

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.*

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Immigration and Asylum | Other News |
| Community Relations | Bills in Progress |
| Equality | Consultations |
| Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination | Events, Conferences, and Training |
| Other Scottish Parliament and Government | Useful Links |
| Other UK Parliament and Government | |

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

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Immigration and Asylum

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Caribbean, Black, or African ethnic groups

S5W-16304 Pauline McNeill (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-16012 by Alasdair Allan on 26 April 2018, whether any of the people who identified their ethnic group as "Caribbean or Black" or "African" have approached it to (a) discuss concerns regarding the threat of possible deportation and (b) advise that they have been refused access to health care or services in Scotland and, if so, how many and what action it took.

Reply from Alasdair Allan: The Scottish Government remains in contact with stakeholders and partner organisations to ascertain whether anyone in Scotland may be at risk. At the moment, no one has come forward indicating that they risk being removed from Scotland or that they have been refused access to services here as a result of this scandal.

The UK Government has announced a review of the decisions which led to the Windrush crisis. However, the Scottish Government does not believe this will fully address the root causes of the Windrush scandal – the hostile environment policy,

driven by a target to reduce net migration to the tens of thousands. The Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs wrote to the new Home Secretary on 1 May setting out the Scottish Government concerns about UK immigration policy and seeking an early meeting.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-16304>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-16012>

UK Parliament, Ministerial Statement

Immigration

The Secretary of State for the Home Department (Sajid Javid): The Government have committed to support those of the Windrush generation who have faced difficulties in establishing their status under the immigration system. Among the series of measures to help put things right, I have already announced that a compensation scheme will be put in place for those who have suffered financial loss as a result of these difficulties, and that we will consult on the design of this scheme. I want to do this as quickly as possible. But also need to get the detail right reflecting the complexity of ways in which people might have been impacted.

As a first step to establishing the compensation scheme the Home Office is today launching a call for evidence that is addressed to those who have been affected by this situation, and to their families. This will be the first step of the consultation process, and will be published on gov.uk. ...

It is always important for government to listen, and it is especially important to do so now. To put things right we need to understand more about what happened, to understand the personal stories, which will help to inform the design of the compensation scheme. As well as receiving written contributions I have asked officials to reach out to the people and communities most closely affected, listen to their concerns directly and, in particular, understand properly how we might address them through a compensation scheme.

I believe it is also important to have some external assurance that the compensation scheme meets the needs of those affected. So I will appoint an independent person to oversee the running of the scheme when it is in place. Martin Forde QC has agreed to provide independent advice on the design of the scheme. He is himself the son of Windrush parents and brings a wealth of experience in complex public law and compensation matters. I am confident that he will ensure that the interests of those affected will be properly represented and reflected in the scheme.

The call for evidence will run until 8 June. Once we have listened and considered those contributions, I will then launch a public consultation as soon as possible to provide the technical detail on proposals for the compensation scheme. I want to put in place a compensation scheme as quickly and as carefully as possible, to help redress what has gone wrong. [HCWS674]

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-10/debates/18051039000008/Immigration>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

G4S: Immigration Removal Centres

Diane Abbott (Labour): To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he will make a statement on the renewal of G4S's contract to run the Brook House and Tinsley House immigration removal centres.

Reply from the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Home

Department (Victoria Atkins): The Government have agreed a short-term continuation of G4S's contract to run the Gatwick immigration removal centres while further work is carried out to identify a long-term manager. The Home Office will launch a further, full competition later this year, after the outcome of two independent reviews. The contract for the management of Brook House and Tinsley House, which was due to expire this month, was put out for tender in November 2016. However, after careful consideration of the bids, it was decided that G4S would continue with the contract for a further two years. This will provide sufficient time to reflect on the two independent reviews' conclusions, conduct a new procurement exercise, and mobilise the successful provider. As with any procurement process, the Home Office has undertaken a robust evaluation of all bids, supported by a comprehensive due diligence process.

I recognise that the Government have taken this decision against the backdrop of the BBC "Panorama" programme on Brook House, which was broadcast in autumn last year. The previous Home Secretary made it clear at the time that the behaviour on display from some G4S staff was utterly unacceptable and set out our expectation that G4S would take urgent action to address the serious issues the programme uncovered. G4S has put in place a comprehensive action plan and this has quickly delivered improvements at Brook House. My right hon. Friend the Immigration Minister has met G4S to review progress, and visited the two Gatwick centres on 18 January.

Detaining those who are here illegally and who refuse to leave voluntarily is key to maintaining an effective immigration system. But regardless of status, all immigration detainees must be treated with dignity and respect. Please be assured that we will always demand the highest standards from those we entrust with the safety and welfare of those in detention.

Diane Abbott: Is the Minister aware of the concern that the Government put out news of the renewal of the G4S contract on the Friday between local elections and a bank holiday? There must be a suspicion that the Government were hoping to escape scrutiny—the fact that the contract was renewed at all is an even greater scandal.

The Minister mentioned the "Panorama" programme, but is she aware of a whole list of scandals in which G4S has been involved? In 2016, the BBC's "Panorama" programme also uncovered alleged abuse and mistreatment of youngsters at a G4S youth detention centre; in November 2017, an independent report found surging levels of violence were "unsafe"; another G4S facility, HMP Birmingham, was hit by riots in December 2016; and G4S was fined at least 100 times for breaching its contract to run prisons between 2010 and 2016. There is also the very well-known case of father of five Jimmy Mubenga, who died under restraint on a British Airways plane while being deported. Several witnesses said he was held down in his seat for more than half an hour by G4S guards. His cries that he could not breathe were ignored until he actually stopped breathing. A 2011 inquest ruled his death unlawful. We have seen with the Windrush scandal that the public want an immigration system that is fair and efficient, and that bears down on illegal immigration, but they also want an immigration system that is humane. Many will feel that, given what people know about G4S's record, renewing this contract, even for two years, is not commensurate with a humane system of dealing with migrants.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: ... Let me reassure her that the decision to re-award the contract was taken during purdah and so we announced this on the first available opportunity after polling day on Thursday—the announcement was made on Friday. I hope that assuages her concerns as to why this has not happened more timeously. I am very conscious that I am being scrutinised here in the House, so I do not think the Government can be accused of escaping scrutiny. As for the re-procurement process, it is precisely because we want to ensure that the long-term contract for these centres is dealt with in the way we expect that we have put in place this short-term continuation, for a period of two years. That will enable us to consider carefully the results of the independent reviews conducted

by Stephen Shaw and Kate Lampard, and then build the procurement process. At the risk of striking a tone that is unusual to hear in the Chamber, we can agree across the House that we wish to have an immigration system that respects those who abide by the rules and that treats people fairly and with dignity and respect.

To continue reading the lengthy question and answer session see

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-08/debates/1D9AF8ED-78E1-44B4-A97B-CAB1F239E44B/G4SImmigrationRemovalCentres>

The reviews referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/490782/52532_Shaw_Review_Accessible.pdf

and

<http://www.verita.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Independent-investigation-into-concerns-about-Yarls-Wood-immigration-removal-centre-Serco-plc-Kate-Lampard-Ed-Marsden-January-2016-1.pdf>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

British Nationality

Gavin Robinson (DUP) [140135] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answers of 26 April 2018 to Question 137082 on UK Border Agency: Northern Ireland, 23 April 2018 to Question 137083 on UK Border Agency: Staff, 24 April 2018 to Question 137583 on UK Border Agency: Staff and the 26 April 2018 to Question 137086 on Public Sector Employment, what the (a) processes and (b) requirements are for people to demonstrate UK nationality.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Civil Service Nationality Rules govern eligibility for employment in the Civil Service on the grounds of nationality and must be followed by government departments and other bodies within the Home Civil Service and Diplomatic Service in their recruitment and appointment procedures.

These rules are a matter of public record at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/536134/civil_service-nationality_rules_20_june_2016.pdf

The guidance to these rules sets out the documentary evidence which should be provided by candidates who are recommended for appointment. This evidence is requested during the recruitment process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140135/>

The answers referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-23/137082/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-23/137083/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-23/137086/>

Immigration

Stephen Timms (Labour) [140547] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the criteria are for the use of a case arising from the tax affairs of an individual that was settled by HMRC in a decision to refuse an application by that person for renewed leave to remain in the UK; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: In immigration routes which awarded points for an applicant's UK earnings, we must be satisfied that those earnings are genuine.

Where we identify discrepancies between the income declared to the Home Office and to HMRC, we give applicants an opportunity to explain the reasons for the discrepancies. We will take into consideration the nature of the discrepancy, all available evidence and any explanation from the applicant before making a decision.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-02/140547/>

Immigration: Biometrics

Steve Reed (Labour Co-op) [136517] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Biometric Residence Permits have failed to meet her Department's target for delivery in each of the last (a) five years and (b) 12 months.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information relating to the current number of applications outstanding is management information and subject to change.

