

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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Useful Links

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

UK Parliament Debates

Windrush

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-02/debates/2EE1AB97-59E0-4924-AE57-459FA8811E4F/Windrush>

Minors entering the UK: 1948 to 1971

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-04-30/debates/CEC6AAFF-E02D-41DA-B681-AF9713BE6F82/MinorsEnteringTheUK1948To1971>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Windrush

Diane Abbott (Labour): To ask the Prime Minister to make a statement on the Government's handling of the Windrush crisis.

Reply from the Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): ... |

start by making a pledge to those of the Windrush generation who have been in this country for decades and yet have struggled to navigate through the immigration system: this never should have been the case, and I will do whatever it takes to put it right.

Learning about the difficulties that Windrush migrants have faced over the years has affected me greatly, particularly because I myself am a second-generation migrant. Like the Caribbean Windrush generation, my parents came to this country from the Commonwealth in the 1960s; they too came to help to rebuild this country and to offer all that they had. So when I heard that people who were long-standing pillars of their communities were being impacted for simply not having the right documents to prove their legal status in the UK, I thought that that could be my mum, my brother, my uncle or even me. That is why I am so personally committed to, and invested in, resolving the difficulties faced by the people of the Windrush generation who have built their lives here and contributed so much. ...

A dedicated taskforce was set up to handle these cases; more than 500 appointments have been scheduled, and more than 100 people have already had their cases processed and now have the necessary documents. We will continue to resolve these cases as a matter of urgency.

We have made it clear that a Commonwealth citizen who has remained in the UK since 1973 will be eligible to get the legal status that they deserve: British citizenship. That will be free of charge, and I will bring forward the necessary secondary legislation. We have also been clear that a new compensation scheme will be put in place for those whose lives have been disrupted. We intend to consult on the scope of the scheme and we will appoint an independent person to oversee it. I hope that I can count on the full support of all hon. Members to make this happen as soon as possible. I end by making one thing crystal clear: we will do right by the Windrush generation.

Diane Abbot: ... Is the Home Secretary aware how ashamed many British people are about the Windrush scandal, how frightened and angry the Windrush generation and their families are, and how the scandal has resonated around the Commonwealth? He talks about the Windrush generation getting the legal status they deserve, but actually they were always British. They were always British citizens.

Is the Home Secretary aware that this is a matter not just for the Windrush generation and Commonwealth citizens from the Caribbean? The plight that befell the Windrush generation could also affect Commonwealth citizens who came here from south Asia and west Africa. What steps does he intend to take to protect later cohorts of Commonwealth citizens from the indignity and humiliation that the Windrush generation have had to suffer?

The right hon. Gentleman will be aware that it was the Prime Minister, as Home Secretary, who introduced the Immigration Act 2014, which removed Commonwealth citizens' protection from deportation. The new Home Secretary has been part of the Government's immigration implementation taskforce. Was he aware of the problems being caused to Commonwealth citizens? Was he aware of the warnings in an internal Home Office impact assessment? Was he aware of the warnings from the previous Communities and Local Government Secretary that the "costs and risks" involved in the "hostile environment" would "outweigh the benefits"? Will the new Home Secretary commit at the very least to reinstating the protection for Commonwealth citizens that was removed by the current Prime Minister in 2014? What progress has been made in identifying Windrush people who have been deported, detained or improperly refused re-entry? We will also soon want to know more about compensation and its levels.

The Windrush generation was my parents' generation. I and most British people believe that they have been treated appallingly. The Home Secretary will be judged not on the statements he makes this afternoon, but on what he does to put the situation right and to get justice for the Windrush generation.

Reply from Sajid Javid: ... She asks whether Members are aware of just how angry so many people from the Windrush generation are. Of course we are aware. My predecessor was aware and the Prime Minister was aware, which is why they rightly issued apologies for the treatment of some members of that generation. I am angry, too. I shared with the right hon. Lady just a moment ago just how angry I am and the reasons why I am angry. Like her, I am a second-generation migrant, and I know that she shares that anger, but she should respect the fact that other people share it, too. She does not have a monopoly on that.

The right hon. Lady asks whether I am aware that the same issues could—I stress “could”—have an impact on other Commonwealth citizens, perhaps people such as my parents and others from south Asia who settled in this country. I am aware that that could be the case and I intend to look at that carefully. Right here and now, though, all the cases that have come up relate to the Windrush generation of people from the Caribbean who settled in Britain. That is why they are rightly the focus.

The right hon. Lady claims that protections were removed in 2014, but no such protections have been removed. People who arrived pre-1973 have the absolute right to be here, and that has not changed.

The right hon. Lady asks whether I am aware of anyone who may have been wrongly deported. I am not currently aware of any such cases, but I stress that intensive work is being done right now in the Department, going back many years and looking at many individuals, so I will keep the House updated on that.

The right hon. Lady closed her remarks by rightly reminding everyone that her parents were members of the Windrush generation. My parents were also part of the generation of migrants who came to this country in the 1960s. I hope that she can work with the Government to help those people.

Iain Duncan Smith (Conservative): ... Those who were wrongly taken up in the drive to get those who are here illegally out of the country should have their rights restored; they should be dealt with appropriately and helped accordingly. Does my right hon. Friend agree that it is also right, for very good reasons, to pursue those who are here illegally? ... Actually, many of them are abused by the people who traffic them over here. What happened to the cockle pickers in Morecambe bay and many others was the result of illegal migration that had not been cleared up. Will he therefore show his determination both to sort out the Windrush generation and help them and to continue to ensure that illegal migrants are taken away?

Reply from Sajid Javid:... I very much agree with him that our first priority is to help those members of the Windrush generation who have been affected. I also remind people that there is a separate issue of illegal immigration, and everyone in the country expects us to deal with that.

Joanna Cherry (SNP): ... It is only right to acknowledge the fact that he is the first person from a black and minority ethnic background to hold the office of Secretary of State for the Home Department. ...

What has happened to the Windrush generation is not an accident, nor is it a mistake or the work of overzealous Home Office officials; in fact, it is the direct result of the unrealistic net migration targets set by the Prime Minister when she was Home Secretary and of the “hostile environment” created on her watch. It is the Prime Minister who created the fundamental reasons for the Windrush scandal. If the policies that she put in place are not changed by the new Home Secretary, we will have more disgraceful instances of maltreatment of people who have every right to be in the United Kingdom. EU nationals in particular are concerned about what awaits them after Brexit, for all the fine words of assurance.

I therefore have the following questions for the new Home Secretary. Will he commit to a root-and-branch review of the immigration policies that have led to this disaster? Will he commit to an evidence-based immigration policy that, in the words of the director general of the CBI, puts people before numbers and works to benefit our economy and society?

Will he look seriously at the concerns of EU nationals living in the UK? And will he look at the clear evidential case for the devolution of powers on immigration to the Scottish Parliament, in recognition of Scotland's particular demographic needs? ...

Reply from Sajid Javid: ... The hon. and learned Lady talked about the kind of immigration policy she would like to see. I commit to a fair and humane immigration policy that, first, welcomes and celebrates people who are here legally—people who have come in the past or who are looking to come, and who want to do the right thing and contribute to our country—and what they have to offer our great country, but that at the same time clamps down decisively on illegal immigration. ...

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-04-30/debates/E7547DA9-5D22-4EC0-BAB4-8FC71BD2E1F9/Windrush>

Prime Minister's Questions

Ian Blackford (SNP): A young mother in Coatbridge; a grandmother who has lived here for 50 years; a former cook in this Parliament—just three examples of people who have been wrongly told to leave the United Kingdom. Then there are numerous people wrongly detained or deported, lives turned upside down and irreparable damage to families. The Prime Minister said in this Chamber on 22 October 2013,

“deport first and hear appeals later.”—[[Official Report, 22 October 2013; Vol. 569, c. 158.](#)] Will she now withdraw those remarks?

Reply from the Prime Minister: The right hon. Gentleman is referring to changes to the legislation that later became the Immigration Act 2014. He is right; and I have apologised not just for the anxiety that has been caused to people in the Windrush generation, but to those who have found that the wrong decisions have been taken about their situation. The Windrush generation are British and they are part of us, which is why my right hon. Friend the Home Secretary is making sure that the taskforce that has been put in place is dealing with cases expeditiously and is giving people reassurance about their status here. We need to ensure that we are a welcoming country for people who want to come here and contribute, but that we take action against those who are here illegally, who break the rules and try to play the system.

Ian Blackford: Interestingly, the Prime Minister failed to remove these insulting remarks. It is easy for her to change her Secretary of State—she does it frequently—but she needs to change her policies. An estimated 120,000 undocumented children are currently entitled to UK citizenship by law, but only if they register at the cost of £1,000. This is a new Windrush generation, who will be unable to secure jobs and rent properties. These children, who are entitled to citizenship, should not be charged to exercise their rights. How can she possibly justify these policies?

