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## Questions tabled on Friday 23 June 2023

Includes questions tabled on earlier days which have been transferred.

- T Indicates a topical oral question. Members are selected by ballot to ask a Topical Question.
  - † Indicates a Question not included in the random selection process but accepted because the quota for that day had not been filled.
  - N Indicates a question for written answer on a named day under [S.O. No. 22\(4\)](#).
  - [R] Indicates that a relevant interest has been declared.
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### Questions for Answer on Monday 26 June

#### Questions for Written Answer

- 1 **Bill Esterson** (Sefton Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, what progress her Department has made on establishing a Clean Steel Fund.  
[Transferred] (190814)
- 2 **Daisy Cooper** (St Albans): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if she will (a) make it his policy to require local authorities to provide blister pack recycling services and (b) issue guidance to local authorities on blister pack recycling.  
[Transferred] (190904)
- 3 **Chi Onwurah** (Newcastle upon Tyne Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps she is taking to support research into crop protection for crops of national and international importance. [Transferred] (190874)
- 4 **Seema Malhotra** (Feltham and Heston): To ask the Secretary of State for the Transport, which (a) Department and (b) Minister is responsible for civilian and tourist submarines.  
[Transferred] (190563)
- 5 **Rachael Maskell** (York Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, if he will make a comparative assessment of (a) the adequacy of the Local Housing Allowance and (b) the average rental costs for accommodation in the geographical area covered by the Broad Rental Market Area for York; and if he will make a statement.  
[Transferred] (190869)

## Questions for Answer on Tuesday 27 June

### Questions for Written Answer

- 1N **Tim Loughton** (East Worthing and Shoreham): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many civil servants have been appointed as Transgender Champions in (a) his Department and (b) each other Department. [Transferred] (190755)
- 2 **Beth Winter** (Cynon Valley): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what assessment he has made of the potential implications for his policies on public sector pay awards of the increase in the Bank of England base rate to five per cent. (190985)
- 3 **Martyn Day** (Linlithgow and East Falkirk): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, whether her Department has made an assessment with Cabinet colleagues of the potential impact of a merger between Three UK and Vodafone on national security. (190956)
- 4 **Martyn Day** (Linlithgow and East Falkirk): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, what assessment her Department has made of the potential impact of the proposed merger between Three UK and Vodafone on (a) mobile phone and (b) broadband costs. (190957)
- 5 **Martyn Day** (Linlithgow and East Falkirk): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, whether her Department has made an assessment of the potential impact of the proposed merger between Three UK and Vodafone on the security of jobs in the UK. (190958)
- 6 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, what recent assessment she has made of the number of businesses that are likely to cease trading as a result of (a) higher interest rates on their debts and (b) reduced consumer disposable income in the next 12 months. (190950)
- 7N **Bell Ribeiro-Addy** (Streatham): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, when she plans to commence the Neonatal Care (Leave and Pay) Act 2023. [Transferred] (190903)
- 8 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what steps she is taking to tackle the paid advertising to UK users on social media platforms of (a) weapons and (b) other illicit items. (190962)
- 9 **Andrew Lewer** (Northampton South): To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether she has made an assessment of the potential merits of (a) refocussing the National Tutoring Programme to reach those children who need the most help and (b) ringfencing specific funding to support early intervention and expert literacy work to help close the attainment gap for pupils. (190977)

