

**Single Outcome Agreements**

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Executive when reports will be published on progress of the local authority single outcome agreements. (S3W-16752)

**John Swinney:** Subject to the agreement of other partners, we expect councils to publish their annual reports on single outcome agreements in the autumn of each year. An interim progress report is expected (for the first year only) around the turn of the financial year with the first annual report expected in autumn of 2009.

**Voluntary Sector**

**Johann Lamont (Glasgow Pollok) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive which voluntary organisations have been allocated monies from the current third sector funding package and how much they have received in each case. (S3W-16808)

**John Swinney:** The current Third Sector funding package provides £93.6m for the sector over three years. The package provides: investment funding for the sector through the Scottish Investment Fund (£30 million) and the Enterprise Fund (£12 million); activities to support enterprising behaviour and address barriers facing the sector as outlined in the Enterprising Third Sector Action plan (a number of these through competitive tendering and contracting), and direct support to third sector infrastructure bodies and specialist intermediaries providing services to third sector bodies.

The following grant funding figures are for 2008-09 and do not include the Scottish Investment Fund, or Enterprise Fund, which will be reported on separately, or funding which has been contracted for through competitive tendering, rather than allocated through a grant. Grants or funding allocated below £1,000 are also not included.

Third sector infrastructure bodies currently allocated grant funding during 2008-09 are as follows:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Amount of Funding</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)	£0.650 million	Core Funding (strategic partnership)
Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)	£0.400 million	Developmental support to the CVS Network
Voluntary Action Lochaber	£0.010 million	Development of a national body for CVS network
Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) Network	£3.850 million	Core funding, distributed through SCVO
Volunteer Development Scotland (VDS)	£0.940 million	Core funding, Millennium Volunteer Programme, support to Volunteer Centre networks and a secondment
Volunteer Centre Network	£3.751 million	Core funding, distributed through VDS
Voluntary Action Fund (VAF)	£1.220 million	Grant programme for grass-roots organisations
Local Social Economy Partnerships (LSEPs)	£0.350 million	Contribution to partnership activities
Social Firms Scotland	£0.090 million	Business development and support for emerging social firms
Development Trust Association	£0.075 million	Support the development of effective community development trusts.

International Network of Street Papers	£0.015 million	Supports new and emerging street papers and networks – ultimate aim of alleviating poverty
Scottish Community Foundation	£0.155 million	Core funding

Third sector specialist services/intermediaries currently allocated grant funding during 2008-09 are as follows:

Organisation	Amount of Funding	Purpose
Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)	£0.045 million	Development of skills infrastructure for third sector (strategic partnership)
Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)	£0.141 million	Implementation of PQASSO quality standard for CVS Network; support for the development of interactive evidence library across third sector; mediation group; research on civil society and government, and dormant account consultation.
SenScot	£0.119 million	Support to new and emerging social enterprise networks
Scottish Social Enterprise Coalition (SSEC)	£0.161 million	To represent views of the social enterprise sector, hold the annual S2S trade fair and raise sector's profile (strategic partnership)
Evaluation Support Scotland (ESS)	£0.114 million	Build sectors capacity to evaluate impact and effectiveness (strategic partnership)
Social Enterprise Academy (SEA)	£0.345 million	Provide training in leadership, management, procurement and business processes
Association of Chief Officers of Scottish Voluntary Organisations (ACOSVO)	£0.074 million	Networking and leadership development across third sector organisations (strategic partnership)
Social Investment Scotland	£0.285 million	Development of loan products for third sector and management of Scottish Investment Fund.
First Port	£0.170 million	Support for new/proposed social enterprises – web resources, advice and exchange services
Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations (CEMVO)	£0.091 million	Capacity building support for new and emerging ethnic minority led social enterprises
Community Enterprise in Scotland (CEiS)	£0.121 million	Support for Social Enterprise World Forum, study trip to see European innovative social enterprises, business models report, and social ventures Scotland pilot
Good Company Magazine	£0.010 million	Scotland's specialist publication dealing with social, co-operative and ethical business
Community Business Scotland Network	£0.004 million	Disseminating findings of workshops and research on improving the social accounting and audit process

