

Minority Ethnic Matters Overview

*MEMO is produced by the **Scottish Council of Jewish Communities** in partnership with the **Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland**. 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.*

Contents

[Immigration and Asylum](#)

[Race Relations](#)

[Equality](#)

[Racism and Religious Hatred](#)

[Other Holyrood](#)

[Other Westminster](#)

[New Publications](#)

[Other News](#)

[Bills in Progress](#)

[Consultations](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Events/Conferences/Training](#)

[Useful Links](#)

Note that some weblinks, particularly of newspaper articles, are only valid for a short period of time, usually around a month.

Please send information for inclusion in MEMO to MEMO@scojec.org and requests to be added to circulation to mail@bemis.org.uk

The UK Parliament is in recess until 12 October

Immigration and Asylum

Westminster Parliamentary Questions

Entry Clearances

Richard Benyon [287791]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many residence applications from EEA nationals are awaiting assessment.

Reply from Phil Woolas: As of 15 July there were 71,428 EEA residence applications of all categories awaiting assessment.

Richard Benyon [287792]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many outstanding residence applications from EEA nationals have exceeded the six month time limit set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2006.

Reply from Phil Woolas: As of 15 July there were 27,120 EEA residence applications that have been outstanding for more than six months. This does not include applications made by EEA nationals for registration certificates, which are not subject to the same time scales.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090909/text/90909w0004.htm#0909099000004>

Immigration and Asylum Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Overseas Students: Entry Clearances

Mark Oaten [287901]: To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department how long on average elapsed between the receipt by the Charging Unit of an application for a student visa extension and the receipt by the applicant of an IDFN form between January and June (a) 2008 and (b) 2009; and in what proportion of cases the time elapsed was more than three months in each period.

Reply from Phil Woolas: The information is not available in the precise format requested. Available information is as follows:

	<i>Average time (days) taken to deal with an in country application for leave to remain as a student (a)</i>	<i>Percentage of cases where turnaround time was more than 90 days (b)</i>
1 January-30 June 2008	⁽¹⁾ 29	⁽¹⁾ 2
1 January-30 June 2009	⁽²⁾ 63	⁽²⁾ 7
⁽¹⁾ 1,288 applications ⁽²⁾ 4,056 applications <i>Note:</i> All figures quoted are not provided under national statistics protocols and have been derived from local management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change.		

Time taken to deal with in country applications for leave to remain as a student
 All figures quoted are not provided under national statistics protocols and have been derived from local management information and are therefore provisional and subject to change.

The figures in column (a) are calculated from the date of receipt by the Charging Unit to the date of despatch of the decision.

A requirement that applicants applying in country for leave to remain as a student must have an identity card was introduced on 25 November 2008. The target time for issue of a card is three working days. This time begins on the date the request to issue the card is received.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090909/text/90909w0004.htm#0909099000006>

Press Releases

Changes to the Immigration Rules

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/september/changes-immigration-rules?area=allNews>

New controls help protect jobs for British workforce

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/september/controls-protect-jobs?area=allNews>

New visa route for Turkish businesspersons

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/turkish-businesspersons?area=allNews>

Immigration and Asylum Press Releases (continued)

Changes to the law on citizenship - information for applicants

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/september/citizenship-law-clarification?area=allNews>

New publications

European Network Against Racism Newsletter

http://cms.horus.be/files/99935/MediaArchive/publications/ENARgy_08_2009_EN_final.pdf

Asylum in Europe: Now it's up to you

http://www.ecre.org/files/AsylumInEurope_ECRE_UNHCR_leaflet_EN.pdf

News

Migrants hit by global downturn

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/8243134.stm>

50,000 extra primary school places needed for 'immigrant baby boom'

<http://www.heraldsotland.com/news/education/50-000-extra-primary-school-places-needed-for-immigrant-baby-boom-1.918017>