- 10 **Caroline Lucas** (Brighton, Pavilion): To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what plans she has to support the (a) development and (b) implementation of teacher training to support the delivery of climate change education. [Transferred] (190554)
- 11 **Cat Smith** (Lancaster and Fleetwood): To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many and what proportion of specialist schools are approved (a) 1, (b) 2-3, (c) 4-5 and (d) more than 6 months after their first registration. (190947)
- 12 **Cat Smith** (Lancaster and Fleetwood): To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what the current waiting time is for the registration of new specialist schools; and what recent steps she is taking to speed up the process. (190948)
- 13 **Dr Kieran Mullan** (Crewe and Nantwich): To ask the Secretary of State what steps his Department is taking to encourage households to redeem vouchers for the Energy Bill Support Scheme. (190988)
- 14 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps she is taking to improve food security. (190960)
- 15 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps her Department is taking to create resiliency plans for a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (a) attack and (b) accident. (190961)
- 16 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, whether he has had recent discussions with local authorities on taking steps to retain mechanisms to pay for all local authority services with cash. (190949)
- 17 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what recent estimate he has made of when 300,000 new homes will be built each year. (190955)
- 18 **Gareth Johnson** (Dartford): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what steps his Department is taking to regulate service charges by management agencies on leaseholders and freeholders. (190990)
- 19 **Gareth Johnson** (Dartford): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, if he will take steps to introduce a right to appeal for (a) leaseholders and (b) freeholders in relation to disputes with a management agency. (190991)
- 20N **Ben Lake** (Ceredigion): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, whether he has made an assessment of the potential effect of the provisions in the Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill on (a) the Welsh Government, (b) Welsh Government funded public bodies and (c) Welsh local authorities and their freedom to not procure goods originating from Israeli settlements deemed to be illegal under international law. [Transferred] (190870)

- 21N **Simon Lightwood** (Wakefield): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, which forms of photo ID that are issued by Government are eligible for use at polling stations. (190978)
- 22N **Layla Moran** (Oxford West and Abingdon): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what discussions he has had with Homes England of the use of funding from the Brownfield Land Release Fund for the Lodge Hill Junction scheme. [Transferred] (190816)
- 23 **Daisy Cooper** (St Albans): To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, how many life sciences companies were based in the UK in each of the last five years. (190971)
- 24 **Daisy Cooper** (St Albans): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what recent steps his Department has taken to negotiate a new voluntary scheme for branded medicines, pricing and access. (190969)
- 25 **Daisy Cooper** (St Albans): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what recent estimate he has made of when negotiations for the successor to the voluntary scheme for branded medicines, pricing and access will conclude. (190970)
- 26 **Martyn Day** (Linlithgow and East Falkirk): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of establishing a fund for ultra-orphan medicines. (190966)
- 27 **Martyn Day** (Linlithgow and East Falkirk): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment he has made of the potential impact of the Voluntary Scheme for Branded Medicines Pricing and Access on access to medicines in the UK. (190967)
- 28 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what recent steps his Department has taken to help support people who identify as LGBTQ+ with anxiety. (190946)
- 29 **Stephen Morgan** (Portsmouth South): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether his Department has made a recent assessment of the potential impact of prescribed medications that have a known side-effect of weight gain on trends in the level of (a) adult and b) child obesity. (190974)
- 30 **Taiwo Owatemi** (Coventry North West): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to help to ensure areas of higher deprivation receive the necessary support to continue current services within the Integrated care systems. (190964)
- 31 **Taiwo Owatemi** (Coventry North West): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that health inequalities are not exacerbated (a) during and (b) after transition to new Integrated care systems. (190965)

- 32 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, how much aid his Department has provided to Afghanistan in the last 12 months. (190954)
- 33 **Sir John Hayes** (South Holland and The Deepings): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, pursuant to the Answer of 12 June 2023 to Question 187040 on China: Abortion, whether his Department has put safeguards in place to ensure that UK aid given to (a) International Planned Parenthood Federation and (b) United Nations Family Planning Association is not used to fund abortions in China. (190921)
- 34 **Alicia Kearns** (Rutland and Melton): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, what steps his Department is taking to help improve the security situation ahead of the elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in December 2023. (190972)
- 35 **Scott Benton** (Blackpool South): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what steps UK Space Command is taking to coordinate with (a) other military and (b) civilian organisations to (i) increase the UK's space capabilities and (ii) help tackle potential threats to national space assets. (190975)
- 36 **Scott Benton** (Blackpool South): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of creating a specialist counter-insurgency force. (190976)
- 37 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many (a) rapid learning difficulties and (b) disabilities assessments were conducted in (i) public and (ii) private sector prisons in 2022-23. (190935)
- 38 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many and what proportion of prisoners given a rapid assessment showed signs of a (a) learning difficulty and (b) disability in 2022-23. (190936)
- 39 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether his Department is taking steps to ensure that (a) learning difficulties and (b) disabilities assessments are not repeated for prisoners who serve their sentence in multiple prisons. (190937)
- 40 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many in-depth (a) learning difficulties and (b) disabilities assessments were carried out for prisoners who enrolled in an educational programme in the last 12 months for which data is available. (190938)
- 41 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many neurodiversity support managers have been recruited in each prison in the past 12 months. (190939)
- 42 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps his Department has taken to evaluate the effectiveness of rapid learning difficulties and disabilities assessment and support plan systems in prisons. (190940)

