Scottish Parliament trialling subtitles for FMQs



New subtitling service makes FMQs more accessible

A new service aimed at making First Minister's Questions (FMQs) more accessible is now available on the Scottish Parliament's You Tube channel. From today, subtitles will be available on the video archive of FMQs footage to improve accessibility and allow a wider audience to watch questions being put to the First Minister the same afternoon it is broadcast.

Running for an initial trial period, the new service will use the text from the Official Report and will be available on Thursday afternoon after First Ministers Question Time takes places and usually by 4.30 pm.

Speaking about the new service, Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body member David Stewart MSP said:-"Openness and accessibility have always been at the heart of the work of the Scottish Parliament. I am delighted to announce that we will be trialling this new service as a way of bringing First Minister's Question Time to as wide an audience as possible. Being able to see subtitled archived coverage so quickly is a significant step forward."

The new service is the latest addition to the range of services available to those wishing to engage in Parliamentary business. These include providing information about the Scottish Parliament and its work in a range of different formats including Braille, audio, large print and British Sign Language.

In addition, where visitors are attending parliamentary

business or going on a guided tour, BSL / English interpreters are available if booked in advance through Visitor Services.

People wishing to use the new service can go the Scottish Parliament's <u>You Tube</u> channel. The archived video of FMQs will now include the option to add captions.

The initial trial will run until the end of December 2014.