

Mentions of Oxford and Oxbridge in Parliament

February 2015

Overview
Mention in Commons Adjournment Debate
Mention in Lords Report Stage of Bill
Mention in Commons Select Committee
Mention in Commons Written Questions
Mention in Lords Written Questions

Commons

[MPs debate the effects of Government policy on UK poverty](#)

Wed, 4 February 2015

Mention

Lisa Nandy (Wigan) (Lab):

The hon. Gentleman does not seem to be listening: the rules are the problem and make no sense. I have just quoted two examples, one from the Minister and one from the Minister's departmental website, that contradict one another. Neither makes any sense in the context of what happened to my constituents. I have written back to the Minister to ask what on earth is going on, though I have not had a reply yet. I hope that I will get a reply, and that all the people stuck in the same situation as the one my constituents just went through will get any reply at all.....

Margot James (Stourbridge) (Con):

I have great sympathy for some of the individual cases that the hon. Lady has talked about, but I want to introduce a note of perspective based on my own constituency experience. The last time I checked with my jobcentre, just before Christmas, fewer than 5% of all the people seen there had been sanctioned over the previous 12 months. We are talking about a minority, and she is talking about a very tiny minority of an already small minority. I also want to put in a word for the sanctions regime, because from the experience of what I have seen, the threat of sanctions has been of assistance in galvanising people to maintain their appointments and genuinely to seek work.

Lisa Nandy:

I am grateful to the hon. Lady for trying to bring statistics to the debate, but they do not reflect the reality. Glasgow university has found that across the country, one in five have been sanctioned, and 6,000 families in my borough alone. In the past few weeks, research from **Oxford university** shows that the majority of people who have been kicked off benefits due to sanctions have not gone into work. So it is simply not true to say that we are talking only about a minority.

Lords

[Lords Report Stage - Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill \(Day 2\) - Prevent duty](#)

Wed, 4th February

Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws (Lab): Today I found a piece of satire that said: “Top universities a ‘breeding ground’ for Tories, warn Islamic groups”. Accompanying this, there was a photograph of the Bullingdon Club from a certain era.

In my experience—and I, too, declare an interest as being the principal of **Mansfield College, Oxford**—universities are more or less breeding grounds for people who want to get a job. In fact, in many universities, there is not enough debate and sharing of ideas, because the real drama is around acquiring the kind of qualifications that will do well in the job market. Universities, as has been said, should and must be places for the exchange of ideas. Yet already there are concerns that, even as it stands, there are real pressures on universities around the issue of inviting speakers. For example, there was a piece in the Guardian’s online comment pages by Dr Karma Nabulsi, an academic at **Oxford** who speaks regularly at other universities, saying that constraints are already felt by universities—that if, for example, someone seeks to invite in a speaker on Islam, for comparative religion, some universities become very sensitive and anxious. If there is an invitation to a speaker on Islamic studies or the history of religion, anxiety is expressed and often the support of the police is encouraged and advice is sought from external sources. So the chilling effect is very worrying for the academic world.

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Home Office (Lord Bates) (Con): A point was raised about the position of the **Oxford Union** and the Cambridge Union. My noble friend Lord Renfrew asked about this in Committee. They exist separately from the **universities of Oxford** and Cambridge, and as such they are not covered by the duty.

Commons Select Committees

[Political and Constitutional Reform Committee - Academics give evidence on constitutional implications of draft Scotland clauses](#)

Thu, 5 February 2015

Contents

05 February 2015

The Political and Constitutional Affairs Committee take evidence from academics in a session to scrutinise pre-legislative scrutiny of the draft clauses for a Bill to implement further devolution to Scotland.

- * Parliament TV: Constitutional implications of draft Scotland clauses
- * Inquiry: Constitutional implications of draft Scotland clauses
- * Political and Constitutional Reform Committee

* The Government's Command Paper: Scotland in the United Kingdom: an enduring settlement (draft clauses are annexed)

Witnesses

Monday 2 February 2015 at 5.15pm, Committee Room 8, Palace of Westminster

At 5.15pm

* Professor Sionaidh Douglas-Scott, Professor of European and Human Rights Law,

University of Oxford

* Dr Eve Hepburn, Senior Lecturer in Politics, University of Edinburgh

* Professor Michael Keating FRSE FBA, Professor of Politics, University of Aberdeen

Commons Questions for Written Answer

House of Commons - Written Answer

Mr Andrew Smith - Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Thu, 26 February 2015

Summary

The following question to the Department of Health was answered on 26 February 2015

Contents

Asked by **Mr Andrew Smith** (Oxford East) To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what support his Department is providing to research into the treatment of Crohn's disease.

Jane Ellison Answered on: 26 February 2015

The Department's National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) funds a range of research relating to treatment of Crohn's disease.

The NIHR has awarded nearly £1.5 million over five years to August 2018 for a research professorship at the **University of Oxford**. This is focussed on re-defining Crohn's disease at a molecular level to identify new biomarkers and therapies.

The NIHR Health Technology Assessment programme is seeking to commission a systematic review looking at whether patients can be identified who may need early intensive treatment in Crohn's disease.

The NIHR Clinical Research Network is currently recruiting patients to six studies relating to treatment of Crohn's disease.