Recession moves migration patterns

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8243225.stm>

Delay hits deported family

<http://www.thecourier.co.uk/output/2009/09/09/newsstory13752569t0.asp>

Married woman faces deportation

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/newsnight/8245411.stm>

Minor crime doesn't justify deportation, judges say

<http://www.irr.org.uk/2009/september/bw000003.html>

MigrationWatch: new focus on population growth

<http://www.ippr.org.uk/articles/?id=3712>

SNP in immigration battle

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/SNP-in-immigration-battle.5642393.jp>

Visa rules threaten to split family

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/latestnews/Visa-rules-threaten-to-split.5642413.jp>

Immigration idiocy

<http://scotlandonsunday.scotsman.com/opinion/Immigration-idiocy.5642387.jp>

[TOP](#)

Race Relations

New publications

In Defence of British Muslims: A response to BNP racist propaganda

http://www.quilliamfoundation.org/images/stories/pdfs/in_defence_of_british_muslims_09.pdf

Building Communities of Trust: Community Cohesion in the North

http://www.ippr.org.uk/members/download.asp?f=/ecomm/files/building_communities_event_report.pdf&a=skip

Hatreds that need exposing

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/leading-articles/leading-article-hatreds-that-need-exposing-1786418.html>

[TOP](#)

Equality

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Michael McMahon (S3W-26469): To ask the Scottish Executive how many Irish organisations in Scotland it has contacted in order to promote dialogue about identity and the meaning of multiculturalism or pluralism in modern-day Scotland in accordance with the Scottish Government Race Equality Statement of 8 December 2008.

Reply from Alex Neil: The dialogue around identity and the meaning of multiculturalism or pluralism in modern day Scotland is being taken forward in partnership with a range of stakeholders including Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure Scotland (BEMIS) and Council for Ethnic Minority Voluntary Organisations (CEMVO). These stakeholders are in turn in contact with a range of communities, and we would expect that they would engage those communities, including the Irish Community organisations. It is our intention to involve as many minority ethnic communities as possible, including the Irish community, in our work around identity and multiculturalism. The race conference planned for early 2010 will provide an excellent opportunity to focus on these issues and the Irish community organisations will be invited to attend.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-26469>

Michael McMahon (S3W-26470): To ask the Scottish Executive how much of the £5.6 million allocated in relation to its Race Equality Scheme 2008-2011 has been allocated to projects representing the Irish community in Scotland.

Reply from Alex Neil: The 33 projects allocated funding under the Race, Religion and Refugee Integration Funding Stream are benefiting a wide range of diverse minority ethnic communities. Many of these projects are open to members of all minority ethnic communities, including the Irish community. We did not receive any funding applications for projects from organisations targeting Irish communities.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-26470>

Equality (continued) Holyrood Petition

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to ensure that every NHS board has the structure, funding and capability to provide speedy, accurate and appropriate translation and interpretation services for patients and their families and that such services are consistent across every NHS board.

http://epetitions.scottish.parliament.uk/view_petition.asp?PetitionID=348

Westminster Parliamentary Question

Religion: Conditions of Employment

Evan Harris [290666]: To ask the Minister for Women and Equality what her policy is on (a) whether, in an organisation with a religious ethos, the need of the organisation to maintain such an ethos should constitute a genuine, legitimate and justified occupational requirement to be of a particular religion and (b) the regard to be had to (i) the nature of the employment, (ii) the qualifications of the employee and (iii) the performance of the employee in the job.

Reply from Pat McFadden: The Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) Regulations 2003 contain a specific exception to discrimination on grounds of religion which allows an employer with an ethos based on religion or belief to require that an employee be of a particular religion or belief if it is a genuine occupational requirement for that particular job, and it is proportionate to apply the requirement in each case.