However, published information on the number of applications for leave to remain in all categories, as well as data on UK Visa and Immigration performance against service standards for applications made in the UK and from overseas, and the proportion of those cases classified as non-straightforward, can be found here:

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

Where an application is defined as non-straightforward due to complexity, the customer will be written to within the normal processing time to explain why it will not be decided within the normal standard, and to explain what will happen next.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-18/136517/>

Immigrants: English Language

Stephen Timms (Labour) [140548] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if he will make it his policy that an applicant whose leave to remain has been cancelled because of an allegation of cheating in a ToEIC English language test will be able to submit an appeal in the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Parliament legislated to amend the appeals system in the Immigration Act 2014 so that an appeal only arises where a claim raising asylum, humanitarian protection or human rights is refused. Similar provisions are set out in the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016. The Government has no plans to change the appeals system.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-02/140548/>

Visas: Applications

Laura Pidcock (Labour) [141902] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of trends in the length of waiting times for decisions on visa applications for (a) visitors, (b) students, (c) families and (d) spouses.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Published data on entry clearance visa processing times, including the percentage of visas processed within published service standards by category, is published online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-february-2018>

The large majority of cases are straightforward and are dealt with within Service standards

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141902/>

Visas: Fees and Charges

Laura Pidcock (Labour) [141903] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what recent assessment he has made of the affordability of fees for visa applications.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: An assessment of the impact of all border, immigration and citizenship (BIC) fees was published as an associated document to the Immigration and Nationality Fees (Regulations) 2018. The fees are set at a level that reflects the benefit of a successful application to those who use the service.

The relevant information can be found via the following link:

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukia/2018/59/pdfs/ukia_20180059_en.pdf
<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141903/>

Visas: Applications

Laura Pidcock (Labour) [141904] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate his Department has made of the sum accruing to the public purse from failed visa applications in each of the last three years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not hold the information in the format requested. In order to provide the total income received from only rejected visa applications, would involve sifting through all applications data which would exceed the £850 cost limit.

Amount received from Visa applications are not differentiated between successful and unsuccessful applications. Our ledger will not allow us to provide this level of detail.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141904/>

Visas: Skilled Workers

The following two questions both received the same answer

Stella Creasy (Labour Co-op) [141777] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for visas from highly skilled professionals were refused by his Department between January 2010 and January 2014.

Stella Creasy (Labour Co-op) [141778] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for visas from highly skilled professionals were refused by his Department between February 2014 and March 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The available information relates to outcomes (grants, refusals, withdrawn, lapsed) of visa applications, broken down by category (including Tier 2 skilled work visas) and is published in the quarterly Immigration Statistics, Visas volume 1, table vi_01_q, latest edition at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2017>. The large majority of Tier 2 visa application outcomes are grants. Information for Q1 (January to March) 2018 is planned to be published on 24 May.

Tier 2 is the main immigration route for skilled work in the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141777/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141778/>

Visas: Skilled Workers

Stella Creasy (Labour Co-op) [141781] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the average time to process and make a decision on a visa application for a highly skilled professional has been in the last three months for which information is available.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Published data on entry clearance visa processing times for skilled work (Tier 2), including the percentage of visas processed within published service standards by category, is published online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-operations-transparency-data-february-2018>

The large majority of cases are straightforward and are dealt with within Service standards.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141781/>

Visas: Health Professions

Preet Kaur Gill (Labour Co-op) [140194] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many applications for tier 2 visas from (a) doctors and (b) nurses have been turned down over the last 12 months.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information requested on Tier 2 applications by doctors and nurses turned down over the last 12 months 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/2018-05-01/140194/>

Engineers and Scientists: Visas

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [140065] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 April to Question 137536 on Engineers and Scientists: Visas, how many (a) scientists and (b) engineers were refused a Tier 2 (General) Certificate of Sponsorship between May 2015 and November 2017 as a result of the annual cap been reached.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The specific information requested is not included in statistics published by the Home Office. The number of restricted certificates of sponsorship granted, and the points threshold, for each monthly allocation since April 2016 is published on the Home Office website. Published data on sponsorship applications can be found in the immigration statistics release.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-sponsorship-restricted-certificate-allocations>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140065/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137536/>

Engineers and Scientists: Visas

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [140710] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 27 April to Question 137536, on Engineers and Scientists: Visas, whether the number of engineers and scientists who were refused a Tier 2 (General) Certificate of Sponsorship between May 2015 and November 2017 increased because the annual cap had been reached.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The specific information requested is not included in statistics published by the Home Office. Published data on sponsorship applications can be found in the immigration statistics release.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/employer-sponsorship-restricted-certificate-allocations>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-02/140710/>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137536/>

Immigration: Appeals

Catherine West (Labour) [140173] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, what proportion of immigration appeals were overturned at tribunal in each of the last seven years.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: The proportion of immigration and asylum appeals allowed in each of the last seven years is published in quarterly statistics:

www.gov.uk/government/statistics/tribunals-and-gender-recognition-certificate-statistics-quarterly-october-to-december-2017

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140173/>

Immigrants: Commonwealth

Jo Stevens (Labour) [136029] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment the Government made prior to the introduction of the hostile environment immigration policy of that policy's potential effect on Commonwealth migrants who have been long-term residents of the UK.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Compliant Environment is not a new concept; successive Governments have brought forward policies to protect the UK taxpayer from the misuse of public services and benefits and to tackle illegal migration.

Compliant Environment measures were never intended to impact on people with lawful immigration status in the UK, such as the Windrush generation.

We are fully committed to helping those affected to evidence their status in the UK and are making that process as straightforward as possible. A taskforce and helpline has been set up in the Home Office to help those concerned to prove their residence. The taskforce is taking a proactive approach so individuals can easily establish their rights.

We have also put in place additional protection for landlords, employers and others conducting checks in order to ensure we are not denying work, housing, benefits and services to Commonwealth migrants who have been long-term residents of the UK.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-16/136029/>

Immigration: Caribbean

Jon Trickett (Labour) [137915] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, which company her Department has contracted to manage (a) part or (b) the whole of the Windrush generation helpline.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: No third party has been contracted to manage all, or part, of the helpline.

To ensure people had access to the support they needed without delay, between 17 and 20 April 'Windrush' related call handling was supported by Sitel. The dedicated Windrush helpline went live on 20 April and is managed and staffed internally from within the Department.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-25/137915/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Kate Green (Labour) [139476] To ask Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, whether his Department has allocated additional funding for the Windrush generation compensation scheme.

Reply from Elizabeth Truss: As the Home Secretary has set out, the Government is committed to putting right the wrongs experienced by the Windrush generation, and is clear that where people have suffered loss they will be compensated. The Home Office is working through the detail of what this scheme will look like, including potential costs to the department.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139476/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

Stephen Timms (Labour) [139928] To ask the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, what steps she is taking to ensure that members of the Windrush generation receive the benefits to which they are entitled in the event that they are unable to provide documents to prove their citizenship.

Reply from Alok Sharma: DWP officials are working with the Home Office and other Government bodies to help individuals affected and ensure that they are able to access the benefits and services to which they are entitled. DWP has arranged a fast-track service into the Home Office Taskforce to confirm swiftly the status of people from the Windrush generation who are unable to provide documentation in support of their benefit claim.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/139928/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

David Lammy (Labour) [136390] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many Windrush children have paid (a) legal fees and (b) documentation fees as a result of (i) the Government's hostile environment policies in respect of immigration status and (ii) proving their immigration status; and how much was spent on those fees in each of the last 8 years.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not hold information on legal fees paid. If children of the Windrush generation have been adversely affected by immigration enforcement measures because they have not been able to evidence their status that they should have been entitled to, they will be able to make that case to the independent compensation scheme which the Home Office will be setting up.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-18/136390/>

Immigrants: Caribbean

David Lammy (Labour) [136398] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how much funding has been allocated for the compensation of Windrush generation children for (a) legal costs and (b) other fees incurred in proving their immigration status; and whether that compensation will be available retrospectively for those who have already paid such fees.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office will be setting up a new scheme to deliver this which will be run independently. I will set out further details and will consult around its scope and how people will be able to access it in the coming weeks.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-18/136398/>

Immigration: EU Nationals

The following two questions both received the same answer

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [137395] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps she is taking to ensure that data relating to the immigration and residence applications and status of EU citizens is stored securely.

Vince Cable (Liberal Democrat) [139353] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what steps his Department is taking to ensure that EU citizens making immigration or residency applications will be able to confirm that their relevant data and documentation is still on file with his Department after June 2021.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office is producing a new, simplified digital system for applications for settled status, the EU Settlement Scheme. Individuals' status will be recorded electronically and the Home Office will have a long-term record of EU citizens and their family members who are living here with settled status. Those records and relevant Home Office data will be stored securely in accordance with relevant legislation and Home Office data security standards which apply across all data sets within the Home Office. We will provide methods for applicants to view, update and confirm that their data is still on file. The Settlement Scheme is still being developed and discussed with stakeholders, and we will be setting out further details in the coming months.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137395/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139353/>

Right of Abode: EU Nationals

Emma Reynolds (Labour) [140712] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether non-UK EU nationals who were resident in the UK before 1973 have a legal right to abode in the UK that is separate from their rights as EU citizens under the Treaties of the European Union.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The right of abode is a statutory right which is held by British citizens and Commonwealth citizens who had right of abode immediately before 1 January 1983 and have not ceased to be Commonwealth citizens at any time.

