

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.

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Oral Answers

Refugees

Anas Sarwar: To ask the First Minister how many refugees the Scottish Government expects to welcome in 2017. (S5F-00844)

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): Scotland has already received around 1,300 refugees under the Syrian resettlement programme since October 2015, and refugees continue to arrive. The arrival of refugees is dependent on many factors, including assessment and screening by the United Nations refugee agency and the Home Office, the matching of refugees with accommodation and services that meet their needs, and other logistical matters such as the arrangement of flights, travel documents and visas. It is for those reasons that I cannot give a figure for the exact number of people who will arrive this year. However, I can say that Scotland will continue to be a country that welcomes those who are seeking refuge from war and persecution, and we are committed to welcoming as many as we can of those who arrive in the UK in 2017.

Anas Sarwar: In a little under two weeks, President Trump has defended torture, banned US aid to health providers that are providing care for women in developing countries, insulted the Jewish community on Holocaust memorial day, imposed a ban on Muslims from seven countries from entering the US and imposed an outright ban on Syrian refugees. At the same time, he has held hands with Theresa May. Many of those actions are designed to incite hatred and create division.

Will the First Minister join me in saying that, although we cannot be complacent about acts of hatred and prejudice, we should recognise the 1.8 million people across the UK who have signed a petition to withdraw the red carpet from President Trump, and also pay tribute to all the people right across the world, irrespective of their faith, colour or nationality, who have joined together to say, “We reject hatred and support humanity in all its forms”?

Reply from the First Minister: Yes—I endorse those comments. I disagree deeply and profoundly with the executive orders that were issued by President Trump last week, banning Syrian refugees and imposing a travel ban on people from seven Muslim-majority countries. Banning people, or even giving the perception that people are being banned on the basis of their faith, religion or origin is profoundly and—in my view—morally wrong, and I think that we should all stand up and say that.

I have already made clear my views about how inappropriate I think it would be to allow a state visit to proceed while those bans are in place, and I hope that the UK Government will think again on that. I had the opportunity to express those views directly to the Prime Minister when I met her in Cardiff on Monday.

People around the world have expressed horror at the policies. On matters that are as fundamentally important as they are, we all have a duty to speak out, to speak up and to oppose, where that is necessary. However, we are under a duty to do more than that; all of us have to lead by example on the kind of world that we want to live in. Scotland is a relatively small country, but through the action that we have already taken in welcoming Syrian refugees and the action that we are determined to continue to take to give refuge to those who are fleeing war or persecution, we can demonstrate the kind of world that we want to live in. So, yes—let us oppose, but let us also lead by example. I want Scotland always to do that.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=10768&i=98760#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Dungavel

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Parliament what information it has on how many EU nationals have been detained in Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre in each year since 2009, for what reason, for how long, and how many have been removed from Scotland to the rest of the UK and to other EU nations. (S5W-6497)

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The Scottish Government does not hold data on those detained at Dungavel Immigration Removal Centre. As immigration is fully reserved, it is the Home Office who hold data on immigration detention.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-06497>

Immigration Centres

Linda Fabiani: To ask the Scottish Government what analysis it has carried out on the impact on EU nationals living and working in Scotland of the reported fivefold increase in the number of EU nationals detained in immigration centres since 2009. (S5W-6574)

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The Scottish Government has not carried out any analysis on the impact on EU nationals living and working in Scotland of the

reported fivefold increase in the number of EU nationals detained in immigration centres since 2009. Immigration, and compliance with immigration law, is fully reserved to the UK Government. However, following the EU referendum, it is more important than ever to stand up to negative rhetoric surrounding immigration and to strive to provide a welcoming and tolerant society for all those who have chosen to make their home here. The Scottish Government will continue therefore to press the UK Government to deliver a more flexible and humane immigration system that meets Scotland's needs.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-6574>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-03767 Ross Greer: COMPASS Failure to Support Asylum Seekers – That the Parliament notes with alarm the findings of the Home Affairs Committee on the COMPASS programme, which provides support to destitute asylum seekers; understands that Serco has been contracted by the UK Government to provide support to asylum seekers in Scotland despite having no previous experience in such a role; is gravely concerned with the findings of the report that the accommodation provided to asylum seekers included vermin infestations and other unclean conditions; agrees with the Home Affairs Committee's view that some of the accommodation is a disgrace and that the situation is shameful; considers this to constitute degrading treatment and an abrogation of the UK's responsibilities towards asylum seekers, and calls for competence over asylum accommodation to be devolved to the Scottish Parliament, and accommodation services to be provided directly by public bodies.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03767>

S5M-03846: Gail Ross: Highland Dentist to Help Syrian Refugees – That the Parliament notes with appreciation and admiration the plan by Malcolm Hamilton, who is a dentist from Tain, to travel to the north of Greece to help refugees by working with the charity, Dentaid; understands that Malcolm will spend five days in an area where around 15,000 people are situated in 12 camps as a result of the Syrian civil war; believes that his skills will help make a positive difference, and wishes him all the best with his work.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03846>

UK Parliament Debates

Immigration Rules: Spouses and Partners

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-31/debates/D6926DEC-2BBB-42D2-8BC6-E9266C4463EC/ImmigrationRulesSpousesAndPartners>

Draft Immigration (Health Charge) (Amendment) Order 2017

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-31/debates/a88e00c4-9056-4411-a35c-d134e3b92b81/DraftImmigration\(HealthCharge\)\(Amendment\)Order2017](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-01-31/debates/a88e00c4-9056-4411-a35c-d134e3b92b81/DraftImmigration(HealthCharge)(Amendment)Order2017)

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Refugee Council

Diana Johnson [61073] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the length of her Department's contract with the Refugee Council was for the provision of

independent advice to asylum seekers; what the cost of the contract was to the public purse; and how many staff the Refugee Council employed to fulfil that contract.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office does not have a contract with the Refugee Council.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61073/>

Migrant Help

Diana Johnson [61079] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers have received independent advice from Migrant Help in each year since that contract was signed with her Department; and what the average length of time has been between opening and closing those cases through that organisation.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The Home Office has provided grant-funding on a national level to Migrant Help for the provision of independent advice to asylum seekers since April 2014. The number of service users provided with advice varies according to demand. The Home Office does not measure the average length of time between opening and closing cases where asylum seekers have sought advice from Migrant Help.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61079/>

Migrant Help

Diana Johnson [61080] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the length of her Department's contract is with Migrant Help for the provision of independent advice to asylum seekers; what the cost of the contract has been to the public purse to date; and how many staff Migrant Help has employed to fulfil that contract since that contract was signed.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Information on the number of staff employed is a matter for Migrant Help, but full details of their funding received can found in Annual Trustees Report and accounts published on the Charity Commission website: <http://apps.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/DocumentList.aspx?RegisteredCharityNumber=1088631&SubsidiaryNumber=0&Doctype=AccountList>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61080/>

Immigration

Steve Reed [59764] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for (a) leave to remain outside the immigration rules and (b) indefinite leave to remain are awaiting allocation to a casework unit.

Robert Goodwill: 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 at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/temporary-and-permanent-migration-data-november-2016>

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-12/59764/>

Immigration: Appeals

Alison Thewliss [61835] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the service standard is for the processing of First-tier Tribunal decisions by UK Visas and Immigration.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: UK Visas and Immigration does not have a published service standard for processing appeals. Where the appeal has been

allowed in favour of the appellant, the Home Office undertakes careful consideration of the judge's determination in order to conclude whether to submit an application for permission to appeal within the time limits set by the Tribunal Procedure Committee.

