

Rhoda Grant, Highlands and Islands Labour MSP, has been questioning Cabinet Secretary for Health over the future of local voluntary groups put under threat as a result of the Highland Council budget.

In the Parliament Mrs Grant said that the vulnerable people in the Highlands have received support from Highland Community Care Forum and Age Concern Highland—voluntary organisations previously funded by Highland Council. She expressed her concern over the removal of funding and asked what the minister will do to provide services to vulnerable people in the Highlands and protect these organisations.

Nicola Sturgeon said she would look at the issue but added: “The Scottish Government provides funding to local authorities and NHS boards, but it is for local agencies to determine their areas' needs.”

ends