammy Douglas MBE, MCA  (DUP - East Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Education to outline the action his Department is taking in schools to encourage healthier lifestyles through exercise, including cycling.**  I fully recognise the importance of encouraging young people to take part in physical activity, not only for the clear health benefits but also for the impact it can have in terms of improving pupils’ concentration levels, raising their self-esteem and confidence, and increasing their motivation to learn.  Physical Education (PE) is a compulsory part of the curriculum for all pupils at every Key Stage from age 4 to 16. There are many opportunities within the curriculum for teachers to discuss and encourage cycling as a healthy and sustainable mode of transport; for example, through The World Around Us at primary level and The Environment and Society at post-primary level. Pupils also have opportunities to explore the benefits of a healthy lifestyle and the importance of being physically active within the Personal Development and Mutual Understanding area of learning at primary level and Learning for Life and Work at post-primary level.  In addition, physical activity is promoted in schools through the Curriculum Sports Programme, which is funded by the Department of Education. This Programme aims to develop the generic physical literacy skills of our youngest pupils through taking part in enjoyable sports activities, and was delivered last year in 486 primary schools, reaching over 37,000 pupils.  Finally, the Cycle Proficiency Scheme, which is delivered by the Road Safety Education Officer Service, is offered to all primary schools throughout Northern Ireland. This falls under the remit of the Department for Infrastructure which is responsible for road safety education. |

Addressing lack of post-primary place in north and west Belfast

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| [AQO 661/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl11$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr William Humphrey  (DUP - North Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Education how he is addressing the lack of post-primary places in north and west Belfast.**  My Department sets the policy and priorities for planning of education provision through the implementation of the “Schools for the Future: A Policy for Sustainable Schools” through the Area Planning Process. It is a matter for the Education Authority working with the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools and other sectoral support bodies to bring forward proposals that meet the needs of children and young people.  The draft strategic Area Plan entitled “Providing Pathways”, published for consultation by the EA on 17 October 2016, identifies strategic priorities for action at Local Government District planning area level. This plan is intended to act as a catalyst for discussion at a regional and local level to help inform any emerging proposals for change. I urge local communities and their representatives to actively engage in the current consultation process being undertaken by the Education Authority.  The key to ensuring that there are enough schools of the right size and in the right place is effective Area Planning.  Its workings will identify proposals for permanent change. Where the proposals for change are significant, such as an adjustment to a school’s enrolment, a statutory Development Proposal will be required.  Currently, there are no published Development Proposals for post-primary provision in North or West Belfast. But I would expect that any proposals coming forward will have taken account of provision and places within the wider area context and align with the Area Plan.  For short term demographic pressures my Department can, on request, create additional places at a school by way of a Temporary Variation under very tightly defined circumstances. |

Baseline funding for childcare in 2017-18

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| [AQO 660/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl12$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Catherine Seeley  (SF - Upper Bann) | **To ask the Minister of Education how he plans to ensure baseline funding for childcare in 2017-18.**  Funding for childcare has been allocated during Monitoring Rounds from funds set aside by the Executive as part of the Budget process. To date, nearly £9 million has been allocated to childcare initiatives.  I hope to bring forward the full version of the Childcare Strategy to my Executive colleagues in the coming months, having taken account of the many consultation responses received, the Programme for Government and the new opportunities that now exist to align childcare and Early Years initiatives.  The budget for the final Childcare Strategy will be determined in the context of this process, along with the Executive’s agreement of the overall 2017-18 Budget. |

Afterschool childcare under Childcare Strategy

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| [AQW 6667/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl18$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr George Robinson  (DUP - East Londonderry) | **To ask the Minister of Education pursuant to AQW 4735/16-21, what opportunities will exist for schools to provide afterschool childcare from 4:00pm to 6:00pm under the final version of the Childcare Strategy.**   The first phase of the Childcare Strategy, launched in September 2013, included actions to support school age childcare services (breakfast clubs, afterschool clubs and summer schemes). The Strategy has, to date, supported some 3,000 low cost school age childcare places. I am currently considering the need for a similar scheme in the forthcoming strategy.  I hope to bring forward the full version of the Childcare Strategy to my Executive colleagues in the coming months, having taken account of the many consultation responses received, the Programme for Government and the new opportunities that now exist to align childcare and Early Years initiatives. |