Details of allowed appeals which are not being contested by the Home Office are sent electronically on a daily basis to decision making centres, which arrange for appropriate follow on actions to be taken reflecting the Tribunal's determination in each case. Where the appeal has been dismissed, appropriate actions are taken when it is known whether or not the appellant has sought and been granted permission to appeal.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-26/61835/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Theresa Villiers [61929] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to simplify the process for applications for permanent residence in the UK for EU nationals who live in the UK.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: We continue to make applications quicker and easier. As part of the ongoing Home Office programme to digitise all applications for immigration routes, a service was launched in October 2016 to enable single EEA applicants to apply for permanent residence online.

Customers who apply for documentation certifying permanent residence status online can also have their passport verified and copied at a range of participating Local Authorities and Premium Service Centres which are listed on our website, enabling people to retain their passport whilst their application is considered.

All applications for documentation confirming permanent residency status continue to be processed within published service standards.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-26/61929/>

Housing: Immigrants

John Healey [60963] To ask the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, if he will place in the Library all research on the effect of immigration on housing commissioned by his Department or produced internally since 2010.

Reply from Gavin Barwell: My department has published research on the effects of immigration on housing in a number of reports and statistical releases. The recent Casey Review presents evidence on the role of housing in the integration of immigrant populations. The English Housing Survey contains evidence on what proportion of housing is occupied by non-UK nationals. The household projections contain evidence on what proportion of household growth is attributable to net migration. Statistics published by my department on social lettings provide detail on how many social rented properties are let to non-UK nationals.

The links to the documents referenced are below.

Casey Review:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/575973/The_Casey_Review_Report.pdf

English Housing Survey:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/english-housing-survey>

Household Projections (2014 based):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/household-projections>

Social Housing Lettings (2015/16):

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/575440/Social_housing_lettings_in_England_2015-16_revised_071216.pdf

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/60963/>

Asylum

Alasdair McDonnell [62611] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the training module developed for asylum caseworkers has been fully implemented.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Asylum Operations recently received funding from the Asylum Migration and Integration Fund to review and redevelop its training prospectus.

The current training for asylum decision making staff involves a dedicated five week course (or 'Foundation Training Programme') which covers Asylum legislation, the Refugee Convention, Human Rights law, UK Immigration Rules and legislation, as well as training on conducting asylum interviews and decisions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-31/62611/>

Asylum

Alison Thewliss [60741] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what training and advice is available to immigration officers carrying out asylum interviews where a claimant has been a victim of sexual violence.

Robert Goodwill: Asylum interview and decisions are undertaken by civil servants and not by Immigration Officers.

All Asylum decision-making staff receive training that involves a dedicated five week course (or 'Foundation Training programme') which covers Asylum legislation, the Refugee Convention, Human Rights law, UK Immigration Rules and legislation, gender issues, modern slavery, Female Genital Mutilation, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual claims and domestic violence as well as training on conducting asylum interviews and decisions.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60741/>

Asylum

Roger Godsiff [61657] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 24 January 2017 to Question 60854, to which Minister in which Department hon. Members should address their concerns on the well-being of Syrian refugees who have entered mainland Europe.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: I am responsible for the policy and operations related to asylum seekers and refugees inside the UK. The primary responsibility for refugees outside the UK rests with the host country within which they are residing; this principle applies to Syrian refugees who have entered mainland Europe.

However, the UK has a strong interest in this matter, and, as with refugees issues further afield, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Home Office and Department for International Development work closely to support Europe in dealing with refugees, including those from Syria. We have:

Provided significant assistance via the European Asylum Support Office to Member States facing particular pressures to ensure that all refugees can have effective access to protection, wherever they are.

Established a £10 million Refugee Children's Fund for Europe, which aims to prevent and mitigate protection risks faced by vulnerable separated and unaccompanied refugee and migrant children in Europe.

Allocated up to £34 million to the humanitarian response in Greece.

This is in addition to the UK's wider response to the Syrian crisis. We have pledged £2.3 billion, making the UK one of the largest donors to the humanitarian crisis.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-25/61657/>

The answer referred to in the question above can be read at <http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60854/>

Children in Care: Asylum

Andrew Rosindell [61459] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to help local authorities manage the arrival of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: In July 2016 the Government launched the National Transfer Scheme for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) in order to ensure a more equitable distribution of UASC across the country and to prevent a small number of local authorities caring for a disproportionate number of UASC. In July 2016 we also significantly increased the funding we provide to local authorities who care for UASC by up to 33%. Further information on funding for local authorities can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-children-uasc-grant-instructions>

Since its launch the National Transfer Scheme has successfully transferred unaccompanied children away from local authorities whose children's services are under pressure. We continue to engage with local authorities across the country to encourage wider participation in the scheme.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-24/61459/>

Asylum: Children

Kevin Brennan [62126] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 20 January 2017 to Question 63085, what recent steps she has taken to offer asylum to unaccompanied refugee children who are currently in Greece and Serbia.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Responsibility for processing asylum claims in Serbia and Greece, including those made by unaccompanied children, lies with the Serbian and Greek authorities. There are no provisions in our Immigration Rules for someone to travel to the UK to claim asylum.

However, we are working with the Greek authorities, UNHCR and non-governmental organisations to identify children from Greece who may qualify for transfer to the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 or the Dublin III Regulation. We have also seconded an expert to Greece to support these efforts. In addition, we have established a £10 million Refugee Children Fund for Europe to support the needs of vulnerable refugee and migrant children arriving in Europe. The fund supports three specialist and mandated organisations – the UNHCR, Save the Children and the International Rescue Committee in their work with host authorities to care for and assist unaccompanied or separated children in Europe and the Balkans.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-27/62126/>

There is an error in the ID number of the answer referred to in the above question. The number should be 60385, and the answer can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-17/60385/>

Undocumented Migrants: Private Rented Housing

The following six questions all received the same answer

Stuart McDonald [57104] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much her Department has received from payment of civil penalties under right to rent schemes.

Stuart McDonald [57105] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many civil penalty notices issued under the right to rent legislation were (a) first-time penalties for the landlord concerned and (b) second or at subsequent penalty for a landlord.

Stuart McDonald [57106] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many civil penalty notices issued under right to rent legislation have related to (a) lodgers and (b) tenants.

Stuart McDonald [57107] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many appeals against a civil penalty notice under the right to rent provisions (a) have been successful, (b) have been unsuccessful and (c) are ongoing.

Stuart McDonald [57108] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many civil penalty notices issued under right to rent provisions have been appealed by landlords or agents from (a) 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2016 and (b) since 1 February 2016.

Stuart McDonald [57109] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many landlords and agents have been issued with a civil penalty as a result of renting a property to someone who does not have a right to rent from (a) 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2016 and (b) since 1 February 2016.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: Phase 1 of the Right to Rent scheme ran in the West Midlands from 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2016. Phase 2 of the scheme started across England from 1 February 2016.

During phase 1 of the scheme, 15 landlords were issued with a civil penalty. Since the start of phase 2 of the scheme, 91 landlords have been issued with a civil penalty. All were first time penalties. 55 related to lodgers in a private household and 51 related to occupiers in rented accommodation.

There have been no appeals under the scheme. The total amount collected from the scheme up to 13 December 2016 is £29,575.31.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57104/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57105/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57106/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57107/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57108/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57109/>

Undocumented Migrants: Private Rented Housing

Stuart McDonald [57112] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many undocumented migrants have come to the attention of her Department as a result of information provided specifically through the right to rent landlord's online checking tool from (a) 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2016 and (b) 1 February 2016 to present.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The information requested is not routinely collated in the format sought. Home Office records show that in response to landlords making enquiries through the Landlords Checking Service, the Home Office has issued 503 responses during phase 1 of the scheme and 5,446 during phase 2. Of these, 62 responses during phase 1 and 605 responses during phase 2 were

in respect of those without the right to rent.

