Scottish Council of Jewish Communities

BEMIS
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Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

MEMO is produced by the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities in partnership with BEMIS - empowering Scotland's ethnic and cultural minority communities. It provides an overview of information of interest to minority ethnic communities in Scotland, including parliamentary activity at Holyrood and Westminster, new publications, consultations, forthcoming conferences and news reports.

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Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month, and that the Scottish and UK Parliament and Government websites been redesigned, so that links published in back issues of MEMO may no longer work. To find archive material on these websites, copy details from MEMO into the relevant search facility.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and click here to be added to the mailing list.

The Scottish Parliament is in recess until 17 April 2017. The UK Parliament House of Commons is in recess until 18 April 2017, and the House of Lords will be in recess from 6 to 24 April 2017. The next issue of MEMO will be on 24 April 2017.

Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee

Evidence Session: Destitution, Asylum and Insecure Immigration Status
http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10868&i=99466#ScotParlOR

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Health Services: Migrant Workers
The following three questions all received the same answer
Alison Thewliss [69079] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what

professional bodies in the health sector she consulted on the income thresholds for Tier 2 visas.

NHS: Migrant Workers

Alison Thewliss [69080] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with NHS Scotland on the income thresholds for Tier 2 visas.

Migrant Workers

Alison Thewliss [69081] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of income thresholds for Tier 2 visas; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Government commissioned the independent Migration Advisory Committee to undertake a comprehensive review of the Tier 2 route in June 2015. In carrying out its review, the MAC issued two public calls for evidence (from 18 June to 2 July 2015 and from 2 July to 24 September 2015) and consulted extensively with over 200 organisations, including professional bodies in the health sector across all parts of the UK.

The changes we are making to Tier 2 salary thresholds, which will come into effect on 6 April 2017, therefore reflect the latest evidence provided by the MAC and are measured and balanced. They will contribute to the Government's objective of reducing net migration to sustainable levels and to incentivise employers to up-skill and train resident workers, whilst making sure they can continue to access the workers they need to

More information about the organisations the MAC consulted can be found through the MAC reports at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-tier-2-analysis-of-salary-thresholds

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migration-advisory-committee-mac-review-tier-2-migration

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-24/69079/

and

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-24/69080/

and

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-24/69081/

Migrant Workers: Pregnancy

Peter Kyle [69364] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to case 507/12, heard at the European Court of Justice, if she will take steps to ensure that EEA female citizens residing in the UK who give up work or seeking work because of the physical constraints of the late stages of pregnancy and the aftermath of childbirth retain the status of worker under EU law.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office has incorporated the European Court of Justice's ruling in the case of *Jessy Saint Prix v. Secretary of State for Work and Pensions* C-507/12 into operational guidance for caseworkers, which is available here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-economic-area-nationals-qualified-persons

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69364/

Visas

Tulip Siddiq [69238] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many (a) Tier 1 general, (b) Tier 1 graduate entrepreneur, (c) Tier 1 exceptional talent, (d) Tier 1 investor, (e) Tier 4 general, (f) Tier 4 child and (g) short-term student visas were issued in (i) 2016 and (ii) 2017.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Information on Tier 1, Tier 4, and short-term study (previously referred to as 'student visitor') grants (by calendar year) is published quarterly; latest data in the Home Office's 'Immigration Statistics, October - December 2016', Visa data tables volume 1, table vi_04, available from the https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2016/list-of-tables#visas

Published tables do not contain visa figures for 2017. Our next released publication, on May 25, will contain Q1 2017 figures.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69238/

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Paul Blomfield [66324] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will change the text of EEA Permanent Residence refusal letters to remove the instruction to recipients to make preparations to leave the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office does not send letters to European Economic Area (EEA) nationals instructing them to make preparations to leave the UK. The refusal letters notify them that, on our assessment of the evidence provided, we are unable to confirm that they have acquired permanent residence.

The Home Office also provides applicants with information on options available to them, for example, clear guidance on providing the necessary evidence to make a successful application in the future, and of their right of appeal.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-02/66324/

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Caroline Lucas [68486] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her Department's policy is on whether EEA citizens will be removed from or refused re-entry to the UK on the basis that they do not have comprehensive sickness insurance; and if she will make a statement.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Free Movement Directive requires those who wish to rely on periods of residence as a student or self-sufficient person in order to acquire permanent residence to have held comprehensive sickness insurance for the relevant qualifying periods.

While failure to meet this EU law requirement will lead to a refusal of documentation certifying that the applicant has a right to reside, our longstanding practice is that European Economic Area (EEA) national students or self-sufficient persons will not be removed from the UK solely because they do not have comprehensive sickness insurance. This is because the failure is relatively straightforward to rectify and establish a right to reside in the UK.

Where applications for documentation are refused or rejected, the reasons are explained to applicants and they can, if they wish, apply again with the necessary supporting evidence, although we do not compel them to do so.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-20/68486/

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Tulip Siddiq [69339] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications from EEA nationals for a registration certificate to live in the UK have been (a) submitted, (b) successfully completed and (c) rejected by her Department in each month since January 2016.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Statistics on outcomes of applications for registration certificates for European Economic Area (EEA) nationals are published quarterly in the Immigration Statistics. These include data for

documents issued, refusals and applications deemed invalid and hence rejected. The most recent edition (Immigration Statistics October to December 2016, European Economic Area data table ee_02_q,) is available at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2016/list-of-tables#european-economic-area-eea

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69339/

Immigration: EEA Nationals

Tulip Siddiq [69340] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average waiting time has been for an application for a form EEA document certifying permanent residence in each month since January 2016.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: There is no published data to show monthly waiting times for applications for an EEA document certifying permanent residence during the period requested.