Reply from the Prime Minister: Members of the public want to ensure that we have a fair immigration system and that we have rules that people abide by, and that is why we make a very clear distinction. I want people who come here legally, who do the right thing and contribute to our society, to feel that this is one of the most welcoming countries in the world. On the other side, we need to ensure that we have a system that deals with those who break the rules, play the system and try to jump ahead of others. That is what people expect from us. They want us to have a system that is fair and sets out rules, and for us to ensure that people are abiding by those rules.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-02/debates/7966615E-C546-44F8-9ACD-AE7D57519DF4/Engagements#contribution-03C5EFD8-362D-47D4-92A9-A6AE9F92B2AF>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Immigration: Appeals

Catherine West (Labour) [138080] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what proportion of immigration appeals were overturned at tribunal in each of the last six months.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: The First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) is administered by Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS). The proportion of successful immigration appeals, overturning the Secretary of State for the Home Department's decision, in each of the last six months for which published data are available is:

July 17 ^P	August 17 ^P	Sept 17 ^P	October 17 ^P	Nov 17 ^P	Dec 17 ^P
51%	48%	48%	49%	51%	50%

P: Provisional data taken from a live management information system and subject to change.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/138080/>

Immigration: Ethnic Groups

Jo Stevens (Labour) [137596] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will make an assessment of whether her Department has carried out immigration status checks on a disproportionate number of BAME citizens as a result of the Government's hostile environment policy.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: A wide range of bodies conduct compliant environment checks under immigration and other legislation to prevent immigration offending and to protect public services from misuse. Codes of practice issued by the Home Office regarding the compliant environment are clear that status checks by employers and landlords must be conducted on a non-discriminatory basis. Public authorities must comply with the Equality Act in administering services.

Where the Home Office is asked to confirm the immigration status of an individual, this will usually be done with their consent, but the Home Office does not require nor record the race, colour or ethnic background of the individual concerned.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137596/>

Immigration: Caribbean

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [136300] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the number of Windrush citizens who have been (a) denied and (b) charged for NHS treatment; and what steps she is taking together with the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to rectify that matter.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information about individuals who have been denied or charged for NHS treatment is not held by the Home Office.

Individuals affected should contact the Home Office. The new team set up will help the applicants to demonstrate that they are entitled to live in the UK and will aim to resolve cases within two weeks when the evidence has been provided.

The Home Office will also be setting up a new compensation scheme. We will want to take time to consult on the scope of the new scheme.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-17/136300/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Luciana Berger (Labour Co-op) [137167] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment she has made of the potential long-term trauma and detrimental effects on mental health caused to people affected by the Windrush scandal;

and what steps the Government is taking to provide counselling, talking therapies and ongoing support to all those affected and their families.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office has made clear it's commitment to do right by the Windrush generation which is why we have established a dedicated taskforce to help the Windrush Generation and other long-term residents to evidence their right to be in the UK. We will want to take time to consult and think about all areas of compensation but we will put this right.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-23/137167/>

Caribbean: Immigrants

Dan Poulter (Conservative) [136900] To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, whether he intends to meet with representatives of the Caribbean to discuss concerns on the immigration status of people of Caribbean birth who have been living and working in the UK.

Reply from Alan Duncan: The United Kingdom will always be grateful for the invaluable contribution made by the thousands of people who came to the UK from the Caribbean. The Government has therefore made considerable efforts to discuss immigration issues with Caribbean leaders and explain the urgent action being taken to rectify cases of those from the Windrush generation.

Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the Caribbean, and the Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP, Minister of State for Immigration, met Commonwealth Caribbean Foreign Ministers on 16 April to discuss concerns about the immigration status of the Windrush generation. This was followed by a meeting between the Prime Minister and Caribbean leaders on 17 April. The Prime Minister also met the Prime Minister of Jamaica for a bilateral meeting. Lord Ahmad joined both discussions.

Lord Ahmad meets Caribbean High Commissioners quarterly and these issues will be discussed at the next scheduled meeting.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-20/136900/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Green (Labour) [138436] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what meetings she has held with black majority church leaders to discuss her Department's arrangements for the Windrush generation.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: We have identified influential faith leaders in key cities throughout the UK and Caribbean community groups who will cascade our messages to the Windrush generation. We will identify 10-15 outreach community ambassadors who will carry out this activity This will include churches, community events and local businesses, in around 400 African Caribbean touch points in five key cities including: London, Birmingham, Manchester, Nottingham and Bristol.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138436/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Green (Labour) [138437] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people in the Windrush generation have paid fees to secure (a) citizenship and (b) indefinite leave to remain.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Providing the information requested would require a manual check of individual records which could only be done at disproportionate cost.

Individuals should contact the Home Office, by telephone on 0800 678 1925 or by emailing commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. The team will help the applicants to demonstrate that they are entitled to live in the UK and will aim to

resolve cases within two weeks when the evidence has been provided.

Information has been published on the Home Office website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-team-to-help-commonwealth-citizens-confirm-their-status-in-the-uk>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/undocumented-commonwealth-citizens-resident-in-the-uk/undocumented-commonwealth-citizens-resident-in-the-uk>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138437/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [138349] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps her Department is taking to ensure safeguards are in place to enable eligible EU citizens to access public funds after the UK leaves the EU and before June 2021.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Safeguarding the rights of EU citizens living in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU has always been the top priority for this Government.

The draft Withdrawal Agreement between the UK & the EU, published on 19 March, sets out a fair deal on citizens' rights, allowing EU citizens living in the UK and UK citizens in the EU to get on with their lives broadly as now. They will be able to come and live and work in the UK and have the same access to benefits as they do now, until the end of the implementation period.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138349/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [138350] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that (a) elderly and (b) computer illiterate EU citizens living in the UK are given adequate support to acquire the documentation needed for their immigration status applications before June 2021.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Ensuring that vulnerable groups are supported to easily protect their status is a core element in the design of the EU Settlement Scheme. The Home Office is putting in place measures to ensure that the settlement scheme is accessible and capable of handling vulnerable customers with flexibility. Arrangements are being developed to provide a range of direct support offered by the Home Office and indirect support through third parties such as community groups. These will cater for the needs of groups such as the elderly and those considered to be digitally excluded, and include assisted digital support for those that cannot access or aren't confident with technology. A user group of external stakeholders who represent the needs of potentially vulnerable individuals has been established to work with the Home Office to ensure the right support arrangements are in place.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138350/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [138351] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, on what grounds she will accept immigration status and residence applications made by EU citizens after the June 2021 deadline.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: EU citizens, and their family members, who are resident in the UK before the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020 will have until 30 June 2021 to make their application to the EU settlement scheme. We have agreed with the EU that where there are reasonable compassionate or practical grounds for missing the deadline, those persons will be allowed to submit an application within a reasonable further period of time. A

proportionate approach will be taken and cases will be considered on their individual merits.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138351/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

Jeff Smith (Labour) [905121] To ask the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, what progress has been made during negotiations on agreeing new arrangements for the rights of non-UK EU citizens after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Suella Braverman: We have reached a reciprocal agreement with the EU, which safeguards the rights of EU citizens living in the UK and UK nationals living in the EU.

This agreement, highlighted green in the Withdrawal Agreement legal text, means citizens resident before the end of the implementation period will be able to continue living their lives broadly as they do now.

The Government is now focusing on the successful domestic implementation of the agreement. We are also seeking further details on the steps Member States are taking to protect the status of UK nationals resident in the EU.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/905121/>

Doctors: Migrant Workers

Afzal Khan (Labour) [137672] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 1 March 2018 to Question 129582, on Doctors: Migrant Workers, if she will publish a consultation on doctors from overseas being prevented from working in the NHS on account of immigration rules relating to their salaries.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Tier 2 (General) minimum salary thresholds for overseas doctors were set following consultation with the independent Migration Advisory Committee and are based on pay scales published by the NHS – and have remained at their current levels since April 2017.

We continue to monitor the operation of this route ensure that it strikes the right balance between supporting businesses accessing talent from overseas and our commitment to reducing net migration and protecting jobs for British workers.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137672/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-26/129582/>

Doctors: Migrant Workers

Philippa Whitford (SNP) [139513] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications by doctors for Tier 2 visas were (a) deferred and (b) declined in each month between January 2017 and April 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information you have requested on Tier 2 applications by doctors is not included in statistics published by the Home Office. Information on the total number of Tier 2 entry clearance visa outcomes can be found in Visas volume 1 table vi_01_q here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2017/list-of-tables#visas>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139513/>

Doctors: Migrant Workers

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [139579] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that doctors from India that have received job offers to work in the NHS are given visas.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Government recognises fully the contribution that doctors working in the NHS – and other professionals – make to the UK. Doctors in specialisms which the Migration Advisory Committee have recognised as being in shortage in the UK already receive priority within the Tier 2 allocation system. None of these roles, which include consultants specialising in clinical radiology and emergency medicine, have been refused places. Over a third of all Tier 2 places go to the NHS.

We continue to monitor the operation of Tier 2 to ensure that it strikes the right balance between supporting employers – including the NHS - accessing talent from overseas and that it works in the national interest and protects the resident labour market.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139579/>

Visas: Standards

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [139472] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many non-straightforward visa applications have taken more than (a) 12, (b) 18 and (c) 24 months to process to completion since the second quarter of 2015.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Visa applications are considered to be non-straightforward (complex) when an Entry Clearance Officer determines that additional information is required in order for a decision to be made.