As with right to work checks, the Right to Rent scheme is predicated on checks being carried out by third parties (in this case landlords and lettings agents). This means that the majority of illegal migrant prospective tenants will be denied access to the private rented sector as a result of these checks with no intervention by enforcement officers or reference to the Home Office. The sanctions set out in the Immigration Acts 2014 and 2016 in relation to the Right to Rent scheme are there to address circumstances where the scheme is not adhered to by landlords and agents.

The Home Office will always investigate information it receives about illegal migrants and take appropriate enforcement action according to the information available and the circumstances of the case.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57112/>

Undocumented Migrants: Private Rented Housing

Stuart McDonald [57151] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many undocumented migrants identified through the right to rent scheme have since been (a) granted discretionary leave to remain, (b) granted refugee status, (c) granted humanitarian protection and (d) recognised as a victim of trafficking or modern day slavery.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The information requested is not routinely collated in the format sought by the hon. Member. At the time of the Evaluation of Phase 1 of the scheme, volumes of data were low enough to allow manual analysis of individual cases. Volumes of data are now at a level which makes conducting such an exercise cost prohibitive.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2016-12-12/57151/>

Dungavel House Immigration Removal Centre

Alan Brown [61888] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether Dungavel IRC is in public ownership or privately owned.

Reply from Robert Goodwill: The site of the Dungavel IRC is owned by the Crown.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-26/61888/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Asylum: Children

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL4994] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they have taken to maintain contact with asylum-seeking minors who were dispersed from the camps in Calais and Dunkirk in Autumn 2016.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The responsibility for unaccompanied children in France lies with the French authorities. The UK Government can only contribute in ways agreed with our French partners.

We have been working closely with the French authorities to bring children eligible to come here under the Dublin Regulation and the wider criteria of the Immigration Act since the clearance of the Calais camp in October 2016. Our focus has always been to transfer these children quickly and safely.

Since 10 October 2016, more than 750 children have arrived. This is in line with the commitments made by the Home Secretary to Parliament on 24 October 2016.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-25/HL4994/>

Asylum: Young People

Lord Roberts of Llandudno [HL4993] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many asylum seekers were deported upon reaching 18 years of age in (1) 2012, (2) 2013, (3) 2014, and (4) 2015.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The number of enforced returns by age is published in table rt_03 (returns data tables) in 'Immigration Statistics, July - September 2016', available from the Home Office website at:

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/572380/returns2-q3-2016-tables.ods. ...

The term 'deportations' refers to a legal definition of a specific set of returns. Deportations are a specific subset of returns which are enforced either following a criminal conviction or when it is judged that a person's removal from the UK is conducive to the public good. The deportation order prohibits the person returning to the UK until such time as it may be revoked. Published information on those deported is not separately available. As such, the question has been interpreted as referring to enforced returns. In an enforced return, it has been established that a person has breached UK immigration laws and / or has no valid leave to remain in the UK. They have declined to leave voluntarily and the Home Office enforces their departure from the UK.

[Immigration Data Table](#)

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-25/HL4993/>

Asylum: LGBT People

Lord Scriven [HL4801] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 9 January (HL4355), which of the eight principles have still not been met; and what is preventing those principles being met, in relation to the release of figures for those claiming asylum on the basis of sexual orientation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Code of Practice for Official Statistics has established common standards to ensure a coherent and trustworthy service to the user of statistics.

Home Office officials are continuing to review and assess information on the number of people claiming asylum where sexual orientation may form the basis of the claim, in order to ensure that any statistics produced meet the principles on both assured methodology and quality (ensuring statistical methods are consistent with scientific principles) and governing user needs.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-19/HL4801/>

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-12-21/HL4355/>

Asylum: Russia

Baroness Barker [HL5107] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many LGBT asylum seekers from Russia have been held in UK detention centres in the last three years.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Code of Practice for Official Statistics has established common standards to ensure a coherent and trustworthy service to the user of statistics.

Home Office officials are continuing to review and assess information on the number of people claiming asylum where sexual orientation may form the basis of the claim, in order to ensure that any statistics produced meet the principles on both assured methodology and quality (ensuring statistical methods are consistent with scientific principles) and governing user needs.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-30/HL5107/>

Asylum: Russia

Baroness Barker [HL5108] To ask Her Majesty's Government what was the average length of detention of LGBT people seeking asylum from Russia in each of the last three years.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Code of Practice for Official Statistics has established common standards to ensure a coherent and trustworthy service to the user of statistics.

Home Office officials are continuing to review and assess information on the number of people claiming asylum where sexual orientation may form the basis of the claim, in order to ensure that any statistics produced meet the principles on both assured methodology and quality (ensuring statistical methods are consistent with scientific principles) and governing user needs.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-30/HL5108/>

Asylum: Russia

Baroness Barker [HL5109] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many LGBT people seeking asylum from Russia have been refused leave to remain in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Code of Practice for Official Statistics has established common standards to ensure a coherent and trustworthy service to the user of statistics.

Home Office officials are continuing to review and assess information on the number of people claiming asylum where sexual orientation may form the basis of the claim, in order to ensure that any statistics produced meet the principles on both assured methodology and quality (ensuring statistical methods are consistent with scientific principles) and governing user needs.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-30/HL5109/>

Undocumented Migrants: Private Rented Housing

Baroness Lister of Burtersett [HL4947] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 9 January (HL3406), where prospective tenants who are denied access to the private rented sector under the right to rent scheme are housed pending their deportation or voluntary departure.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Individuals who are complying with the Home Office as part of the voluntary returns process may be granted permission to rent ahead of their departure.

People who are denied access to the private rented sector are expected to return home. Advice and support is available to help people with no right to be here return to their home countries.

It is open to people to make temporary living arrangements which are not covered by the Right to Rent scheme ahead of their return home, in hotel accommodation.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-24/HL4947/>

The answer referred to in the above question can be read at

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2016-11-22/HL3406/>

Human Trafficking: Children

The following three questions all received the same answer

Lord Smith of Hindhead [HL4964] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children under 16 years of age were identified as potentially trafficked through the National Referral Mechanism in each year between 2010 and 2014.

Lord Smith of Hindhead [HL4965] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many children under (1) 12 years of age, and (2) 10 years of age, were identified as potentially

trafficked through the National Referral Mechanism in each year between 2010 and 2015.

Slavery: Children

Lord Smith of Hindhead [HL4966] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 12 January (HL4245), what is the breakdown of the countries of origin of the 365 children who were removed from premises where they were being exploited as modern slaves in the year 2015.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government views the slavery, including trafficking, of children as a very serious offence, and one which it is committed to tackling. The NRM is the UK's identification and support mechanism for potential victims of modern slavery. The table below shows:

- a) the number children under the age of 16 that were referred to the NRM as potentially trafficked in each year between 2010 and 2015;
- b) the number children under 12 years of age that were referred to the NRM as potentially trafficked in each year between 2010 and 2015;
- c) the number children under 10 years of age that were referred to the NRM as potentially trafficked in each year between 2010 and 2015.