- 43 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps he plans to take to (a) encourage more prisoners to enrol in educational programs and (b) help prisoners to receive support for learning difficulties or disabilities. (190941)
- 44 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to Prison education: a review of reading education in prisons published by Ofsted on 22 March 2022, what steps his Department has taken to prioritise reading education in prisons. (190942)
- 45 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to Prison education: a review of reading education in prisons published by Ofsted on 22 March 2022, what steps his Department has taken to ensure that prisoners who need to improve their reading skills receive adequate and targeted support. (190943)
- 46 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, with reference to Prison education: a review of reading in prisons published by Ofsted on 22 March 2022, whether assessments been (a) developed and (b) implemented to identify prisoners' learning needs. (190944)
- 47 **Matt Hancock** (West Suffolk): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps his Department has taken to improve the training and professional development of prison teaching staff to ensure that those staff can teach adults to read. (190945)
- 48 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent discussions he has had with the Bank of England on the impact of interest rate changes on the level of inflation. (190951)
- 49 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what fiscal steps he is taking to help tackle inflation. (190952)
- 50 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent assessment he has made of whether the economy will be in recession in the next 18 months. (190953)
- 51 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether his Department is taking steps to provide support to (a) first-time buyers and (b) other people with mortgages who have large capital balances remaining on their mortgage. (190963)
- 52 **Tim Farron** (Westmorland and Lonsdale): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he plans to double council tax on second homes. (190922)
- 53 **Seema Malhotra** (Feltham and Heston): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what tools his Department uses to assess the impact of the increase in the Bank of England base rate on mortgage holders. (190934)
- 54 **Beth Winter** (Cynon Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with reference paragraph 39 of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee's Monetary Policy Summary and minutes of the Monetary Policy Committee

meeting ending on 21 June 2023, what assessment he has made of the potential implications for his policies of that reports findings on increases in annual pay growth in (a) higher-paying sectors and (b) lower-paid sectors. (190986)

55 **Beth Winter** (Cynon Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with reference paragraph 39 of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee's Monetary Policy Summary and minutes of the Monetary Policy Committee meeting ending on 21 June 2023, what assessment he has made of the potential implications for his policies of that report's predictions for the rate of average weekly earnings growth for the rest of 2023. (190987)

56 **Beth Winter** (Cynon Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with reference to the letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the Governor of the Bank of England of 22 June 2023, what steps he is taking to help ensure that falls in input costs are passed on to consumers. (190989)

57 **Julian Knight** (Solihull): To ask the Secretary of State for Wales, whether he has had discussions with the Welsh Government on the use of 20mph speed limits in Wales. (190932)

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## Questions for Answer on Wednesday 28 June

### Questions for Written Answer

1N **Drew Hendry** (Inverness, Nairn, Badenoch and Strathspey): To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what recent assessment her Department has made of the adequacy of the support provided by the BBC for local radio in the Scottish Highlands. (190973)

2N **Mr Gregory Campbell** (East Londonderry): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, when he plans to announce the location of a freeport in Northern Ireland. (190923)

3N **Simon Lightwood** (Wakefield): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, whether he plans to provide additional funding to places identified for a Levelling Up Partnership. (190981)