There are no set standards for processing non-straightforward by the caseworker. However, if an application is non-straightforward and expected to take longer than the standard processing timescale, UKVI will write to the customer within the standard processing time and to inform them that their application will not be concluded with the normal service standard.

The published information on processing times for visa applications is published as part of the Migration Transparency data, available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139472/>

Visas: Standards

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [139473] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many non-straightforward visa applications remain outstanding for each quarter since Q2 2015.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on processing times for visa applications is published as part of the Migration Transparency data, available at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/migration-transparency-data#uk-visas-and-immigration>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139473/>

Refugees

The following four questions all received the same answer

Diane Abbott (Labour) [112311] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will lift the requirement that applicants to participate in the Dubs scheme be under 18-years olds at 20 March 2016.

Refugees: Children

Diane Abbott (Labour) [112316] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if the Government will carry out a comprehensive national audit of local authorities that are volunteering to take in unaccompanied refugee children; and if she will make a statement.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [112317] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department

whether legal assistance will be provided to unaccompanied children who are seeking to apply to live in the UK under the Dubs scheme.

Diane Abbott (Labour) [112318] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many children the Government plans to accept into the UK under the Dubs scheme by the end of 2017; and how many of those children will be children with disabilities.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In accordance with section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, the Government conducted a comprehensive consultation with local authorities across the UK in 2016 to assess capacity for the care of unaccompanied children. Following the consultation, the Government set the specified number for section 67 at 480. This is a one-off commitment. On 2 November the High Court confirmed that the Government's approach to implementing section 67 was lawful.

The Government maintains a continual dialogue with local authorities and Strategic Migration Partnerships. We welcome all offers from local authorities with capacity to look after unaccompanied asylum seeking children and will continue to utilise these offers to fulfil all of our existing commitments, including ensuring a more equal allocation of unaccompanied children across the country through the National Transfer Scheme.

The Government is fully committed to transferring 480 unaccompanied children from Europe under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 (the 'Dubs Amendment'). Over 200 unaccompanied children have arrived in the UK under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016. Children have been transferred this year from France under section 67 and transfers are ongoing. On 10 March, the Government published the basis on which further transfers under section 67 will take place:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/632633/Dubs_policy_statement_-_update.pdf.

To be eligible, children need to have been present in Europe before 20 March 2016, and it be determined, following individual assessment, that it would be in their best interests to be transferred to the UK.

It is for participating Member States to refer children; there is no process for children to lodge an application for consideration under section 67. Member States have been asked to prioritise those likely to qualify for refugee status and the most vulnerable. Vulnerability may include, but is not restricted to UNHCR's *Children at Risk* individual risk factors. These risk factors include: child victims of trafficking and sexual abuse; survivors of torture; survivors of violence; and, children with mental or physical disabilities.

The primary responsibility for unaccompanied children with the authorities of the Member State in which they are present. The UK cannot operate on the territory of another sovereign nation without a specific request to do so, and this includes providing legal assistance to children not currently on UK territory.

Once in the UK, unaccompanied asylum seeking children are placed into the care of local authorities and are provided with specialised legal advice and support which is available from their social worker, the Refugee Council Children's Panel of Advisors for children in England and the Scottish Guardianship Service for children in Scotland.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112311/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112316/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112317/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2017-11-10/112318/>

Refugees: Syria

Jim Cunningham (Labour) [139385] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what progress his Department has made on resettling 20,000 Syrian refugees in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme by 2020.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office is committed to publishing data in an orderly way as part of the regular quarterly Immigration Statistics, in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Latest statistics published on 22 February, which covers the period up until the end of December 2017, confirmed that a total of 10,538 vulnerable people have been resettled under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) since the start of the scheme. The statistics are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release>.
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139385/>

Asylum

Afzal Khan (Labour) [137675] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to paragraphs 5.3 and 5.5 on page 5 of her Department's publication entitled The Home Office response to the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration's report: An Inspection of the Home Office's Asylum Intake & Casework. April – August 2017, whether her Department has published its review of policies and practices to ensure that it does not discriminate against any particular groups; whether her Department has completed and plans to publish its review of existing non-straightforward claims (NSF) guidance to ensure that appropriate quality assurance systems are in place; and whether her Department has completed and plans to publish its longer-term review on ensuring that NSF guidance is gender neutral and does not disadvantage particular groups.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In its official response whilst the Home Office accepted the ICI recommendation it did also say that no evidence was provided to support claims of discriminatory practise. However we are reviewing our procedures and will complete our review of NSF guidance by the end of May. As part of Operational plans all cases over 12 months were reviewed in 2017 to ensure any that could be progressed, were progressed, irrespective of the nature of the case.

There are no plans to publish guidance on NSF cases or its review as these are internal documents.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137675/>

The report response referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662769/An_Inspection_of_Asylum_intake_and_casework.pdf

The Home Office response referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/662748/Home_Office_response_ICIBI_report_on_Home_Offices_Asylum_Intake_Casework.pdf

Education: Asylum

Layla Moran (Liberal Democrat) [137128] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what discussions he has had with the Home Department on the effect of (a) the status of immigration bail under Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016, and (b) associated bail

conditions prohibiting studying on the ability of asylum seekers to (i) take part in educational activities and (ii) sit examinations; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Nadhim Zahawi: My department and the Home Office have regular discussions about a range of issues and have discussed the effect of the status of immigration bail under Schedule 10 to the Immigration Act 2016. Immigration bail does not change any of the existing policies on migrants who can access study, take part in educational activities or sit examinations.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-23/137128/>

Asylum: Education

The following three questions all received the same answer

Roger Godsiff (Labour) [137899] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum seekers studying at (a) university and (b) school have been prevented from continuing with their studies because they have been placed on immigration bail since the Immigration Act 2016 came into force; and what assessment he has made of the effect of that policy on the (i) wellbeing and (ii) future career prospects of those people.

Rogr Godsiff (Labour) [137900] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what representations (a) her Department and (b) UK Visas and Immigration have received from (a) schools and (b) universities on asylum seekers who have been prevented from continuing with their studies because of immigration bail conditions.

Roger Godsiff (Labour) [137901] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how her Department notifies asylum seekers who have been placed on immigration bail that they are not allowed to continue with their educational studies.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The data requested is not available. Immigration bail does not change existing Home Office policies on access to study and there is nothing in the Immigration Rules to prevent asylum seekers from studying. However, if a failed asylum seeker has exhausted their appeal rights or committed immigration offences, a bail condition preventing study may be imposed.

If a person disputes the study restriction on their immigration bail, the remedy is to seek a variation from the Home Office, removing the restriction.

The Home Office is not aware of any direct representations from schools or universities regarding a restriction on study as a condition of immigration bail.

Individuals are notified of their immigration bail conditions in writing, using a Notification of Grant/Variation of Immigration Bail form (BAIL 201).

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/137899/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/137900/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/137901/>

Detention Centres

Afzal Khan (Labour) [137665] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 20 February 2018 to Question 127773, whether her Department is taking steps to assess how immigration detention centres can be monitored more effectively to remove reliance on whistle-blowers to report matters of significant concern.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Independent monitoring of our immigration removal centres (IRC) is vital to ensuring that each centre provides a secure and humane environment for detainees. Robust statutory oversight is provided by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons and the Independent Monitoring Boards, ensuring that

detainees are treated with proper standards of care and decency.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137665/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-02-08/127773/>

Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre

Alex Sobel (Labour Co-op) [138565] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many people have been detained for periods longer than 28 days at Yarl's Wood Detention Centre since 2010.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on people leaving detention, who were detained for longer than 28 days in the detention estate is available in table dt_06_q of the detention tables. Data broken down by individual detention centre are not available in a readily accessible format.

The latest data, published in 'Immigration Statistics, October to December 2017', are available at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/681703/detention-oct-dec-2017-tables.ods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138565/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Steve McCabe (Labour) [138366] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, pursuant to the Answer of the 24 April to Question 136754 on Immigrants: Detainees, whether the pay rates for immigration-related detainees are consistent throughout the prison service.

Reply from Rory Stewart: The prison service runs one immigration removal centre in which detainee pay is as set out in the Secretary of State for the Home Department's previous answer. Immigration Detainees detained in a prison have the same rights as a remand prisoner. Where a detainee undertakes work in a prison he or she will be paid the rate paid to other prisoners in that prison.

This means the pay rate will vary nationally depending on the work being done by the detainee and the pay rates determined by the Governor. Governors have discretion to determine local pay rates that reflect their prisoner population needs, the type of prison, the regime in operation, and the jobs / educational / vocational training that are available.

Governors must pay at least the national minimum rate of £4 per week (Prison Service Order (PSO) 4460 sets out the national policy for Prisoners' Pay), though in many cases the rate will be considerably higher. Prisoners or immigration detainees who want to work but for whom no suitable employment is available, or who are unable to work, receive the minimum 'unemployment' pay of £2.50 per week.