Year	Total Potential Victims under 16 at Time of Referral (NB. This does not include those aged 16.)	Total Potential Victims under 12 years (NB. This does not include those aged 12 years)	Total Potential Victims under 10 years (NB. This does not include those aged 10 years)
2010	70	14	9
2011	95	35	27
2012	126	52	41
2013	172	47	34
2014	293	88	68
2015	365	61	39

The table below provides the breakdown of the countries of origin of the 365 children who were identified as potentially trafficked via an NRM referral in the year 2015.

Nationality/ Country of Origin	Total
Afghanistan	24
Albania	51
Angola	5
Bangladesh	7
Bulgaria	5
Cameroon	1
China	2
Czech Republic	7
Democratic Republic of the Congo	6
Egypt	4
Eritrea	9
Ethiopia	2
Ghana	3
Guinea	1
Guinea / Portugal	1
India	1
Iran	4
Iraq	4
Israel	1
Ivory Coast	1
Latvia	1
Lithuania	2

Nigeria	17
Pakistan	2
Poland	2
Portugal	1
Romania	13
Serbia/Kosovo	1
Slovakia	8
Somalia	1
Spain	2
Sri Lanka	3
Sudan	4
Syria	3
Timor - Leste	3
Tunisia	1
Turkey	1
Uganda	1
United Kingdom	55
United Kingdom/Vietnam	1
United States of America	5
Unknown	3
Vietnam	93
Zambia	2
Zimbabwe	1
Total	365

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-24/HL4964/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-24/HL4965/>

and

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-24/HL4966/>

Press Releases

High time for states to invest in alternatives to migrant detention

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/high-time-for-states-to-invest-in-alternatives-to-migrant-detention>

An application for asylum can be rejected if the asylum seeker has participated in the activities of a terrorist network

<http://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2017-01/cp170009en.pdf>

Refugees fleeing danger are 'not dangerous themselves' – UN agency chief

<https://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56108#.WJdiTLZ96nY>

New Publications

Scottish Government response to Home Affairs Committee Inquiry into immigration

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00513747.pdf>

Asylum accommodation

<https://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmhaff/637/637.pdf>

Department of Health letter relating to mental health services for refugee children

<http://data.parliament.uk/DepositedPapers/Files/DEP2017-0085/Letter to Lord Roberts of Llandudno Mental Health Debate 19012.pdf>

Home Office response to the report 'An inspection of Border Force's identification and treatment of potential victims of modern slavery, July to October 2016'

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/588860/HO_response_-_ICI_Victims_of_Modern_Slavery_inspection_-_February_2017.pdf

An audit of international student mobility to the UK

http://www.cpc.ac.uk/publications/cpc_working_papers/pdf/2017_WP82_An_audit_of_international_student_mobility_to_the_UK.pdf

Refuge: Pathways of Youth Fleeing Extremism

<http://www.quilliaminternational.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/refuge-pathways-of-youth-fleeing-extremism-executive-summary.pdf>

Implementation of the Eurojust Action Plan against Human Trafficking (THB 2012-2016): Final evaluation report

<http://eurojust.europa.eu/Practitioners/operational/THB/Documents/2017-01-31-THB-FINAL.pdf>

News

All change at Scottish Refugee Council

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3069_all_change_at_scottish_refugee_council

Our joint statement: Prime Minister must 'reassert Britain's tradition of welcoming refugees'

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3068_our_joint_statement_prime_minister_must_reassert_britain_s_tradition_of_welcoming_refugees

Asylum accommodation 'a disgrace'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-38799694>

MPs slam Home Office for "shameful" asylum housing

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3067_mps_slam_home_office_for_shameful_asylum_housing

Asylum seeker accommodation 'risked endangering child's growth'

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15058616.Asylum_seeker_accommodation_risked_endangering_child_s_growth_39/

Asylum-seekers housed in rat-infested accommodation, Commons report warns

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/360341/asylum-seekers-housed-in-rat-infested-accommodation-commons-report-warns/>

UK asylum seekers' housing branded 'disgraceful' by MPs

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/jan/31/uk-asylum-seekers-housing-branded-disgraceful-by-mps-yvette-cooper>

Housing for asylum seekers 'a disgrace'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-02-01/scotland/housing-for-asylum-seekers-a-disgrace-md65rr9hb>

Destitute refugees are placed in homes full of rats and bed bugs

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-01-31/news/refugees-placed-in-homes-full-of-rats-and-bed-bugs-23rsw6z5>

May pressured NHS to release data to track immigration offenders

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/feb/01/home-office-asked-former-nhs-digital-boss-to-share-data-to-trace-immigration-offenders>

Dungavel House immigration removal centre to stay open

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-38852021>

Dungavel to remain open after plans for replacement rejected

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/dungavel-to-remain-open-after-plans-for-replacement-rejected-1-4357501>

Former Scottish Secretary Alistair Carmichael urges Home Office to investigate alternatives to Dungavel

http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/15070396.Former_Scottish_Secretary_makes_plea_to_close_down_notorious_Dungavel_holding_centre/

Dungavel attracts more negative news

http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/15070393.Herald_View_Dungavel_attracts_more_negative_news/

Dungavel detention centre remains open after plans for new centre rejected

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/363098/dungavel-immigration-centre-to-stay-open-after-plans-for-new-facility-rejected/>

Controversial immigration removal unit to stay open

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/controversial-immigration-removal-unit-to-stay-open-tj7qzxx80>

Fight goes on to end UK's 'brutal border regime' at Dungavel as holding unit scrapped

http://www.thenational.scot/news/15070300.Fight_goes_on_to_end_UK_s_brutal_border_regime_at_Dungavel_as_holding_unit_scrapped/

STUC on Dungavel decision

<http://www.stuc.org.uk/news/1285/stuc-on-dungavel-decision>

UK Border Force 'failing to identify thousands of modern slavery victims'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2017/feb/02/uk-border-force-failing-to-identify-thousands-of-modern-slavery-victims>

Border Force failing to identify slavery victims and traffickers

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/border-force-failing-to-identify-slavery-victims-and-traffickers-9gdz87dnz>

NHS 'bowed to Home Office pressure' over migrant data

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-02-01/news/nhs-pressured-into-handing-over-migrants-data-says-ex-digital-chief-zxgwn0hxl>

Migrants to show key role by stopping work for day

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/migrants-plan-protest-to-show-key-role-they-play-85kkwg9nh>

EU migrants could be barred from coming to Britain unless they have a job after Brexit

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/01/31/eu-migrants-could-barred-coming-britain-unless-have-a-job-brexit/>

Many refugee children in Scotland 'left destitute'

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/many-refugee-children-in-scotland-left-destitute-1-4353056>

Concern as number of refugee children in Scotland needing poverty support soars

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15058566.Concern-as-number-of-refugee-children-in-Scotland-needing-poverty-support-soars/>

Our broken asylum system is in urgent need of reform

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/herald-view/15058587.Our-broken-asylum-system-is-in-urgent-need-of-reform/>

Desperate refugee spends days hiding in truck without food or water to seek asylum in Scotland

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/refugee-spends-days-hiding-truck-9753413>

Vietnamese boy found in Dumbarton 'escaped human traffickers'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-38813201>

Grandmother, 52, who has been married to a British man for almost 30 years after arriving in the UK in 1988 faces being deported back to Singapore

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4190826/Grandmother-married-Briton-27-years-deported.html>

Grandmother fights to halt deportation after decades

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/grandmother-fights-to-halt-deportation-after-decades-3hg3pf5lj>

Once you see a refugee's face, you can't turn away

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news-review/once-you-see-a-refugees-face-you-cant-turn-away-cr5cth9tf>