Action plan for childcare in rural areas

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| [AQW 6513/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl21$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Barry McElduff  (SF - West Tyrone) | **To ask the Minister of Education to outline his Department's action plan for childcare in rural areas.**  The first phase of the Childcare Strategy has, to date, supported 51 childcare settings serving rural areas representing some 1,500 low cost, childcare places. Development of the full Executive Childcare Strategy has been taken forward on a co-design basis with ongoing involvement from the relevant Government Departments, the childcare sector and childcare stakeholders, including stakeholders representing rural interests. The issue of childcare availability in rural areas was raised during last year’s public consultation on the draft Executive Childcare Strategy.  I hope to bring forward the full version of the Childcare Strategy to my Executive colleagues in the coming months, having taken account of the many consultation responses received, the Programme for Government and the new opportunities that now exist to align childcare and Early Years initiatives. |

Savings from Draft Strategic Area Plan for School Provision

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| [AQW 6505/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl04$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Mike Nesbitt  (UUP - Strangford) | **To ask the Minister of Education what are the projected savings to be made by 2018-19 as a result of the implementation of the Draft Strategic Area Plan for School Provision.**  The draft strategic Area Plan is the outworking of Area Planning which is the process to implement the Sustainable Schools Policy. It aims to ensure children and young people have access to educational pathways and a broad and balanced curriculum that meets their needs. Area planning of education provision is not focussed on achieving a projected level of savings rather it focuses on maximising the impact of available resources by working towards a network of schools that are educationally and financially viable. For this reason the Department does not set a projected savings figure nor does it routinely calculate savings that accrue from implementation of area solutions.  The draft strategic Area Plan covers the three year period from April 2017 to March 2020. Over this period it would be expected that there will be a reduction in the number of unsustainable schools which will lead to a more effective use of the budget available for the benefit of pupils in all schools. |