A copy of the PSO can be found here: <https://www.justice.gov.uk/offenders/psos>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138366/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Steve McCabe (Labour) [138367] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of the 24 April to Question 136754, what the longest period is for a detainee to have been held; and how many and what proportion of released detainees were subsequently detained within (i) one month of their release and (ii) six months of their release.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not hold the information requested with regard to the proportion of released detainees who were subsequently detained within (i) one month of their release and (ii) six months of

their release, in a reportable format. The information requested could only be supplied at disproportionate cost.

Data on length of detention is available in published figures from Immigration Statistics. The published data, which goes back to 2010 is broken down into quarters and is available within table dt_14 and can be accessed via the following link:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/681703/detention-oct-dec-2017-tables.ods

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138367/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-19/136754/>

Deportation

Alison Thewliss (SNP) [138491] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many non-UK nationals have been removed from (a) Scotland and (b) Northern Ireland; and for what reasons each of those people were removed in each month of each year since 2010.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not hold the information you have requested in a reportable format. The information requested could only be supplied at disproportionate cost.

The latest published data on returns is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2017/how-many-people-are-detained-or-returned>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-26/138491/>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Windrush

The Minister repeated the answer made by the Home Secretary in the House of Commons (See “UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers” section above)

Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op): My Lords, I thank the noble Baroness for repeating the Answer to the Question from my right honourable friend, which the Home Secretary gave yesterday in the other place. I join her in offering my congratulations to her right honourable friend on his appointment.

What action will the new Home Secretary undertake to deliver a fair, just and humane immigration policy and get the country out of this shameful disaster? Is the noble Baroness aware of the call from the director-general of the CBI for our immigration policy to put people before numbers and work to benefit our economy and society? I hope she can commit to that this afternoon. Finally, when there will be more information about the compensation scheme, as this also must be fair and just to compensate properly for the terrible wrongs that have been caused?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I thank the noble Lord for that question. First, he asked what the Home Office will be doing to right the wrongs. The new Home Secretary has made some things very clear. He has made it quite clear that he does not like the term “hostile environment”, which he feels does not reflect the values of this country. The term was not invented recently; it was coined some time ago—under a Labour Home Secretary, I must say, but that is by the by, because Home Secretaries have used the term ever since. He has made it quite clear that, in line with the values that he and most of us share, there should be a compliant rather than a hostile environment.

The noble Lord also asked about putting people before numbers. My right

honourable friend also made it quite clear, as did the previous Home Secretary only last week, that we want a humane environment. Some of the mechanisms set up for the Windrush generation will make it as easy as possible for people to get the documentation they need. Where necessary, officials will liaise with other government departments to ease the burden on those people who are here as of right. The noble Lord talked about the compensation scheme—in fact, he asked me about it at the end of last week. The Home Secretary has reiterated his commitment to a compensation scheme. He will be consulting on the scheme and, as I said, an independent person will be in place to oversee it. I hope that answers the noble Lord's questions.

Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the Windrush fiasco is the result of Home Office deportation targets. If officials are given targets and the case before them qualifies on the face of it for deportation, and they are short of their quota for that week or month, how can they be expected to use their discretion to act humanely, even in the face of exceptional humanitarian circumstances? Of course, illegal immigrants should be pursued, but how can targets for removals be consistent with a compassionate approach to exceptional cases? The Minister said that the new Home Secretary has said that he will do whatever it takes to put this right. Does not she agree with me that, to put this right, we need to abandon removal targets in the Home Office?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: One thing that my right honourable friend the Home Secretary also made clear yesterday was that he wants to look at those targets, take a view on what targets have been set or are being set, and take a view on the whole issue of targets going forward. I am sure your Lordships' House will have more information on that, as he embeds himself—he has been there only just over 24 hours—and makes decisions on his priorities and where the policy will go.

Baroness Warsi (Conservative): My Lords, I am grateful to my noble friend for repeating the Statement. I, too, welcome the appointment of Sajid Javid to the post of Home Secretary. I welcome his statements about the hostile environment and how he does not consider those words in accordance with the values of this nation. However, in moving away from the language of the hostile environment, can my noble friend assure the House that we will also move away from the cultural and legal consequences of that hostile environment? Would she make the case for common sense being restored in Home Office decision-making? Would she also make the case for looking again at the underpinning that the appeals system and its funding brought to decision-making? When decision-making goes wrong, we have appeals and those appeals are well funded. So in moving away from the language of the hostile environment, will we look again at the legal framework created in pursuing that policy?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I thank my noble friend for making that point. I heard her points at lunchtime about the hostile environment, so I am glad that what I have said chimes with her. She is right about common sense in decision making; she makes an insightful point about cultural considerations, as opposed to the facts before us. However, it is vital that the compliant environment protects vulnerable persons. Appropriate safeguards are built in and the right to redress exists, including the ability to exercise discretion when there are genuine barriers to people leaving the UK or measures that would be deemed unduly harsh. We need a humane approach to this, but we must not forget that, within the compliant environment, it is necessary that people who are not here legally should be removed from this country, not least because of the vulnerability that goes with it.

Lord Boateng (Labour): My Lords, the Home Secretary's appointment is to be warmly welcomed. His is a remarkable achievement. However, there are two factors that I would ask the Minister to take into account. The first is the age and vulnerability of many of the victims of the Windrush scandal. I hope that will be taken into account in the scheme that is to be set up and, in particular, in the imposition of any deadlines. There has been a lot

of talk about deadlines for making applications and claiming compensation. I hope that people's vulnerability, age and natural reluctance to come forward, given their previous experience of hostile Administrations, will be taken into account. I seek the Minister's assurance on that.

Secondly, how are our overseas posts being kept informed about the development of this situation? It will be necessary to make sure that information is put out to potential claimants and victims in the various Commonwealth countries which are affected—and not just in the Caribbean.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Both the previous Home Secretary and the new one have made it absolutely clear that this scheme has not been put in place to trip people up. The noble Lord talked about people having a certain amount of time to make deadlines. We will consult on this scheme and I hope the noble Lord will put his view forward. To put bureaucratic restrictions into it, however, is not in the spirit of what the Home Secretary wants. I totally appreciate the noble Lord's point about age—I presume he means older age—and particularly people who might have been stung by the system previously and feel reluctant to come forward. This is a scheme to help people, not to restrict them. The noble Lord also makes a good point about overseas posts being informed. He may remember that the previous Home Secretary talked with Commonwealth representatives during CHOGM to engage and spread the word. I know that officials have been engaging, not only with other Commonwealth countries, but widely in British society in areas where there may be Commonwealth citizens who can be helped. We are taking a very proactive approach.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-01/debates/CB6049A9-79FC-4F55-880C-975CBF3BDC73/Windrush>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7012] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to ensure that the recent uncertainty over the immigration status of the Windrush generation will not be repeated in relation to other people who have come to the UK legally and have indefinite leave to remain.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: If an individual came to the UK legally and has indefinite leave to remain, they have already regularised their position and should have relevant documentation needed to prove that. If they haven't, we will assist them to do so.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-17/HL7012/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Lord Boateng (Labour) [HL6969] To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the statement by the Earl of Courtown on 16 April (HL Deb, col 1012), what proposals they have (1) to return the fees already paid by members of the Windrush generation, and (2) to compensate those who were denied benefits, employment or services to which they would otherwise have been entitled and for any losses amassed as a result of decisions taken previously by Home Office officials, in their determinations of the applications by members of the Windrush generation to clarify their status as British subjects lawfully resident in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The former Home Secretary announced to Parliament on 23/04/2018 that she would set up a new scheme to deliver compensation to individuals affected. This will be run by an independent person. Further details will be announced in the coming weeks by the new Home Secretary.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-17/HL6969/>

The statement referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-04-16/debates/00386A14-6822-44E3-88EF-A3FB5AF0BAB9/WindrushGenerationImmigrationStatus>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL7019] To ask Her Majesty's Government what steps they are taking to prevent the deportation of the Windrush generation.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Additional safeguards have been in place to ensure that no-one from the Windrush Generation will be subject to enforcement action, regardless of whether they have documentation or not.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-17/HL7019/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL7020] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether any of the Windrush generation have been deported; and if so, what steps they will take regarding those cases.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: No specific cases of people being removed from the UK under these circumstances have come to light so far.

If anyone believes that they, or a family member, have been, they should contact the Home Office, by telephone on 0800 678 1925 or by emailing commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. The Home Office will review any cases that are brought to its attention.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-17/HL7020/>

Undocumented Migrants

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL7093] To ask Her Majesty's Government what internal guidance, if any, was issued by Departments to give effect to the policy of creating a hostile environment for illegal migrants in the United Kingdom; and what evidence formed the basis of that policy.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The term 'hostile environment' was first coined by Alan Johnson when he was Home Secretary. The current Home Secretary has made it clear that he will no longer be using this term. The Compliant Environment is not a new concept; successive Governments have brought forward policies to prevent the misuse of public services and benefits.