The most recent published figures for the number of applications to European Casework which are concluded within service targets can be found on table in InC 02 of the attached report.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-february-2017

The next release of Transparency Data is due on 25 May 2017.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69340/

Immigration: EU Nationals

Deidre Brock [68727] To ask the Minister for the Cabinet Office, how many nationals from other EU countries residing in the UK have been (a) self-sufficient and (b) students for a period during that residence.

Reply from Chris Skidmore: The information requested falls within the responsibility of the UK Statistics Authority. I have asked the Authority to reply.

Letter from John Pullinger: As National Statistician and Chief Executive of the UK Statistics Authority, I am replying to your Parliamentary Question asking how many nationals from other EU countries residing in the UK have been (a) self-sufficient and (b) students for a period during that residence (68727). It is not possible to directly answer the question from currently available data sources. Firstly, no estimate is available of EU nationals living in the UK who are or have been self sufficient.1 However, we can provide an estimate of the number of EU nationals residing in the UK in 2015 who originally immigrated to study. The Annual Population Survey (APS) collects information on year of arrival and reason for immigration. The APS is a sample survey based on households and does not include people living in most types of communal establishments. 2 Of particular relevance for this question, it will exclude students living in halls of residence with non-UK resident parents. To provide a response to your question we have used data collected from APS for the 2015 calendar year, which are the latest data available. The APS estimates that for 2015 there were 309,000 nonUK EU nationals living in the UK (with a confidence interval of +/- 25,000), whose original reason for migration was formal study. These figures can be found in table 2.5 of the Annual Population of the United Kingdom by Country of Birth and Nationality publication.3 This estimate will include those who stated formal study as their main reason for arrival, irrespective of when this was. No estimate is available of those who declared another main reason for coming to the UK, but subsequently undertook study.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-21/68727/

Immigration: EU Nationals

Deidre Brock [68728] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for permanent residency from nationals from other EU countries who have been in the UK for a continuous period of five years have been rejected due to the applicant being (a) self-sufficient or (b) a student for a period during that residency without a comprehensive sickness insurance policy in each of the last five years.

> **Reply from Robert Goodwill:** The information requested is not collated on centrally held statistical databases and could only be produced at disproportionate cost by examination of individual case files.
>
> Applications for documentation certifying permanent residence are refused where they do not meet the requirements set out in EU law in the Free Movement Directive. The Free Movement Directive is clear that those who wish to rely on periods of residence as a student or self-sufficient person must have held comprehensive sickness insurance in order for their residence to count towards permanent residence status.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-21/68728/

Immigration: EU Nationals

Deidre Brock [68794] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what information the Government has provided to citizens from other EU countries residing in the UK as self-sufficient persons or students of the requirement to have comprehensive sickness insurance.

> **Reply from Robert Goodwill:** Guidance on the conditions for exercising Treaty rights as a self sufficient person or student has always been publicly available to EU nationals. This can currently be found from page 21 onwards of the guidance on 'qualified persons' available on the GOV.UK website via the link below:
> https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-economic-area-nationals-qualified-persons

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-21/68794/

Immigration: EU Nationals

The following two questions both received the same answer

Deidre Brock [To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance] er Department provides to universities and colleges on the requirement for comprehensive sickness insurance for EU citizens from outside the UK.

Deidre Brock [68897] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what guidance her Department provides for insurance providers and non-UK EU citizens who plan to be resident in the UK on what qualifies as comprehensive sickness insurance.

> **Reply from Robert Goodwill:** Guidance on which groups of EU nationals require comprehensive sickness insurance as well as the types of documents accepted to meet this condition has always been publicly available to all parties. This can currently be found from page 30 onwards of the guidance on 'qualified persons' available on the GOV.UK website via the link below:
> https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-economic-area-nationals-qualified-persons

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-23/68896/
and
http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-23/68897/

Asylum

Liz McInnes [69301] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will

ensure that all local authorities take in a fair share of asylum seekers.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Government is committed to ensuring a more equitable distribution of asylum seekers across the UK. However, one needs to consider that not all asylum seekers receive Home Office support or accommodation while their claim is considered. The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 introduced the policy of national dispersal, designed to share the impact of supported asylum seekers across the whole of the UK. Since 2015, the Home Office has been working closely with local authorities across the UK to increase the number of areas that participate in the dispersal scheme; this activity has increased the number of dispersal areas by a third.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69301/

Asylum: Maternity Benefits

Rob Marris [68415] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many days on average it takes between receipt of an application claiming asylum in the UK and the date of first payment of (a) maternity grant, (b) maternity allowance and (c) maternity pay.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Details of the support available to asylum seekers including payments toward the costs arising from the birth of a new baby can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/asylum-support/overview

Information on the average length of time between asylum application and maternity payment is not routinely collected and could only be provided by examination of individual case records, which would result in disproportionate cost.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-17/68415/

Asylum: Hearing Impairment

Alison Thewliss [68748] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 13 March 2017 to Question 67025, which support groups are engaged by the Home Office to support asylum applicants who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Asylum claims made by those who are deaf or hard of hearing are processed in a way that ensures that claimants are not disadvantaged. Where available, officials will use hearing loops, signers or allow the submission of written evidence. These methods have ensured cases have progressed without the need for support groups however should specialist support be necessary to progress a case then we would of course engage accordingly.