Children being educated in a non-school setting

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| [AQW 6504/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl05$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mrs Sandra Overend  *(UUP - Mid Ulster)* | **To ask the Minister of Education how many children are receiving primary or post-primary education in a non-school setting.**  The Education Authority has provided the following tables, broken down by Area, which detail all the information requested in each of the three questions.  **SOUTH**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **NAME OF FACILITY** | **TOTAL NO OF CHILDREN** | **NO OF PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **NO OF POST-PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **SEBD** | **ILL HEALTH** | | Lough Road Learning Centre  27 Lough Road, BT6 6JJ | **28** | **0** | **28** | **28** | **0** | | TamnamoreLearning Centre  151TamnamoreRoad, BT71 6HW | **13**  (in Centre)  **10**(Outreach Support) | **13**  (in Centre)  **7**  (Outreach Support) | **3**  (Outreach) | **23** | **0** | | KinnegoCentre  56 LislalyRoad, BT71 6TB | **11**  (in Centre)  **13**(Outreach Support) | **0** | **11**  (in Centre)  **13**  (Outreach) | **24** | **0** | | Newry EOTAS  61 Dominic Street, BT35 8BW | **21** | **0** | **21** | **21** | **0** | | Home Tuition | **27** | **3** | **24** | **2** | **25** |   **NORTH EAST**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **NAME OF FACILITY** | **TOTAL NO OF CHILDREN** | **NO OF PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **NO OF POST-PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **SEBD** | **ILL HEALTH** | | SunleaEducational Guidance Centre  180 Ballycastle Road, BT52 2EH | **3** | **0** | **3** | **3** | **0** | | Thornberry PRU EOTAS  180 Ballycastle Road, BT52 2EH | **8** | **8** | **0** | **8** | **0** | | DromardEOTAS  70 TamlaghtRoad, BT46 5XB | **10** | **0** | **10** | **10** | **0** | | Braid EOTAS  187 CarnloughRoad, BT43 7JW | **11** | **0** | **11** | **11** | **0** | | Newtownabbey EOTAS  231JordanstownRoad, BT37 0LX | **12** | **0** | **12** | **12** | **0** | | Rathmore EducGuidance Centre  10LoughanmoreRoad, BT41 2HQ | **3** | **0** | **3** | **3** | **0** | | Lea Green PRU EOTAS  GlenvarnaDrive, BT36 5JB | **7** | **7** | **0** | **7** | **0** | | NewtownabbeyEduc Guidance Centre  231JordanstownRoad, BT37 0LX | **4** | **0** | **4** | **4** | **0** | | Home Tuition | **94** | **7** | **87** | **53** | **41** |   **BELFAST**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **NAME OF FACILITY** | **TOTAL NO OF CHILDREN** | **NO OF PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **NO OF POST-PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **SEBD** | **ILL HEALTH** | | Pathways EOTAS | **36** | **0** | **36** | **36** | **0** | | NewstartEducation Centre  1aDunleweyStreet, BT13 2QH | **9** | **0** | **9** | **9** | **0** | | Conway Mill  5-7 Conway Street, BT13 2DE | **8** | **0** | **8** | **8** | **0** | | Belfast Hospital School (Tuition)  Belfast Hospital School (In-patients)  Belfast Hospital School (TOPS)  Falls Road, BT12 6BE | **32**  **27**  **17** | **5**  **16**  **0** | **27**  **11**  **17** | **0**  **0**  **0** | **32**  **27**  **17** | | Loughshore  889 Shore Road, BT36 7DH | **83** | **0** | **83** | **83** | **0** | | Link Centre  8-30 Barrack Street, BT12 4AJ | **10** | **0** | **10** | **10** | **0** |   **SOUTH EAST**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **NAME OF FACILITY** | **TOTAL NO OF CHILDREN** | **NO OF PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **NO OF POST-PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **SEBD** | **ILL HEALTH** | | Groomsport ISU  SpringwellDrive, BT19 6TB | **9** | **0** | **9** | **9** | **0** | | RedburnAEP (Holywood Road)  364 Old Holywood Road, BT18 9QH | **12** | **0** | **12** | **12** | **0** | | Poleglass(Lagan Valley AEP)  4aColinbrookGreen, BT17 0PQ | **20** | **0** | **20** | **20** | **0** | | CastlereaghSupport Centre  56 MerokPark, BT9 6LT | **7** | **0** | **7** | **7** | **0** | | Ardmore EOTAS  Saul Road, BT30 6NJ | **12** | **0** | **12** | **12** | **0** | | Home Tuition | **34** | **4** | **30** | **6** | **28** |   **WEST**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | 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BT94 2LY | **9** | **0** | **9** | **9** | **0** | | Strabane EOTAS,KnockavoeResource Centre  MelmountGardens, BT82 9EB | **8** | **0** | **8** | **8** | **0** | | Home Tuition | **8** | **0** | **8** | **0** | **8** |   \* 8 KS3, 8 KS4  **OTHER AGENCIES**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **NAME OF FACILITY** | **TOTAL NO OF CHILDREN** | **NO OF PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **NO OF POST-PRIMARY CHILDREN** | **SEBD** | **ILL HEALTH** | | Woodlands Youth Justice  1MosswoodClose, BT19 1TA | **20** | **0** | **5**(CSA)  **15**(non CSA)**\*** | **0** | **0** | | IveaghCentre  67 Broadway, BT12 6HF | **7** | **0** | **7** | **7** | **0** | | Glenmona  Glen Road, BT11 8BX | **2** | **0** | **2** | **2** | **0** | | Beechcroft  110 Saintfield Road, BT8 6HD | **14** | **0** | **14** | **0** | **14** |   **\*** 5 of statutory school age (4 committed to sentence, 1 on remand), 15 over 16 year olds (3 committed to sentence, 12 on remand) |