Community Care Providers Scotland (CCPS)	£0.005 million	Sponsorship of CCPS conference 2008 which includes a focus on commissioning and procurement
Highland and Islands Social Enterprise Zone (HISEZ)	£0.020 million	Supporting development of social enterprises and aspiring social entrepreneurs
Forth Sector Development	£0.009 million	Social Return on Investment (SROI) dissemination project
Scottish Federation of Housing Associations (SFHA)	£0.010 million	Events for housing associations to support making the most of their potential for social enterprise
Older People for Older People - UHI	£0.033 million	Encouraging and supporting older people into social enterprise
The Wise Group	£0.002 million	Sponsorship of award at Wise Group 25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala dinner

Third sector projects in the final year of three year grant allocations during 2008-09 or receiving transition funding at the end of their grant during 2008-09 are as follows:

Project/Organisation	Amount of Funding	Purpose
Project Scotland	£1.400 million	Support for the costs of youth volunteers
Retired and Senior Volunteer Programme (RSVP)/Community Service Volunteers (CSV)	£0.360 million	Support for senior and retired individuals to volunteer
World Presidency – International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE)	£0.060 million	Support for period world chair of IAVE based in Scotland
CSV Give and Take	£0.040 million	Transition funding for refocusing the work undertaken through the Local Action Rural Project.
Scottish Business in the Community	£0.024 million	Senior Executive Programme - transition funding for refocusing the work undertaken through the programme.

Third sector pilot and other projects currently allocated grant funding during 2008-09 are as follows:

Project/Organisation	Amount of Funding	Purpose
Wise Group	£0.035 million	Recycling Pilot Project
Inspire (Partnership through life) Ltd	£0.094 million	Reopening of aluminium and steel recycling social enterprise

Credit unions which have currently received grant funding during 2008-09 from the Scottish Credit Union S.G.E.I fund:

Project/Organisation	Amount of Funding	Purpose
Greater Govan Credit Union	£0.011 million	For consolidation of their business over this financial period
Livingston Credit Union	£0.014 million	For consolidation of their business over this financial period

In all cases, the monies received to date are dependent on the submission of claims against relevant grant milestones outlined in the individual award letters.

### Concessionary Travel

**John Wilson (Central Scotland) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Executive what impact assessment was undertaken prior to changes being made to the concessionary travel pass. (S3W-16792)

**Stewart Stevenson:** The Scotland-wide free bus travel scheme for older and disabled people was introduced on 1 April 2006. No changes have been made to the scheme since its introduction other than changes to ease the application procedure for people suffering from epilepsy. An equality impact assessment is currently being carried out on the scheme. The scheme is currently being reviewed. It is anticipated recommendations from the review will be made to ministers towards the end of this year.

## Mental Health

**Mary Mulligan (Linlithgow) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive how many indicators in single outcome agreements specifically refer to the needs of homeless applicants requiring support because of a mental health issue, broken down by local authority. (S3W-16939)

**Stewart Maxwell:** Local authorities take a wide range of approaches in addressing the health and support needs of homeless households. As such, there will be a number of indicators which local authorities would see as contributing to the support needs of homeless people with mental ill health. Each local authority single outcome agreement is published and available on the Improvement Service Website [www.improvementservice.org.uk](http://www.improvementservice.org.uk).

## Mental Health

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Executive how people with depression and anxiety are being assisted in early diagnosis and early intervention for treatment and support. (S3W-16761)

**Shona Robison:** Our published standards for integrated care for those with depression underline the importance of early assessment and interventions for successful planning and care. GPs are using validated assessment tools for patients with a new diagnosis of depression repeated at regular intervals to monitor progress and outcome.

The GP contract also provides additional resources for objective assessments and provision of information on suitable interventions including self help, life style advice and other interventions. Pharmacists also advise on mental health and wellbeing issues.

Our national and local public health and anti-stigma campaigns also encourage earlier presentations and fits with other initiatives including the Breathing Space national telephone advice and signposting service for those experiencing low mood, depression or anxiety.

As announced in the summer, we are also considering the extent to which mental health services could be brought into the 18 weeks waiting time target. In most cases those requiring urgent access to mental health services already receive treatment well within 18 weeks but we are committed to further addressing delays where these occur. Our initial considerations will be completed shortly.