Those granted asylum or resettled in the UK have the right to access disability support services offered by local authorities.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-21/68748/

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-08/67025/

Asylum: Children

Geoffrey Cox [69137] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children she plans to resettle in the UK under the Dubs amendment in the next six months.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: On 8 February, the Government announced that we will transfer the specified number of 350 children to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 following consultation with local authorities on capacity. This includes the more than 200 children already transferred under section 67

from France as part of the UK's support for the Calais camp clearance. Further transfers are expected to begin shortly.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-27/69137/

Asylum: Children

Imran Hussain [69501] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government is taking to ensure that the unique needs of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children are met during integration into education, care and health services.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Local authorities have a statutory duty under the Children Act to ensure that they safeguard and promote the welfare of all children, regardless of their immigration status or nationality. Under these arrangements, unaccompanied asylum seeking children are assessed with regard to their individual needs and provided with access to education, accommodation, and psychological and health services, as would be provided to any other looked after child in the UK. They are also provided with a personal social worker. We work closely with Department for Education and local authorities to support effective access to, and delivery of, these services to this group of children.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-28/69501/

Asylum: Children

Imran Hussain [69503] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what measures are in place to ensure that the receipt of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (a) incorporates young person-centred practice and (b) is efficient.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office takes its responsibility for the welfare of children very seriously and immigration officials receive specific training on responding to children's needs. As soon as possible after claiming asylum, identity details of unaccompanied children are registered and a welfare interview conducted to identify any safeguarding concerns. All unaccompanied asylum seeking children are referred to the local authority children's services so that accommodation and welfare needs can be assessed and appropriate provision made. A referral is also made to the Refugee Council Children's Panel which is an independent voluntary organisation funded by the Home Office to provide advice and guidance to unaccompanied children on the asylum process.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-28/69503/

Asylum: Children

Imran Hussain [69504] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps the Government takes to minimise the separation of peer and sibling groups among unaccompanied asylum-seeking children as part of the National Transfer Scheme.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The National Transfer Protocol, which provides guidance on the operation of the National Transfer Scheme and can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/534258/Interim_National_UASC_transfer_protocol.pdf, sets out that a child's best interests must be at the heart of transfer decisions. This will include taking account of an unaccompanied child's peer and sibling groups and ensuring that unaccompanied children can maintain contact and, wherever possible, are placed in the same local authority area as their siblings.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-28/69504/

Detention Centres: Guard Dogs

Stuart McDonald [68452] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what her policy is on use of dogs to patrol (a) immigration detention centres and (b) Dungavel immigration removal centre.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The requirement to maintain the security of an immigration removal centre (IRC) is set out in the Detention Centre Rules 2001. The published Detention Services Operating Standards set out the requirement for each IRC to have a local security strategy, which includes searching procedures to detect and deter threats to the security or control of the centre.

The Operating Standards also require a full-length physical perimeter search to be conducted daily.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-20/68452/

Immigrants: Detainees

Anne Main [68624] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the cost of detaining EU nationals in immigration removal centres in each of the last five years.

Reply fromRobert Goodwill: The average cost per day of immigration detention and this was last published on 23rd February 2017 at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-enforcement-data-february-2017

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-20/68624/

Immigration (Trafficking)

Stuart McDonald [68451] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people who passed through the National Referral Mechanism as victims of modern slavery or of human trafficking with positive conclusive grounds status were granted discretionary leave to remain in the UK in (a) 2014-15, (b) 2015-16 and (c) 1 April to 31 December 2016.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Our records indicate that the number of individuals who received a positive conclusive grounds decision from the National Referral Mechanism who were granted discretionary leave to remain in the UK were as shown in table 1 below.

The question has been interpreted as referring to people holding only discretionary leave status following an earlier positive conclusion grounds decision. The grant of limited leave may not have been in the same year as the positive conclusive grounds outcome.

Year Positive CG Outcome Made	Granted DL
2014	129
2015	123
2016	132
Grand Total	384

1. These statistics have been taken from a live operational database. As such, numbers may change as information on that system is updated.
2. Data showing latest case grant. Please note that the DL category includes all types of "Limited Leave".
3. Data only shows those cases where the grant occurs after the positive conclusive grounds outcome.
4. A person might have been granted another form of leave such as asylum instead of a grant of DL, the asylum grant could have occurred at any point during their immigration history.
5. The data is part of a wider data set which looks at different type of grants

individuals might have received using the following hierarchy - Asylum (at any point during their immigration history), HP, DL & ILR (after the positive conclusive grounds stage).

6. The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is the process by which people who may have been victims of modern slavery are identified, referred, assessed and supported in the United Kingdom. ("Modern slavery" is a term that covers slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and human trafficking.) The initial referral goes through a two stage process: a reasonable grounds stage and then, for those with a positive reasonable grounds outcome (where it is considered that the person is a potential victim of trafficking/slavery), a conclusive grounds stage (where the person is considered to be a confirmed victim of trafficking/slavery) .