Partnerships between DE and DoH

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| [AQW 6363/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl12$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mrs Rosemary Barton  (UUP - Fermanagh and South Tyrone) | **To ask the Minister of Education what formal partnerships exist between his Department and the Department of Health for the delivery of health and education services.**  There are a range of mechanisms through which the Departments of Education (DE) and Health (DoH) work together for the delivery of health and education services.  In respect of the Sure Start Programme and Bright Start School Age Childcare Grant Scheme, there are Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) which formalise the financial governance and accountability arrangements between DE and DoH in respect of services provided and delivery of the schemes. These are supplemented by respective Service Level Agreements between DE and the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB).  As part of the Northern Ireland Executive / Atlantic Philanthropies Delivering Social Change Signature Programme, the DoH and DE work collaboratively in the delivery of Workstream 1 of the Early Intervention Transformation Programme (EITP). EITP aims to improve outcomes for children and young people across Northern Ireland through embedding early intervention approaches which are both transformation and sustainable. Workstream 1 is led by DoH and the Terms of Reference for EITP Workstream 1 sets outs the working arrangements which include a Steering Group and Task Groups with representatives from health and education.  Another partnership project under EITP is a 3-year project which aims to raise educational outcomes of Looked After Children (LAC) through improving support at Key Stage 2 level. A LAC Champion, similar to the ‘Virtual School Head’ in England, has been appointed to provide the necessary oversight and challenge on behalf of the LAC KS2 cohort. The overall aim of the project is to improve the performance of LAC at KS2.  In the area of Special Educational Needs (SEN), at an operational level under the Special Educational Needs Framework, the Education Authority (EA) works with health authorities in regard to the provision of medical advice in connection with the statutory SEN assessment process.  The EA also works with Health and Social Care Trusts (HSCTs) in regard to the provision of therapeutic services, as identified in a child’s statement.  Prime responsibility for the provision to children of therapeutic services rests with health and social services.  This applies generally and also to any specification of such services in a statement of SEN.  The EA’s Education Transition Service works in conjunction with HSCT professionals to ensure the provision of comprehensive and co-ordinated information as part of the statutory education transition planning process for statemented children.  There is a recently established Education/Health SEN Interfaces Project Board which is jointly chaired by DE and DoH and which will oversee a number of time-bound projects related to improving education and health interfaces within the SEN framework.  Finally, DE and DoH, and indeed other Departments, also collaborate on the delivery of a number of cross-departmental policies and strategies on areas such as autism, mental health and learning disability, suicide prevention and domestic and sexual violence and abuse |

Community Regeneration Fund

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| [AQW 6586/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl03$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mrs Naomi Long (APNI - East Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Finance in light of his announcement of the establishment of a £5million Community Regeneration Fund, (i) whether this policy has been, or will be, subjected to equality screening in line with the commitment under paragraph 4.5 of the Department’s statutory equality scheme; and (ii) whether the fund will be allocated on the basis of objective need, with the funding for external organisations undertaken through an open application process on the basis of published criteria.**  In bringing projects to the Executive for funding through the in-year monitoring process, departments must ensure proposals have been subject to equality screening. In that respect I would expect proposals for funding under the Community Regeneration Fund to be no different from other proposals brought forward in the January Monitoring round.  The Community Regeneration Fund will seek to target infrastructure projects in our most deprived and marginalised communities, and seek to maintain momentum on peace building and enhance our diverse heritages. Funding must be allocated in the January Monitoring round and spent in this year. To this end I will be engaging with Ministerial Colleagues over the coming weeks to identify suitable capital projects.  The Executive will then agree allocations from the £5 million available after considering the projects identified by departments. |