The ethos of the organisation is one factor which employers with a religious ethos take into account. They must also consider the nature of the job or the context in which it is carried out. The qualifications or performance of the employee are not relevant factors when considering whether the requirement to be of a particular religion or belief to do a particular job is genuine or not.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090909/text/90909w0015.htm#09090921000006>

New publication

Evaluation of Partners Outreach for Ethnic Minorities (POEM): Final report

<http://research.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2009-2010/rrep598.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Racism and Religious Hatred

Holyrood Parliamentary Questions

Hugh O'Donnell (S30-7781): To ask the Scottish Executive how it will support anti-racism education during the 2014 Commonwealth games.

Reply from Shona Robison: The Scottish Government is clear that there is no place for any form of discrimination in Scottish society. We are already working with our education partners to support a number of initiatives aimed at stamping out racism. The learning programmes to be delivered in the months leading up to the Commonwealth games will give us a further opportunity to do so.

Hugh O'Donnell: The minister will be aware that the Scottish Government has squirreled away something in the order of £2.9 million from the immigration impact fund. Is the

Racism and Religious Hatred Holyrood Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Government in a position to assure me that organisations such as Black and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure in Scotland, Show Racism the Red Card and the Ethnic Minorities Law Centre will have access to some of that funding to take forward the education programme to which she has referred?

Reply from Shona Robison: I will write to Hugh O'Donnell specifically about the £2.9 million from the immigration impact fund.

We have undertaken a number of initiatives. There is the important on-going work of the one Scotland message. A number of things have happened recently, such as the rock against racism gigs, which the member may have attended—I am sure that the gigs have been very good. It is important to get the message across in different ways. The Commonwealth games provides us with a unique opportunity to do more on the issue of racism because of the links that can be made by communities and schools with the various Commonwealth countries that are taking part. A lot of work is happening, and there are many opportunities to do more.

Bob Doris: One of the key educational opportunities of the 2014 Commonwealth games is that those who have never volunteered before will be given the opportunity to do so and, as a result, to improve their skills base and confidence. Does the minister agree that our new army of volunteers should be drawn from throughout Scottish society and that it should represent the diverse and rich cultural and racial mix within our nation? Does she agree on the benefits that that will have for anti-racism strategies to boot?

Reply from Shona Robison: I very much agree. The volunteering opportunities of the Commonwealth games are enormous—15,000 volunteers are required. Those opportunities will give people in our more deprived communities the chance to develop their education and skills. As I mentioned previously, the games will also allow communities to make links that will develop up to 2014—and beyond, I hope—and to improve their understanding of the cultures of other countries. Schoolchildren in particular will be able to take advantage of that.

Jamie McGrigor: Does the minister agree that as well as focusing on anti-racism education, the best approach is positive encouragement for ethnic minorities to participate in the organising of the games?

Reply from Shona Robison: It is important that people from all backgrounds and cultures are involved in the organisation of the Commonwealth games. We want to draw from all communities—not just in Glasgow but beyond—for the volunteering opportunities that I mentioned. The international spirit of the games gives us an opportunity to break down some of the barriers that, sadly, still exist in Scotland.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/business/officialReports/meetingsParliament/or-09/sor0910-02.htm#Col19487>

Press Release

MOD can no longer rely on national security argument to hold cases in private

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/media-centre/mod-can-no-longer-rely-on-national-security-argument-to-hold-cases-in-private/>

News

Neo-Nazi who planned to launch racist terror campaign locked up indefinitely

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/2009/09/08/neo-nazi-who-planned-to-launch-racist-terror-campaign-locked-up-indefinitely-86908-21657494/>

Racism and Religious Hatred News (continued)

What had white supremacist planned?