We cannot determine if the grant is linked to the fact that the person was also a victim of trafficking.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-20/68451/

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL6019] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many further leave to remain applications made on the basis of (1) family, and (2) private, life were determined within usual Home Office service standards in each year since 2013.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Data on UK Visas and Immigration temporary and permanent migration activities including In-Country Work In Progress Casework, and Percentage of Temporary and Permanent Migration in-country visa applications for each Route, processed within Service Standards, is published on the .GOV.UK website. The relevant Routes are 'Spouse/Partner' as indicated on worksheet InC_02.

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data

2014 figures

2015 figures

2016 figures

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-03-13/HL6019/

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL6020] To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the average length of time taken to determine an initial further leave to remain application made on the basis of (1) family, and (2) private, life in (a) 2015, and (b) 2016.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Data on UK Visas and Immigration temporary and permanent migration activities including In-Country Work In Progress Casework, and Percentage of Temporary and Permanent Migration in-country visa applications for each Route, processed within Service Standards, is published on the .GOV.UK website. In this instance the data provided on worksheet InC_05 gives an overall picture across Temporary and Permanent Migration and is not determined by Route.

https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data

The relevant tables are also attached to this answer.

2014 figures

2015 figures

2016 figures

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-03-13/HL6020/

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL6021] To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the average length of time taken to determine a second or subsequent further leave to remain application made on the basis of (1) family, and (2) private, life in (a) 2015, and (b) 2016.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Home Office Systems cannot be interrogated in a way that will provide any meaningful response to the question. A manual review of all applications submitted within the stipulated timeframe would be needed in order to provide an accurate response and this would incur a disproportionate cost to the public purse.

Therefore, the average length of time taken to determine a second or subsequent further leave to remain application made on the basis of (1) family, and (2) private, life in (a) 2015, and (b) 2016 cannot be provided.

The versions for previous years are available here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-november-2014

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-february-2015

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-november-2016

These tables have also been attached to this answer.

2014 data

2015 data

2016 data

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-03-13/HL6021/

Asylum: LGBT People

The following three questions all received the same answer

Lord Scriven [HL6078] To ask Her Majesty's Government why they did not disclose to Parliament the number of LGBT asylum seekers held in detention over the last eighteen months, despite several oral and written questions, but did disclose the figures through an FOI request by Attitude magazine.

Lord Scriven [HL6079] To ask Her Majesty's Government why Campsfield House, Colnbrook, Harmondsworth and Tinsley House detention centres were unable to give full figures to Attitude magazine of the number of LGBT asylum seekers being held in detention and what action has been taken to rectify this.

Lord Scriven [HL6080] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum seekers who have been recorded as LGBT have been held in detention over the last 12 months and what was the length of detention in each case.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: On 27 February 2017, the Home Office responded to an FOI request asking for information relating to detainees who identify as LGBT in the immigration detention estate. The FOI asked for information relating to detainees who identify as LGBT in the immigration detention estate. This question concerns asylum seekers in detention who have been recorded as being based LGBT.

The FOI response, provided below, set out the number of individuals in detention who have disclosed their sexual orientation as LGBT as a snapshot (on 18 November 2016) and as a total number for the period from 1 January to 18 November 2016, see table below.

Service providers are required to provide opportunities for detainees who wish to do so, to safely disclose their sexual orientation and to ensure that those individuals can easily access support and assistance.

The data you have requested in relation to LGBT asylum seekers held in detention over the last 12 months and the length of detention in each case is not readily

available. It is not incumbent upon a detained individual to declare their sexuality. The required information would only be recorded in the case notes sections within the Home Office database or held solely on the paper files. The time required to examine individual cases and extrapolate the required data, would exceed the £800 cost limit.

FOI response to Attitude magazine

	Number of people currently detained who identify as LGBT (as of 18th November 2016)	Number of people currently detained who identify as LGBT from January 1st 2016 – November 2016
Brook House	Less than 5	15
Campsfield	Information not held	Information not held
Colnbrook	5	Information not held
Dungavel	0	Less than 5
Harmondsworth	10	Information not held
Larne House	0	0
Morton Hall	Less than 5	Less than 5
The Verne	Less than 5	43
Tinsley House	Less than 5	Information not held
Pennine House	0	0

Where the number of people identified is low, a parameter is added to ensure individuals are not identifiable, in line with our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. This is provisional management information that is subject to change. It has not been assured to the standard of Official Statistics.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-03-14/HL6078/
and
http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-03-14/HL6079/
and
http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-03-14/HL6080/

Press Release

Trafficking of children: experts highlight widespread problems
http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/trafficking-of-children-experts-highlight-widespread-problems

New Publications

Statistics on migrants and benefits
http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-7445/CBP-7445.pdf

Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Annual Report
https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=0900001680702ff5

Welcoming Syrian Refugees: an introductory guide
https://issuu.com/theuniversityofwinchester/docs/print_refugee_brochure_2?e=2137537/46284033

News

Sadiq Khan: give EU citizens 'cast-iron guarantee' they can stay in UK
https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/mar/28/sadiq-khan-give-eu-citizens-cast-iron-guarantee-they-can-stay-in-uk

Ministers urged to end 'cruel' policy on child refugees' relatives
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/mar/30/ministers-urged-to-end-cruel-policy-on-child-refugees-family-members

Arrests as Stansted anti-deportation protesters lock themselves to plane
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/mar/29/arrests-as-stansted-anti-deportation-protesters-lock-themselves-to-plane

