
Published: Monday 11 March 2024

Questions tabled on Friday 8 March 2024

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 11 March

Questions for Written Answer

- 1 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what recent discussions the Prime Minister has had with Cabinet colleagues on the potential operational readiness of the Government to hold a general election in May. [Transferred] (17671)
- 2 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, what (a) process and (b) criteria the Prime Minister will use to determine the timing of a general election. [Transferred] (17674)
- 3 **Kenny MacAskill** (East Lothian): To ask the Secretary of State for Business and Trade, what the benefits to the UK are of the funding committed to the Ineos energy investment in Belgium. [Transferred] (17476)
- 4 **Tahir Ali** (Birmingham, Hall Green): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what recent discussions his Department has had with Birmingham City Council on levels of tree planting in Birmingham. [Transferred] (17383)
- 5 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what steps he is taking to ensure the preparedness of the electoral registration services for a potential general election in May. [Transferred] (17675)
- 6N **Stephen Doughty** (Cardiff South and Penarth): To ask the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, what recent discussions he has had with representatives of the insurance industry on premiums for buildings affected by fire and building safety issues. [Transferred] (17364)

- 7 **Liz Kendall** (Leicester West): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether he has made an estimate of the number and proportion of tax credit claimants that have closed a claim rather than migrate to Universal Credit in each of the last three years. [Transferred] (17589)
- 8 **Rachael Maskell** (York Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, with reference to the Spring Budget 2024, HC 560, published on 6 March 2024, if he will have discussions on how the transferrable pension fund will work. [Transferred] (17660)
- 9 **Peter Gibson** (Darlington): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment she has made of the adequacy of investment in establishing a vaccine library. [Transferred] (17375)
- 10 **Mr Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi** (Slough): To ask the Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, what steps he is taking to tackle disinformation related to the Ukraine conflict. [Transferred] (17424)
- 11N **Kenny MacAskill** (East Lothian): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what advance from the Contingencies Fund is being provided for military operations in the Red Sea. [Transferred] (17411)
- 12 **Chi Onwurah** (Newcastle upon Tyne Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, whether his Department has had recent discussions with Sheffield Forgemasters on local electrom-beam welding. [Transferred] (17590)

Questions for Answer on Tuesday 12 March

Questions for Written Answer

- 1 **Preet Kaur Gill** (Birmingham, Edgbaston): To ask the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, what steps her Department is taking in response to the Kimberley Liu: Prevention of future deaths report, published on December 29, 2023. (17750)
- 2N **Tim Loughton** (East Worthing and Shoreham): To ask the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, with reference to report entitled Financing the Future: Energy, published by the UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association on 26 February 2024, what steps her Department plans to take to encourage private capital investment in green energy. [Transferred] (17483)
- 3N **Rachael Maskell** (York Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what assessment he has made of the reasons that people on Universal Credit may require budgeting advance loans. [Transferred] (17654)
- 4N **Rachael Maskell** (York Central): To ask the Secretary of State Work and Pensions, whether he made an assessment of the potential merits of lifting the two child benefit cap during the preparation of the Spring Budget. [Transferred] (17655)

- 5N **Rachael Maskell** (York Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether he made an assessment of the potential merits of removing the under-occupancy penalty during the preparation of the Spring Budget. [Transferred] (17656)
- 6 **Charlotte Nichols** (Warrington North): To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, whether he has made an assessment of the potential merits of providing financial support to people who are (a) aged 66 when the State Pension age rises to 67 and (b) unable to continue working to that age due to (i) illness and (ii) disability. (17742)
- 7 **Sarah Owen** (Luton North): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment she has made of the adequacy of the progress made by NHS trusts in moving health care assistants from band two to band three for the pay bands that were introduced in July 2021. (17743)
- 8 **Sarah Owen** (Luton North): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what assessment she has made of the potential financial impact on NHS trusts of the higher pay bands for health care assistants introduced in July 2021. (17744)
- 9 **Sarah Owen** (Luton North): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of providing additional funding to NHS trusts to meet the increased pay costs for health care assistants arising from the introduction of higher pay bands in July 2021. (17745)
- 10 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, if he will make an assessment of whether Somaliland meets the criteria for joining the Commonwealth. (17754)
- 11 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, whether he has had recent discussions with Cabinet colleagues on the potential merits of Somaliland joining the Commonwealth. (17755)
- 12 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, if he will support the Somaliland application to join the Commonwealth. (17756)
- 13 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, if he will make an assessment of the potential merits of Somaliland joining the Commonwealth. (17757)
- 14N **Liz Kendall** (Leicester West): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with reference to his Financial Statement from 6 March 2024, Official Report, column 851, whether his Department has made an assessment of potential alternative funding mechanisms for the State Pension. [Transferred] (17581)
- 15N **Liz Kendall** (Leicester West): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether his Department has made an assessment of the impact of abolishing national insurance contributions on state pension entitlements. [Transferred] (17582)