EU citizens who were present and settled in the UK on 1 January 1973 were deemed to have indefinite leave to remain, by virtue of section 1(2) of the Immigration Act 1971. As long as they have continued to reside in the UK and have not had their indefinite leave revoked, they will have retained that settled status.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-02/140712/>

EEA Nationals: Health Services

Paul Blomfield (Labour) [140066] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether it is his policy that citizens of European Economic Area countries will be exempt from the immigration health surcharge after the UK leaves the EU.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: EU citizens and their family members who are protected by the Withdrawal Agreement will continue to be able to access healthcare as they do now - exempt from the Immigration Health Surcharge. The Government has been clear that it also wants to secure a similar agreement on citizens' rights with the non-EU EEA states (Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein). Future arrangements on immigration policy after the end of the implementation period are to be confirmed. We will want to ensure that any decisions on the long-term arrangements are based on evidence and engagement.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140066/>

Asylum

The following two questions both received the same answer

David Linden (SNP) [141052] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department,

how many asylum cases his Department has identified as complex in each of the last 10 years for which data are available.

Asylum: Glasgow East

David Linden (SNP) [141053] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many asylum cases his Department has identified as complex in Glasgow East constituency in each of the last 10 years for which data are available.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The Home Office does not publish data relating to the number of cases identified as non-straightforward in each of the last ten years. Furthermore, whilst we can provide data on the current addresses of asylum claimants, data on the place of residence and whether or not their case is identified as non-straightforward can only be obtained at disproportionate cost. However, data on the number of non-straightforward cases awaiting an initial asylum decision can be found in tabs labelled ASY 10 and ASY 11 in the Asylum Transparency Data contained in the link below;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-transparency-data-february-2018>

Data on the number of asylum claims in the last ten years can be found in tab as_01 of the Immigration Statistics release which can be found in the following link;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/immigration-statistics-october-to-december-2017-data-tables>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-03/141052/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-03/141053/>

Asylum: Scotland

The following three questions all received the same answer

David Linden (SNP) [141884] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of in-person appointments at the Further Submissions Unit in Liverpool that have been offered to asylum applicants living in Scotland in each year for which data is available.

David Linden (SNP) [141885] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether his Department plans to allow in-person appointments for the Further Submissions Unit to be made at a location in Scotland.

Asylum: Appeals

David Linden (SNP) [141886] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what account is taken of people's travel and accommodation needs when an in-person appointment for the Further Submissions Unit is offered.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: The information requested on the estimated number of in-person appointments at the Further Submissions Unit in Liverpool, that have been offered to asylum applicants living in Scotland in each year, is not available in the format requested and can only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

The Home Office implemented a new policy on 30 March 2015, requiring all individuals who have been refused asylum, who have exhausted their appeal rights and have been found not to be in need of protection by the courts, to make an asylum further submission in person. All individuals who have been refused asylum who wish to submit further submissions on asylum or human rights grounds are required to telephone the Home Office's Further Submissions Unit and book an appointment to submit their submissions in person in Liverpool.

The current Home Office policy is that further submissions must be submitted in person in Liverpool, but arrangements will be kept under review.

When scheduling an appointment at the Further Submissions Unit, account is taken of an individual's location and distance of travel to Liverpool. For those

individuals who may have to travel, an appointment will be offered later in the day to reduce any financial implications. Additionally, appointments are scheduled in advanced allowing for the most cost effective form of travel to be booked.

In exceptional circumstances, for example due to a disability or severe illness, further submissions from failed asylum seekers may be accepted either through local arrangements or by post, providing that supporting evidence is submitted, as specified within the published further submissions policy which can be accessed at the following:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/502334/Further_Submissions_API_v9

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141884/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141885/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141886/>

Asylum: Finance

Afzal Khan (Labour) [137663] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 8 February to Question 126582 on asylum: finance, what criteria her Department uses to assess its business needs; and to which actions her Department will allocate funding in 2018.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Management of the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) in the UK is vested in the European Funding Team acting as the AMIF Responsible Authority (UKRA).

The UKRA manages the funds to try and meet the objectives set out in the published AMIF National Programme, set out in Section 5 of the programme on 'Common Indicators'. This is what the UK set out to achieve with AMIF funding over the course of the programme. The UKRA will review progress against these objectives when deciding where to focus funding, whilst still looking at funding across the programme objectives.

AMIF has 3 Specific Objectives that the UK takes part in, Asylum, Integration and Returns. In the initial National Programme the UK agreed to fund these objectives at 20% of the allocation for each of Asylum and Integration, with 54% allocated to Returns activities. There was a slight re-prioritisation of funds from Returns to Integration as a result of a mid-term review with the European Commission, based on the larger number of refugees in the UK since the Programme was drawn up in 2013.

For the purpose of clarity it may be useful to set out the definition of AMIF funding years, in that it operates from 16/10/n – 15/10/n+1, therefore the 2018 AMIF year will be 16/10/17 – 15/10/18.

Currently in the UK there are 14 AMIF funded projects, 6 under the Asylum objective, 2 under Integration and 6 under Returns. All these projects are operated by the Home Office. A complete list of funded projects is published on www.gov.uk, for projects up to each July.

The UKRA currently has an 'open call for proposals' asking for applications for funding for projects to deal with refugee integration. The value of this call for proposals is £40m. The closing date for applications is 09/05/18, with an expectation that successful applications will be starting from 01/08/18.

For further information the UK Responsible Authority can be contacted at:

AMIFEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-24/137663/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Desmond Swayne (Conservative) [141663] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what the (a) mean and (b) median time spent is by the current cohort of detainees at the Gatwick detention centres.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Information on the length of detention of people in detention is available in table dt_11_q of the detention tables in the latest releases of 'Immigration Statistics, October to December 2017', available from the Home Office website at:

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

The available data provides the length of detention for the detention estate as a whole, and are not broken down by individual place of detention.

There are a small number of detainees who have been detained for long periods of time, which would skew the mean value. The median is therefore the most suitable average for these data.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-08/141663/>

Undocumented Migrants: Deportation

Labour (Labour) [140175] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether bonuses have been paid to officials in his Department in relation to the targets for the removal of illegal immigrants.

Reply from Caroline Nokes: Bonuses are a part of the Home Office appraisal process. Our Performance Management procedures allow for individuals to receive a bonus at the end of the performance year if they receive a top marking for their overall achievements during the year. In addition, we have several ways available to reward members of staff or teams during the year for going above and beyond what is expected of them in their roles, such as thank you vouchers and special bonuses.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140175/>

Human Trafficking

The following two questions both received the same answer

Frank Field (Labour) [139966] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how the eligibility criteria for local authority anti-trafficking pilots relating to the trafficking of people have been determined.

Frank Field (Labour) [139967] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate she has made of the number of victims of people trafficking who will be eligible for support under local authority anti-trafficking pilots.

Reply from victoria Atkins: The Government wants to ensure that when adult victims of modern slavery leave National Referral Mechanism (NRM) support, they are able to begin re-building their lives as early as possible. Victims leaving the NRM can either be supported to return to their country of origin, apply for asylum, or move into a local community.

As part of NRM reform, Home Office Ministers committed to working with local authorities to test 'transition pathways' for victims who move out of NRM support and into local communities, with a view to identifying best practice.

Over the next year, we will be working with six local authorities on this project which will contribute to a more robust evidence base including the number of victims who move into local communities after NRM support and what support they require.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/139966/>

and

UK Parliament, House of Lords Oral Answers

NHS: Overseas Doctors

Baroness Hayman (Crossbench): To ask Her Majesty's Government how many overseas doctors recruited to work in the National Health Service have been refused visas to enter the United Kingdom in the last 12 months.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, no application for a medical practitioner role that is on the shortage occupation list, which is based on advice from the independent Migration Advisory Committee, has been refused a tier 2 skilled work visa. The Home Office publishes regular visa statistics. However, the Home Office visa case working system does not capture the profession of the applicant. That information is captured on the tier 2 visa application form, and to provide it would require a manual check of our records.

Baroness Hayman: I am grateful to the Minister for the detail there but it does not actually answer my Question. I have some figures from NHS Employers, which says it knows of at least 400 cases of qualified doctors from overseas who have been offered jobs in the NHS but not been allowed in because of the lack of being in a designated shortage occupation and the pressure on tier 2 visas. When the NHS is short of thousands of doctors, applications from EEA doctors are diminishing and the NHS is actively recruiting overseas, what possible logic can there be for the doctors whom it has recruited then to be turned back and denied visas by the Home Office? Last week the leaders of 12 medical colleges, the BMA and NHS Employers wrote to the Home Secretary asking him to take action to end this ridiculous and indefensible situation that damages patients. Will the Government act now?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, there were quite a few points in that question. The noble Baroness's first point was that there are 400 cases of doctors overseas who have been denied visas because they are not on the shortage occupation list. Therein lies the point: the shortage occupation list is arrived at with advice from the Migration Advisory Committee regarding those occupations that cannot fill the demand within the NHS. If we expand some of the doctor numbers that are not on the shortage occupation list, we are in danger of pushing out some of those other professions that we do need and that are on the shortage occupation list. We need to think about this in the round.