In developing Compliant Environment measures, we have worked in collaboration with other government departments and delivery partners. Guidance underpinning these policies has been issued, including for employers and landlords, and published on <https://www.gov.uk>

We conduct impact assessments to fully consider policy objectives, intended effects and the Government's intervention reasoning. Impact assessments were published for both the 2014 and 2016 Immigration Acts. They can be found at the following links and attached for reference:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/482041/2015-11-30_revised_overarching_IA_-_Lords.pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/250069/Overarching_Impact_Assessment_final.PDF

[Revised Overarching IA](#)

[Overarching Impact Assessment](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-19/HL7093/>

Undocumented Migrants

The following two questions both received the same answer

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL7143] To ask Her Majesty's Government what impact assessments they conducted when the hostile environment policy for illegal immigrants was adopted.

Immigration

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL7145] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is their estimate of the number of individuals and families who have been adversely affected by the hostile immigration environment strategy.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The term 'hostile environment' was first coined by Alan Johnson when he was Home Secretary. The current Home Secretary has made it clear that he will no longer be using this term.

Successive Governments have brought forward measures to prevent illegal immigration and the misuse of public services and benefits. Impact assessments on the Immigration Acts 2014 and 2016 were published during the passage of the legislation, and key compliant environment measures on immigration checks by employers and landlords have been the subject of public consultations.

Many checks, such as right to rent and right to work, are applicable to everyone in the UK on a non-discriminatory basis. Checks are often conducted independently of the Home Office and so it is not possible for the Government to accurately estimate the number of individuals who have been impacted by these measures.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-23/HL7143/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-23/HL7145/>

Refugees

The Lord Bishop of Durham [HL7051] To ask Her Majesty's Government what training is being provided to Job Centre Plus staff to assist refugees during the twenty eight day move-on period.

Reply from Baroness Buscombe: All DWP staff have access to operational instructions that explains DWP support available to refugees, including the 28 day move on process. During rollout of the supported handover, between Home Office and DWP (for refugees requiring help in making a DWP benefit claim), further communications, including a memo, were issued to improve awareness of the process and alert staff of the instructions to follow. As part of our continuous improvement activity we are considering what future products may be required to support refugees.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-18/HL7051/>

Asylum: Finance

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7126] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the extent to which the increase in February of the standard allowance for asylum seekers from £36.95 a week to £37.75 a week is sufficient to meet living costs.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The assessment is set out in a report published in March 2018, the report outlines the standard allowances for asylum seekers and for convenience the report is attached and can also be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/report-on-review-of-cash-allowance-paid-to-asylum-seekers>.

[Report on Review of cash allowance-asylum 2017](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-19/HL7126/>

Deportation

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL7314] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have any plans to consult on what should be a reasonable length of continuous residence in the UK, after which deportation cannot take place.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Deportation proceedings are initiated where a person is not a British citizen and their presence is considered to be non-conducive to the public good, usually because they are foreign criminals; or the Secretary of State has ordered another person to whose family they belong to be deported; or where a court has recommended deportation.

Section 7(1) of the Immigration Act 1971 states that it is not lawful to deport Commonwealth or Irish citizens who were ordinarily resident in the UK for the commencement of the Act in January 1973 and ordinarily resident in the UK for at least five years before the decision to make a deportation order.

For non-EEA nationals, section 32(2) of the UK Borders Act 2007 sets out automatic deportation provisions relevant to those sentenced to a period of imprisonment of at least 12 months. Section 33 of the UK Borders Act sets out exceptions to automatic deportation, which include human rights considerations, such as an individual's right to private and family life (Article 8 of the human rights convention). In addition, the exception in section 7(1) of the 1971 Act applies in such cases. Section 19 of the Immigration Act 2014 sets out the approach to considering Article 8 claims in deportation cases, which takes account of a person's length of residence and cultural integration into the UK. It makes clear that in general the deportation of foreign criminals is in the public interest.

EEA nationals are deported in accordance with EU law on the grounds of public policy or public security.

We will take all circumstances into account when considering whether deportation is appropriate, including factors such as length of residence, ties to the UK, and level of criminality. Due to the case-by-case nature of this consideration, it would not be appropriate to set a fixed length of continuous residence after which deportation cannot take place.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-26/HL7314/>

Deportation: Caribbean

Lord Bassam of Brighton (Labour) [HL6859] To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the number of children of the Windrush generation that might face the threat of deportation to the West Indies.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Since 1973 many of the Windrush generation would have obtained documentation confirming their status or would have applied for citizenship and then a British passport.

The former Home Secretary has put additional safeguards in place to ensure that no-one from the Windrush Generation will be subject to enforcement action, regardless of whether they have documentation or not.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-16/HL6859/>

Anthony Bryan

Lord Beecham (Labour) [HL6865] To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the report in The Guardian on 15 April that Anthony Bryan spent three weeks in immigration removal centres and over £3,000 in legal fees before it was agreed that he was here legally, whether they intend to apologise to him and reimburse his expenses.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We apologise unreservedly for the distress caused to anyone who has been told, incorrectly, that they do not have the right to be in the UK.

We are not aware of any specific cases of a person being removed from the UK in

these circumstances and we have absolutely no intention of asking anyone to leave who continues to have the right to remain here.

The former Home Secretary announced to Parliament on 23/04/2018 that she will set up a new scheme to deliver compensation to individuals affected. This will be run by an independent person. Further details will be announced in the coming weeks.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-16/HL6865/>

Press Releases

Letter to Home Secretary

<https://news.gov.scot/news/letter-to-home-secretary>

Help for refugee dentists to use skills

<https://news.gov.scot/news/help-for-refugee-dentists-to-use-skills>

Children must not be detained for immigration purposes, European Parliament says

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20180426IPR02614/children-must-not-be-detained-for-immigration-purposes-parliament-says>

New Publications

Briefing: Windrush Generation

<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2018-0111/CDP-2018-0111.pdf>

Modern slavery training: resource page

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/modern-slavery-training-resource-page/modern-slavery-training-resource-page>

News: Windrush Generation

New home secretary Sajid Javid's Windrush vow

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43957812>

Javid says 'it could have been me', as he pledges to fix Windrush failings

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/javid-says-it-could-have-been-me-as-he-pledges-to-fix-windrush-failings-1-4732793>

Sajid Javid pledges to urgently 'do right' by Windrush generation

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/apr/30/sajid-javid-pledges-to-do-right-by-windrush-generation>

Windrush victims get personal apology from immigration minister in Parliament

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16198395.Windrush_victims_get_personal_apology_from_immigration_minister_in_Parliament/

Potential Windrush cases reported to Home Office soar to 3,000

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/potential-windrush-cases-reported-to-home-office-soar-to-3-000-1-4733898>

Theresa May announces review into government's handling of Windrush scandal
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-windrush-scandal-review-government-handling-pmqs-latest-a8332486.html>

MPs vote against Windrush disclosures
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43982092>

Labour motion to see Windrush documents defeated in Commons
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/02/conservative-mps-told-to-vote-against-windrush-documents-motion>

Windrush scandal: Tories vote to block release of secret documents as they launch review
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/windrush-scandal-tories-vote-block-release-secret-documents-a8333501.html>

Immigration minister apologises to Windrush victims at meeting
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/01/immigration-minister-apologises-to-windrush-victims-in-meeting>

Windrush report to be published by end of July
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/windrush-report-by-parliament-s-recess-w3hh8qmjq>

Thousands in Windrush generation lack passports
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-05/news/thousands-in-windrush-generation-lack-passports-3zfwzt2f7>

Windrush scandal: no passport for thousands who moved to Britain
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/04/windrush-scandal-no-passport-for-thousands-who-moved-to-britain>

Diane Abbott joins Windrush protest march on Whitehall
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/05/windrush-protest-whitehall-diane-abbott-theresa-may-hostile-environment-policy>

'I'm glad we spoke out': Windrush victim who shone a light on the scandal
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/05/im-glad-we-spoke-out-windrush-victim-who-shone-a-light-on-the-scandal>

The Windrush generation are the 'right kind' of immigrants, otherwise we wouldn't care
<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/windrush-generation-scandal-racism-muslims-pakistanis-theresa-may-amber-rudd-a8328141.html>

Windrush: portrait of a generation – in pictures
<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/gallery/2018/may/05/windrush-portrait-of-a-generation-in-pictures>

News: Other Immigration and asylum

SNP call on Sajid Javid to recognise Scotland's migration needs
<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/snp-call-on-sajid-javid-to-recognise-scotland-s-migration-needs-1-4733223>

Scotland needs the power to welcome more immigrants
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-01/scotland/scotland-needs-the-power-to-welcome-more-immigrants-sqzk2clk2>

Comment on Amber Rudd's resignation

http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/news_and_events/news/3307_comment_on_a_mber_rudds_resignation

Recruitment of thousands of vital overseas doctors risks being 'stifled' by rigid Home Office visa rules, watchdogs warn

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/health/doctor-nhs-india-visa-home-office-windrush-amber-rudd-gmc-rcp-dacre-a8333511.html>

Theresa May vetoed plan to allow more overseas doctors to help fill NHS gaps, reports suggest