Home Office contractor 'restrains disabled Yarls Wood woman by chain'
https://www.theguardian.com/law/2017/mar/28/home-office-contractor-restrains-disabled-yarls-wood-woman-by-chain

London shop-worker held at detention centre awaiting deportation after 27 years in UK
http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/london-shop-worker-stojan-jankovic-camden-yugoslavia-keir-starmer-home-offica-visa-a7661281.html

Shop worker, 52, who has lived and paid taxes in the UK for more than 26 years is 'detained at immigration centre the day after Article 50 is triggered and now faces deportation'
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4371756/Shop-worker-faces-deportation-26-years-UK.html

Homes destroyed, traumatised by violence: the real reasons refugees come to the UK
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/apr/02/homes-destroyed-traumatised-by-violence-the-real-reasons-refugees-come-to-the-uk

Scottish IT experts launch coding courses for refugees
http://www.scotsman.com/news/scottish-it-experts-launch-coding-courses-for-refugees-1-4409794

'I don't know if I will see my mum again ... I would give anything, everything, to see her now' Teen asylum seeker's Mother's Day torment
http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/i-dont-know-see-mum-10101752

Teenage asylum seeker brutally attacked in Croydon
http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-39466502

Croydon asylum boy assault: Attackers are scum, says MP
http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-39470487

Teenage asylum seeker fighting for life after 'frenzied attack'
http://www.scotsman.com/news/uk/teenage-asylum-seeker-fighting-for-life-after-frenzied-attack-1-4409739

Asylum seeker fights for his life after 'brutal' hate crime attack
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime_courts/15197944.Asylum_seeker_fights_for_his_life_after___39_brutal__39__hate_crime_attack/

Six held over 'savage' attack on teenage asylum seeker
https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/uk-world/398452/teenage-asylum-seeker-fighting-for-life-after-savage-attack/

Croydon 'hate crime' attack: six arrests after teenager left in critical condition
https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/apr/01/asylum-seeker-fights-for-life-after-hate-attack-in-london

Croydon 'hate crime': Six arrested on suspicion of attempted murder after attack on refugee boy
http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/croydon-hate-crime-six-arrested-shrublands-goat-pub-asylum-seeker-latest-a7662516.html

Teenage asylum seeker critically ill in hospital after 'brutal gang attack'
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/04/01/teenage-asylum-seeker-critically-hospital-brutal-gang-attack/

Six arrested after 'hate crime' gang beat asylum seeker of 17
http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/hate-crime-gang-beat-asylum-seeker-of-17-67cx9rhbc

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Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Anti-poverty policy and programme

S5W-08138 Alex Rowley: To ask the Scottish Government what action it has taken to (a) fill evidence gaps on (i) how and (ii) to what extent people from minority ethnic groups are accessing benefits to which they are entitled and (b) ensure that all anti-poverty policy and programme areas are fully impact-assessed for equality.

Reply from Jeane Freeman: The Race Equality Framework committed the Scottish Government to fill the gaps in current knowledge on how and to what extent minority ethnic people are accessing the benefits they are entitled to. The Framework covers the period 2016-2030, and we have already taken some action on this front.

During the social security consultation, we spoke directly to minority ethnic groups and listened closely to what they told us in terms of the issues they faced of access and culture with a view to ensuring that the delivery of our social security system understands and can support action to overcome these barriers.

The benefit take up campaign launched in March 2017 was the first phase of our work in this area. This work will be developed over the course of the parliamentary term. We will continue to listen to and take views from a range of equality organisations on how best to increase take up amongst groups that are currently under represented as part of this process. We remain absolutely committed to working with our partners to ensure that all groups and communities access what they are entitled to.

More widely social security Experience Panels will ensure that those in receipt of benefits are involved in designing the social security system in a meaningful way. By sampling from DWP lists of current recipients, and by having separate panels for each benefit (or group of benefits) each panel will be representative of people in Scotland currently receiving the devolved benefits. The sample has been drawn using the National Record of Statistics postcode list for Scotland so will cover all

areas of Scotland. We will also work closely with key organisations to ensure that minority ethnic communities are fully represented on the panels.
An initial equality impact assessment was published as part of the social security consultation with a request for respondents to help develop this further for publication alongside the Social Security Bill.
http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-08138

Press Release

How to improve local Roma inclusion
http://fra.europa.eu/en/news/2017/how-improve-local-roma-inclusion

News

Study reveals Scotland's sectarian equality gap
http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/study-reveals-scotland-s-sectarian-equality-gap-1-4409787

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Press Releases

Landlord to face legal action for banning 'coloured' people from renting his properties
https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/landlord-face-legal-action-banning-coloured-people-renting-his-properties

Regional and Local Representatives reaffirmed their commitment to the fight against anti-Gypsyism
http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/mayors-regional-and-local-representatives-reaffirmed-their-fight-against-anti-gypsyism

New Publication

Stand Up - Call to Action
https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/news/stand-up-call-to-action-2

News

Islamophobic crimes rose after Westminster attacks, police reveal
http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/islamophobic-crime-numbers-rise-london-terror-attack-westminster-racism-anti-muslim-a7655971.html

Anti-Muslim Hate Did Not Reach High Peaks After the Westminster Terrorist Attacks
https://tellmamauk.org/anti-muslim-hate-not-reach-high-peaks-westminster-terrorist-attacks/