Baroness Thornton (Labour): My Lords, I would like to give the Minister a direct example. In Cambridge and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust, children and young people with mental health problems are having to wait many months to access mental health treatment because the child and adolescent psychiatry consultant, who has been chosen and appointed, has not yet been granted a visa five months after the cap for tier 2 NHS workers was reached; on Friday it will be six months, and we will probably find that the same applies. Does the Minister agree that the Government's hostile environment policy is now directly damaging patient care? Does she agree with my honourable friend Jon Ashworth, who asked the Home Secretary in a letter on 1 May: "The visa rules clearly aren't working in the best interests of NHS patients. I am asking that you put patient safety first by taking NHS workers out of the tier 2 visa system so that hospitals can get the right numbers of staff in place"?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, as my right honourable friend the Home Secretary explained last week, the term "hostile environment"—coined by former Home Secretary Alan Johnson—is not one that he wishes to use because of all the negative connotations. Instead we will talk about a compliant environment—that is, complying with Immigration Rules. On the direct example

that the noble Baroness gives me, I will not talk about specific examples because clearly I do not know the details of the case. I will go back to my original Answer, which says that no one on the shortage occupation list should be denied a work visa.

Baroness McIntosh of Pickering (Conservative): Will my noble friend give the House an assurance that all overseas doctors will be submitted to the same checks on their medical qualifications and knowledge of language as all EEA doctors are obliged to submit to before they are allowed to practise in this country?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: All overseas doctors—I think my noble friend was talking about non-EEA doctors—should obviously have the requisite qualifications to practise. At the danger of repeating myself, if those doctors are on the shortage occupation list, there should be no bar to obtaining a visa.

Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, the Minister mentioned the Migration Advisory Committee. As someone once said, “Advisers advise, Ministers decide”. Are the Government confident that the restrictions on visas for particular occupations are supported by employers, stakeholders and the general public?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I cannot speak for the general public at large. The noble Baroness is absolutely right that advisers advise, and those advisers advise on those professions for which we have a shortage. We have not talked about other professions, such as particular types of skilled engineers, which are in shortage in this country. She is absolutely right that Ministers then decide on what the criteria should be.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-08/debates/57C09112-13DB-4BA9-8D62-CD3DCD392767/NHSOverseasDoctors>

Asylum Seekers: Students

Baroness Hamwee (Liberal Democrat): To ask Her Majesty’s Government how many young asylum seekers have been required to cease studying as a condition of immigration bail, following the recent introduction of new provisions; and whether that condition will be applied to all asylum seekers.

Reply from the Minister of State, Home Office (Baroness Williams of Trafford): My Lords, we have management information figures but these are not robust. I assure noble Lords that the new immigration bail provisions are not designed to be used to prevent children and asylum seekers studying. The Home Office is proactively looking to identify cases where this has been applied inappropriately, and will issue a new bail notice to the individual.

Baroness Hamwee: My Lords, I am grateful for that Answer. The Minister will know it is widely believed that there is a blanket ban at present on asylum seekers accessing education, although an assurance was given during the passage of the legislation that it would be used merely to specify where education was accessed. In any event, what is the objective of applying this condition? Is a ban on study necessary? What does it achieve?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I must stress that there is not a blanket ban and it is not mandatory to impose a ban on studying. The cohorts of people who might be prohibited from studying are adult immigration offenders—for example, overstayers who are not asylum seekers; adults whose appeal rights have been exhausted, other than care leavers receiving local authority support; adults being deported; foreign criminals who have not made an asylum claim; and all adults for whom a deportation order is signed and enforceable.

The Earl of Listowel (Crossbench): I do not know whether the Minister can help with a historic problem, which I hope has improved. I was listening just a year and half ago to care leavers who had been unaccompanied asylum-seeking children; the majority of them were not able to access education, and they were turning to the black economy to

continue living here. If the system was not effective in removing them, they were unable to access proper care-leaving services, so they were falling through the cracks. How is that being addressed now?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I stress to the noble Earl that anyone under the age of 18 in the UK has a right to study. That covers asylum-seeking children and children who are dependants of migrant workers. The following people can also study: care leavers, to whom the noble Earl alluded, former unaccompanied asylum-seeking children without standing claims, appeals or ongoing litigation concerning their asylum application, and any adult asylum-seekers without standing claims and/or appeals.

Baroness Garden of Frognal (Liberal Democrat): My Lords, what the Minister says does not quite seem to accord quite with some of the tales that have been coming out. There have been some really sad and shameful stories of young people who have been totally affected by this ban on education. What, if any, inquiries are made of the individual before deciding to impose this condition on them?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Because of the nature of the Question of the noble Baroness, Lady Hamwee, I can say that there may be cases that have fallen foul of a study restriction. As I said, it is not mandatory to impose a restriction on study, and it should be imposed only where appropriate. We are proactively looking at cases that might have been affected and are issuing new immigration bail notices.

Lord Christopher (Labour): My Lords, I am not clear about the thought process involved in this. There may be a case to argue in individual cases, but what is it? What is the thought process that makes someone decide that Bill Smith should stop studying?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, I outlined to the noble Baroness earlier who might be in the cohort, and who might have to stop studying, but it is up to the First-tier Tribunal to impose the immigration bail conditions on an individual. It is certainly not mandatory to impose a condition against study.

Lord Harris of Haringey (Labour): Can the Minister tell us how many young people caught up in the backwash of the Windrush scandal have been denied student loans because of uncertainty about their residency position in this country?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: I cannot give the noble Lord that information. As I have said to the House previously, the Home Office is proactively looking at anyone of the Windrush generation who might have been inadvertently caught up in the issue we have been talking about over the last few weeks. I am sure that those figures will ultimately come to light, but I do not have them here today.

Lord Kennedy of Southwark (Labour Co-op): My Lords, the Minister's contribution today is obviously different from some of the cases we all know about of who might have been caught up in this restriction. What is the Government's timescale to sort out this issue?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: As I said earlier, officials are proactively looking at these cases that might inadvertently have been caught out where the imposition of study bans have happened as a result of immigration bail. The answer is that it is immediate and I hope that this issue will be sorted out very quickly. In addition, new guidance has also been issued.

Lord Tomlinson (Labour): When the Minister was replying to the noble Lord, Lord Christopher, she referred to cohorts of students. Can she tell us how that word creeps into the answer, as it implies that there is some group of students for whom there is a collective exclusion?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, the noble Lord might like to check *Hansard*. I was referring not to cohorts of students but cohorts of individuals who might be prohibited from studying.

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat): When an immigrant child reaches the age of 18, they lose their protected status. What efforts are there to make sure that every

young person reaching that age is fully aware of their legal obligations and their opportunities? Many of them are on the verge of going to university but could be deported. What are we doing to make sure that does not happen?

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: My Lords, an immigrant child could fall into several categories. I am sure, given his history, that the noble Lord is talking about an asylum-seeking child. Any asylum-seeking child coming up to the age of 18 will have their case looked at again.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-09/debates/D28B1DAA-BDBB-4483-8275-498710B06C91/AsylumSeekersStudents>

UK Parliament, House of Lords Written Answers

Immigration

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL7437] To ask Her Majesty's Government whether they have any plans to reassess their target to reduce net migration to below 100,000 per year.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government is committed to controlled and sustainable migration, which we have said means bringing net migration down to the tens of thousands, but we have also been clear that this will take time.

We are building an immigration system that serves the national interest by welcoming legitimate migrants, and which is fair to those who are already here and achieves the best possible outcome for the British people.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-30/HL7437/>

Immigration

Baroness Lister of Burtersett (Labour) [HL7461] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is meant by the term compliant environment in immigration policy.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The term compliant environment refers to a framework of legislative and administrative measures for regulating migrants' access to work, benefits and services in the UK. These are designed to discourage prospective illegal migrants from coming to the UK, incentivise voluntary departure or regularisation of status, deter legal migrants from breaching conditions of their stay and protect taxpayer funded public services. These have been introduced over more than 20 years by successive governments.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-01/HL7461/>

Immigration

Viscount Waverley (Crossbench) [HL7441] To ask Her Majesty's Government what estimate they have made of the number of family separations that might occur as a result of Brexit.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The agreement we have reached with the EU on citizens' rights protects those EU citizens and their family members exercising free movement rights in the UK before the end of the implementation period on 31 December 2020.

During the implementation period, family members will be able to join EU citizens on current EU law terms. After the implementation period, close family members will be able to join an EU citizen covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, where their relationship existed before 31 December 2020 and continues to exist when they wish to join the EU citizen in the UK. Close family members are spouses, civil partners and durable partners, dependent children and grandchildren and

dependent parents and grandparents. Children born or adopted after the UK leaves the EU to or by those covered by the Withdrawal Agreement will also be protected.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-30/HL7441/>

Immigration

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7473] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to ensure legal immigrants are not treated as if they were illegal immigrants.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government balances the need to tackle illegal immigration with the need to protect those who are here lawfully from any unintended consequences. The compliant environment regulates migrants' access to work, benefits and services in the UK to deter illegal migration and to protect taxpayer funded public services.