Breakdown of spend from Fresh Start Agreement on education and housing

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| [AQW 6384/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl12$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Mike Nesbitt  (UUP - Strangford) | **To ask the Minister of Finance of the £500m agreed in the A Fresh Start Agreement for education and housing, for a breakdown of the (i) spend to date; and (ii) projected expenditure.**  The ‘Fresh Start Agreement’ provided for up to £50 million of additional Capital expenditure per year over a ten year period for investment in integrated and shared education; and shared housing. The previous Secretary of State, Theresa Villiers MP, announced the first tranche of shared / integrated education projects on 23 March 2016. Spend to date on these projects is only available from the Department of Education.  Any additional planned expenditure requires the agreement of the current Secretary of State and it is anticipated that further announcements in this respect will be made after the Executive has agreed its next Budget. |

Funding for action plan to tackle paramilitarism

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| [AQW 6220/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl15$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Mike Nesbitt  (UUP - Strangford) | **To ask the Minister of Finance to detail (i) when they were first advised by HM Treasury that they would not be releasing funding for the action plan to tackle paramilitarism; (ii) what specific areas do the UK government require more detail on; and (iii) when do they anticipate this work will be completed. [Priority Written]**  The profile of funding for the five year period of the ‘Tackling Paramilitary Activity, Criminality and Organised Crime’ strand of the Fresh Start agreement has not yet been finalised and as such no funding has been requested from the British government in the 2016/17 financial year. The overall package is £50m over 5 years, with the Executive and the British government funding half each. There are no stipulations as to how that budget is profiled over the 5 years.  In line with the usual protocol, I will engage with Treasury when the Executive has agreed a profile for the full term of this work. There is no risk that this funding will be lost as the commitment in the Fresh Start Agreement was for an additional £25 million over 5 years. As such £25 million remains available over the coming 4 years.  DoJ are taking this work forward in order to draw down funding from April 2017. In the meantime, £4m of the £5m provided by the Executive in 2016/17 in support of early work to support communities and enhance law enforcement has been allocated. If any of the remaining £1m is not required this year it can be reallocated in the January monitoring round, and the funding restored at any point over the 5 years. |

Number of people died by suicide in last 5 years

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| [AQW 6174/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl18$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Carla Lockhart  *(DUP - Upper Bann)* | **To ask the Minister of Finance how many people have died by suicide in each of the last five years, broken down by constituency.**  The table overleaf details the number of deaths registered due to suicide1 in each Parliamentary Constituency between 2011 and 2015, the latest year for which finalised figures are available.  **Number of Deaths from Suicide1, Registered by Year and Parliamentary Constituency (2011-2015)**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Parliamentary Constituency** | **Registration Year** | | | | | |  | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** | | Belfast East | 14 | 11 | 23 | 11 | 16 | | Belfast North | 31 | 24 | 26 | 24 | 36 | | Belfast South | 21 | 19 | 13 | 20 | 21 | | Belfast West | 29 | 30 | 27 | 16 | 33 | | East Antrim | 12 | 16 | 12 | 8 | 13 | | East Londonderry | 12 | 21 | 16 | 8 | 11 | | Fermanagh and South Tyrone | 16 | 17 | 18 | 24 | 17 | | Foyle | 15 | 15 | 21 | 19 | 18 | | Lagan Valley | 15 | 19 | 19 | 8 | 18 | | Mid Ulster | 14 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 11 | | Newry and Armagh | 19 | 12 | 25 | 14 | 21 | | North Antrim | 13 | 12 | 18 | 17 | 12 | | North Down | 8 | 7 | 10 | 9 | 12 | | South Antrim | 14 | 13 | 15 | 14 | 11 | | South Down | 9 | 12 | 18 | 17 | 17 | | Strangford | 10 | 9 | 7 | 18 | 16 | | Upper Bann | 26 | 20 | 11 | 20 | 24 | | West Tyrone | 11 | 8 | 9 | 11 | 10 | | Resident Outside Northern Ireland | - | 3 | - | - | 1 | | **Overall Total** | **289** | **278** | **303** | **268** | **318** |   1 In considering suicide events it is conventional to include cases where the cause of death is classified as either ‘Suicide and self-inflicted injury’ or ‘Undetermined intent’. Since 2001, the ICD10 codes used for ‘Suicide and self-inflicted injury’ are X60-X84 and Y87.0 and the ICD10 codes used for ‘Undetermined intent’ are Y10-Y34 and Y87.2 |

