

## **Business Bulletin No.154/2005: Wednesday 2 November 2005**

### **Section E – Written questions lodged on 1 November 2005**

**S2W-20244 Alex Neil:** To ask the Scottish Executive what information it is able to provide on whether there have been any disagreements between experts from Aberdeen fingerprint bureau and experts from the Scottish Criminal Records Office in Glasgow on what constitutes fingerprint identification and, if there there have been any such disagreements, whether these disagreements have been resolved and, if so, how they were resolved and, if they have not been resolved, what steps it is taking to ensure that (a) miscarriages of justice do not occur and (b) all fingerprint identifications from the Scottish Fingerprint Service given in Scottish courts will be accompanied by information on the different approaches to the scientific basis of fingerprint identification which currently exist within the Scottish Fingerprint Service.

**S2W-20245 Alex Neil:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether the Scottish Fingerprint Service and the Scottish Criminal Records Office use the same standards in respect of what constitutes fingerprint identification.

**S2W-20246 Alex Neil:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether all experts within the Scottish Fingerprint Service agree that fingerprint identification is a matter of opinion and not of fact.

**S2W-20247 Alex Neil:** To ask the Scottish Executive what information it is able to provide on any fingerprint experts working in any of the fingerprint bureaux outside of the Scottish Criminal Records Office (SCRO) who have disagreed with any of the SCRO experts fingerprint identifications in the last 10 years, on what the level of disagreement was and on what measures were taken to resolve these disagreements.

**S2W-20248 Alex Neil:** To ask the Scottish Executive whether it is satisfied that all experts within the new Scottish Fingerprint Service agree as to what the definition of a fingerprint identification is.