The compliant environment includes appropriate safeguards, including the ability to exercise discretion where there are genuine barriers to persons leaving the UK, or measures would be deemed unduly harsh. However, it is right, in light of Windrush, that we review those safeguards to ensure that those who are lawfully here are not disadvantaged by measures put in place to tackle illegal migration.

The Government has already introduced additional safeguards, and we will continue to assess what further action needs to be taken.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-01/HL7473/>

Visas

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL7436] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment, if any, they have made of the effects of complex visa procurement processes on the UK's ability to attract global talent.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: We have been clear that the UK is open for business and genuine visa applicants are always welcome. In the last year, UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) received just over 3 million visa applications globally, of which 2.7 million were granted. The average processing time for a non-settlement visa globally was less than 8 days; and 97% of non-settlement visa applications were decided without our standard 15 working days processing time.

UKVI have a culture of customer satisfaction and are always reviewing how to improve their processes, using customer feedback.

The UK is open for business and visa applications from key emerging economies are up. Tourists and business travellers are always welcome and we continue to attract the brightest and the best for work or study.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-30/HL7436/>

Home Office: Data Protection

Lord Taylor of Warwick (Non-affiliated) [HL7261] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of concerns raised by civil rights groups regarding the potential negative effects that exemptions for the Home Office from the Data Protection Bill might have on future migrants; and what protections, if any, they plan to put in place to prevent another event similar to the Windrush scandal.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government has listened to concerns raised and revised the scope of the immigration exemption in the Data Protection Bill by removing exemptions in relation to the right to rectification and the right to data portability, Articles 16 and 20 respectively of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

We have also tabled a further amendment to remove the exemption relating to fair and transparent processing at paragraph 4(2)(b) of Schedule 2. The remaining exemptions will ensure that while people's rights relating to data are protected, day to day operations relating to immigration controls are not obstructed, and individual rights are balanced against the wider public interest in maintaining an effective immigration system. We will publish detailed and robust guidance on how the exemption may be used in limited circumstances on a case-by-case basis. People will also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner if they disagree with any use of the immigration exemption.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-24/HL7261/>

Immigration: Caribbean

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7071] To ask Her Majesty's Government what assessment they have made of the extent to which Windrush generation immigrants may be too afraid of deportation to contact the Home Office to regularise their status in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The purpose of the taskforce and contact centre is not for the purposes of Immigration Enforcement. I recognise the concerns of some people in the Windrush generation and I would not want anyone who has made their life in the UK to feel unwelcome or to be in any doubt of their right to remain here. The Home Office has no intention of asking anyone to leave who has the right to remain here.

I would encourage people to contact the Home Office. 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 and to access the necessary services and benefits.

Individuals can contact the Home Office, by telephone on 0800 678 1925 or by emailing commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

The Home Secretary has been clear, that this helpline and the information shared with it will not be used to remove people from the country. Its purpose is to provide help and support.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-18/HL7071/>

Refugees

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL7406] To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have for integrating all recognised refugees, and for fully developing the human potential of those individuals.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The Government published the Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper on 14th March (<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-communities-strategy-green-paper>). This includes proposals on the future of integration support for refugees.

The Green Paper sets out that the Government will work with civil society to increase integration support for refugees recognised after arrival in the UK. This recognises the importance that we place on integration for all refugees.

The Green Paper also sets out plans to develop, with the Department for Education and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, a new national English language Strategy for England; and plans to share best practice and build on learning about what works in relation to support for refugees on employment, English language, mental health and cultural orientation.

The Government will further develop these proposals with input from a range of stakeholders. Consultation on the Green Paper is open until 5th June.

[Integrated Communities Strategy Green Paper](#)

Refugees

Lord Hylton (Crossbench) [HL7459] To ask Her Majesty's Government what discussions they have had with the governments of Italy and Greece about the relocation to the UK of children and adults in refugee camps who have family members already resident in the UK.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The UK is committed to close cooperation and collaboration with EU partners, including Italy and Greece, to ensure that where eligible asylum seekers and refugees with family in the UK can be reunited, primarily through the Dublin Regulation. The Dublin Regulation is a mechanism for determining the Member State responsible for considering an individual's asylum claim, with clauses relating to family reunification. Where reuniting with a family member who has been granted protection in the UK, individuals may qualify under the family reunion policy.

We have frequent contact with the Italian and Greek authorities, at official and ministerial level, to discuss the situation for migrants, including on joint plans to improve the effectiveness of transfers under the Dublin Regulation. The UK is providing support to help the Italian and Greek authorities, the European Asylum Support Office and the European Commission deal with flows of migrants, including by deploying experts and interpreters to the Greek islands as well as specialists to the EU Commission team in Athens and Rome, specifically to strengthen the intra EU asylum system. The UK has Liaison Officers in both Greece and Italy who work daily with our Italian and Greek counterparts, including assisting with the Dublin transfer process.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-05-01/HL7459/>

Asylum: Children

Baroness Doocey (Liberal Democrat) [HL7221] To ask Her Majesty's Government, when they closed down the National Register for Unaccompanied Children in 2011, whether any (1) data on unaccompanied children, and (2) information regarding missing children and human trafficking concerns, was retained by central government.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The National Register for Unaccompanied Children (NRUC) was not administered by central Government. When the NRUC was closed, arrangements were made to dispose of all data held on the database. No information from the register was retained by central Government.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-24/HL7221/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7288] To ask Her Majesty's Government how many people were detained for immigration purposes in (1) 2010, (2) 2015, (3) 2016, and (4) 2017.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: Information on the number of people entering detention is available in tables dt_01 and dt_01_q of the detention tables in the latest release of 'Immigration Statistics, October to December 2017', available from the GOV.uk website at:

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

The number of people entering the detention estate, detained solely under Immigration Act powers, was 25,904 in 2010, 32,447 in 2015, 28,903 in 2016 and 27,331 in 2017.

[Tables dt and dt 01 - detention tables Oct-Dec 201](#)

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-25/HL7288/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7289] To ask Her Majesty's Government, following the closure of the Cedars family immigration centre, what accommodation they now use to house families with children, when deemed necessary for immigration purposes.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: On 21 July 2016 the Government announced plans to close Cedars pre-departure accommodation and replace it with new pre-departure accommodation near Gatwick airport, as a discrete unit at Tinsley House immigration removal centre.

New pre-departure accommodation opened at Tinsley House on 26 June 2017 and is used only as a last resort after all voluntary or other returns options have failed. It operates under the distinct statutory framework established by the Immigration Act 2014, including the requirement for the Independent Family Returns Panel to be consulted in advance where it is proposed that a family is to be held there.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-25/HL7289/>

Immigrants: Detainees

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7291] To ask Her Majesty's Government what is the average annual cost per person held in immigration detention centres.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: The average cost to detain an individual in immigration detention is provided on a per day basis. The current daily cost per detainee is £85.97 (annual £31,378) and can be found at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/immigration-enforcement-data-february-2018>

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-25/HL7291/>

Deportation: Young People

Lord Roberts of Llandudno (Liberal Democrat) [HL7290] To ask Her Majesty's Government what arrangements they make with destination countries when asylum seekers who were previously minors are deported at the age of 18.

Reply from Baroness Williams of Trafford: In recognition of their vulnerability, the Home Office does not return unaccompanied children whose claims for international protection have been refused, unless safe and adequate reception arrangements are in place in their country of origin.

On turning 18, these adults will be expected to take steps to return to their country of origin or show that they qualify for further leave to remain. Removal will only occur when the Home Office and the courts conclude that it is safe and reasonable to do so, with a safe route of return to their home country. Support is available to those who return voluntarily.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Lords/2018-04-25/HL7290/>

UK Parliament House of Commons Delegated Legislation Committee

Draft Special Immigration Appeals Commission (Procedure) (Amendment) Rules 2018

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-10/debates/6699b2b7-bf87-4473-a2ba-88107d747df9/DraftSpecialImmigrationAppealsCommission\(Procedure\)\(Amendment\)Rules2018](https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-10/debates/6699b2b7-bf87-4473-a2ba-88107d747df9/DraftSpecialImmigrationAppealsCommission(Procedure)(Amendment)Rules2018)

Press Releases

Refugee families

<https://news.gov.scot/news/refugee-families>

Requests for family reunification must be examined even if the national of a non-EU country, who is a family member of an EU citizen who has never exercised his right of freedom of movement, is subject to an entry ban

<https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/upload/docs/application/pdf/2018-05/cp180064en.pdf>

Failures in UK immigration and asylum undermine the rule of law

<http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/news/press-releases/failures-in-uk-immigration-and-asylum-undermine-the-rule-of-law/>

New Publications

An Inspection of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705155/VPRS_Final_Artwork_revised.pdf

Home Office response to the report on an inspection of the vulnerable persons resettlement scheme

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705175/VPRS_Government_Response.pdf

Guidance for undocumented Commonwealth citizens

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

Understanding ‘Windrush’ Legal Background and Practical Issues

<http://appgmigration.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Windrush-generation-briefing-Fragomen-LLP.pdf>

News

UN tells UK government to stop forcing NHS and landlords to enforce 'hostile environment'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/un-uk-nhs-landlords-immigration-hostile-environment-special-rapporteur-brexit-a8347481.html>