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Executive whether NHS Scotland supports a recovery approach across the spectrum of care for mental health patients. (S3W-16770)

**Shona Robison:** NHS Scotland and the Scottish Government support a comprehensive recovery-orientated approach to the provision of care, treatment and support for mental health patients, and their carers, as part of continuing joint working to improve mental health services in line with published targets and commitments.

In line with one of our key published commitments the Scottish Recovery Indicator (SRI) has been developed to ensure that services are recovery-orientated and socially inclusive. A broadly positive independent evaluation report on the piloting of the SRI, in five NHS board areas: Greater Glasgow and Clyde; Forth Valley; Ayrshire and Arran; Tayside, and Grampian, was published on 24 October 2008.

The SRI is being improved, in line with recommendations within the evaluation, with the Scottish Recovery Network undertaking actions on our behalf, working with practitioners and service users from the five pilot sites to improve the SRI. The SRI will be available for general use by 2010 in line with our published commitment.

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Executive what research has been done to determine the availability of advocacy services for mental health patients. (S3W-16773)

**Shona Robison:** No specific research has, or is currently, being undertaken to determine the availability of advocacy services for mental health patients.

However, the University of Stirling was commissioned to carry out research into the named person role and to consider its interaction with other forms of patient representation under the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 as part of its research programme into the operation of the new act. The study explored the named person role from the perspective of a range of stakeholders and made recommendations for the development of patient representation. A final draft of this work has now been received and a report and research findings will be published in due course.

The Mental Welfare Commission has a programme of scheduled visits to mental health and learning disability services. Though these visits do not constitute research done to determine the availability of advocacy services for mental health patients, this is one of the elements that they examine. The commission's findings are summarised in their annual reports from 2005-06 onwards.

## Mental Health

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Executive what outcomes are used to measure improvements in patients' mental health. (S3W-16772)

**Nicola Sturgeon:** A range of outcomes can be used to measure improvements for patients including success in self-care management together with improved relationships, maintaining employment, participation in social activities, reduced isolation, improved diet and physical activity, and reduced reliance on medication.

We also continue to work with local health and social care partners to develop a community care framework to better assess outcomes from the service user and carer perspectives. Delivery of our benchmarking initiative is also supporting change and improvement by mental health service providers.

## Individual Learning Accounts

**Hugh O'Donnell (Central Scotland) (LD):** To ask the Scottish Executive whether individual learning accounts are available for 16 to 18-year-olds. (S3W-16973)

**Fiona Hyslop:** Yes, the Scottish Government has now extended the use of individual learning accounts so that they are now available for all eligible adults aged 16 and over. Individual learning accounts were not available to 16 to 18-year-olds under the previous Scottish Executive.

## Gaelic Language

**Pauline McNeill (Glasgow Kelvin) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive what funding Glasgow City Council will receive as its share from recently announced funding for Gaelic education. (S3W-17035)

**Pauline McNeill (Glasgow Kelvin) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive how the Glasgow Gaelic School will benefit from the recent funding announcement about Gaelic education. (S3W-17036)

**Linda Fabiani:** The Scottish Government is committed to the promotion of Gaelic and recognises the vital role that Gaelic education has to play in this. The announcement made by the First Minister referred to funding that will be available in the next two financial years and at this point it is too early to provide an indication of future allocations.

## Homecoming Scotland

**Stuart McMillan (West of Scotland) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Executive what has been done to promote Homecoming Scotland 2009 in the United States of America. (S3W-16640)

**Jim Mather:** The Scottish Government, VisitScotland and EventScotland are working in close collaboration to promote Homecoming Scotland 2009 (HS09). VisitScotland is committed to the effective marketing of Homecoming and the Homecoming theme now runs through VisitScotland's entire marketing programme. Homecoming is integral to VisitScotland's drive to promote Scotland domestically and internationally as a quality must see, must return destination.

The US is a key market for Homecoming and activity to promote Homecoming has included: VisitScotland's US database – now comprising some 200,000 tourism prospects – receiving monthly alerts on Homecoming;

Homecoming was the central theme for Scotland Week this year;

VisitScotland's Scots Masters (US travel agents who sell Scotland) will represent Homecoming at around 15 of North America's largest Highland Games, with a combined audience of over 1 million. Some of the individual games have an audience in excess of 250,000 Scottish and Highland Games enthusiasts;

Ryder Cup activity in Louisville included announcements on Homecoming, and Whisky Press trip from US took place in September 2008.

