

Written Answers

25 FEBRUARY 1985

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Mr. John MacKay: There have been some changes in recording practice over the years; so far as possible, the figures given below are consistent with current recording practice.

*Deaths with any mention of hypothermia as a cause  
Scotland, 1975-1984*

	Number
1975	150
1976	228
1977	158
1978	205
1979	259
1980	199
1981	254
1982	196
1983	179
1984	*174

\* Provisional.

### Doctors

Mr. Wilson asked the Secretary of State for Scotland what is the number of practising doctors per 1,000 population in Scotland and in each of the other European Economic Community countries and in the United States of America and Canada.

Mr. John MacKay: The latest available information on a broadly comparable basis is that published by the World Health Organisation in its 1983 volume of statistics. The figures quoted relate to 1980-81 or the nearest available year and, for some countries, may include dentists as well as doctors. The details are as follows:

	Number of physicians per 1,000 population
Scotland	1.82
Belgium	2.60
France	1.72
Federal Republic of Germany	2.27
Luxembourg	1.36
Netherlands	1.85
Greece	2.55
Italy	2.89
Denmark	2.07
Republic of Ireland	1.29
United Kingdom: England and Wales	1.41
United Kingdom: Northern Ireland	1.67
United States of America	1.82
Canada	1.82

### Agricultural Advisory Service

Mr. Wilson asked the Secretary of State for Scotland what the proposed reduction in the central Government funding to the Agricultural Advisory Service in Scotland will be in 1987-88, compared with the previous three years; and what effects the reduction will have on the level of service and advice given by the organisation.

Mr. John MacKay: Planned expenditure for the agricultural advisory services in Scotland in the years in question are as follows:

Year	£ million
1984-85	7.540
1985-86	7.771
1986-87	7.986
1987-88	4.786

The reduction in funding in 1987-88, which parallels a similar reduction in the funding of the agricultural advisory service provided in England and Wales, reflects the Government's aim that the industry should make a greater financial contribution towards the cost of the advisory services from which it benefits.

The effects of the reduction will depend on the outcome of current discussions with the Scottish agricultural colleges, which provide the advisory services in Scotland, and on the extent to which those who use these services are prepared to contribute towards their cost. I am confident, however, that the colleges will continue to provide a satisfactory level of service to farmers in Scotland.

### AIDS

Mr. Ron Brown asked the Secretary of State for Scotland if any people have died in Scotland from acquired immune deficiency syndrome; if any new cases have been reported; and what steps have been taken to provide resources to deal with the disease.

Mr. John MacKay: To date, four Scottish cases of AIDS have been reported to the communicable diseases (Scotland) unit; two of these patients have died, one in 1982, the other in 1984. In addition, a patient ordinarily resident in England died in Scotland in 1984. Existing resources should enable the appropriate authorities to deal adequately with this disease.

### Departmental Responsibilities

Mr. Eggar asked the Secretary of State for Scotland if he will list all the nationalised industries, non-governmental organisations and agencies for which his Department either has responsibility or provides funding, as well as those sections of his Department which provide services to the general public or to private organisations; and if he will indicate separately those which at present: (a) charge no fees, (b) charge fees which do not fully cover the costs of providing those services, (c) charge fees which exactly cover the costs of providing those services and (d) charge fees which more than cover the costs of providing those services.

Mr. Younger [pursuant to his reply, 6 February 1985, c. 583]: The information is provided in the list. In view of the large number of services for which I am responsible either directly or through other bodies I have, in the interests of cost, restricted my answer for the most part to those services which cost more than £100,000 to provide and, for nationalised industries and the larger non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs), have provided only a general description of the substantial range of specific services available. I have excluded voluntary bodies in the social work field, List D schools and grant-aided residential special schools since the services which they provide are not in general available to the public on direct application.