Ethnic minorities 'get tougher sentences due to distrust in courts'
https://www.theguardian.com/law/2017/mar/28/ethnic-minorities-get-tougher-sentences-due-to-distrust-in-courts

We expose gun-toting Nazi yob Steven Wright who admits allegiance to gang who praised MP Jo Cox's murder
http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/unmasked-expose-gun-toting-nazi-10142761

Neo-Nazi white supremacist who mocked concentration camp victims and backs group who praised the murder of MP Jo Cox
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4372516/Pictured-Neo-Nazi-leads-racist-National-Action-group.html

'Their message is urgent': the Holocaust survivor and his 7,000 pieces of antisemitic propaganda
https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2017/mar/27/holocaust-survivor-antisemitic-art-arthur-langerman

Form 696: Concern over 'racist' police form to be raised
http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-39181672

Just 1% of prisoners win discrimination cases against staff
https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/apr/01/prison-racial-religious-discrimination-complaints-report

Humour Over Hatred: New Anti-Sectarian Awareness Campaign Launched
https://www.actiononsectarianism.info/news/humour-over-hatred-new-anti-sectarian-awareness-campaign-launched-2

Tycoon who banned 'coloured' tenants blames lettings agent for public backlash
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15189017.Tycoon_who_banned__coloured__tenants_blames_lettings_agent_for_public_backlash/

Landlord investigated over 'disgusting remark' about 'coloured' people
https://www.theguardian.com/society/2017/mar/28/landlord-fergus-wilson-said-coloured-people-leave-curry-smell

Britain's biggest buy-to-let landlord bans 'coloured people' because of 'the curry smell'
http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/03/29/britains-biggest-landlord-bans-coloured-people-curry-smell/

The ugly faces of hate and we will not tolerate them in our community
http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/ugly-faces-hate-not-tolerate-10136166

Police make 14 arrests as rival groups clash at joint Britain First-EDL protest in London
http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/britain-first-english-defence-league-march-westminster-far-right-a7661561.html

Violent clashes break out as the EDL and anti-fascist groups stage rival marches through central London
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4370910/Violent-clashes-break-EDL-protest.html

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Independence Referendum

Scottish Parliament Debate

Independence Referendum
http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10869&i=99474#ScotParlOR

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Independence Referendum (Assessment of Support)

Lewis Macdonald: To ask the Scottish Government what assessment it has carried out of public support for a second referendum on Scotland leaving the United Kingdom. (S5O-00828)

> **Reply from the Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe (Michael Russell):** The current Scottish Government was elected last year with the largest ever constituency vote since the beginning of devolution on a clear manifesto pledge that "the Scottish Parliament should have the right to hold another referendum ... if there is a significant and material change in the circumstances that prevailed in 2014, such as Scotland being taken out of the EU against our will." That specific "material change" is now taking place. We believe that the people of Scotland should have the final choice over their future once the terms of Brexit are clear.

Lewis Macdonald: I take it from that answer that the Government has carried out no assessment of public attitudes on this matter since the Brexit referendum on 23 June. Has the minister considered the opinion poll evidence, which Professor John Curtice summed up in a blog on 2 March? That evidence is that Scottish voters are overwhelmingly opposed to a second independence referendum before the final outcome of Brexit negotiations is clear. Does the minister agree that the priority for the Scottish Government for the next two years should be to protect Scotland's vital interests in those negotiations and to secure the repatriation of powers over devolved areas from Brussels to Holyrood rather than to promote a further referendum that the Scottish people do not want?

> **Reply from Michael Russell:** Those two objectives are not mutually contradictory, of course. Indeed, this very day, I received a letter from David Davis that looks forward to working together on some of the issues that lie ahead. Lewis Macdonald is wrong about that matter and about the opinion poll evidence, which shows a split of about 50:50 in those circumstances. Very clear indications of public support are often available in the opinion polls. I draw attention to the opinion polls that show that the Labour Party is in third place in Scotland. That is an indication of the public support for Lewis Macdonald, his point of view and the Labour Party.

Lewis Macdonald: On a point of order, Presiding Officer. I assume that Mr Russell has inadvertently confused my question about support for holding a referendum with a different question about support for independence. Will he correct the record at this point?

The Presiding Officer (Ken Macintosh): That is not a point of order, Mr Macdonald, but I am sure that the point has been noted by the minister. …

Adam Tomkins (Glasgow) (Con): … it has been said that "To propose another referendum in the next parliament without strong evidence that a significant number of those who voted No have changed their minds would be wrong and we won't do it"; and, "If I, the SNP, those who believe in independence, can't shift opinion from September 2014, we won't earn the right to ask the question again".

Both of those statements are direct quotations from the First Minister. Was she wrong? If she was not wrong, why have ministers changed their minds?

Reply from Michael Russell: The member knows very well that the manifesto on which the First Minister, I and everyone on this side of the chamber stood—I read it out in my original answer, to which the member was clearly not listening—says: "the Scottish Parliament should have the right to hold another referendum ... if there is a significant and material change in the circumstances that prevailed in 2014 such as Scotland being taken out of the EU against our will."

The member has clearly seen what has been taking place today. He has clearly seen the attitude of the Prime Minister. In all those circumstances, that manifesto commitment has been fulfilled and will be followed.