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/8150619.stm>

MPs warn that ethnicity data on DNA database is 'not fit for purpose'

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/politics/mps-warn-that-ethnicity-data-on-dna-database-is-not-fit-for-purpose-1.918792>

Family evicted from home after subjecting neighbours to years of racist abuse

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/2009/09/11/council-evicts-family-from-home-after-years-of-racist-abuse-86908-21665205/>

Race abuse family are kicked out of home

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/topstories/Race-abuse-family-are-kicked.5639108.jp>

John Denham condemns far-right groups

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newsttopics/politics/6179514/John-Denham-condemns-far-right-groups.html>

Fascism fears: John Denham speaks out over clashes

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6832035.ece>

Riot police called in as demonstrators clash at anti-Muslim protest

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/riot-police-called-in-as-demonstrators-clash-at-antimuslim-protest-1785797.html>

[TOP](#)

Other Holyrood

Parliamentary Questions

Anne McLaughlin (S3W-26459): To ask the Scottish Executive how many stop and searches have been carried out in Scotland under section 44 of the Terrorism Act 2000 since 2007, broken down by (a) police force and (b) ethnicity of person stopped and searched.

Reply from Kenny MacAskill: The number of stops and searches carried out by Scottish Police Forces in each year since 2007 is shown in the following table. Breakdowns based on ethnicity are not available. Neither the Home Office nor the Scottish Government provide breakdowns of this data by police force, as this could reveal the geographic extent of section 44 authorisations in force at a given point in time.

Year	Number of s44 Stop and Searches
2007	116
2008	1376
2009 (to 31 August)	878

Searches undertaken by the British Transport Police in Scotland are a matter for the Home Office, who receive notification of the number of those searches on a monthly basis.

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/Apps2/Business/PQA/default.aspx?pg=S3W-26459>

Other Holyrood (continued) Press Release

Individual Voter Registration

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/09/07101829>

New publications

Europe and Foreign Affairs: Taking forward our National Conversation

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/283886/0086022.pdf>

Action Plan on European Engagement

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/283725/0085983.pdf>

Action Plan on European Engagement: January - June 2009 Appendices

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/283768/0085988.pdf>

[TOP](#)

Other Westminster

Parliamentary Questions

Travelling People: Caravan Sites

Philip Dunne [290803]: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what guidance his Department has issued to local authorities and regional planning bodies on the conduct of and methodology for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation assessments (GTAAAs); whether it is his Department's policy that GTAAAs should take into account the extent to which the provision of new traveller sites is likely to attract residents from outside the (a) local authority and (b) study area; and what guidance his Department has issued on the extent to which such potential demand should be reflected in assessments of need.

Reply from Ian Austin: Communities and Local Government published guidance on "Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessments" in October 2007.

The guidance provides advice to local authorities on carrying out assessments of the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. It states that the exact approach will need to be adapted to local circumstances.

The responsibility for carrying out the assessment rests with individual local authorities. However, the guidance strongly recommends that local authorities work in partnership with neighbouring authorities. Such an approach will provide a better understanding of migration into, out of, and within the survey area and a better understanding of travelling patterns, particularly where they cross administrative boundaries, factors which must be understood if appropriate provision is to be made.

The guidance advises that the most accurate possible projection of future as well as current need, covering the next 5-10 years, should be made in the assessment.

This would include analysis of travelling patterns within the survey area and in and out of surrounding areas; the likely rate of household formation and annual population increase and the intentions of those households planning to move.

Philip Dunne [290805]: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government what guidance his Department has issued to local planning authorities on whether likely effect on property values is a material consideration in assessing planning applications for Traveller sites.

Other Westminster Parliamentary Questions (continued)

Reply from Ian Austin: Guidance on what matters may be considered as material considerations in assessing planning applications is set out in the 'The Planning System: General Principles', which is an Annex to PPS1. This confirms that material considerations must be genuine planning considerations, i.e. they must be related to the development and use of land in the public interest. The considerations must also fairly and reasonably relate to the application. Ultimately, the Courts are the arbiters of what constitutes a material consideration.

Any development may affect the value of one or more existing properties, either positively or negatively. However, in considering planning applications, including those for Traveller sites, case law, e.g. *Great Portland Estate v. Westminster City Council* [1985], has established that the impact of the proposed development on purely private interests cannot generally constitute a material consideration.