Self-declaration of transgender and non-binary people

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| [AQW 5763/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl03$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Michaela Boyle  (SF - West Tyrone) | **To ask the Minister of Finance whether she plans to renew the Gender Recognition Act 2004 to grant transgender and non-binary people the right of self-declaration, rather than applying to a judicial panel.**  I would like to thank the Member for raising this important issue. I have asked my officials to look again at the Gender Recognition Act 2004 in light of the introduction in the South of Ireland of the Gender Recognition Act 2015. That 2015 legislation introduces a simple self-declaratory model of gender recognition without the applicant needing to present supporting medical evidence of gender dysphoria. This could perhaps provide a model for a simplified recognition process here. My officials will also monitor the separate reviews of the 2004 Act being carried out in England & Wales and in Scotland. |

Prioritising patient on autism assessments in Belfast Trust

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| [AQW 3441/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl07$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Joanne Bunting  (DUP - East Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Health to outline the criteria the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust uses to prioritise patients on the waiting list for autism spectrum disorder assessments.**  The Belfast Health and Social Care Trust has advised that referrals for an autism assessment are dealt with on a chronological basis. However, an expedited assessment is considered when there is evidence of an identified clinical need. Examples for children are deliberate harm to self or others; risk to a family/Looked After Child/school placement and children with severe global regression of development. |

Number of young people in CAMHS who have died through suicide

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| [AQW 3410/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl08$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Nichola Mallon  (SDLP - North Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Health how many young people known to the child and adolescent mental health services and drug and alcohol mental health services have died through suicide in the last three years.**  Information on the number of young people known to the child and adolescent mental health services and drug and alcohol mental health services that have died through suicide in the last three years is not available.  The 2015 National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness found that during 2003-2013, 741 suicides were identified as patient suicides, i.e. the person had been in contact with mental health services in the 12 months prior to death. This represents 27% of general population suicides, compared with 23% in Wales, 28% in England, and 30% in Scotland. |

Promotion of healthy eating amongst young people

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| [AQW 3016/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl18$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mrs Jo-Anne Dobson  (UUP - Upper Bann) | **To ask the Minister of Health what links the Public Health Agency has with schools to assist in the promotion of healthy eating amongst young people.**  The Public Health Agency (PHA) works with a range of organisations across Government, statutory, voluntary and community sectors to promote healthy eating. The school setting is a significant area of focus for this work, with the Food in Schools policy being a key area of joint activity.  The Food in Schools policy advocates a ‘wholeschoolapproach’ to all food provided in schools, and to the development of the necessary knowledge and skills in relation to healthy eating and lifestyles. A Food in Schools Coordinator is jointly funded by the PHA and Department of Education. Supporting the Food in Schools policy, the PHA promotes a number of other healthy eating initiatives in schools including: School Food – Top Marks; Stop, Look and Cook; Eat, Taste and Grow; and the Healthy Break Scheme. |