4N **Simon Lightwood** (Wakefield): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what recent estimate he has made of when the Levelling Up Partnerships will be formed in each of the areas selected for the scheme. (190982)

5N **Mr Gregory Campbell** (East Londonderry): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what progress his Department has made on meeting the targets set out in the cycling and walking plan for England, published on 27 July 2020. (190992)

- 6N **Mr Gregory Campbell** (East Londonderry): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, whether it is still his Department's policy that half of all journeys in towns and cities will be cycled or walked by 2030. (190993)
- 7N **Jonathan Ashworth** (Leicester South): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment he has made of the potential merits of using artificial intelligence to help job seekers find employment. (190930)
- 8N **Jonathan Ashworth** (Leicester South): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what the (a) planned workforce and (b) budget is for the Intelligence Automation Garage. (190931)
- 9N **Jonathan Edwards** (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, how many households in Carmarthen East and Dinefwr constituency are in receipt of the National Concessionary Fuel Scheme. (190927)
- 10N **Mr Gregory Campbell** (East Londonderry): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether the Tobacco Control Plan's aim to deliver the ambition of a smoke-free society by 2030 includes the prevalence of vaping. (190924)
- 11N **Jonathan Edwards** (Carmarthen East and Dinefwr): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether he has had discussions with the Welsh Government on devolving powers in relation to assisted dying. (190925)
- 12N **Simon Lightwood** (Wakefield): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what the average waiting time is from referral for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in Wakefield constituency. (190983)
- 13N **Simon Lightwood** (Wakefield): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps his Department is taking to improve waiting times for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services in the Wakefield constituency. (190984)
- 14N **Mr Virendra Sharma** (Ealing, Southall): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment his Department has made of the adequacy of specialist care available for people with (a) hypermobile ehlers-danlos syndromes and (b) hypermobility spectrum disorders. (190928)
- 15N **Mr Virendra Sharma** (Ealing, Southall): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, whether his Department has made an assessment of whether (a) primary care and (b) rheumatology departments provide the most effective diagnoses of (a) hypermobile Ehlers-Danlos syndrome and (b) Hypermobility spectrum disorders. (190929)
- 16N **Bob Seely** (Isle of Wight): To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, whether he has had discussions with his Russian counterparts on allowing the Red Cross and UN to have access to flooded areas in the Kherson region. (190968)

- 17N **Grahame Morris** (Easington): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of 10 May 2023 to Question 183703, Prisons: Education, whether the application of HMT guidance on the application of Fair Deal Pensions policy will align with the Prison Education Service bidding process key decision milestones. (190933)
- 18N **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what recent assessment he has made of the main causes of the level of inflation. (190959)
- 19N **Claire Hanna** (Belfast South): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, if he will hold discussions with mortgage lenders on providing flexibility to people who will find it difficult to afford mortgage repayments following the recent rises in interest rates. (190979)
- 20N **Claire Hanna** (Belfast South): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, how many households in Northern Ireland are on (a) fixed and (b) variable rate mortgages. (190980)
- 21N **Grahame Morris** (Easington): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pursuant to the Answers of 11 May 2023 to Question 183809 on Prisons: Education and of 10 May 2023 to Question 183703 on Prisons: Education, what steps his Department is taking to clarify the application of the New Fair Deal pensions policy on Prison Education Service contracts. (190926)

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## Questions for Answer on Thursday 29 June

### Questions for Written Answer

- 1N **Helen Morgan** (North Shropshire): To ask the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, what steps his Department is taking with Cabinet colleagues to support businesses with energy costs. [Transferred] (905687)
- 2N **Paula Barker** (Liverpool, Wavertree): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether his Department has made an assessment of the potential merits of charging tax on (a) scooters and (b) other smaller petrol motor vehicles. [Transferred] (190882)
- 3N **Christine Jardine** (Edinburgh West): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what support his Department is providing to small and medium-sized enterprises to help with costs in the context of the rate of inflation. [Transferred] (905692)