Roza Shalih aims to become Scotland's first elected asylum seeker

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/roza-shalih-aims-to-become-scotland-s-first-elected-asylum-seeker-1-4358140>

The child immigrants 'bussed' out to school to aid integration

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-leeds-38689839>

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Community Relations

News

More than 150 UK mosques hold open day for non-Muslims

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/feb/03/visit-my-mosque-day-open-day-non-muslims>

Donald Trump thinks Islam is incompatible with the West. Britain's mosques prove otherwise

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/03/donald-trump-thinks-islam-incompatible-west-britains-mosques/>

World Hijab Day is a celebration of the right to choose

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-02-01/news/world-hijab-day-is-a-celebration-of-the-right-to-choose-tr790v0dj>

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Equality

UK Parliament Debates

World Hijab Day

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-02-01/debates/2E551F89-D8F1-4122-86A7-DC68A9A3D46C/WorldHijabDay>

Youth Justice System: Gypsies and Travellers

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-02-01/debates/E4E42C1C-0552-4F98-A6A5-A17483F5960C/YouthJusticeSystemGypsiesAndTravellers>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Offenders: Rehabilitation

Baroness Afshar [HL4869] To ask Her Majesty's Government what requirements they have set for community rehabilitation companies to make specific arrangements for the rehabilitation of minority groups whose first language is not English.

Reply from Lord Keen of Elie: We have given Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) the flexibility to innovate and do what works to reduce reoffending, including tailoring rehabilitative support to offenders based on their individual needs. To promote equality of opportunity and avoid discrimination against offenders on the grounds of protected characteristics, CRCs are required to comply with relevant equalities and human rights legislation as they work with offenders.

Whilst not defined in law as a protected characteristic, we have taken steps to ensure that language is not a barrier to an individual's rehabilitation. At the beginning of each sentence, CRCs are contractually required to arrange a face to face interview to assess each offender's risk profile and rehabilitative needs. This informs the initial sentence plan, which the CRC must explain to the offender verbally and in writing to ensure they understand how they must behave and what they must do to comply with their sentence. The CRC must also seek confirmation that the offender has understood this explanation. Where the offender understands insufficient English to enable this, CRC must undertake the initial interview and provide confirmation of the sentence plan in a language they were able to understand.

Legal Profession: Equality

Kate Hoey [60928] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what steps her Department is taking to increase diversity in (a) the legal sector and (b) among paralegals.

Reply from Oliver Heald: Our world-leading legal services industry is based on the talent of those who work within in. We want to do more to encourage talented people from all backgrounds to succeed in the profession.

There is already a good framework in place. The Legal Services Board and Approved Regulators have a duty to promote competition in the provision of regulated legal services, and encourage an independent, strong, diverse and effective legal profession, and the LSB has recently consulted on how this can be better delivered. The Institute of Paralegals is an independent, non-statutory body that paralegals can choose to become members of. It sets standards and promotes its members as professional paralegals and has created the Professional Access Scheme which brings together various initiatives designed to widen access to legal careers, increase diversity within the sector and provide better careers information.

The Lord Chancellor has met with the legal profession on a number of occasions to discuss how best to advance diversity, notably a recent roundtable of City firms, the Bar and the Senior judiciary. She has made it clear that widening the talent pool, including identifying opportunities to improve social empowerment and mobility for those wishing to enter the legal profession is one of her main priorities. A series of cross sector working groups are being established to progress a number of key work strands, one of which will specifically consider how to further improve diversity in the legal sector.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-19/60928/>

News

Theresa May 'absolutely in line' with women wearing hijab

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/theresa-may-absolutely-in-line-with-women-wearing-hijab-1-4355313>

Outcry as report suggests white men work harder than black men

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-02-03/news/outcry-after-report-says-white-men-work-harder-than-black-men-98ppj25cd>

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Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Racially Motivated Incidents

Gerald Jones: What steps [the Minister] has taken in response to trends in the level of racially motivated incidents since the EU referendum. [908516]

Reply from the Minister for Policing and the Fire Service (Brandon Lewis): Hopefully I can say on behalf of the entire House that all Members are clear that hate crime of any description should not and must not be tolerated. We have been working with the police, EU embassies and community groups to monitor the situation, to provide reassurance and to encourage reporting of racist incidents.

Recorded hate crime has now fallen to pre-referendum levels. Police force areas continue to monitor racist incidents on an ongoing basis to ensure that any increases are addressed at the earliest opportunity.

Gerald Jones: I thank the Minister for that answer. Across the UK we saw a rise in hate crime and religiously aggravated offences following the referendum—it was 41% higher in July 2016 than in July 2015. Will he inform the House of what provisions have been put in place to avoid any repetition specifically in relation to the triggering of article 50?

Reply from Brandon Lewis: There are a couple of points to make to the hon. Gentleman. We have put in place the Government's new hate crime action plan, which is taking a number of steps, for example, to boost reporting. There is also new guidance for prosecutors and a new fund to ensure that we have protective security measures and additional funding in place for community organisations so that they can tackle hate crime. I also gently say to him that the Labour party should look carefully at this morning's CST report, which clearly indicates a 36% rise in totally unacceptable recorded anti-Semitic crime, related directly to the problems in the Labour party.

Bob Blackman: I thank my right hon. Friend for mentioning the CST report. Clearly, the concern of the Jewish community in this country is that hate crime against Jews is on the rise. He has seen the report and the whole community wants to know what he is going to do about it, so that we stamp out anti-Semitism, once and for all.

Reply from Brandon Lewis: My hon. Friend makes a good point. As I have outlined, it is important that we stamp out all forms of hate crime, which is why that action plan was put in place in July by the Home Secretary. We also all need to look at ourselves. It is clear when we look at the CST report that although we should be pleased about people having the confidence to come forward to report crime—the increase in recording is good—a rise in hate crime of any description, particularly a 36% rise such as this one, is disgraceful. I hope Members from across this House will be doing all they can to stamp that out.

Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh: The Minister will be aware that the European Union has been a beacon of hope and a key proponent of equality for citizens' rights across the globe. Will he categorically confirm to the House not only that the discrimination laws and rights bestowed upon people across the UK will be upheld following a UK exit from the EU, but that citizens living in the UK will not be left behind and have their rights taken hostage by Brexit?

Reply from Brandon Lewis: We have been very clear all along that we want not only to stamp out hate crime, but to play an important part in this with our partners right across Europe. Indeed, in the autumn, I spoke at the EU Council on this very issue, and aside from the Commission, we were the only ones from any country to talk about it. We should be proud of the fact that this country has some of the toughest laws in the world on hate crime. Just a few weeks ago, on 19 January, we hosted some 19 countries' embassies to talk to them about what we are doing and what can be done further to drive out hate crime.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-02-02/debates/3043C304-C9FF-42C2-B496-B186A148C81D/RaciallyMotivatedIncidents>

Hate Crime: Non-UK EU Citizens

Gerald Jones: What assessment he has made of potential trends in the level of prosecutions for hate crime towards non-UK EU citizens once Article 50 is triggered. [908567]

Reply from the Solicitor General (Robert Buckland): The Government are working closely with the police, the Crown Prosecution Service and community organisations to monitor any changes in hate crime levels, and we will continue to do so after the triggering of article 50. However, it is not possible to predict prosecution trends, and the data on the nationalities of victims are not disaggregated.

Gerald Jones: What steps is the CPS taking to improve the conviction rate for hate crimes against disabled people? Does he support the call by the shadow Solicitor General, my hon. Friend the Member for Torfaen (Nick Thomas-Symonds), for parity in the treatment of all protected characteristics in the aggregated offences regime?