Philip Dunne: To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government pursuant to the answer of 9 February 2009, *Official Report*, column 1700W, on planning permission, what guidance has been provided to local planning authorities on equality and diversity in decisions on planning applications relating to Travellers. [290910]

Reply from Ian Austin: Planning policy for Gypsy and Traveller sites is contained in ODPM Circular 01/06 "Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites". This confirms that Gypsies and Travellers have the same rights and responsibilities within the planning system as all other applicants for planning permission. The Circular includes guidance highlighting the general duty that local authorities have under the Race Relations Act 1976, as amended by the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 to actively seek to eliminate unlawful discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good relations in all they do. This duty does not give Gypsies and Travellers a right to establish sites in contravention of planning control.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200809/cmhansrd/cm090909/text/90909w0026.htm#0909102000039>

Press Releases

Tony Blair speaks on faith and development

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2009/Tony-Blair-speaks-on-faith-and-development/>

Islamic art on show

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/newsroom/latest-news/?view=News&id=20839858>

[TOP](#)

New Publication

Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator: Annual Report and Accounts

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/DocumentViewer.aspx?id=f9522c1a-bfe9-46ae-ad51-286ec4a1f04d>

[TOP](#)

Other News

Designed to Deliver: Changes at OSCR

<http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=b9272e01-49d1-4f8b-9ee2-e67f3836cd40>

[TOP](#)

Bills in Progress ** New or updated this week

Holyrood

Arbitration Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/19-Arbitration/index.htm>

Criminal Justice and Licensing Bill

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/s3/bills/24-CrimJustLc/index.htm>

Bills in Progress

Westminster

Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/borderscitizenshipandimmigration.html>

Crown Employment (Nationality) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/crownemploymentnationality.html>

Equality Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2008-09/equality.html>

[TOP](#)

Consultations (closing date)

** new or updated this week

**** closes this week!**

Preventing Violent Extremism (closes 17 September 2009)

http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/clg/clqpn090721pve.cfm

**** Scottish Refugee Council Strategic Plan** (online survey, no closing date given)

https://eazymultimedia.net/EazySurvey/Questionnaire/EazyQuestionnaire3_home.aspx?proj=5EE31727-0F6C-4EDD-9E7E-E7A75DDCFF9A

Runnymede Trust: Online Survey on Financial Inclusion and Ethnicity

(online survey, no closing date given)

<http://www.surveymethods.com/EndUser.aspx?CEEA869BC7889C9C>

Equality Bill: Policy Proposals for Specific Duties (30 September)

<http://www.equalities.gov.uk/PDF/Specific%20Duties%20Consultation%20DocumentWEB.pdf>

Freedom of Information: Improving Openness (30 September)

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/278119/0083564.pdf>

Consultations (continued)

**** Reform of the House of Commons** (12 October 2009)

<http://news.parliament.uk/2009/09/committee-to-look-at-reform-of-the-commons/>

Earning the right to stay: A new points test for citizenship (26 October)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/earning-the-right-to-stay/earning-the-right-to-stay/earned-citizenship-consultation?view=Binary>

**** Charging for immigration and visa applications** (1 December 2009)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/221878/charging09/>

[TOP](#)

Job Opportunities

[Click here](#) to find out about job opportunities advertised in MEMO+ Recruitment

[TOP](#)

Funding Opportunities

**** closes this week!**

Awards for Bridging Cultures

Closing date for applications: 14 September 2009

This award celebrates organisations running specific projects or schemes that promote interculturality. In 2009 it will also celebrate individuals who have initiated or made a significant contribution to these projects.

There are four different categories of Awards for Bridging Cultures:

- Voluntary or community groups or organisations running projects/schemes to promote intercultural dialogue with gross annual financial income of over £500,000 (in the last two financial years)
- Voluntary or community groups or organisations running projects/schemes to promote intercultural dialogue with gross annual financial income of under £500,000 (in the last two financial years)
- Volunteers or founders who have made a significant contribution to initiating or running projects or schemes to promote intercultural dialogue
- Local authorities, public sector organisations and private companies who can demonstrate their support for voluntary sector projects or schemes which promote intercultural dialogue, either by helping to initiate projects/schemes or by providing ongoing financial and/or other support.