A major Homecoming multi-media campaign is to be launched in Canada, the US, Australia and New Zealand. The campaign will run across National Geographic's many assets alongside an online campaign with VisitScotland's best responding media such as the New York Times, Toronto Star and Melbourne Age.

19% of ancestral tourists to Scotland come from the USA. Homecoming presents an enormous opportunity to tap into the market of people worldwide with Scots ancestry. A robust programme of marketing activity continues to promote [www.ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com) as the main signpost for users to find out all they need to know about starting their ancestral journey to Scotland. The website [www.ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com) is one of VisitScotland's busiest websites.

Changes to the US census rules now allows people to identify themselves as Scots (previously the category was Scots-Irish). In September VisitScotland used this information and launched its biggest ever US direct mail initiative. Almost 140,000 specific household addresses, profiled by Scots ethnicity and income, will receive a Homecoming mailshot. VisitScotland's partners in the direct mail initiative are the airlines Continental, US Airways and Globespan, and travel operators CIE, Trafalgar, Great Canadian Travel Company and Royal Scottish Tours.

**Stuart McMillan (West of Scotland) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Executive what has been done to promote Homecoming Scotland 2009 in Australia. (S3W-16641)

**Jim Mather:** The Scottish Government, VisitScotland and EventScotland are working in close collaboration to promote Homecoming Scotland 2009. VisitScotland is committed to the effective

marketing of Homecoming and the Homecoming theme now runs through VisitScotland's entire marketing programme. Homecoming is integral to VisitScotland's drive to promote Scotland domestically and internationally as a quality must see, must return destination.

Australia is one of the four largest diaspora markets and is a key Homecoming audience. Activity taken to promote HS09 in Australia includes:

Hosted TV crews from Australia's Great Outdoors are covering Homecoming themes;

Highland Games in Australia are being used to promote Homecoming;

Whisky Live! Is a global programme and Homecoming, and

Distribution of Homecoming promotional material at selected "Whisky Live!" event in Sydney ("Whisky Live!" is a global programme).

A major Homecoming multi-media campaign is to be launched in Canada, the US, Australia and New Zealand. The campaign will run across National Geographic's many assets alongside an online campaign with VisitScotland's best responding media such as New York Times, Toronto Star and Melbourne Age.

13% of ancestral tourists to Scotland come from Australia. Homecoming presents an enormous opportunity to tap into the market of people worldwide with Scots ancestry. A robust programme of marketing activity continues to promote [www.ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com) as the main signpost for users to find out all they need to know about starting their ancestral journey to Scotland. The website [www.ancestralscotland.com](http://www.ancestralscotland.com) is one of VisitScotland's busiest websites.

**John Wilson (Central Scotland) (SNP):** To ask the Scottish Executive what discussions have been held with disability groups about the concessionary travel pass. (S3W-16793)

**Stewart Stevenson:** Since the inception of the Scotland-wide free bus travel scheme for older and disabled people on 1 April 2006, we have had regular dialogue with disability groups about how the scheme is operating.

**S3W-17158 Cathie Craigie:** To ask the Scottish Executive what importance it places on ensuring the best outcomes for deaf babies following diagnosis of hearing loss as a result of newborn hearing screening tests.

**S3W-17159 Cathie Craigie:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it considers that deaf children require specialist support from the moment of diagnosis of hearing loss to facilitate access to language and communication.

**S3W-17160 Cathie Craigie:** To ask the Scottish Executive which multi-agency professionals it believes should deliver interventions in the early years of a deaf child's life to ensure the acquisition of age-appropriate language and communication skills.

**S3W-17161 Cathie Craigie:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it acknowledges that there is an attainment gap between deaf pupils and their hearing peers.

**S3W-17162 Cathie Craigie:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it will consider introducing minimum professional standards for the delivery of early interventions and support to deaf children and their families following diagnosis of hearing loss.