People wrongfully deported from UK, immigration official admits

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-44044941>

The asylum ‘lottery’ – an insider’s view

<http://www.bbc.com/news/stories-43555766>

Immigration minister wants to end 'computer says no' culture at Home Office

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/may/08/civil-service-advice-to-amber-rudd-during-immigration-row-to-be-examined>

Home Office is keeping asylum seekers locked up in detention centres 'even after accepting they have been tortured'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/home-office-asylum-seekers-torture-detention-centres-mp-inspectors-evidence-a8341641.html>

The Tories want you to think their new Data Protection Bill is empowering – but its 'immigration exemption' will make life hell for people like me

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/data-protection-bill-immigration-home-office-privacy-intrusion-a8340826.html>

Data rules threaten 'last avenue' used in thousands of immigration cases

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/09/data-rules-threaten-last-avenue-used-in-thousands-of-immigration-cases>

Ministers risk judicial review of plan to deny immigrants data access

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/09/judicial-review-government-plan-deny-immigrants-data-access>

Deportation risk for skilled migrants

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-07/news/deportation-risk-for-skilled-migrants-xvrqlfggn>

No Windrush arrivals forced out of Britain

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-09/news/no-windrush-arrivals-forced-out-of-britain-5sb2zpvsw>

Jobcentres sanctioning refugees for learning English, watchdog finds

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/09/jobcentres-sanctioning-refugees-for-learning-english-watchdog-finds>

Rogue immigration solicitors exploiting vulnerable migrants by charging thousands for 'substandard' service

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/immigration-solicitors-exploit-migrants-rogue-substandard-lawyers-a8325706.html>

Visa clampdown 'hits cancer patients'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/health-44040896>

Scrap healthcare fees for non-EU staff in NHS, say nurses' leaders

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/12/scrap-healthcare-fees-for-non-eu-staff-in-nhs-say-nurses-leaders>

Foreign nurses pay thousands to use NHS

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/foreign-nurses-pay-thousands-to-use-nhs-dxsv7p209>

NHS will no longer have to share immigrants' data with Home Office

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/may/09/government-to-stop-forcing-nhs-to-share-patients-data-with-home-office>

Tracking illegal immigrants using NHS records will end, says Minister

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/05/09/tracking-illegal-immigrants-using-nhs-records-will-end-says/>

The NHS has stopped sharing data with the Home Office – now it must halt passport checks on patients

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/home-office-nhs-doctors-passport-checks-nhs-health-tourism-patients-a8345056.html>

How refugees can actually create jobs for locals in growing cities – if given the chance

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/refugees-cities-jobs-migration-gdp-economy-a8348816.html>

Children 'denied free school meals because of parents' immigration status'

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2018/may/09/children-denied-free-school-meals-because-of-parents-immigration-status>

Home Office told of Windrush errors five years ago, experts say

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/08/home-office-told-of-windrush-errors-five-years-ago-experts-say>

After Windrush, stop talking about 'illegals'. Start talking about people

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/08/windrush-illegal-migrants-immigrants>

Refugees get more support to come to Scotland

<http://thirdforcenews.org.uk/tfn-news/refugees-get-more-support-to-come-to-scotland>

Fundraiser for Syrian refugee reaches £6000

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/fundraiser-for-syrian-refugee-reaches-6000-1-4736632>

I lived in fear of deportation, Mr Javid. What price my years of fear and shame?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/11/fear-deportation-javid-windrush-generation-home-office>

'It's destroyed my life': Windrush victim recognised as legal citizen after 13 years

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/10/its-destroyed-my-life-windrush-victim-recognised-as-legal-citizen-after-13-years>

'I feel like I'm drowning': healthcare inspector faces deportation by Home Office

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/08/i-feel-like-im-drowning-healthcare-inspector-faces-deportation-by-home-office>

British people becoming more sympathetic towards refugees and immigrants, survey suggests

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/uk-refugees-immigration-sympathy-kind-survey-brexite-a8344841.html>

TOP

Community Relations

Scottish Parliament Motion

S5M-12141 Clare Adamson (SNP): Polish Heritage Day 2018 – That the Parliament congratulates the Polish Lanarkshire Community Forum on its very successful Polish Heritage Day 2018; recognises that the day began with a Mass for Poland in St Patrick's RC Church, Shieldmuir, which was followed by a full programme of events in the Forgewood Community Centre; notes that the celebration included dance performances

by the Polonez Culture Bridging Group from Paisley and singing by the folk group, Gosciniac, from Glasgow, along with arts and crafts activities for children, the sale of locally-produced Polish arts and crafts and a free traditional Polish buffet; commends the Polish Lanarkshire Community Forum for its continued efforts to bring the community of North Lanarkshire together, and wishes it well in its future endeavours.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5M-12141>

News

Community Security Trust works with Faith Associates to improve security for mosques ahead of Ramadan

<https://cst.org.uk/news/latest-news/2018/05/08/cst-works-with-faith-associates-to-improve-security-for-mosques-ahead-of-ramadan>

TOP

Equality

Scottish Parliament Written Answers

Ethnicity pay gap

The following two questions both received the same answer

S5W-15903 Jackie Baillie (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government, further to the answer to question S5W-13040 by Jamie Hepburn on 18 December 2017, whether the estimated ethnicity pay gap has been successfully quality-assured by its analysts and deemed reliable for public use and, if so, when the data will be made publicly available.

S5W-15904 Jackie Baillie (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government whether it has sufficient data to reliably calculate and publish information on the ethnicity pay gap in Scotland and, if so, when it will do so.

Reply from Jamie Hepburn: The Scottish Government has successfully quality assured and published online indicative APS pay gap information for minority ethnic employees in Scotland.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-15903>

and

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-15904>

The answer referred to above can be read at

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-13040>

Scottish Parliament Equalities and Human Rights Committee

Evidence session: Human Rights and the Scottish Parliament

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11512&i=104457#ScotParIOR>

New Publication

Assessment of health care, hospital admissions, and mortality by ethnicity: population-based cohort study of health-system performance in Scotland

Racism, Religious Hatred, and Discrimination

Scottish Parliament Oral Answer

Shahbaz Ali

Andy Wightman (Green): The First Minister will be aware that, last Thursday, 25-year-old Shahbaz Ali, a Syrian refugee, was stabbed six times in Edinburgh, and he is now critically ill in hospital. He was trying to protect his young female cousin when he was attacked at a hostel in the city. What support is the Scottish Government and its agencies giving to local authorities and communities in Edinburgh and across Scotland in terms of protection and reassurance following what clearly appears to have been a racially motivated criminal act?

Reply from the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon): I thank Andy Wightman for raising the issue. I am, of course, aware of the case of Shahbaz Ali, who was attacked and seriously hurt in the early hours of Thursday morning last week. Clearly, a criminal investigation is under way into the incident and, as we are not yet aware of the full circumstances of the case, we are obviously restricted in what we can say about this specific case.

What I will say more generally, though, is that Scotland must stand united at all times against all forms of racism and all types of hate crime. We want Scotland to be—and to be seen to be—a refuge from war and persecution, and any attack on any individual or group of people living in Scotland, regardless of who they are or where they come from, should be seen as an attack on all of us.

The Scottish Government will do what we can, with the local authority in Edinburgh and other groups, to provide as much reassurance and support as possible. I am aware that there is a fundraising campaign to raise funds for this particular individual, and I am sure that many people across the country will want to support that.

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/report.aspx?r=11519&i=104536#ScotParlOR>

Scottish Parliament Written Answer

Funding for anti-sectarianism projects

S5W-16242 James Kelly (Labour): To ask the Scottish Government how much of the £500,000 of funding announced in 2017-18 for anti-sectarianism projects was spent.

Reply from Annabelle Ewing: Since 2012 the Scottish Government has invested a total of £13.5 million to support work to tackle sectarianism. In 2017-18 the Scottish Government invested the full £500,000 of funding to tackle sectarianism in communities. This work had a particular focus on delivering educational initiatives. We are building on this work in 2018-19 by providing a real terms increase of 3% so that our total investment in 2018-19 will be the £515,000.