- 16N **Liz Kendall** (Leicester West): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what discussions he has had with the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions on the potential impact of abolishing National Insurance contributions on (a) calculating and (b) accounting pension entitlements. [Transferred] (17583)
- 17N **Liz Kendall** (Leicester West): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he has made an assessment of the potential impact of abolishing National Insurance contributions on how qualifying years for pension entitlement would be (a) calculated and (b) accounted. [Transferred] (17584)
- 18 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, if he will allow fractional shares to be included in ISAs. (17760)
- 19 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, if he will take steps to allow fractional shares to be included in the new British ISA. (17761)
- 20 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, if he will make an assessment of the potential merits of allowing investors to invest in fractional shares. (17762)
- 21 **Alexander Stafford** (Rother Valley): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he has had recent discussions with the Financial Conduct Authority on including fractional shares in ISAs. (17763)

Questions for Answer on Wednesday 13 March

Questions for Written Answer

- 1N **Dame Diana Johnson** (Kingston upon Hull North): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 7 March 2024 to Question 16659 on Blood: Contamination, how much members of the expert group who are not legal experts will be paid. (17717)
- 2N **Paul Blomfield** (Sheffield Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Education, if she will hold discussions with the Office for Students on ensuring that the forthcoming guidance for higher education providers on (a) securing free speech within the law and (b) publishing and maintaining a freedom of speech code of practice is published before 1 August 2024. (17725)
- 3N **Helen Hayes** (Dulwich and West Norwood): To ask the Secretary of State for Education, with reference to the Spring Budget 2024, HC 560, where the 15 new special schools will be located. (17741)
- 4N **Peter Grant** (Glenrothes): To ask the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, whether funding will be made available through the Green Industries Growth Accelerator for the manufacture of wind turbine jackets. (17751)

- 5N **Peter Grant** (Glenrothes): To ask the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, what recent progress her Department has made on the roll out of the Hydrogen Heating Town pilot. (17752)
- 6N **Peter Grant** (Glenrothes): To ask the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, when she plans to make an announcement on the funding applications from the four Gas Distribution Networks for the Hydrogen Heating Town pilot. (17753)
- 7N **Chi Onwurah** (Newcastle upon Tyne Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, what discussions she has had with the National Grid on improving the timetable for connecting infrastructure projects to the national grid. (17727)
- 8N **Stella Creasy** (Walthamstow): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, which organisations will be responsible for billing for (a) the common user charge and (b) other charges arising from the Border Target Operating Model. (17736)
- 9N **Stella Creasy** (Walthamstow): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps her Department is taking to assess the readiness of proposed border control post facilities in the context of the implementation of the Border Target Operating Model. (17737)
- 10N **Stella Creasy** (Walthamstow): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what the process will be for importers to derogate the 24-hour notification process for medium-risk goods to four hours under the Border Target Operating Model. (17738)
- 11N **Stella Creasy** (Walthamstow): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps her Department plans to take to enforce the 24-hour notification process for medium-risk goods under the Border Target Operating Model. (17739)
- 12N **Stella Creasy** (Walthamstow): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, if she will make an assessment of the potential impact of the Border Target Operating Model on the just-in-time models of (a) cold-chain haulage and (b) storage businesses. (17740)
- 13N **Derek Thomas** (St Ives): To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, what steps he is taking to encourage (a) schools, (b) prisons and (c) hospitals to serve British-caught fish. (17749)
- 14N **Derek Thomas** (St Ives): To ask the Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology, with reference to Government response to paragraph 62 of the Third Report of Session 2022-23 by the House of Lords Communications and Digital Committee on Digital exclusion, HL 219, published on 20 October 2023, what progress the dedicated cross-Whitehall ministerial group has made. (17748)