Reply from the Solicitor General: The hon. Gentleman will be glad to know that rates of disability hate crime prosecution continue to rise. The rise last year was 41.3%, the conviction rate for hate crime being just over 83%. The total number of hate crimes prosecuted last year was 15,442, which is the highest number to date. I do, of course, take very seriously the helpful and sensible submissions made by the shadow Solicitor General.

Seema Kennedy: What steps is the Department taking to prevent the spread of hate crime by the media?

Reply from the Solicitor General: As we know, in an age of social media it has become all too easy for perpetrators to spread hate and intimidation. The Crown Prosecution Service takes very seriously offences which cross the line to constitute grossly offensive communications, and prosecutions take place regularly. We will continue to work with social media to ensure that the detection of such crimes can be improved.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-02-02/debates/35574646-3281-41AC-98B4-9F3035E64F3C/HateCrimeNon-UKEUCitizens>

Anti-Semitism

Bob Blackman: Yesterday I had the privilege of listening to Susan Pollack, the noted holocaust survivor, when she addressed Belmont synagogue and a large group of year 8 students from across Harrow. She asked, "What do you think of when I say, 'What does a Jew look like?'" There came no answer, yet we have heard about the publication today of the report from CST about the terrible, dramatic increase in the number of anti-Semitic incidents. Can we have a debate in Government time on that report, and more importantly, on what action they will take to stamp down on anti-Semitism?

David Lidington: The best thing I can say is that say all of us, within the Government and outside, were appalled by the reported increase in hate crime. There has been progress in tackling that, but even one case is too many. We have published a new cross-Government hate crime action plan to try to tackle all forms of hate crime, but all of us across the House need to make it clear that Jewish people in Britain, like people from all communities, must be able to live their lives free from fear of either verbal or physical attack. In order to tackle anti-Semitism we need to implement effectively our strong legislation against religious discrimination and racially and religiously motivated crime, but there is also a responsibility on us all as individuals and as members of political parties—and people who have leadership positions in our constituencies—to make it clear in public again and again, if necessary, that anti-Semitism has no place whatsoever in this country.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-02-02/debates/14B854E8-AC6C-430F-9D97-54B51C383466/BusinessOfTheHouse#contribution-D1E492E6-1A08-4CDA-ABC1-C6A8F84794FF>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Hate Crime: Religion

Martyn Day [61287] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to her Department's Action Against Hate plan, published in July 2016, what steps she is taking to improve the (a) awareness of and (b) data collected on hate crimes motivated by anti-apostasy.

Reply from Sarah Newton: The Government takes all hate crime very seriously. Those who commit hate crimes attack the fundamental values that underpin our

diverse society, values of acceptance and respect for others. The cross Government hate crime action plan covers all five monitored strands of hate crime, race, religion, disability, sexual orientation and transgender status. Religion in this context includes people defined by reference to their religious belief or lack of religious belief.

This includes Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and Christians, and different sects within a religion. It also includes people who have changed faith and people who do not hold any religious beliefs. We are working in partnership with a number of organisations including Streetwise and the Anne Frank Trust to raise awareness of hate crimes including religiously motivated hate crimes and the importance of reporting incidents. The Government does not currently collect data on crimes motivated by anti-apostasy.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61287/>

The Action Against Hate plan referred to above can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf

Hate Crime: Internet

Nusrat Ghani [60965] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, when the Government plans to convene the ministerial seminar on hate on the internet referred to in Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, published in July 2016; and which Government Departments will be consulted prior to that seminar on which victims' groups, stakeholders and industry representatives will be invited to attend.

Reply from Sarah Newton: The cross Government hate crime delivery group will meet on 30 January 2017. The development of the Ministerial seminar on hate on the internet will be one of the actions this group will take forward.

The delivery group includes representatives from the Home Office, Department for Communities and Local Government, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, Department for Education, Department for Transport, representatives from the Hate Crime Independent Advisory Group, National Police Chiefs Council, Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry of Justice, Crown Prosecution Service and Government Equalities Office.

The delivery group will consider which victim's groups, stakeholders and industry representatives should be invited to attend the seminar.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/60965/>

The Action Against Hate plan referred to above can be read at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/543679/Action_Against_Hate_-_UK_Government_s_Plan_to_Tackle_Hate_Crime_2016.pdf

NHS: Religious Discrimination

Jim Shannon [61509] To ask the Secretary of State for Health, what information his Department holds on instances of discrimination against NHS staff related to their religious belief.

Reply from Philip Dunne: The Department does not collect information on instances of discrimination against National Health Service staff resulting from their religious beliefs. We would expect all employers to ensure that staff are treated with respect.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-24/61509/>

UK Parliament Early Day Motion

John Mann (906) CST antisemitic incident figures – That this House notes the 2016 incidents report by the Community Security Trust (CST); further notes that the report details the highest annual total of antisemitic incidents that CST has ever recorded of 1,309 cases, an increase of 36 per cent from the 2015 total; is concerned that the pattern in incidents marks a departure from a correlation with trigger events and that there is a new pattern of consistently high incident totals; is further concerned that factors reported to be possibly contributing to the historic rise in incidents include reactions to the EU Referendum, high profile coverage of antisemitism allegations relating to the Labour Party and terrorist attacks on Jewish communities in Europe; resolves to continue to offer cross-party parliamentary support for the CST and its activities including security for Jewish schools and other communal institutions and its monitoring of incidents; and further resolves to work with Government and relevant organisations to ensure the recommendations of the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism reports are fully implemented.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2016-17/906>

New Publication

Antisemitic Incidents Report 2016

<https://cst.org.uk/data/file/c/4/Incidents%20Report%202016%20Web.1485859601.pdf>

News

Gypsy, traveller and Roma children are let down by the youth custody system

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-02-02/news/gypsy-traveller-and-roma-children-are-let-down-by-the-youth-custody-system-ttjzs6jfz>

Record number of antisemitic hate incidents in UK in 2016

<https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2017/02/02/record-number-of-antisemitic-hate-incidents-in-uk-in-2016>

Anti-Semitic hate crime at record high, says UK charity

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-38836536>

Anti-Semitic incidents hit record levels in UK

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/homenews/15065483.Anti_Semitic_incidents_hit_record_levels_in_UK/

Anti-Semitic hate incidents surge to record levels, charity warns

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/news/politics/362045/anti-semitic-hate-incidents-surge-to-record-levels-charity-warns/>

Reports of antisemitic incidents increase to record levels in UK

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/feb/02/reports-of-antisemitic-incidents-increase-to-record-levels-in-uk>

Anti-Semitic attacks up by a third to a record high: More than 1,300 hate crimes were recorded against Jews last year

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4182672/Anti-Semitic-attacks-record-high.html>

Antisemitic abuse 'fuelled by Labour row and Brexit'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2017-02-02/news/antisemitic-abuse-fuelled-by-labour-row-and-brex-it-zkf8xwbm8>

Trump Has Brought Jews & Muslims Together in the US. In the UK We Must be Bold

<https://tellmamauk.org/trump-has-brought-jews-muslims-together-in-the-us-in-the-uk-we-must-be-bold/>

Asad Shah murder: Killer Tanveer Ahmed releases prison message

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-38815366>

Extremist who murdered Glasgow shopkeeper Asad Shah releases chilling message from jail

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/crime_courts/15060667.Extremist_who_murdered_Glasgow_shopkeeper_Asad_Shah_releases_chilling_message_from_jail/

Student leader tells of facing death threats and race abuse

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15056738.Student_leader_tells_of_facing_death_threats_and_race_abuse/