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/theresa-may-nhs-overseas-doctors-help-recruitment-immigration-windrush-scandal-latest-a8330861.html>

Labour urges ministers to allow NHS to bring in foreign doctors

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/02/labour-urges-ministers-to-allow-nhs-to-bring-in-foreign-doctors>

Theresa May 'blocking requests' to allow in more overseas doctors for NHS

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/01/theresa-may-blocking-requests-to-allow-in-more-overseas-doctors-nhs-shortages>

Using skills of refugee dentists helps Scottish NHS fill the gaps

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16200249.Using_skills_of_refugee_dentists_helps_Scottish_NHS_fill_the_gaps/

Refugee staff point to future for the NHS

http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/16201629.Herald_View_Refugee_staff_point_to_future_for_the_NHS/

Visa plea for Canadian to teach Gaelic

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/visa-plea-for-canadian-to-teach-gaelic-x8cqlgvxz>

New home secretary Sajid Javid says Theresa May's 'hostile' immigration rhetoric is not British

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/sajid-javid-theresa-may-new-home-secretary-immigration-rhetoric-hostile-not-british-a8330151.html>

Sajid Javid to end hostile era for illegal immigrants

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-01/news/sajid-javid-to-end-hostile-era-for-illegal-immigrants-6gmls322x>

Government 'deported 7,000 foreign students after falsely accusing them of cheating in English language tests'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-office-mistakenly-deported-thousands-foreign-students-cheating-language-tests-theresa-may-a8331906.html>

Sajid Javid warned over students forced from UK after language tests

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/may/01/sajid-javid-urged-to-review- plight-of-students-forced-out-of-uk>

7,000 foreign students 'wrongly accused of cheating' in English tests

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-02/news/7-000-foreign-students-wrongly-accused-of-cheating-in-english-tests-kb9hq0rf>

The Windrush scandal shows Britain desperately needs a migration museum

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/apr/30/ellis-island-britain-migration-museum-windrush>

New chair for Scots refugee group

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/new-chair-for-scots-refugee-group>

The Home Office's dirty secret: a whole new generation of Windrushers

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/02/home-office-new-generation-windrushers>

When we think of migrants, why not include Einstein and Ronaldo?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/02/migrants-einstein-ronaldo-footballers-oscar-nobel-migration>

Abusive men 'using immigration fears to control women'

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/02/abusive-men-using-uk-immigration-fears-to-control-women>

Home Office admits Volha Merry deportation 'error'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-43967800>

Home Office admits 'error' in Volha Merry deportation case

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16197827.Home-Office-admits-error-in-Volha-Merry-deportation-case/>

Home Office backs down over threat to deport Coatbridge mother

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/politics/home-office-backs-down-over-threat-to-deport-coatbridge-mother-1-4733301>

Home Office criticised for giving wheelchair user accommodation with steps

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/04/home-office-criticised-disabled-man-accommodation-with-steps>

Roma children need translators to help spell out exploitation risk

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-02/scotland/roma-children-need-translators-to-help-spell-out-exploitation-risk-5hhn03rlk>

Afghan interpreters will be granted permanent right to live in UK, ministers to announce

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/05/03/afghan-interpreters-will-granted-permanent-right-live-uk-ministers/>

Home Office official tells man facing deportation: 'My job is to piss you off'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/03/home-office-official-tells-man-facing-deportation-my-job-is-to-piss-you-off>

Home Office official tells man facing deportation it is his job to 'ps him off'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-office-deportation-immigration-windrush-london-a8335696.html>

I grew up here, but Britain is doing all it can to stop me becoming a citizen

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/04/britain-citizen-university-let-us-learn>

TOP

Community Relations

News

Young British Muslims are becoming much more liberal – but they aren't less religious as a result

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/british-muslims-ipsos-mori-liberal-imams-islam-a8334196.html>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Religious observance, education and freedom of religious belief in schools

S5O-02043 Kate Forbes (SNP): To ask the Scottish Government what its position is on protecting young people's right to religious observance, education and freedom of religious belief in schools.

Reply from John Swinney: Freedom of religious belief is an important feature of Scottish life that must also apply in schools. The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 provides a statutory basis for local authorities to provide Religious Observance and Religious and Moral Education in Scottish schools, with RME also embedded in Curriculum for Excellence. The legislation also gives parents a right to withdraw their child from these activities, with Scottish Government guidance stressing the importance of including children and young people in any decision to opt out.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5O-02043>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Broadcasting: Equality

The following two questions both received the same answer

Afzal Khan (Labour) [137661] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what discussions he has had with broadcasters on the omission of religion as a category in the diversity monitoring system Project Diamond.

Afzal Khan (Labour) [137662] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what discussions he has had with the BBC on (a) the omission of religion in the diversity monitoring system Project Diamond and (b) the effect of that omission on on-off screen diversity monitoring of faith groups working in or with that public service broadcaster.

Reply from Margot Jones: We expect broadcasters to voluntarily publish their data on all diversity characteristics - not just those they are legally obliged to - and the BBC should be leading the way on this. There have been no discussions with broadcasters regarding Project Diamond monitoring categories. Project Diamond is an industry led monitoring scheme owned by the Creative Diversity Network which is made up of all of the UK's major broadcasters. Therefore, the decision to include or exclude categories is for the Creative Diversity Network alone.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137661/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137662/>

Information about Project Diamond, referred to above, can be read at <https://creativitydiversitynetwork.com/diamond/>

New Publications

Speak my language: Overcoming language and communication barriers in public services
<http://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/agr-ld11527/agr-ld11527-e.pdf>

People who entered the UK as minors between 1948 and 1971
<http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CDP-2018-0109/CDP-2018-0109.pdf>

News

Poor, white pupils need more help at home
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/poor-white-pupils-need-more-help-at-home-w8p717ltj>

TOP

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-12040 Mark Ruskell (Green): Dunfermline Central Mosque – That the Parliament notes with grave concern that an Islamophobic incident has taken place at Dunfermline Central Mosque; believes that the entrance to the Woodmill Road Mosque was covered in bacon in an act described as a “deliberate symbol of hatred”; understands that this attack occurred just hours after members of the congregation took part in a race against racism event in the town; believes that the incident has left worshippers shocked, upset and fearful; welcomes the show of support by the Church of Scotland Presbytery of Dunfermline; condemns this act unequivocally, and stands in solidarity with those of all faiths and none in Scotland in the fight against all forms of racism and bigotry.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12040>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Discrimination

Melanie Onn (Labour) [139538] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, when she plans to implement the dual discrimination provisions set out in s14 of the Equality Act 2010.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: We keep un-commenced provisions of the Equality Act 2010 under review. Successive governments have not considered that sufficient evidence exists to justify the cost and complexity of introducing section 14 of that Act, which would enable a single discrimination claim to be brought under any two characteristics in the Act.

People may already bring a claim under more than one characteristic in relation to the same alleged case of discrimination, and courts and tribunals can consider such claims concurrently.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139538/>

Fascism: Social Media

Nigel Dodds (DUP) [137486] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether the Government has taken steps to deter the display or sale of Nazi memorabilia on social media marketplace platforms; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Margot Jones: As set out in the Internet Safety Strategy, behaviour which is unacceptable offline is unacceptable online. Therefore, where the sale of memorabilia supports harmful views or could encourage hate crime, we expect social media companies to have robust processes in place to remove this content.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137486/>

Social Media: Radicalism

Angela Eagle (Labour) [137474] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent meetings he has had with social media companies to discuss the (a) prevalence, (b) removal and (c) prevention of hate speech and other extreme content on social media platforms.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: On 19 December 2017 the Minister responsible for Hate Crime Baroness Williams attended a seminar on online hate that was arranged by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The seminar included representatives from Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Twitter. Officials will continue to engage with social media companies about what more they can do to tackle online hate crime.

The Home Office is also engaging social media companies in relation to wider harmful content.

Officials meet regularly with companies involved in the establishment of the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism, to seek continued improvements in their response to preventing terrorist use of the internet. In addition, officials are also reaching out to smaller companies to assist them in their efforts of stopping terrorist exploitation of their platforms.

Officials are also working with the internet industry to tackle child sexual exploitation and abuse online. This includes the removal of illegal images and combating grooming.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137474/>

Antisemitism

Alistair Carmichael (Liberal Democrat) [905038] What steps his Department is taking to tackle antisemitism.