- 15N **Gavin Robinson** (Belfast East): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what progress he has made implementing his Department's policy document entitled Options for addressing the cost of pilot training, published on 31 May 2023. (17732)
- 16N **Gavin Robinson** (Belfast East): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will take steps to launch a support scheme for pilot training. (17733)
- 17N **Gavin Robinson** (Belfast East): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will make it his policy to introduce VAT relief for pilot training. (17734)
- 18N **Gavin Robinson** (Belfast East): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, if he will take steps to introduce a Government-backed loan for pilot training. (17735)
- 19N **Gavin Robinson** (Belfast East): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, what steps his Department is taking to support people who are training to be pilots. (17758)
- 20N **Preet Kaur Gill** (Birmingham, Edgbaston): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, how many applications were made to the NHS low income scheme in 2023. (17759)
- 21N **Lisa Nandy** (Wigan): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of adding cystic fibrosis to the list of medical conditions for which a medical exemption certificate for free NHS prescriptions may be issued. (17726)
- 22N **Kim Johnson** (Liverpool, Riverside): To ask the Minister of State, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, if he will make an assessment of the potential implications for his policies of the alleged murders of (a) José Roa, (b) Luis Eduardo Sterling and (c) Yilber Silva in Colombia on 14 January 2024. (17746)
- 23N **Maria Eagle** (Garston and Halewood): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many (a) permanent and (b) contracted staff there were in Defence Equipment and Support in each year since 2019. (17716)
- 24N **Maria Eagle** (Garston and Halewood): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many third party motor claims were received by his Department in each year since 2019. (17721)
- 25N **Maria Eagle** (Garston and Halewood): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, what the value was of commercial civilian vehicle leasing and hire contracts with his Department in each year since 2019. (17722)
- 26N **Maria Eagle** (Garston and Halewood): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how many motoring related personal injury claims have been made against his Department by armed forces personnel in each year since 2019. (17723)
- 27N **Maria Eagle** (Garston and Halewood): To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, how much his Department spent on office furniture in each year since 2019. (17724)

- 28N **Shabana Mahmood** (Birmingham, Ladywood): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what progress his Department has made on providing 20,000 additional prison places by 2025. (17728)
- 29N **Shabana Mahmood** (Birmingham, Ladywood): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, how many prison cells have been built in each year since 2010, broken down by cell type. (17729)
- 30N **Stephen Crabb** (Preseli Pembrokeshire): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he plans to undertake a review of the criteria used to determine which industries are included in its carbon border adjustment mechanism proposals. (17718)
- 31N **Stephen Crabb** (Preseli Pembrokeshire): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he plans to make an assessment of the potential merits of introducing new measures to help support businesses participating in the emissions trading scheme. (17719)
- 32N **Stephen Crabb** (Preseli Pembrokeshire): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether he plans to make an assessment of the potential merits of providing relief from the emissions trading scheme to businesses that export products to external markets. (17720)
- 33N **Derek Thomas** (St Ives): To ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what steps he is taking to ensure that companies have access to bank accounts. (17747)

Questions for Answer on Thursday 14 March

Questions for Written Answer

- 1N **Bill Esterson** (Sefton Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 6 March 2024 to Question 16465 on Driving Tests: Waiting Lists, what was the average waiting time for a driving test from DVSA in (a) the UK, (b) England, (c) each region and (d) each driving centre in March 2022. (17730)
- 2N **Bill Esterson** (Sefton Central): To ask the Secretary of State for Transport, pursuant to the Answer of 6 March 2024 to Question 16465 on Driving Tests: Waiting Lists, what was the average waiting time for a driving test from DVSA in (a) the UK, (b) England, (c) each region and (d) each driving centre in March 2023. (17731)
- 3N **Mr Barry Sheerman** (Huddersfield): To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps he is taking to ensure the adequacy of coroners' inquests. [Transferred] (901972)
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Questions for Answer on Friday 15 March

Questions for Written Answer

- 1N **Steve McCabe** (Birmingham, Selly Oak): To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, pursuant to the Answer of 23 February 2024 to Question 13226 on Veterans: Employment Scheme, how many and what proportion of ethnic minority veterans have used the Career Development Fund in the last 12 months. (17715)
- 2N **Steve McCabe** (Birmingham, Selly Oak): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, pursuant to the Answer of 21 February 2024 to Question 12906 on Alcoholism and Drugs: Veterans, whether her Department has made an assessment of the adequacy of rehabilitative care for injured veterans. (17711)
- 3N **Steve McCabe** (Birmingham, Selly Oak): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of using AI to improve the (a) quantity and (b) quality of data on veterans with mental health conditions. (17712)
- 4N **Steve McCabe** (Birmingham, Selly Oak): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if she will make an assessment of the potential merits of introducing a health card for veterans. (17713)
- 5N **Steve McCabe** (Birmingham, Selly Oak): To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, if she will take steps to help increase collaboration between (a) GP surgeries and (b) Integrated Care Boards when treating veterans with physical and mental conditions. (17714)