'Muslims out' scrawled on Sunderland mosque

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslims-out-mosque-sunderland-imam-graffiti-a7557676.html>

Woman praises train guard after racist attack

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-38868403>

Glasgow solicitor fined for racially abusing woman on train

<http://www.scotsman.com/news/transport/glasgow-solicitor-fined-for-racially-abusing-woman-on-train-1-4357622>

Solicitor fined for racially abusing mum in first-class train carriage

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15069124.Solicitor_fined_for_racially_abusing_mum_in_first_class_train_carriage/?ref=mr&lp=16

Mum and child 'trapped' with racist bigot on train 'lost faith in humanity' when passengers failed to help them

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/trapped-mum-child-racially-abused-9754697>

'You don't belong here': Solicitor caught on camera in racist train rant against mother and child over first class seats

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/solicitor-alexander-mackinnon-convicted-fined-racist-rant-against-mother-and-child-virgin-trains-a7562736.html>

Brave train manager tells a 'drunken racist' solicitor to get off a train after he hurled abuse at a mother and her son and told them they shouldn't be in first class

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4190992/Racist-solicitor-filmed-ranting-mother-son.html>

'You don't belong here' - solicitor caught on film launching racist attack on woman and her young son

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/04/dont-belong-solicitor-caught-film-launching-racist-attack/>

Man filmed calling bus passenger 'dirty little black ct' in vile racist attack**

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/man-filmed-calling-bus-passenger-9755080>

Police probe shocking footage of thug launching a vile tirade of racist abuse against a mixed race man on top deck of a bus
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4191088/Police-prob-vile-racist-attack-filmed-Manchester-bus.html>

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Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Debate

Female Genital Mutilation

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28862.aspx?r=10765&i=98741#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Motions

S5M-03761 Angela Constance: Prevention and Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation and all Other Forms of so-called Honour-based Violence – That the Parliament recognises 6 February as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM); is clear that FGM, along with all other forms of violence perpetrated against women under the guise of gender, culture or religion, so-called honour-based violence, is a violation of the human rights of women and girls; acknowledges that a preventative, supportive and legislative approach is crucial to tackling, preventing and eradicating FGM; recognises that communities and individuals affected by honour-based violence must be at the heart of work to effect significant social, cultural and attitudinal change over the long term, and welcomes the positive engagement and ongoing partnership approach across the police, NHS, education, social services, third sector and community-based organisations, in taking forward the actions from Scotland's National Action Plan to Prevent and Eradicate FGM.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03761>

S5M-03761.1 Annie Wells: Prevention and Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation and all Other Forms of so-called Honour-based Violence – As an amendment to motion S5M-03761 in the name of Angela Constance (Prevention and Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation and all Other Forms of so-called Honour-based Violence), insert at end “, and recognises the international work of the UK Government, which has allocated £35 million to reduce FGM by 30% in 17 countries across Africa.”

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03761.1>

S5M-03761.2 Mary Fee: Prevention and Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation and all Other Forms of so-called Honour-based Violence – As an amendment to motion S5M-03761 in the name of Angela Constance (Prevention and Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation and all Other Forms of so-called Honour-based Violence), after "long term" insert "; further recognises that faith leaders of communities potentially affected by FGM and so-called honour-based violence have a role to play in working to change cultural attitudes".

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-03761.2>

Press Releases

First Minister becomes “First Mentor”

<http://news.gov.scot/news/first-minister-becomes-first-mentor>

Understanding forced marriage in Scotland

<http://news.gov.scot/news/understanding-forced-marriage-in-scotland>

Scottish Parliament to vote on UK Government's Article 50 Bill

<http://news.gov.scot/news/scottish-parliament-to-vote-on-uk-governments-article-50-bill>

Brexit threat to human rights

<http://news.gov.scot/news/brexit-threat-to-human-rights-1>

New Publication

Understanding forced marriage in Scotland

<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00513514.pdf>

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Other UK Parliament and Government

Debate

Prevent Strategy

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2017-02-01/debates/B8BE87F9-7E2E-46C5-9E11-DDAD5897E949/PreventStrategy>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Counter-terrorism

Fiona Bruce [62141] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the holding Answer of 13 June 2016 to Question 39747, on counter-terrorism, when she expects to provide a full Answer.

Reply from Sarah Newton: Where appropriate we will make it clear in future documents and legislation that extremism is about the mutual respect and tolerance of people with different faiths and beliefs rather than respect and tolerance for the faiths and beliefs themselves.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-27/62141/>

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/2016-06-07/39747/>

Honour Based Violence: British Nationals Abroad

Nuysrat Ghani [61029] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what discussions she has had with the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs on British authorities investigating incidents of honour-based violence committed against British Nationals abroad.

Reply from Sarah Newton: There is no ‘honour’ in so called ‘honour-based’ violence (HBV), and we will not allow political or cultural sensitivities to get in the

way of tackling these crimes.

The Minister for Asia and the Pacific met political and non-Governmental organisation representatives from the British-Pakistani community on 4 January 2017 to discuss challenges of looking after the interests of British citizens who spend time and have family ties in Pakistan, including on the subject of forced marriage. The Home Office regularly engages with the FCO on this issue, including as part of the work of the joint Home Office-FCO Forced Marriage Unit.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-20/61029/>

British Nationals Abroad: Honour Based Violence

Nusrat Ghani [61095] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, what discussions his Department has had with international counterparts on permission for incidents of honour-based violence committed against British nationals abroad to be investigated and prosecuted by British authorities.

Reply from Tobias Ellwood: There is no 'honour' in so called 'honour-based' violence, and we will not allow political or cultural sensitivities to get in the way of tackling these crimes.

The Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, my right hon. Friend the Member for West Reading (Mr Sharma) met political and non-Governmental organisation representatives from the British-Pakistani community on 4-5 January to discuss challenges of looking after the interests of British citizens who spend time and have family ties in Pakistan, including on the subject of forced marriage.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-01-23/61095/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answer

Female Genital Mutilation

Baroness Tonge [HL4864] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they plan to publish a national action plan on female genital mutilation in England; and if so, when.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Female Genital Mutilation is a crime and it is child abuse. The Government will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong physical and psychological suffering to women and girls. That is why our work to end this practice is an integral part of the Government's Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, published March 2016.

The strategy sets out how we will support a transformation in service delivery and a step change in social action to ensure a reduction in the prevalence of these crimes, including FGM. Specific actions to address FGM include working with faith leaders, improving police data collection on FGM, continuing the outreach work of the FGM Unit, and addressing the mental health needs of those affected.