Secondly, I make the point that it is a dangerous position for any Opposition to believe that it can veto a majority in the Parliament that is based on a manifesto commitment. That is not democracy, and those who choose to depart from that cannot, by definition, be democrats.

http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10873&i=99500#ScotParlOR

Press Releases

Section 30 letter
https://news.gov.scot/news/section-30-letter

Parliament backs independence referendum
https://news.gov.scot/news/parliament-backs-independence-referendum

News

Scottish Parliament backs referendum call
http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-39422747

Holyrood backs Nicola Sturgeon's call for second independence referendum
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15187356.Holyrood_backs_Nicola_Sturgeon_s_call_for_second_independence_referendum/?ref=mr&lp=14

Westminster digs in its heels as Holyrood votes for second referendum
http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15187828.Westminster_digs_in_its_heels_as_Holyrood_votes_for_second_referendum/?ref=mr&lp=4

Holyrood's indyref2 vote rejected by Westminster
http://www.scotsman.com/news/holyrood-s-indyref2-vote-rejected-by-westminster-1-4405727

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Releases

Scotland's Futures Forum launches its 'Scotland 2030' programme
http://www.parliament.scot/newsandmediacentre/104110.aspx

Search for volunteers begins
https://news.gov.scot/news/search-for-volunteers-begins

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Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answer

Female Genital Mutilation

Michael Gove [68103] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps her Department is taking to protect girls from female genital mutilation.

Reply from Edward Timpson: The Department for Education's vision statement, Putting Children First, published in July 2016, set out our commitment to protecting children from all forms of abuse, including female genital mutilation (FGM). The Children and Social Work Bill, currently before Parliament, will help us to deliver the change needed to secure a system that meets children's needs.

As well as that wide-ranging work on safeguarding, we are currently funding two voluntary sector organisations working to safeguard girls from FGM. The Foundation for Women's Health Research and Development (FORWARD) and the Midaye Somali Development Network have been allocated a total of over £600,000 for work from December 2016 until March 2018.

On 1 March the Secretary of State made a statement to this House announcing her intention to put Relationships and Sex Education on a statutory footing. There will be a comprehensive programme of engagement, followed by full public consultation, and I know that those campaigning on issues such as FGM will want to contribute to that discussion.

http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-03-15/68103/

"Putting Children First", referred to in the above answer, can be read at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/554573/Putting_children_first_delivering_vision_excellent_childrens_social_care.pdf

The statement referred to in the above answer can be read at http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-statement/Commons/2017-03-01/HCWS509/

Press Release

Inspirational Muslims and the fight against terrorism
https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/inspirational-muslims-and-the-fight-against-terrorism

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Brexit

Press Releases

First Minister on Article 50
https://news.gov.scot/news/first-minister-on-article-50

Great Repeal Bill
https://news.gov.scot/news/great-repeal-bill

Exiting the European Union
https://www.gov.uk/guidance/exiting-the-european-union

David Davis' Commons statement on the Great Repeal Bill White Paper
https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/david-davis-commons-statement-on-the-great-repeal-bill-white-paper

Prime Minister's Commons statement on triggering Article 50
https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-commons-statement-on-triggering-article-50

Prime Minister's letter to European Council President Donald Tusk triggering Article 50
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/604079/Prime_Ministers_letter_to_European_Council_President_Donald_Tusk.pdf

London Mayor: "We are still going to be part of the European family"
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20170324STO68407/london-mayor-%E2%80%9Cwe-are-still-going-to-be-part-of-the-european-family%E2%80%9D

Statement by the European Council* (Art. 50) on the UK notification
http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_STATEMENT-17-793_en.htm?locale=en

Brexit: MEPs set out conditions for approving UK withdrawal agreement
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20170329IPR69014/brexit-meps-set-out-conditions-for-approving-uk-withdrawal-agreement

Article 50: how the future of EU-UK relations will be decided
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20170324STO68408/article-50-how-the-future-of-eu-uk-relations-will-be-decided

New Publication

The Great Repeal Bill White Paper: Legislating for the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/604514/Great_repeal_bill_white_paper_print.pdf

News

Brexit sovereignty plan set out in Great Repeal Bill
http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-39439554

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Other News

Female Genital Mutilation victim opens up about her horrific experience and how she helps others cope
http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/female-genital-mutilation-victim-opens-10114934

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

Scottish Parliament

Domestic Abuse Bill
http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/Bills/103883.aspx

Bills in Progress
UK Parliament

Ethnicity Pay Gap Bill
http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/ethnicitypaygap.html

EU Citizens Resident in the United Kingdom (Right to Stay)
http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/eucitizensresidentintheunitedkingdomrighttostay.html

**** Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill**
http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html

This Bill was expected to resume its second reading debate on Friday 24 March 2017 but the order was not moved so the bill has effectively been dropped by its sponsoring MP and will not progress any further.

Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill
http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/studentsupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

*** closes next week!*
Housing for disabled people (closing date 18 April 2017)
https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/inquiries-and-investigations/inquiry-housing-disabled-people

**** Domestic Abuse Bill** (closing date 1 May 2017)
http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/CurrentCommittees/104171.aspx

Policing 2026: Draft Strategy (closing date 8 May 2017)
https://consult.scotland.police.uk/consultation/2026/

Improving educational outcomes for children and young people from travelling cultures (closing date 28 May 2017)
https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/support-and-wellbeing/improving-educational-outcomes-for-children/

**** Caste in Great Britain and Equality Law** (closing date 18 July 2017)
https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/caste-in-great-britain-and-equality-law-a-public-consulation

Here to Stay? Young Eastern Europeans' experiences of life in the UK
(no closing date given)
https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/heretostayproject

Hate Crime and Prejudice Scotland Mapping Exercise (no closing date given)
https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BJPT5PL

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)
http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation

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Job Opportunities

***Click here* to find out about job opportunities**

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Funding Opportunities

** new or updated this week

Creative Communities Fund
Closing date for applications: 28 April 2017
Community groups from across Scotland that are led by refugees or that have a focus on working with refugees can apply for up to £500 to participate in the festival. Groups can apply for funding to deliver an event or activity with their members and local audiences that will help to strengthen their connections, partnerships and networks with receiving communities. For more information and guidance please contact:
communitydevelopment@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk
http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/refugee_festival_scotland

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

Cultural Competence
25 April 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)
Scottish Refugee Council course focusing on how culture affects all our lives, and examines the extent to which culture influences and governs our beliefs, attitudes, behaviours and decision-making. It explores our own practice and attitudes to cultural differences, and examines different worldviews, so that participants can confidently work with people no matter where they come from. For information see http://tinyurl.com/jdfkkz2 or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Domestic Abuse and BME Women, Children and Young People
26 (9.30-4.30) and 27 (9.30-12.30) April 2017 in Edinburgh
Shakti training to include definitions of domestic abuse; how domestic abuse affects women and families from BME communities, and BME children and young people; the concept of 'honour' and how it affects BME women experiencing domestic abuse; forced marriage; and immigration issues including entitlement to support. For information see http://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/events-training/ or contact info@shaktiedinburgh.co.uk / 0131 475 2399

**** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Seminar**
2 May 2017 in Glenrothes (10.00-2.00)
Fife Violence Against Women Partnership seminar for professionals to raise awareness of the very current issue surrounding female genital mutilation, including prevalence, consequences, legal aspects and implications for practice. For information see https://www.fifevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=8332 or contact Mary MacIntyre 01592 583 690 / fvawp@fife.gov.uk

**** Fair and equal volunteering**
9 May 2017 in Glenrothes (9.30-1.00)
Fife Voluntary Action course to enable organisations to feel more confident in understanding the difference between equality and diversity. For information see https://www.fifevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=8216 or contact David 0800 389 6046 / info@fifevoluntaryaction.org.uk

Separated Children
11 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)
Scottish Refugee Council course about supporting separated child refugees. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Working with Interpreters
31 May 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)
Scottish Refugee Council course to examine the process of using an interpreter, where the responsibility lies for the success of the interpreted session, examines the pitfalls and their consequences, and sets out best practice for using interpreters. For information see http://tinyurl.com/jt93fog or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Integration and Working with Syrian Families
1 June 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)
Scottish Refugee Council course to explore the issues facing Syrian refugees as they move from countries around Syria to the UK, and highlights the challenges and opportunities for them as they build a new life here in Scotland. For information see http://tinyurl.com/zy436gr or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Making change happen: Using the courts to make rights a reality
1 June 2017 in Edinburgh (10.00-4.00)
Human Rights Consortium Scotland workshop to discuss how organisations can use the law and the courts to bring about social change. For information see http://tinyurl.com/l8hfxsm

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees
7 June 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)
Scottish Refugee Council course to examine why people might need to flee their own country, how they seek asylum in the UK and what opportunities they have for rebuilding their lives here in Scotland. For information see http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8 or contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

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Useful Links

Scottish Parliament http://www.parliament.scot/

Scottish Government http://www.gov.scot/

UK Parliament http://www.parliament.uk/

GovUK (links to UK Government Departments) https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations

UK Government Honours system https://www.gov.uk/honours/overview

European Parliament http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/

One Scotland http://onescotland.org/

Scottish Refugee Council http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Interfaith Scotland http://www.interfaithscotland.org/

Equality and Human Rights Commission http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/

Equality Advisory Support Service http://www.equalityadvisoryservice.com

Scottish Human Rights Commission http://scottishhumanrights.com/

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

SCVO http://www.scvo.org.uk/

Volunteer Development Scotland http://www.volunteerscotland.net/

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) http://www.oscr.org.uk/

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) www.volunteerscotland.net/disclosure-services

Disclosure Scotland https://www.mygov.scot/working-jobs/finding-a-job/disclosure/

BBC News http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/

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*The **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities (SCoJeC)** is the representative body of all the Jewish communities in Scotland. It advances public understanding about the Jewish religion, culture and community, and also works in partnership with other organisations to promote good relations and understanding among community groups and to promote equality. (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation SC029438)* ***http://www.scojec.org/***

BEMIS** is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting, empowering, and building the capacity of minority third sector community organisations. As a strategic partner with Government, it is proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland, and helps develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK, and European levels. (Scottish Charity, no. SC027692)* ***http://www.bemis.org.uk/

*The **Scottish Government** is committed to promoting equality of opportunity and social justice for all those who live in Scotland. **One Scotland** is the Scottish Government campaign designed to tackle racism. It aims to raise awareness of racist attitudes, highlight its negative impact and recognise the valuable contributions that other cultures have made to our society – and make Scotland no place for racism.* ***http://onescotland.org/***

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