The NIHR welcomes funding applications for research into any aspect of human health, including Crohn's disease. These applications are subject to peer review and judged in open competition, with awards being made on the basis of the importance of the topic to patients and health and care services, value for money and scientific quality.

House of Commons - Written Answer

Mr Barry Sheerman - Antibiotics

Fri, 27 February 2015

Summary

The following question to the Department of Health was answered on 27 February 2015

Contents

Asked by **Mr Barry Sheerman** (Huddersfield) To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what recent research his Department has conducted, funded or commissioned into the transmission of antimicrobial resistance from animal pathogens to human pathogens.

George Freeman Answered on: 27 February 2015

Public Health England (PHE), the Veterinary Medicines Directorate and colleagues from the devolved administrations plan to publish a joint report (One Health Report 2015) on human and animal antibiotic use and resistance in the United Kingdom in May 2015. The report compares primary/secondary care prescribing data and veterinary antibiotic sales data and presents antimicrobial resistance (AMR) levels to key antibiotics used in human and veterinary medicine for important indicator (*Escherichia coli*) and zoonotic (*Campylobacter* spp., non-typhoidal *Salmonella*) bacteria. There are significant differences in the surveillance systems providing the data for this report; this report will improve the understanding of the AMR relationship between animals and humans in the UK.

PHE is being funded by the Department's Policy Research Programme and the Food Standards Agency to look at public health risk associated with extended-spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL) positive *E. Coli* from non-human reservoirs. This will be the largest study of its kind undertaken in the UK and involves England, Wales and Scotland. It is planned to publish the report in 2016.

The Department's National Institute for Health Research is funding a Health Protection Research Unit in Healthcare Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance at the **University of Oxford**. This is a research partnership between the university and PHE. The unit is working with the Animal and Plant Health Agency to develop and validate tools to look for resistance genes in bacteria from diverse sources using new genome sequencing technologies rather than classical methods.

Lords Questions for Written Answer

House of Lords - Written Answer

[Lord Taylor of Warwick - Maternity Services](#)

Thu, 12 February 2015

Summary

The following question to the Department of Health was answered on 12 February 2015

Contents

Asked by **Lord Taylor of Warwick** Asked by **Lord Taylor of Warwick** Asked on: 29 January 2015 Department of Health Maternity Services Lords HL4554 To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to improve maternity and neonatal care in NHS hospitals.

Earl Howe Answered on: 12 February 2015

Women should receive excellent maternity services that focus on the best outcomes for women and their babies and on women's experience of care. For premature and sick newborn babies and their families, neonatal services should deliver the best evidence-based care to improve both life expectancy and quality of life for newborn babies.....

.....The Department has also commissioned the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit at **Oxford University** to develop a perinatal mental health indicator, which will help us to better identify and address gaps in our services. NHS England is developing a plan to support women with postnatal mental health problems by March 2015 which will share best practice and learning with the NHS.....

[Baroness Nye - Maternity Services](#)

Tue, 17 February 2015

Summary

The following question to the Department of Health was answered on 17 February 2015

Contents

Asked by **Baroness Nye** Asked by **Baroness Nye** Asked on: 06 February 2015 Department of Health Maternity Services Lords HL4751 To ask Her Majesty's Government whether the report by the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit at **Oxford University** commissioned by the Department of Health will be published; and if so, when.

Earl Howe Answered on: 17 February 2015

The report has been completed and its publication is planned for the end of February 2015.

[Lord Willis of Knaresborough - Bone Marrow Disorders](#)

Wed, 18 February 2015

Summary

The following question to the Department of Health was answered on 18 February 2015

Contents

Asked by **Lord Willis of Knaresborough** Asked by **Lord Willis of Knaresborough** Asked on: 05 February 2015 Department of Health Bone Marrow Disorders Lords HL4718 To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Earl Howe on 4 February (HL4499), where the four trials for systemic amyloidosis and 41 trials for multiple myeloma which are currently in progress are being hosted.

Earl Howe Answered on: 18 February 2015

The sponsors of the trials have included the following information in the European Union clinical trials register concerning the sites involved in the studies.

Systemic Amyloidosis

Institution	Town/City
Manchester Royal Infirmary	Manchester
National Amyloidosis Centre	London
Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust	Oxford
Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust	London
University College London Medical School	London
University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust	Birmingham

Multiple Myeloma (List too long to reproduce)

Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust Oxfordshire

House of Lords - Written Answer

[Baroness Nye - Maternity Services](#)

Fri, 20 February 2015

Summary

The following question to the Department of Health was answered on 20 February 2015

Contents

Asked by **Baroness Nye** Asked by **Baroness Nye** Asked on: 06 February 2015 Department

of Health Maternity Services Lords HL4752 To ask Her Majesty's Government what action they are taking to address any shortfall of beds in specialist inpatient mother and baby units.

Earl Howe Answered on: 20 February 2015

NHS England is responsible for commissioning specialised inpatient perinatal mental health services that provide a safe and secure environment for the care of women with severe mental illness and their infants. Assessments should be made by clinical commissioning groups based on local needs.....

.....The Department has also commissioned the National Perinatal Epidemiology Unit at **Oxford University** to develop a perinatal mental health indicator, which will help us to better identify and address gaps in our services. NHS England is developing a plan to support women with postnatal mental health problems by March 2015 which will share best practice and learning with the National Health Service.