Reply from James Brokenshire: Anti-semitism must be understood for what it is – racism against Jewish people. There can be no excuses for anti-semitism. My Department has led the way across government in tackling anti-semitism, as my Rt Hon Friend, Sajid Javid, highlighted in this House on 17 April. This requires actions, not just words, as this government is doing.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/905038/>

The comments referred to above can be read at

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-04-17/debates/9D70B2B4-39D7-4241-ACF8-13F7DFD8AEB2/Anti-Semitism>

New Publication

Stand Up to Sectarianism Short Films

<https://www.youthscotland.org.uk/about-us/our-stories/stand-up-to-sectarianisms-short-films/>

News

Holyrood cross-party bid to tackle sectarianism to launch in wake of Offensive Behaviour at Football Act

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/politics/16207847.Cross-party-taskforce-at-Holyrood-set-up-to-tackle-sectarianism/>

James Dornan MSP: Scottish society must realise failing to tackle sectarianism will come with a price

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/opinion/16207854.39-Sectarianism-and-bigotry-are-perpetuated-at-football-grounds-39/>

UN envoy examines racism in Britain after Brexit vote

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/un-envoy-examines-racist-hate-speech-of-brexit-campaign-npj3v3jqj>

Racist leftwingers abuse new home secretary Sajid Javid in racist slurs

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-02/news/racist-leftwingers-abuse-new-home-secretary-sajid-javid-in-racist-slurs-c5hqm3v0g>

Antisemitic smears on Jeremy Corbyn's Facebook page

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-04-30/news/jewish-smears-on-jeremy-corbyns-facebook-page-khg3rwflw>

Community order for man who sent racial abuse to Diane Abbott

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/may/02/community-order-for-man-who-sent-racial-abuse-to-diane-abbott>

UKIP AM Michelle Brown to be banned over racial slur

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-politics-43963988>

Dundee Labour councillor investigated over 'anti-Semitic' Facebook posts

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/dundee/644677/dundee-labour-councillor-investigated-over-anti-semitic-facebook-posts/>

Two Tory council candidates suspended for Islamophobic posts

<https://www.indy100.com/article/two-tory-council-candidates-suspended-for-islamophobic-posts-8330866>

Conservatives win control of council after reinstating councillor suspended for racist joke comparing an Asian to a dog

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/pendle-racist-joke-councillor-rosemary-carroll-election-a8337216.html>

Home Office is accused of racism by own staff

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-04/news/home-office-is-accused-of-racism-by-own-staff-jsrrmt0dp>

White teachers twice as likely to be promoted than BME staff

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/education/white-teachers-twice-as-likely-to-be-promoted-than-bme-staff-1-4735010>

Officer tells black fan 'you stick out like sore thumb'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-hampshire-43997692>

Bacon strips left on door handle of Dunfermline Central Mosque

<https://tellmamauk.org/bacon-strips-left-on-door-handle-of-dunfermline-central-mosque/>

Bacon left on door of Dunfermline Central Mosque

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16197068.Bacon_left_on_door_of_Mosque/

Church condemns provocative act against Mosque

http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/2018/church_condemns_provocative_act_on_mosque

Exeter University: 'Why I revealed my friends' racist WhatsApp messages'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-43987148>

Exeter University expels students over racism row

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/may/01/exeter-university-expels-students-over-racism-row>

Black people are four times more likely to be sectioned

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-01/news/black-people-are-four-times-more-likely-to-be-sectioned-rpx5tqkl2>

How Sikhs face discrimination and get mistaken for Muslims

<https://www.indy100.com/article/sikhs-face-discrimination-get-mistaken-for-muslims-hardayal-singh-united-sikhs-8332796>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Female Genital Mutilation

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [139421] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to ensure more effective (a) identification of and (b) support for people who are at high risk of being victims of female genital mutilation.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: Female genital mutilation (FGM) is a crime and it is child abuse. The Government is clear that we will not tolerate a practice that can cause extreme and lifelong suffering to women and girls.

We have significantly strengthened the law on FGM, including introducing a mandatory reporting duty requiring regulated health, social care and teaching professionals to report known cases of FGM in under-18s to the police, which will lead to a greater number of victims and potential victims being identified. We have also introduced civil FGM Protection Orders to ensure we are able to protect women and girls at the earliest opportunity. These orders are already being used to good effect and since their introduction in July 2015, 205 FGM Protection Orders have been issued to December 2017.

It is also necessary to raise awareness amongst frontline professionals to ensure they are able to effectively identify girls who may have undergone the procedure and those at risk. In April 2016 we published statutory multi-agency guidance on FGM to support professionals when responding to potential cases and to take necessary preventative action. We have developed free online training on FGM which, to date, has been completed by nearly 90,000 professionals. Our dedicated FGM Unit is delivering an ongoing programme of nationwide outreach

with communities and professionals to raise awareness of the warning signs and significant harms caused by these practices and how to access support.

Through its £17million Violence Against Women and Girls Transformation Fund the Home Office is providing funding for a number of projects working to tackle FGM and to support victims and those at risk, which include projects led by Havant Borough Council, West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and the Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner. In addition the Government has provided funding to Southall Black Sisters and the Iranian and Kurdish Women's Organisation through the Tampon Tax Fund, both of which carry out work to tackle FGM.

The Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) Programme has provided funding for a number of community organisations working to change attitudes to tackle FGM and promote wider shared values. A full list of BSBT partners can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/661395/BSBT-list-of-groups.pdf.

Work to tackle these crimes is an integral part of our cross-Government Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategy, published in 2016, which sets out our ambition that by the end of this Parliament no victim or those at risk of abuse is turned away from the support they need. To help achieve this we have pledged increased funding of £100 million for VAWG between now and 2020.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139421/>

Diabetes: Asians

The following two questions both received the same answer

Philip Davies (Conservative) [138010] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what the prevalence of (a) type 1 and (b) type 2 diabetes is amongst people of South Asian origin, in (i) each parliamentary constituency, (ii) each clinical commissioning group, and (iii) in England, in the most recent year for which data is available.

Philip Davies (Conservative) [138011] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps he is taking to monitor the effect of diabetes in people of South Asian origin in England.

Reply from Steve Brine: Data on the prevalence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes among people of South Asian origin, in each parliamentary constituency, each clinical commissioning group, and in England, are not published in the format requested.

The National Diabetes Audit (NDA) reports that approximately 8% of those with type 1 diabetes are from a minority ethnic origin and approximately 19% of those with type 2 diabetes are from a minority ethnic origin.

The NDA records the ethnicity of diabetes patients (and other patient characteristics). Information on ethnicity is split by White/ Minority Ethnic Origin and Unknown. Minority ethnic origin includes South Asian, Chinese and other Asian, black, mixed and other ethnicities. The NDA routinely monitors the effects of ethnicity on patient outcomes, percentage of patients receiving National Institute for Health and Care Excellence's (NICE's) recommended eight care processes; achievement of NICE treatment targets and diabetic complications. Further information is available at the following link:

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/national-diabetes-audit/national-diabetes-audit-report-1-findings-and-recommendations-2016-17>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/138010/>

and

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

Muslims: Population Growth and Sharia Law

Lord Pearson of Rannoch (UKIP): To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of figures from the Office for National Statistics showing that the Muslim population of England grew 10 times faster than the general population between 2001 and 2016; what is their estimate of future growth; and what is their assessment of the impact of that trend on the relationship between Sharia and domestic law.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, the ONS is charged with the collection and publication of statistics related to the economy, population and society of the UK. It is independent from government. The Government have made no assessment of the current or future growth of the Muslim population, or that of any other faith, in England and its impact. The Government recently confirmed in their response to the independent review of sharia law that sharia law has no jurisdiction in England and Wales.

Lord Pearson of Rannoch: My Lords, I thank the noble Baroness for that reply, but I am afraid it is not really adequate. Good Muslims must follow Muhammad's example and impose sharia law on their hosts when they are strong enough to do so. ...

Well, let's talk about it. Several of our local authorities will soon be Muslim-majority and anger is already rising among our kufr working class at the Islamification of their communities.

First, I again ask the Government whether they will require all teaching in our mosques and madrassas to be in English.

Secondly, I yet again ask them to foster an open national debate about Islam to include our Muslim friends so that we can all understand with what we may be dealing in a few years' time.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I think your Lordships' House would agree that points about good Muslims and bad Muslims are not for this House. I was just wondering whether I, in that context, was a good Catholic or a bad Catholic, but I do not think that sort of thing has any place in your Lordships' House or in society. We do not prescribe English being taught in madrassas, but we absolutely acknowledge that English language skills are fundamental to taking advantage of all the opportunities of living in modern Britain—getting a job, mixing with people and playing a full part in community life. The Government have no plans to hold a national debate on Islam.

Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op): My Lords, does the noble Baroness agree that this great country of ours has always accepted immigrants of different faiths, traditions and cultures, and that tolerance, respecting of difference and accepting the rule of law as determined by Parliament must always be the way we go forward, along with standing up to Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and any other form of hate that seeks to divide us?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I could not agree more wholeheartedly with the noble Lord. He and I are of Irish descent and first-generation Irish respectively. In fact, when we look around your Lordships' House and this country, there would not be many of us if we did not have immigration.

Lord Paddick (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, is the Minister aware that domestic law in most Muslim-majority countries is based on modern western legal systems and that sharia is actually a moral code that requires Muslims, among other things, to be just and fair in their dealings with everyone and always to promote what is good and to prevent what is wrong? Will she join me and the overwhelming majority of this House in

celebrating the appointment today of the first British-Pakistani, born of Muslim parents, to hold one of the great offices of state?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I certainly agree with the first part of the noble Lord's question and am very pleased to be able to join him in welcoming Sajid Javid as our new Home Secretary. While I have an opportunity, I also pay tribute to my right honourable friend Amber Rudd.