Provision of addiction and mental health service for young people

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| [AQW 3004/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl20$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Nichola Mallon  (SDLP - North Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Health for her assessment of the adequacy of the provision of addiction and mental health services for young people in (i) Belfast; and (ii) Northern Ireland.**  There is very considerable demand for addiction and mental health services for young people throughout the region, and services are under constant pressure.  In Belfast, the demand for the Drug and Alcohol Mental Health Service (DAMHS) resulted in it becoming a very specialist team with a largely consultative role, directly dealing with very high risk individuals. Step 3 CAMHS community services continue to see and treat young people who have either a significant mental health issue as a result of their substance misuse, for example, a psychotic presentation; or who have co-morbid mental health and substance misuse issues.  Regionally, the PHA has confirmed recurrent investment in DAMHS and Trusts are currently in the process of recruiting to those teams. In addition a range of alcohol and drug education, early intervention, and treatment and support services was launched in July 2015 across all five Health and Social Care Trust areas. A number of these services are targeted specifically at children, young people and their families, and work is ongoing to improve awareness of the services. It will, of course, require time for these relatively new services to bed in properly and to allow for meaningful assessment of their effectiveness.  In the meantime, the need for any additional support will continue to be monitored and kept under review. |

Funding for ADHA services

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| [AQW 2980/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl21$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Carla Lockhart  (DUP - Upper Bann) | **To ask the Minister of Health whether she will consider funding ADHD services.**  ADHD services for children and young people under the age of 18 are currently provided by mainstream Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in line with current NICE clinical guidelines. Adults with ADHD who have co-occurring mental health needs are treated through mainstream Adult Mental Health Services.  Health and Social Care Trusts have individually identified a number of current and future ADHD initiatives which the Health and Social Care Board, and my Department, will develop into a more cohesive approach as part of my commitment to improve mental health in the North of Ireland. Any potential service developments on ADHD will need to be considered and prioritised along with other proposals across the range of health and social care provision. |

Assessment for Acquired Brian Injury

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| [AQW 2952/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl02$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Catherine Seeley  (SF - Upper Bann) | **To ask the Minister of Health to detail the tests and assessments in place in the Health and Social Care service to test for Acquired Brain Injury.**  The diagnosis of an acquired brain injury is by clinical assessment. The majority of acquired brain injuries are diagnosed through the use of scanning techniques of Computerised Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Assessments undertaken to help support a diagnosis of an acquired brain injury may include those such as medical, psychometric, functional,occupational, psychological, behavioural and relation |

Funding for addressing paramilitary activity as part of the Fresh Start Agreement

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| [AQO 652/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl06$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Mr Chris Lyttle  (APNI - East Belfast) | **To ask the Minister of Justice what reasons the UK government gave for withholding the £5 million to address paramilitary activity identified as part of the Fresh Start Agreement.**  The UK Government is not withholding the funding and has been clear that there is a £25 million commitment to the Executive in relation to tackling paramilitarism. We have not sought to draw the funding down for this financial year. The funding remains available to us and we are progressing our plans for implementation which will profile the funding required over future years. |

Children and the justice system

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| [AQW 6783/16-21](javascript:__doPostBack('ctl00$MainContentPlaceHolder$SearchResultsGridView$ctl16$RefNoLinkButton','')) | Ms Michaela Boyle  (SF - West Tyrone) | **To ask the Minister of Justice to detail the number of children imprisoned (i) that were sentenced following a conviction; (ii) as a result of being remanded formally into custody; and the number of children that are Police and Criminal Evidence admissions, since 2013.**  The number of children admitted to custody on sentence, remand and under the Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) order are shown in the table below.  Individual children admitted to custody by status, 2012/13 to 2015/16   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Year | Number of individual children admitted to custody | Number of individual children admitted to custody | | | |  |  | Sentence | Remand | PACE | | 2015/16 | 163 | 43 | 127 | 115 | | 2014/15 | 199 | 52 | 165 | 130 | | 2013/14 | 196 | 56 | 154 | 149 | | 2012/13 | 211 | 49 | 141 | 145 |   It is important to highlight that children can be admitted multiple times to custody under each of these categories and can change status between them in one period of imprisonment or during the year, such as from PACE to remand and remand to sentence. In these figures, a child is counted once under each status they have held at any stage during a given year. The sentence, remand and PACE figures therefore sum to more than the number of individual children who were admitted to custody during that year. |