Many of the issues addressed by the VAWG strategy are cross-cutting, including engaging men, ensuring a whole family approach and improving the commissioning of services. We will ensure that tackling FGM is integral to these actions and is also addressed as part of our work to strengthen early intervention and transform service provision.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2017-01-23/HL4864/>

New Publication

The United Kingdom's exit from and new partnership with the European Union White Paper

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/589191/The_United_Kingdoms_exit_from_and_partnership_with_the_EU_Web.pdf

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Other News

Genital Mutilation Denies Female Dignity, Inflicts Needless Pain, Even Death, Secretary-General Stresses in Message for International Zero Tolerance Day

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/sgsm18427.doc.htm>

Nearly 200 forced marriages reported in Scotland

http://www.eveningtimes.co.uk/news/15059179.Nearly_200_forced_marriages_reported_in_Scotland/

Ban the term 'honour killing' to stop political correctness getting in the way of police investigations, MP says

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/01/30/ban-term-honour-killing-stop-political-correctness-getting-way/>

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Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

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>

Student Support (Non-Interest-Bearing Finance) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2016-17/studentupportnoninterestbearingfinance.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Glasgow City Health and Social Care Partnership Communications (closing date 17 February 2017)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GCHSCPCommunications>

**** Measurement framework for equality and human rights** (closing date 21 February 2017)
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-measurement-framework/measurement-framework-consultation>

Racism at work (closing date 27 February 2017)
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RacismAtWork>

**** Brexit and Immigration** (closing date 28 February 2017)
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B22hK1jLWDQKWkg4VkRLQmo4ajq/view>

Destitution and asylum in Scotland (closing date 8 March 2017)
http://www.parliament.scot/S5_Equal_Opps/Inquiries/Destitution_and_Asylum_Call_for_Evidence_Final_20170125.pdf

Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation: increasing numbers of successful donations (closing date 14 March 2017)
<http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0051/00511160.pdf>

Draft Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Bill (closing date 17 March 2017)
<https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/equality-unit/draft-gender-representation-on-public-boards/>

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

Social Economy Growth Fund
closing date for applications: 17 February 2017

The Scottish Government Social Economy Growth Fund will enable the third sector/social economy to improve and increase services and support for people experiencing poverty and disadvantage. It will help organisations to increase their capacity to support disadvantaged people – for example by expanding existing services and employing additional staff. The Fund will support organisations with a proven track record of working successfully with individuals and families who experience disadvantage, poverty and social exclusion. For more details, and an application form, see
<https://beta.gov.scot/publications/social-economy-growth-fund-guidance/>

Social Innovation Fund
closing date for applications: 17 February 2017

The Scottish Government Social Innovation Fund enables social economy organisations to work in collaboration with research institutions, the public and private sector to develop, test and scale up new ideas and solutions to tackle poverty and disadvantage.

For more details, and an application form, see <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/social-innovation-fund-guidance/>

Europe of Diversities

closing date for applications: 28 February 2016

European Union funding for projects to promote unity in diversity, support sharing of good practices in fighting discrimination and promoting diversity at local and regional level, and help to identify and target discriminatory practices at local and regional level and build understanding between majority and minority societies. For information see

<https://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/rec/topics/rec-rppi-eudi-ag-2016.html>

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Events, Conferences, and Training

** new or updated this week

**** this week!**

The Holocaust: an Introduction - Part 1

Online – third of three sessions: 6 February

Yad Vashem course about the Holocaust, an inconceivable historical event, an idea so inhumanly warped that spread like wildfire through an entire continent, instigating the systematic annihilation of millions of Jews. For information see

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/holocaust-part-1>

**** this week!**

Scottish Health and Ethnicity Linkage Study

8 February 2017 in Edinburgh (1.00-3.30)

The Scottish Health and Ethnicity Linkage Study used the 2001 census findings and various health datasets to compare the health of ethnic groups in Scotland. For information see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/shels-dissemination-seminar-2-tickets-29978191578> or contact Theresa Kirkpatrick Theresa.kirkpatrick@ed.ac.uk

**** this week!**

Separated Children

9 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

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.

Guide to the Disclosure Scotland PVG Process

15 February 2017 in Glasgow (10.00-1.00)

Volunteer Scotland event to explain the purpose and requirements of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme for people working with children and vulnerable (“protected”) adults. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/h5efppz> or contact 0141 332 2444.

Evaluating Anti-Prejudice Projects

16 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.3—3.30)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights capacity building session on evaluating anti-prejudice projects. The session will focus on developing effective, proportionate approaches to evaluating anti-prejudice projects or interventions, and will be especially useful for organisations with more limited experience of evaluation. For information see

<http://tinyurl.com/zlr3tot>

Aspiring Communities Fund information event

16 February 2017 in Glasgow (2.00- 4.30) *advance registration required*

GCVS/GWSF event to provide information about new Scottish Government funding to support fragile and disadvantaged communities across Scotland to develop and deliver community-led solutions that tackle inequality and poverty. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/jcngqym> or contact 0141 332 2444.

Area Partnerships: Engaging BME Communities

17 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-1.30)

Coalition for Racial Equality and Rights workshop to explore why minority ethnic community groups are still under-represented in accessing Area Partnership funding, and how to engage better, and encourage participation and representation. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zr6fsdc>

**** Share My Table**

20 February 2017 in Glasgow (10.30-2.30)

Launch of Scottish Refugee Council and Tramway project to bring people together through food and conversation in response to recent debate and media attention surrounding migration. For information see <https://www.facebook.com/events/825479087590846/> or contact Deborah May Deborah.May@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

The Holocaust: an Introduction - Part 2

Online – three sessions: 20 and 28 February, and 6 March

Yad Vashem course about the Holocaust, an inconceivable historical event, an idea so inhumanly warped that spread like wildfire through an entire continent, instigating the systematic annihilation of millions of Jews. For information see <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/holocaust-part-2>

New Scots: Working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

22 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

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.

**** Leadership Skills for BME Workers**

25 February 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

11 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

STUC training to improve or develop leadership skills. For minority workers who hold positions of responsibility in their union, or who would like to become more involved in their union in the future. For information contact Kirsten McTighe kmctighe@stuc.org.uk / 0141 337 8148.

Working with Interpreters

1 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

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.

Introduction to Child Protection

1 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.30-12.30)

GCVS session in partnership with Children in Scotland to discuss child protection, your individual and organisation's roles and responsibilities and the steps should you feel a child requires your support. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zqw4ays> or contact 0141 332 2444.

Integration and Working with Syrian Families

2 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

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.

Equality and Fair Work – Taking Action in your Workplace

3 March 2017 (registration until 24 February) in Edinburgh (10.00-4.30)

Scottish Union Learning and the Equality and Human Rights Commission event to consider equality legislation such as the Equality Act 2010 and the Fair Work Framework, with an emphasis on how these can be used in the workplace to ensure fairer and more equal workplaces. For information contact Alan White awhite@stuc.org.uk / 0141 337 8153

Engaging hard to reach groups

8 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council course about engaging with hard to reach groups. For information please contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

Honour-Based Violence: Who is Doing What to Whom, and Why?

14 March 2017 in Edinburgh (10.00-1.00)

Scottish Women's Aid workshop to discuss the meaning of Honour in the context of Honour-based violence, the influence of family, community, faith, tradition, migration and gender in victims/survivors' experiences, links to domestic abuse and gender-based violence, the long term impact and consequences of Honour-based violence on minority ethnic women children and young people, and appropriate service responses to supporting survivors. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/hzeo96f>

Rights and entitlements of EEA nationals

21 March 2017 in Dumfries (9.30-12.30)

PAiH training on issues related to EEA nationals' access to services and important changes in regulations. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/>

Rights of refugees and asylum seekers

21 March 2017 in Dumfries (1.15-4.15)

PAiH course to explore how the asylum system operates, and barriers faced by refugees and asylum seekers. For information see <http://www.paih.org/training/>

Talking to Young People about Equality

23 March 2017 in Fife (venue tbc) (6.00-9.00)

Youth 1st workshop to help Youth Workers to begin a dialogue about equality with young people and to understand that good knowledge of equality and inclusion will improve their employability. For information contact Gayle Brown 01592 645 355 / gayle@youth1st.co.uk or see <https://www.fifevoluntaryaction.org.uk/news.asp?id=8004>

Refugee Rights to Housing

30 March 2017 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30)

Scottish Refugee Council Course about refugee housing rights. For information contact Martha Harding train@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk / 0141 223 7982.

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.

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



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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