**S3W-17163 Cathie Craigie:** To ask the Scottish Executive, following introduction of universal newborn hearing screening in 2005, what measures have been taken to ensure that education professionals working with deaf babies and their families in the home environment have the training necessary to deliver this support effectively

5. Mr Frank McAveety: To ask the Scottish Executive what additional resources it will provide to Glasgow City Council to support schools that have a substantial number of pupils who do not have English as a first language. (S3O-4613) ***Does this include deaf children?***

10. Karen Whitefield: To ask the Scottish Executive what financial support it provides to organisations that promote the interests of children and young people. (S3O-4630) ***Will this show that deaf organisations are underfunded?***

S3M-2762 Bill Wilson: All Citizens Equal—That the Parliament notes the recent controversy regarding the right of naturalised citizens to play football for the Scottish national team and affirms its view that all citizens of Scotland are equal and that a naturalised citizen is no less a citizen, and has no fewer rights, than those born in this country. ***Only when it comes to football and only if you are male!***

<b>Questions and Answers</b>	<b>Period ending: 24th Oct</b>
------------------------------	--------------------------------

### Mental Health

**Mary Scanlon (Highlands and Islands) (Con):** To ask the Scottish Executive what is being done to increase access to supported employment for people who have had mental health problems. (S3W-16771)

**Shona Robison:** The Scottish Government, in partnership with COSLA, is developing a Framework for Supported Employment to provide support to people with disabilities to secure and maintain paid employment in the open labour market. The framework will concentrate on supporting individuals who have a learning or physical disability and those with mental health conditions.

A task group has been established to oversee the development of the framework. It includes stakeholders from the Scottish Union of Supported Employment, Jobcentre Plus, DWP, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Association of Mental Health and the Scottish Development Centre for Mental Health.

It is anticipated the model will be transferable for other client groups.

<b>Questions and Answers</b>	<b>Period ending: 17th Oct</b>
------------------------------	--------------------------------

**Mary Scanlon:** To ask the Scottish Executive what financial assistance is available to people wishing to learn British Sign Language. (S3W-16981)

<b>Questions and Answers</b>	<b>Period ending: 10th Oct</b>
------------------------------	--------------------------------

### Gaelic

**Pauline McNeill (Glasgow Kelvin) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive what it is doing to promote the Gaelic language. (S3W-16608)

**Pauline McNeill (Glasgow Kelvin) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive what steps it has taken to promote the Gaelic language since the coming into force of the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005. (S3W-16609)

**Linda Fabiani:** The Scottish Government is committed to creating a secure future for Gaelic in Scotland and aims to enhance the status of Gaelic, promote the learning of Gaelic and encourage the increased use of Gaelic in Scotland. In order to achieve this, the Scottish Government, has identified significant additional funding and is promoting Gaelic in education, in the arts, in broadcasting, in heritage and in public life.

In particular the Scottish Government has provided additional funding to authorities to assist with the costs of providing Gaelic education in their areas; the government has provided additional support to MG ALBA to deliver the new Gaelic digital service; the government has provided additional support

to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for the implementation of the National Plan, and the government has provided additional support for Scotland's only all-Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig.

The Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005 took effect on 13 February 2006 and established Bòrd na Gàidhlig with a clear role in promoting the increased use of Gaelic. Bòrd na Gàidhlig has published the National Plan for Gaelic and Guidance on the Development of Gaelic Language Plans. The National Plan provides the strategic framework for delivering Scottish Ministers' priorities for Gaelic. Bòrd na Gàidhlig also has the power to issue notices to public authorities in Scotland requiring them to develop Gaelic language plans. The Bòrd has made progress with issuing notices, approving public authority Gaelic language plans and implementing the priorities in the National Plan for Gaelic. To date three local authorities have had their Gaelic language plans approved by the Bòrd: Highland Council (May 2008); Argyll and Bute (June 2008), and Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (July 2008).

## Questions and Answers

Period ending: 3rd Oct

### Concessionary Travel

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive, further to the answer to question S3W-15227 by Stewart Stevenson on 8 September 2008, when the steering group set up to review free bus travel for elderly and disabled people will report. (S3W-16496)

**Stewart Stevenson:** The Steering Group plans to report to ministers towards the end of this year.

**Jackie Baillie (Dumbarton) (Lab):** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it intends to introduce restrictions to the number of journeys per day that elderly or disabled people who qualify for free bus travel can make.

**Stewart Stevenson:** We don't intend to introduce any restrictions to the number of journeys per day that those who currently benefit from the scheme can already make.