For information and application forms see <http://www.bridgingcultures.org.uk/About>

Faiths in Scotland Community Action Fund

Closing date for applications: 30 September 2009

The fund works with local faith groups as they build hope and struggle against poverty by providing grants and support in Scotland's most fragile urban and rural communities. Applications of up to £15,000 will be considered. This may be spread over a maximum of three years, with no more than £7,500 being awarded in the first year. For information see <http://www.fiscaf.org/index.htm>

[TOP](#)

**** this week!**

Child Tax Credit and Child Benefit for Refugees

18 September 2009 in Glasgow (1.00 - 4.00)

Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland course to awareness and knowledge of frontline workers to increase take-up and reduce child poverty. For information contact Betty Kelly 0141 552 3303 / bkelly@cpagscotland.org.uk

**** Islam and Violence Against Women**

21 September 2009 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

19 October in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.00)

Amina seminar to outline where Islam as a faith stands on the issue of violence against women and highlight some of the misconceptions surrounding issues including domestic abuse, rape, forced marriage, FGM and honour killing. For information contact Tabassum Sarfraz 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk

**** Violence Against Women , Culture and Practice**

22 September 2009 in Glasgow (10.00 – 4.00)

20 October 2009 in Edinburgh (10.00 – 4.00)

Amina seminar to explore the cultural dimensions associated with the perpetration of violence against women. The training is intended give participants the capacity to identify the difference between culture and faith and the complex interaction between them. For information contact Tabassum Sarfraz 0141 585 8026 / info@mwrc.org.uk

Working with Interpreters

22 September in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to address practical, ethical and professional issues regarding working with interpreters, including briefing on legal obligations and entitlement to services. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Get your voice heard by the Justice system

23 September 2009 in Glasgow

BEMIS and Capability Scotland event to enable minority ethnic disabled people and/or people with a long term condition to tell the justice sector about issues in accessing justice. For information contact Tanveer Parnez tanveer.parniez@bemis.org.uk / 0141 548 8047.

Developing Management and Leadership Skills: a positive action course for people from black and minority ethnic communities (November 2009 – June 2010)

Closing date for applications 28 September 2009

Personal development course developed by PATH (Scotland) with funding from the Race Equality and Religion Integration Fund as a positive action measure towards addressing the under-representation of people from black and minority ethnic communities in management roles. It aims to support BME workers currently in employment to fulfil their potential and access management opportunities within and outwith their own organisations. For information contact Najimee Parveen najimee@pathscotland.org.uk / 0141 332 9477 / or see

http://www.pathscotland.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=26&Itemid=57

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

Human Rights and Racial Discrimination: A way forward in Scotland

28 September 2009 in Edinburgh (12.30 – 4.30)

5 October 2009 in Glasgow (12.30 – 4.30)

13 October 2009 in Inverness (12.30 – 4.30)

Glasgow Anti-Racist Alliance seminars to discuss and reflect on recent human rights developments and to seize opportunities to influence the human rights agenda at the UN on race discrimination. For information contact Lyndsay Theobald 0141 418 6530 / lyndsay@gara.org.uk

Prof James Hathaway: The Law of Refugee Status

5 October 2009 in Glasgow (9.30 – 4.30)

A one day seminar on the law of refugee status from the world expert on the subject, Professor Hathaway of the University of Melbourne. For information contact Sheila Coutts at sheila.coutts@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 248 9799 or see http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/noticeboard/Professor_Hathaway

Introduction to Working with Asylum Seekers & Refugees

8 October 2009 in Glasgow

8 December 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course to identify the issues and concerns participants have in relation to working with asylum seekers and refugees, provide information on legal, political, economic and historical factors in relation to people seeking asylum, share ideas for developing good practice, and to identify strategies and resources for work with refugees. For information contact Jamie Spurway 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk or see <http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/training/forms/Notes?formID=73>