The following table sets out the final funding allocation for 2017-18:

| Organisation | Funding | Project focus |
|-------------------------|---------|--|
| Sense Over Sectarianism | £70,000 | Work in schools to build the capacity of teachers and practitioners in the field of education to enable increased delivery of the new national anti-sectarian education resource in schools across Scotland. |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|--|
| Nil by Mouth | £85,000 | Embedding anti-sectarian workplace education within local authorities and other employers, ensuring that anti-sectarian policies and practices are recognised within these organisation's work and policies. |
| Supporters Direct Scotland | £60,000 | Working with and providing educational input to participants and coaches in the Scottish Football Associations Schools of Football; sport/coaching students at colleges across Scotland; and working with Supporter Liaison Officers to deliver positive messaging to supporters to tackle unacceptable conduct. |
| Youth Scotland | £60,000 | Building the capacity of young people and youth workers to deliver community-based education and action to tackle sectarianism across Scotland. Increasing the number of young people who are capable of delivering peer-led education and activities to tackle sectarianism. |
| Bridging the Gap | £22,408 | Developing work between high school pupils and primary pupils in the South side of Glasgow. Building knowledge and experience of secondary pupils who then work with primary pupils in peer-led education and transition. Knowledge, expertise and development of the programme and young people is also built through close links the Corrymeela Community in Northern Ireland. |
| North Kelvin Sports Development | £22,592 | Bringing pupils from local schools together through afterschool sessions, closely working with active school coordinators to educate and challenge young people about sectarianism in West Central Scotland in a sport based environment. |
| Sacro | £65,000 | Delivering a national service providing diversion from prosecution across Scotland for those involved in sectarian and hate behaviour. Complimenting this work in prisons to tackle the root cause of discrimination while challenging the attitudes and behaviours that contribute to offending. |
| WESREC | £29,687 | Joint project developing a toolkit for mainstreaming anti-sectarian policies and practices within the broader equalities practice of organisations. The toolkit can be used by any organisation which have a key role in ensuring they are exemplars of good equality practice. |
| Glasgow Women's Library | £25,313 | |
| YouthLink Scotland | £60,000 | Development of the Action on Sectarianism Website increasing digital participation and activity by extending the promotion and use of the educational resources available on the site – the wide range of resources available means that there is a resource that can be adapted to every educational environment. |
| Total: | £500,000 | |

<http://www.parliament.scot/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S5W-16242>

UK Parliament, House of Commons Oral Answers

Hate Crime

5. **Simon Hoare (Conservative):** What steps the CPS is taking to implement the Government's plan to tackle hate crime. [905224]

Reply from the Solicitor General (Robert Buckland): The Crown Prosecution Service continues to play its part in delivering the cross-Government hate crime action plan. In the last year, 14,480 hate crime prosecutions were completed and the conviction rate was 83.4%.

Simon Hoare: In thanking my hon. and learned Friend for that answer, may I ask him what steps the CPS is taking to improve prosecution rates for disability hate crimes?

Reply from the Solicitor General: Disability hate crime has long been a concern of mine, and it is very much the poor relation when it comes to these offences. They are difficult to deal with, because very often victims feel that the incident is part of their normal life and that they should suffer in silence. The message must go out clearly that that should not be the case. I am glad that we there has been an increase in prosecutions and an increase in the use of sentencing uplifts, through which judges can increase sentences to reflect aggravating factors such as disability hate.

Alex Norris (Labour Co-op): Tonight, Nottingham Citizens, of which I am a patron, will launch its “Still No Place For Hate” report. It will highlight the fact that almost a third of people surveyed had experienced hate crime related to protected characteristics and that much of that had gone unreported. What assurances can the Attorney General give people in Nottingham that if they do report such crime, it will be prosecuted properly?

Reply from the Solicitor General: I welcome the publication of the report to which the hon. Gentleman refers. I went to Nottingham only a few months ago to visit the east midlands Crown Prosecution Service, and I know that if he works with it—either through me or directly—he will find out more about the actions that it is taking. I assure him that it has a structured plan and takes all strands of hate crime extremely seriously.

<https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2018-05-10/debates/A7BD2774-72ED-49BD-9B70-7AE3C7DFC7CD/HateCrime>

The report referred to above is not currently available online

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Discrimination

Hywel Williams (Plaid Cymru) [132763] To ask the Minister for Women and Equalities, if he will make an assessment of the adequacy of the list of protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 and in Article 14 of the Human Rights Act 1998.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The protected characteristics provided for in Section 4 of the Equality Act 2010 reflect the progressive development over time of the UK’s world leading approach to equalities legislation, covering all those required by EU law, together with “marriage and civil partnership”. Protections available across the range of protected characteristics exceed EU requirements, as they include proscription of unlawful discrimination by providers of goods and services because of age, disability, sexual orientation and religion or belief.

Article 14 (non-discrimination) of the European Convention for the protection of Human Rights works differently from the Equality Act 2010 by providing for a right not to be discriminated against, on various grounds, in respect of the other rights set out in the Convention. Section 1 of, and Schedule 1 to, the Human Rights Act 1998 give Article 14 further effect in UK domestic law.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-15/132763/>

Hate Crime: Internet

Louise Haigh (Labour) [140163] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, with reference to his Department’s announcement of the new national online hate crime hub, published on 8 October 2017, how many FTE officers are employed at the hub; how many (a) crimes and (b) perpetrators of crimes the hub has identified; and how many referrals have been made to social media platforms as a result of the work of the hub since its inception.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The new online hate crime hub went live in January.

It is in the initial phase of operations, with 3 out of 4 specialist full-time staff now in post and undertaking training and developing key processes, which include the provision of monitoring data in due course. The dedicated staff are supported by management supervision from Greater Manchester Police and the National Police Chiefs' Council.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140163/>

The announcement referred to above can be read at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-secretary-announces-new-national-online-hate-crime-hub>

Football: Racial Discrimination

Iona Onasanya (Labour) [140852] To ask the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, what steps he has taken to tackle racism in grassroots football.

Reply from Tracey Crouch: We are committed to combating racism in any sport. Government's sport and physical activity strategy 'Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation' has diversity and inclusion at its heart. I continue to meet regularly with decision-makers to check on the progress football is making collectively to tackle discrimination in all its forms. The Department supports the Football Association's work led by their Inclusion Advisory Board and is committed to investing £2 million, through Sport England, towards Football Association coaching bursary schemes. Grassroots football also receives support from our national sport council, Sport England, who provide free guidance for running a club through its "Club Matters" programme, to help clubs become inclusive. There are 11063 Club Matters registered football clubs.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-02/140852/>

The Strategy referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/486622/Sporting_Future_ACCESSIBLE.pdf

Religious Hatred: Islam

Sarah Jones (Labour) [133093] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether resources are being allocated to protect mosques and Muslim communities on and around 3 April as a result of letters inciting hate against Muslims and designating that date as punish a Muslim day.

Reply from Victoria Atkins: The Home Office has already committed £2.4m over three years (2016/2019) to provide protective security measures to places of worship, including mosques, in England and Wales that have been subject or vulnerable to a hate crime.

In addition the Home Office committed £1m, following the Finsbury Park attack last year, to protect faith institutions which are vulnerable to attack on racial, religious or ideological grounds.

I am writing to the policing lead to reiterate Government support.

More broadly, operational decisions about the allocation of police resources are a matter for Chief Constables.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-03-16/133093/>

Press Release

UN rights expert hails UK for anti-racism action but raises serious concerns over Immigration Policy, Prevent programme and Brexit

New Publication

Trapped in the Matrix: Secrecy, stigma, and bias in the Met's Gangs Database

https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2018-05/Inside%20the%20matrix.pdf?x_Q7G4ar5uHbWLAkImQ9NSuLFMzrwSyq

News

Scotland's tolerance reputation 'a myth'

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-scotland-politics-44040251>

Scottish 'myth-making hides' country's racism problem

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16210194.Scottish_myth-making_hides_country_s_racism_problem/

Book exposes 'fantasy' that Scotland is less racist than rest of UK

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/book-exposes-fantasy-that-scotland-is-less-racist-than-rest-of-uk-1-4736352>

Racist murders 'more common in Scotland than rest of the UK'

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/racist-murders-more-common-scotland-12498107>

Scots are no different to the English in attitudes to race

http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/16219039.Kenny_MacAskill_Scots_are_no_different_to_the_English_in_attitudes_to_race/?ref=mr&lp=3

Scots 'must confront myth that country is not racist'

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-09/scotland/scots-must-confront-myth-that-country-is-not-racist-8crgtk3fz>

Exceptionalism shows its ugly side

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/scotland/exceptionalism-shows-its-ugly-side-228c3gp6b>

UK has seen 'Brexit-related' growth in racism, says UN representative

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2018/may/11/uk-has-seen-brexit-related-growth-in-racism-says-un-representative>

Racism has become more acceptable since Brexit vote, United Nations warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/brexit-racism-religious-intolerance-united-nations-special-rapporteur-a8348021.html>

Britain's policies on austerity, immigration and terrorism are racist, says UN inspector

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2018/05/11/uk-policies-austerity-immigration-fighting-terrorism-racist/>

Brexit, austerity and 'hostile environment' have made Britain racist, says UN expert

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-11/news/brexit-austerity-and-hostile-environment-have-made-britain-racist-says-un-expert-9krdml8r7>

Equality and Human Rights Commission responds to UN Special Rapporteur's report on racism

<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/news/commission-responds-un-special-rapporteurs-report-racism>

Met Police using 'racially discriminatory' Gangs Matrix database

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/met-police-using-racially-discriminatory-gangs-matrix-database>

Metropolitan Police's 'racially discriminatory' gangs database failing to tackle violence, report finds

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/police-gangs-database-matrix-met-scotland-yard-london-racist-amnesty-report-a8342171.html>

UK accused of flouting human rights in 'racialised' war on gangs

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/09/uk-accused-flouting-human-rights-racialised-war-gangs>

Ban police gang lists - they are racist and unjust

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2018/may/09/police-gang-lists-racist-black-matrix>