The Lord Bishop of Leeds: My Lords, does the Minister agree that a prerequisite to any intelligent discussion of Islam or any other religion should pay attention to the ninth commandment, which is that you will not bear false witness against your neighbour?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The right reverend Prelate is right. I was just trying to think of my 10 commandments and might have forgotten some of them. ...

Baroness Tonge (Non-affiliated): My Lords, will the Minister launch an investigation into the growth in the number of people named Pearson in this country and assess what effect it is having on racial harmony?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I get the noble Baroness's point.

Lord Elton (Conservative): My Lords, the trouble with your Lordships' treatment of the noble Lord, Lord Pearson, is that you will not listen when he actually talks sense. There are a number of points which he raises which your Lordships should have the courage to examine, rather than simply denigrate his approach to them. One such point is the implication for democratic trends in this society, which is equally a subject of interest, but in a totally different context, in Northern Ireland. It is not a subject that should be entirely brushed under the carpet until things change.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I certainly was not denigrating the noble Lord's points, save to say that they were not helpful in the context of anything other than singling out one particular faith in society. I think that my noble friend meant demographic rather than democratic. There is certainly demographic change in this country, but it is all to the good because, if we had purely the indigenous population, we would be looking at population decline and therefore some major problems in meeting employment need.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-04-30/debates/3CD7BEEC-E4BF-41CC-8880-D5A43D4D3459/MuslimsPopulationGrowthAndShariaLaw>

News

Sajid Javid to be new home secretary after Rudd resigns

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43946845>

Who is Sajid Javid, the new home secretary?

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-43947008>

Tory MP Sajid Javid becomes first British Home Secretary from an Asian background

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/politics/tory-mp-sajid-javid-becomes-12453879>

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Other News

Iraq-born refugee could become first Arabic speaker to head Britain's Jews

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/may/05/iraqi-refugee-edwin-shuker-british-jews-first-leader-arab-origin>

Bills in Progress

** new or updated this week

UK Parliament

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/immigrationcontrolgrosshumanrightsabuses.html>

Children Act 1989 (Amendment) (Female Genital Mutilation) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/childrenact1989amendmentfemalegenitalmutilation.html>

EEA Nationals (Indefinite Leave to Remain) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/eeanationalsindefiniteleavetoremain.html>

**** European Union (Withdrawal) Bill**

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/europeanunionwithdrawal.html>

Report Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-04-30/debates/8EB87728-0FFE-47BB-A2CA-26C1498F1548/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-04-30/debates/8EB87728-0FFE-47BB-A2CA-26C1498F1548/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

and

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-02/debates/28839055-F2B2-497C-A4DF-D797224BC747/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-02/debates/28839055-F2B2-497C-A4DF-D797224BC747/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

Notices of amendments

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0079/18079-R-V.pdf>

and

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0079/18079-R-V\(a\).pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0079/18079-R-V(a).pdf)

and

[https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0079/18079-R-V\(b\).pdf](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/bills/lbill/2017-2019/0079/18079-R-V(b).pdf)

Holocaust (Return of Cultural Objects) (Amendment) Bill

<https://services.parliament.uk/Bills/2017-19/holocaustreturnofculturalobjectsamendment.html>

Human Trafficking (Child Protection) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

Immigration Control (Gross Human Rights Abuses) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/humantraffickingchildprotection.html>

Modern Slavery (Transparency in Supply Chains) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaverytransparencyinsupplychains.html>

Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/modernslaveryvictimsupport.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionbill.html>

Refugees (Family Reunion) (No. 2) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/refugeesfamilyreunionno2.html>

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (Legal Advice and Appeals) Bill

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/unaccompaniedasylumseekingchildrenlegaladviceandappeals.html>

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Consultations

** new or updated this week

Police and Fire Reform Act (closing date 24 May 2018)

http://www.parliament.scot/2012_Act_call_for_evidence.pdf

Integrated Communities Strategy green paper (closing date 5 June 2018)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper>

Welsh Government: Nation of Sanctuary – Refugee and asylum seeker plan

(closing date 25 June 2018)

<https://beta.gov.wales/nation-sanctuary-refugee-and-asylum-seeker-plan>

**** Measures to further improve the effectiveness of the fight against illegal content online**

(closing date 25 June 2018)

https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-measures-further-improve-effectiveness-fight-against-illegal-content-online_en

Protection of Vulnerable Groups and the Disclosure of Criminal Information

(closing date 18 July 2018)

<https://consult.gov.scot/disclosure-scotland/protection-of-vulnerable/>

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.

[Click here](#) to find out about Graduate, Modern, and Foundation Apprenticeship opportunities.

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**** this week!**

Tackling Hate Speech in a Youth Setting

8 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

21 June 2018 in Glasgow (9.30-4.30)

17 July 2018 in Edinburgh (9.30-4.30)

Interfaith Scotland training to equip those working in a youth setting with appropriate tools for tackling hate speech, explore issues relating to cultural and religious diversity, learn how to recognise hate speech, and how to manage the situation when it occurs. For information contact Jamie Spurway Jamie@interfaithscotland.org / 07921 439 952

**** this week!**

Equalities & Human Rights Focus Groups

11 May 2018 in Clydebank (12.30-2.30)

14 May 2018 in Galashiels (12.30-2.30)

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee focus groups to explore what more the Scottish Parliament can do to promote and protect human rights. For information contact 0131 348 6040 / Equalities.HumanRights@parliament.scot

**** this week!**

Peace Walk

13 May 2018 in Edinburgh (1.45-4.45)

Edinburgh Interfaith Association walk around some of the city's diverse places of worship, to get to know some of the different faith communities and cultures that make up Edinburgh. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/ybeag32b>

Meet the Scottish Charity Regulator

15 May 2018 in Perth (1.15-4.00)

30 May 2018 in Peterhead (1.15-4.00)

13 June 2018 in Stirling (1.15-4.00)

28 August 2018 in Edinburgh (1.15-4.00)

25 September 2018 in Motherwell (1.15-4.00)

3 October 2018 in Oban (9.45-12.30)

Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) events to give charity trustees and staff the opportunity to hear about latest developments, meet OSCR staff and ask questions. Topics will include the role of the charity trustee, and guidance on safeguarding. For information and to book see <https://www.oscr.org.uk/news/meet-the-scottish-charity-regulator>

Culture - Religious Diversity and Anti-Discrimination Training

15-16 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.00-4.30)

12-13 September 2018 in Glasgow (9.00-4.30)

Two day training to address diversity and discrimination issues related to religion and belief and increase skills in order to help create a more inclusive diverse environment For information contact Farkhanda Chaudhry 0141 577 8454 / 07950 008 859 / Farkhanda.Chaudhry@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk

New Scots: Refugees and the Asylum Process

17 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

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. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/z68a5k8> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

First World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, and Health

17-19 May 2018 in Edinburgh

The aims of the Congress include improved research, population health and health care for migrants and other discriminated-against populations, and considering the health effects of social, environmental and demographic change associated with population migration, and the effects on diseases and their causes. For information see <http://www.merhcongress.com/> (full programme now available on the conference website) or contact merh@in-conference.org.uk / 0131 336 4203.

Scottish Parliament and Officeholders British Sign Language Plans

18 May 2018 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (2.00-5.00)

19 May 2018 at the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh (10.00-1.00)

Events to help the Scottish Parliament prepare their British Sign Language Plan and gather the views of BSL users. Tours of the Scottish Parliament debating chamber and garden lobby will be available in BSL on both days. For information see <http://www.parliament.scot/help/108210.aspx> or contact 0131 348 5000 / [contactSCOTLAND-BSL / info@parliament.scot](mailto:contactSCOTLAND-BSL@parliament.scot)

Working with Interpreters

22 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

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. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information see <http://tinyurl.com/zy436gr> or contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

**** Hospitality – Lessons from Refugees.**

23 May 2018 in Edinburgh (6.30-8.45)

Edinburgh International Centre for Spirituality and Peace lecture by Prof Alison Phipps. Over the past two years there has been a rapid increase in the civic organisation of the welcome to refugees worldwide. In many cases it has been clear that civil society has led where politics has lagged far behind. For information see <http://eicsp.org/events/event-details/556-an-evening-with-prof-alison-hipps-23-may-2018/> or contact Neil Walker mesp2018@hotmail.com / 0131 331 4469.

Refugee Community Sponsorship

24 May 2018 in Glasgow (9.15-4.30pm)

Scottish Refugee Council course. Reduced rates available for small voluntary organisations. For information contact Martha Harding 0141 248 9799 / martha.harding@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

Black History Month

October 2018

Call for submissions to the programme: deadline 16 July 2018

Black History Month aims to raise awareness of the positive role that Black / Minority Ethnic men and women have played in shaping both Glasgow and Scotland's history. To submit an event for the 2018 programme complete the form at https://www.scojec.org/memo/files/18_black_history_month.doc and return it to zandra@crer.org.uk

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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/>

Scottish Fundraising Standards Panel <https://www.goodfundraising.scot/>

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

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

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

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



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



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

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