FARE Action Week against Racism and Discrimination in European Football

15-27 October 2009

For the 10th successive season the Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE) network is coordinating action in and around football stadiums across Europe, and large sections of the European football family in 40 countries will stand united against racism and discrimination. For information see

<http://www.farenet.org/default.asp?intPageID=7&intArticleID=1970>

Scottish Third Sector Research Conference

26 October 2009 in Edinburgh (9.45 – 5.00)

Conference organised by SCVO in conjunction with the Centre for Public Services Research, Edinburgh University Business School to connect researchers, policy-makers and practitioners to ensure Scotland's Voluntary Sector has the latest knowledge and research at its fingertips. For information contact Ian Lees ian.lees@scvo.org.uk

To find out how to submit a paper for the conference see

<http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Information/ViewInformation.aspx?al=t&page=&all=&from=DSR&Info=1946&TCID=30&PageName=Impact>

Equalities: from vertical to horizontal

29 October 2009 in Glasgow (9.45 – 3.30)

Voluntary Action Fund workshop for organisations striving to work across equality strands. For information contact Rhona Morris rhona.morris@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk / 01383 620780.

Events/Conferences/Training (continued)

An Introduction to the Needs and Experiences of Refugee Women

12 November 2009 in Glasgow

Scottish Refugee Council course for people working with asylum seekers and refugees who need a comprehensive understanding of the core issues affecting women seeking sanctuary in Scotland. For information contact 0141 248 9799 / train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Participation and Influence with New Communities

18 November 2009 in Glasgow

Voluntary Action Fund workshop for organisations working with refugees, asylum seekers and/or migrant communities, and those who have an interest in community participation and partnerships. The workshop will explore what we know of the barriers to involvement in community planning and civic participation by people in Scotland's new communities. For information contact Rhona Morris 01383 620780 / rhona.morris@voluntaryactionfund.org.uk

Scottish Charity Accounts and Reporting to OSCR

30 November 2009 in Edinburgh (9.30 – 4.30)

SCVO seminar to look at what OSCR expects from charities in terms of compliance. For information contact Jane Baillie 0131 474 8019 / jane.baillie@scvo.org.uk

[TOP](#)

Useful Links

Scottish Parliament <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/home.htm>

Scottish Government <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Home>

Westminster Parliament <http://www.parliament.uk/>

Directgov (links to UK Government Departments)

http://www.direct.gov.uk/DI1/Directories/AToZOfCentralGovernment/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=10013528&chk=8b2gQw

European Parliament <http://www.europarl.eu.int/parliament/public.do?language=en>

One Scotland Many Cultures <http://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>

Scottish Refugee Council www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Scottish Inter Faith Council <http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org/>

Equality and Human Rights Commission <http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/>
Scotland Helpline 0845 604 5510

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

ACAS www.acas.org.uk

SCVO <http://www.scvo.org.uk/scvo/Home/Home.aspx>

Volunteer Development Scotland www.vds.org.uk

Useful Links (continued)

Social Economy Scotland <http://www.socialeconomyscotland.info/content/index.asp>

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

Central Registered Body for Scotland (CRBS) <http://www.crbs.org.uk/>

Disclosure Scotland <http://www.disclosurescotland.co.uk/>

BBC News24 <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/default.stm>

BBC Parliament online

http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/bbc_parliament/default.stm

[TOP](#)



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 Charity SC029438) <http://www.scojec.org/>



BEMIS is the Scottish national Ethnic Minorities led umbrella body, supporting the development of the Ethnic Minority Third Sector and communities. BEMIS aims: To empower and build the capacity of minority formal and informal community organisations; As a strategic partner with Government, to be proactive in influencing the development of race equality policy in Scotland; and To help develop and progress multicultural Scotland, active citizenship, democracy, and Human Rights Education at the Scottish, UK and European levels. <http://www.bemis.org.uk/index.html>



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://www.scotlandagainstracism.com/>