Three out of five Muslims have been victims of hate crime, new figures reveal

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/muslims-nottingham-hate-crime-survey-islamophobia-racism-citizens-uk-a8341751.html>

Syrian refugee fights for life after being stabbed six times in racist attack in Edinburgh

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/syrian-refugee-fights-life-after-12491694>

Syrian refugee stabbed in 'racially-motivated' attack in Edinburgh

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/shahbaz-ali-stabbing-edinburgh-syria-refugee-hostel-a8340201.html>

Teenager charged over alleged stabbing of Syrian refugee in Edinburgh

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/07/teenager-charged-over-stabbing-of-syrian-refugee-in-edinburgh>

Refugee left fighting for his life after 'racist' attack

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-07/scotland/refugee-left-fighting-for-his-life-after-racist-attack-75p8r6252>

Men guilty of racial hatred after posting stickers at Aston University

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-44061553>

Police racism blocked Pakistani officer's promotion

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/pakistani-officer-denied-promotion-wins-police-racism-case-v6b69c8hk>

London 2012 Metropolitan police poster star Carol Howard loses £144,000 race claim

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/london-2012-police-poster-star-loses-144-000-race-claim-2hdlrcq3g>

GP claims black and ethnic minority doctors are more likely to have complaints against them investigated and upheld

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/gp-claims-nhs-racism-causing-12524303>

Guns N Roses remove song with homophobic and racist lyrics from album

<https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/music/news/guns-n-roses-gnr-lies-ep-1988-song-removed-homophobic-racist-lyrics-a8341551.html>

Guns N' Roses drop racist song from album re-release

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/past-six-days/2018-05-09/news/guns-n-roses-drop-racist-song-from-album-re-release-lv3s9f3wb>

TOP

Other Scottish Parliament and Government

Press Release

Giving communities a voice on Brexit

<https://news.gov.scot/news/giving-communities-a-voice-on-brexit>

TOP

Other UK Parliament and Government

UK Parliament, House of Commons Written Answers

Legal Systems: Islam

Philip Davies (Conservative) [139436] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, whether his Department gave any funding to sharia councils in the UK in each in the last three years; and if he will make a statement.

Reply from Lucy Frazer: The Ministry of Justice has not funded the operation of sharia councils in the last three years, as these organisations are not part of the justice system. Community organisations may apply to various Government Departments for a range of grants for particular purposes. A list of grant schemes run by government departments can be found at gov.uk. Information on whether sharia councils may have received such grants over this period could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139436/>

Female Genital Mutilation

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [139418] To ask the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, what steps are being taken to improve training for health service professionals dealing with cases of female genital mutilation.

Reply from Jackie Doyle-Price: National Health Service organisations have a statutory requirement to ensure that staff are appropriately trained on Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

The document 'Female Genital Mutilation: Standards for training healthcare professionals' published earlier this month by NHS England builds on the existing safeguarding curriculum to detail the clinical skills required by various healthcare professionals to treat a patient where FGM is a relevant condition. When a competence is required, the standards also outline the level of knowledge and understanding which would constitute meeting that competence.

The standards support NHS organisations to understand what their staff need to know about FGM, and support the development of local training strategies.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139418/>

Female Genital Mutilation

The following two questions both received the same answer

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [139419] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what steps his Department is taking to ensure better reporting procedures in schools for suspected cases of female genital mutilation.

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [139420] To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what support his Department provides to schools to ensure that students and staff are able to (a) identify potential victims of female genital mutilation and (b) deal with such cases sensitively and appropriately.

Reply from Nadhim Zahawi: The government's statutory safeguarding guidance for schools, 'Keeping Children Safe in Education', outlines the reporting procedures for female genital mutilation, along with other forms of abuse. All school staff should receive safeguarding training at induction and that this should be updated regularly.

The Department for Education recently consulted on strengthening that guidance. We expect to publish our response to the consultation shortly.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139419/>

and

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139420/>

The guidance referred to above can be read at

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/550511/Keeping_children_safe_in_education.pdf

Female Genital Mutilation

Kerry McCarthy (Labour) [139422] To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether the Government plans to produce (a) statistics and (b) updated estimates on the prevalence of female genital mutilation (i) nationwide and (ii) by city or region.

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.

In 2015 a City University and Equality Now study, which was part funded by the Home Office, estimated that 137,000 women and girls who had migrated to England and Wales were living with the consequences of FGM, and approximately 60,000 girls aged 0-14 were born in England and Wales to mothers who had undergone FGM. This study also provides a regional breakdown of FGM prevalence by local authority area.

Additionally, the FGM enhanced dataset is published quarterly and annually by NHS Digital. The most recent set of annual statistics were published in July 2017 and quarterly statistics were published in March 2018. A detailed breakdown of these statistics by local authority, age at which FGM was carried out and country where FGM was undertaken is available online at

<https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/female-genital-mutilation>.

These statistics demonstrate that a very high majority of cases are identified in adult women who were born in Africa or Asia who also underwent the practice in their country of birth.

To improve understanding of the prevalence of so-called 'Honour Based Violence' including FGM we have amended the police Annual Data Requirement for 2018/19 to formally record for the first time where a crime has been committed in

the context of preserving the honour of a family or community.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-04-30/139422/>

Prisoners' Release

Philip Davies (Conservative) [140033] To ask the Secretary of State for Justice, in order to attend which religious festivals prisoners were released on temporary licence in the latest year for which information is available.

Reply from Rory Stewart: Records for 2017 show that prisoners were released to attend religious services at Eid and Easter as well as to attend Sikh Temple, Quaker meetings and Jehovah's Witness services. There were also releases for unspecified religious services.

Facilities for worship are available in each establishment but, as part of restoring links between the offender and wider community, suitable, risk-assessed offenders may attend worship outside the prison to help them adjust to the climate of non-prison worship and mixing with the community. In addition, temporary release for the purpose of maintaining family ties might be timed so as to coincide with religious occasions and offenders may be released for compelling compassionate reasons to attend services such as funerals of close family members, again subject to thorough risk assessment.

<https://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/written-questions-answers-statements/written-question/Commons/2018-05-01/140033/>

New Publications

Forced Marriage Unit Statistics 2017

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705621/2017_FMU_statistics_FINAL.PDF

Forced Marriage Unit statistics 2017: figures and tables

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705622/2017 - Forced Marriage Unit figures and tables.ods](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/705622/2017_-_Forced_Marriage_Unit_figures_and_tables.ods)

TOP

Other News

Western Isles' first mosque built ahead of Ramadan

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-44067475>

Landmark day on Lewis as first mosque opens for Muslim community

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/landmark-day-lewis-first-mosque-12521830>

First mosque opens on Outer Hebrides in time for Ramadan

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/may/11/first-mosque-opens-on-stornaway-outer-hebrides-in-time-for-ramadan>

Rejoicing and soul-searching as first mosque opens on Lewis

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/rejoicing-and-soul-searching-as-first-mosque-opens-on-lewis-trhnft9sx>

Cardiff University receives £850k gift for study of Islam

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-44058839>

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/2018-05-08/debates/A8AB0BD8-E2C2-499D-AE7B-B3A5B7B09D35/EuropeanUnion\(Withdrawal\)Bill](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-08/debates/A8AB0BD8-E2C2-499D-AE7B-B3A5B7B09D35/EuropeanUnion(Withdrawal)Bill)

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee Report on Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/DPLR/2018/5/8/Supplementary-Legislative-Consent-Memorandum-for-the-European-Union--Withdrawal--Bill/DPLRS052018R21.pdf>

Finance and Constitution Committee Report on Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum

<https://sp-bpr-en-prod-cdneq.azureedge.net/published/FCC/2018/5/10/Report-on-European-Union--Withdrawal--Bill-Supplementary-LCM/FCCS052018R5.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>

Committee Stage, House of Lords

[https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-11/debates/D39E93BB-0744-4CB7-9A16-3B6403CA1FF9/Refugees\(FamilyReunion\)Bill\(HL\)](https://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2018-05-11/debates/D39E93BB-0744-4CB7-9A16-3B6403CA1FF9/Refugees(FamilyReunion)Bill(HL))

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>

TOP

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>

**** Windrush compensation** (closing date 8 June 2018)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-call-for-evidence>

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/>

**** Antisemitism: Survey of European Jews** (closing date not stated)

<http://www.eurojews.eu/>

Police Scotland: Your view counts (open all year)

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation>

TOP

**** this week!**

Equalities & Human Rights Focus Groups

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!**

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>

**** this week!**

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

**** this week!**

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

**** this week!**

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.

**** this week!**

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/zy436qr> 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

Tackling Hate Speech in a Youth Setting

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

**** Organising for Power**

29 June to 1 July 2018 in Fife

10 to 12 August 2018 in Fife

14 to 16 September – venue tba

Training weekends for those tackling the root causes of xenophobia and racism and promoting the rights of migrants/refugees/ asylum seeking people in Scotland to learn how to have a bigger impact and plan campaigns that win. For information see <https://tinyurl.com/yb8usv6h> or contact o4p@tripodtraining.org

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 Scotland's history. To submit an event for the 2018 programme complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/y9zd8xxj> and return it to zandra@crer.org.uk

TOP

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/>

[TOP](#)



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